



PRIMARY 6 SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2 – 2013

Name: _____ () Date: 22 July 2013

Class: Primary 6 ()

Time: 8.00 a.m. – 9.10 a.m.

Duration: 1 hour 10 minutes

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 1 (WRITING)

SITUATIONAL WRITING (15 Marks)

CONTINUOUS WRITING (40 Marks)

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Write your name, class and register number.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Write your answers on the answer sheet and foolscap provided.

Part 1: Situational Writing (15 marks)

(1) Study the telephone conversation carefully.



Hello, Devi. Hope you are feeling better. Regarding the talk that we are organising for our members on 17 August, we've decided to invite Mr Desmond Lim to be the guest speaker.

Hello, Alan. I'm feeling much better. Thanks! Isn't Mr Lim the well-known environmentalist?



Yes, we all admire his work as an environmentalist and love his book 'The Beauty of Chek Jawa'.

I really hope he'll agree to it. What are you going to ask him to talk about?



Well, since the club members are interested in visiting Chek Jawa in September, we thought that Mr Lim could talk about the flora and fauna there before we visit the place. I'll email Mr Lim tomorrow. Could you book the school's AVA Room from 9 to 11 am for the talk?

Sure! Bye, Alan.



Your Task

Imagine you are Alan Tan, the chairman of the Nature Club, Spring Primary School. Your club is planning a talk and you would like to invite a well-known local environmentalist to give a talk to your members.

Write an email to your intended guest speaker to invite him to give a talk about the types of flora and fauna found in Chek Jawa.

You should refer to the telephone conversation on page 2.

In your email, include the following information:

- why you have chosen the speaker to give a talk
- the topic the speaker should talk about
- why the topic is chosen
- when and where the talk will be held

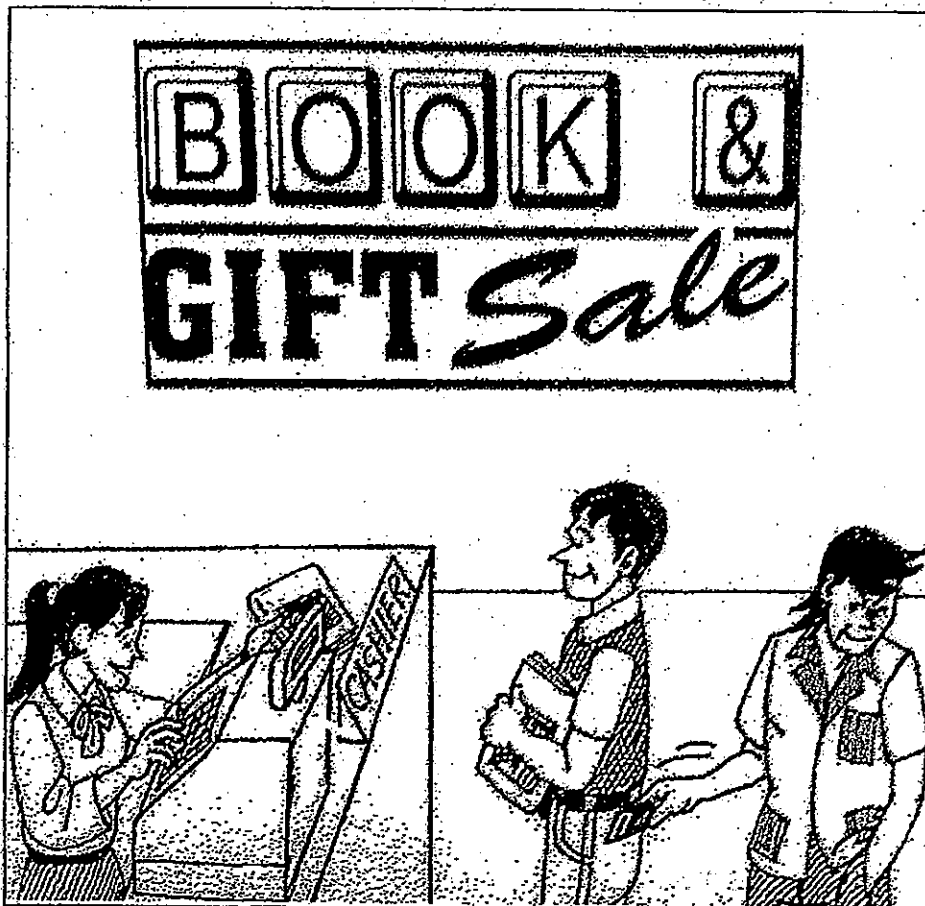
You may reorder the points. You must write in complete sentences.

Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

There are two questions in Part 2.

Answer only one of them.

- (2) Write a story based on the situation in the picture below. Your story should be at least 150 words long.



You must make use of the points below in your story:

- what the people in the picture were doing
- what happened next
- what happened in the end

You may reorder the points. You may also include other relevant points.

- (3) You were taking an afternoon nap in your bedroom. Suddenly, someone woke you up.

Based on the above situation, write a composition of at least 150 words.

You must make use of the points below in your story:

- who woke you up
- what happened next
- what happened in the end



PRIMARY 6 SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2 – 2013

Name: _____ ()

Date: 22 July 2013

Class: Primary 6 ()

Time: 10.15 a.m. – 12.05 p.m.

Duration: 1 hour 50 minutes

Parent's signature: _____

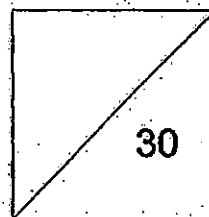
Marks: _____ / 95

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)

BOOKLET A

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Write your name, class and register number.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.
5. Shade your answers in the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.



Section A: Graphic Stimulus

Study the following poster and then answer questions 1 to 5.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL

FREE PET SHOP

**Singapore's
LARGEST
Adoption Drive
is back,
with more dogs!**

If you are looking for a new furry pal or a best friend or just to mingle with dog lovers alike, head down to the National Geographic Channel's Free Pet Shop next weekend at East Coast Park!

Featuring more than 100 dogs that will be up for adoption, the event will also offer workshops that will shed new light on dog ownership.

3 & 4 Aug 2013

Sat / Sun 12pm – 6pm

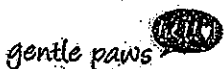
**East Coast Park
Behind Car Park D1**

**Loving homes wanted
for our equally
Loving canines**

Brought to you by:



Participating Shelters:



Admission
is free!
(Pay extra for health
check-ups and
vaccinations)

Mark these dates
on your calendar
and be sure to
drop by to pay
these lovely dogs
a visit! See you
there!

For each question from 1 to 5, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the OAS. (5 marks)

1. The main aim of this event is to _____.

- (1) remind owners not to abandon their dogs
- (2) promote the passion of keeping dogs as pets
- (3) encourage more people to keep dogs as pets
- (4) inform the public about the dog adoption drive

2. To help foster the bond between owners and their dogs, _____.

- (1) more dogs will be featured
- (2) workshops will be organised
- (3) dog lovers will share some useful tips
- (4) loving homes for the dogs will be provided

3. The main organiser of this event is _____.

- (1) Gentle Paws
- (2) Free Pet Shop
- (3) National Geographic
- (4) Animal Lovers League

4. According to the poster, _____.

- (1) there are up to 100 dogs for adoption
- (2) there were more dogs put up for adoption previously
- (3) making friends with dog lovers is welcome at the drive
- (4) National Geographic Channel will provide more information on dogs

5. Which one of the following statements is true?

- (1) Potential dog owners will be screened prior to the adoption process.
- (2) Health check-ups and vaccinations are available at the event.
- (3) Free Pet Shop is located at Car Park D1, East Coast Park.
- (4) This is an annually-held event.

Section B: Grammar

For each question from 6 to 12, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the OAS. (7 marks)

6. "The earlier we detect the problem, the _____ it is to rectify it," the engineer told his workers.
- (1) easy
 - (2) easily
 - (3) easier
 - (4) easiest
7. That was one of the occasions _____ Sandy regretted not being able to tell what was on her mind.
- (1) why
 - (2) when
 - (3) which
 - (4) where
8. My back _____ bad ever since I fell and hurt it two years ago.
- (1) is
 - (2) was
 - (3) has been
 - (4) had been
9. Julie's train of thoughts _____ derailed when she heard a deafening crash.
- (1) is
 - (2) are
 - (3) was
 - (4) were
10. My parents are overjoyed because my sister, as well as I, _____ done exceptionally well in the recent examination.
- (1) has
 - (2) had
 - (3) have
 - (4) having

11. By the time the teacher _____ her teaching materials, it was already past midnight.

- (1) prepared
- (2) had prepared
- (3) would prepare
- (4) would have prepared

12. Hardly had the teacher started her lesson _____ the bell of the fire alarm sounded.

- (1) but
- (2) and
- (3) than
- (4) when

Section C: Punctuation

For each question from 13 to 15, choose the correct punctuation to complete the passage. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the OAS. (3 marks)

Think about it. Is it possible that man can really travel to and live on another planet in the near future (13) Sending humans to Mars will need years of careful planning. One will be glad to know that the answer is a resounding "Yes (14) Scientists think that, within the next 20 to 30 years, they can put the first man on Mars.

As for now, scientists can closely study the rocks and soil on Mars and conduct studies which will allow us to better understand our Solar System (15) the sun and all the objects in space that go around the Sun.

Adapted from: Talking Science

13. (1) ☐ comma
(2) ☐ full stop
(3) ☐ semi colon
(4) ☐ question mark

14. (1) ☐ colon and inverted commas
(2) ☐ comma and inverted commas
(3) ☐ full stop and inverted commas
(4) ☐ exclamation mark and inverted commas

15. (1) ☐ dash
(2) ☐ colon
(3) ☐ comma
(4) ☐ full stop

Section D: Vocabulary

For each question from 16 to 20, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the OAS. (5 marks)

16. It was his _____ in the battle that served as an inspiration for the soldiers.
- (1) devotion
 - (2) creativity
 - (3) regimentation
 - (4) steadfastness
17. Mr and Mrs Lim lived _____ but happily as they saved every possible cent for rainy days.
- (1) frugally
 - (2) modestly
 - (3) sparingly
 - (4) conscientiously
18. Many of the _____ people in the country were invited to the grand banquet to celebrate the President's birthday.
- (1) worthy
 - (2) eminent
 - (3) legitimate
 - (4) significant
19. He had troubles _____ as a result of mixing with the wrong company.
- (1) aplenty
 - (2) enough
 - (3) bountiful
 - (4) abundant
20. Mrs Wong longs for a well-deserved holiday as she is tired of the _____ tasks of a housewife.
- (1) routine
 - (2) sluggish
 - (3) customary
 - (4) conventional

Section E: Vocabulary Cloze

For each question from 21 to 25, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the OAS.
(5 marks)

The doctor stepped into the hospital room. The teenage boy seemed to show a placid temperament as the doctor approached his hospital bed. The
(21)

doctor was to give him his first psychiatric evaluation. His mother, who was
(22)

seated nearby, was totally engrossed in her knitting. The doctor walked over and introduced himself to the boy. The boy looked right through the doctor and, without a moment's delay, broke into a scream, "I can't see! I can't see!"
(23)

The doctor had never witnessed such a dramatic outburst of hysterical blindness.

"How long has this been going on?" the doctor asked the boy's mother, unable to fathom his unexpected behaviour.
(24)

Without looking up, she replied nonchalantly, "Ever since you stepped in front of the television."
(25)

Adapted from: Reader's Digest

21. (1) tired
(2) calm
(3) bored
(4) unwell

22. (1) analysis
(2) appraisal
(3) diagnosis
(4) judgement

23. (1) urgently
(2) instinctively
(3) momentarily
(4) instantaneously

24. (1) accept
(2) believe
(3) comprehend
(4) accommodate

25. (1) casually
(2) carefully
(3) candidly
(4) confidently

Section F: Comprehension

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

(5 marks)

When I was three years old, the outhouse was the scariest place I knew. Even so, I remember it fondly. My family lived in a rented room in the *kampong* (Malay word for "village") in Singapore. Most of my memories of *kampong* life are happy ones. The *kampong* held everything a young child like me could ever want – space, playmates and adventure.

5

On hindsight, the one thing I would have wished for was a flushing toilet, located inside the house. To the younger generation today, this may appear to be an absurd statement. Don't all houses have attached toilets?

The house I lived in was enclosed by wire fencing. A small gate led to about ten other similar houses within the compound. I used to walk warily out of our gate because just around the corner, two outhouses loomed ominously. We shared them with a few other households. The outhouses were made of cheap wooden planks. I still remember how the worn-out doors creaked open to reveal a crude hole in the centre of the floor. A metal bucket with two handles was placed under this hole. Woe and mess would befall you if the bucket was not properly aligned with the hole. To make matters worse, the outhouses had no lights; a permanent darkness greeted all visitors.

10
15

It was no wonder that, at my young age, going to the toilet petrified me. Even before the darkness engulfed me, the stench invaded my nostrils. More often than not, my eyes welled up with tears and I retched violently. This agony intensified as the urgency to use the outhouse outweighed my sensory nightmare.

20

My greatest fear was to visit the cubicles at the end of the day. As there was little natural light, I needed a flashlight to find my way in the monster's den. By this late hour, the horrible mass sitting in the bucket had reached a peak, literally. Did I mention the flies? Dozens swarmed around creating a tickling sensation.

25

I considered it a treat when my mother allowed me to use a potty inside the house. The other was being the first visitor to the dreaded cubicles after the night soilman had cleared the laden buckets. These soilmen had long since vanished, flushed away into the pages of history by modern indoor plumbing.

30

Modernisation has spoiled me. I find myself dreaming of the ultimate toilet that offers self-flushing functions, automated jet streams with regulated hot or cold sprays of water. Each visit to the toilet is a spa treatment. Despite such dreams, I have never forgotten the past. Occasionally when I flush the toilet, images of the dreadful outhouses still swirl through my mind.

35

Adapted from : Reader's Digest

For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the OAS. (5 marks)

26. The writer remembered the village life fondly because _____.

- (1) it was located in the village
- (2) he was only three years old then
- (3) it brought back a lot of childhood memories
- (4) he encountered many frightening adventures

27. In paragraph 3, the outhouses gave the writer a very uncomfortable feeling because they were _____.

- (1) shrouded in darkness
- (2) made of cheap wooden planks
- (3) shared among a few households
- (4) located a distance away from the house

28. The "sensory nightmare" in lines 21 and 22 refers to the _____.

- (1) urgency of using the toilet
- (2) offensive smell the toilet produced
- (3) writer vomiting repeatedly in the toilet
- (4) petrifying experience of visiting the toilet

29. In paragraph 6, _____ pleased the writer.

- (1) using the potty first
- (2) the vanishing soilman
- (3) the clearing of the laden bucket
- (4) being the first to use the toilet every day

30. Which of the following statements is false?

- (1) The writer enjoyed his childhood in the village.
- (2) The soilmen were not appreciated so they became history.
- (3) The writer and her family did not own a house in the village.
- (4) Today's toilets caused the writer to remember the outhouses.



PRIMARY 6 SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2 – 2013

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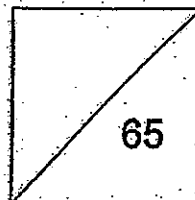
Duration: 1 hour 50 minutes

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)

BOOKLET B

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Write your name, class and register number.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.
5. Write your answers in this booklet.



Section G: Grammar Cloze

There are 10 blanks numbered 31 to 40, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) a	(D) before	(G) for	(K) in	(N) on
(B) and	(E) but	(H) from	(L) into	(P) then
(C) at	(F) consequently	(J) however	(M) off	(Q) with

As Todd waded into the surf, a pod of dolphins played in the waves just ahead of him. (31) _____ him, it was a perfect day for surfing. Other than (32) _____ few surfers, the dolphins were the only creatures visible (33) _____ the bay. Todd paddled strenuously and caught a wave in, (34) _____ headed out to find another. Resting on his board about 70 metres (35) _____ shore, he turned to watch his friend, Brian, glide under the curve of a near-perfect wave.

Suddenly, Todd was hit from below (36) _____ catapulted 4.5 metres in the air. Landing headfirst in the water, he felt his pulse quicken. He knew only one thing that could slam him (37) _____ such force. Frantically paddling to the surface, he tugged (38) _____ the surfboard, climbed on and pointed it towards the shore. (39) _____, within seconds, he was hit again. An enormous white shark had him in its jaws, its teeth dug (40) _____ his back. Todd's desperate struggle caught the attention of the beach patrol crew.

Adapted from: Shark!

Section H: Editing for Spelling and Grammar

Correct each word in **bold** for spelling and each underlined word for grammar.
Write the correct word in the relevant box. (10 marks)

People gathered at Nee Soon South to pick up litter on a Sunday

(41)

morning. More than 200 teachers, students and grassroot leaders taking part

(42)

in this event which was **darefurnertly** meaningful. This was part of the

(43)

ongoing efforts by the **compmeeti** to encourage people to keep the

(44)

raircidenclal areas clean.

(45)

(46)

Keeping the **anviramern** clean is especially important now of the

(47)

dengue epidemic. The cleaning will help to **eraredeekate** the places where

(48)

the mosquitoes breed. This will leave no breeding grounds by mosquitoes.

(49)

Although the peak period during the hot months having yet to arrive, it was

(50)

reported that the number of cases from January to February alone stood in

4,756, more than the whole of last year. Indeed, everyone must play a part.

Adapted from: The Straits Times

Section I: Comprehension Cloze

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Singapore's first zoo has at least one unique bragging right. It had (51) _____ beginnings at a family bungalow in Serangoon Road. The renowned scientist, Albert Einstein, the (52) _____ of modern physics, was among the first (53) _____ to the private zoo which was run by (54) _____ lover, Basapa, from 1920 to 1922. Einstein was in Singapore to (55) _____ funds for The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He had (56) _____ in his travel diary that he had come across "a wonderful zoological garden".

Basapa, who was often (57) _____ by his faithful companion, a Bengal tiger, moved his collection of animals and birds to Punggol. Although there were numerous (58) _____ about the stench, noise and overcrowding of animals in his neighbourhood, his 200 animals and 2,000 birds soon became a major (59) _____ drawing many people to the zoo, especially on weekends and public holidays.

Basapa's venture into zoo-keeping was short-lived. At the (60) _____ of World War Two, the British gave him twenty-four hours to (61) _____ his zoo as they needed to use the site as a defensive ground (62) _____ the Japanese invaders. The time-frame given was too (63) _____, prompting the British to shoot Basapa's animals, free his birds and (64) _____ his land by force. This major setback caused Basapa to fall ill and his health (65) _____ gradually. He died a broken-hearted man in 1943.

Adapted from : The Straits Times

Section J: Synthesis / Transformation

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in **one** sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s).

(10 marks)

66. Bala learns violin at Talent Music School. He started at four.

_____ since

67. Mrs Heng's children do not like to watch horror movies.

Neither of _____

68. The stranger always preys on young innocent children when the opportunity arises.

Young innocent children _____

69. My brother sleeps with the lights switched on. He is used to it.

_____ used to

70. These devices are serviced once a month. They are kept in excellent condition.

The monthly _____

Section K: Comprehension Open-ended

Read the passage below carefully and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

"It looks kind of scary," said Evan, seven, apprehensively. We craned our necks, looking up and watching as, two by two, parents and children screamed their lungs out. I clenched and unclenched my clammy hands, waiting for the boys' decision. Brad, ten, decided to go for it. He had come here determined to ride a roller-coaster. Evan watched a few more passengers whizz by and reluctantly agreed to try it. I let out a sigh of resignation. He had been my only hope for avoiding this stomach-churning ride. Now it became my responsibility to be the zealous cheerleader who would help him through the nerve-racking process of waiting for his turn despite my fears.

5

10

Standing near the tracks, we heard the machinery clanking and grinding, working to provide the excitement that these die-hard thrill seekers were after. As I envisioned myself strapped and stranded in the car, hanging fifteen metres in the air with my terrified son, I was tempted to voice my concern about the routine maintenance of roller-coasters.

15

"They go up really high, don't they, Mum?" observed Evan with bated breath, as car after car was lifted straight up to its take-off point. I felt queasy just watching it. Doubts began to get the better of Evan and he said quietly, "I don't know if I should do this, Mum."

I knew it was my responsibility as a mother of two boys to show them a brave front in spite of my own pounding heart. If I was not careful, the legacy of being excessively fearful would be passed to the next generation. So I wore a happy face despite my own jitters. My husband, the roller-coaster enthusiast, rolled his eyes at the hesitancy with which his family was approaching this thrill ride. Nearing our turn, I became short of breath. Then Evan said the words that I had been yearning to hear - "I don't think I want to do it." I let out an audible sigh. As I removed myself from the line, Joe gave it one last effort, "Are you sure? I think it'll be fun. That little boy had fun. Look, he's laughing."

20

25

Clearly, Evan was torn. Looking from the roller-coaster, to his father, to me, it was apparent that this was a heart-wrenching decision for him.

30

"It's alright if you don't want to go," I assured him, "but you have to decide now. We're next." My body was already heading out the exit in sheer relief, anticipating his negative answer. All set for a reprieve, my body had relaxed and entered spectator mode.

35

"Okay, I'll go!" Evan shouted. My stomach clenched - I was doomed. Evan climbed into the front position with determination. I held tight to Evan. I was intending to comfort him yet I was oddly comforted by his stoic attitude.

As our car headed out into the track, everything was a blur. The wheels turned above me and then all I knew was the wind. Twisting, turning, screaming our way around the track, our bodies shuddered and jerked. Rushing down a slope, we felt an odd sense of flying. Then it was over. As our car slid to a stop, I extracted myself from the seat and stood up. Weak-kneed, I turned to see a huge grin plastered on Evan's face. 40

"That was fun!" Evan exclaimed. "Except that Mum screamed in my ear the whole way!" 45

True enough, I had survived the fearsome ride. I felt like Wonder Woman. However, there was no time to bask in my victory. Both the boys grabbed my hand, shouting, "Come on, Mum! Let's go on another one!"

Adapted from: The Australian Journal

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. In line 1, what made Evan think that riding on the roller-coaster "looks kind of scary"?

72. In paragraph 1, how do you know that the writer was a duty-bound parent?

73. In paragraph 2, quote a three-word phrase which refers to the individuals on the roller-coaster.

74. What does "this" in line 19 refer to?

75. From paragraph 4, why was the writer's husband annoyed with his family?

76. From lines 26-31, was Evan in a dilemma? Give an evidence to support your answer.

77. Which sentence best shows that the writer was very certain that her son had made up his mind against venturing on the thrill ride?

78. In line 36, explain clearly why the writer's "stomach clenched".

79. Explain clearly why the writer could "bask in my victory" (line 48).

80. How had Evan's perception of roller-coaster rides changed after his first ride?

End of paper

Answer Ke

EXAM PAPER 2013

SCHOOL : TAO NAN

SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH

TERM : SA2

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17
3	2	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	1	2	4	4	4	1	4	1

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
2	1	1	2	3	4	3	1	3	1	2	4	2	G	A	K	P

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
H	B	Q	C	J	L

41)took 42)definitely 43)committee 44)residential

45)environment 46)during/with 47)eradicate 48)for

49)has 50)at 51)its 52)creator/inventor 53)visitors

54)animal 55)raise 56)written 57)accompanied 58)complaints

59)attraction 60)start 61)move 62)against 63)short

64)take 65)deteriorated

66)Bala has been learning violin at Talent Music School since he was four.

67)Neither of Mrs Heng's children likes to watch horror movies.

68)Young innocent children are always preyed on by strangers when the opportunity arises.

69)My brother is used to sleeping with the lights switched on.

70)The monthly servicing of these devices keeps them in excellent condition.

71)He saw parents and children on the roller coaster scream their lungs out.

72)Even though the writer was scared of riding on the roller-coaster, for her sons, she would not only have to ride it, but also encourage her younger son until it was their turn.

73)It is 'die-hard thrill seekers'.

74)It refers to riding the roller-coaster.

75)Her husband loved riding on roller-coasters. He felt that there was nothing to be afraid of and that his family's hesitance over riding the roller-coaster was foolish.

76)Yes, he was. He looked at the roller-coaster, to his father, then to his mother, obviously unable to decide whether or not to ride the roller-coaster.

77)All set for the reprieve, my body had relaxed and entered spectator mode.

78)She was terrified as she had to accompany her son on the roller-coaster ride.

79)She had managed to survive the roller-coaster ride that she feared a lot, hence she was happy and relieved.

80)Before the ride, he was petrified and was unsure if he really wanted to ride the roller-coaster. However, after his first ride, he enjoyed it and even wanted to ride more.