



Approaching the NAPLAN reading assessment

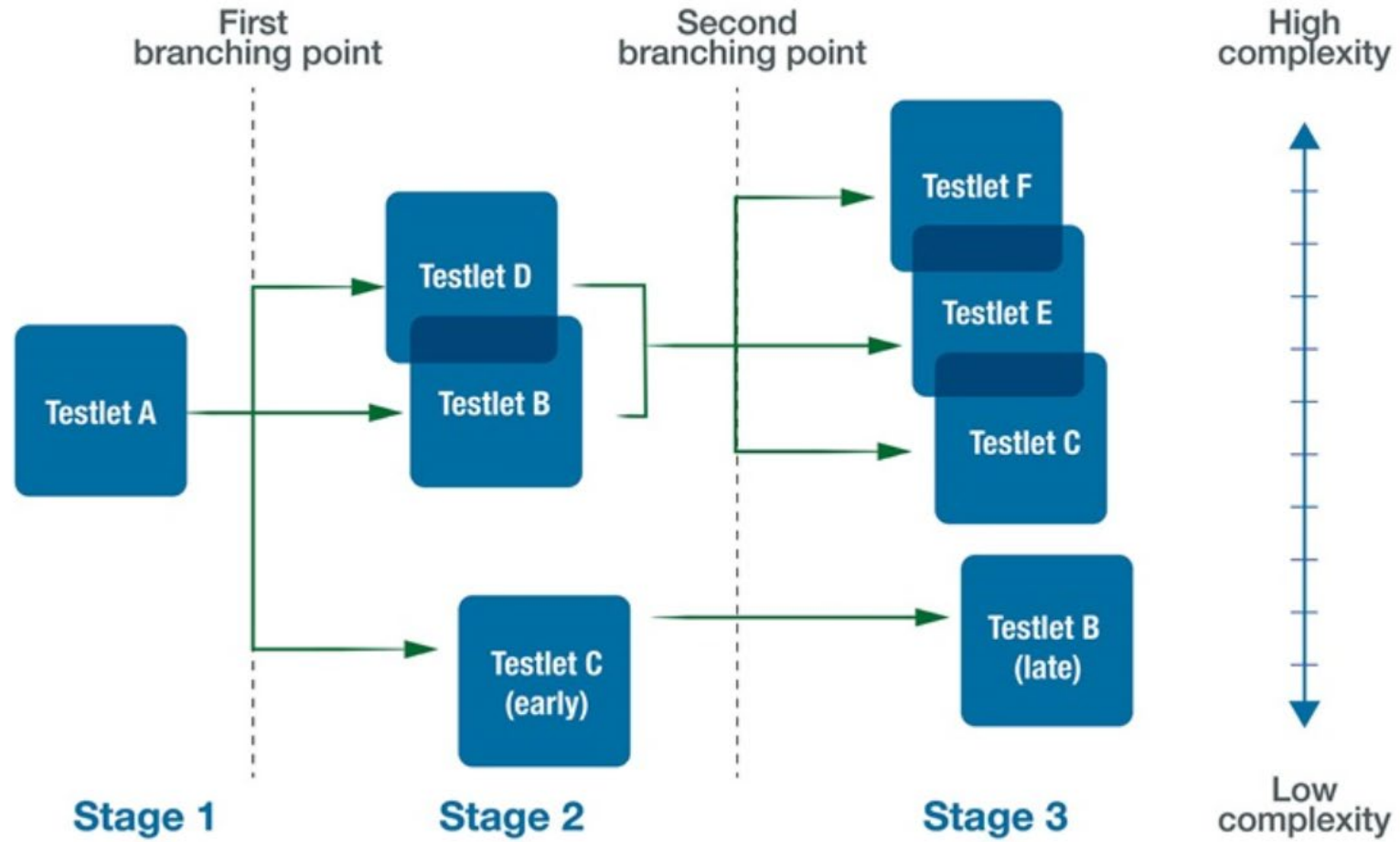


The questions used in this are from the Public
Demonstration site for Year 9 reading

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>



Reading and numeracy test design



Read the question/task first and the answer options before the main text.



Literal comprehension- “Match the instructions”
Click and drag in place.

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Question 1 of 13

Simone is making a pizza base recipe card for her class.
Place the pictures in the boxes to match the instructions.



Pizza base
Ingredients

- Flour 1 kg
- Brewers yeast 25 g
- Olive oil 6 spoons
- Salt 25 g
- Warm water 500 mL
- Sugar 2 spoons

Instructions

- Melt yeast and sugar in warm water.
- Mix flour, yeast, salt and olive oil.
- Knead the dough until soft.
- Rest the dough in a warm cloth.
- Roll the dough.
- Bake for 15 minutes at 200°C.

Flag Next

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Question 1 of 13

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Read the question/task first and the answer options before the main text. Use literal comprehension



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Question 2 of 13

Star struck

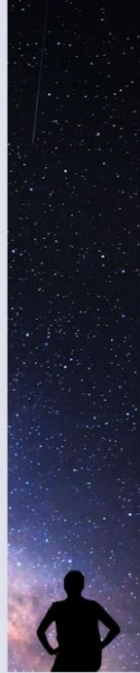
'I can't see anything!' I yelled. Twelfth-birthday frustration was mounting because of the stubborn refusal of my brand new telescope to show anything other than a blur. I'd been promised awe-inspiring patterns and figures, those storybook constellations that would all make sense when seen from the eyepiece of a steady-mounted Newtonian reflector.

I'd caught the bug for sky watching during the news coverage of the Hale-Bopp comet in 1997. The television had been full of updates about the comet's progress and images of its spectacular tail. I was a willing slave to the wonders of astronomy and this new telescope was going to revolutionise my world.

My parents were no experts, which didn't improve matters, but on that first night they quietly helped me to set aside the perplexing gadget and use a much more user-friendly apparatus—my eyes. We sat and looked upward, then put out some blankets, and lay down and looked upward. It was a cloudless night and, lo and behold, the sky offered up its treasures to the naked eye. The Milky Way arched from horizon to horizon; Saturn, Scorpius, and the Southern Cross were so bright it seemed I could reach out and touch them.

As I looked into that apparent darkness, my eyes seemed to expand. And that was that—I was hooked.

The telescope soon came into its own, and became a trusty aide in my further explorations of the sky. I learned to track the weather forecasts for optimum sky conditions



Place the following events in the order in which they actually happened.

- The author's parents showed her how to look at stars without a telescope.
- The author became a knowledgeable astronomer.
- The author learned how to use a telescope.
- The author was given a telescope for her birthday.

1	
2	
3	
4	

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Question 2 of 13

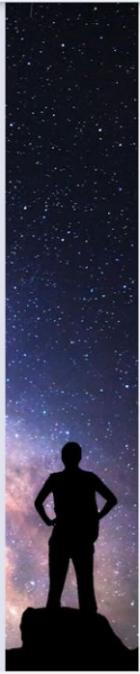
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The telescope soon came into its own, and became a trusty aide in my further explorations of the sky. I learned to track the weather forecasts for optimum sky conditions and to find those precious parts of the urban world that are not sabotaged by light pollution. Now, as a fully-fledged astronomer, I'm used to equipment that is off-the-scale for its accuracy and effectiveness, but I haven't forgotten those two basic tools of the trade that I always have with me!



Place the following events in the order in which they actually happened.

1	The author was given a telescope for her birthday.
2	The author's parents showed her how to look at stars without a telescope.
3	The author learned how to use a telescope.
4	The author became a knowledgeable astronomer.

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Read the question/task first and the answer options

Look for clues in the answer



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Question 3 of 13

Star struck

'I can't see anything!' I yelled. Twelfth-birthday frustration was mounting because of the stubborn refusal of my brand new telescope to show anything other than a blur. I'd been promised awe-inspiring patterns and figures, those storybook constellations that would all make sense when seen from the eyepiece of a steady-mounted Newtonian reflector.

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The telescope soon came into its own, and became a trusty aide in my further explorations of the sky. I learned to track the weather forecasts for optimum sky conditions

... I haven't forgotten those two basic tools of the trade that I always have with me! (paragraph 5)

Which phrase from paragraph 3 does the word *those* refer back to?

My parents were no experts, which didn't improve matters, but on that first night they quietly helped me to set aside the perplexing gadget and use a much more user-friendly apparatus—my eyes. We sat and looked upward, then put out some blankets, and lay down and looked upward. It was a cloudless night and, lo and behold, the sky offered up its treasures to the naked eye.

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Read the question/task first and the answer options
 Use inference and literal comprehension.
 Skim and scan for key words. Use inference formula and context clues.



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Question 4 of 13

Star struck


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Tick to show whether each statement is **true** or **false** according to the text.

	True	False
The author's parents knew a lot about astronomy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is easier to see stars in certain weather conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You cannot appreciate the stars without a telescope.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Question 4 of 13


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Look for formatting clues in how to answer.

Look for context clues ‘in and around the words in their sentences’ to help work out the ‘inferred’ meaning of the verbs provided in the answer.

Inferential reading “Best describe effect”



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Question 5 of 13

Seeing stars

If you approach a fairground or watch a music gig, lights will be an important part of the whole experience—creating energy, excitement and spectacle. Firework displays tick many of the same boxes, delivering visual thrills, splendour and most of all, light.

The irony, of course, is that the impact of light depends on a contrast with darkness; an unlit stage suddenly illuminated with spotlights and lasers, rockets and showers fleetingly painting the unlit sky. But let's pause right there. The unlit sky? In urban areas, the sky is rarely unlit by artificial light—and it's easy to lose sight of that fact.

In recent decades, as we have become increasingly aware of its consequences, light pollution has become a prominent and much debated international issue. In a nutshell, light pollution arises from the presence of too much artificial light. Our cities emanate an electric haze of light (known as 'urban sky glow') which makes it all but impossible to see stars, planets and other phenomena native to the sky.

We are also imposing light on each other. A neighbour's garden light or lighting from a shop's window can intrude on our ability to sleep (known as 'light trespass'). The 'glare' of excessive lighting can also distract or momentarily blind us, for example, when driving. Light pollution also has an effect on the animals who share the planet with us, particularly nocturnal species, whose day-night rhythms may be disrupted.

So, what's the solution? After all, we also need to consider that light is important to keep us safe. Some groups and regions have begun to place controls on lighting by introducing 'lights-off' periods, and enforcing new regulations to reduce unshielded or poorly-designed lighting. Flagstaff (in Arizona in the United States) became the first official 'Dark Sky City' in 2001, recognised for its commitment to protecting that fragile balance between light and dark. It will be a long journey, but maybe there is an

Choose the words that best complete the sentences below.

What is the effect of the verbs *imposing*, *intrude*, *distract* and *disrupted* used in paragraph 4?

These verbs show the effect of light pollution. They show how may be by light over which they have no control.

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Question 5 of 13

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Skim and scan the question and then the text for key words.
Use literal comprehension- “Which”



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Question 6 of 13

Seeing stars

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Which **two** steps have some regions taken to control light pollution?

Choose **two**.

- banning artificial lighting in gardens
- influencing the design of lighting
- making it illegal to light shops at night
- reducing street lighting
- banning firework displays
- having periods when there is no lighting

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Question 6 of 13

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Read the question/task first. Look for format clues to know what to do. Skim and scan question for key words or expectations “highlight negative effects”. Use literal and inferential comprehension. Look at the language in the paragraph to help identify the negative tone.



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Question 7 of 13

Seeing stars

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Which two paragraphs does the writer use to highlight the negative effects of light pollution?
Choose two.

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Read the question/task first. Look for format clues to know what to do. Skim and scan for key words or expectations “...would the writer agree with?”

Use literal and inferential comprehension.

Consider the writers attitude towards the subject and select only those they would agree with.



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Question 8 of 13

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Which of these statements would the writer of this text agree with?

Choose **all** that apply.

- Animals' sleep patterns are affected by light pollution.
- Light enables us to see stars and planets more clearly.
- It is against the law to light your garden at night.
- Glare from streetlights improves driver safety.
- There is more light pollution in cities than in the countryside.

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Question 8 of 13

Seeing stars

If you approach a fairground or watch a music gig, lights will be an important part of the whole experience—creating energy, excitement and spectacle. Firework displays tick many of the same boxes, delivering visual thrills, splendour and most of all, light.

The irony, of course, is that the impact of light depends on a contrast with darkness; an unlit stage suddenly illuminated with spotlights and lasers, rockets and showers fleetingly painting the unlit sky. But let's pause right there. The unlit sky? In urban areas, the sky is rarely unlit by artificial light—and it's easy to lose sight of that fact.

In recent decades, as we have become increasingly aware of its consequences, light pollution has become a prominent and much debated international issue. In a nutshell, light pollution arises from the presence of too much artificial light. Our cities emanate an electric haze of light (known as 'urban sky glow') which makes it all but impossible to see stars, planets and other phenomena native to the sky.

We are also imposing light on each other. A neighbour's garden light or lighting from a shop's window can intrude on our ability to sleep (known as 'light trespass'). The 'glare' of excessive lighting can also distract or momentarily blind us, for example, when driving. Light pollution also has an effect on the animals who share the planet with us, particularly nocturnal species, whose day-night rhythms may be disrupted.

So, what's the solution? After all, we also need to consider that light is important to keep us safe. Some groups and regions have begun to place controls on lighting by introducing 'lights-off' periods, and enforcing new regulations to reduce unshielded or poorly-designed lighting. Flagstaff (in Arizona in the United States) became the first official 'Dark Sky City' in 2001, recognised for its commitment to protecting that fragile balance between light and dark. It will be a long journey, but maybe there is an

Which of these statements would the writer of this text agree with?

Choose **all** that apply.

- Animals' sleep patterns are affected by light pollution.
- Light enables us to see stars and planets more clearly.
- It is against the law to light your garden at night.
- Glare from streetlights improves driver safety.
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Click and Click. Skim and scan for quotation marks and inference clues + literal connections



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Question 9 of 13

Seeing stars

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In this text, the writer uses quotation marks in different ways.

Match each example to what the quotation marks indicate to the reader.

'urban sky glow'	an official title
'lights-off'	a technical term
'Dark Sky City'	a casual term

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Question 9 of 13

Seeing stars

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Read the question/task first.

Look for format and word clues to know what to do.

Read the text and look at for text type clues. E.G Rhetorical question inclusive pronouns Direct address “We” Call to action in last paragraph Select ‘best’ choice phrase—not necessarily ‘perfect’.

The screenshot displays a digital reading task interface. At the top, a blue header shows a timer at 01:02, a 'Hide time' button, and the question number 'Question 10 of 13'. Below the header, there are two tabs: 'Star struck' and 'Seeing stars'. The 'Seeing stars' tab is selected and highlighted with a red box. To the right of the tabs, a instruction reads: 'Use the tabs to look at both *Star struck* and *Seeing stars*.' Below the tabs, the 'Seeing stars' text is displayed in a black box. The text discusses light pollution and its effects on visibility and health. To the right of the text, a question asks: 'Use the tabs to look at both *Star struck* and *Seeing stars*. Choose the phrases that best complete the sentence below. The style of *Star struck* is [] while *Seeing stars* is [].' Below the question, five options are listed in blue boxes: 'a narrative recount', 'an imaginative description', 'a persuasive advertisement', 'an informative text', and 'an instructional manual'. At the bottom of the interface, there are navigation buttons: 'Back', 'Flag', and 'Next'. A QR code is visible in the top right corner.

Read the question/task first.

Look for format and word clues to know what to do.

Inferential comprehension
“Why?” question.

Look for clues in the text to help identify the writer’s point of view and attitude towards the subject.

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Question 11 of 13

Star struck Seeing stars

darkness; an unlit stage suddenly illuminated with spotlights and lasers, rockets and showers fleetingly painting the unlit sky. But let's pause right there. The unlit sky? In urban areas, the sky is rarely unlit by artificial light—and it's easy to lose sight of that fact.

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Use the tabs to look at both *Star struck* and *Seeing stars*.

Why might the astronomer in *Star struck* want to live in Flagstaff (*Seeing stars*)?

- The weather conditions are good for sky watching.
- It has an interesting urban sky glow.
- The availability of highly accurate telescopes is the best.
- It has suppressed the quantities of artificial light.

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Read the question/task first. Look for format clues to know what to do.

“Which” question is literal comprehension.

Look at the answer options. Write them in on a piece of paper and draw a Venn diagram.



Deal with each text one at a time. Scan for key words.

01:57
Hours Mins
Hide time

Question 12 of 13

Star st... ..

Star struck

'I can't see anything!' I yelled. Twelve...
was mounting because of the stubbo...
brand new telescope to show anythin...
I'd been promised awe-inspiring patt...
those storybook constellations that...
when seen from the eyepiece of a st...
Newtonian reflector.

I'd caught the bug for sky watching...
coverage of the Hale-Bopp comet in...
had been full of updates about the co...
images of its spectacular tail. I was...
wonders of astronomy and this new...
to revolutionise my world.

My parents were no experts, which c...
matters, but on that first night they...
set aside the perplexing gadget and...
user-friendly apparatus—my eyes. V...
upward, then put out some blankets...
looked upward. It was a cloudless ni...
behold, the sky offered up its treasur...
The Milky Way arched from horizon...
Scorpius, and the Southern Cross w...
seemed I could reach out and touch...
As I looked into that apparent darkne...

Use the tabs to look at both *Star struck* and *Seeing stars*.

Which of these are referred to in *Star struck*, which are referred to in *Seeing stars* and which are referred to in **both** texts?

<i>Star struck</i>	<i>Seeing stars</i>	Both texts
		seeing stars through telescopes
		day-night rhythms
		planets and stars
		light pollution in cities
		safety

Back Flag Next

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Hours Mins
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Question 12 of 13

... Seein...

in recent ocaades, as we have becc...
consequences, light pollution has be...
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and other phenomena native to the...

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		safety
		light pollution in cities
	day-night rhythms	
	planets and stars	

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Read all the question/task information left to right –top to bottom including the options.

Look for clues in the formatting.

This is a literal comprehension question.



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Hide time

Question 13 of 13

This is an online dictionary's definition of the word *ball*.

ball
/bɔːl/
noun

1. a round or ovoid object used in a game or sport
2. a formal dance or social gathering
3. a positive or enjoyable experience

verb

4. to make into a rounded shape

What is the best meaning for the word **ball** as it is used in the sentence below?
Dancing at the **ball** made Sanjay very happy.

meaning 1

meaning 2

meaning 3

meaning 4

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Hours Mins

Hide time

Question 13 of 13

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meaning 1

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Acknowledgements

Pizza base: Pizza recipe showing ingredients and preparation © Elana BS / Alamy Stock Vector (image cropped for selected ingredients and steps)

Star struck: Photo of a stargazer © Denys Bilytskyi / Alamy Stock Photo (image cropped)

Seeing stars: Photo of city lights © Lee Gillion / Alamy Stock Photo (image cropped)

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site> Demo tests

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