Prepare for PSLE series, based on the new 2015 format for the English paper, provides targeted practice and intensive revision in the following components of the exam:

- Paper 1 — Writing
- Paper 2 — Language Use and Comprehension

The Prepare for PSLE series comprises:

Prepare for PSLE Synthesis and Transformation provides intensive practice in the various ways in which sentences can be combined or rewritten. The first ten chapters of the book deal with the use of conjunctions and other linking words. The last two chapters explain how active sentences can be changed to passive sentences and how direct speech can be changed to reported speech. Revision notes and Quick Check sections at the end of each chapter help students recap skills covered. This workbook also provides eight test papers modeled on the latest 2015 PSLE examination format.

Prepare for PSLE Comprehension focuses on the comprehension components of Paper 2 — it includes 20 exercises in the new Visual Text Comprehension component and incorporates the new changes to Comprehension Cloze and Comprehension Open-Ended sections to give students adequate preparation for new examination format.

Prepare for PSLE Composition focuses on Paper 1 and includes 25 exercises for Situational Writing and 30 exercises for the new Continuous Writing component. Examination notes are provided to help students tackle the two writing components.

Prepare for PSLE Grammar gives students ample practice in the Grammar components of the PSLE Paper 2, with 25 exercises in Grammar MCQ, Grammar Cloze, Editing for Spelling & Grammar and Synthesis and Transformation. Examination notes are provided to help students avoid common grammatical mistakes.
who

1 You use who at the beginning of a relative clause that gives more information about a person or people, when they are the subject of the clause. (The word who is not used to talk about animals or things.) The relative clause immediately follows the word or phrase to which it refers. You can combine two sentences into a single sentence with who if they have the same subject:

- Alice is my best friend. She lives next door.
- Alice, who lives next door, is my best friend.

2 In this example you could combine the two sentences in a different way, without affecting the meaning:

- Alice is my best friend. She lives next door.
- Alice, who is my best friend, lives next door.

Language help

Note that in such cases there are commas before and after the relative clause, because it is providing additional information that is not essential.

3 Sometimes there is only one possible way of combining the two sentences without affecting the meaning:

- A man phoned while you were out. He sounded angry.
- A man, who sounded angry, phoned while you were out.

4 You can also use who to combine two sentences when the subject of one sentence (which you change into a relative clause) is the same as an object of the other sentence:

- The woman dived into the lake to rescue the boy. The boy couldn't swim.
- The woman dived into the lake to rescue the boy, who couldn’t swim.

- Peter has two sisters and two brothers. His sisters are twins.
- Peter has two sisters, who are twins, and two brothers.
• *Mr and Mrs Brown are friends of my parents*. I travelled home with them.
• *I travelled home with Mr and Mrs Brown, who are friends of my parents*. 

5 A relative clause beginning with **who** sometimes provides essential information, saying exactly which person you are talking about:

• One person picked up more litter than anyone else. That person was given a prize.
• The person **who** picked up the most litter was given a prize.

**Language help**

Note that in such cases there are no commas around the relative clause.

**whom**

1 You use **whom** instead of **who** in a relative clause when the person or people it refers to are the object, not the subject, of the clause. You can combine two sentences with **whom** when the object of one sentence (which you change into a relative clause) is the same as the subject or an object of the other sentence:

• A boy with fair hair waved to Jane. Jane did not recognise the boy.
• A boy with fair hair, **whom** Jane did not recognise, waved to her.

• A boy with fair hair waved to Jane. He recognised her.
• A boy with fair hair waved to Jane, **whom** he recognised.

2 You also use **whom** after a preposition, such as **to**, **for**, **by**, **with** or **from**, when the person or people are the indirect object of the sentence that you change into a relative clause, or the object of a preposition in that sentence:

• Joe went to see his grandmother. He had bought her a bunch of flowers.
• Joe went to see his grandmother, **for whom** he had bought a bunch of flowers.

• *Mr and Mrs Brown are friends of my parents*. I travelled home with them.
• *Mr and Mrs Brown, with whom I travelled home, are friends of my parents*. 

3 In all the examples above, the relative clause provides additional information that is not essential. For this reason the relative clause is separated from the rest of the sentence with a comma or pair of commas. However, a relative clause beginning with **whom** (or a preposition followed by **whom**) sometimes provides essential information, saying exactly which person or people you are talking about. In such cases there are no commas around the relative clause:
• Joe likes one of the girls. Her name is Mary.
  The girl whom Joe likes is called Mary.

• The president was speaking to some people. They looked bored.
  The people to whom the president was speaking looked bored.

4 You can also use whom to rewrite a single sentence, changing the order of the parts:

• Sally is going to marry a Chinese man.
  The man whom Sally is going to marry is Chinese.

• The policeman was talking to an anxious-looking woman.
  The woman to whom the policeman was talking looked anxious.

whose

1 You use whose at the beginning of a relative clause about a person or thing belonging to somebody or something you have just mentioned. (Whose is mainly used for people, but it can sometimes be used for animals, places or things.) When you combine two sentences in this way, you change a possessive (such as his, the girl’s or of the book) in one of the sentences to whose and make that sentence the relative clause:

• One of my classmates is allergic to peanuts. His name is Joe.
  One of my classmates, whose name is Joe, is allergic to peanuts.

• The girl’s mother is a nurse. The girl is not afraid of hospitals.
  The girl, whose mother is a nurse, is not afraid of hospitals.

• This book is very interesting. The author of the book used to be a spy.
  This book, whose author used to be a spy, is very interesting.

2 You can sometimes combine two sentences with whose when one of them contains the verb have, showing possession:

• Jane has short, curly hair. She envies my long, straight hair.
  Jane, whose hair is short and curly, envies my long, straight hair.

3 In all the examples above, the relative clause provides additional information that is not essential, so it is separated from the rest of the sentence with a pair of commas. You do not put commas around a relative clause beginning with whose if it contains essential information:

• The passports of some of the tourists had been stolen. These tourists were very angry.
  The tourists whose passports had been stolen were very angry.
that, which

1 You can use that or which at the beginning of a relative clause giving essential information about a particular thing. The clause makes clear exactly which of a number of similar things you are talking about. For this reason it is not separated from the rest of the sentence with a comma or pair of commas. You can combine two sentences in this way when one gives you essential information about the subject or an object of the other:

   • Bill wants one of those books. It is on the top shelf.
   • The book that Bill wants is on the top shelf.
   • The book which Bill wants is on the top shelf.

   • Sue lent me a pen. I have lost it.
   • I have lost the pen that Sue lent me.
   • I have lost the pen which Sue lent me.

2 You can also use that or which to rewrite a single sentence, changing the order of the parts:

   • She was wearing boots made of black leather.
   • The boots that she was wearing were made of black leather.
   • The boots which she was wearing were made of black leather.

3 If the relative clause begins with a preposition, you must use which, not that:

   • I cut the cheese with a knife. The knife is on the table.
   • The knife with which I cut the cheese is on the table.

Language help

Note that in formal English you should always put the preposition at the beginning of the relative clause, not at the end. In spoken language, however, you might say, “The knife I cut the cheese with is on the table.”

4 You can sometimes use that to refer to a person or people, instead of who or whom, especially in spoken language. However, you must never use which in this way:

   • Some students don't work hard enough. They won't pass their exams.
   • Students who don’t work hard enough won’t pass their exams.
   • Students that don’t work hard enough won’t pass their exams.
   • I saw a man. He was wearing a blue hat.
   • The man whom I saw was wearing a blue hat.
   • The man that I saw was wearing a blue hat.
5 A relative clause sometimes provides additional information that is not essential. In this case it is separated from the rest of the sentence with a comma or pair of commas. You must use which, not that, to introduce such a clause:

- This bracelet is made of gold. It was a birthday present from my aunt.
- This bracelet, which was a birthday present from my aunt, is made of gold.

- One of the tourists asked an interesting question. The guide didn’t answer the question.
- One of the tourists asked an interesting question, which the guide didn’t answer.

- The exercise on the next page is very difficult. You need a dictionary for this exercise.
- The exercise on the next page, for which you need a dictionary, is very difficult.

6 If the two sentences have the same subject, you can sometimes combine them in two different ways without affecting the meaning:

- This bracelet is made of gold. It was a birthday present from my aunt.
- This bracelet, which was a birthday present from my aunt, is made of gold.
- This bracelet, which is made of gold, was a birthday present from my aunt.

**where**

1 You use where at the beginning of a relative clause giving information about a place you have just mentioned. You can combine two sentences referring to the same place by changing one of them into a relative clause of this type:

- One of the houses has been demolished. My grandmother was born in that house.
- The house where my grandmother was born has been demolished.

- The top shelf needs dusting. We keep our best ornaments on this shelf.
- The top shelf, where we keep our best ornaments, needs dusting.

2 In the first example, the relative clause contains essential information telling you exactly which house has been demolished, so there are no commas around the clause. In the second example, the relative clause contains additional information that is not essential, so the clause is separated from the rest of the sentence by a pair of commas.

3 You can sometimes use in which, on which, to which, etc. instead of where:

- One of the houses has been demolished. My grandmother was born in that house.
- The house in which my grandmother was born has been demolished.
- The top shelf needs dusting. We keep our best ornaments on this shelf.
- The top shelf, on which we keep our best ornaments, needs dusting.
4 You can also use \textbf{where} to rewrite a single sentence, changing the order of the parts:

- \textit{A rabbit lives in a hole called a burrow.}
- \textit{The hole where a rabbit lives is called a burrow.}

\textbf{EXERCISE 1}

\textit{Rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word provided and adding commas where required. Your answer must be in one sentence.}

1 My uncle is a bank manager. He works in the city.
   \textit{\underline{who} \underline{who}}

2 Mrs Brown bought cola for Paul and lemonade for Jane. Jane doesn’t like cola.
   \textit{\underline{who} \underline{who}}

3 The man at the door asked to see my ticket. The man was wearing a uniform.
   \textit{\underline{who} \underline{who}}

4 The doctor told Sally to rest her injured ankle for three days. Sally hates sitting still.
   \textit{\underline{who} \underline{who}}

5 One of the actors was particularly good. That actor played the role of Merlin.
   \textit{\underline{who} \underline{who}}

6 Carol invited Peter and Jack to her party. Peter is Jack’s brother.
   \textit{\underline{who} \underline{who}}

7 A thief stole my camera. The thief must be caught.
   \textit{\underline{who} \underline{who}}

8 Alice smiled at one of the boys. The boy smiled back.
   \textit{\underline{who} \underline{who}}
9 The owner of the damaged car was very upset. The car belonged to an English tourist.

The owner of the damaged car was very upset. The car belonged to an English tourist.

10 Some people are afraid of flying. They cannot travel by air.

Some people are afraid of flying. They cannot travel by air.

EXERCISE 2

Rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word provided and adding commas where required. Your answer must be in one sentence.

1 The police have arrested the housekeeper. They suspect her of committing the crime.

The police have arrested the housekeeper. They suspect her of committing the crime.

2 I told Mary the good news. Mary is my best friend.

I told Mary the good news. Mary is my best friend.

3 Mrs Green consulted a doctor about her chest pains. The doctor is a heart specialist.

Mrs Green consulted a doctor about her chest pains. The doctor is a heart specialist.

4 We were talking about one of the teachers. That teacher came into the room.

We were talking about one of the teachers. That teacher came into the room.

5 A woman was trying to push her car out of the mud. Tom stopped to help her.

A woman was trying to push her car out of the mud. Tom stopped to help her.

6 Jack arrived with four other boys. I knew two of them quite well.

Jack arrived with four other boys. I knew two of them quite well.

7 My father works for a man who has sailed around the world.

My father works for a man who has sailed around the world.
8 The shopkeeper apologised to the girl. He had given her the wrong change.

The shopkeeper apologised to whom.

9 Alan Smith deserves special praise. We could not have completed the project without him.

Alan Smith deserves special praise whom.

10 Carol was chasing the man who had stolen her handbag.

Carol was chasing whom.

EXERCISE 3

Rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word provided and adding commas where required. Your answer must be in one sentence.

1 Mr and Mrs Smith will be glad when the war is over. Their son is in the army.

Mr and Mrs Smith will be glad whose.

2 The pilot’s quick thinking saved the lives of the passengers. He received an award.

The pilot’s quick thinking whose.

3 The little bird had an injured wing. Peter picked up the bird and took it home.

The little bird had injured whose.

4 The owner of a dog has been arrested. The dog bit several children.

The owner of whose.

5 Oxford has a world-famous university. Oxford is a city in England.

Oxford has a world-famous whose.

6 The car’s tyres were all flat. It had been abandoned at the roadside.

The car’s tyres were whose.
7 Sally’s neighbour shouted angrily at her. She had broken his window.
________ whose ________________________________.

8 The music of Beethoven is used in the film. Beethoven was born in Germany.
________ whose ________________________________.

9 One of the men has a broken leg. He should be treated first.
________ whose ________________________________.

10 The business is located in a large old house. The top floor of the house has been converted into offices.
________ whose ________________________________.

EXERCISE 4
Rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word provided. Your answer must be in one sentence.

1 Jane sent Mark a birthday card. It didn’t arrive.
________ that ________________________________.

2 I need money for my fare. My uncle will give me this money.
______________________________ that ____________.

3 One of the cakes had a cherry on the top. Paul ate it.
______________________________ that ________________________________.

4 They bought a house with a large garden.
________ that ________________________________.

5 Some music has a strong beat. I like that kind of music best.
________ that ________________________________.
6 An aeroplane crashed in the mountains. The aeroplane was owned by the country’s national airline.

that ________________________________

7 Sue had made several mistakes. Her teacher told her about them.

that ________________________________

8 Tom opened one of the boxes. It was empty.

that ________________________________

9 A car went past. I think Mrs Jones was driving the car.

that ________________________________

10 Some birds cannot fly. They are called flightless birds.

that ________________________________

EXERCISE 5

Rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word provided and adding commas where required. Your answer must be in one sentence.

1 Our computer is not the latest model. My father bought it from one of his colleagues at work.

which ________________________________

2 Snakes are reptiles. They have scales all over their bodies.

which ________________________________

3 The lock on the back door will have to be replaced. There is no key for this lock.

which ________________________________

4 The man is accused of a crime that took place six years ago.

which ________________________________
5 Mrs Smith had made some lemonade. The children drank it all. which 

6 The students are learning to type without looking at the keyboard. It is not very easy to do this. which 

7 We were very grateful to our neighbours. They gave us a lot of help. which 

8 I found a wallet in the street. Here it is. which 

9 Jack received four books for his birthday. Two of them were the same. which 

10 Berries grow on the shrub after the flowers have gone. Birds like to eat these berries. which 

EXERCISE 6

Rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word provided and adding commas where required. Your answer must be in one sentence.

1 The house at the end of the road has a green door. Mr Black lives in the house. where 

2 Mr and Mrs Lee have moved to England. It often rains in England. where 

3 A famous battle was fought in this field. where 

4  We stayed at a hotel. The hotel had a swimming pool.
   which ____________________________.

5  Carol works in the tallest office block in the city. It has fifty floors.
   ________________ where ________________________________.

6  The children sometimes go sailing on a lake. Here is a picture of that lake.
   ____________________________ where ________________________________.

7  The top drawer of the desk is always locked. I keep my diary in this drawer.
   ____________________________ which ________________________________.

8  Freshly caught fish are served at the restaurant by the harbour. The men ate at this restaurant.
   ____________________________ where ________________________________.

9  Michael was treated at a hospital that specialises in tropical diseases.
   ________________ where ________________________________.

10 The emperor sits on a throne. It is made of gold.
    ________________ which ________________________________.

Quick check

Rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word provided and adding commas where required. Your answer must be in one sentence.

1  The man is driving a red car. He is my uncle.
   ________________ who ________________________________.

2  Timothy bought flowers for the girl. She is very pleased.
   ____________________________ for whom ________________________________.
3 Jenny's trousers are crumpled. She will wear a skirt instead.

______________ whose ________________________________.

4 The table is used for decorations. It is now missing.

______________ that ________________________________.

5 I bought a blue backpack. It is too large for me.

_________________________ which ________________________________.

6 This is the shop. I found a beautiful vase here.

_________________________ where ________________________________.