CRACKING COMPREHENSION

year 6 Sample

Teacher's Guide Notes for Cracking Comprehension Year 6: Unit 4

Includes:

- Introduction to Cracking Comprehension
- Text: The Tempest
- Teaching Notes for The Tempest
- Listening Comprehension questions for The Tempest
- Comprehension questions for *The Tempest*
- Practice Text: Julius Caesar
- Teaching Notes for Julius Caesar
- Comprehension questions for Julius Caesar

Introduction

What is Cracking Comprehension?

Cracking Comprehension is a step-by-step resource to improve the comprehension skills of children aged 6–11 years old. It teaches children the skills and strategies they need to successfully explain their understanding of a wide range of texts, and offers ideas to extend their enjoyment of, and engagement with, reading. The whiteboard modelling CD ROM and this Teacher's Guide will help children to develop the techniques to answer the types of questions asked in the Key Stage 2 national test for reading and help you to deliver the 2014 National Curriculum for English including the harder question paper which requires more in-depth understanding.

What's in it?

Cracking Comprehension offers nine comprehension units for each year. The units have been chosen to support the expectations of the new National Curriculum for Key Stage 2 English. The texts can also be used as resources to complement your wider teaching.

How does a unit work?

Each unit provides the following material, on the whiteboard modelling CD ROM, online and within this Teacher's Guide. *Italics show the tabs on the CD ROM to follow in order to access the resources.*

Type of teaching	CDI	ROM	Teacher's Guide
	Pupil material	Teaching support	
Whole class	An illustrated, interactive Teaching text for use on the IWB. (<i>Read</i>)	Printable copies of the text. (menu, teacher resources, Teaching text)	Teaching notes on key text features, advice on introducing the texts and ideas for extension into a writing activity. (e.g. Unit 1, pg 8)
Listening comprehension	Audio of each text for flexible use. (Read, listen)	Three Listening comprehension questions. (menu, Read, listening questions / menu, teacher resources, Listening comprehension questions)	Photocopiable version of the questions; also answers and teaching strategies. (e.g. Unit 1, pg 9–11)
Group and class discussion/ independent follow- up	Six Teaching text questions to work through together, with opportunities for the teacher to model the process of: read the text == zap the question == search the text == crack the answer (Question zap)	A PCM of the six questions for applying the process and answering the questions independently. (menu, teacher resources, Teaching text questions)	A table showing the questions, answers, strategies, content domains and marks for each question. (e.g. Unit 1, pg 10–11)

Independent work	Photocopiable Practice text which offers opportunities for similar questions to those on the Teaching text. (Practice text)	Photocopiable version of nine questions, to enable independent practice of the processes and strategies taught. (menu, teacher resources, Practice text questions)	Photocopiable Practice text, plus photocopiable question sheet. A table showing the questions, answers, strategies, content domains and marks for each question. (e.g. Unit 1, pg 12–13)
Extension to encourage wider reading			Suggestions for extended reading for each unit, to encourage the reading of whole texts. Chosen by Marilyn Brocklehurst of the Norfolk Children's Book Centre. (e.g. <i>Unit 1, pg 8</i>)

How do I use it?

The pathway through each *Cracking Comprehension* unit is flexible, according to the specific needs of you and your children. Whether you choose to teach a comprehension lesson every day for a week, weekly over a half-term or for a focused half day per half-term is your choice. The range of content domains practised during each unit is clearly indicated. This gives you the opportunity to decide which assessable elements you want the children to practise. However you choose to use the material, we recommend that you use the following process.

SESSION 1

Step 1: Introduce, Listen and/or Read

- Introduce the interactive Teaching text on the IWB, using the 'Key text features' and 'Reading the Teaching text' questions in the Teacher's Guide.
- Press 'Listen' to use the audio, and to see the **Listening comprehension questions** on screen. These are also provided as photocopiable versions, along with answers and teaching strategies, in the Teacher's Guide. It is most effective to use these now, before the children get to know the text well.
- Alternatively, you can read the text yourself. If you read it aloud, or play the audio, you will enable a wider range of children in the class to participate fully in the lesson.

Step 2: Modelling

- Work with the children to model the *Cracking Comprehension* process, using the first question as a model.
- **Zap the question**: Teach children how to interpret the question: What is being asked? Which reading strategies will be needed to find the answer? (Answers and strategies are supplied in the Teacher's Guide.)
- **Search the text**: Use 'Text search' to identify where in the text the answer is most likely to be found; teach children to identify words, sentences, paragraphs that may be useful. Use the onscreen tools to highlight relevant pieces of text, and Copy to Crack it to transfer these to the evidence section of 'Crack it'.

• **Crack the question**: Use the information in the 'evidence' section to write an answer. Compare this with the model answer given in the Teacher's Guide and encourage the class to discuss and consider the relative merits of their own answers and the model answer. This discussion can be a useful teaching tool.

SESSION 2

Step 1: Modelling

• Use the interactive Teaching text to ask and answer some 'warm-up' questions to re-familiarise the children with the text. (This can be the first question you modelled in the previous session.) Use the on-screen help to reinforce the *Zap/Search/Crack it* process. You can also make use of the notes in the Teacher's Guide to focus on question-specific strategies. Allow less-confident readers to listen again to the audio recording of the teaching text if they wish.

Step 2: Applying

• Give the children photocopies of the Teaching text and questions (*menu, teacher resources on the CD ROM*) so that they can apply the strategies they have learned in the previous session. Ask the children to work independently and give their own answers.

Step 2: Checking

Now allow the children to mark their own work as you revisit the model answers on screen.
 Encourage discussion so that the children can compare their own answers to the model answer.
 There may be alternative possible 'correct' answers for each question, but certain specific elements may be needed to gain the mark. Look for these elements in both the model answer and the children's answers.

SESSION 3

Step 1: Practising

 Revisit the key strategies taught using the Teaching text, and then distribute photocopies of the Practice text, and Practice text questions, for children to practise answering the questions, using and applying the strategies taught. (These PCMs can be found in *Teacher Resources* on the CD ROM, and in the Teacher's Guide.)

Step 2: Checking

Display the Practice text on the IWB and use the strategies suggested in the Teacher's Guide to
mark and discuss the children's answers. Let children mark their own work, although you will
want to monitor their answers as part of your ongoing assessment procedures. Depending on
the time available, some of these sessions may be combined, although this process should be
followed where possible.

Extending the learning

Once children have interrogated the texts in each unit, they will be in a good position to use the understanding they have gained as a springboard for extending learning, either through writing or through developing further reading pathways. Brief suggestions for both of these routes are included in the Teacher's Guide.

- The 'Moving into writing' section includes a starting point in the text and a suggestion to encourage talk for writing, prior to children writing their own text.
- The 'Extending reading' ideas can be used to help children to make links between texts in order to develop understanding of text type/genre, to compare authorial styles, and to help them to develop choices and preferences as readers through other, high-quality texts.

Cracking Comprehension and the National Curriculum for English

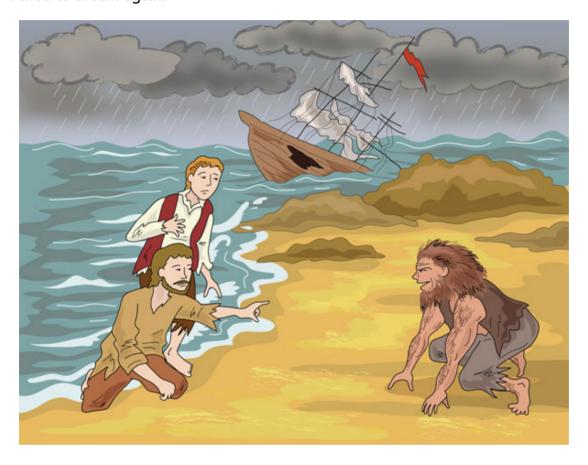
The 2016 test framework recognises eight 'content domains' which can be assessed in reading tests and which primarily interrogate the reading comprehension objectives of the national curriculum. The table below shows the objectives linked to each of the content domains.

Content domain refere	ence	Y3/4	Y5/6
2a	give/explain the meaning of words in context	2a	2a
2b	retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction	3	4, 5
2c	summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph	2e	2e
2d	make inferences from the text/explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text	2c	2c, 8
2e	predict what might happen from details stated and implied	2d	2d
2f	identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole	2f	2f
2g	identify/explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases	2g	3
2h	make comparisons within the text		1f

Throughout this Teacher's Guide, reference is made to the content domains using the codes in the left-hand column. Some of the objectives that are not assessable are explored through the 'Moving into writing' activities.

The Tempest by William Shakespeare

Be not afeard; the isle is full of noises,
Sounds and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt not.
Sometimes a thousand twangling instruments
Will hum about mine ears, and sometime voices
That, if I then had waked after long sleep,
Will make me sleep again: and then, in dreaming,
The clouds methought would open and show riches
Ready to drop upon me that, when I waked,
I cried to dream again.



Cracking the questions

Consider where in the speech you'll find the sentence and scan that part Carefully read the lines in the question and underline just the words that Carefully read the relevant part of the text, identifying three things you Consider where in the speech to look for the information for each part Consider where in the text to look for the information for each part of give you the information requested. Don't underline more words than Carefully read the lines around the words to understand their context. Read the options given in the question and reread the lines, thinking Carefully read the lines containing the word and the following lines, Question focus: explain the meaning of words in context. · Carefully read the question, marking key words. · Carefully read the question, marking key words. · Carefully read the question, marking key words. Carefully read the question, marking key words. Question focus: retrieve and record information. Question focus: retrieve and record information. Carefully read the relevant part of the speech. Question focus: make inferences from the text. 1 mark for all parts of the question correct. considering the meaning of the word. about the meaning of the word. Scan the speech for the words. mark for all correct. Useful strategies of the question. the question you need to. can hear Strategies: Strategies: Strategies Strategies: CD/mark 1 mark 1 mark 1 mark 2b 2b 2d 2a Sounds and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt not." Accept either 'give delight' or "Be not afeard; the isle is full of noises, twangling instruments Accept any three of: 'hurt not' or both. (a) on an island sweet airs I thought • sounds (b) calm Answer noises Underline the words that tell you his feed "Be not afeard; the isle is full of Sounds and sweet airs, that give Find and copy three things that the noises on the island are not "The clouds methought would the listeners might hear on the closest in meaning to the word "methought" in this sentence? Circle the correct option to in a tempest Which of the following is complete each sentence. in a city. hurt open and show riches". (b) Caliban is trying to delight and hurt not." calm (a) Caliban is: on an island In my dream I was told on a ship ☐ I thought Fick one. listeners. noises, Questior scare l said 4

Teaching text: The Tempest

(a) Find and copy a short quotation from the speech that shows that Caliban dreams of being wealthy.(b) Find and copy a short quotation from the speech that shows how Caliban feels when he wakes up.	(a) "The clouds methought would open and show riches/Ready to drop upon me" or "show riches/Ready to drop upon me". (b) "when I waked/I cried to dream again."	open and me" or me". m again."	2d 2 marks	 Question focus: make inferences from the text. Strategies: Carefully read the question, marking key words. Scan the speech words that are linked to wealth. Carefully read the lines around the words to check their meaning. Write the lines, or part lines, you think are most relevant to the question.
Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is true or false.	. × ∫0		2c 1 mark	 Question focus: summarise ideas from more than one paragraph. Strategies: Carefully read the question, marking key words. Scan the speech, looking for statements like those in the question.
Caliban was on the ship that sank.	Caliban was on the ship that sank.	ш \		 Decide whether each statement is true or false. Skim read the lines to confirm your decisions.
The island is full of noises. Caliban hears voices that Iull him back to sleep.	The island is full of noises. Caliban hears voices that lull him back to sleep.	\ \ \		
The clouds over the island shower riches on to it.	The clouds over the island shower riches on to it.	``		

Listening Comprehension: Questions and Answers

Q1: Which play is this speech taken from? And what does the title mean?

A1: The Tempest. The word "tempest" means storm.

Strategy: Think about where you will find this information in the story. Listen carefully to

that part again. Jot down the words used in the text.

Q2: What has happened just before this speech?

A2: There has been a storm and a shipwreck. Survivors have just seen Caliban.

Strategy: Consider where in the text the information might be found. Listen carefully to

that part.

Q3: Why do you think the survivors are frightened of Caliban?

A3: They don't know if he's a man or a monster.

Strategy: Think about where you will find this information in the story. Listen carefully

to that part again. Think about your own reaction if you came across a man/

monster on an island.

	Name:		Class:	Date:				
		option to comp	olete each sentence.					
	(a) Caliban is:							
	on a ship ir	n a tempest	on an island	in a c	city.			
	(b) Caliban is tryi	ng to	his listeners.					
	scare c	alm	hurt	feed		1 ma		
2.	Find and copy th	ree things that t	the listeners might he	ear on the	island.	1 ma		
3.	Underline the wo	ords that tell you	ı the noises on the is	land are n	ot dangero	us.		
	"Be not afeard; t	he isle is full of	noises,					
	Sounds and swee	et airs, that give	delight and hurt not	<u>.</u> "		1 ma		
4.	"The clouds met	hought would o	pen and show riches	5".				
	Which of the foll sentence? Tick or	•	in meaning to the w	ord " <i>metl</i>	nought" in	this		
	In my dream] I was told	☐ I thought	☐ I sa	aid 🗌	1 ma		
	(a) Find and cop dreams of being	•	ion from the speech	that show	s that Calik	oan		
	(b) Find and copy a short quotation from the speech that shows how Caliban feels when he wakes up.							
	Using informatio statement is true		tick one box in each	row to sh	ow wheth	er each		
				Т	F			
	Caliban was on	the ship that sa	nk.					
	The island is full	of noises.						
	Caliban hears vo	oices that lull hir	n back to sleep.					
	The clouds over	the island show	ver riches on to it.			1 ma		

Julius Caesar

William Shakespeare

This extract is from Shakespeare's play Julius Caesar. Julius Caesar has just been stabbed by a group of very important men – including Brutus, who he thought was his friend – and has just been called a traitor. They said that he was too ambitious and wanted to be king. His real friend, Marc Antony, cannot say that Caesar was a good man or he would be called a traitor too, but he makes this speech at Caesar's funeral.

- 1 Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears; I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.
 The evil that men do lives after them;
 The good is oft interred with their bones;
 So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus
 Hath told you Caesar was ambitious:
 If it were so, it was a grievous fault,
 And grievously hath Caesar answer'd it.
- Here, under leave of Brutus and the rest –
 For Brutus is an honourable man;
 So are they all, all honourable men –
 Come I to speak in Caesar's funeral.
- He was my friend, faithful and just to me: But Brutus says he was ambitious; And Brutus is an honourable man.
- 16 Did this in Caesar seem ambitious?
 When that the poor have cried, Caesar hath wept:
 Ambition should be made of sterner stuff:
 Yet Brutus says he was ambitious;
 And Brutus is an honourable man.
- 21 I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke, But here I am to speak what I do know. You all did love him once, not without cause: What cause withholds you then, to mourn for him?
- O judgement! thou art fled to brutish beasts, And men have lost their reason. Bear with me; My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar, And I must pause till it come back to me.

Cracking the questions

Practice text: Julius Caesar

Question	Answer	CD/mark	Useful strategies
1. Circle the correct option to complete	Marc Antony	2b	Question focus: retrieve and record information.
each sentence.		1 mark	Strategies:
These words are spoken by: Julius Caesar Brutus the people Marc Antony.			 Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the speech to look for the information for each part of the question. Carefully read the relevant part of the speech.
2. "The good is oft interred with their bones"	Often buried	2a	Question focus: explain the meaning of words in context.
Which of the following is closest in		1 mark	Strategies:
meaning to the phrase " <i>oft interred</i> "? Tick one .			Carefully read the question, marking key words.
sometimes celebrated			of it.
often celebrated			• Carefully read the lines containing the word and the following lines,
often buried often interested			 considering the meaning of the word. Read the options given in the question and reread the lines thinking
3. What is the "grievous fault" that Caesar	Being ambitious.	2d	Question focus: make inferences from the text.
is accused of?		2 marks	Strategies:
			 Carefully read the question, marking key words. Scan the speech for the words "grievous fault". Carefully read the lines around the words to check their meaning.
4. Which of the following is closest in	With Brutus's permission	2a	Question focus: explain the meaning of words in context.
meaning to the phrase "under leave of		1 mark	Strategies:
brutus it lick one . I must say goodbye to Brutus			 Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the speech you'll find the phrase and scan that part of it.
under Brutus's tree			 Carefully read the lines containing the phrase and the following lines,
when Brutus has gone			 considering the meaning of the phrase. Read the options given in the question and reread the lines, thinking
with Brutus's permission			about the meaning of the phrase.
Find and copy a short quotation from the speech that tells you why Brutus	Accept either of: • "The noble Brutus/Hath told you Caesar	2h 2 marks	Question focus: make comparisons within the text. Strategies:
thought Caesar was a bad man.	was ambitious""But Brutus says he was ambitious"		 Carefully read the question, marking key words. Scan the text, looking for words or phrases that answer both parts of the
			question. • Carefully identify the quotations that need to be copied.

2f Question focus: explain how narrative content contributes to meaning as 2 marks a whole. Strategies: • Carefully read the question, marking key words. • Carefully reread the speech, considering the question. • Think about the audience. What are the clues that tell you who he is speaking to? • Think about the whole meaning of the speech and consider why Marc Antony would want to speak to everyone.	 2c Question focus: summarise ideas from more than one paragraph. 1 mark Strategies: Carefully read the question, marking key words. Scan the speech, looking for statements like those in the question. Decide whether each statement is true or false. Skim read the speech to confirm your decisions. 	 2d Question focus: make inferences from the text. 1 mark Strategies: Carefully read the question, marking key words. Scan the speech for the words. Carefully read the lines around the words to understand their context. Carefully read the lines in the question and underline just the words that give you the information requested. Don't underline more words than you need to. 	2f Question focus: explain how narrative content contributes to meaning as a whole. Strategies: • Carefully read the question, marking key words. • Carefully reread the speech, considering the question. • Think about what Marc Antony says about Brutus and about Caesar. • Think about the whole meaning of the speech.
To show that he is still Caesar's friend To remind people that they should mourn Caesar too.	F The speaker has come to the funeral to praise Caesar, not to bury him. T Brutus said that Caesar was ambitious. F The speaker thinks that Caesar was ambitious. T The speaker is challenging the listeners to mourn for Caesar because they used to think he was a good man.	"And men have lost their reason."	Yes. He says three times that "Brutus is an honourable man", so he must believe it. No. He thinks that Caesar was a good man. He says "Brutus is an honourable man" too often, and he doesn't really believe it.
6. Why do you think it is important to the speaker to say these words to this audience?	7. Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is true or false. The speaker has come to the funeral to praise Caesar, not to bury him. Brutus said that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker thinks that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker is challenging the listeners to mourn for Caesar because they used to think he was a good man.	8. Underline the words that say that people are not thinking about what they are doing. "You did all love him once, not without cause: What cause withholds you then, to mourn for him? O judgement! thou art fled to brutish beasts, And men have lost their reason."	9. Based on what you have read, do you think the speaker believes that Brutus is a good man? Yes No Explain your answer using evidence from the speech.

Name:	Class:	Date	•	
Circle the correct option to complete each		vords are spo arc Antony.	ken by:	
"The good is oft interred with their bone	• •	,		
Which of the following is closest in mean sometimes celebrated	ing to the phrase "o often buried often interested	oft interred"	? Tick one .	
Which of the following is closest in mean	ing to the phrase " ι	under leave (of Brutus"? 1	īck one .
I must say goodbye to Brutus under Brutus's tree	when Brutus has with Brutus's per	` -]]	
Find and copy a short quotation from the bad man.	e speech that tells yo	ou why Brutu	s thought C	aesar was
Why do you think it is important to the s	peaker to say these	words to thi	audience?	
Why do you think it is important to the s Using information from the text, tick one true or false.				ement is
Using information from the text, tick one true or false.	box in each row to	show wheth		ement is
Using information from the text, tick one true or false. The speaker has come to the funeral to	box in each row to	show wheth	er each state	
Using information from the text, tick one true or false. The speaker has come to the funeral to Brutus said that Caesar was ambitious.	box in each row to	show wheth	er each state	
Using information from the text, tick one true or false. The speaker has come to the funeral to	praise Caesar, not to	show wheth	er each state	
Using information from the text, tick one true or false. The speaker has come to the funeral to Brutus said that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker thinks that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker is challenging the listeners	praise Caesar, not to bitious.	o bury him.	er each state	
Using information from the text, tick one true or false. The speaker has come to the funeral to Brutus said that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker thinks that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker is challenging the listeners they used to think he was a good man.	praise Caesar, not to bitious. to mourn for Caesar are not thinking ab	o bury him.	er each state	
Using information from the text, tick one true or false. The speaker has come to the funeral to Brutus said that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker thinks that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker is challenging the listeners they used to think he was a good man. Underline the words that say that people	praise Caesar, not to praise Caesar, not to mourn for Caesar are not thinking abourn for him?	o bury him.	er each state	
Using information from the text, tick one true or false. The speaker has come to the funeral to Brutus said that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker thinks that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker is challenging the listeners they used to think he was a good man. Underline the words that say that people "What cause withholds you then, to more	praise Caesar, not to praise Caesar, not to mourn for Caesar are not thinking abourn for him?	o bury him.	er each state	
Using information from the text, tick one true or false. The speaker has come to the funeral to Brutus said that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker thinks that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker is challenging the listeners they used to think he was a good man. Underline the words that say that people "What cause withholds you then, to most O judgement! thou art fled to brutish bear	praise Caesar, not to praise Caesar, not to mourn for Caesar are not thinking abourn for him?	o bury him.	True	False
Using information from the text, tick one true or false. The speaker has come to the funeral to Brutus said that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker thinks that Caesar was ambitious. The speaker is challenging the listeners they used to think he was a good man. Underline the words that say that people "What cause withholds you then, to most O judgement! thou art fled to brutish bed And men have lost their reason."	praise Caesar, not to praise Caesar, not to mourn for Caesar are not thinking abourn for him?	o bury him.	True	False

Content domains

All of the content domains are covered. The Practice texts generally mirror the content domains of the Teaching texts in order that children can practise independently what they have been taught.

Unit	Text titles	Fiction/ non- fiction/ poetry	2a	2b	2c	2d	2e	2f	2g	2h
1	The Railway Children	Fiction	1	1	1	1			1	
'	Treasure Island	Fiction	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
2	Just William	Fiction	1	1	1	1		1		1
	Why the Whales Came	Fiction	1		1	1		1	1	
3	Shine	Fiction	1	1		1			1	
5	All Summer in a Day	Fiction	1	1	1	1			1	
4	The Tempest	Fiction	1	1	1	1				
4	Julius Caesar	Fiction	1	1	1	1		1		✓
_	At Last the Jousts Begin!	Non-fiction	1	1	1	1		1	1	
5	Boudicca, Bringer of Victory	Non-fiction	1	1	1	1		1	1	1
6	How it works: A magnetic compass	Non-fiction		1	1	1		1	1	1
	First Aid	Non-fiction	1	1	1	1		1	1	1
	The Right Not to Work	Non-fiction	1	1	1	1			1	
7	The Right to an Education	Non-fiction	1	1		1			1	1
	Dream Team	Poetry	1			1	1		1	1
8	The Giantess	Poetry	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	We're Going to See the Rabbit	Poetry		1	1	1	1		1	
9	Problems with Hurricanes	Poetry	1	1	1	1		1	1	1

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- Whiteboard Modelling Units CD-ROM
- Teacher's Guide
- Assessment Tasks (this item)

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