



Improving Your Reading Skills with...

Summarising Sheba



What Does **Summarising Sheba** Do?

Summarising Sheba helps with content domain **2c**:

Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph.

This means that she is there to help you to **sum up** what you've read.

She helps you to do this by reading the text, **picking out the key points** that are really important and giving a quick run down of the text's main ideas.

Imagine that you've read a book and have to text your friend about the plot – which key messages would you tell them and which would you leave out?



When Have We Seen Summarising Sheba?

The kind of questions that Summarising Sheba helps with only usually appear a couple of times in SATs papers. Here are some recent examples:

33 Below are some summaries of different paragraphs from this text.
Number them 1 – 6 to show the order in which they appear in the text.
The first one has been done for you.

- An important lesson is learnt.
- Reasons for the extinction of the dodo.
- Summary of the plight of the dodos. 1
- New information is discovered about the dodo.
- An explanation for the unreliable evidence.
- Humans arrived on Mauritius.

1 mark

27 Which of the following would be the most suitable summary of the whole text?

Tick one.

- The Life of David Walliams
- A Sporting Challenge
- Sailing the Channel
- Training for Survival

1 mark

24 What is the main message of the poem?

Tick one.

- People can learn a lot from holding small creatures.
- People should think about how their actions affect others.
- People are much bigger than frogs and snails.
- People should overcome their fear of nature.

1 mark

34 Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
Lord John saw the dinosaur tracks first.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professor Summerlee has faked the evidence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professor Challenger worries that people won't believe them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
They are all frightened of the iguanodons.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 mark



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What Might Summarising Sheba Ask?

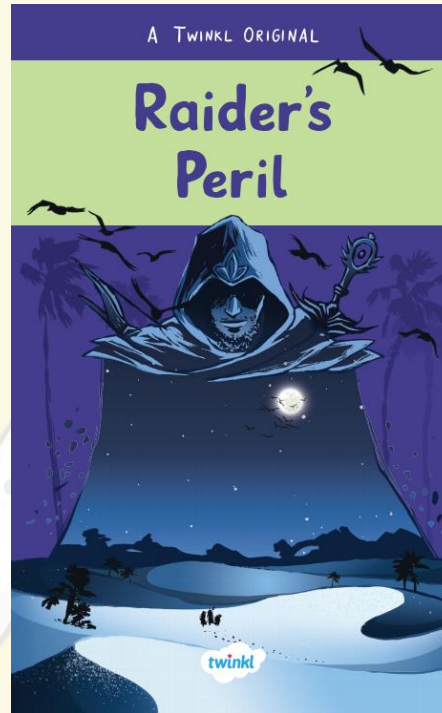
Summarising Sheba might ask questions like these:

- What is the main theme, argument or message of this paragraph?
 - Can you describe what happened in this chapter?
- Write a new blurb for this story using 20 words or less.
 - Can you describe what happened in three short sentences?
 - How would you sum up...?
- What is the most important message in this book?

Let's Explore **Summarising Sheba** Questions Together

Read the extract from Raider's Peril and answer the questions as a class.

Click on the image to read the text.



Read the rest of the Raider's Peril story [here](#).



Let's Explore **Summarising Sheba** Questions Together

Read the extract from Raider's Peril and answer the questions as a class.

What is the main argument in the last two paragraphs? Tick **one**.

Catanna knew that she was truly unstoppable.

Catanna wanted to equip her guild with fire opal weapons.

Catanna had found topaz gems on her last raid.

Catanna was the leader of the Brittlestar guild.

This chapter is called **Double Life**. Based on what you have read so far, write a new title for the chapter.

Sum up what Catanna did with the topaz gems in less than 10 words.

Let's Explore Summarising Sheba Questions Together

Read the extract from Raider's Peril and answer the questions as a class.

Number the following events 1-5 to show the order in which they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

The workstation was covered with instruments.

Diamond, sunstone and fire opal are rarer than topaz.

The quartz spear glinted on the workstation.

Fire opal weapons are revered across the White Desert.

Catanna had found the gems on her last raid.

1



Summing Up Summarising Sheba

Prove your understanding of what Summarising Sheba does by answering the following questions:

- What does Summarising Sheba help you to do?
- What sort of question might Summarising Sheba ask?
- How can you make sure you get full marks on Summarising Sheba questions?



