



RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
2009

Name: _____ () Class: P6 _____

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------|----|
| Your Score Out of 95 marks | | |
| | Class | Le |
| Highest score | | |
| Average score | | |
| Parent's Signature | | |

25 August 2009

English Language

ATT : 1h 50 min

BOOKLET A

Instructions to Pupils

1. Write your Name, Class and Index No. in the spaces 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 in the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.

Section A : Graphic Stimulus (5 marks)

Study the advertisement below carefully and then answer questions 1 to 5.

An Evening with Ashley Gillian
An Unprecedented Fusion of Vision and Sound ...
(Her Third Performance Here!)

**Back By Popular
Demand!
Two Nights Only!**



Presented by: **Happy Productions (Sponsor)**

- ✓ Australian Indie Jazz/Fusion Artist
- ✓ Releasing her latest album "Joy" in Singapore, a city she has called home for the past four years
- ✓ She will be presenting 12 original tracks containing a touch of pop, rock, jazz, country and even a little bit of Celtic music
- ✓ Complementing Ashley's beautiful music, the visuals, which are a collaboration with National Geographic, invite us on a magical tour of exotic animals like polar bears, penguins and seals, and dramatic landscapes of ice, desert and Metropolis

Date : 15 and 16 August 2009

Time : 8.00 pm

Venue : Esplanade Theatre

Price : \$120 (Limited Seats)

\$60 (Free Seating)

Enquiries : 6734 8888

**Her "Joy" album will be on sale during
the 2 performance nights !**

**Book your tickets NOW
to avoid disappointment !**

Early Bird Specials

(Get your tickets before 1 July 2009)

- AUB credit card members are entitled to 15% off usual ticket prices.
- Two free tickets for a group booking of 20 seats or more
(Valid for Free Seating ONLY)

**LET THE PERFORMANCE CARRY YOU AWAY ON A JOURNEY THAT WILL RESONATE DEEPLY
WITHIN YOUR SENSES AND TAKE YOU TO PLACES THAT YOU HAVE DREAMED OF AND BEYOND ...
IT WILL CAPTURE THE HEART AND IMAGINATION OF THE WHOLE FAMILY.**

ADMISSION RULES

No admission for infants in arms and children aged below 6 years old. Children 6 years old and above must purchase tickets for admission.

Co-Sponsors : B&W Rootbeer Pte Ltd and MGC Records
Tickets are available at SISTIC Outlets and Esplanade Ticketing Booth



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.

1. The main sponsor of the show is _____
 - (1) Happy Productions
 - (2) Esplanade Theatre
 - (3) B&W Rootbeer Pte Ltd
 - (4) MGC Records Company

2. The phrase "back by popular demand" in the advertisement tells us that Ashley _____
 - (1) has released many albums
 - (2) can perform different genres of music
 - (3) is well-received by her fans in Singapore
 - (4) is invited by Happy Productions as she is popular in many countries

3. Audience who are most likely to watch this performance are the _____
 - (1) adults and children below six
 - (2) credit card members of AUB only
 - (3) fans of Ashley Gillian and her music
 - (4) people who subscribe to National Geographic magazines

4. According to the advertisement, which one of the following statements is true?
 - (1) Ashley Gillian was born in Singapore.
 - (2) Ashley had performed in Singapore twice prior to the coming performance.
 - (3) The performance presents dramatic landscapes of volcanoes and mountains.
 - (4) Early Bird Specials include 2 free tickets worth \$240 for a group booking of 24 tickets.

5. You can get your tickets by _____
 - (1) visiting one of the SISTIC outlets
 - (2) purchasing Ashley Gillman's album
 - (3) calling the enquiries hotline at 6734 8888
 - (4) applying for the AUB credit card before 1 July 2009

Section B : Grammar Discrete (7 marks)

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.

6. Neither Kelly nor her twin sister _____ Mandarin. They can only converse in English.
- (1) speak
 - (2) speaks
 - (3) speaking
 - (4) have spoken
7. It is important to forge alliance _____ other countries to share intelligence in order to combat terrorism effectively.
- (1) in
 - (2) on
 - (3) at
 - (4) with
8. _____ her reluctance, Lina agreed to help out at the school concert.
- (1) Since
 - (2) Unless
 - (3) Despite
 - (4) Although
9. Mr Yeo, _____ house was destroyed in the fire, managed to claim a huge sum of compensation from the insurance company.
- (1) who
 - (2) which
 - (3) whom
 - (4) whose

10. No sooner had I turned my back on Spot _____ he started chewing the newspapers again.

(1) then

(2) than

(3) while

(4) when

11. Angry words passed _____ Nadia and her mother as Nadia denied breaking the vase.

(1) on

(2) over

(3) among

(4) between

12. Jason threw his pen down in anger when he saw the children _____ for the fifth time that day.

(1) fight

(2) fought

(3) had fought

(4) were fighting

Section C : Punctuation (3 marks)

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.

"I wonder if I should flavour this cake with lemon or vanilla. It's the most perplexing thing I ever heard of in my life," Miss Cynthia mumbled incoherently as she put down the bottles with a vexed frown (13) It's too bad," said Mrs. Jean sympathetically. "I don't wonder you are mixed up (14) So unexpected too, Cynthia! When did Tom come (15)

"Tuesday night," replied Miss Cynthia.

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

Section D: Vocabulary (5 marks)

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.

16. I _____ my uniform when I sat on the kerb while waiting for my school bus. The stain cannot be removed now.
- (1) tore
 (2) soiled
 (3) tainted
 (4) creased

17. Most of the benches here have been so badly _____ that they have become an eyesore.
- (1) mounted
 - (2) tampered
 - (3) destructed
 - (4) vandalised
18. The police tried to _____ the aggressive and enraged crowd without any success.
- (1) elude
 - (2) submit
 - (3) placate
 - (4) oppress
19. We went over the room with a fine-toothed _____ but were unable to find the missing ring.
- (1) saw
 - (2) comb
 - (3) blade
 - (4) brush
20. Alicia is an _____ girl who is always getting into trouble for doing things rashly.
- (1) obliging
 - (2) obstinate
 - (3) impetuous
 - (4) impractical

Section E: Vocabulary Cloze (5 marks)

For each question from 21 to 25, choose the word closest in meaning to the underlined words. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

A major loan-shark syndicate with 5 000 debtors in its books was busted in an islandwide raid yesterday.

Nineteen people were arrested, among them a woman, making this the largest catch in an operation this year. Among those nabbed in the eight-hour-long operation were the syndicate's 31-year-old leader and his four accomplices. The rest were the runners, who meet debtors to hand over the loans, to give them the account numbers into which money is to be transferred or to harass them into coughing up the loans.

More than \$35,000 was seized, along with computers, cellphones, data storage devices and ATM cards.

Investigations are ongoing, but police believe the syndicate to be behind at least 500 harassment cases related to loan-sharking.

21. (1) abolished
(2) dismissed
(3) suppressed
(4) apprehended

22. (1) loot
(2) haul
(3) case
(4) booty

23. (1) con
(2) urge
(3) hurry
(4) pester

24. (1) stolen
(2) filched
(3) depleted
(4) confiscated

25. (1) completed
(2) concluded
(3) preliminary
(4) progressing

Section F: Comprehension MCQ (5 marks)

Read the passage and answer questions 26 to 30.

| | |
|--|----|
| <p>Sean was carried away with his new book entitled "Snakes". He had borrowed a similar book from the library three weeks ago and in wanting to have one for himself, had ransacked many bookstores before finally making his precious purchase.</p> | |
| <p>A very restless child, it was surprising that Sean was so engrossed in his reading. He had even ignored a strange noise. It was only after some time, heavy-eyed, that he looked up and noticed a rod-like object on the floor. Almost instantaneously, the rod transformed and showed its fearsome face – a face belonging to a spectacled cobra. Sean's reaction was to recall two facts; the cobra was venomous and it takes about 20 000 lives a year in India, a third world nation.</p> | 5 |
| <p>Looking at his bare feet, he remembered why.</p> | 10 |
| <p>At this stage, Sean was stiff with fright. He could not utter a sound. His mind flashed pictures of dead victims from snake bites. Looking at the cobra, he saw a similar plight but he knew that it was in a defence position.</p> | |
| <p>Sean's mother felt something was amiss. It was highly unusual that her hyperactive son could be so silent for such a long period of time. She entered his room and followed his gaze. Her heart skipped a beat. She was choked for words and all she could let out was a gasp of pure terror.</p> | 15 |

For each of the questions from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make a choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

26. Sean had obtained the book "Snakes" _____.
- (1) from the library
 - (2) from his mother
 - (3) by acquiring it from a bookstore
 - (4) by ransacking many bookstores
27. Sean looked up while reading because he _____.
- (1) was sleepy
 - (2) was restless
 - (3) heard a strange noise
 - (4) saw something on the floor

28. At first, Sean thought the object was a _____.
- (1) rod
 - (2) cobra
 - (3) fearsome face
 - (4) photograph of a snake
29. Many Indians died from cobra bites because they _____.
- (1) did not put on footwear
 - (2) could not outrun the cobras
 - (3) did not know how to defend themselves
 - (4) used their bare hands to catch the cobras
30. Sean's mother was unable to say a word because she _____.
- (1) was choking
 - (2) was shocked
 - (3) had a heart attack
 - (4) had difficulty breathing

BOOKLET B

Name : _____ ()

P6 ()

Section G : Structural Cloze (10 marks)

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.

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

| | | | | |
|---------|-------------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| (A) and | (D) as | (G) however | (K) on | (N) so |
| (B) any | (E) despite | (H) is | (L) of | (P) some |
| (C) are | (F) during | (J) many | (M) or | (Q) which |

An allergy is a disorder in which the body over-reacts to harmless substances that in normal circumstances should not produce any reaction at all. An allergy can occur in almost (31) _____ part of your body and can be caused by just about anything. (32) _____, allergies become evident on parts of the body directly exposed to the outside world.

Certain allergies occur only at certain times of the year, while some (33) _____ there all the time. Those (34) _____ occur all the year round are probably caused by something you come into contact with every day (35) _____ your life. It could be some seemingly harmless object such as your deodorant (36) _____ the pillow you lie on each night.

Allergies can occur at any time (37) _____ your life but it usually happens before your fortieth birthday. Sometimes the symptoms are (38) _____ slight you do not even know you have an allergy and it may take years for an allergy to become noticeable. It all depends (39) _____ the amount of the substance to which you are exposed and for how long. Sometimes an allergy can disappear as suddenly (40) _____ it arrived, without any treatment. Sometimes it comes and goes for no apparent reason and with no regularity.

Name : _____ ()

P6 ()

Section H: Editing for Spelling and Grammar (10 marks)

Correct each word in bold for spelling and each underlined word for grammar.
Write the correct word in the relevant box.

It used to be thought that people could not swallow well in space, so the food

programmes for astronauts consisted of bite-sized pieces of food pushed out of tubes.

(41)

However, it is now know that you can eat in space in the same way as on Earth.

(42)

The physical **connstrains** lie in the body of the astronaut. Limited storage and cooking

(43)

fersileetees with no space or power to spare for complex food preparation, mean that

(44)

the challenge for space nutritionists have gone beyond providing astronauts with food

(45)

that is **perlataber** and good for them. The solution has emerged in the form of

(46)

dehidreyted foods.

With space flights often lasting more than a week, astronauts cannot live on

(47)

granules alone. They also take pre-cooked meals seal in bags which they warm up in a

(48)

small oven. These are tasty than granules but according to Dr Helen Lane, a research

nutritionist, it is difficult to get astronauts to eat as much as they need. It is because they

(49)

are so busy there is no **steemulasion** to eat. As a result, tickling their taste buds is an

(50)

uphill struggle, especially since one of the effects of zero gravity was to reduce the

sense of smell. The choice of food can be limited as weightlessness is an important

consideration in space food because of the danger that the food might fragment and

float off in different directions.

Name: _____ ()

P6 ()

Section I: Comprehension Cloze Passage (15 marks)

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

As the creator of the beloved movie, *Tramp*, Charlie Chaplin became one of the world's most famous film icons. In an impressive seventy-year career _____ a plethora of movies being nominated and winning Oscars, his career is unmatched _____ a writer, actor, director, producer and composer.

(51)

(52)

Born to two entertainers in England, Charlie _____ acting just about the same time he began walking. After his father had died _____ he was only twelve years old and his mother was admitted in _____ asylum, he and his brother knew that their only means of _____ would be the stage.

(53)

(54)

(55)

(56)

In 1912, Charlie and his troupe went to the United States to _____ some shows.

(57)

Charlie and his brother decided to stay as they foresaw the wonderful potential of _____. No longer would they have to act each day on stage, but could be viewed _____ the world on

(58)

(59)

film. His genius was seen from the start and _____ a short span of two years, he had signed profitable deals with major studios. After only eighteen months, he released twelve films – an

(60)

unprecedented feat. *City Lights*, his most famous film, was regarded by many as the most innovative film that was ever made. Charlie resisted the _____ into sound from the silent- era, but he did add musical scores and some sound to his movies.

(61)

_____ though Charlie's films went on to win Academy Awards and gain worldwide

(62)

_____, he decided to move back to England to get _____ from the controversy he was having with the media involving his love affairs. The United States would not

(63)

(64)

_____ his visa except for the time he would be receiving awards. Chaplin eventually moved to Switzerland and continued contributing to the film industry worldwide.

(65)

Name: _____ ()

P6 ()

Section J: Transformation and Synthesis (10 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 the meaning of the given sentence(s).

66. "I will visit my grandmother at the hospital either tonight or tomorrow morning," June said.

June said that _____

67. Stop smoking and live a healthy lifestyle. Then your health will improve.

Unless _____

68. All the girls were present at the school concert performance last night.

None _____

69. Mr Lim is a good chef in the restaurant. Miss Tan is better than Mr Lim.

Comparatively, _____

70. Always wash your hands properly with soap before eating.

Never _____

Section K: Comprehension Open-Ended (20 marks)**Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.**

I was doing a big clean-up in the morning and my son was helping. As he rummaged through the boxes and bags, he came across a knotted handkerchief with an old, dark brown coin nestled inside. "Mum, can I have this? Can I play with this in my cash register?" he asked. I took one look and was immediately transported to another time. "You can play with all your coins, but not this one," I said slowly. "This one's special. I will never again see the woman who gave this to me." As I fingered the coin gently, a wave of nostalgia swept over me. "This coin is worth much more than its monetary value." My son looked at me strangely and I explained.

In 1991, I had spent five months in a bleak African country, Niger. There were many things I found difficult about that place – the climate and beggars were my biggest most constant gripes. Street urchins would continually thrust their hands into my face, shouting, "Cadeau! Cadeau!" (gift in French, the former colonial tongue)

After I had finished my nursing stint there, a friend and I headed for neighbouring Burkina Faso to work in a health clinic with much enthusiasm. "It's much greener in Burkina. Even the Coke tastes better," the locals assured us.

Arriving by taxi in our destination in Burkina, we began to unload. With my daypack wedged between my legs, I reached for my larger piece of luggage. Out of the darkness, a motorcycle with two men approached slowly. Without warning, one of the men grabbed my daypack as the motorcycle swept close by and disappeared into the night. The bag had my passport, money, traveller's cheques, camera and other paraphernalia precious to me. I was in deep trouble and the nearest Australian consulate was in Ethiopia. How was I ever going to get a new passport anytime soon?

In the weeks that followed, I guarded the rest of my valuables and regarded the locals with suspicion. I endured interrogations by the authorities with thinly-veiled frustrations. All I wanted to do was to leave that terrible place.

Then, walking through the Burkina's streets one day, an old woman approached me and thrust her hand in my face. "Cadeau! Cadeau!" she cried. I had enough. I told her firmly in French, "I have no 'cadeau'. I have no money. A thief stole all my money two weeks ago and now I can't get out of your country. I cannot give you anything." The beggar woman listened attentively and pondered my words. Then her face crumpled into a toothless grin as she reached into the folds of her dress. "Then I will give you a cadeau," she announced. Kindly, she placed an old, dark brown coin in my palm. I looked at it in shock. It was a minuscule amount of money, but for this woman, the coin represented a meal. At that moment, I felt the shame of affluence and the humility of charity. She had given me a gift disproportionate to anything that I had ever donated.

In the midst of her poverty, she was able to give me something priceless. I saw then, the unexpected beauty of the people of Burkina Faso and appreciated profoundly the quiet dignity of the poor.

Name: _____ ()

P6 ()

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. Which country was the writer from?

72. Why do you think the writer was looking forward to moving to Burkina Faso?

73. Which word from the passage tells us that the special coin had brought back fond memories to the writer?

74. In your own words, explain why the writer was unable to return to her country after she was robbed.

75. Why was the writer in Africa?

76. At which time of the day did the writer arrive at Burkina Faso?

77. Why did the street urchins shove their hands in the writer's face shouting, "Cadeau! Cadeau!"?

78. Why was the writer shocked when the old lady handed her the coin?

79. Which sentence tells us that the gesture of the old lady had caused an impact on the writer and left a sense of guilt?

80. In what way had the old woman changed the writer's perceptions of the locals?

----- END OF PAPER -----

Set by:
Desmond Lee
Elaine Chong
Kimie Sng
Pek Xueyan

Answer Ke

EXAM PAPER 2009

SCHOOL : RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH

TERM : PRELIM

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

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Q18 | Q19 | Q20 | Q21 | Q22 | Q23 | Q24 | Q25 | Q26 | Q27 | Q28 | Q29 | Q30 | Q31 | Q32 | Q33 | Q34 |
| 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | B | G | C | Q |

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Q35 | Q36 | Q37 | Q38 | Q39 | Q40 |
| L | M | F | N | K | D |

- 41)known 42)constraints 43)facilities 44)has
45)palatable 46)dehydrated 47)sealed 48)tastier
49)stimulation 50)is

Raffles Girls' Primary School
Corrections for 2009 P6 English Language Prelim Paper

Name : _____ () 6 () Date : 4 September 2009

| No. | Acceptable Answers |
|-----|---|
| 51. | with |
| 52. | as |
| 53. | began / started / commenced |
| 54. | when |
| 55. | an |
| 56. | survival / living / livelihood |
| 57. | perform / stage/ do |
| 58. | film / films / movies |
| 59. | throughout / by / across/ around |
| 60. | within / over / in |
| 61. | move |
| 62. | Even |
| 63. | recognition / fame / accolades / popularity / acclaim |
| 64. | away |
| 65. | renew / approve |

Transformation and synthesis

66. June said that she / he would visit her/his grandmother at the hospital either that night or the next / following morning.
67. Unless you stop smoking and live a healthy lifestyle, your health will not improve.
68. None of the girls was absent at / from the school concert performance last night.
69. Comparatively, Miss Tan is a better chef than Mr Lim in the restaurant. (OR)
 Comparatively, Miss Tan is a better chef in the restaurant than Mr Lim. (OR)
 Comparatively, Mr Lim is not as good a chef as Miss Tan in the restaurant. (OR)
 Comparatively, Mr Lim is not as good a chef in the restaurant as Miss Tan.
70. Never eat without/before washing your hands properly with soap.
 Never eat unless you have washed your hands properly with soap.

Comprehension Open-ended

71. She was from Australia.
72. She could not stand the living conditions in Niger and the locals assured her that the condition in Burkina-Faso was better.
73. The word is "nostalgia".
74. The robbers took her daypack which contained her passport and money. She had to get in touch with the Australian embassy in Ethiopia in order to get help to go home.
75. She was a nurse and was there to work in a health clinic.
76. She arrived there at night.
77. They saw that the writer was not local / was wealthy / was affluent and were begging for money / gifts.
78. She did not expect the old lady to give her the coin as the latter was very poor.
79. The sentence is "At that moment, I felt the shame of affluence and the humility of charity."
80. The writer regarded the locals with suspicion and disdain but the old lady had shown her the dignity of the poor that she had overlooked.