PSLE Foundation English Study Notes

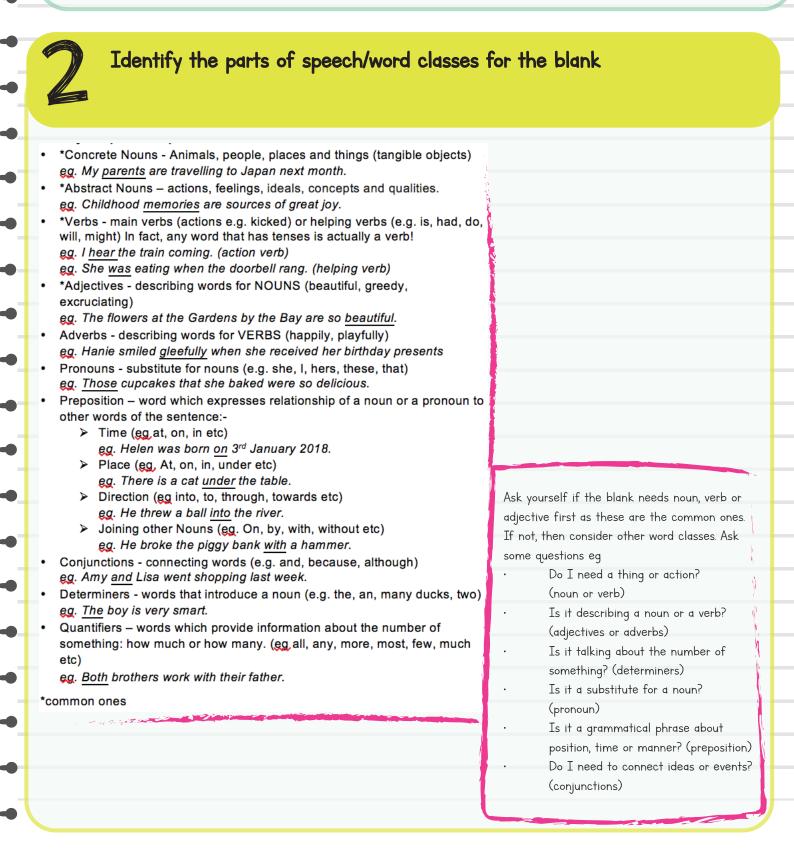
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## **CLOZE PASSAGE STRATEGIES**

## Read the passage once through before you fill in the blanks

Read the passage once through so that you have an understanding of the context and content of the passage.



## Identify contextual clues

Your teacher always mentions 'contextual clues' but what does it mean? It just means "What do the surrounding words tell you?" Use arrows to link the clues to the blank.

Subject-verb agreement keywords

(e.g. Timmy's <u>stomath</u> was still growling although he already <u>had</u> lunch.)

<u>synonyms (Words with similar meanings)</u>
If a point is being emphasized, repeated or elaborated, it is likely that synonym is needed. Do note that the word should not be repeated

e.g. The shelves are **neat** and \_\_\_\_\_\_ after Mary cleaned them. (tidy)

<u>compare & contrast clues</u> These clues are easy to spot and the answers are usually straightforward once you found the clues. Look out for words that signal whether two events are the same or different. (*However, but, while, similarly*)

e.g. All the girls in the school are dressed in white while the

\_\_\_\_\_ are dressed in yellow. (boys)

cause and effect clue

It is important for us to read the entire passage and sentence to understand the meaning in totality. You will need to identify the cause or effect in order to have an idea of what the other is.

e.g. Due to the **heavy rain**, many people were \_\_\_\_\_\_ for work that morning. (late)

grammar clues

These will include phrasal verb clues (*put <u>out</u> a fire, put <u>away</u> his books*) and also prepositions to indicate which word is suitable (*refrain from shouting* and not <u>avoid from shouting</u>).

• <u>figurative/idiomatic expressions</u> For figurative or idiomatic expressions, there will usually be only one answer as the expression cannot be changed. *e.g. There is no point crying over spilt\_\_\_\_\_ now. (milk)*