

**SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT ( 2 )**  
**2016**

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

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

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24 Oct 2016      English Language Paper 2      1 h 50min

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**BOOKLET A**

**Instructions to Pupils**

1. Write your Name, Class and Index No. in the spaces 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. The girl with the bright red shoes \_\_\_\_\_ standing at the door now.  
(1) is  
(2) are  
(3) was  
(4) were
2. Our coach praised my teammates and \_\_\_\_\_ for all the hard work put in.  
(1) I  
(2) me  
(3) mine  
(4) myself
3. Either the cubs or the lioness \_\_\_\_\_ been hiding behind the bush till now.  
(1) has  
(2) had  
(3) have  
(4) having
4. She seldom cycles to school, \_\_\_\_\_ she?  
(1) do  
(2) does  
(3) don't  
(4) doesn't
5. From the top of the skyscraper, the cars \_\_\_\_\_ us looked like insects.  
(1) upon  
(2) below  
(3) above  
(4) outside
6. Her willingness to speak up for me this morning made me \_\_\_\_\_ how much she cared for me.  
(1) realise  
(2) realised  
(3) realises  
(4) realising

7. \_\_\_\_\_ of the prefects has been given a school tie.

- (1) All
- (2) Any
- (3) Each
- (4) Some

8. \_\_\_\_\_ they gave him a perfectly rational explanation, he was not convinced.

- (1) Since
- (2) Despite
- (3) However
- (4) Although

9. He has \_\_\_\_\_ unique point of view on the subject and talked about it for \_\_\_\_\_ hour.

- (1) a...a
- (2) a...an
- (3) an...a
- (4) an...an

10. Many adults worry about the destructive effect that violent films \_\_\_\_\_ have on children.

- (1) may
- (2) need
- (3) ought
- (4) should

**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. After failing repeatedly at his high jump attempts, the athlete finally gave up and \_\_\_\_\_ defeat.
- (1) yielded
  - (2) conceded
  - (3) relinquished
  - (4) surrendered
12. James is the most \_\_\_\_\_ person in class as he gets along well with everyone.
- (1) naive
  - (2) amiable
  - (3) resourceful
  - (4) contentious
13. The latest blockbuster movie starring Emma Watson will be \_\_\_\_\_ in cinemas islandwide.
- (1) screened
  - (2) produced
  - (3) transmitted
  - (4) broadcasted
14. The traffic policeman signalled for the taxi driver to \_\_\_\_\_ so that he could inspect the boot of the vehicle.
- (1) run into
  - (2) pull over
  - (3) stand off
  - (4) back down
15. David had to \_\_\_\_\_ the deposit paid because he cancelled the trip at the last minute.
- (1) forfeit
  - (2) cease
  - (3) abandon
  - (4) renounce

**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.

Leo De Watts struck upon the idea of selling bottled, British countryside air to Chinese consumers. The idea came to this entrepreneur when he saw a news footage of pollution and smog in Chinese cities. De Watt has since started a thriving business from selling his novel product of clean bottled air to China.

De Watt debuted his company last year in the somewhat imaginatively named industry of "air farming". His team "harvests" air in bottles from various locations across Britain and ships it to China. Even though the air is cheap to collect, De Watts puts a hefty price on his products. Chinese lovers of British air have to pay around \$115 for a 580ml bottle.

He said his Chinese customers can be quite fastidious about exactly what kind of air they buy. He explained in a promotional video, "Quite often a lot of our orders are bespoke. We have clients who request very particular circumstances for their air. Sometimes we'll be at the top of the mountain, and other times at the bottom of a valley."

Retrieved from: <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com>

Adapted from "Man sells British countryside air to China" by Sean Banville

16. (1) clip  
(2) cast  
(3) subtitle  
(4) summary

17. (1) waning  
(2) popular  
(3) rampant  
(4) successful

18. (1) nurtured  
(2) launched  
(3) developed  
(4) commenced

19. (1) steep  
(2) liberal  
(3) modest  
(4) bountiful

20. (1) fussy  
(2) fearful  
(3) frivolous  
(4) flustered

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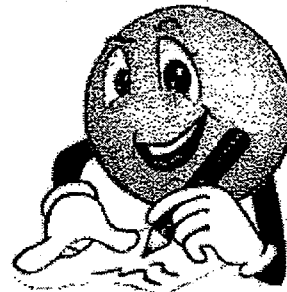
**Section D: Visual Text Comprehension (8 x 1 mark)**

**Study this leaflet carefully and then answer questions 21 to 28.**

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

## **WRITERS' ACADEMY WRITING COMPETITION 2016**

Writers' Academy has been shining a spotlight on up and coming young writers from 10 to 12 years old through its Biennial Writing Competition for more than 10 years.



Unlike the traditional pen-and-paper writing competition held in previous years, Writers' Academy Writing Competition 2016 took a very unique format of getting young children to author and publish their stories into e-books. Participants had to use multimedia resources to present the story in an engaging and interactive way. Shortlisted entries were published on our website so that they could be read and voted for.



This year's writing competition met with a record response. It was the first time more than 500 entries were submitted! We are very pleased to announce the results of the Writers' Academy Writing Competition 2016. Congratulations to all the prize winners!

### **JUDGING**

It took nine judges from Authors' Club almost three months to decide on the winners. They were looking for writers who capture the readers' attention, whose ideas or perspectives are unique as well as those with precise and evocative word choice.

## **WINNERS**

<b>AWARD</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Title</b>
<b>GOLD</b>	Namita Kaur	11	Miss Mystery
<b>SILVER</b>	Gavin Lee	12	It's My Life
<b>BRONZE</b>	Farisha Ishak	10	Diary of Steffi
<b>*MOST POPULAR</b>	Aiko Yuri	12	What No One Sees
<b>**HONOURABLE MENTIONS</b>	Jaden Jasper	10	Mr Popular
	Ang Yu Tong	12	The Missing Pen
	Kelly Clarkson	12	Diary of a Teenager

\* Most Popular Book has the most number of Facebook Likes during the voting period.

\*\* Honourable Mentions are those who achieved scores closest to the top 3.



**GOLD Winner : Namita Kaur, 12 years old**

The judges unanimously agree that Namita has written one of the funniest crime novels they have ever read. They find it hard to find fault with a book so well-written and engaging. Definitely a briskly paced page-turner from the start to finish!



**SILVER Winner: Gavin Lee, 12 years old**

Indeed the pen is mightier than the sword. Gavin writes powerfully from the point of view of an anxious and ambitious teenager trying to cope with the intersection between his view of himself and his mother's view of him. His vocabulary and phrasing successfully reflect the tensions in his world.

**BRONZE Winner : Farisha Ishak, 10 years old**

Farisha has successfully chronicled the adventures of Steffi, a wise-cracking primary school student. There are laughs on every page and the pictures only add to the humour. The journal format makes it an easy read for children of all ages.



**PRIZES**

<b>Gold</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$150 Cash Voucher</li><li>• Certificate of Award</li></ul>
<b>Silver</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$100 Cash Voucher</li><li>• Certificate of Award</li></ul>
<b>Bronze</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$50 Cash Voucher</li><li>• Certificate of Award</li></ul>
<b>Most Popular</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$50 Cash Voucher</li><li>• Certificate of Award</li></ul>
<b>Honourable Mentions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Certificate of Award</li></ul>

All prizes are sponsored by :

**Books for Life**



**Computer for Kids**



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

21. The writing competition is held once every \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) year
- (2) two years
- (3) ten years
- (4) twelve years

22. The organiser of the writing competition is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Authors' Club
- (2) Books for Life
- (3) Writers' Academy
- (4) Computer for Kids

23. In the second paragraph, why is the first letter of each word of "Writers' Academy Writing Competition" in capital letters?

- (1) The words are used as a name.
- (2) It is to make the words stand out in the paragraph.
- (3) The words appear at the beginning of the paragraph.
- (4) It is to emphasise that the competition is very different this year.

24. The word those in the write-up section on "Judging" refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) judges
- (2) writers
- (3) readers
- (4) Facebook users

25. The story by \_\_\_\_\_ has the most Facebook Likes.

- (1) Aiko Yuri
- (2) Namita Kaur
- (3) Jaden Jasper
- (4) Farisha Ishak

26. Silver Award winner, Gavin Lee, impressed the judges with his \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) amusing views
- (2) ability to cope with conflicts
- (3) appropriate choice of words
- (4) ambition to create anxiety in teenagers

27. Which one of the following statements is not true?

- (1) The competition is judged by a panel of judges.
- (2) Ang Yu Tong will receive only a certificate of award.
- (3) This year saw the most number of submitted entries.
- (4) Only children more than 10 years old are eligible to participate in the competition.

28. The main objective of the Writers' Academy writing competition is to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) use multimedia resources
- (2) publish the winning entries
- (3) develop an interactive digital book
- (4) recognise children with writing talent

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BOOKLET B.

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Class: P5 \_\_\_\_\_ Index No: \_\_\_\_\_

**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) are	(D) from	(G) of	(K) or	(N) up
(B) and	(E) is	(H) off	(L) nor	(P) was
(C) between	(F) in	(J) on	(M) to	(Q) were

I did not grow up in a household with books. In my home, there was neither time (29) \_\_\_\_\_ energy to read. My process of becoming a reader seemed nothing short (30) \_\_\_\_\_ miraculous. All it took was getting lost (31) \_\_\_\_\_ one book for my world to open up and a life to be transformed.

My primary school teacher had always believed in giving her pupils time (32) \_\_\_\_\_ read for pleasure in school as a strategy that would pay (33) \_\_\_\_\_ in greater reading improvement. One day, she put a book on my desk. It was a biography of actress Greta Garbo. I picked it up and began to read (34) \_\_\_\_\_ cover to cover. The words I read captivated me and I was enthralled. I realised that there (35) \_\_\_\_\_ other women like Greta who had struggled, persevered and transformed their lives. I recognised myself in her.

From then (36) \_\_\_\_\_, my teacher had a hard time keeping me supplied with books. She dug (37) \_\_\_\_\_ all the biographies of women that she could find. Their stories were like road maps that allowed me to see where I could go on with my life.

It has been a long road. I am now a physics professor in a university. Most of my time (38) \_\_\_\_\_ spent reading scientific literature. Recently, someone gave me Justice Sonia Sotomayor's autobiography. Once again, I am inspired and am envisioning new possibilities for my life.

*Adapted from Imagining Possibilities by JoAnn Trej*

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

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

Over the years, cross cultural influences, inventions of musical instruments and technological advancements have given birth to an assortment of music. In today's music

(39)

(40)

katalogue, there is a style to suit every personality, age group and ocasion.

(41)

One of the oldest and most respected ganres in the music world is classical music, bringing historical elegance to the modern era. Distinguished by an energetic orchestral colour

(42)

that is produces by neat arrangements of string, woodwind, brass and percussion instruments,

(43)

classical music has a defined and regular rythmn. The music has a quality of flexibility, it can

(44)

(45)

be loud and assertive, make our hearts palpitate and yet it has the ability to calm us away.

(46)

Research has revealed that the complex and oganised nature of a classical composition with

(47)

varying intensity stimulates children's brains, igniting its creative and analytical abilities.

(48)

(49)

In addition at enhancing the cognitive skills, the harmony of notes or chords in the

(50)

melodious versions of classical music has a therapeutic effect. It can counter anxiety and stress. It is no wonder then that a Beethoven or Mozart piece greets you when you step into hospitals, clinics and learning environments.

*Adapted from Music Over Time by Shanas Krishnan*

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

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

As a motoring writer, I had the chance to travel to all corners of the world to test-drive new cars. Few trips \_\_\_\_\_ as deep an impression on me as a recent trip to New Zealand's South Island.

There were no towering skyscrapers, crowded shopping \_\_\_\_\_ or rush-hour traffic to speak of. Instead, there were white-capped \_\_\_\_\_, rolling meadows and long stretches of open roads. There was even a sense \_\_\_\_\_ roominess and tranquillity there.

My journey took fourteen days but it had barely \_\_\_\_\_ the surface of what the scenic island has to \_\_\_\_\_

Starting my journey in Christchurch, I headed south. Passing the historical town of Oamaru and the Scotland-inspired town of Dunedin, I made my \_\_\_\_\_ towards Te Anau. The roads were winding just like \_\_\_\_\_ parts of this country and the view of snow-capped mountains in the distance drawing nearer \_\_\_\_\_ each kilometre was indeed awe-inspiring.



Te Anau is the launching pad \_\_\_\_\_ visitors to the national park's fjords (long  
(60)  
strips of sea between steep hills). Among them, Milford Sound is by \_\_\_\_\_ the most  
(61)  
popular among tourists.

However, I decided to take the road less \_\_\_\_\_ to another spectacular fjord  
(62)  
known as Doubtful Sound. Locals I spoke to say both \_\_\_\_\_ offer breathtaking views  
(63)  
of the Unesco World Heritage area. The hassle of crossing a treacherous mountain pass had  
made Doubtful Sound a less accessible destination. However, that was just a \_\_\_\_\_  
(64)  
inconvenience as compared to a challenging overnight trip on board the MV Fiordland Navigator,  
a \_\_\_\_\_ that sails around Doubtful Sound. This voyage on the last lap of my trip was  
(65)  
a whole new ball game altogether.

*Adapted from the Straits Times article "Southern beauty" by Yao Yuan Nei*

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

**For each question from 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. Tom did not complete his homework. He went out to play.

without

67. "Did you leave this bag here yesterday?" Mrs Devi asked me.

Mrs Devi asked me

68. None of the boys has told anyone the secret yet.

All of

69. I heard that my class had won the cleanest class competition. I jumped for joy.

On

70. My brother is very tall. His head almost reaches the ceiling.

so

that

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

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

Every year during graduation, a beautiful gold and green jacket was awarded to the class valedictorian. Since I had maintained the highest grades for eight years consecutively, I looked forward to owning that jacket. Furthermore, my school uniforms had always been hand-me-downs as my family could barely make ends meet, so this jacket meant a lot to me.

5

One day, Mr. Schmidt, my History teacher and Mr. Boone, my Math teacher, were having a squabble. I did not mean to eavesdrop, but I was appalled to hear my name.

"I will not fabricate records! I don't care who her father is. Joanne's grades don't even begin to compare to Martha's," Mr. Schmidt said furiously. Mr. Boone replied, "Look, Joanne's father is on the School Board so the principal would like us to put in a good word for her." Shaking, not wanting to hear more, I fled in tears.

10

The next day I was called into the principal's office. He looked uncomfortable and avoided my eyes as he spoke, "Martha, there's been a change in policy regarding the scholarship jacket." He fidgeted with the papers on his desk as he continued, "It has always been free but this year the Board has decided to charge fifteen dollars for the jacket." Staring at him in disbelief, I was shocked at his lame excuse. "If you are unable to pay for the jacket, it will be given to the next nominee." I did not need to ask who that would be. Mustering all my dignity, I answered calmly, "I'll speak to my grandfather. Sir, and let you know tomorrow."

15

20

I held back my tears and waited till I was a safe distance away from the principal's office before I broke down and cried. When I got home and saw Grandfather, I asked nervously, "Grandpa, this year the principal said the scholarship jacket is going to cost fifteen dollars, and I have to pay up tomorrow." Then, I waited, desperately hoping Grandfather would agree to give me the money. After a pause, he spoke, "If you have to pay for it, it's not a scholarship jacket, is it? Tell your principal I will not pay for it." He continued, "What does a scholarship jacket mean?" I answered quickly, "It means you've earned it by having the highest grades for eight years." Too late, I finally understood the significance of my words.

25

The next day, the principal called me into his office for an answer. I answered, "He said to tell you he would not pay the fifteen dollars." I stood up to leave when he stopped me, "Martha—wait! We'll make an exception for you this time." I could hardly believe what I heard.

30

I rushed home to break the good news to Grandfather who said nothing except to give me a pat on the shoulder and a smile.

*Adapted from the short story "The Scholarship Jacket" by M. Salinas*

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Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Class: P5 \_\_\_\_\_ Index No: \_\_\_\_\_

71. According to the passage, how does one qualify to be a class valedictorian? [2m]

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72. Who did Mr Schmidt think was the rightful recipient of the scholarship jacket? [1m]

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73. Who does the 'her' in line 12 refer to? [1m]

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74. Choose a word from paragraphs 2 and 3 in the passage that has a similar meaning to each of the words below. [4m]

fake	
crossly	
taken aback	
disagreement	

75. From paragraph 4, state two pieces of evidence that show the principal was "uncomfortable" talking to Martha ? [2m]

Evidence 1	
Evidence 2	

76. Martha thought that the change in the school policy regarding the scholarship jacket was a lame excuse. What did she think was the real reason for the principal to do so? [2m]

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77. Which sentence in paragraph 5 tells you that Martha had just realised why one should not have to pay for an award? [1m]

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78. Based on the passage, state whether each statement in the table below is *True* or *False*, then give one reason why you think so. [4m]

Statement	True / False	Reason
Martha could always afford new uniforms.		
Martha cried in the principal's office when he told her about the change in school policy.		
Martha was confident that Grandfather would agree to pay for the scholarship jacket.		
Martha eventually did not have to pay for the scholarship jacket.		

79. Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the passage. [1m]

\_\_\_\_\_ Martha asked Grandfather for the money to pay for the scholarship jacket.

\_\_\_\_\_ The principal told Martha that the scholarship jacket was no longer free.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mr Boone reminded Mr Schmidt that Joanne's father was a School Board member.

80. If you were Martha, would you pay for the scholarship jacket? Support your answer with information from the passage. [2m]

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-End of Paper-





# ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2016 (P5)

SCHOOL : RAFFLES GIRLS'

SUBJECT : ENGLISH

TERM : SA2

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
1	2	1	2	2	1	3	4	2	1
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
2	2	1	2	1	1	4	2	1	1
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30
2	3	3	2	1	3	4	4	L	G
Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38		
F	M	H	D	Q	J	N	E		

39)catalogue      40)occasion      41)genres      42)produced

43)rhythm      44)making      45)down      46)organized      47)their

48)to      49)and      50)anxiety      51)left      52)malls

53)hills      54)of      55)touched      56)offer      57)way

58)most      59)with      60)for      61)far      62)known

63)will      64)small      65)ship

66)Tom went out to pay without completing his homework.

67)Mrs Devi asked me if I had left that bag there the previous day.

68)All of the boys have not told anyone the secret yet.

69)On hearing that my class had won the cleanest class competition, I jumped for joy.

70)My brother is so tall that his head almost reachest the ceiling.

71)You must maintain the highest grades for eight years consecutively.

72)Martha

73)It refers to Joanne.

74)fabricate

furiously

appalled

squabble

75)1)He avoided Martha's eyes as the spoke.

2)He was fidgeting with papers on his desk.

76)Martha knew that the real reason for charge fifteen dollars for the jacket was that the principal did not want her to get the scholarship jacket.

77)Too late, finally understood the significance of my words.

78)False / Her school uniforms had always been hand-me-downs as her family could barely make ends meet.

False / She help back her tears until she was a safe distance away from the principal's office before she broke down in tears and cried.

False / She waited desperately hoping her grandfather would agree to give her the money.

True / The principal made an exception for her so Martha did not have to pay for the scholarship jacket.

79)3, 2 ,1

80)Yes. I think Martha should pay for the scholarship jacket because she should not lose the chance of winning the award.