



RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
2010

Name: _____ () Class: P6 _____

Your Score Out of 95 marks		
	Class	Level
Highest score		
Average score		
Parent's Signature		

23 August 2010

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)

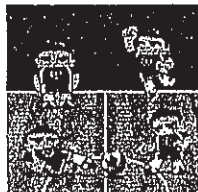
Study the advertisement below carefully and then answer questions 1 to 5.

SAFRA 4V4 FUTSAL FIESTA

SAFRA Tampines (East)

Sat & Sun, 28 & 29 Aug 2010, 9am – 5pm

SAFRA's four-a-side futsal tournament is back! Form a team of four and pit your skills against your competitors to win fantastic prizes.
Five categories: Men's Open, Women's Open, Men's Veteran, Boys Under 16 & Boys Under 12.



Fees: \$50 per category
Contact Claire at gclaire@safra.sg

CYCLE & WATERFALL ABSEILING IN CHIANG MAI

SAFRA Yishun (North)

Fri – Sun, 27 – 29 Aug 2010

This trip will bring you through a jungle at Chiang Mai to reach the summit of a 25m tall waterfall, where you will abseil down. Later, change into your cycling gear to experience mountain biking down the dirt roads of the jungle to Chiang Mai Valley.

Fees: \$325 (SAFRA Adventure Club member),
\$345 (SAFRA member), \$375 (Public)

Contact Kelly at kkelly@safra.sg or
Melissa at cmelissa@safra.sg

**CHILDREN LEARN TO SWIM (5 lessons)
(Beginners/Intermediate)**

SAFRA Tampines (East)

First week of Aug, 7pm – 8pm / 8pm – 9pm

Fees: \$90 (SAFRA member), \$100 (Public)
Contact Kira at pkira@safra.sg

**LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAMME (10 lessons)
SAFRA Yishun (North)**

**Every Mon & Wed (13 & above), starting 2 Aug
Every Sat (below 13), starting 7 Aug**

Fees: \$165 (SAFRA member), \$200 (Public)
Contact Esli at esli@safra.sg

**BADMINTON COURSE FOR BEGINNERS
(4 lessons)**

**SAFRA Mount Faber (South)
Every Sat, 7pm – 9pm**

This course will teach your kids the various racquet movements and improve their motor coordination. Lessons are conducted by former national players for kids aged six to 16.

Fees: \$107 (SAFRA member), \$128 (Public)
Contact Daniel at cdaniel@safra.sg

SCUBA DIVING TRIP IN CEBU, PHILIPPINES

SAFRA Yishun (North)

Sun – Fri, 5 – 10 Sept 2010

Explore corals and marine life in the deep blue sea of Cebu, Philippines. If you are lucky, you might be able to take in the breathtaking sight of creatures like thresher sharks. Please email for more details.

Fees: \$820 (SAFRA Adventure Club member),
\$840 (SAFRA member), \$875 (Public)

Contact Kelly at kkelly@safra.sg or
Melissa at cmelissa@safra.sg

INLINE SKATING COURSES (4 lessons)

Take up inline skating this holiday! This course is suitable for those aged four and above. Fees include rental of skates and protective gears.

**SAFRA Tampines (East)
Every Thur, 7.30pm – 8.30pm**

Fees: \$125 (SAFRA member), \$135 (Public)
Contact Kira at pkira@safra.sg

**SAFRA Mount Faber (South)
Every Sat, 4pm – 5.30pm**

Fees: \$125 (SAFRA member), \$135 (Public)
Contact Daniel at cdaniel@safra.sg

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 organisers of the activities are _____.
- (1) Safra Yishun, Safra Tampines and Safra Mount Faber
 - (2) Safra Yishun, Safra Tampines and Safra Adventure Club
 - (3) Safra Yishun, Safra Mount Faber and Safra Adventure Club
 - (4) Safra Tampines, Safra Mount Faber and Safra Adventure Club
2. To take part in the Safra 4V4 Futsal Fiesta, there must be _____ members in each category.
- (1) one
 - (2) two
 - (3) three
 - (4) four
3. For which of the activities do you register with Kira?
- (1) Children Learn to Swim and Scuba Diving Trip
 - (2) Children Learn to Swim and Inline Skating Course
 - (3) Cycle & Waterfall Abseiling and Scuba Diving Trip
 - (4) Cycle & Waterfall Abseiling and Learn to Swim Programme
4. Which of the following statements is true?
- (1) Participants for the Inline Skating Course have to bring their own skates.
 - (2) The weekday classes for Learn to Swim Programme are for children below 13.
 - (3) Participants for the Scuba Diving Trip will get a chance to swim with the thresher sharks.
 - (4) Participants for the Cycle & Waterfall Abseiling Trip will get to abseil down Chiang Mai Valley.
5. Your family lives in the South and you have a brother who is 7 years old. He is free during the weekends in the afternoon and wishes to take up a hobby. Which activity is most suitable for him?
- (1) Inline Skating Course
 - (2) Children Learn to Swim
 - (3) Safra 4V4 Futsal Fiesta
 - (4) Badminton Course for Beginners

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. He _____ a handphone in the park this morning.
- (1) finds
 - (2) found
 - (3) will find
 - (4) has found
7. My cousin and _____ went swimming at the Wild Park.
- (1) I
 - (2) me
 - (3) my
 - (4) mine
8. Many kinds of orchids _____ in Singapore.
- (1) grow
 - (2) grew
 - (3) grows
 - (4) had grown
9. Due to John's poor job performance, he was passed _____ for the recent promotion exercise.
- (1) by
 - (2) off
 - (3) out
 - (4) over
10. The taller of the two children _____ at a height of over a metre and a half.
- (1) stand
 - (2) stands
 - (3) has stood
 - (4) have stood
11. Mr Tan made Sally run an errand for him _____ she had done her work.
- (1) so
 - (2) but
 - (3) since
 - (4) although

12. David, (like myself) _____ coffee every morning.

- (1) drink
- (2) drinks
- (3) has drunk
- (4) have drunk

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.

Valerie, an attorney, says she would have liked to be an interior designer (13)
"It's my father's fault (14) she confesses. "He passed on his passion for art and
design to me."

Besides his good taste (15) her father also gave her many of the pieces of
furniture in her flat.

13. (1) [,] comma
(2) [.] full stop
(3) [;] semi-colon
(4) [!] exclamation mark
14. (1) [.] full stop
(2) [, "] comma and inverted commas
(3) [. "] full stop and inverted commas
(4) [! "] exclamation mark and inverted commas
15. (1) [:] colon
(2) [.] full stop
(3) [,] comma
(4) [;] semi-colon

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. Torrential downpours over the past week _____ the village and disrupted traffic.
- (1) infiltrated
 - (2) inundated
 - (3) incubated
 - (4) inoculated
17. When the actor forgot his lines, the audience were very unforgiving and _____ at his incompetence.
- (1) droned
 - (2) teased
 - (3) cackled
 - (4) balked
18. The novel became a bestseller after _____ in the newspaper praised the novelist's writing skills.
- (1) blurbs
 - (2) reviews
 - (3) citations
 - (4) excerpts
19. Every summer, hordes of tourists _____ the beach for the sun, the sea and the breeze.
- (1) mob
 - (2) invade
 - (3) headed
 - (4) conquer
20. The iron was too hot and it resulted in Zoe's favourite dress being _____.
- (1) singed
 - (2) flamed
 - (3) seared
 - (4) charred

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.

There is a general assumption that the Lift Upgrading Programme (LUP) has been well-received by flat owners since its launch in 2001.

(21)

The LUP is a well-intentioned initiative, designed to complement other upgrading projects for flats. Under the programme, residents would be able to enjoy better lift access – through the upgrading of lifts to serve every floor as well as refurbished lift interiors and faster lifts.

(22)

However, the LUP came under scrutiny during the 2006 General Election, when some people said the Government was using it as part of a carrot-and-stick plan to garner more votes. Such concerns were addressed when flats in the opposition-held wards of Hougang and Potong Pasir became eligible for the LUP last year.

(23)

(24)

However politics is not the only reason why some people have a negative perception towards the LUP. Residents have complained about the inconvenience posed by the upgrading programme. While noise and dust pollution are inevitable, the Housing Board should be able to limit such externalities.

(25)

Adapted from my paper, Monday 21 June 2010

21. (1) initiation
(2) induction
(3) inquisition
(4) installation
22. (1) useful
(2) modern
(3) revamped
(4) decorated
23. (1) enquiry
(2) analysis
(3) inspection
(4) examination

24. (1) obtain
(2) handle
(3) capture
(4) accumulate
25. (1) inestimable
(2) ineradicable
(3) unavoidable
(4) unnecessary

Section F: Comprehension MCQ (5 marks)
Read the passage and answer questions 26 to 30.

<p>Hoping for a cure is something common to sufferers of any affliction but, for individuals with autism, such hope appears to be in vain. Experts admit that there is simply no cure, and little likelihood of one appearing on the horizon.</p>	
<p>Despite much research, scientists have so far failed to pin down the precise causes of the condition and are consequently no nearer to developing an effective course of treatment.</p>	5
<p>Currently, the only options open are therapy or diet-based. Those who suffer from milder forms of autism can often lead fairly normal lives, attend mainstream schools and hold down regular jobs, without much therapeutic intervention. Individuals with more severe autism usually require specialised therapy to help them cope with even the simplest of everyday tasks, such as brushing their teeth. Early therapy or skills training can greatly improve the lot of this group and make them more independent and less disruptive. Experts point out that there is no one-size-fits-all therapy for autism.</p>	10
<p>Dr Jill Taylor, director of client services at St Andrew's Autism Centre, says, "Autism affects different aspects of a person's life with varying severity. Some may have purely autism, while others have other disorders too. Hence, we need to have individualised and structured programmes that cater to different ages and competence levels."</p>	15
<p>There is an array of therapy options, ranging from those that specialise in behaviour modification to those that focus on relationship and development.</p>	20
<p>Applied Behaviour Analysis is considered the best and is said to have the most beneficial impact. Alongside therapy, medication can alleviate specific problems associated with autism, such as hyperactivity, anger and aggression, but not all who have autism need drugs.</p>	25
<p><i>Adapted from 'The Straits Times', 5/6/10</i></p>	

For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Choose the correct answer and shade the corresponding oval on the Optical Answer Sheet.

26. Which forms of autism have no cure despite much research being done by scientists?
- (1) Mild forms of autism
 - (2) Severe forms of autism
 - (3) Therapeutic forms of autism
 - (4) All forms of autism
27. The words 'cope with' in line 10 have the same meaning as _____.
- (1) endure
 - (2) tolerate
 - (3) manage
 - (4) overcome
28. The words 'this group' in line 12 refer to the _____.
- (1) sufferers of autism
 - (2) lives of autistic children
 - (3) sufferers of mild forms of autism
 - (4) sufferers of severe forms of autism
29. How does early intervention help to improve the lives of autistic sufferers?
- (1) They can attend mainstream schools.
 - (2) They can eventually be cured of autism.
 - (3) They become more self-reliant and less rowdy.
 - (4) They will be able to hold a regular job and lead normal lives.
30. Why is there no one-size-fits-all therapy for autism?
- (1) There is only one form of autism.
 - (2) No one has come up with such programmes yet.
 - (3) Autism affects anyone of different ages and with varying severity.
 - (4) Sufferers of autism will then have many types of courses and skills to choose from.

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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) a	D) by	G) for	K) out	N) who
B) about	E) can	H) is	L) to	P) whose
C) are	F) every	J) of	M) until	Q) will

On weekends, Madam Lin and her family put on their walking shoes and hit the park.

Madam Lin, her two sons and her 73-year-old mother, have been brisk walking almost _____ weekend for the last four years, for up _____ an hour each time. (31) Occasionally, her husband joins them, especially (32) when there _____ brisk walking events.

(33) "Anyone can brisk walk. It's a good way _____ the family to get together and we can chat while we walk," said Madam Lin. Her elderly mother, (34) _____ feels that it is a good form of exercise for someone her age, has (35) who widened her social circle _____ joining brisk walk groups.

Brisk walking (36) _____ safe, easy and perfect for those looking for both exercise and social interaction. As for retiree Mr Chan, 69, walking is a good way to work (37) _____ . Because of his hypertension and heart problems, he is wary (38) _____ taking up something more vigorous.

(39) Madam Lin and Mr Chan (40) _____ be among those taking part in the upcoming mass walk event, One Community Walk, organised by the People's Association.

Adapted from 'The Straits Times', 22/6/10

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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.

Neither the twins nor Lola knew precisely what led Briony to abandon the
41) 42)
~~rihersels~~. At that time, they did not even know she had. ~~They are~~ doing the first scene,

43)
the one in which bed-bound Arabella first received into her garret, the prince ~~desguysed~~

as the good doctor. It was going well enough, or no worse than usual, with the twins

44)
speaking ~~her~~ lines no more ineptly than before.

45)
Briony was giving patient instructions to Jackson, then she paused, and ~~frouned~~,
46) 47)
as if about to ~~corrected~~ herself, and then she was gone. There was no ~~peevatal~~ moment

of creative difference, no storming or flouncing out. She turned away, and simply drifted
48)
~~off~~, as though on her way to the lavatory. The others waited, unaware that the whole

49)
project was at ~~the~~ end. The twins thought they had been trying hard, and Jackson in

particular, feeling ~~he~~ was still in disgrace in the Tallis household, though he might begin

50)
to ~~rehabilitet~~ himself by pleasing Briony.

Adapted from 'Atonement'

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Section I: Comprehension Cloze Passage (15 marks)

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

Long ago in the faraway country of Italy lived a Duke of Milan called Prospero. He was a wise and learned man, more interested in books _____ in ruling his country. He left the _____ of political affairs to his brother, Antonio, while he himself _____ strange sciences and books of magic.

Antonio, however, was jealous _____ his brother. He felt that while Prospero remained in Italy, he would always be _____ the real Duke of Milan and Antonio wanted that _____ for himself. He decided to send Prospero far away from his country so that he could rule Milan in Prospero's _____.

One dark, stormy night, Prospero was secretly taken _____ by his enemies and carried down to the seashore. He was put into an old boat which _____ neither sails nor oars. Antonio had ordered that he was to take _____ with him, not even food. He was certain that the old boat would _____ in the stormy seas and Prospero would be drowned. There was, _____, one kind man who secretly put food, warm clothes and water into the boat. He added some of Prospero's books, knowing the Duke's love _____ reading.

The little boat was pushed out to sea and for many hours, it rocked helplessly on the waves. Prospero began to _____ whether he would ever see land again. Perhaps Prospero's magic had something to do with it. Perhaps the fairies were watching over him. Whatever the _____, when morning came, Prospero saw an island ahead of him where he spent the rest of his life on.

Adapted from *Six tales from Shakespeare* by E.F. Dod

Section J : Synthesis and Transformation (10 marks)

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).

66. Tim tried very hard. He could not hit any pin with the bowling ball.

No matter _____

67. Mr Ong's main door was vandalised. He made a police report last night.

_____ whose _____

68. The evening dress that Alice bought was expensive. It was unattractive too.

_____ neither _____

69. Mr Tan is unable to fix the burst pipe. The kitchen is flooded.

Due to Mr Tan's _____

70. The boy took some money from the drawer. His mother walked in.

No sooner _____

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

My father's hands were rough and exceedingly strong. He could draw and saw a square with quick accuracy but what I remembered most was the special warmth from those hands soaking through my shirt as he took me by the shoulder on our evening walks. They were good hands that served him well and failed him in one thing: they never learnt to write. The number of illiterates in the country had steadily declined but if there were only one, I would be saddened, remembering my father and the pain he endured because his hands never learnt to write. When he started school, the remedy for a wrong answer was ten ruler strokes across a stretched palm. For some reason, shapes, figures and recitations just did not fall into the right pattern inside his six-year-old head. Maybe he suffered from some type of learning handicap such as dyslexia. His father took him out after several months and set him to a man's job on the farm.

5

10

Years later, his wife, would try to teach him to read. Still later, I would grasp his big fist between my small hands and awkwardly help him trace the letters of his name. He submitted to the **ordeal** but soon grew restless. Flexing his fingers and kneading his palms, he would eventually declare that he had had enough and would depart for a long, solitary walk. Finally, one night when he thought no one saw, he slipped away with his son's second-grade reader and laboured over the words, until they became too difficult. He pressed his forehead into the pages and wept. From farm to road-building and later factory work, his hands served him well. His mind was keen, his will to work, unsurpassed. His enthusiasm and efficiency brought an offer to become a foreman, until he was handed the qualification test.

15

20

It has always been hard for him to stand before a man and make an 'X' mark for his name but the hardest moment of all was when he placed 'his mark' by the name someone else had written for him and saw another man walk away with the title deed to his beloved farm. When it was over, he stood before the window and slowly turned the pen he still held in his hands, gazing, unseeing, down the mountainside. I went out to the barn that afternoon and wept for a long, long time.

25

Eventually, he found a cotton-mill job and we moved into a millhouse. He never quite adjusted to town life. His eyes faded and the skin across his **cheekbones became a little slack**. However, his hands kept their strength and their warmth still soaked through when he would sit me on his lap and ask that I read to him. He took great pride in my reading and would listen for hours as I struggled through the awkward phrases. When Mother left once for a weekend to visit her sister, Dad went to the store and returned with food for dinner. After the meal, he said he had a surprise for dessert and went out to the kitchen where I could hear him opening a can. Then everything was quiet. I went to the doorway and saw him standing before the sink with an open can in his hand. "The picture looked just like pears," he mumbled. He walked out and sat on the back steps and I knew he had been embarrassed before his son. The can read 'Whole White Potatoes'.

30

35

40

Adapted from My Father's Hands by Calvin Worthington

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ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. According to the writer, what was his father's only disadvantage in life?

72. What were the two possible reasons that the writer offered for his father's difficulty in learning to read and write?

73. What was the 'ordeal' (line 15) that the writer submitted his father to?

74. Which four-word phrase tells you that the writer's father had difficulty when he tried to teach himself to read?

75. Explain why the writer's family had to move out of the farm eventually.

76. What can you infer from the phrase 'his cheekbones became a little slack' (line 30-31)?

77. Identify two qualities which enabled the writer's father to find work for most of his life?

78. Explain why the writer's father bought the wrong can of food.

79. What emotions did the writer's father feel during the incident with the can of potatoes? Why?

80. Identify two occasions when the writer experienced the warmth of his father's hand.

End-of-paper

Setters : Lim Siew Hoon
Kimie Sng
Elaine Chong

Answer Ke

1.	1	11.	3	21.	1
2.	4	12.	2	22.	3
3.	2	13.	2	23.	4
4.	3	14.	2	24.	1
5.	1	15.	3	25.	3
6.	2	16.	2	26.	4
7.	1	17.	3	27.	3
8.	1	18.	2	28.	4
9.	4	19.	2	29.	3
10.	2	20.	1	30.	3

31.F	32.L	33.C	34.G	35.N	36.D
37.H	38.K	39.J	40.Q	41.rehearsals	42.were
43.disguised	44.their	45.frowned	46.correct	47.pivotal	48.out
49.its	50.rehabilitate	51.than	52.management	56.tittle	57.place
53.studied	54.of	55.considered	61.sink	62.however	63.for
58.away	59.had	60.nothing			
64.wonder	65.case				

66.No matter how hard Tim tried, He could not hit any pin with the bowling ball.

67.Mr Ong, whose main door was vandalized, made a police report last night.

68.The evening dress that Alice bought was neither attractive nor cheap.

69.Due to Mr Tan's inability to fix the burst pipe, the kitchen is flooded.

70.No sooner when his mother walked in, the boy had already taken some money from the drawer.

71.He could not read nor write.

72. They were the punishment he received at school when he gave the wrong answer and the possibility that he had dyslexia.

73.It was getting his father to trace the letters of his name.

74.The phrase is "laboured over the words".

75.Due to his father's illiteracy, he was cheated of the tittle deed of the house when he unwillingly signed it off.

76.The writer's father had lost weight.

77.The two qualities are his keen mind and his will to work.

78.He saw the picture on the can and thought it was a can of pears.

79.He felt embarrassed and frustrated as he had bought a can of potatoes thinking it contained pears as he could not read the label. As a result, he could not surprise the writer with the dessert.

80.The writer felt the warmth of his father's hand when his father touched the writer's shoulder on the evening walks and when he carried the writer on his lap.