

Two informal tests are provided for initial assessment, covering five key skills.

Test 1 covers:

A: The Reading Experience

B: Responding to Reading

C: Reading Strategies

Test 2 covers:

D: Finding What You Need

E: Literature

TEST 2

Tarantula

Tarantulas are big hairy spiders that live in warm places such as jungles and deserts. They have large heads and jaws, and bodies that can spin silk like other spiders. They are hairy all over. They have 8 legs with 2 tiny claws at the end of each one. Each leg has 7 small moving parts. Tarantulas can grow to be the size of a big dinner plate.



Hunting

Tarantulas do not spin webs to catch their food like other spiders. They run to catch their food. They hunt at night. They have fangs and use them to grab small animals such as frogs and bugs, and even birds. They crush their prey with their jaws or they can inject venom that makes the flesh melt. They then suck it in. Sometimes they grind their food into a ball and cover it with silk to keep it for later. But no tarantula has ever killed a human being.

Did you know?

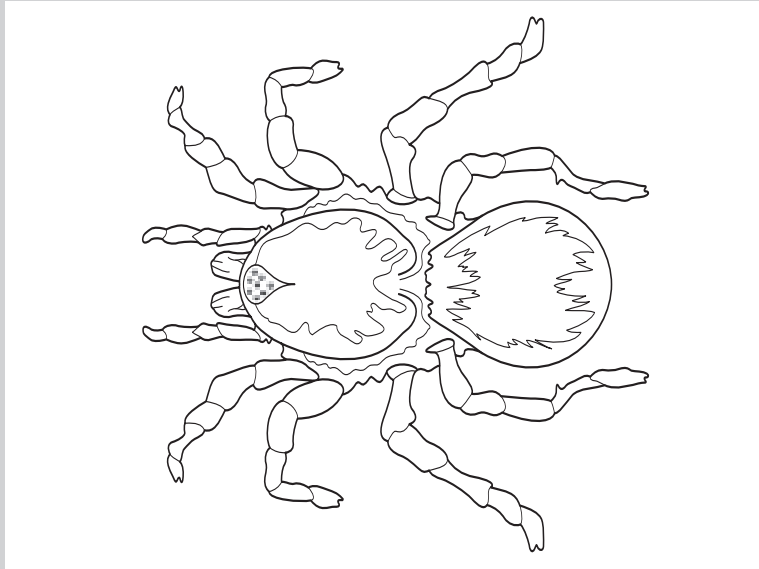
- There are 800 types of tarantula.
- They can be kept as pets.
- They can hiss.
- They have 8 eyes.
- They sleep for most of the day.
- They lay 500–1000 eggs once a year.
- They can live for over 30 years.
- They use their hairs to feel and smell.

What to do if a tarantula bites you

The bite will swell up and itch, then fade away. Clean the bite with soap and water. Pick out any small hairs, as these cause itching. Use antiseptic.

Questions about tarantulas

- 1 Label the body parts.



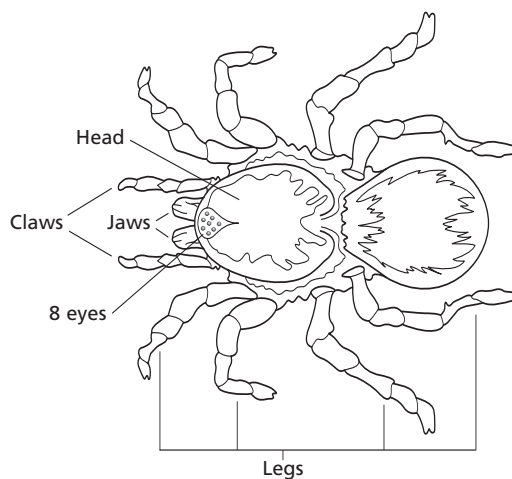
- 2 What did you find out about the hair of the tarantula?
- 3 Make notes (no more than 15 words) about the way a tarantula kills its prey.

Questions about books

- 4 Where do you find the contents list in a book?
- 5 What do you use a book index for?
- 6 Give 3 ways of checking that a book is a good choice for you.
- 7 Write a review of a book, film or TV programme.

Test 2: Mark scheme

Question 1: Label the body parts (3 marks)



- Half a mark for each label provided

Question 2: What did you find out about the hair of the tarantula? (2 marks)

- Give half a mark for each of:
 - they are hairy all over
 - they use hair to feel
 - they use hair to smell
 - the hairs are itchy when they get on the skin

Question 3: Make notes (no more than 15 words) about the way a tarantula kills its prey (3 marks)

- 1 mark for the use of a helpful format or diagram such as a flow chart
- 2 marks for getting in the main information: chase – grab – crush or use venom – suck in or save

Question 4: Where do you find the contents list in a book? (1 mark)

- 1 mark for near the beginning of a book

Question 5: What do you use a book index for? (1 mark)

- 1 mark for looking up topics to see where they are in the book

Add up the marks out of ten for Questions 1–5.
This is the score for **Section D: Finding What You Need.**

The score for each section can be entered in the record of progress, so that you can identify each pupil's strengths and weaknesses.



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Question 6: Give 3 ways of checking that a book is a good choice for you (3 marks)

- 1 mark for studying the cover – title, pictures, blurb, etc.
- 1 mark for browsing and sampling paragraphs to get a feel for the language
- 1 further mark for any other sensible suggestion, e.g. asking other people for a recommendation, consulting a review or asking a librarian

Question 7: Write a review of a book, film or TV programme (7 marks)

- 1 mark for each of these features:
 - it gives key facts about it, e.g. title, author
 - it says what sort of story or text type it is, e.g. horror, true life
 - it indicates the subject matter or plot
 - it comments on the style, language or telling of it
 - it identifies something positive about it
 - it identifies something less pleasing
 - it gives a clear recommendation

Add up the marks out of ten for Questions 6 and 7.
This is the score for **Section E: Literature**.