

## Speed and Fluency Cards

100-200 words

Pack One

In the early stages when reading books are shorter, it is easier to ask pupils to read and re-read the same book several times. This is important for developing speed, fluency and intonation when reading.

These are essential skills for comprehension. Unless a person is reading at around 100+ words per minute, it is going to be difficult for them to retain the words read in a sentence long enough to understand the meaning of the sentence.

We do not need to get hung up on words per minute counts because other factors also come into the mix. But it is important to give our developing readers the opportunity to practice their reading to skills to a level of fluency that helps them to read with ease, expression and thus understanding.

These cards are designed for older readers who need that practice, but are reading longer books where reading and re-reading is not appropriate. Or for older pupils, who find re-reading books cumbersome.

The texts used on these cards are mostly less than 200 words. There is a chart at the bottom to help the pupils to record their own progress so they can see their own improvement and achievements.

The reader must read to another person who will keep time and check the accuracy of the reading.

Initial introduction to text could be carried out using text to speech software such as:

[Natural Readers Online](#)

### Monitoring

Regular monitoring creates a picture of a child's progress through speed and fluency. Calculate the WCPM during the first reading of a new text. This will give a more accurate picture of progress.

Each day, it is useful to record the time taken and the number of mistakes. It is hoped that with each subsequent reading the time take will decrease and so will the mistakes made.

Recording these numbers sets the pupil a challenge and gives evidence of progress.

All of these texts have been taken from BBC Newsround. Why not visit Newsround each day and find out what is happening in the world around you.

Images copyright: GETTY IMAGES

## Possible Structure

### Day One

1. Support the pupil through the first reading of the text. This could be done through text to voice software, paired reading, choral reading, echo reading. Discuss any difficult vocabulary.
2. Listen to the pupil as they read the text, correcting where they cannot self-correct by showing how you know what the word says. If the reader falters at a word, give four seconds processing time before showing how to decode the word.
3. Time and count mistakes during the third reading.
4. Enter the time and number of mistakes on the chart for day one.
5. Ask the pupil to think of one good question about the text. Write it down to ask the pupil on the next day.
6. Ask the pupil to choose one sentence from the text. Ask them to read it repeatedly until they can remember it without seeing it. Using Clicker 6, ask the pupil to write the sentences. They should then check with the text for accuracy.

### Days Two – Five

Repeat steps 3-6. Point out the progress made each day.

# Reading with Expression

## 1. Punctuation

I pay attention to punctuation.

## 2. Accuracy

I read the words correctly.

## 3. Rate

I read the words  
not too quickly or  
too slowly.



## 4. Expression

I read with feeling. I vary my  
voice and don't sound  
like a robot!



## Fluency Evaluation Check List

Pupil's Name:

Date of assessment:

DOB:

Assessor's name:

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
Speed	The reader was too slow and words disjointed. <input type="checkbox"/>	Reader was slow but the sentences flowed fairly smoothly. <input type="checkbox"/>	Reading was fast paced and the sentences flowed smoothly. <input type="checkbox"/>
Accuracy	Many of the words were read incorrectly. Little attempt was made to self-correct. <input type="checkbox"/>	Several of the words were read incorrectly and some attempt was made to self-correct. <input type="checkbox"/>	All or nearly all of the words were read correctly and those that were incorrect were quickly corrected. <input type="checkbox"/>
Expression	The reading was monotone and the punctuation was ignored. <input type="checkbox"/>	The reader showed some good expression but may have missed the direction of punctuation. <input type="checkbox"/>	The reader used good intonation and expression and kept the text interesting. <input type="checkbox"/>
Volume	The reader was too quiet and indistinct when reading. <input type="checkbox"/>	The reader read with a fairly loud voice but may be indistinct. <input type="checkbox"/>	The reader read loudly and clearly through the text. <input type="checkbox"/>

## Speed and Fluency Monitoring

Enter the details for the first reading of the new text

Name:

D.O.B:

Date	Number of Words	Number of mistakes	Time taken	WCPM	AWI

WCPM – Words correct per minute

AWI – Average weekly improvement

## Speed and Fluency Monitoring

Enter the details for the first reading of the new text

Name:

D.O.B:

### WCpm – Words correct per minute

AWI – Average weekly improvement

## Calculating Words Correct Per Minute

Number of words – number of mistakes = number of correct words.

Number of correct words ÷ time taken = WCPM

Eg 250words – 18mistakes = 132 words correct

132 ÷ 2.45 (2min 27sec) = 53.8 WCPM

Seconds put into decimals		4mins 29sec – 4.48
E.g. 1 minute 16 sec = 1.26		
1 sec = 0.01	21 sec = 0.35	41 sec = 0.68
2sec = 0.03	22sec = 0.36	42sec = 0.7
3sec = 0.05	23sec = 0.38	43sec = 0.71
4sec = 0.06	24sec = 0.4	44sec = 0.73
5sec = 0.08	25sec = 0.41	45sec = 0.75
6sec = 0.1	26sec = 0.43	46sec = 0.76
7sec = 0.11	27sec = 0.45	47sec = 0.78
8sec = 0.13	28sec = 0.46	48sec = 0.8
9sec = 0.15	29sec = 0.48	49sec = 0.81
10sec= 0.16	30sec= 0.50	50sec= 0.83
11 sec = 0.18	31 sec = 0.51	51 sec = 0.85
12sec = 0.2	32sec = 0.53	52sec = 0.86
13sec = 0.21	33sec = 0.55	53sec = 0.88
14sec = 0.23	34sec = 0.56	54sec = 0.9
15 sec = 0.25	35 sec = 0.58	55 sec = 0.91
16 sec = 0.26	36 sec = 0.6	56 sec = 0.93
17sec = 0.28	37sec = 0.61	57sec = 0.95
18sec = 0.3	38sec = 0.63	58sec = 0.96
19sec = 0.31	39sec = 0.65	59sec = 0.58
20sec = 0.33	40sec = 0.66	

## No more Plastic in the Palace

**The Queen and Royal Family say they want to do their part to help to cut down the amount of plastic that gets thrown away.**

Buckingham Palace has told Newsround that at all levels in the Royal Household "there's a strong desire to tackle this issue" and that they've made changes to "cut back on the use of plastics".

Cafes at royal palaces and residences are phasing out plastic straws and they're also banned from staff dining rooms.

People who work for the Royal Family will now use china plates and glasses or recyclable paper cups. Any takeaway food is in biodegradable packaging, which means it will naturally breakdown and rot, unlike plastic.

At meetings, glass water bottles will be used instead of plastic ones.

Another eco-friendly idea is re-using packaging to move goods between different royal sites.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 144

## Obama Portraits

**The official portraits of Barack and Michelle Obama have been unveiled at Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery in Washington DC in America.**



Mr Obama described his portrait by Kehinde Wiley as "pretty sharp".

Mr Wiley was the first African-American painter to paint the first African-American president, something which he described as "absolutely overwhelming".

Mrs Obama said "wow!" when she saw her picture, done by an artist called Amy Sherald.

**"I'm thinking of all the girls of colour who will come and see someone who looks like them hanging on the wall of this great American Institution," said Mrs Obama, "and I know the kind of impact that will have on their lives because I was one of those girls."**

Mr Wiley painted the former US president using bright colours sitting in a garden, while Mrs Obama was painted against a plainer background.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 143

## Cold Feet!

**Brrrr! Here's what happens when a top sportsman's toes freeze!**

Adam Lallana shared this picture his social media feed after Liverpool's match against Southampton yesterday.

The England international only came on as a substitute from the 79th minute against his old team after waiting in the dugout for his chance.

And it looks like a ten minute run-out didn't get his feet warmed up that much!

The match kicked off at 4.30pm, as the temperature around Southampton was dropping.

The usual advice to warm feet back up is to slowly use warm water in a bath or shower.

Despite his frozen toes, the good news for Lallana was his team won 2-nil!



on

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

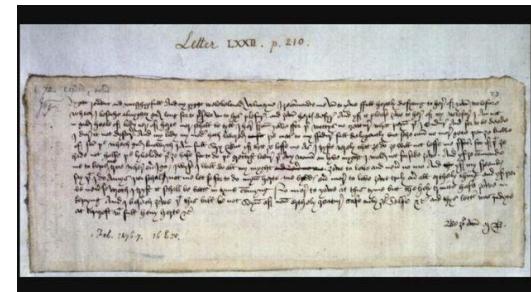
Word count 115

# What is Valentine's Day and how did it start?



**Valentine's Day, or St Valentine's Day, is celebrated every year on 14 February.**

It's the day when people show their affection for another person or people by sending cards, flowers or chocolates with messages of love.



**Who was St Valentine?**

The day gets its name from a famous saint, but there are several stories of who he was.

The popular belief about St Valentine is that he was a priest from Rome in the third century AD.

This is the oldest known Valentine's Day message in English. It was written in 1477.

Emperor Claudius II had banned marriage because he thought married men were bad soldiers. Valentine felt this was unfair, so he broke the rules and arranged marriages in secret.

When Claudius found out, Valentine was thrown in jail and sentenced to death.

There, he fell in love with the jailer's daughter and when he was taken to be killed on 14 February he sent her a love letter signed "from your Valentine".

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

## How did Valentine's Day start?

---

The first Valentine's Day was in the year 496!

Having a particular Valentine's Day is a very old tradition, thought to have originated from a Roman festival.

The Romans had a festival called Lupercalia in the middle of February - officially the start of their springtime.

These penguins in California have been known to get into the spirit of Valentine's Day

It's thought that as part of the celebrations, boys drew names of girls from a box. They'd be boyfriend and girlfriend during the festival and sometimes they'd get married.

Later on, the church wanted to turn this festival into a Christian celebration and decided to use it to remember St Valentine too.

Gradually, St Valentine's name started to be used by people to express their feelings to those they loved.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 136

## Kylie's back on the Voice



**Singing superstar Kylie Minogue is returning to The Voice.**

She'll be helping Sir Tom Jones as a guest mentor.

Kylie used to be a coach alongside him, will.i.am and Ricky Wilson on the show back in 2014.

She'll be giving advice to Team Tom ahead of their crucial Knockout performances.

Kylie was a judge on the show in 2014 alongside Sir Tom Jones, will.i.am and Ricky Wilson.

Kylie's bound to have some top tips. She's had seven singles reach number one and sold 80 million albums!

And Sir Tom says she's a "really lovely person" - who better to have by your side?

Olly Murs's mentor is Craig David while two members of the Black Eyed Peas are joining will.i.am.

Jennifer Hudson's sidekick hasn't been revealed yet!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 132

# Could carrying a baby dragon be the new fashion craze?

If you love fashion and you love animals, this story's for you.



Models at a fashion show for big designer brand Gucci have taken to the catwalk carrying some very unusual accessories... These realistic-looking animal figures!

The designer, who was inspired by his love of films, worked with a top visual effects company from the world of movies to create the animal models.

The figures included a chameleon, a snake and even a baby dragon.

It was part of a week of shows in the fashionable Italian city of Milan where designers show off their latest creations.

If you're hoping to join in with the trend you might be disappointed - the animals aren't for sale.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 126

## Delivery problems force over half of KFC restaurants to close



**Delivery problems will mean some KFC restaurants will remain closed for the rest of the week, while others will have a reduced menu or shortened hours.**

About half the fast food chain's 900 UK outlets were still closed on Tuesday night.

It's a result of KFC switching to a new company to deliver their chicken, and at the moment no one knows when the problem will be solved.

**KFC, short for Kentucky Fried Chicken, is an American fast food restaurant group that is popular in the UK.**

But some of you are clearly not impressed! One kid told the BBC: "My reaction is angry, sad and disappointed."

Another said: "It's a chicken place so they should have enough chicken, they should be able to store it."

**KFC are working to re-open stores and said on Twitter: "The chicken crossed the road, just not to our restaurants."**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 156

## David Harbour on way to the Antarctic to dance with penguins



Stranger Things actor David Harbour is on his way to the Antarctic to 'dance' with penguins!

It's after a huge Twitter campaign he started, with conservation group Greenpeace.

He got more than 200,000 re-tweets in five hours which meant he got a place on a Greenpeace ship heading to the Antarctic.

The ship's called Arctic Sunrise - confusing given that he's heading to the Antarctic, and not the Arctic!

And it aims to find out more about wildlife there and the need for an Antarctic Ocean Sanctuary to protect species like whales and penguins.

But we think for David it's mainly about the penguins. He says Greenpeace have told him that he'll "...get to waddle around with them [penguins], discuss their parenting techniques with them and yes, yes, dance with them."

Good luck David!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 145

# New 50p Beatrix Potter coins released

Four new 50p coins featuring some of Beatrix Potter's favourite fictional characters are to be released.

Peter Rabbit, Mrs Tittlemouse and Flopsy Bunny will feature on the coins.

Coloured collectable versions will be available to buy for either £10 or £60.

They will be created by the Royal Mint in Wales, which makes all the coins we use in the UK.



The Peter Rabbit coin will go on sale today, while three other designs will go on sale later this year.

The coin designs are taken from hand-painted drawings from Potter's books.

They will be added to the Beatrix Potter collection launched in 2016, which marked 150 years since her birth.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 117

## Severus Snape tops Harry Potter character poll



**He may not have been everyone at Hogwarts' favourite teacher but Severus Snape has just been voted the greatest Harry Potter character by wizarding fans.**

The sneering potions master beat Harry, Hermoine and Ron to the number one spot in a poll run by MTV.

Most fans probably reckon that Harry's evil enemy Voldemort is pretty scary, but he lost out to crazy Bellatrix Lestrange who was voted the best villian.

The death of Hogwarts' headmaster Professor Dumbledore was chosen as the most memorable moment from the seven wizarding books.

**Harry's invisiblity cloak was beaten by Hermione's time turner device as the one item from the magical series that muggles would like to get their hands on in real life.**

And Ron may have never been top of the class in spells but HP fans reckon that actor Rupert Grint, who played Ron in the films, will come out on top in the end.

Followers of the books think that Rupert will be the most successful of the film's stars in the future.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 180

## Nasa's space butler, Robonaut wakes up in orbit

Nasa has switched on the first human-looking robot in space, at the International Space Station.



Known as Robonaut or R2, the robot was delivered to the space station in February and is being tested as an astronaut's helper.

It has taken six months for all of the operating systems to arrive.

In September, controllers at Nasa headquarters in Florida will try to get Robonaut to move its fingers, arms and hands.

At the moment R2 operates from the waist upwards, but a pair of legs are currently being designed for it and should be attached in 2013.

There are no plans to send R2 out into space, it'll just carry out experiments inside the space station; but future versions may be able to go on spacewalks.

After waking up, Robonaut was straight onto the social network twitter to tell a growing army of fans about what it's like on board the Space Station.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 161

## Winter Olympics: Lizzy Yarnold wins gold, Laura Deas takes bronze



Lizzy Yarnold has won Team GB's first gold medal of the Winter Olympics.

She won the skeleton, and defended her Olympic title from four years ago.

Teammate Laura Deas claimed bronze in the same race.

Earlier, Izzy Atkin has won bronze in the women's ski slopestyle - bringing home Team GB's second medal at the Winter Olympics.

Nineteen-year-old Izzy scored 84.60 on her final run to claim the first British Winter Olympic medal on skis.

"I'm speechless and stoked to win the bronze," Atkin said. Her success comes a day after Dom Parsons won bronze in the men's skeleton.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 109

# Winter Olympics: Dom Parsons wins skeleton bronze medal

Dom Parsons slides to Bronze medal victory

**Dom Parsons won Great Britain's first medal of the 2018 Winter Olympics with bronze in the men's skeleton.**



Parsons, who is nicknamed 'the wizard', finished 0.11 seconds ahead of the fourth-placed athlete.

"It hasn't really sunk in yet," Parsons told the BBC. "It's been great. All the work we've put in has paid off."

South Korea's Yun Sung-bin won gold and Nikita Tregubov, an Olympic Athlete from Russia, silver.

Britain have won a medal every time skeleton has featured at the Winter Olympics, but Parsons is Britain's first men's skeleton medal since 1948.

Parsons not only knows how to race on a sled but he makes them, too.

He's been studying mechanical engineering at the University of Bath and has helped design the skeleton equipment.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 140

# What's happening in Syria?

**Syria has been engaged in civil war for the last six years, with different groups trying to seize control of the country.**



The fighting is between:

- Soldiers who support the Syrian president Bashar al-Assad,
- fighters known as *rebels*, who don't want Assad to be in power anymore, and
- the group that call themselves the Islamic State (IS).

IS had taken over large parts of Iraq and then moved into eastern Syria. In the chaos of the war they were able to gain land and power there too.

Raqqa was the first big city captured by IS in Syria in early 2014. The group went on to take over large parts of the country towards Aleppo in the north, and along the Turkish border.

A few weeks ago an alliance of Syrian Kurdish and Arab fighters, backed by America, took back the city of Raqqa in the north-west.

This was the last major stronghold of IS in Syria, which means IS losing control.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count 167

## Two wards reopen at virus-hit Raigmore Hospital

Two of four wards at Raigmore Hospital in Inverness have reopened after being closed due to norovirus.



NHS Highland said wards 7A and 6C reopened over the weekend but wards 2A and 2C remain closed.

Visiting to the closed wards is suspended until further notice and visiting to other areas in the hospital has been restricted to two people per patient.

Visitors are also being asked not to take children in to the hospital.

Norovirus, which causes diarrhoea and vomiting, is one of the most common stomach bugs in the UK.

It is also called the winter vomiting bug because it is more common in winter, although you can catch it at any time of the year.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count: 124

## Fancy charging up your electric car in 10 minutes?

By Matthew WallTechnology of Business editor



Imagine being able to charge your electric car in minutes rather than hours or your smartphone in seconds.

That's the enticing prospect is being touted by researchers who reckon they've discovered a new material that could boost the performance of a carbon-based supercapacitor. It is a type of energy storage device that can be charged very quickly and offload its power very quickly, too.

Very simply, supercapacitors don't produce electricity through chemical reactions as conventional batteries do, they create these electrostatic fields.

So far, supercapacitors have been good at providing quick bursts of power - to start a car engine, for example, or to give trains a boost when accelerating. They're also well-suited to harvesting energy from vehicles when they brake, making them an important component in electric vehicles.

National electricity grids use them to provide quick power top-ups when balancing supply and demand.

But to date, supercapacitors haven't been very good at holding much energy or holding on to that energy for very long.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count: 174

## Dinosaur tracks on Skye 'globally important'



New light has been shed on a little understood period of dinosaur evolution after giant prehistoric footprints were discovered on the Isle of Skye.

Researchers, including some from Edinburgh University, have been analysing dozens of the footprints, left about 170 million years ago.

They found that the tracks belonged to sauropods and therapods from the Middle Jurassic period.

The discovery has been described as being "globally important".

Few fossil sites have been found around the world from the Middle Jurassic period.

The footprints, left in a muddy, shallow lagoon, are helping the researchers build a more accurate picture of an important period in dinosaur evolution.

Most of the prints were made by long-necked sauropods - which stood up to 2m (6.5ft) tall - and by theropods, which were the older cousins of Tyrannosaurus Rex.

The footprints were difficult to study owing to tidal conditions, the impact of weathering and changes to the landscape but the scientists identified two trackways in addition to many isolated footprints.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count: 171

## The Silent Child starring Maisie Sly has won an Oscar

Maisie Sly, who's six, is the star of *The Silent Girl* which won an Oscar for Best Live Action Short.

*The Silent Child* is about a deaf girl called Libby, played by Maisie, who lives in silence until a social worker teaches her how to communicate through sign language.

Maisie herself is deaf, as are her mum and dad, they all use British Sign Language, or BSL.

She was picked from over 100 other children to star in the role. She'd never ever acted before this role and it's the first film she's ever appeared in.

Rachel Shenton wrote the screenplay for the film and also starred in it as the social worker.

She used sign language in her acceptance speech for the Oscar so that Maisie who was also in the room could understand what she was saying.

Newsround were also in Los Angeles for the awards and met up with Maisie to find out what she thought of Hollywood and how it felt to be nominated.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count: 178

## UK passports: Firm appeals move to make them in France

The existing manufacturer of British passports is appealing against the decision to use a Franco-Dutch supplier after Brexit.



De La Rue lost the £490m contract to Gemalto, which is based in France.

The British company admitted its bid was not the cheapest but said it was "the highest quality and technically most secure".

The Home Office said the chosen firm met the needs of the passport service.

The burgundy passport, in use since 1988, will revert to its original blue and gold colour from October 2019. However, people are expected to keep their current passports until they expire.

A spokesperson for De La Rue said: "We can accept that we weren't the cheapest, even if our tender represented a significant discount on the current price.

Under EU procurement rules, the Home Office was required to open up the bidding process to European firms, although De La Rue has manufactured UK passports since 2009.

The Home Office issues more than six million passports annually and is the only provider of passports to British citizens.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time					
Number of mistakes					

Word count: 183