



RED SWASTIKA SCHOOL
2014 SEMESTRAL EXAMINATION 1
ENGLISH LANGUAGE – PAPER 2
LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION
PRIMARY 6

Name : _____ ()

Class : Primary 6 / _____

Date : 7 May 2014

BOOKLET A

30 Questions

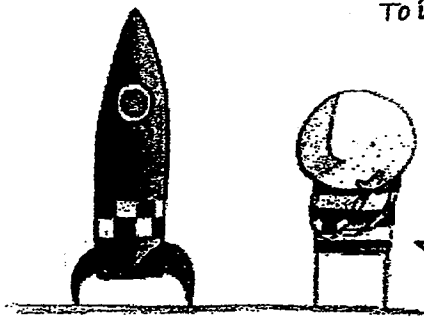
30 Marks

Duration of Paper: 1 h 50 min

Note:

- 1. Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.**
- 2. Read carefully the instructions given at the beginning of each part of the booklet.**
- 3. Do not waste time. If a question is difficult for you, go on to the next one.**
- 4. Check your answers thoroughly and make sure you attempt every question.**
- 5. In this booklet, you should have the following:**
 - a. Page 1 to Page 10 (including 1 blank page)**
 - b. Questions 1 to 30**

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



To instil passion for the theatre and drama in stargazers of all ages.

How to Catch a Star

A starry moonlit adventure
based on the beautiful picture book
by Oliver Jeffers

Date: 15 October 2014

Performance Time: 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Venue: Drama Theatre, School of The Arts

| ③ Seating Plan | Ticket prices | |
|----------------|---------------|------|
| Stage | CAT 1 | \$62 |
| CAT 1 | CAT 2 | \$52 |
| CAT 2 | | |
| CAT 3 | CAT 3 | \$42 |

*CAT stands for category

Check this out!

- Collect a free Star Glow Stick after the musical
- Buy a 'How To Catch A Star' picture book at a 20% discount

A 10% discount is available for groups of ten or more.

For school and group bookings, please contact
Gina Mala at 9888 7766 or
gina.mala@aba-productions.com.

Buy your tickets now through the following:

SISTIC Website: www.sistic.com.sg

SISTIC Hotline: 65 6348 5656

Log on to www.aba-productions.com
for more information.

Highlights

Before the Musical (from 1 p.m.)

- 'Make Your Own Constellation' Activity
- Meet-and-Greet your favourite characters
- Stardust Poetry:
Learn the essence of writing exquisite lines

After the Musical

- Celestial Puppetry:
Watch how puppets are brought to life
- Twinkle Twinkle Lucky Draw
- Have your copy of 'How To Catch A Star' signed by Oliver Jeffers



② Produced by:



Official Ticketing:

Official Sponsor:

sistic

faust

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 Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

1 What can one do before the start of the musical?

- (1) get the author's autograph
- (2) complete an activity on stars
- (3) collect a free Star Glow Stick
- (4) observe how puppets are brought to life

2 The musical is staged by _____.

- (1) Faust
- (2) Blunderbus
- (3) Oliver Jeffers
- (4) School of The Arts

3 Eddie wants front row seats to the musical. According to the seating plan, where should he be seated?

- (1) CAT 1
- (2) CAT 2
- (3) CAT 3
- (4) Stage

4 Scott would like to find out more details about the musical. He will have to _____.

- (1) contact Gina Mala
- (2) call the SISTIC hotline
- (3) visit the SISTIC website
- (4) log on to the ABA Productions website

5 The main aim of the musical is to _____.

- (1) master the art of catching a star
- (2) have a copy of a picture book signed by Oliver Jeffers
- (3) develop a love for stage performances in children and adults
- (4) create an opportunity for families and friends to spend time together

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 Optical Answer Sheet. (7 marks)

6 Thomas, the director of the company, is looking forward to _____ you.

- (1) see
- (2) saw
- (3) seeing
- (4) had seen

7 Clark rarely falls ill during the school term, _____ ?

- (1) is it
- (2) isn't it
- (3) does he
- (4) doesn't he

8 The survivors of the Titanic witnessed the ship _____ to its watery grave.

- (1) sink
- (2) sank
- (3) sinks
- (4) had sunk

9 Software for computers _____ on sale at the fair yesterday.

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

10 The dry spell is _____ this year as compared to the year before.

- (1) worst
- (2) worse
- (3) worsen
- (4) worsens

11 _____ the electrician been more careful, he would not have gotten himself electrocuted.

- (1) Had
- (2) Has
- (3) Have
- (4) Having

12 Barbara is fond _____ beautifully-written literature.

- (1) in
- (2) of
- (3) on
- (4) for

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 Optical Answer Sheet. (3 marks)

"Shots fired! Shots fired! I repeat, shots fired!" yelled Commissioner Gordon into the radio as he ducked for cover behind his police car.

"Suspect is on foot heading west on Fifth Avenue (13) radioed the Commissioner. He scanned his surroundings to check if the coast was clear, picking up his gear (14) a revolver and a pair of handcuffs.

"Look out behind you, Commissioner!" Lois (15) one of the new rookie officers, shrieked.

- 13 (1) [",] inverted commas and comma
(2) [" .] inverted commas and full stop
(3) [, "] comma and inverted commas
(4) [. "] full stop and inverted commas

- 14 (1) [-] dash
(2) [-] hyphen
(3) [;] semicolon
(4) [?] question mark

- 15 (1) [!] exclamation mark
(2) [;] semicolon
(3) [.] full stop
(4) [,] comma

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 Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

16 No matter how bad the situation got, Weilin's family _____ her through it all.

- (1) stood by
- (2) stood on
- (3) stood up
- (4) stood for

17 You need to know the _____ techniques of kickboxing before you can master it.

- (1) vital
- (2) prime
- (3) crucial
- (4) fundamental

18 Christmas Island Red Crabs have the _____ ability to march towards the ocean during mating season:

- (1) innate
- (2) instilled
- (3) inherited
- (4) ingrained

19 Harley checked herself into the _____ to seek help for her mental illness.

- (1) jail
- (2) prison
- (3) asylum
- (4) penitentiary

20 Bruce rarely prepares for his presentation at meetings. I am impressed at how he can _____.

- (1) ring a bell
- (2) play it by ear
- (3) face the music
- (4) change his tune

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 Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

It was the last night of October – Halloween. The doorbell rang and the sound echoed throughout Logan's house. All alone on the one night he feared the most, Logan (21)

decided to run with quick short steps to answer the door.

(22)

Upon reaching the door, a revolting smell greeted Logan's sense of smell. Palms (23) sweaty and breathing heavily, he tiptoed and looked carefully into the peephole. Nothing.

(24)

Not a soul in sight. He decided to put his fear aside. Logan gritted his teeth, unlocked the door and turned the knob. He was baffled by what he saw.

(25)

- 21 (1) vibrated
(2) pulsated
(3) reiterated
(4) reverberated

- 22 (1) waded
(2) trudged
(3) staggered
(4) scampered

- 23 (1) fetid
(2) filthy
(3) heinous
(4) hideous

- 24 (1) gazed
(2) stared
(3) peered
(4) glanced

- 25 (1) amazed
(2) amused
(3) bewildered
(4) flabbergasted

Blank Page

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

Experience is what you get when you did not get what you wanted.

That is an expression I learned when I took a sabbatical at Electronic Arts, the video-game maker. It just stuck with me, and I have ended up repeating it again and again to students.

It is a phrase worth considering at every brick wall we encounter, and at every disappointment we experience. It is also a reminder that failure is not just acceptable – it is often essential. 5

When I taught the 'Building Virtual Worlds' course, I encouraged students to attempt difficult things and not worry about failing. I wanted to reward that way of thinking. So at the end of each semester, I would present one team of students with a stuffed animal – a penguin. It was called 'The First Penguin Award' and went to the team that took the biggest gamble in trying new ideas or new technology, while failing to achieve their stated goals. In essence, it was an award for 'glorious failure', and it celebrated out-of-the-box thinking and using imagination in a daring way. 10

The other students came to understand that 'First Penguin' winners were losers who were definitely going somewhere. 15

The title of the award came from the notion that when penguins are about to jump into water that might contain predators, well, somebody has got to be the first penguin. I originally called it 'The Best Failure Award', but failure has so many negative connotations that students could not get past the word itself. 20

Over the years, I also made a point of telling my students that in the entertainment industry, there are countless failed products. It is not like building houses, where every house built can be lived in by someone. A video game can be created and never make it through research and development, or it comes out and no one wants to play it. Yes, video-game creators who have had successes are greatly valued. But those who have had failures are valued, too – sometimes even more so. 25

Start-up companies often prefer to hire a chief executive with a failed start-up in his or her background. The person who has failed often knows how to avoid future failures. The person who knows only success can be more oblivious to all the pitfalls.

Experience is what you get when you did not get what you wanted; experience is often the most valuable thing you have to offer. 30

Adapted from The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch

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 Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

26 What does 'it' in line 3 refer to?

- (1) the failure
- (2) the sabbatical
- (3) the experience
- (4) the expression

27 Who was the recipient of 'The First Penguin Award'?

- (1) the team who took the biggest gamble and failed
- (2) the team who took the smallest gamble and failed
- (3) the team who took the biggest gamble and was successful
- (4) the team who took the smallest gamble and was successful

28 In lines 15 - 16, the writer mentioned 'First Penguin' winners were losers who were definitely going somewhere'. What did he mean by that?

- (1) They were going to do great things.
- (2) They were going to receive awards.
- (3) They were going to join the industry.
- (4) They were going to join the penguins.

29 According to the passage, why do start-up companies prefer hiring a chief executive with a failed start-up in his or her background?

- (1) The person has learnt from his failure.
- (2) The person is oblivious to all the pitfalls.
- (3) The person knows how to steer clear of future failures.
- (4) The person knows how to steer the company to greater success.

30 Which one of the following best describes what the passage is about?

- (1) failure should be shunted
- (2) failure is always rewarded
- (3) failure is experienced by everyone
- (4) failure can offer valuable experiences



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ENGLISH LANGUAGE – PAPER 2
LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION
PRIMARY 6

Name : _____ ()

Class : Primary 6 / _____

Date : 7 May 2014

BOOKLET B

50 Questions

65 Marks

In this booklet, you should have the following:

- a. Page 11 to Page 17
- b. Questions 31 to 80

| BOOKLET | OBTAINED | POSSIBLE |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| BOOKLET A | | 30 |
| BOOKLET B | | 65 |
| TOTAL | | 95 |

Parent's Signature : _____

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

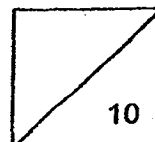
- | | | | | |
|---------|----------|--------|-----------|------------|
| (A) a | (D) from | (G) in | (K) the | (N) to |
| (B) are | (E) had | (H) of | (L) these | (P) when |
| (C) for | (F) have | (J) on | (M) this | (Q) unless |

Black Mambas are fast, nervous and lethally venomous. _____ threatened,
(31)
they are highly aggressive. They _____ been blamed for numerous human deaths
(32)
and African myths exaggerate their capabilities _____ legendary proportions. For
(33)
_____ reasons, the Black Mamba is widely considered _____ world's
(34) (35)
deadliest snake.

Black Mambas live in the savannas and rocky hills _____ Africa. They
(36)
_____ Africa's longest venomous snake, reaching up to 4.5 metres _____
(37) (38)
length. They are also among the fastest snakes _____ earth, slithering at speeds of
(39)
up to 20 kilometres per hour.

They get their name not _____ their skin colour but rather from the blue-black
(40)
colour of the inside of their mouth, which they display as soon as they sense danger.

Adapted from National Geographic Animals, The Black Mamba



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

"Tim, are you alright?" shouted Lex from across the hall.

(41)

(42)

The explosion had fling Tim six feet from where he was standing. Look

(43)

down at his extremities, he saw only bled that was flowing out from his open

(44)

wound. The mere sight of it nearly knocked him **unkonscious**. Tim knew that

(45)

every moment from then on was **krucial**. He tried very hard to fight the

(46)

(47)

excrewciating pain that was slowing creeping in by telling himself to stay

calm.

(48)

Lex knew that he have to act fast to save his friend. Moving swiftly yet

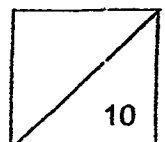
(49)

stealtheely, he made it into the room where his buddy was. As he stood at the

(50)

doorway, he was in **dissbeleaf** as to how a seemingly mundane day could

have turned out like this.



Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

We all know 'Kailan', also known as Chinese kale, for it is often the vegetable that provides the greens in a Chinese meal. But are you _____ with the other kale, which is also green and leafy?
(51)

I first discovered it _____ a minestrone soup while in Tuscany, Italy,
(52)
_____ they dropped handfuls of the chopped greens to soften in a pot.
(53)

Recently, I discovered kale again. This _____, it was served raw in a salad
(54)
that a girlfriend had brought _____ a potluck dinner. It was delicious – coated with a
(55)
caramelised onion dressing, with a lot of fresh fruit and grated cheese. So when I came
_____ kale in the supermarket on a recent visit to Perth, Australia, I decided to
(56)
_____ her salad, but in a stripped-down fashion.
(57)

I substituted dried fruit for _____ fresh ones and added honey instead of
(58)
caramelised onion to the dressing. It was a hit, _____ when few have eaten kale in
(59)
a salad.

But what is _____ not to like about a salad that is packed _____ fruit
(60) (61)
and nuts; tossed in a dressing that is sweet with honey, spicy with mustard, and sour with
lemon juice?

We need _____ of such delicious salads these days, in such scorching
(62)
_____ and dry weather. Indeed, I have resolved to eat a salad, if not every day,
then every _____ day, not only for its health benefits but _____ for its cool
(64) (65)
crunch. Salad is the way to go.

Adapted from Green Goodness, The Straits Times March 13, 2014

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 All the children except Ben enjoyed the school excursion.

Apart from _____

- 67 Norman will speak to you if you apologise to him.

_____ unless

- 68 No one wanted to befriend him. He was arrogant.

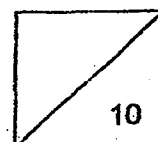
Due to _____

- 69 The thief disguised himself and was able to evade police detection.

_____ by

- 70 "Where's your favourite hang-out now?" Sue asked her brother.

Sue asked her brother _____



Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

In those days before jumbo-jet travel, the life history of albatrosses was still a fascinating enigma in the world of birds. Cape Horn sailors had regarded them with superstitious fondness as the souls of lost shipmates. Their mystique was immortalised by Samuel Taylor Coleridge in his epic poem, 'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner', about a sailor who killed one and was condemned to drift forever with 'water everywhere nor any drop to drink'. 5

Wandering albatrosses nested only on remote windy islands near the Antarctic. From dry land, they were glimpsed in only a few parts of the world, such as headlands in Australia and New Zealand. Mainly by studying washed-up corpses and specimens in museums, naturalists identified seven types of 'great' albatross, of which the royal and the wandering are the largest, and seventeen smaller species. They found that the oldest albatrosses live nearly as long as humans. The oldest known was more than sixty years. Albatrosses choose a partner for life and can often be seen dancing in their nesting grounds. There were however no clues to help unravel the secrets of the bird's mysterious oceanic voyaging. 10 15

A small patch of the Pacific Ocean just off Wollongong, Australia, south of Sydney, is one of the few places on the globe where albatrosses congregate. Every winter, the great birds fly in from all over the southern hemisphere to feast on countless large cuttlefish that spawn and die in that region.

Here, in the early 1970s, amateur naturalist Lindsay Smith, with his wife Janice and a few friends, decided to carry on the work of the Australian albatross researcher Doug Gibson by netting the birds from a metal boat and banding numbered tags on their legs. 20

After a few years, scientists began to spot the banded birds on their remote breeding grounds in the islands of the sub-Antarctic. But even as the evidence was coming in of how albatrosses travel around the earth, Smith and his team found themselves confronted by a grimmer mystery. 25

Year by year, they saw fewer albatrosses. Instead of easily catching thirty a day, by 1986 they were spending five times as many hours at sea and netting only twelve. Dire tidings were coming in from the birds' nesting areas. On the British island of South Georgia, near Cape Horn, naturalists reported a serious decline, with many nests abandoned. Somewhere out there, thousands of albatrosses are disappearing – and nobody knows why. 30

After much investigation, another amateur naturalist, Nigel Brothers, found out that every day in Hobart, Australia, each fishing boat set a hundred-kilometre-long line to which three thousand baited hooks were attached. "What else could be killing off so many birds? Without their food source, how can they survive?" Nigel thought. Other scientists had similar suspicions but could only speculate. To nail down the answer, somebody had to make formal observations and collect figures. 35

Adapted from 'Mystery of the Vanishing Albatross', Reader's Digest, April 2004

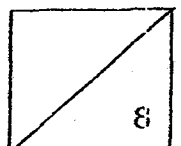
ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71 What does 'one' in line 5 refer to?

72 What did Cape Horn sailors liken albatrosses to?

73 How was the memory of the albatrosses kept alive?

74 With reference to paragraph two, which two words are used to describe the great albatrosses?



75 In the second paragraph, how did naturalists acquire more information about albatrosses?

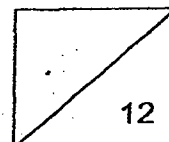
76 Which word from paragraph three has the same meaning as 'produce in a large number'?

77 Explain clearly how Lindsay Smith and Janice along with a few friends continued Doug Gibson's work.

78 What does 'grimmer mystery' (line 27) refer to?

79 Explain fully Nigel's suspicion on the killing off of so many albatrosses.

80 Quote the two-word phrase from the last paragraph which has a similar meaning to that of being certain.



EXAM PAPER 2014

LEVEL : PRIMARY 6
SCHOOL : RED SWASTIKA
SUBJECT : ENGLISH
TERM : SA1

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|---|-----|---|-----|-------|
| Q1 | 2 | Q21 | 4 | Q41 | flung | Q61 | with |
| Q2 | 2 | Q22 | 4 | Q42 | Looking | Q62 | more |
| Q3 | 1 | Q23 | 1 | Q43 | blood | Q63 | not |
| Q4 | 4 | Q24 | 3 | Q44 | unconscious | Q64 | other |
| Q5 | 3 | Q25 | 3 | Q45 | crucial | Q65 | also |
| Q6 | 3 | Q26 | 4 | Q46 | excruciating | | |
| Q7 | 3 | Q27 | 1 | Q47 | slowly | | |
| Q8 | 1 | Q28 | 1 | Q48 | had | | |
| Q9 | 3 | Q29 | 3 | Q49 | stealthily | | |
| Q10 | 2 | Q30 | 4 | Q50 | disbelief | | |
| Q11 | 1 | Q31 | P | Q51 | familiar | | |
| Q12 | 2 | Q32 | F | Q52 | in | | |
| Q13 | 3 | Q33 | N | Q53 | where | | |
| Q14 | 1 | Q34 | L | Q54 | time | | |
| Q15 | 4 | Q35 | K | Q55 | to | | |
| Q16 | 1 | Q36 | H | Q56 | across | | |
| Q17 | 4 | Q37 | B | Q57 | Reproduce/replicate/ remake/recreate | | |
| Q18 | 1 | Q38 | G | Q58 | some | | |
| Q19 | 3 | Q39 | J | Q59 | especially | | |
| Q20 | 2 | Q40 | D | Q60 | there | | |

Q66 Apart from Ben, all the children enjoyed the school excursion.

Q67 Norman will not speak to you unless you apologise to him.

Q68 Due to his arrogance, no one wanted to befriend him.

Q69 The three was able to evade police detention by disguising himself.

Q70 Sue asked her brother where his favourite hang-out was then.

Q71 It refers to an albatross.

Q72 Cape Horn sailors likened albatrosses to the souls of lost shipmates.

Q73 It was kept through a poem by Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

Q74 The two words are 'royal' and 'wondering'.

75. They studied washed - up corpses and specimens. in museums.

76. The word is 'spawn'.

77. They netted the birds from a metal boat and banded numbered tags on their legs.

78. It refers to the decline / decrease in the population of albatrosses.

79. Nigel suspected that overfishing was killing off the albatrosses.

80. The two - word phrase is 'nail down'.