Primary 5/6

Week 4

The Write Tribe

CELEBRATION

PART 1

Topic: Celebration

Write a composition of least 150 words using one or more of the pictures below.

Consider the following points when you plan your composition.

-What was the celebration about?
-Where was it held?
-What were the obstacles?
-How was the problems solved?
-What was the lesson learnt?

You will be graded for the similes you use in this composition

Story breakdown - 20 minutes

Fill in the blanks with the correct words.

as hell	**as a lark**	**two peas in a pod**	**crystal**	**as a wolf**
lightning	**as a cucumber**	**as a peacock**	**chalk from cheese**	**as dishwater**

INTRODUCTION

The year was 1986. I was nineteen years old. It was two days before Chinese new year. The month of february was surprisingly cruel that year. The sun had been beating down on us and it was hot 1._____. Grandmother was literally painting the town red with an assortment of chinese new year decorations. The woman was a wrinkled prune with hair white as snow and a body that was deteriorating with age. Despite all that, she was full of beans. INTRODUCE CHARACTERS

"Lou promised he will come this year. Don't be couch potatoes and get moving!" she commanded playfully. With a big smile on her face, I could see she was happy 2. _____. She was always over the moon during Chinese New Year. Uncle Lou always promises he will come for Chinese New Year. Nine years had passed since he had been at war, he never came. Instead every year a letter would arrive with the message that he couldn't make it. Apparently, he settled overseas with a local woman. Despite the constant letdown, Grandmother was cool 3. _____ and will always look forward to seeing him again. As the house buzzed with excitement, little did I know this Chinese New Year would be a life-changing experience for me. OOH! FORESHADOW

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CONFLICT

I have a vague memory of Uncle Lou. He looks exactly like my father. They are as alike 4._____. However, their characters were opposites. They were as different as 5. _____. My father always stayed close to family however Uncle Lou was more adventurous and had big ambitions. I helped Grandmother with the chores even though it was boring. Doing chores is as dull 6._____. Never fun! However, Grandmother's cookies were to die for. As she decorated the cookies meticulously, she kept on talking about how much Uncle Lou loves her food. "You can't get such delicacies overseas. When he comes, I bet he will be as hungry 7._____ and gobble all the cookies in mere seconds." she chuckled.

We were interrupted by my father. "I need you for a chore," he said. "Another chore!" I grumbled and went to assist my father. He handed me an envelope and said, "I need you to put this in our mailbox." With that he left. The letter was sealed and had an overseas stamp and address. I was burning with curiosity. Why was he asking me to place it in the mailbox? Why would we deliver a letter to ourselves? PERSONAL THOUGHTS

Curious as a cat, I secretly decided to open the letter and see what was in it.

It was a letter from Uncle Lou. The message was the same as any other year. He couldn't make it. Still, my mind raced. Why place it in our mailbox? Did Dad accidentally pick the letter and didn't want to deliver the bad news himself. With burning questions, I went to his room to ask him. PROBLEM

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CLIMAX

My father wasn't there but his cupboard was open. He usually doesn't leave it open. However, I had questions that needed answers. I started rummaging through it. That was when I saw something I wish I didn't see. ANTICIPATION

Everything became as clear as 8. _____to me. It was a yellowed certificate. A death certificate. Uncle Lou had died in war 9 years ago. PROBLEM INTENSIFIES

"What are you doing?" My dad's voice demanded. Seeing the certificate in my hand, he knew it was too late. "Why have you all been lying to Grandma all this while?" my voice croaked from the sorrow brimming in me. "I'm sorry son. Uncle Lou was a brave man. He did great service to our country. He lived as a warrior and died as one." my dad solemnly said. I could see he thought highly of Uncle Lou. He was as proud 9. _____ of his brother's valor. I leant Uncle Lou had died in a bomb blast. There was nothing left of his body. My dad couldn't bring himself to tell Grandma. She would be devastated and the news may even kill her. She was already 87 years old. "Let her be happy for whatever remaining years she has with us. Why ruin her happiness?" my dad added. PROBLEM SOLVES

I knew what I had to do even though it broke my heart.

CONCLUSION

As quick as **10** _____, I ran to grandmother, letter in hand. "What is it?" grandmother asked. "A letter from Uncle Lou! Woohoo!" I feigned excitement. With shaky hands, she tore it open hastily. The big smile on her face turned upside down. "He can't make it." she stated. Tears filled her eyes. Seeing her disappointment, I couldn't hold my

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emotions. Noticing my tears, she quickly brightened up. "Never mind boy, we have much work to do. It's Chinese New Year. Brighten up. If not this year, he will come the next!" she chirped.

As I watched her energetically make enough cookies to feed the town, I gave a thumbs up to my Dad. Dad did the right thing. Every cloud has a silver lining. PROVERB

Though this makes us sad, the lie gives happiness Grandma's life. I learnt that there's always something positive even in the most awful experiences. LESSON

At least, every Chinese New Year my grandmother has something to look forward to.

Fill in the blanks - 10 minutes

Similes	
1. As clear as _____.	6. As hot as _____.
2. As cool as a _____.	7. As hungry as a _____.
3. As different as _____.	8. As proud as a _____.
4. As dull as _____.	9. As quick as _____.
5. As happy as a _____.	10. As alike as _____.