

Tips for tackling PSLE Science

Answering open-ended science questions requires you to not only master the process skills but also learn to apply them in context.

You would also need to familiarise yourself with the terms used in open-ended questions.

The table below gives you a guide on the terms you would encounter.

Terms used in questions:

No.	Term	Explanation
1	Describe	Give relevant details about an object or event. Not required to explain answer.
2	Explain	Give reasons or make something clear and simple to understand.
3	State	Simply write down the answer. No explanations required.
4	What does this experiment tell you?	Interpret the results of the experiment. State what the results mean.
5	What is the purpose / aim of this experiment?	State the aim of the experiment. Not required to interpret results or describe them.
6	What would happen? / Predict the results of the experiment.	Make logical predictions. No explanation is required.

Here are some useful tips to help you tackle open-ended questions.

- ❖ Read and understand the question.
- ❖ Look for the key words and underline them.
- ❖ Think of the topic related to the question.
- ❖ Think of the concepts that help to answer the question.
- ❖ Apply the appropriate concepts to answer the question.
- ❖ Note the marks awarded to each question in order to estimate the amount of information required in the answer.