



Reading Skill: Recognising keywords

Learn together!

Some questions test your ability to notice important words in the question and the text. There are three steps to answering such questions:

- 1** Find and underline the keywords in the question and options.
- 2** Look for the underlined keywords in the text. Sometimes, you may not be able to find the exact words. In this case, look for the words that have the same meaning or that are related to the keywords.
- 3** Read the options carefully. Choose the option that matches the text.

Learn more!

Keywords are words that have meanings and tell important information. They can be names, places, years, etc.

e.g. The keywords in the question 'Where is the school picnic?' are 'Where' and 'school picnic'. The words 'is' and 'the' are not the keywords because they do not have actual meanings. By just reading these two words, you cannot understand what the question asks about. But when you read the words 'Where' and 'school picnic', you can understand that the question asks about the place where the students had the picnic.

Give it a try!

e.g. What did the writer eat for lunch on the picnic day? (Choose more than one answer.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> A. sushi | <input checked="" type="radio"/> B. sausages |
| <input type="radio"/> C. fried rice | <input checked="" type="radio"/> D. sandwiches |

Underline the keywords 'eat', 'lunch' and 'picnic day' in the question. You can understand that the question asks about **the food** that the writer had for lunch on the picnic day. Look for the food items in the diary entry.

In paragraph 2, you can find that the writer ate **sushi, sandwiches and sausages**. So, options A, B and D are the correct answers.