



**RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT ( 1 )**  
**2014**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (       )       Class: P5 \_\_\_\_\_

7 May 2014

English Language Paper 2

Duration: 1 h 50 min

<b>Your Score Out of 95 marks</b>	
<b>Parent's Signature</b>	

**BOOKLET A**

**Instructions to Pupils**

1. Write your Name, Class and Index No. in the space provided above.
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 on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided for questions 1 to 28 only.

**Section A: Grammar (10 X 1 mark)**

**For each question from 1 to 10, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.**

1. Betty, as well as her classmates, \_\_\_\_\_ taking part in the Youth Challenge next month.

(1) is  
(2) are  
(3) was  
(4) were

2. \_\_\_\_\_ I do not like him, I agree that he is a good manager.

(1) If  
(2) When  
(3) Since  
(4) Although

3. "Annie", \_\_\_\_\_ is a popular musical film, tells the story of a mischievous orphan from New York City.

(1) who  
(2) whom  
(3) which  
(4) whose

4. We need to come up with an alternative solution \_\_\_\_\_ our plan fail.

(1) can  
(2) may  
(3) would  
(4) should

5. \_\_\_\_\_ of the boys was absent from remedial lesson yesterday.

(1) All  
(2) None  
(3) Every  
(4) Some

6. The thought of what happened yesterday made her \_\_\_\_\_ how much her parents cared for her.

- (1) realise
- (2) realises
- (3) realised
- (4) realising

7. What caught all of us by surprise \_\_\_\_\_ the sudden withdrawal of two schools from the competition last week.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were

8. My friends \_\_\_\_\_ the movie tickets before I arrived at the cinema.

- (1) buy
- (2) was buying
- (3) had bought
- (4) have bought

9. The fans have been sitting in the lobby, waiting for their idol \_\_\_\_\_ the past two hours.

- (1) at
- (2) for
- (3) from
- (4) since

10. The new employee knows her colleagues, \_\_\_\_\_ she?

- (1) did
- (2) does
- (3) didn't
- (4) doesn't

**Section B: Vocabulary (5 X 1 mark)**

**For each question from 11 to 15, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.**

11. The paramedics managed to \_\_\_\_\_ the boy who fainted in the crowd before he was sent to the hospital.
- (1) revive
  - (2) restore
  - (3) resurrect
  - (4) rejuvenate
12. This is the best \_\_\_\_\_ the police has found to prove that he is innocent.
- (1) evidence
  - (2) influence
  - (3) significance
  - (4) consequence
13. Many farming villages were \_\_\_\_\_ as farmers could not harvest due to the dry spell.
- (1) constricted
  - (2) exhausted
  - (3) diminished
  - (4) impoverished
14. We only managed to catch a \_\_\_\_\_ of the guest-of-honour after the concert as there were too many people blocking our view.
- (1) glint
  - (2) glare
  - (3) glimpse
  - (4) glimmer
15. As it was raining heavily, we felt that it was a \_\_\_\_\_ that we had cancelled our camping trip.
- (1) slap on the wrist
  - (2) drop in the bucket
  - (3) blessing in disguise
  - (4) chip on our shoulder

**Section C: Vocabulary Cloze (5 x 1 mark)**

For each question from 16-20, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined words. Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

Recent research has shown that the ill effects of sugar on one's health are more extensive than one could imagine. According to a 2012 article in the journal *Nature*, it is a toxic substance that should be regulated, like tobacco and alcohol.  
(16)

Studies show that too much sugar not only makes us fat, but also wreaks havoc on our organs, such as the liver and even the brain. As a result, we become more susceptible to heart disease, diabetes and maybe even cancer.  
(17)

Some experts say that raising awareness is insufficient. A lot more needs to be done to remedy the situation. Some experts have suggested tight controls limiting the sugar used in foodstuffs or even a tax on sugar.  
(18) (19) (20)

Nevertheless, after hearing the sobering news, many of us shrugged and returned to our cupcakes.

*Adapted from "Your body on Sugar", by Joanne Chen*

16. (1) banned  
(2) controlled  
(3) manipulated  
(4) standardised

17. (1) sensitive  
(2) receptive  
(3) accessible  
(4) vulnerable

18. (1) inefficient  
(2) ineffective  
(3) inadequate  
(4) insignificant

19. (1) save  
(2) renew  
(3) expose  
(4) negotiate

20. (1) rigid  
(2) slack  
(3) loose  
(4) cramped

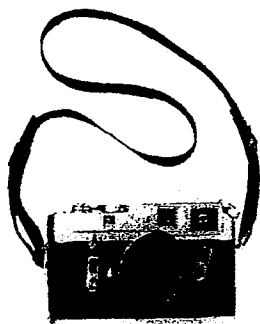
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Section D: Visual Text Comprehension (8 × 1 mark)

Study the poster below carefully and answer questions 21 to 28.

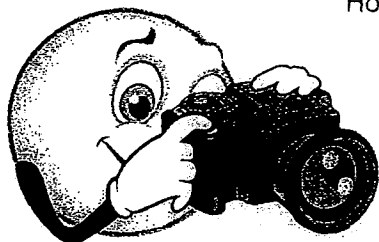
**RGPS Photography Competition 2014**

**proudly presented by RGPS Photography Club**



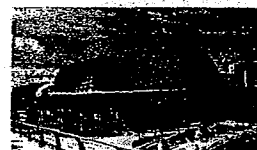
**Calling all amateur photographers or  
photography enthusiasts!**

The RGPS Photography Competition 2014, the first competition ever organised by our very own Photography Club is finally happening! You'll get to showcase your photography talent, learn from fellow photographers and win attractive prizes! **Diana Lee**, our former alumni, also nominated by Lion City Times as *Most Influential Photographer* of 2014, is part of our Honorary Judging Committee. She will be meeting shortlisted photographers in a special Meet-and-Share Session!

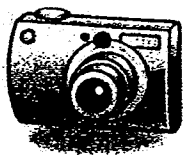


The RGPS Photography Competition offers 4 categories:

- ❖ **Architecture**  
Shoot buildings from different angles to showcase their architectural details and beauty.
- ❖ **Nature & Wildlife**  
Capture the beauty of wildlife, insects, plants and natural wonders.
- ❖ **People**  
Take pictures of the faces around you.
- ❖ **Split second**  
Capture that moment which would be gone in a split second. Shutter speed and fastest fingers win the day!







**Attractive cash prizes to be won,  
courtesy of SonyPro Electronics!  
A chance to meet Diana Lee and have  
her judge your work!**



**3 winners will be announced!**

1<sup>st</sup> prize: \$100 cash  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize: \$50 cash  
3<sup>rd</sup> prize: \$20 cash

#### **Young Photographers Meet-and-Share Session / Exhibition**

- ❖ 5 entries will be shortlisted for each category. The Pre-selection Committee consists of a panel of executive members from RGPS Photography Club.
- ❖ Photographers of the shortlisted entries can attend a Meet-and-Share Session with members of the Photography Club and the official Honorary Judging Committee including Diana Lee on 10 July 2014. The winners will be announced on the same day.
- ❖ Shortlisted entries will be exhibited in the school hall from 10 July 2014 to 15 July 2014.
- ❖ Photographers of the shortlisted entries will be granted special membership into RGPS Photography Club.

#### **Deadline**

All entries must be submitted to [www.rgps.edu.sg/photocontest](http://www.rgps.edu.sg/photocontest) by **30 June 2014**.

Shortlisted entries will be notified via email on **6 July 2014**.

Further details on the Meet-and-Share Session will be conveyed via email.



#### **Note**

Late entries will not be considered.

All decisions of the judges will be final.

Jointly organised by:



**RGPS  
Photography  
Club**

**sonyPro  
Electronics**

Supported by:



**National Creative  
Youths Council**



**School of Mass  
Communications**

For each question from 21 to 28, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

21. The RGPS Photography Competition will be held for the \_\_\_\_\_ time in 2014.

- (1) first
- (2) second
- (3) third
- (4) fourth

22. The photographs of a building, a tree, a group of children and a football player kicking a ball in mid-air are used in the poster to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) honour Diana Lee's work
- (2) showcase past winning entries
- (3) introduce the organisers of the event
- (4) help people better understand what the categories mean

23. Lily wants to submit an image of an egg falling onto the floor. Which category would that fall under?

- (1) People
- (2) Architecture
- (3) Split second
- (4) Nature and Wildlife

24. The sponsor of the prizes for this competition is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) SonyPro Electronics
- (2) RGPS Photography Club
- (3) National Creative Youths Council
- (4) School of Mass Communications

25. The phrase 'shortlisted entries' under the subheading **Young Photographers Meet-and-Share Session/Exhibition** refers to entries that are \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) submitted via email
- (2) most likely to win prizes
- (3) winners of the categories
- (4) rejected by the Honorary Judging Committee

26. To take part in the competition, participants should \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) attend the Meet-and-Share Session
- (2) email the RGPS Photography Club
- (3) contact the Pre-selection Committee
- (4) submit their images to the RGPS Photography Competition website

27. The main purpose of the competition is to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) encourage participants to meet Diana Lee
- (2) introduce camera equipment to participants
- (3) recruit talented photographers into RGPS Photography Club
- (4) exchange photography tips with Diana Lee and members of the RGPS Photography Club

28. Why is the subheading "Deadline" in bold type?

- (1) To distract interested participants
- (2) To raise doubts about the competition
- (3) To make participants feel excited about the competition
- (4) To make it easier for the reader to find relevant information

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**SECTION E: Grammar Cloze (10 x 1 mark)**

There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38 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.

**EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.**

(A) a	(E) for	(J) its	(N) to
(B) an	(F) from	(K) of	(P) they
(C) and	(G) in	(L) out	(Q) with
(D) but	(H) it	(M) over	

Charities are going online to reach donors. With Singaporeans more generous than ever when (29) \_\_\_\_\_ are giving through online channels, charities have begun innovating to embrace the connected generation.

From clicking for coupons (30) \_\_\_\_\_ "liking" a Facebook page and tapping an ez-link card, charities are trying to reach (31) \_\_\_\_\_ to donors through innovative platforms. Last Friday, the Community Chest launched a campaign in which all (32) \_\_\_\_\_ takes to donate is to tap an ez-link card on billboards found (33) \_\_\_\_\_

Online donation portals are reporting how they have been receiving more donations than ever. Singapore's largest online donation portal SG Gives raised a record \$8.5 million last year, a 37 per cent jump (34) \_\_\_\_\_ \$6.2 million the year before. Social enterprise See-No-Clay reached its goal (35) \_\_\_\_\_ selling 10 coupons within two weeks. Each coupon can be used to place order for small sculptures made by potters (36) \_\_\_\_\_ visual disabilities.

Online giving is reaching (37) \_\_\_\_\_ entirely new audience of supporters - a younger and more socially aware generation. For them, donations online is a universal and shared experience that says to their friends, "I care and so should you." For others, donating online is not only convenient (38) \_\_\_\_\_ also easy. Mr Andy Chen, 39, said, "Due to my busy schedule, I choose to donate online as the process is hassle-free."

*Adapted from "Charities go online to reach donors." By Priscilla Goy, The Straits Times, 2 Dec 2013*

**Section F: Editing for Spelling and Grammar (12 × 1 mark)**

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word each of the boxes.

You may not realise it but each day, nearly every one of us brings a pest into the

(39)

home. It is small, adaptable with land and water and has caused the deaths of numerous animals and fish around.

(40)

It may seem unbeleaffable to many that the plastic bag, a <sup>flimsy</sup> ~~flimsy~~ everyday item

that we simply cannot do without, has been the scourge of many countries, which have

(41)

rally to impose taxes or ban them altogether.

(42)

The global war against plastic bags is picking on steam: Shoppers in San Francisco

(43)

must use paper bags when they buy growsirees or carry their own bags from

(44)

home. The move came after sirvera weeks of intense lobbying by environmentalists. Why then, is

(45)

Singapore, a much smaller city and one that has serious airspurations of making its mark as

a champion of green technology, not following suit in a big way?

46)

Ever since a heated debate on plastic bags is sparked off some two years ago,

(47)

awareness of the problem has gone up somewhat. A national ertempt to encourage

(48)

the use of reusable bags have taken off well with 100,000 such bags sold at major

(49)

supermarkets. This is indeed an achievement. More significantly, today marks Singapore's first

(50)

Bring Your Own Bag Day. The efforts are laudable. However, we can do best. We need to speed up the push to bring down the use of plastic bags here.

*Adapted from "Say no to plastic bags." By Lee U-Wen, Today, 18 April 2007*

**Section G :Comprehension Cloze ( 15 x 1 mark)**

**Fill in each blank with a suitable word.**

By the time you are old enough to apply for a driving licence, you may find that you do not need one. Cars might be \_\_\_\_\_ to drive themselves by then  
(51)

said some experts. All you will have to do is enter your destination into your car's navigation system. You may then sit back \_\_\_\_\_ enjoy the ride.  
(52)

"People think that autonomous driving is science fiction, but the fact is that the \_\_\_\_\_ is already here," a representative from car maker Volvo told the BBC.  
(53)

"Many of today's cars already have the ability to control their own speed and choose the best route \_\_\_\_\_ the journey. Some even have systems to help drivers park and \_\_\_\_\_ collisions. Thus, it is not impossible that, as the science improves, our vehicles will be able to take over completely from human drivers one \_\_\_\_\_  
(54)  
(55)  
(56)

A couple of months back, Steve Mahan got a taste of what life could be \_\_\_\_\_ he had a self-driving car. Mr Mahan is blind. On his own, he is unable to \_\_\_\_\_ some errands. However, with the self-driving car, he could manage a lot on his own. He could do this as Google had fitted the car with special \_\_\_\_\_  
(57)  
(58)  
(59)

It had radars, sensors and cameras that would continuously take \_\_\_\_\_ of its surroundings. The car's computer system could then use all of this data to move the vehicle forward \_\_\_\_\_ hitting anything. It could stop at traffic lights, allow  
(60)  
(61)

pedestrians to cross the road and give \_\_\_\_\_ to other vehicles.. Mr Mahan did not  
(62)



have to navigate the car in any way.

During the past two years, Google has been exploring various technologies that would \_\_\_\_\_ a car to self-drive. The idea is for robo-cars to do  
(63)

more than help people like Mr Mahan to travel. It is also to make car journeys safer and \_\_\_\_\_ efficient for all. Most road accidents are caused by human \_\_\_\_\_  
(64) (65)

Some researchers, therefore, argue that travel would become much safer if humans were removed from the equation.

(Adapted from "Watch out for the Robo-Cars", by Shameen Idiculla. What's Up Issue 93, September 2012)

**Section H: Transformation / Synthesis (5 x 2 marks)**

**For each of the question 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 that of the given sentence(s).**

66. You will be late for your appointment. You must hurry.

\_\_\_\_\_ unless  
\_\_\_\_\_

67. The tigers and cubs are not sleeping

Neither \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68. "Did you see my painting yesterday?" Mr Ho asked his niece.

Mr Ho asked his niece \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

69. He was careless. He lost his wallet.

Due to his \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

70. He ate everything on his plate. He did not eat the beans.

\_\_\_\_\_ except  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Section I : Comprehension (Open-ended) 20 marks**

**Read this passage carefully and answer the questions 71 to 80.**

Every year in winter, Mr Manner and his family gather at a lakeside cabin in the mountains in Helsinki. He and his two sons go skating and ice fishing if the lake is frozen, or they fish from the canoe if it is not.

Two years ago, the lake was covered by a thin layer of ice, too thick for boating, but not solid enough to walk on. Mr Manner and his family spent most of their time in front of the blazing fire in the cabin. In the mid- afternoon, while preparing dinner, they heard a commotion from outside.

"Be careful!" someone bellowed, "don't go out too far!"

Mr Manner and his family hurried to the window and saw a young girl skating across the ice. As they watched on in fear, the girl's feet slipped and she lost her footing on the unstable surface. She managed to stand back up on her feet and started skating further and further away.

She was in the middle of the lake when she stumbled once more. This time, the ice gave way and the girl disappeared under it. She was nowhere to be seen. Seconds later, she resurfaced gasping for air as she struggled to hold on to the ice and keep her head above water.

Mr Manner and his son, Theo, ran to the edge of the water. Theo took a few steps on the ice before quickly retreating to shore. He realised that he was in a precarious situation and decided to join the rest of his family who was trying in vain to work a channel open with the canoe.

"She can't last long in that icy water," Mrs Manner said. Tears were welling in her eyes.

The other people who were watching what was happening before them started to cry out in despair as they joined the Manner family in trying to break the layer of ice with the canoe. They knew they had to race against time.

Suddenly, little eight-year-old Theo, jumped up and shouted, "I have an idea!"

He ran into the cabin and grabbed the rope that they always used to pitch their tents. He tied the rope into a knot securely around one of his favourite plush toys but realised that it was not suitable for his use. He looked frantically for something that could float. He picked up a golf club which was placed by the fireplace but shook his head. Then there were the porcelain crockery and silver cutlery. Just as he was scratching his head, he spotted an orange buoy hanging on the wall. He fastened it to the rope he had in his hand and then rushed out again. From the side of the lake, Theo tossed the buoy to the girl who then grabbed it with her life. With the help of Mr Manner, they managed to reel the girl back to safety.

All the onlookers started cheering as Mrs Manner was ready with a large towel to wrap around the young girl who was still in shock and shivering profusely. She was swept by a wave of remorse and she hung her head low. The Manner family quickly ushered her into their cabin where it was warm so that she could recover from what could have been a tragedy.

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Your answers must be in complete sentences.

71. According to the writer, what were the two reasons given to suggest that the lake was unusable? (2m)

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72. Write 1,2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the passage. (1m)

\_\_\_\_\_ The young girl was trying very hard to stay afloat.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mrs Manner wrapped a towel around the little girl to keep her warm.

\_\_\_\_\_ Someone tried to warn the young girl of the danger.

73. Choose the word/words from lines 8 to 16 in the passage that have similar meaning to the words below. (3m)

shouted	
rushed	
vanished	

74. What does the word "It" in line 14 refer to? (1m)

75. Which sentence from lines 21 to 27 tells you that the family realised that they had to come up with a faster rescue plan? (2m)

76 Why did Theo eventually choose the buoy and not the golf club, the porcelain crockery and the silver cutlery?

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77. Based on the passage, state whether each statement in the table below is *True* or *False* then give one reason why you think so. (3m)

	True / False	
Theo was confident that they could work a channel with the canoe		
The little girl was drowned in the icy water		
The onlookers did not help to save the little girl.		

78. In the last paragraph, did the young girl regret her action? How can you tell? (2m)

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79. What does the "tragedy" in line 41 refer to? (2m)

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80. Do you think the Manner family would still gather at the lake in Helsinki the next winter? Support your answer with information from the passage. (2m)

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-----END of PAPER-----

**EXAM PAPER 2014****LEVEL : PRIMARY 5****SCHOOL : RAFFLES****SUBJECT : ENGLISH****TERM : SA1**

Q1	1	Q21	1	Q41	rallied	Q61	Without
Q2	4	Q22	4	Q42	up	Q62	way
Q3	3	Q23	3	Q43	groceries	Q63	enable
Q4	4	Q24	1	Q44	several	Q64	more
Q5	2	Q25	2	Q45	aspiration	Q65	drivers
Q6	1	Q26	4	Q46	was		
Q7	3	Q27	3	Q47	attempt		
Q8	3	Q28	4	Q48	has		
Q9	2	Q29	P	Q49	achievement		
Q10	4	Q30	N	Q50	better		
Q11	1	Q31	L	Q51	able		
Q12	1	Q32	H	Q52	and		
Q13	4	Q33	G	Q53	technology		
Q14	3	Q34	F	Q54	for		
Q15	3	Q35	K	Q55	avoid		
Q16	2	Q36	Q	Q56	day		
Q17	4	Q37	B	Q57	if		
Q18	3	Q38	D	Q58	run		
Q19	1	Q39	to	Q59	equipment		
Q20	1	Q40	unbelievable	Q60	note		

Q66 You will be late for your appointment unless you hurry.

Q67 Neither the tigers nor cubs are sleeping.

Q68 Mr Ho asked his niece if she had seen his painting the previous day.

Q69 Due to his carelessness, he lost his wallet.

Q70 He ate everything on his plate except the beans.

Q71 The lake was covered by a thin layer of ice which was too thick for boating and not solid enough to walk on.

Q72 2,3,1

Q73 bellowed, hurried, disappeared

Q74 The ice in the middle of the lake.

Q75 They knew they had to race against time.

Q76 The buoy is the only object that can float.

Q77 True He went back to help his family to create the channel.

False Mr Manner and the other people watching what was happening managed to reel the girl back to safety.

False The onlookers joined the Manner family in trying to break the layer of ice with the canoe.

Q78 Yes, the young girl regretted her action. She was swept by a wave of remorse and hung her head low.

Q79 It refers to the drowning of the <sup>little</sup> girl in the icy water.

Q80 Yes, they will go back to the lake as they have been doing so every winter.