



**RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION  
2011**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( - ) Class: P6 \_\_\_\_\_

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

11 August 2011

English Language

ATT : 1 h 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.

Awarded by Tourism Promotion Board  
Top Ten Heritage Tours!



**The Simply Singapore Walks**

TRAVEL LIGHT PTE. LTD.

*Why The Simply Singapore Walks*

The Simply Singapore Walks is based on a simple principle: to bring people into places most other tours don't - graveyards, haunted houses, wet markets, funeral shops and many more! Like any good tour, it is easy to join.

*No pre-booking is required*

Just show up at the designated meeting point to meet our guide and hop onto the tour. (Meeting points are often MRT Stations, which makes it easy for you to get to.) The person waving this brochure madly in the air would be your guide. If you have a group of ten, we also accept special bookings on other days. Group discounts are available for families.

Fully certified by the Tourism Promotion Board, our guides are a rather interesting bunch of individuals that you would certainly adore.

*Tour Information*

Day	Time	Tour /Walk	Price Adult/Child*	Meeting Place
Mon	6.30p.m. to 8.30p.m.	Secrets of the Lantern A Chinatown Night Walk	<b>Award Winning</b> \$25/\$15	Tanjong Pagar MRT Outside Exit B
Tue	2.30p.m. to 5.00p.m.	Triple Exchange A Shenton Way Walk	\$28/\$15	Entrance of Asian Civilisations Museum
Wed	9.00a.m. to 1.00p.m.	Saris and a Stop for Curry A Little India Walk	<b>Back by Popular Demand</b> \$28/\$15	Little India MRT Outside Exit E
Thu	9.30a.m. to 1.00p.m.	Changi WWII A Changi Museum War Trail	\$38/\$25	Pasir Ris MRT Outside Exit B
Fri	6.30p.m. to 8.30p.m.	Of Dali, Barely & More A Boat Quay Historical Pub Walk	<b>New</b> \$30/ Not applicable	Raffles Place MRT Outside Exit E

- ❖ Not sure how to get to the meeting place? Log onto [www.simplywalk.com](http://www.simplywalk.com) to find out and check out other tours we offer.
- ❖ No pre-booking needed. Just meet our guide at the designated meeting point 5 minutes before the tour.
- ❖ For the Changi Museum War Trail, you may call 6325 1111 by 4p.m the day before to reserve your seat. ~~Availability is on first come first served basis.~~
- ❖ No walks on Public Holidays
- ❖ Below 12 years old

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 difference in The Simply Singapore Walks and other tour operators is its \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) team of friendly and qualified tour guides
  - (2) arrangement for people to meet at convenient locations
  - (3) offering of tours at discounted rates for family members
  - (4) coverage of places which are not commonly found in most tours
  
2. Mr Morgan's family is keen to join the "Secrets of the Lantern" tour. His family must \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) gather a group of ten people
  - (2) make an online booking at [www.simplywalk.com](http://www.simplywalk.com)
  - (3) call 63251111 the day before the tour to reserve the seats
  - (4) be at Tanjong Pagar MRT before 6.25p.m. on the day of the tour
  
3. The Simply Singapore Walks' tour to Little India is the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) easiest to join
  - (2) latest addition to the walks
  - (3) most well-received by its customers
  - (4) cheapest walk offered by the company
  
4. There is a limited number of places for the \_\_\_\_\_ tour.
  - (1) Changi WWII
  - (2) Of Dali, Barely & More
  - (3) Secrets of the Lantern
  - (4) Saris and a Stop for Curry
  
5. According to the brochure, which one of the following statement is true?
  - (1) The tours are suitable for all ages.
  - (2) There are tours conducted every day.
  - (3) The company has gained recognition for its itinerary.
  - (4) The meeting points designated for all the tours are MRT stations.

**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. The class was amazed that Elizabeth could \_\_\_\_\_ such a creative idea.
- (1) think up
  - (2) think out
  - (3) think over
  - (4) think about
7. "No one was present for the meeting, \_\_\_\_\_ there?" asked the organiser.
- (1) is
  - (2) isn't
  - (3) was
  - (4) wasn't
8. Get ready! The race will \_\_\_\_\_ any moment now.
- (1) begin
  - (2) begins
  - (3) began
  - (4) beginning
9. I am not sure which is worse, \_\_\_\_\_ to stay at home to work on my project or shopping with my mother at the grocery shop.
- (1) has
  - (2) have
  - (3) having
  - (4) have had
10. Jenny, together with her good friends, \_\_\_\_\_ going for the show later this afternoon.
- (1) is
  - (2) are
  - (3) was
  - (4) were

11. Stephen \_\_\_\_\_ for more than an hour.

- (1) is waiting
- (2) was waiting
- (3) has been waiting
- (4) have been waiting

12. I saw the boys \_\_\_\_\_ the stray cat when I was on my way to school.

- (1) abuse
- (2) abused
- (3) abusive
- (4) had abusing

**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.

A young teacher hurried into the classroom. "Hey, Brains (13) he whispered to the whiz-kid. "Can you find me something on the Vikings (14) I've left my materials at home."

"After break, Sir," she replied (15) I must look up the Dow Jones as soon as the New York Exchange opens. I'm a bit worried about my shares in Microsoft International."

It was all clear now - she was the whiz-kid who was already surfing electronically all over the planet at age five.

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

14. (1) [ , ] comma  
(2) [ . ] full stop  
(3) [ ! ] exclamation mark  
(4) [ ? ] question mark

15. (1) [ , ] comma  
(2) [ . ] full stop  
(3) [ : " ] colon and inverted commas  
(4) [ . " ] full stop 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. Paul was \_\_\_\_\_ by the squalid living conditions of the nursing home. The home was dirty and had an unpleasant smell.
- (1) appalled
  - (2) surprised
  - (3) entangled
  - (4) disenchanted
17. In business, the \_\_\_\_\_ approach to problems is often more successful than an idealistic one.
- (1) stoic
  - (2) ad hoc
  - (3) random
  - (4) pragmatic
18. The chaos caused by the recent flooding upset many retailers. The authority needs to \_\_\_\_\_ the reasons which had caused the flooding to the retailers.
- (1) enhance
  - (2) elucidate
  - (3) eliminate
  - (4) extradite
19. The children were thrilled at the prospect of going to the Universal Studios. They felt \_\_\_\_\_ the entire day.
- (1) daunted
  - (2) inspired
  - (3) exhilarated
  - (4) apprehensive
20. The richer countries of the world should take \_\_\_\_\_ action to help the poorer countries to gain economic success.
- (1) valuable
  - (2) authentic
  - (3) instructive
  - (4) concerted

**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.

It suddenly dawns on her. She knows the situation is grave, as the news used to  
(21)  
say – of course it is. But nonetheless she feels cheerful, almost ecstatic. As if she's little  
(22)  
drunk. As if they're just going on a picnic. It must be a surge of adrenaline.

The eastern horizon is brightening; mist rises from the trees. Dew shimmers on  
(23)  
the lumiose bushes, mirroring the faint eerie light of their flowers. The sweetness of the  
(24)  
damp meadow breathes all around them. The birds are beginning to stir and chirp; the  
vultures on the bare branches are spreading their wings to dry. A peagret flaps towards  
(25)  
them from the south, sails over the window, then swoops in for a landing on the edge of  
the green-scummed swimming pool.

*Adapted from 'The Year of the Flood' by Margaret Atwood*

21. 1) critical  
2) demise  
3) solemn  
4) thoughtful
22. 1) babbling  
2) exuberant  
3) mockingly  
4) snickeringly
23. 1) dims  
2) shivers  
3) glistens  
4) glances
24. 1) executing  
2) interacting  
3) mimicking  
4) illuminating



25. 1) flutters  
2) flickers  
3) flusters  
4) flounces

**Section F: Comprehension MCQ (5 marks)**

Read the passage and answer questions 26 to 30.

Two years ago, Madam Ong decided to set up closed-circuit television ( CCTV) cameras inside the wards of the two nursing homes that she runs.

What were the reasons? She had received complaints from family members of the residents there that her staff had been handling the elderly residents in a rough way.

Sure enough, video footage showed some handlers mistreating the residents when transferring them from their chairs to their beds. Other clips caught the caretakers yelling at them.

Mr Foo, chief executive of Sree Narayana Mission Home for the Aged Sick, said, "We have zero tolerance for violence and we will have the staff repatriated, or make a police report if need be."

Mr Tan, CEO of Ling Kwang Home for Senior Citizens, said, " This should never happen at any nursing home. Even if the residents are abusive to the staff, they should never react."

However, the homes also said it can be a tough job looking after residents, some of whom are very cranky and demanding. Mr Foo said that the staff are usually met with resistance when trying to get residents to take a bath, or while trying to give them medicine. Some spit at and pinch them, or even hurl abuse at them.

Most homes are running at full capacity given Singapore's ageing population, but many face a severe manpower crunch. The pay is low and working conditions difficult. Often, one caretaker can be assigned to care for as many as 30 able-bodied patients. Foreigners make up the bulk of these caretakers. In some cases, this number can go as high as 85 per cent. Many come from the Philippines, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and China.

"Tempers can also flare because of the language barrier," said Mr Tan.

Across the homes, spot checks are conducted regularly by the senior nurses and they have sessions with their staff for them to air their grievances. They also speak to residents to get feedback.

Madam Ong said she spoke to the 30 caregivers working in her two homes after the video footage came to light. "If one of my workers did that, I would definitely sack them. I have spoken to all of them about the incident. I do not tolerate that," she said.

*Adapted from The Straits Times, 11 June 2011*

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. Why did Madam Ong set up the closed-circuit television in the two homes which she runs?
- (1) She wanted to find out if the residents were misbehaving at the homes.
  - (2) There should be closed-circuit television cameras set up in nursing homes.
  - (3) She received complaints from the residents of the homes that the staff had mistreated them.
  - (4) The family members of the residents of the homes had raised concerns about the mistreatment of the residents.
27. The word 'This' in line 11 in the passage refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) the staff abusing the residents of the nursing homes.
  - (2) the residents of the nursing homes being abusive to the staff.
  - (3) Mr Tan who is the CEO of Ling Kwang Home for Senior Citizens.
  - (4) the video footage capturing the staff abusing the residents of the nursing homes.
28. According to the passage, what had contributed to the manpower shortage faced by the nursing homes?
- (1) There are few nursing homes in Singapore.
  - (2) There are few foreigners applying for the job.
  - (3) The job is demanding and it does not pay well.
  - (4) The staff do not like the spot checks conducted by the senior nurses.
29. Which word in the passage has the same meaning as "explode"?
- (1) hurl
  - (2) flare
  - (3) crunch
  - (4) repatriate
30. What are the measures taken to address the problem faced by the homes?
- (1) Caregivers are assigned to less than 30 able-bodied patients.
  - (2) Language classes for the caregivers have been conducted to ease the language barrier.
  - (3) Checks are carried out regularly and feedback sessions are conducted for the staff and residents.
  - (4) Spot checks are done by senior nurses regularly and feedback sessions are conducted for the staff only.

**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) also	(B) after	(C) by	(D) before
(E) can	(F) for	(G) since	(H) to
(J) then	(K) who	(L) will	(M) with
(N) when	(P) where	(Q) which	

Although diamonds were first mined in India more than 2,800 years ago, the modern industry began (31) \_\_\_\_\_ discoveries in South Africa in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Today, the top four diamond-producing countries, which account (32) \_\_\_\_\_ 80 percent of the world's supply, are Australia, Zaire, Botswana and the former Soviet Union. South Africa ranks fifth.

(33) \_\_\_\_\_ the diamonds have been extracted from the ore, they are sent to a factory in London (34) \_\_\_\_\_ trained sorters classify them according to size, shape, quality and colour.

They are (35) \_\_\_\_\_ sold to diamond cutters and dealers in the principal cutting centres of the world.

(36) \_\_\_\_\_ the untrained eye, an uncut or rough diamond looks like a pebble and it is the skill of the diamond cutter (37) \_\_\_\_\_ unlocks its brilliance.

(38) \_\_\_\_\_ diamonds are the hardest known natural substance known to man, they (39) \_\_\_\_\_ only be cut and polished (40) \_\_\_\_\_ another diamond.

*Adapted from [www.diamondtrade.com/basics/valuable](http://www.diamondtrade.com/basics/valuable)*

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.

(41)

The sunlight came down distorted, a thick hot orange. **Opresive** it was, too. The

(42)

locusts were coming fast. The rustling of the locust armies is like a big forest in the

storm, the ground was invisible in a sleek brown surging tide – it was like being drowned

(43)

in locusts, submerged by the loathsome brown flood. In the kitchen Margaret can hear

(44)

nothing but the ~~seezeless~~ rustle of a myriad wing.

(45)

Margaret recalled last year the men have announced their final and irremediable

(46)

ruin after the locust attack. She began to cry. After a short while, she **rouzd** herself,

wiped her eyes, pretended that she had not been crying and fetched the men supper.

Everything was to be replanted. With a bit of luck, another swarm would not

(47)

come travelling up just this way. However, the men hoped it would rain very soon. As for

Margaret, she was trying to get used to the idea of three or four years of locusts. Locusts

(48)

were going to be like bad weather, from now on, always **imeenant**. No amount of crops

(49)

could satisfy the **insashayabel** appetite of the locusts. She felt like a survivor after war --

(50)

if this **devastate** was not ruin, well, what then was ruin?

*Adapted from A Mild attack of Locusts by Doris Lessing*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

P6 ( )

**Section I: Comprehension Cloze Passage (15 marks)**

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

Biologists think pufferfish, also known as blowfish, developed their famous "inflatability" because their slow, somewhat clumsy swimming style makes them \_\_\_\_\_ to predators. In lieu of escape;

(51)

pufferfish use their highly elastic stomachs and the ability to quickly ingest huge amounts of \_\_\_\_\_ and even air when necessary to turn themselves into a virtually inedible ball several

(52)

\_\_\_\_\_ their normal size. Some species also have spines on their skin which make them appear

(53)

even \_\_\_\_\_ palatable.

(54)

A predator that manages to catch a puffer before it inflates will not feel lucky \_\_\_\_\_ long.

(55)

Almost all pufferfish contain tetrodotoxin, a \_\_\_\_\_ that makes them foul tasting and often lethal to

(56)

fish. To humans, tetrodotoxin is deadly, up to 1,200 times more poisonous \_\_\_\_\_ cyanide. There is

(57)

enough toxin in one pufferfish to kill 30 adult humans, and there is no known antidote.

Amazingly, the meat of some pufferfish is considered a \_\_\_\_\_ . Called *fugu* in Japan, it

(58)

is extremely expensive and only prepared by trained, licensed chefs who know that one bad cut means almost certain \_\_\_\_\_ for a customer. In fact, many such deaths occur annually.

(59)

There are more than 120 species of pufferfish worldwide. Most are found in tropical and subtropical ocean waters, but some species live in brackish and even fresh water. They have long, tapered bodies with bulbous

heads. Some wear wild markings and colours to advertise their toxicity, while others have more muted or

cryptic colouring to \_\_\_\_\_ in with their environment.

(60)

They \_\_\_\_\_ in size from the 2.5-centimetre-long dwarf or pygmy puffer to the  
(61)  
freshwater giant puffer, which can \_\_\_\_\_ to more than 61 centimetres in length. They are scaleless  
(62)  
fish and usually have rough to spiky skin. All have four teeth at their mouth that are fused together into  
beak-like form. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the pufferfish includes mostly invertebrates and algae. Large  
(63)  
specimens will even crack open and eat clams, mussels, and shellfish \_\_\_\_\_ their hard beaks  
(64)  
Poisonous puffers are believed to synthesise their deadly toxin from the bacteria in the animals they eat.  
Some species of pufferfish are considered vulnerable due \_\_\_\_\_ pollution, habitat loss, and  
(65)  
overfishing, but most populations are considered stable.

*Adapted from <http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/fish/pufferfish>*

**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. I gave Mary my soft toy and she gave me her book.

\_\_\_\_\_ in exchange  
\_\_\_\_\_

67. Peter could not pass the physical fitness test. He tried very hard.

However \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68. She put on a disguise. She did not want her friends to recognise her.

To avoid \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

69. The patient must take his medicine regularly. Only then will he get well.

\_\_\_\_\_ unless \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

70. "Where do you live?" the policeman asked the girl.

The policeman asked the girl \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Section K: Comprehension Open-Ended (20 marks)**

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

We were lying under some trees in the peace of the evening. It looked as though all our dangers were behind us and in a few moments, when the sun finally set, we could then start out on the last stage of our escape to the farm.

Suddenly, a dog howled in the village half a mile beneath us in the valley where, barely visible through the green leaves, were the roofs of farms. Someone said, 'Bloodhounds' and we all laughed, but the next moment they all began to bay together and there were sounds of organised activity. I knew we were in for it then. The light was already beginning to fall. Under the canopy of trees it had become quite murky.

When the silence was first broken by the baying of those bloodhounds, I remember vividly how I felt suddenly sick with fear; my limbs had seemed to become paralysed and I did not trust the steadiness of my voice to speak. We were surrounded in the woods with night coming down and hunted mercilessly by our enemies. I realised in that moment how dearly one clings to life in the last struggle- instinctively against all reason.

The bloodhounds had clearly got our scent; otherwise they would not have started to track us at that one spot in all those forests, nor would they have begun as night was approaching. I knew that escape was now beyond us.

At first we sat and listened to that intermittent howling of the dogs, one minute silent and then the next all speaking together like a pack. They sounded at first as if they were veering away from us to the east. For a split second, I was hopeful. However, before I knew it, we suddenly heard them again much nearer now in the same part of the woods as we were lurking. My heart fell.

I visualised how at any moment men with lanterns following the hounds on the leash would burst into the clearing. Then the last desperate exchange of shots would follow. I had no wish to flee farther but would have preferred to stand my ground and face our pursuers with what dignity was possible in the circumstances.

However, the others were for continuing as long as possible, so I led them off along the forest paths. We made an awful noise on the crackling leaves in our hurry and that did not help at all in concealing our presence. Once or twice, I stopped to listen, for if they were searching the woods for us, I would presume they had put a cordon round it.

*An extract from Hugh Damer's Diaries*

All answers must be in complete sentences.

71. What were the narrator and his men waiting for as they lay under some trees in the evening?

---

---

72. Why were the roofs of farms difficult to see?

---

---

73. What did the narrator mean when he said that they were "in for it" (line 7) then?

---

---

74. Which word in paragraph two showed that it was dark and gloomy in the woods?

---

---

75. In your own words, explain how you know that the narrator felt extremely frightened?

---

---

76. Which two-word phrase in the third paragraph showed that the narrator's enemies were cruel and pitiless in pursuit of him and his men?

---

---

77. How were the bloodhounds able to track the narrator and his men?

---

---

78. Explain clearly why the narrator said that his 'heart fell.'

---

---

79. How did the narrator show that he respected the decision made by his men?

---

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80. How had the narrator's view of their chance of escaping changed by the end of the passage?

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End-of-paper

# Answer Ke

## EXAM PAPER 2011

SCHOOL : RAFFLES GIRL'S  
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH

TERM : PRELIMINARY

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

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
2	3	4	1	2	3	3	1	4	1	3	2	3	M	F	B	P

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
J	H	Q	G	E	C

- 41)Oppressive      42)was      43)could      44)ceaseless      45)had  
46)roused      47)down      48)imminent      49)insatiable      50)devastation  
51)susceptible/noticeable/vulnerable      52)water      53)times  
54)less      55)for      56)toxin      57)than      58)delicacy  
59)death      60)blend      61)range      62)grow      63)diet  
64)with      65)to

66)I gave Mary my soft toy in exchange for her book.

67)However hard Peter tried, he could not pass the physical fitness test.

68)To avoid being recognised by her friends, she put on disguise.

69)The patient will not get well unless he takes his medicine regularly.

70)The policeman asked the girl where she lived.

71)They were waiting for the sun to set so that they could start out on the last stage of their escape to the farm.

72)The roofs of the farms were blocked by green leaves.

73)The narrator meant that their enemies were hunting for them mercilessly.

74)The word is "murky".

75)When the narrator heard the bloodhounds baying, he suddenly felt frightened, his arms and legs seemed unable to move and his voice was shaky.

76)The phrase is "hunted mercilessly".

77)The bloodhounds had clearly got their scent and would be able to sniff them out.

78)The narrator was hopeful at first, thinking that the enemies were veering away from them but he heard them much nearer, in the same part of the woods as they were lurking and the narrator felt disappointed.

79)He did not want to flee farther but his men wanted to continue for as long as possible and the narrator agreed, leading them off along the forest path.

80)In the beginning the narrator felt that they were no longer in danger. However, at the end, he knew that they had little chance of escaping.