

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, she, assured, angered
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.

Double Trouble

When two babies are _____ on the same day of the same year, they are known as 'twins'. There are more _____ 125 million sets of twins worldwide.



There are a number of types of twins. Identical twins are always the same _____, of the same sex, and come from the same egg which divides into _____ babies. Identical twins can be very _____ to tell apart from each other _____ as they share the same physical _____.

Some twins are born because a woman has two eggs that develop at the same _____ time. These twins can consist of two sexes, with a girl _____ and a boy _____.

The rarest type of twins are babies that are _____ together and sometimes they need medical _____ to help them live and separate them. They may _____ body parts such as their brain or their heart so it is difficult _____.

_____ a twin can be a lot of fun because you always have a friend to play with or talk to. Many people say that even when twins are _____ from each other, they can still feel what the other is thinking.

Thinking Skills

Do you know any twins? Are they difficult to tell apart?

Exercise 3 - answers

Complete each blank using ONE word.

Double Trouble

When two babies are **born** on the same day of the same year, they are known as 'twins'. There are more **than** 125 million sets of twins worldwide.



There are a number of types of twins. Identical twins are always the same **sex**, girls or boys, and come from the same egg which divides into **two** babies. Identical twins can be very **hard/difficult** to tell apart from each **other** as they share the same physical **looks/appearance/features/characteristics**.

Some twins are born because a woman has two eggs that develop at the same **time**. These twins can consist of two sexes, with a girl **and** a boy.

The rarest type of twins are babies who are **joined/fixed** together and sometimes need medical **help/care/treatment/staff/doctors** to help them live and separate from them. They may **share** body parts such as their brain or their heart, which is difficult.

Being twins can be a lot of fun because you always have a friend to play with or talk to. Many people say that even when twins are **away/apart** from each other, they can still feel what the other is thinking.

Thinking Skills

Do you know any twins? Are they difficult to tell apart?