

Tips - Open Cloze - Vocabulary (Parts of speech)

- Read the passage like a reading comprehension exercise. You have to understand it.
- Look at the words around the blank.
- Decide on the **part of speech** of the blank (see below).
- Think about which word would fit the meaning.
- Look for clues further down in the passage (you can often find the word).
- Pay attention to grammar (see each part of speech below).

Verbs	
Function:	Describe actions, link ideas
Examples:	is/am/are, jumped, ate, assured, lingered
Clues:	A <i>noun</i> before or after the blank. No <i>verb</i> in the sentence.
Grammar reminders:	What tense do you need? Check the subject-verb agreement (The food <i>are</i> > <i>is</i> delicious).

Nouns	
Function:	Name people, places, things, animals, abstract ideas
Examples:	John, post office, happiness, movement
Clues:	the words <i>a</i> , <i>an</i> , <i>the</i> before, a <i>verb</i> after the blank
Grammar reminders:	Do you need the plural form?

Adjectives	
Function:	Tell us more about nouns
Examples:	angry, surprised, stolen, moving
Clues:	a <i>noun</i> after the blank or a noun and a linking verb (be) before the noun.
Grammar reminders:	Do you need the 'ed' form or the 'ing' form? E.g. The situation was <i>worried</i> > <i>worrying</i> .

Adverbs

Function:	Tell us more about verbs or adjectives (where, when, how)
Examples:	very, noisily, happily, yesterday, there
Clues:	an adjective after the blank, a verb before the blank
Grammar reminders:	Have you spelt the word correctly?

Prepositions

Function:	Link verbs, nouns and adjectives with nouns, show position, phrasal verbs
Examples:	in, on, under, like, regarding, despite
Clues:	part of a phrasal verb, a noun after the blank
Grammar reminders:	Think about whether there is movement (e.g. in, to)

Conjunctions

Function:	Link ideas, clauses and sentences
Examples:	and, but, because, before
Clues:	verbs in a sentence, the blank is the first word of the sentence, punctuation (look for commas), sense
Grammar reminders:	Make sure the sentence makes sense.

PRONOUNS

Function:	Take the place of nouns or noun phrases
Examples:	he, she, they, him, her, this, that, these, which, who
Clues:	Repeated ideas, relative clauses
Grammar reminders:	Do you need the subject form (he) or the object form (him)?

Interjections

Function:	Used to show surprise or to stress something
Examples:	Ouch!
Clues:	Exclamation mark.

Exercise 3

Complete each blank using ONE word.

Puppy Surprise

Amy loves dogs, especially little _____ and she has
wanted one ever since she was a little girl. Many of the people
who live near her have dogs and she often
_____ them taking them for walks
_____ the park.



Every time Amy asked her mum if they could have a dog, she
_____, "no." Then one day Amy got a big surprise.
It was her eighth birthday and her mum had planned a big _____
for her with her friends and family.

That afternoon, Amy was playing games with her friends when she
_____ the doorbell. She rushed to open it but there was
_____ there. "That's strange!" she thought.

Then there was a little knocking noise and Amy looked _____ and
saw a box. There was a card with her
_____ on it. She opened the card and
it said:

Dear Amy
Here is your dream birthday present! His name is
'Cuddles' so give him lots! Enjoy him!
Love
Grandma

Thinking Skills

How do you think Amy
felt when she saw the
puppy?

Exercise 3

Complete each blank using ONE word.

Puppy Surprise

Amy loves dogs, especially little puppies/ones/dogs and she has wanted one ever since she was a little girl. Many of the people who live near her have dogs and she often sees/spots/watches them taking them for walks around/in the park.

Every time Amy asked her mum if they could have a dog she said/replied/answered, "no." Then one day, Amy got a big surprise. It was her eighth birthday and her mum had planned a big party/surprise for her with her friends and family.

That afternoon, Amy was playing games with her friends when she heard the doorbell. She rushed to open it but there was nobody/no-one there! "That's strange!" she thought.

Then there was a little barking noise and Amy looked down and saw a box. There was a card with a name on it. She opened the card and it said:

Dear Amy,
Here's your dream birthday present! His name is
Buddles' so give him lots of love! Enjoy him!
Love
Grandma

Thinking Skills

How do you think Amy felt when she saw the puppy?

