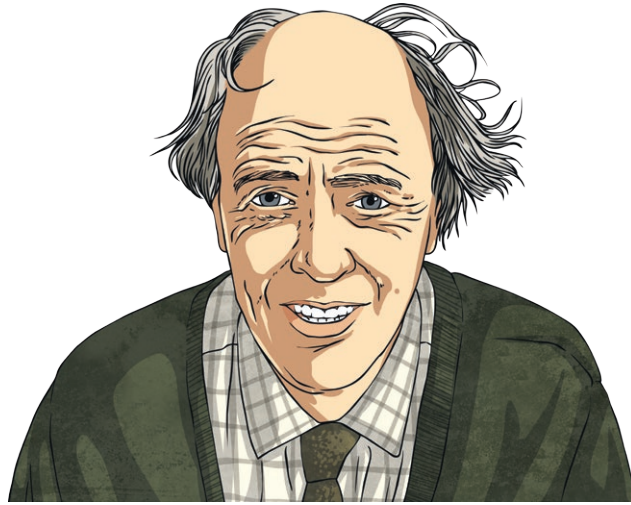


Practice Reading Tests - Year 3 and 4 - Roald Dahl

Read all the boxed text then answer the questions.

Roald Dahl

Roald Dahl was born on 13th September 1916 in Llandaff, Wales. His parents were from Norway. He had an older sister called Astri, but she died in 1920 when she was only 7 years old. Roald's father was so sad that he fell ill from pneumonia and a few weeks later he also died. His mother was a great story teller and had a fabulous memory. Roald remembered many tales she told about trolls and other mythical Norwegian characters.



Although Roald had a happy home life, he had an unhappy time at his school in Wales, and was often 'caned' for bad behaviour. His mother sent him to boarding school in Weston-Super-Mare. He was just nine years old when he arrived at St. Peters School and met the 'twitching' Latin teacher Captain Hardcastle, the all-powerful Matron who "disliked small boys very much indeed" and the cane-wielding Headmaster.

At the age of 13, Roald attended Repton Public School in Derbyshire. He was happier here. He was brilliant at sports and was very good at boxing. The boys at the school were sometimes asked to be chocolate testers for a famous chocolate company, and this experience later inspired the book 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'.

After he left school, he wanted adventure so he worked for Shell Oil Company. He was sent to Africa for 3 years, but after only one year, the Second World War broke out, so he enlisted with the Royal Air Force (RAF) and became a pilot.



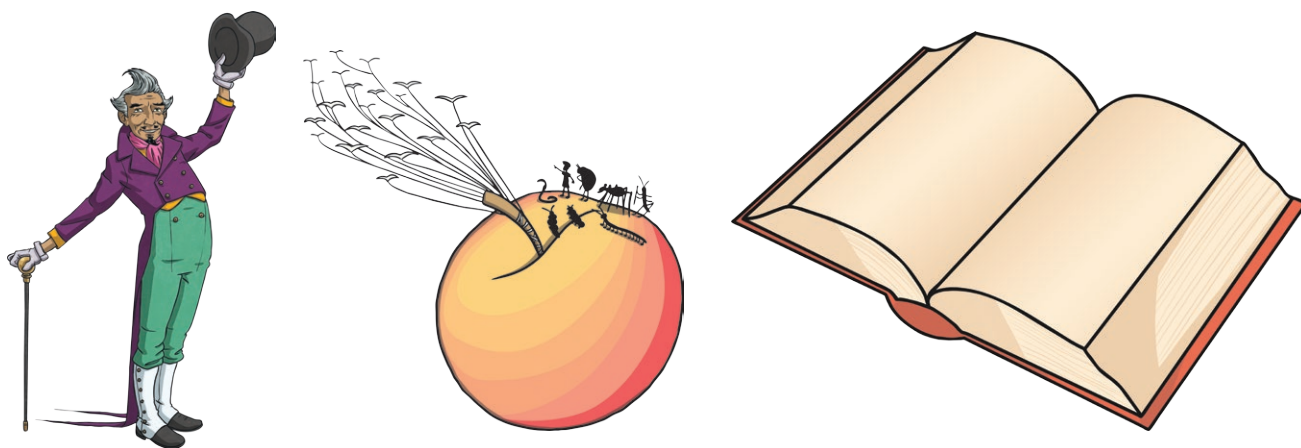
Practice Reading Tests - Year 3 and 4 - Roald Dahl

Read all the boxed text then answer the questions.

In 1940, Roald Dahl was posted to Libya where he flew a Gloster Gladiator plane. He crashed in the Western desert in North Africa and suffered such severe injuries to his head and back that he had to stay in hospital in Egypt for six months. He returned to the RAF but after a while he began suffering such terrible headaches from his accident, he had to return to the UK and could not fly planes anymore.

In 1942, Roald was posted to Washington in the USA to work as an assistant air attaché. He met the author C.S.Forester, who suggested Roald should write about his experiences in the desert, flying planes. This led to Roald being paid for the first time for writing, which was in the Sunday Evening Post newspaper.

During this time, he met and married actress Patricia Neal. They lived in Great Missenden in Buckinghamshire, England. He wrote many of his famous stories there. Roald Dahl and Patricia Neal had five children: Olivia, Tessa, Theo, Ophelia and Lucy. Olivia tragically died at the age of 7 from measles encephalitis. Roald Dahl started telling his fantastical stories to his children at bedtime. He realised how much his own children enjoyed his stories and decided to write them down for all children to enjoy. 'James and the Giant Peach' was the first children's book that he published.



Roald Dahl had a great talent for seeing the world through children's eyes. He said, "If you want to remember what it's like to live in a child's world, you've got to get down on your hands and knees and live like that for a week. You'll find you have to look up at all these giants around you who are always telling you what to do and what not to do."

He had a passion for encouraging children to read. He believed that children should be "comfortable with a book, not daunted. Books shouldn't be daunting, they should be funny, exciting and wonderful; and learning to be a reader gives a terrific advantage."

Name:

Date:

Practice Reading Tests - Year 3 and 4 - Roald Dahl

1. Draw three lines to each correct statement.

3 marks

At the age of 13,

His mother sent him to a boarding school in Weston-Super-Mare.

Boarding school

was born on the 13th September 1916.

Roald Dahl

Roald attended Repton Public School.



2. Find and copy two names of Roald Dahl's children.

2 marks

1st _____

2nd _____



3. According to the text, what happened when Roald was posted to Washington?
(Tick two)

2 marks

He met the author C.S.Forester.

He attended Repton Public School.

He flew a Gloster Gladiator plane.

He was brilliant at sports.

He was paid for the first time for his writing.

total for this page

4. Put ticks to show which statements are true and which are false.

	True	False
In 1940, Roald Dahl was posted to Egypt.		
He was brilliant at boxing.		
Being a chocolate tester inspired him to write 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'.		
After two years in Africa the Second World War broke out.		

3 marks

5. Number the statements in the correct order of Roald Dahls life. One has been done for you.

Roald and Patricia had five children.

He was born on 13th September 1916 in Llandaff, Wales.

He met and married the actress Patricia Neal.

He worked for Shell Oil Company.

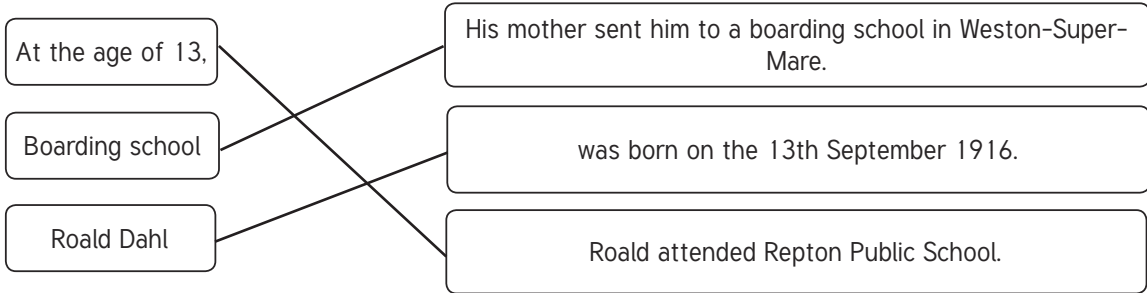
At the age of 13 he attended Repton Public School.

4 marks

** END OF TEST **

total for this page

1



3 marks

2

Any two from the fact file:-

- Olivia
- Tessa
- Theo
- Ophelia
- Lucy

2 marks

3

He met the author C.S.Forester.

He attended Repton Public School.

He flew a Gloster Gladiator plane.

He was brilliant at sports.

He was paid for the first time for his writing.

2 marks

4

	True	False
In 1940, Roald Dahl was posted to Egypt.		✓
He was brilliant at boxing.	✓	
Being a chocolate tester inspired him to write 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'.	✓	
After two years in Africa the Second World War broke out.		✓

3 marks

5

Roald and Patricia had five children.

He was born on 13th of September in 1916 in Llandaff, Wales.

He met and married the actress Patricia Neal.

He worked for Shell Oil Company.

At the age of 13 he attended Repton Public School.

4 marks