



PSLE Stimulated Mock Test

The Write Tribe



Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

My stomach was doing flip-flops as my sixth-grade teacher, Mrs. Cloe, approached my desk. She was returning our graded poems, and I was excited to see my mark. I liked to write, and I had worked extra hard on my collection of poems, lying on my bed at home every night for a month, carefully crafting my phrases to make each poem sing and dance and flow.

Mrs. Cloe was a smart and energetic teacher who walked as she talked, and to me, she seemed to float around the room. I had a crush on her. I wanted her to notice me, and since I was terribly shy and did not like to raise my hand, I hoped I could impress her with my poetry. 5

Mrs. Cloe came down to my aisle and set my poems on my desk. I had bound the poems covered with a soft blue fabric. I remember hearing the whispers and giggles of my classmates as they shared their marks with each other. Their poems were just sheets of paper held together with staples or paper clips, not book-bound like mine. I was sure to get an A, maybe even an A-plus. Mrs. Cloe liked to write comments next to our marks, and I always strove to improve my work based on what she had written. 10 15

My heart pounded as I opened the cover to see my grade. And there it was at the top of the page—an F: no words, no explanation, just the letter F, in red ink. A wave of heat surged through my body. I could barely breathe. I mustered the courage to approach Mrs. Cloe at her desk after class.

"These poems weren't yours," she said sternly. "They were too good. You must have copied them." What she said shocked me. I did not know what to say. I think I muttered, "No, I didn't," and I ran from the room and hurried home. 20

I told my parents what Mrs. Cloe said, and my mother got very upset and said she would talk with Mrs. Cloe.

"No, no," I said. "Don't make it worse. Don't embarrass me." My mother agreed not to get involved, but that night as she spoke to her friends on the telephone about the incident, I remember she kept repeating the same phrase over and over again, "How can Mrs. Cloe prove such a thing? I mean, how can Mrs. Cloe prove such a thing?" 25

The next day after class, I went to Mrs. Cloe again with my poems and said, "My mom wants to know, how you can prove such a thing?" 30

Mrs. Cloe replied, "Prove to me that you didn't copy the poems."

I considered Mrs. Cloe's words. I felt her glaring straight at me, but I was so nervous that I couldn't look in her eyes. I just stared at a blue button on her blouse. I could not think of anything to say. Mrs. Cloe broke the silence. "Okay. Here's what," she announced. "I'll raise your grade to a C, but I don't want to hear anymore about this." 35

I walked home more upset than the day before. I felt cheated. I even left the poems on Mrs. Cloe's desk. I did not want them anymore. That grade C stood for "crummy". That C stood for "Cloe". I hated Mrs. Cloe. Then suddenly, another thought struck me. It was this very thought that made me become a professional writer. If Mrs. Cloe thinks my poems were copied, I said to myself, then they must be very good. I must be a very good writer. I must be an excellent writer! I suddenly felt empowered – like I could do anything. 40 45

71. Why was the author's heart pounding in line 17?

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72. Fill in the boxes below.

Did the author copy someone else's poems?	
Evidence	

73. Describe the works of the author and his classmates.

Author	Classmates

74. Why did Mrs Cloe give the author an 'F' for his poems?

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75. "A wave of heat surged through my body. I could barely breathe." (lines 17 – 18)
Why did the author feel that way?

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76. Why did the author not want his mother to speak to Mrs. Cloe?

77. Which sentence in the passage tells you that the author held Mrs. Cloe's professional opinions in high regard?

78. "Then suddenly, another thought struck me." (Line 41)
What was this 'thought' the author was referring to?

79. State whether the following statements are true or false and support it with evidence.

Statement	True/False	Evidence
Mrs Cloe was a fair teacher.		
The author copied the poems.		

80. Find the words in the passage that has a similar meaning to the following words.

a) Enabled

b) Rush

End of Practice Paper 2