About the sample Reading tests

These units provide experience of the reading test format. Teachers could also use these materials either for assessment or for teaching, for example, to teach:

- strategies such as Question Answer Relationships (QARs)
- text location strategies such as key word in the margin
- inferential questions, both those that are text-based and those that are context-based
- how to respond to evaluation questions
- persistence and stamina.

For example, you could use the stimulus materials as a running record (logging errors in reading aloud) or, if students are familiar with QARs, have students write questions that show each of the QARs.

Answers

### Snake

|   | 1 A; 2 D; 3 C; 4 B; 5 A; 6 B; 7 A; 8 D; 9* |

### Snow Leopard

|   | 10 D; 11 C; 12 C; 13 A; 14 A; 15 A; 16 D; 17*; 18* |

### The answer is...

|   | 19 C; 20 C; 21 D; 22 A; 23 C; 24 C; 25 C; 26 B; 27 C; 28*; 29 C |

*Model responses for write-in (short response) questions*

**Item 9:**

**Correct:**

*to show the person is afraid the snake isn’t really dead; to show what is going on inside the person’s head; it has an exclamation mark to show how strong his feelings are.*

**Item 17:**

**Correct:**

*it has no larynx box; it cannot roar; it has a special fur coat.*

**Incorrect:**

*it is a beautiful animal; it lives in the mountains; it has fur to protect it.*

**Item 18:**

**Correct:**

*A roar is a loud sound. We need to make a big noise about saving the snow leopard or people won’t hear about the problem.*

*Animals roar as a warning. We need to roar to warn others the snow leopard is in danger.*

*The snow leopard cannot roar, so the author uses that word to make the message about saving the snow leopard stand out.*

**Incorrect:**

*the snow leopard can’t roar; people need to roar to save the snow leopard; other big cats can roar.*

**Item 28:**

**Correct:**

*Alice won the game because she tricked her brother; Alice knew she could win by asking a question that could not be answered; Alice ended up with more money than her brother.*

**Incorrect:**

*Alice; Alice won; Dave won because he asked a question that Alice couldn’t answer.*
Resources

Resources on the QSA website that may be useful include:

- Poster: In the book or in your head — www.qsa.qld.edu.au/1443.html
- Teacher’s notes: Locating information — www.qsa.qld.edu.au/1443.html

References

Beck, IL, McKeown MG & Kucan, L 2006, Improving comprehension with questioning the author: A fresh and expanded view of a powerful approach, Scholastic, New York.
Harvey, S & Goudvis, A 2000, Strategies that work: Teaching comprehension to enhance understanding, Stenhouse, Portland.
Alvermann, DE & Phelps, SF 1998, Content reading and literacy, 2nd ed, Allyn and Bacon, Boston.

Acknowledgments