2025 Key Stage 2 Reading Mark Scheme - All on One A4 Sheet

This is the 'bare bones' of the mark scheme without examples. Full mark schemes can be found here.

AA: Also accept DNA: Do not accept AP: Acceptable Point Each question is worth **1 mark** unless otherwise stated in **bold**.

Section 1: A Life-changing Game

Q. Answer

1
Either of the following:
1. Phiona selling maize / vegetables
2. Phiona working / selling at a market

DNA reference only to Phiona selling 'things'

2 **Option 4:** interesting

3
Either of the following:
1. there not being a word for 'chess' in Phiona's language
2. chess being unusual in Uganda

AA reference to Phiona having to travel a long distance to nd out how to play
DNA reference to a lack of familiarity with chess

4 **1 mark** for **three** correct or **2 marks** for **all four** correct

	True	False
Phiona left school once she had learnt to read.		✓
Phiona grew up in a place called Katwe.	✓	
Phiona discovered chess before her brother.		✓
Phiona walked six kilometres a day to learn about chess.	✓	

5
Either of the following:
1. someone who can impart knowledge / understanding
2. a coach / teacher

DNA reference only to someone to help you do it

6 passion

7
Robert noticing that some children were not interested in football
DNA reference to Robert noticing that no children were interested in football

8
Either of the following:
1. Phiona wanting to win quickly
2. Phiona being too eager to win

AA reference to Phiona playing as quickly as possible / being too quick
DNA reference only to Phiona's desire to win

9 success

10
Any of the following:
1. Phiona playing against experienced players
2. Phiona taking part in competitions
3. Phiona becoming an international chess champion

DNA reference to Phiona being good at chess / a Ugandan chess champion

11 Four years

12 **Option 2:** a journalist noticed Phiona

13 All **three** correct:

	Year
Phiona discovered chess.	2005
Phiona left her home country for the first time.	2009
A film telling Phiona's story was released.	2016

Section 2: In the Cave

Q. Answer

14
Any **two** of the following (**up to 2 marks**):
1. its colour
2. its shape
3. its texture
4. the writing on it

AA reference to its size

15 **Option 3:** mystery.

16
Geoff calling / interrupting him
DNA reference only to Geoff

17 **Option 1:** signalling.

18
The green light
AA reference to the surface in front of the seats
DNA reference only to seats

19 **Option 4:** refuse to take the blame.

Section 2: In the Cave (continued)

Q. Answer

20
Any **two** of the following (**up to 2 marks**):
1. the lights
2. the humming / vibration
3. the pinging noise / comparison to a microwave oven
4. the handles
5. the panel
6. the board
7. the object having electrical / mechanical power

21 **Option 3:** The object had gone silent.

22
Either of the following:
1. Tom being uncertain about what it is / how to refer to it
2. flippancy / common sense

DNA reference to Tom not knowing what to say
DNA reference to Tom being unconcerned

23

Geoff realised the lights were buttons.	4
Orange lights began to switch on across the panel.	2
Geoff noticed a green light on the surface.	1
The object started making noises.	3

24
Either of the following:
1. Geoff running his nger over / touching the surface of the lights
2. Geoff staring intently at them

DNA reference to Geoff pushing them

25 **All four** correct

	Yes	No
where they are placed	✓	
what colour they are	✓	
how many did not work		✓
what they are used for		✓

26
3 marks for **two APs**, at least **one with evidence,**
2 marks for **either two APs**, or **one AP with evidence,**
1 mark for **one AP:**

Tom is...	*Geoff is...*
1. anxious / cautious / a worrier	1. adventurous / brave
2. sensible / responsible	2. reckless / careless
3. curious / interested	3. curious /interested
4. observant	4. excitable / enthusiastic / impulsive
	5. stubborn
	6. observant

27 **Option 3:** He didn't agree with Tom.

Section 3: Longbow Girl

Q. Answer

28
Any of the following:
1. Merry positioning herself
2. Merry rolling her shoulders
3. Merry taking a few deep breaths

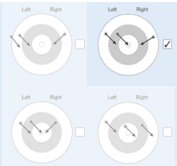
AA reference to Merry calming herself / ignoring the noise

29
Any of the following:
1. anticipation felt by the crowd towards Merry's shot
2. the crowd concentrating on Merry
3. the crowd watching Merry's arrow

AA reference to allowing Merry to concentrate / focus
AA reference to the crowd's disbelief at Merry being a child / girl in a predominantly adult / male event
DNA reference to generic feelings without elaboration

30 **Option 1:** She really wanted to know the result.

31



32
Merry's skill / unexpected performance
DNA reference to Merry making it through to round two / winning the competition

Section 3: Longbow Girl (continued)

Q. Answer

33
Any of the following:
1. Merry waiting to hear / not being sure whether she'd qualified for the next round
2. Merry knowing that she hadn't won the competition yet
3. Merry staying calm / focused
4. Merry wanting to show the marshal / crowd that she was taking the competition seriously

34
Any **two** of the following (**up to 2 marks**):
1. the marshal's mouth hanging open
2. the marshal's voice coming out high-pitched
3. the marshal looking at Merry with surprise
4. the marshal stumbling over his words

AA reference to the marshal staring at Merry
AA reference to the quotation, *'...it would appear that Merry Owen will go through to round two'*
DNA reference only to the quotation, *'Well!'*

35a
Either of the following:
1. the competitors moving ten yards back
2. the competitors taking turns

35b
Any of the following:
1. the audience being able to better appreciate the archers' skills
2. making it more challenging for the archers
3. increasing the crowd's enjoyment / interest

DNA reference to an acceptable point without the increased benefit for the audience / increased challenge for the archers

36
Any of the following:
1. the tension in the bow
2. Merry drawing back her bow to its fullest extension
3. Merry fearing the bow had been overstretched

AA reference to the quotation, *She needed all its power now to make the extra distance and to maintain accuracy*
DNA reference to Merry's power in pulling the bow back

37
Any **two** of the following (**up to 2 marks**):
1. Merry having won the competition
2. Merry's accuracy
3. Merry winning over the crowd
4. Merry defying the expectations of others

DNA reference to Merry winning the gold

38
3 marks for **two APs**, at least **one with evidence,**
2 marks for **either two APs**, or **one AP with evidence,**
1 mark for **one AP:**
1. her skill / accuracy / consistency
2. her composure / focus
3. her confidence / high expectation of herself
4. her knowledge of strategies / techniques / rules
5. her knowledge of her bow / arrows
6. her knowledge of past learning

39
The marshal smiling back at Merry
AA reference to the marshal accepting Merry's skill
AA reference to the marshal being happy for Merry
DNA reference to the quotation, *'We have an outright winner'.*

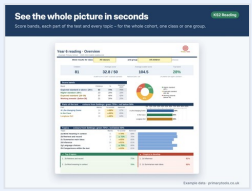
40 **Option 4:** clear

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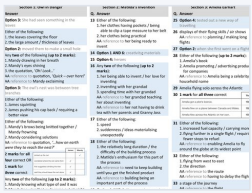
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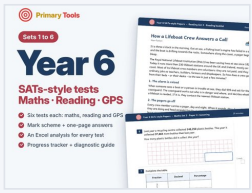
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