

Original cloze, grammar and open-ended practice with a full answer key. Primary 6.

How to score in comprehension

- **Read the question first** — know exactly what is being asked (who, what, why, how) before you hunt for the answer in the passage.
- **Lift, then rephrase** — find the words in the text, then put the idea in your own words so it answers *this* question.
- **Answer in full sentences** — turn the question around into a statement; a one-word reply rarely scores full marks.
- **Check the tense and the number of marks** — keep your verb tense matching the passage, and give one clear point per mark.

SECTION A

Comprehension Cloze

Fill each blank with **one** suitable word. Read the whole paragraph before deciding.

Every Saturday morning, Mei Ling and her grandmother take the MRT (1) _____ the bustling wet market at Tiong Bahru. The moment they arrive, they are greeted (2) _____ the cheerful shouts of stallholders calling out their prices. Grandmother walks (3) _____ from stall to stall, carefully (4) _____ the freshest vegetables and the plumpest fish. She always reminds Mei Ling that a good cook (5) _____ chooses her ingredients with great care. (6) _____ the prices are higher than at the supermarket, the food here is far fresher. Mei Ling enjoys (7) _____ the colourful piles of fruit and the fragrant bunches of herbs. (8) _____ they have finished shopping, the pair reward (9) _____ with a steaming bowl of noodles at a nearby hawker centre. Mei Ling slurps hers (10) _____, savouring every mouthful. By the time they head home, their bags are (11) _____ with groceries, and Mei Ling feels grateful (12) _____ these precious mornings with her grandmother.

Context-clue tip: the words just *before* and *after* a blank usually decide the answer. Spot whether the blank needs a preposition (to, by, at), a linking word (although, when, after) or a small verb, and read your finished sentence aloud to check it sounds natural.

SECTION B

Grammar Cloze

Write **one** word in each blank. Each sentence tests a single grammar point.

1. Neither the teacher nor the students _____ aware that the fire drill had been cancelled. (subject-verb agreement)
2. By the time the bus arrived, we _____ already been waiting for half an hour. (past perfect tense)
3. The library is situated _____ the canteen and the science laboratory. (preposition)
4. Rahim trained very hard; _____, he won the gold medal at the swimming meet. (connector)
5. Each of the pupils _____ required to bring a water bottle on the excursion. (subject-verb agreement)
6. She has lived in Singapore _____ 2015 and has no plans to leave. (preposition with present perfect)
7. If it rains tomorrow, the National Day rehearsal _____ be postponed. (first conditional)
8. The boys were exhausted _____ they had run all the way home. (connector — reason)
9. My brother is taller _____ I am, although he is younger. (comparison)
10. The cake _____ baked by my mother yesterday afternoon. (passive voice, past tense)

SECTION C

Comprehension Open-ended

The rain had been falling steadily all afternoon, and by four o'clock the drain outside Wei Jie's flat had overflowed onto the void deck. From his window, he watched an elderly neighbour, Mr Tan, struggle to wheel his trolley of recycled cardboard through the rising water. Without a second thought, Wei Jie grabbed his father's old umbrella and dashed downstairs.

"Let me help you, Uncle," he offered, steadying the wobbling trolley. Mr Tan smiled gratefully, his tired eyes brightening. Together they guided the cardboard to the dry shelter near the lift lobby. Wei Jie's shoes were soaked and his shirt clung to his back, but he did not mind one bit. As they waited for the rain to ease, Mr Tan told him stories of how the neighbourhood had looked decades ago, when the flats were freshly built and the trees were mere saplings. Wei Jie listened, fascinated. He realised that a small act of kindness had opened the door to an unexpected friendship.

1. Why had the drain outside Wei Jie's flat overflowed?
2. What was Mr Tan doing when Wei Jie first noticed him?
3. The phrase "Without a second thought" tells us something about Wei Jie. What does it suggest about his character?
4. How do we know that Mr Tan was thankful for Wei Jie's help? Give **one** piece of evidence from the passage.
5. Why do you think Wei Jie "did not mind one bit" that his clothes were wet?
6. What did Wei Jie learn from this experience?

Answer Key

Section A — Comprehension Cloze

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. to | 7. admiring |
| 2. by | 8. After |
| 3. slowly | 9. themselves |
| 4. selecting | 10. noisily |
| 5. always | 11. filled |
| 6. Although | 12. for |

Section B — Grammar Cloze

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. were | 6. since |
| 2. had | 7. will |
| 3. between | 8. because |
| 4. therefore | 9. than |
| 5. is | 10. was |

Section C — Open-ended Model Answers

1. *The drain had overflowed because the rain had been falling steadily all afternoon, and the heavy rainwater had filled the drain until it spilled onto the void deck.*
2. *When Wei Jie first noticed him, Mr Tan was struggling to wheel his trolley of recycled cardboard through the rising flood water.*
3. *It suggests that Wei Jie is kind and helpful, as he decided to help his neighbour immediately without hesitating or worrying about getting wet.*
4. *We know Mr Tan was thankful because he smiled gratefully and his tired eyes brightened when Wei Jie offered to help.*
5. *Wei Jie did not mind being wet because he was happy that he had helped his elderly neighbour, and the good feeling of helping someone mattered far more to him than his soaked clothes.*
6. *Wei Jie learned that a small act of kindness can lead to something unexpected and valuable — in this case, a new friendship with Mr Tan.*