



MARIS STELLA HIGH SCHOOL (PRIMARY)

2023 END-OF-YEAR EXAMINATION

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)

BOOKLET A

24 October 2023 (Tuesday)

28 marks

Total Time for Booklets A and B: 1 h 50 min

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ (     )

CLASS : PRIMARY 5 \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
2. Follow all instructions carefully.
3. Answer all questions.
4. Use a 2B pencil to shade your answers on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.

For each question from 1 to 10, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet.

(10 marks)

1. The twins have worked very hard for their examinations but \_\_\_\_\_ of them has won the scholarship.

(1) both  
(2) each  
(3) either  
(4) neither

2. After \_\_\_\_\_ effort, the elderly lady succeeded in climbing the long flight of stairs.

(1) few  
(2) many  
(3) much  
(4) several

3. Not realising that two passers-by \_\_\_\_\_ the accident to the police, Andrew ran to the nearby police station.

(1) report  
(2) reported  
(3) has reported  
(4) had reported

4. Susan was dizzy. The teacher asked the monitor to go \_\_\_\_\_ her to the General Office.

(1) to  
(2) on  
(3) by  
(4) with

5. Wallus did not visit his grandparents in Australia last holiday, \_\_\_\_\_?

(1) did he  
(2) does he  
(3) didn't he  
(4) doesn't he

6. My grandfather took my sister and \_\_\_\_\_ for a swim last week.
- (1) I
  - (2) my
  - (3) me
  - (4) myself
7. Mr Tan reminded John, "To be able to leave Singapore, you \_\_\_\_\_ have your passport with you."
- (1) will
  - (2) may
  - (3) shall
  - (4) must
8. "Stop blaming \_\_\_\_\_ for what happened. It was an accident," Mr Malek comforted his son.
- (1) itself
  - (2) himself
  - (3) herself
  - (4) yourself
9. The heel of the shoe gave way \_\_\_\_\_ the usual wear and tear.
- (1) in spite of
  - (2) giving rise to
  - (3) regardless of
  - (4) resulting from
10. Worried about his mother, Peter could not sleep \_\_\_\_\_ he was very tired.
- (1) although
  - (2) however
  - (3) despite
  - (4) since

For each question from 11 to 15, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet.

(5 marks)

11. Rani and I saw the bully beat up the timid boy. The bully's behaviour was \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) striking
- (2) stunning
- (3) appalling
- (4) mystifying

12. Jenny frowned in \_\_\_\_\_ when Dan could not understand what she was trying to tell him.

- (1) exhortation
- (2) exhilaration
- (3) exasperation
- (4) exaggeration

13. The hikers were lost and hungry. They faced a \_\_\_\_\_ when they had to choose between staying put and continuing to hike.

- (1) dilemma
- (2) condition
- (3) consequence
- (4) consideration

14. The pampered princess lived so \_\_\_\_\_ that she squandered away all her family's wealth.

- (1) ignorantly
- (2) abundantly
- (3) excessively
- (4) extravagantly

15. Everyone applauded when the last runner \_\_\_\_\_ across the finishing line despite the excruciating pain from a fall.

- (1) sashayed
- (2) sauntered
- (3) staggered
- (4) scampered

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word closest in meaning to the underlined word(s).  
Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

I am Dr Bertoni, a researcher from the department of Zoology and Endangered Species. After several months of futile (16) attempts, I finally succeeded in capturing a Riverine rabbit which was thought to be extinct.

Far from looking for the rabbit, I had other worries and was walking down a narrow pavement, feeling a bit (17) downcast. Just then, I spotted the Riverine rabbit. (18) Stealthily, I advanced, fearing at each moment that it would take flight. It is one of the fastest animals in creation.

The Riverine rabbit turned and looked at me. Contrary to what I expected, it did not flee but kept still, with the sole exception of the silver tuft of feathers that shook as if to (19) challenge me. When I got close, I took off my shirt and in one swift (20) move, I had it over the rabbit. I wrapped it up, beaming in pride.

16. (1) tries  
(2) mishaps  
(3) chances  
(4) opportunities
17. (1) dejected  
(2) disgraced  
(3) disoriented  
(4) disadvantaged
18. (1) Fitfully  
(2) Abruptly  
(3) Cunningly  
(4) Cautiously
19. (1) annoy  
(2) irritate  
(3) contest  
(4) question
20. (1) dive  
(2) attack  
(3) stroke  
(4) swoop

Study this brochure carefully and then answer questions 21 to 28.

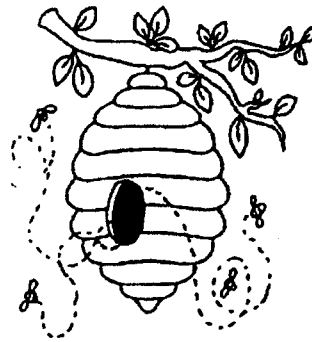
## Weekly Nature Feature: Our Beloved Busy Bees

by Samantha Lee  
30 September 2023

*Bees are fascinating insects that play a crucial role in our environment!  
Read on to find out more about them!*

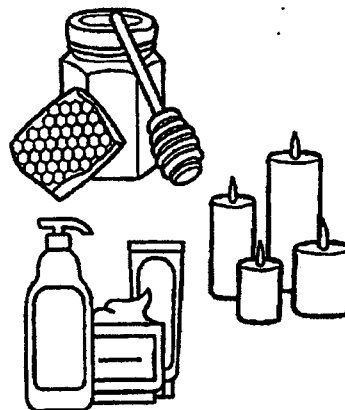
### The Life of Bees

Bees live in interesting communities. In every hive, there are three types of bees: the queen, the drones and the workers. The queen is the only female bee that lays eggs. The drones are male bees that mate with the queen. The workers are all female and seem to be responsible for everything – they build the hive, collect nectar, make honey, and take care of the young bees.



### The Importance of Bees

- Bees are responsible for pollinating many of the flowers we rely on for food, ensuring that the plants are able to reproduce.
- Without bees, our supply of countless fruits, vegetables and nuts may run out one day.
- In addition to pollination, bees produce honey, beeswax and royal jelly, which are used for diverse purposes.
- Honey is a natural sweetener that is good for health.
- Beeswax is used in cosmetics and candles.
- Royal jelly is a popular ingredient in beauty and health products as it is believed to offer anti-ageing benefits and boost the immune system.
- Bees are extremely important for the environment and human survival.



### The Threats to Bees

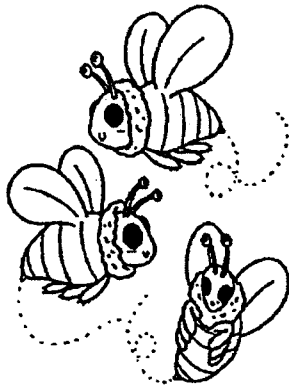
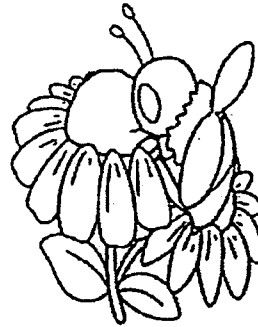
Unfortunately, climate change, habitat destruction and chemical use are the main threats bees face. To protect them, we can plant bee-friendly plants in our gardens, support local beekeepers and reduce our use of pesticides.



# How Honey is Made

## Stage 1

Bees leave their hives in search of flowers and use their long tongue, which works like a straw, to suck a sugary juice called nectar out of the flowers. The nectar is stored in a second stomach - also known as the honey stomach.

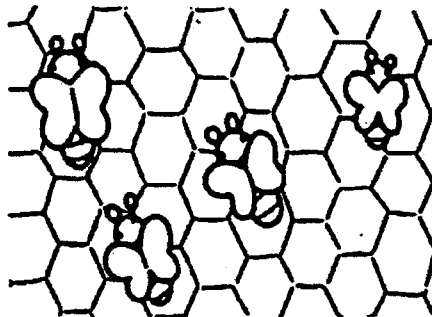


## Stage 2

After filling their second stomach, the bees will return to their hives and pass the nectar through their mouths to other bees. Those bees will chew on the nectar for about thirty minutes and pass it to another bee. As the nectar is passed from bee to bee, it is turned into honey.

## Stage 3

Once the nectar becomes honey, the bees will store it in honeycomb cells, which are like little jars made of wax. The bees then flap their wings over the honey, fanning it to assist the evaporation of excess water and make it thicker and more like syrup. Once the honey is ready, the bees will seal the cells using wax lids.



## Final Stage

Skilled beekeepers can take the finished honey from the hive, taking care not to disturb the colony or damage the hive.

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For each question from 21 to 28, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet. (8 marks)

21. The purpose of the exclamation marks for the two statements in the box under the main heading "Weekly Nature Feature: Our Beloved Busy Bees" is to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) explain that bees are fascinating
  - (2) draw attention to the role bees play
  - (3) present the ideas behind the article
  - (4) get people excited about reading the article
22. Which of the following is **not** true of a bee's community?
- (1) There is only one queen in every hive.
  - (2) The drones play a role in reproduction.
  - (3) The queen takes care of the young bees.
  - (4) The workers leave the hives in search of flowers.
23. According to the article, bees have the ability to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) promote anti-ageing
  - (2) improve the immune system
  - (3) produce cosmetics and candles
  - (4) pollinate which ensures there is food supply
24. In the section "The Importance of Bees", which word best describes the uses of the substances produced by bees?
- (1) popular
  - (2) diverse
  - (3) countless
  - (4) responsible
25. The section "The Threats to Bees" is included in the article for all the following possible reasons except \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) to encourage people to keep bees
  - (2) to discourage the use of pesticides
  - (3) to raise awareness of the plight of bees
  - (4) to persuade people to grow certain plants

26. In the sentence, "The nectar is stored in a second stomach – also known as the honey stomach", the dash is used to present the second part as \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) an alternative for the first part
- (2) an explanation of the first part
- (3) information relating to the first part
- (4) information less important than the first part

27. Bees turn nectar into honey by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) bringing nectar back to their hives
- (2) filling their second stomach with nectar
- (3) chewing on nectar and passing it to one another
- (4) using their long tongue to suck nectar out of flowers

28. What is the main purpose of this article?

- (1) to promote the protection of bees
- (2) to show readers how bees make honey
- (3) to highlight the benefits of honey products
- (4) to educate readers on the important role of bees

Read this passage and answer questions 71 to 80 (in Booklet B).

As Evan stepped foot into his new primary school on his first day, a mix of excitement and nervousness filled his heart. However, he soon realised that fitting in would not be easy as he had hoped. During lunch breaks, when other students formed close-knit groups, Evan found himself standing alone in a corner, unsure of how to approach them. He would timidly linger nearby, hoping to be invited into their conversations, but to his dismay, the students simply ignored his presence. Over time, his struggle to find acceptance and build friendships became a problem for Evan. To make matters worse, Evan's family was experiencing financial difficulties. He felt a pang of envy as he watched his classmates excitedly sign up for the enrichment activities that required additional fees. 5

The thought of his family struggling to make ends meet weighed heavily on Evan though he was grateful for his daily allowance on food and transport. Often, when he caught sight of his classmates catching up over food in the mall nearby, tears welled up in his eyes. He was devastated when he saw the fancy stationery his classmates used in the class. He was filled with remorse nonetheless. He knew that this added to the financial problems that his parents were facing. 10

Weeks flew by quickly. The exams arrived. By then, the absence of meaningful connections took a toll on Evan's self-esteem. He began to doubt his own worth, wondering if he was the problem and not worthy of friendship. Despite his personal struggles, Evan tried to remain positive. He sought solace in Art by turning to drawing and painting as a way to express his emotions. He also poured his heart into his diary, hoping to release his pent-up emotions. 15

One day, during Art class, Evan's teacher, Mrs Lim, noticed his talent. She said, "Evan, you have a remarkable talent. Have you ever considered joining the school's Art Club?" 20

Evan replied hesitantly, "I would love to, Mrs Lim, but I heard there's a fee to join. I don't think I can afford it as my family is already struggling with expenses."

Mrs Lim answered, "Don't worry about the fees, Evan. We'll find a way to work it out."

Mrs Lim's reassurance gave him a glimmer of hope. For the first time, he felt valued. She spoke to the school management about Evan's situation and they found a way to waive the fees for him. When she informed Evan about it, his heart swelled with gratitude. Since joining the Art Club, Evan not only had the chance to hone his skills but also connect with like-minded peers. Slowly, they began to involve him in their conversations. 25

One day, after CCA, Luke, a fellow member, approached Evan with a smile.

Luke asked with a twinkle in his eye, "Hey, Evan, your artwork is amazing! Do you mind showing me some art techniques sometime?" 30

Evan replied enthusiastically, "Of course not, Luke! I'd be happy to show them to you now."

The genuine interest of Luke moved Evan's heart. It was a small gesture, but it meant the world to him. From that moment on, Luke and Evan became friends. Evan's circle of friends expanded. He began to participate more actively in class discussions and even outside the Art Club. 35

The biggest turning point for Evan came when the school was organising a charity event. During a class discussion, he presented his proposal, with ease, about having care packages that could be given out to less privileged families. All his classmates supported his wonderful idea. During the charity event, his teachers and classmates saw a side of Evan's dedication and passion and many commended him for his efforts. Evan's father was moved to see the positive change in his son. He said to Mrs Lim, "I can't thank you all enough for making Evan feel so loved." 40

End of Booklet A

(Go on to the next page)



MARIS STELLA HIGH SCHOOL (PRIMARY)

2023 END-OF-YEAR EXAMINATION

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)

BOOKLET B

24 October 2023 (Tuesday)

67 marks

Total Time for Booklets A and B: 1 h 50 min

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

CLASS : PRIMARY - \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
2. Follow all instructions carefully.
3. Answer all questions.
4. Write all your answers in this booklet.

**MARKS OBTAINED**

BOOKLET A : \_\_\_\_\_ / 28

BOOKLET B : \_\_\_\_\_ / 67

TOTAL : \_\_\_\_\_ / 95

PARENT'S SIGNATURE : \_\_\_\_\_

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. (10 marks)

**EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.**

- 
- |           |             |             |          |           |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|----------|-----------|
| (A) above | (D) between | (G) from    | (K) is   | (N) to    |
| (B) are   | (E) by      | (H) however | (L) more | (P) when  |
| (C) at    | (F) for     | (J) in      | (M) on   | (Q) while |
- 

Food labels can provide one with information on healthier food products as well as help decipher the nutrient claims that may be present on food packaging. Do you pay attention (29)\_\_\_\_\_ the food labels before purchasing your food items? Many of us are not in the habit of checking food labels regularly. According to a public survey conducted last August, only one (30)\_\_\_\_\_ five Singaporeans checks the food labels when buying packaged food. Many others read labels only in specific situations – for example, (31)\_\_\_\_\_ buying something for the first time or for their children with dietary needs.

Age makes a difference too. Young adults, in particular (32)\_\_\_\_\_ increasingly guilty of careless shopping. The number of young adults today checking labels (33)\_\_\_\_\_ lower than in the past decade. According to a report (34)\_\_\_\_\_ our local agriculture department, 52 per cent of those aged (35)\_\_\_\_\_ 29 years old, read food labels. This was a 10 per cent drop (36)\_\_\_\_\_ the previous year.

(37)\_\_\_\_\_, shoppers who read food labels tend to have something in common. They noted if the product contains fattening substances.

"I only check (38)\_\_\_\_\_ fattening substances," said Ms Serene Ho, aged 25, a materials engineer. She feels that fattening substances pose many health risks.

It is important that everyone makes it a habit to read food labels.

Score: / 10
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Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in each of the boxes. (12 marks)

Do you believe in Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO)? Recently, a housewife

(39)

had captured amazing footage of an enomous UFO on her video while gardening.

(40)

An unbeliever of UFOs, Mrs Thames, has mantanned that the UFO hovered near

(41)

her house for a hour. She estimated it was at least one kilometre wide. Both she

(42)

(43)

and her husband describing the object as pink and white in orange and blue lights.

(44)

It had a dark centre and beamed pulses of intanse light. The uncommon sighting

(45)

flew just two kilometres above their home before blasted away into the night sky

(46)

on an incredible speed. They were so excited that within the next hour, they had

(47)

a dozen relatives and friends over to viewed the footage captured. All who saw it

(48)

were orestuck. The footage was later handed to the space experts. Despite a

detailed study being conducted on the video footage, the experts could not explain

(49)

(50)

the strange ocurance. They suspected that the sighting was seemilar to the one

captured by their own cameras during a space shuttle mission. Today, the

existence of UFOs remains a mystery.

Score: / 12

(Go on to the next page)

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Scuba diving is fast becoming a very popular and adventurous water sport. The number of people taking up this (51) \_\_\_\_\_ has increased tremendously ever since it was (52) \_\_\_\_\_ in Singapore by the Sports Association.

The term 'Scuba' (53) \_\_\_\_\_ for Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus. In scuba diving, divers carry air tanks on their (54) \_\_\_\_\_ when they go underwater. Before scuba diving (55) \_\_\_\_\_ invented, people dived with a heavy helmet that had an air tube attached to it. Air was usually pumped from a boat at the surface (56) \_\_\_\_\_ the diver below.

Scuba diving is a very good and healthy (57) \_\_\_\_\_ of exercise. There are many advantages in this sport. Firstly, divers learn to control (58) \_\_\_\_\_ breathing, which helps in their blood circulation. Secondly, the air they breathe is (59) \_\_\_\_\_ cleaner than the normal air they breathe on land. The air in the tank is filtered before it is pumped into the air tank. Thirdly, divers become weightless when they are submerged in the (60) \_\_\_\_\_. This takes away the weight from their legs. Divers would feel that they are floating in the air. Similarly, it is necessary for astronauts to be trained underwater to experience being weightless (61) \_\_\_\_\_ their space missions begin.

Next, divers cannot help (62) \_\_\_\_\_ notice the amount of space around them when they are underwater. This is especially so in densely populated Singapore where buildings (63) \_\_\_\_\_ built so close to one another due to limited land space. Lastly, the only sound that divers would hear underwater is their own breathing. In our daily lives, there is a lot of (64) \_\_\_\_\_ we hear that may distract us - people talking, telephones ringing, the sound of vehicles moving, the sound from televisions and radios, etc. As a result, divers enjoy the quietness when they go underwater.

People who do not dive would miss three (65) \_\_\_\_\_ of the world because only one quarter of the world is not covered with water. Scuba diving is indeed a healthy sport that all should experience at least once in a lifetime.

Score: / 15

For each of the questions 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 the meaning of the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

66. Adam is a regular blood donor. His sisters are regular blood donors too.

\_\_\_\_\_

as well as \_\_\_\_\_

67. If you do not take a taxi to school, you will not be able to get there on time.

Unless \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

68. John dislikes eating salad. His brothers dislike eating salad too.

Neither \_\_\_\_\_ nor \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

69. Jane opened the parcel left outside the house. She was curious

It was with \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

70. "Did you hand in the consent form yesterday?" Mr Tan asked Tim.

Mr Tan asked \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Score: / 10
-------------



Read the passage on page 9 in Booklet A and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

Do not  
write  
in this  
space.

71. From the first paragraph, besides being new to the school, what are two reasons that caused Evan to be left on his own during lunch? (2m)

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☐

72. Explain fully why Evan felt "a pang of envy" (line 7). (2m)

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☐

73. Which two-word phrase from lines 9-13 shows that Evan was deeply troubled by problems at home? (1m)

☐

74. Based on lines 9-13, list two problems Evan faced because of his family's financial situation. (2m)

Problems faced by Evan

(a) He could not \_\_\_\_\_

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---

---

(b) He could not \_\_\_\_\_

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---

☐

75. Based on the passage, state two actions that Evan did to remain positive (lines 14-18)? (2m)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

☐

76. Look at the table below. What do the words in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. [3m]

Do not write in this space.

Words from the passage	What the words refer to
(a) a problem (line 6)	
(b) then (line 14)	
(c) wonderful idea (line 38)	

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

- \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs Lim invited Evan to join the Art Club.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs Lim could tell that Evan was talented in Art.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Evan was grateful for all that Mrs Lim had done.

78. Based on the story, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [3m]

	True/False	Reason
Evan was not concerned with the fees he had to pay if he were to join the Art Club.		
Evan connected well with the students in the Art Club.		
Luke was eager to learn from Evan.		

79. Which two of the following words correctly describe how Evan felt in lines 33-41? Put a tick ✓ in the box beside each of your answers. [2m]

amazed


confident


touched

arrogant

shocked

overwhelmed

Do not write in this space.

--

80. In lines 40-41, Evan's father said, "I can't thank you all enough for making Evan feel so loved." State two ways how Mrs Lim and the school management had indirectly helped Evan to find his place in the school. [2m]

People involved	How they had helped Evan
Mrs Lim	
School management	

--

END OF PAPER

Score: 14 / 20



**SCHOOL : MARIS STELLA HIGH SCHOOL**  
**LEVEL : PRIMARY 5**  
**SUBJECT : ENGLISH**  
**TERM : 2023 SA2**

**PAPER 2**

Q 1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
4	3	4	4	1	3	4	4	4	1
Q 11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
3	3	1	4	3	1	1	4	3	4
Q 21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30
4	3	4	2	1	4	3	4	N	J
Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38		
P	B	K	E	A	G	H	F		

Q39)	Enormous	Q43)	With	Q47)	View
Q40)	Maintained	Q44)	Intense	Q48)	Awestruck
Q41)	An	Q45)	Blasting	Q49)	Occurrence
Q42)	Described	Q46)	At	Q50)	Similar

Q51)	Sport	Q56)	To	Q61)	Before
Q52)	Introduced	Q57)	Type	Q62)	But
Q53)	Stands	Q58)	Their	Q63)	Are
Q54)	Backs	Q59)	Much	Q64)	Noise
Q55)	Was	Q60)	Water	Q65)	Quarters

Q66)	Adam, as well as his sisters, is a regular blood donor.
Q67)	Unless you take a taxi to school, you will not be able to get there on time.
Q68)	Neither John nor his brothers like eating salad.
Q69)	It was with curiosity that Jane opened the parcel left outside the house.
Q70)	Mr Tan asked Tim if he had handed in the consent form the previous day.

Q71)	He was unsure how to approach the students and they simple ignored his presence.
Q72)	Evan watched his classmates excitedly sign up for the enrichment activities that required additional fees which he could not afford as his family was experiencing financial difficulties.
Q73)	Weighted heavily
Q74a)	He could not afford to catch up over food in the mall with his classmates.
Q74b)	He could not afford the fancy stationery his classmates used in the class.
Q75)	(1) He sought solace in Art by turning to drawing and painting. (2) He poured his heart into his diary.
Q76a)	Evan struggled to find acceptance and build friendships.
Q76b)	When the exams arrived
Q76c)	Evan's idea of having care packages that could be given to the less privileged families.
Q77)	2, 1, 3
Q78)	False; he replied hesitantly when Mrs Lim asked him to join the Art Club, saying he could not afford the fees. True; they began to involve him in their conversations. True; one day after CCA, Luke asked Evan to show him some art techniques.
Q79)	Touched, confident
Q80)	Mrs Lim: invited Evan to join the Art Club and spoke to the school management School management: they found a way to waive the fees for Evan