



PRIMARY 6 SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2 2014

Name: _____ () Date: 21 July 2014

Class: Primary 6 (

Time: 10.15 a.m. – 12.05 p.m.

Duration: 1 hour 50 minutes

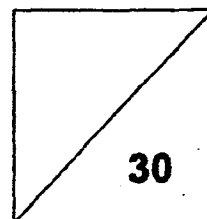
Parent's signature: _____

Total 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.

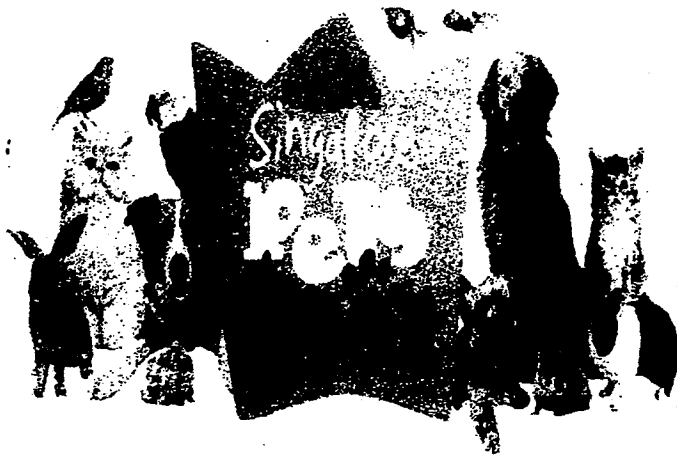
THE CARERS ASSOCIATION

presents:

Pets & Friends
SERIES

Free Admission for all visitors and audience – pets and owners!

This year's theme: **Unleashing new friendships!**



Your pet stands to win over \$4 000 worth of fantastic prizes.

Main sponsor:
Pets Paws:



Co-sponsor:
Sunshine Community Club



Date: 18 May 2014
Time: 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Venues: Sunshine Estate, the Atrium & Carpark G
Competition Fees: \$10

Volunteers needed to make this event a success!

If you are interested, contact Ms Lorna Tan at 62233478.

Refreshments will be provided.

For enquiries:
Please call Sunshine Community Club at 63458258.

To enter the competition:

- Register online at www.PetsAndFriends.sg
- Upload a short video clip showcasing your pet's talent
- Closing date: 13 May 2014
- All types of pets are welcome!

Hurry! Some activities include:

- Cutest Pet and Pet Owner Lookalike Contest
- Hamster Race
- Cat & Rabbit Displays
- Colouring Contest

❖ **Note:** All decisions of the judges will be final and binding. No correspondence will be entertained.

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. _____ is in charge of this event.

- (1) Sunshine Estate
- (2) Singapore Pets Idol
- (3) Pets & Friends Series
- (4) The Carers Association

2. The 'Singapore Pets Idol' aims to _____

- (1) excite potential pet owners to own pets
- (2) give free admission to the event for all pets' owners
- (3) provide meaningful activities for pets and their owners
- (4) create opportunities for pets and their owners to make new friends

3. The phrase '**stands to win**' refers to _____.

- (1) ☒ possessing the ability to win
- (2) the likelihood of winning a prize
- (3) ☒ the possibility of winning \$4 000
- (4) ☒ being in a position to emerge as the 'Idol'

4. According to the poster, _____.

- (1) ☒ the event is held only at the atrium
- (2) ☒ people can write to the organiser if they need any clarification
- (3) this is not the first time the organiser has planned such an event
- (4) ☒ only the types of pets advertised can take part in the competition

5. Which one of the following statements is **false**?

- (1) There are only four activities planned.
- (2) ☒ Pets Paws is the key sponsor for this event.
- (3) ☒ Participants must submit a short video clip of the pet's ability.
- (4) ☒ Helpers of this event will be provided with snacks and drinks.

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 Optical Answer Sheet. (7 marks)

6. Mother realised that neither the lamps nor the dining table was where _____ should be.

- (1) it
- (2) its
- (3) they
- (4) their

7. There was nothing unusual about the children, _____ there?

- (1) was
- (2) were
- (3) wasn't
- (4) weren't

8. What _____ ahead was the biggest challenge that the soccer team would encounter in the last ten years.

- (1) lie
- (2) lay
- (3) lain
- (4) laid

9. Mr Raj _____ his pupil to the nearest hospital because a hornet _____ him.

- (1) took, stung
- (2) took, had stung
- (3) had taken, stung
- (4) had taken, had stung

10. Madam Ng's health deteriorated to the point that she _____ no longer walk without being assisted.

- (1) could
- (2) might
- (3) would
- (4) should

11. Cindy has three brothers; two of _____ have been working in the army since they graduated.

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

12. The teacher reminded her pupils that the next chit-chat session was scheduled _____ Tuesday.

- (1) to
- (2) by
- (3) on
- (4) for

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 Optical Answer Sheet.
(3 marks)

What does a tiny fruit fly have in common with the world's most advanced fighter jets? More than what you might think **(13)** Dr Floria and a team of researchers found that the insect employs astonishingly quick mid-air turns to evade predators **(14)** like a fighter jet executes to elude an enemy.

Their study documents aerial agility in fruit flies such as the capacity to begin to change course in less than one-hundredth of a second. Amazingly, the fly flaps its wings about two hundred times a second **(15)** What's more, in almost a single wing beat, it can orientate its body to manoeuvre away from the threat," Dr Floria revealed.

Adapted from: The Straits Times

13. (1) [-] dash
(2) [?] question mark
(3) [!] exclamation mark
(4) [,] comma and inverted commas
14. (1) [:] colon
(2) [-] hyphen
(3) [,] comma
(4) [!] exclamation mark
15. (1) [.] full stop
(2) [!] exclamation mark
(3) [,] comma and inverted commas
(4) [!] exclamation mark and inverted commas

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 Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

16. Mrs Lim is an example of a teacher with _____ influence on her pupils as she encourages them to pursue their dreams.

- (1) undying
- (2) indelible
- (3) permanent
- (4) meaningful

17. During our stay in Beijing, our host families were very hospitable and without exception, spoke _____ English.

- (1) flawless
- (2) legitimate
- (3) exemplary
- (4) impeccable

18. Mary needs to _____ the completion of the report as her teacher requires the details of the incident soon.

- (1) activate
- (2) quicken
- (3) expedite
- (4) accelerate

19. More preparatory classes will be conducted to meet the _____ of the programme.

- (1) rigour
- (2) rigidity
- (3) success
- (4) stringency

20. The impatient tourist felt so _____ by the complicated directions given by the hotel staff that he yelled at him.

- (1) incensed
- (2) nonplussed
- (3) disillusioned
- (4) dumbfounded

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 Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson were going camping. They pitched their tent under the starry sky and went to sleep. Sometime in the dead of the night. (21)

Holmes woke Watson up and said, "Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see."

"I see millions and millions of stars," Watson replied, mesmerised by the wonders of nature. (22)

"And what do you deduce from that?" Holmes asked again, frowning. (23)

"Well, if there are millions of stars, and even if a few of those have planets, it's quite likely that there are some planets like Earth out there. If there are really a few planets like Earth out there, there might also be life," Watson, explained, indubitably pleased with his response. (24)

To that, Holmes said, his voice charged with exasperation, "Watson, you fool, it means that somebody stole our tent!" (25)

Adapted from: Reader's Digest

21. (1) middle of the night
(2) coldness of the night
(3) darkness of the night
(4) beginning of the night

22. (1) stunned
(2) captivated
(3) astounded
(4) impressed

23. (1) predict
(2) analyse
(3) perceive
(4) conclude

24. (1) distinctly
(2) genuinely
(3) apparently
(4) undoubtedly

25. (1) confusion
(2) annoyance
(3) resentment
(4) bewilderment

Section F: Comprehension

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

(5 marks)

Tay Thi is one of the mightiest people I have ever met. She has a **towering** presence, slightly more than 1.5 m tall and weighs 42 kg. Never have I seen such a petite individual who embodies such grit and selflessness.

Training to become an English teacher, Tay Thi fainted while at college in Vietnam because she had starved herself in order to be able to afford tuition. 5 However, she had the strength to persist and soon would become the first person in her village to graduate. She hopes to teach in her own village school where she wants to advocate education.

The eighth of nine children from an impoverished farming family in the Mekong Delta, Tay Thi shone in school but her mother demanded 10 unsuccessfully that she drop out after primary school and earn money as a maid in distant Ho Chi Minh City. In her eighth grade, her mother burnt her books to try to force her to drop out but she borrowed books and continued to excel. Tay Thi persevered even when her parents burnt her books again in 15 twelfth grade and as she graduated from high school, she prepared secretly for the college entrance examination. Her mother found out about this when Tay Thi left to take the examinations and lashed out, saying, "I hope you fail!" While other students arrived at the exam location escorted by cheering, doting parents, Tay Thi arrived alone, sobbing. Still, she aced the examinations.

With no parental support, college seemed unaffordable but Tay Thi 20 saved every cent she could and worked every holiday. At college, she confined herself to a food budget of S\$4.40 a week. Malnourished, she sometimes collapsed in the middle of class in a dead faint. Professors, teachers and students discovered that she was starved and penniless. This was a **turning point**. Her teachers approached Room to Read, an aid group, to give 25 her a scholarship. This gave her more pocket money and Tay Thi began to have proper meals.

Tay Thi is just as passionate about education for others. First, she encouraged her older brother to return to school, after years of working as a labourer. When he resisted, she registered him as a student, selecting his 30 courses and browbeating him until he gave in. Then, she coaxed her younger brother to follow her to college, where he is now a freshman. Even her parents have come round, partly because they see that Tay Thi will soon be an English teacher and the highest-paid member of the extended family.

"I'd like to change people's thinking," she said. "It's a way of helping 35 children in my community."

It is often believed that if you send a boy to school, you educate a man; if you send a girl to school, you educate a village. Although that is not always true, empowering girls remains one of the best ways to empower a 40 community.

Adapted from: The Straits Times

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. The writer feels that Tay Thi is **'towering'** (line 2) because she _____.

- (1) is more than 1.5 m tall
- (2) embodies better values than others
- (3) surpasses others due to her indomitable spirit
- (4) is one of the mightiest people she has ever met

27. Tay Thi's books were burnt **mainly** because her parents _____.

- (1) did not want her to excel in school
- (2) wanted to punish her for studying secretly
- (3) felt that she should go out and earn a living
- (4) had intentions for her to help out in the family farm

28. The **'turning point'** (line 25) refers to _____.

- (1) Tay Thi receiving a scholarship
- (2) Tay Thi fainting less frequently in the public
- (3) the realisation that Tay Thi was starved and penniless
- (4) the professors, teachers and students approaching Room to Read for a scholarship

29. Which of the following statements is **not** true?

- (1) Tay Thi was always resilient but felt disheartened at times.
- (2) Tay Thi fended for herself throughout her educational pursuit.
- (3) Advocating education through teaching is Tay Thi's aspiration.
- (4) It was a challenge to get Tay Thi's brothers to pursue their education.

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

- (1) Knowing one's rights
- (2) Unreasonable parents
- (3) Fighting against all odds
- (4) Empowering girls to transform the community



PRIMARY 6 SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2 2014

Name: _____

Date: 21 July 2014

Class: Primary 6

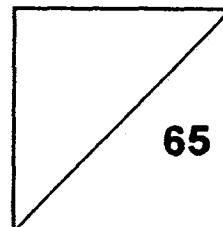
Time: 10.15 a.m. – 12.05 p.m.

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) from	(G) it	(K) the	(N) was
(B) are	(E) in	(H) of	(L) through	(P) were
(C) at	(F) is	(J) on	(M) to	(Q) when

A survey has been conducted. At least one (31) _____ Singapore youths faces the risk of losing his or her hearing due to loud music. This occurs when they listen to it (32) _____ their portable players, such as MP3 devices. Listening (33) _____ or near maximum volume, typically above 100 decibels, (34) _____ risk of hearing loss is almost certain. While rigorous regulations have been put in place to protect industrial workers (35) _____ excessive noise, little attention has been paid (36) _____ leisure noise-induced damage.

Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) specialists observe that youths (37) _____ generally unaware of the risks and more reluctant to seek medical help. Noise-induced hearing loss (38) _____ usually subtle, gradual and irreversible.

A polytechnic student said (39) _____ commuting, he would blast music for about two hours a day wearing earphones. He did (40) _____ in order not to miss anything especially orchestra music. He admitted his hearing might be damaged because when he did not concentrate, he sometimes missed what others said.

Adapted from The Straits Times

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)

Last year, Madam Lim's eyesight deteriorated. She could only
(41) (42)
make on shadows and light. it was tough to run her newspaper She

said, "When customers pay me, I've to guess the denominations."

(43)
Her grandson helped her **maend** the stall every day. Acting as
(44) (45)
eyes on his grandmother, he assisted in handing out change. **Supryzingly**.

(46)
he had never uttered a word of complain about his life. Instead, he was

(47)
always bubbly and napped on a mattress **aunteell** it was time to go home

(48)
Madam Lim's story tugged in Singaporeans heartstrings. People

(49)
sang praises of her grandson, noting how **feellail** he was to his *Ah Ma*. Dr Leo,

an ophthalmologist, got in touch with Madam Lim and performed an operation
(50)
on her, removes her cataracts. Filled with sympathy, he waived his fees.

Section I: Comprehension Cloze

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Did you think it was autumn in February? You are not quite (51) _____. Singapore's persistently dry weather had (52) _____ to more dry, fallen leaves filling streets and pavements. The nearly month-long dry spell had gone down in (53) _____ as the country's worst since five years ago. (54) _____ any rain fell for twenty-seven days consecutively. The Singapore's meteorological station defines 'a dry spell' (55) _____ a period of more than fourteen days with less than 1 mm of rain. In fact, February was the driest (56) _____ in Singapore since 1869. The dry spell had (57) _____ much of Singapore's greenery into patches of brown. Even the resilient bougainvillea plants along overhead bridges had (58) _____ and died. The brief showers on 8 and 9 February ended the dearth and brought respite (59) _____ the prolonged dry spell. It has proven to be a boon for the trees and (60) _____ as many have burst out into blossom. "This dry spell is definitely (61) _____ of the ordinary," said Mr Chow, a weather researcher from National Environment Agency.

National Water Agency has been (62) _____ twenty million to thirty million gallons of Newater a day into reservoirs to maintain the correct water (63) _____. The NEA predicted, "The dry weather is (64) _____ to stretch into the first half of March." This could (65) _____ another record. Rain returns towards end of March when the inter-monsoon kicks in.

Adapted from: TODAY

Section J: Synthesis and 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. Ben visited Taiwan. Andy, his best friend, was born there.

_____ where

67. The awards will only be presented after the national anthem is sung.

It is only _____

68. Gwen was precise in her pronunciation during the recent oral examination. That is the key reason for her perfect score.

Gwen's _____

69. This farm supplies a large number of poultry to the market.

_____ by this farm.

70. "We won't watch television till we've finished these worksheets," Sharon told her brother.

Sharon told her brother _____

Section K: Comprehension Open-ended

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

I have been scuba diving for fifteen years. I love the calmness of being submerged, the hypnotic sound of my breath and the quiet clicks of fish eating coral.

Last October, I was on a diving holiday in the Philippines with a friend. After breakfast, we boarded a boat with seven other advanced divers. This was my fortieth dive so I knew the drill. I put on the gear and dived off the boat, slowly sinking to about two hundred metres. I saw luminous corals, languorous turtles and hundreds of tropical fish silhouetted in the deep ocean.

After nearly forty minutes, the sound of my breathing was drowned out by a low rumble. This was followed by deep powerful vibrations, as if a big boat with a propeller was passing overhead. The instructor's eyes were wide with confusion. He did not know what was going on although he had done thousands of dives. We swam next to each other, staying close to the side of the reef. The situation felt sinister and dangerous.

Then, we were enveloped by clouds of white sand that mushroomed up around us. "Could it be an underwater bomb?" I thought. The vibration became so intense that I could feel it in my bones and the sound turned into a deafening roar. I could see waterfalls of sand pouring over the seabed. Cracks then began forming and the sand was sucked down. That was when I realised it was an underwater earthquake.

The instructor and I held hands and looked into each other's eyes. I felt comforted by his presence. I was paralysed but clear-headed. My heart was beating strong and fast. I did not panic but my body seemed to be on high alert. I remember thinking, "I've no power over this. We're going to stay very still and let it do whatever it's going to do."

The sound and vibration lasted only two or three minutes, though it felt much longer. When they stopped, I heard the swoosh of the sand falling over the seabed. Uneasily, I followed the instructor through the plumes of sand, searching for the others. It took immense will-power to resist the urge to swim to the surface as fast as I could but after five minutes, we saw them. It was a huge relief to see my friends and we shared incredulous looks before finally surfacing, pulling out our breathing apparatus and shouting. "What was that?"

Back on the boat, we rushed to check the news and discovered that we had witnessed a huge earthquake, measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale. It released more energy than thirty Hiroshima bombs. "That was close!" I let out a sigh. Not only have I survived but also experienced nature at its most stunning and ferocious state.

On the news, we were horrified to see that more than two hundred people had died with almost one thousand injured. Nearly all those who perished were on the island of Bohol, about thirty minutes away. I was due to

take a boat to the hospital there as I had a sore throat but at the last minute. I ~~decided~~ to dive and postpone the appointment. I could not imagine the outcome if I had kept my arrangement

I now believe the ocean is the safest place I can be during an earthquake. I can move with the tremors and yet am far from falling buildings or debris that could kill me. **The ocean saved my life** 45

Adapted from: The Australian Journal

Blank Page

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES

71. From paragraph 1, give two reasons why the writer was fond of scuba diving.

72. With reference to paragraphs 1 and 2, which two pieces of evidence **best** support the fact that the writer was an avid scuba diver?

73. Which sentence suggests that only the outlines of the creatures could be seen?

74. Explain fully what caused the instructor to feel confused.

75. When did the writer become aware that the sinister and dangerous situation was not caused by an underwater bomb?

76. What does 'it' in line 25 refer to?

77. Describe the two challenges which the writer faced when she and her instructor searched for the rest of the divers.

78. How was the writer feeling when she said "**That was close**"(line 35)? Give a reason for your answer.

79. Explain fully how the writer's decision not to go to Bohol saved her.

80. What can you conclude about the writer's feeling towards the ocean when she said '**The ocean saved my life**'? Give a reason for your answer.

EXAM PAPER 2014**LEVEL : PRIMARY 6****SCHOOL : TAO NAN****SUBJECT : ENGLISH****TERM : SA2**

Q1	4	Q21	1	Q41	out	Q61	out
Q2	4	Q22	2	Q42	kiosk	Q62	pumping
Q3	2	Q23	4	Q43	man	Q63	level
Q4	3	Q24	4	Q44	for	Q64	going
Q5	1	Q25	2	Q45	Surprisingly	Q65	set
Q6	1	Q26	3	Q46	complaint		
Q7	1	Q27	3	Q47	until		
Q8	2	Q28	3	Q48	at		
Q9	2	Q29	2	Q49	filial		
Q10	1	Q30	4	Q50	removing		
Q11	3	Q31	E	Q51	wrong		
Q12	4	Q32	J	Q52	led		
Q13	3	Q33	C	Q53	history		
Q14	3	Q34	K	Q54	Hardly		
Q15	4	Q35	D	Q55	as		
Q16	2	Q36	M	Q56	month		
Q17	1	Q37	B	Q57	turned		
Q18	3	Q38	F	Q58	withered		
Q19	1	Q39	Q	Q59	to		
Q20	1	Q40	G	Q60	flowers		

Q66 Ben visited Taiwan where Andy, his best friend, was born.

Q67 It is only after the national anthem is sung that the award will be presented.

Q68 Gwen's precise pronunciation during the recent oral examination is the key reason for her perfect score

Q69 A large number of poultry are supplied to the market.

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Q71 The writer loved the calmness of being submerged in water and the hypnotic sound of her breath.

Q72 The writer had been scuba diving for fifteen years and did her fortieth dive last October.

Q73 I saw luminous corals, languorous turtles and hundreds of tropical fish silhouetted in the deep ocean.

Q74 The instructor did not know what the rumble and the deep powerful vibration was.

Q75 When cracks began forming and the sand was sucked down.

Q76 "it" refers to the underwater earthquake.

Q77 They had to go through plumes of sand and it took immense will-power to resist the urge to swim as fast as possible to the surface of the water.

Q78 She was relieved as she had survived.

Q79 Nearly all those who died as a result of the earthquake were on the sand of Bohol. The writer would be died if she had gone to the island.

Q80 The writer was grateful. She felt that during an earthquake, the ocean will be the safest place.