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2023

PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH TEST PAPERS

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TEMASEK PRIMARY SCHOOL SA2 PAPER

Section A – Grammar

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 John, _____ that his parents were not at home when he returned after school, immediately started playing online games with his friends.

(1) realised
(2) realising
(3) had realised
(4) was realising

2 Mrs Tan has _____ reason to worry about her children now that they are all grown up and have started working.

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

3 Old Mr Lim shared with us how he would just watch his classmates _____ in the school field during recess every day as he was too shy to join them.

(1) play
(2) plays
(3) played
(4) playing

4 "Could Devi _____ home without her wallet?" Mrs Raj wondered while staring at the familiar-looking wallet on the dining table.

(1) left
(2) leave
(3) had left
(4) have left

5 When Siti and her family first migrated to Australia, they had difficulty adapting _____ the way of life there.

(1) in
(2) to
(3) for
(4) with

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6 "She hardly snacks between meals, _____?" asked Sally.

(1) has she
(2) does she
(3) hasn't she
(4) doesn't she

7 The packet of assorted biscuits _____ by my brother last week.

(1) was bought
(2) were bought
(3) has been bought
(4) have been bought

8 "_____ it is natural to feel upset when you do not meet the targets you have set for yourself, do not ever give up," our form teacher advised us.

(1) While
(2) Unless
(3) However
(4) Moreover

9 The number of scam cases reported _____ currently on the rise.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

10 Mrs Chen and her family decided to take advantage _____ the good weather by going to the beach for a picnic.

(1) of
(2) on
(3) by
(4) from

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Section B – Vocabulary

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 All schools must follow the country's _____ curriculum to ensure students are prepared for the national examinations.

(1) elected
(2) installed
(3) appointed
(4) prescribed

12 As Tania had come in last in the trials, I was _____ when she told me that she stood a chance at winning the next race.

(1) hesitant
(2) sceptical
(3) undecided
(4) suspicious

13 The defendant was eventually _____ of all charges as there was insufficient evidence to prove guilt.

(1) liberated
(2) released
(3) acquitted
(4) relinquished

14 Sarah glared _____ at her brother when he refused to return her diary to her.

(1) severely
(2) grievously
(3) menacingly
(4) precariously

15 The students _____ the performance for Teachers' Day despite the lack of practice due to their busy schedules.

(1) drew up
(2) got over
(3) pulled off
(4) put across

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Section C – Vocabulary Cloze

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)

Dolphins are small-toothed mammals. They are easily recognisable by their curved mouths, which give them a permanent (16) "smile". Most dolphins live in the ocean or brackish waters along coastlines, though there are a few species that live in freshwater streams and rivers. Dolphins feed chiefly (17) on fish and squid which they track using echolocation, a built-in sonar that bounces sound waves off prey and reveals (18) information like its location, size and shape.

Living in pods that can number a dozen or more, dolphins are intensely (19) social mammals that communicate with squeaks, whistles and clicks. They are graceful swimmers that can reach (20) speeds of more than 18 miles an hour. They are also playful and often frolic in a boat's wake, leaping out of the water – possibly for fun, to communicate, or to even shed pesky parasites.

Adapted from *https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/facts/dolphins*

16 (1) stable
(2) durable
(3) recurring
(4) perpetual

17 (1) typically
(2) regularly
(3) substantially
(4) predominantly

18 (1) admits
(2) declares
(3) discloses
(4) confesses

19 (1) obviously
(2) extremely
(3) noticeably
(4) seemingly

20 (1) attain
(2) access
(3) manage
(4) accomplish

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Section D – Visual Text Comprehension

Study this article from a magazine, Youth Vibes, and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Outdoor Adventures: Good Safety Tips



by James Liew
18 August 2023



If you do not have any plans for the school holidays, you may want to consider embarking on an outdoor adventure. How about doing some hiking in a forest? Or perhaps going on a camping trip with your family or friends? Such activities offer you excellent opportunities to have fun and get close to nature at the same time, but safety needs to be your number one priority. Whatever you do, make sure you pick up essential survival skills and pack wisely before setting off.

Unexpected things can sometimes happen in the great outdoors. Since you can never anticipate exactly what might go wrong, carrying a survival kit in your pocket is always worthwhile. Let's take a look at how we can find ways to utilise every tiny bit of space inside a small, lightweight and waterproof container and include as many useful everyday items as possible!

How to assemble a personal survival kit:



- Find a pocket-sized plastic or metal container.
- Cut out the rough strip at the side of a matchbox. Bundle the strip and a few matches together in plastic wrap to keep them dry.
- Snap a pencil in two, making sure one of the pieces can fit into your container. Sharpen both ends of that piece.
- Cut plastic straws into pieces that can fit into your container and tape up one end of each piece. After filling each handmade mini tube with small amounts of liquid, especially hand sanitiser and antiseptic cream, tape up the other end.
- Find some plasters of different sizes.
- Fold a few large sheets of aluminium foil into small pieces.
- Place the above basic items inside your container first. Estimate how much space you have left, then think of other items that might come in handy and fit as many as possible into your personal survival kit!

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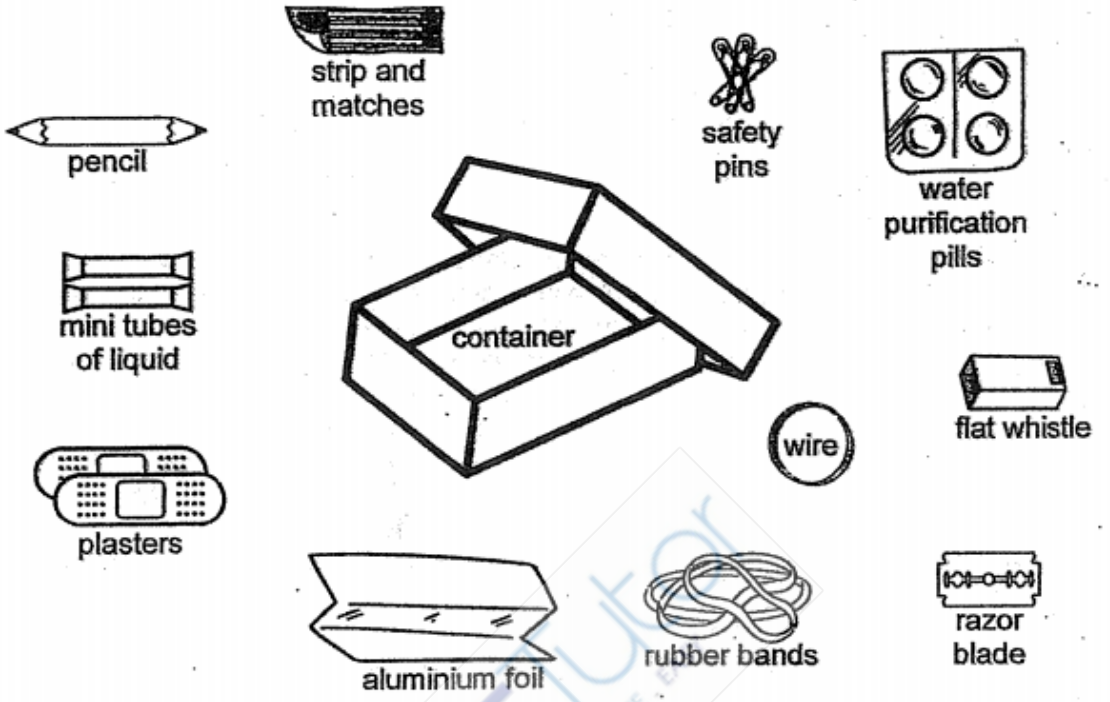

Check this out!

Camp Leap

Dates: 4 to 7 December 2023
Venue: Sunny Forest Campsite
Fee: $120 per participant

For children aged between 10 and 16

Early Bird Offer! Register by 31 October 2023 and pay only $100!

Camp Leap is back by popular demand! Organised by Team Leap, this outdoor adventure camp will cater for up to 100 participants this year – the largest number thus far! Visit www.teamleap.sg by 15 November 2023 to register and pay the fee online. Registration will close early if all places are filled, so leap into action to avoid disappointment!

Safety Precautions

- ✓ First aid kits will be readily available, and instructors are trained to deal with emergencies. However, take note that they are not allowed to administer medication.
- ✓ Participants must declare all medical conditions during registration. Those with medical conditions may be asked to sit out strenuous camp activities.

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21 The purpose of the questions in the first paragraph is to _____.

(1) tell readers about hiking and camping
(2) let readers know what the article is about
(3) give readers suggestions for outdoor adventures
(4) ask readers about their plans for the school holidays

22 If you are considering embarking on an outdoor adventure, the phrase "number one priority" in the first paragraph tells you that safety is _____.

(1) something that requires urgent attention
(2) the only important thing that deserves attention
(3) at the top of the list of things that need attention
(4) one of the things you may want to pay attention to

23 According to the article, it is important to carry survival kits in the great outdoors because we _____.

(1) can bring along useful everyday items
(2) can foresee problems and prepare for them
(3) must make full use of the space in the containers
(4) must prepare ourselves for unexpected situations

24 According to the instructions on assembling a personal survival kit, which of the following items should be placed inside such a kit?

(1) a box of matches
(2) a metal container
(3) some rubber bands
(4) some antiseptic cream

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25 When assembling a personal survival kit, we should _____.

(1) pack the basic items into the container last
(2) try to make use of all the space inside the container
(3) measure how much space is available in the container
(4) choose a container that can hold all the items we want to include

26 Which statement is **not** true about Camp Leap?

(1) Up to 100 children can participate in it every year.
(2) Registration may close before the stated deadline.
(3) There is a minimum age requirement for the camp.
(4) Participants who sign up for the camp by 31 October 2023 will enjoy a discount on the registration fee.

27 The organiser will take all the following safety precautions during Camp Leap **except** _____.

(1) ensure that first aid kits are always on hand
(2) prohibit instructors from administering medication
(3) request that participants declare all their medical conditions
(4) exclude participants with medical conditions from strenuous camp activities

28 What is the **main** purpose of the article?

(1) to attract readers to sign up for an outdoor adventure camp
(2) to emphasise the importance of following safety precautions
(3) to share tips on how to select items for a personal survival kit
(4) to offer readers advice on safety when embarking on outdoor adventures

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Section E – Grammar Cloze

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) a	(D) are	(G) have	(K) its	(N) or
(B) among	(E) between	(H) in	(L) nevertheless	(P) that
(C) and	(F) during	(J) is	(M) on	(Q) their

From mid-2023, shoppers at most supermarkets need to pay at least five cents for each disposable carrier bag. Two-thirds of all supermarket outlets in Singapore, including NTUC FairPrice and Cold Storage, are imposing the charge **(29)** _____ all materials of disposable bags, including plastic **(30)** _____ paper. The carrier bag charge is **(31)** _____ several proposed amendments to the Resource Sustainability Act. The aim of the proposed changes **(32)** _____ to reduce packaging and food waste in Singapore. **(33)** _____ 2021, only 6 per cent of all plastic waste was recycled in Singapore.

The carrier bag charge was first announced in early 2022. At present, the larger supermarket operators **(34)** _____ impose the charge report an annual turnover of more than $100 million and **(35)** _____ better resourced to implement the requirements. **(36)** _____, smaller operators are encouraged to implement **(37)** _____ own bag charges too. According to the National Environment Agency (NEA) and the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment (MSE), many such retailers **(38)** _____ already done so. These include The Body Shop as well as Cheers and FairPrice Xpress outlets, which started charging 10 cents for plastic bags per transaction in 2022.

Adapted from *The Straits Times, 6 February 2023*

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Section F – Editing for Spelling and Grammar

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in the relevant box. (12 marks)

(39) [ ]

Hans Christian Andersen was a Danish author. Although a prohleefeek writer of

(40) [ ]

plays, travelogues, novels and poems, he is best remembrance for his literary fairy tales.

Andersen's fairy tales, consisting of 156 stories across nine volumes, have been

(41) [ ] (42) [ ]

translated as more than 125 languages. They are readily accessing to children but

(43) [ ] (44) [ ]

present lessons of verchew and resilience in the face of adverse for mature readers as

(45) [ ]

well. His most famous fairy tales including 'The Emperor's New Clothes' and 'The Little

(46) [ ]

Mermaid'. His stories have inspired ballets, plays, and ahneemayted and live-action films.

Hans Christian Andersen was born in Odense, Denmark on 2 April 1805. Andersen's

father, who had received an elementary school education, introduced his son to

(47) [ ]

literature, reads to him the 'Arabian Nights'. Andersen's mother, Anne Marie, was an

(48) [ ]

elitterate washerwoman. Andersen was sent to a local school for poor children where he

(49) [ ]

received a basic education and had to support himself, working as an aprantis to a tailor.

At 14, Andersen moved to Copenhagen to seek employment as an actor at the Royal

(50) [ ]

Danish Theatre. A cohleeg at the theatre told Andersen that he considered him a poet.

Taking the suggestion seriously, Andersen began to focus on writing.

Adapted from *https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hans_Christian_Andersen*

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Section G – Comprehension Cloze

Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

Diners who fail to return used trays and crockery at coffee shops, food courts and hawker centres may face tougher action from the National Environment Agency (NEA) and Singapore Food Agency (SFA) from 1 June. **(51)** _____ of merely being advised to clean up **(52)** _____ themselves, first-time offenders will be given written warnings. Repeat offenders will **(53)** _____ the possibility of a fine or getting charged in court.

No one has been fined or charged ever **(54)** _____ the agencies kicked off efforts to curb table littering at hawker centres on 1 September 2021, and at coffee shops and food courts on 1 January 2022. However, as at 31 March, written warnings have been **(55)** _____ to two individuals who refused to **(56)** _____ the advice of NEA officers. NEA said the strengthened enforcement measures are meant to reinforce good **(57)** _____ and deter diners who repeatedly fail to return their used trays and crockery. It said that the large **(58)** _____ of diners at hawker centres do return their used trays and crockery, and the stepped-up enforcement **(59)** _____ to ensure that the good efforts of the diners who return their used trays and crockery are not marred by the **(60)** _____ behaviour of the minority.

The agency said that it was also looking to **(61)** _____ stricter enforcement against littering in general, with the deployment of remote surveillance cameras **(62)** _____ April onwards. Those who are prosecuted in court could be given a fine and a Corrective Work Order (CWO). CWOs **(63)** _____ recalcitrant offenders to clean public areas for between three and 12 hours. This serves to increase their awareness of the **(64)** _____ of littering, and gives them a **(65)** _____ of what cleaners go through. In 2022, the NEA issued around 21,200 tickets for littering. This was a marked increase from 2021, when around 15,500 tickets were issued.

Adapted from *The Straits Times, 18 April 2023*

Section H – Synthesis / Transformation

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). (10 marks)

66 Sue washed the clothes. She ironed the clothes too.

Not only _____

_____

67 "My mother took me to the museum yesterday," the boy said.

The boy said that _____

_____

68 Roy told his parents a lie. He admitted to it.

Roy admitted to _____

_____

69 If you look hard, you will spot the bird in the bushes.

_____ unless

_____

70 The football match was suddenly cancelled. It caught us by surprise.

The sudden _____

_____

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Section I – Open-Ended Comprehension

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

"What? We're moving again?" I asked in disbelief after hearing my mother's "news". "I'm only in fifth grade, and this is my fourth school! I've just finally made some friends!" I ran into my room, threw myself on the bed and cried.

I started at the new school in March. Starting at a new school at the start of the year was bad enough, but starting during the school year was worse. By then, everyone had already made friends, and it always took a while for the new students to be included. My first day at Lakewood School was **tough**. Even though my teacher, Mrs Brennan, had introduced me to my classmates, nobody ate lunch with me or said hi at recess. I sat alone, watching everyone at the playground. I noticed that everybody wore nice clothes and shoes, far nicer than my hand-me-down dress and shoes that were ripping near my toes. I told myself that everyone at the school was rich and arrogant, so I did not care about being friends with them anyway.

The next morning, I decided to wear my best dress and shoes – **the ones** I usually wore to birthday parties, to school. I wanted the other girls to notice me and to want to be friends with me. I looked in the mirror and decided to add one last touch for good measure. I slipped into my mother's bedroom, opened her jewellery box, and took out an expensive, beautiful bracelet that she had promised to give me when I was older. I looked in the mirror again, smiled and felt confident enough to start a conversation with anyone in school.

As I walked into my classroom, I held my head high, believing that everyone was thinking about how pretty I looked with the bracelet. Instead of sitting on the steps by myself again during the morning recess, I marched right up to a group of girls from my class and said hello. As I introduced myself, I played with my hair so they would notice the beautiful bracelet I was wearing. "So what are you girls talking about?" I asked. "Just about riding our horses last weekend," one of the girls, Tammy, replied. "I was right! They are rich!" I thought to myself. "I have a horse too," I suddenly blurted out. I could not believe that I had told such an outright lie. "Well, too late now," I muttered under my breath. I told the girls about Rocky, a horse that actually belonged to a family friend. I became so caught up in describing "my" horse that I almost started believing the lie myself.

When recess was over, we headed back to class. "Do you want to join us for lunch?" my classmate, Jess, asked with a smile. "Sure!" I answered, thrilled that I had found a way to fit in so quickly. I glanced down to admire my beautiful bracelet that had surely impressed the rich girls. "Oh no!" I heard myself gasping aloud. The bracelet was gone! "Is something wrong, Karen?" Mrs Brennan asked. I burst out crying, and everyone turned to stare. I did not know if I was more upset about losing the beloved bracelet or fearing my mother's reaction after she learned what I had done. "I... I lost my bracelet," I stammered. "It must have fallen off during recess."

I was so visibly shaken that Mrs Brennan took sympathy on me. She made a call on her phone and a few minutes later, the secretary's voice boomed over the school's loudspeakers, "Someone lost a very special bracelet this morning. Mrs Brennan has a 'Good Citizen' award for the student who finds it." Hearing this, I felt relieved that my prized possession would certainly be found. At noon, I joined the other girls for lunch in the canteen. After that, we raced outside and started hunting. Within twenty minutes, it seemed that all 300 students in the school were helping me to look for the bracelet, searching the hallways, the playground and even the girls' toilets. I kept glancing around nervously, waiting for someone to yell "I've found it!" but by the time the school bell rang, alerting everyone to return to their classrooms, the bracelet was still missing. I sat at my desk, fighting back the tears. I developed a horrible feeling that someone

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had secretly picked it up and decided to keep it. After all, it was the most beautiful bracelet in the world and obviously worth much more than some 'Good Citizen' award.

During the afternoon recess, the bracelet was still nowhere to be found. Trying not to cry, I put my hands over my face. Tammy, Jess and a few other girls gathered around me, and they promised to help me look for the bracelet again the next day. "Thanks, everyone. You are so nice," I said, forcing a smile. "It's just that I shouldn't even have worn the bracelet this morning. It belongs to my mother." Then, without knowing why, I suddenly added, "And I'm sorry I lied to you girls this morning. I've never owned a horse. Rocky belongs to my mother's friend. I told you **that** so you would like me. I even wore my best clothes today so I would fit in better." "That's all right," they all answered reassuringly. "It doesn't matter whether you own a horse or what kind of clothes you have. We like you just the way you are!" Rhonda, the Class Chairman, said as she gave me a hug. Tammy and Jess offered to let me ride their horse sometime.

It felt so good to tell the truth and to learn that I had misjudged the girls as being arrogant. I really did feel like smiling then, even before I happened to glance at the ground and discover a bracelet that was covered by sand and almost hidden from view, right in the middle of my circle of new friends.

Adapted from *One Is Silver and the Other Is Gold* (Chicken Soup for the Soul)

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71 From the first paragraph, explain clearly why the writer was upset after hearing her mother's "news". [2m]

_____

_____

72

Why the writer did not like starting at a new school during the school year

(a)

(b)

[2m]

73 The writer said that her first day at school was "tough" (line 7).

a) State one reason why the writer found the day tough. [1m]

_____

b) How did the writer convince herself that she did not need to have friends at school? [1m]

She told herself that she did not want _____

_____

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74 From lines 18-27, pick out two separate phrases to show the writer's feelings and explain why she felt that way. [4m]

Do not write in this spa

Four-word phrase that shows the writer felt confident	Reason for the writer's feeling
a)	b)
Three-word phrase that shows the writer was regretful	**Reason for the writer's feeling**
c)	d)

75 Based on lines 28-47, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [3m]

	True/False	Reason
a) The writer thought that her classmates had been nice to her because they had noticed her bracelet.		
b) The writer was certain that her mother would not be angry with her if she found out that the bracelet was missing.		
c) Only the writer and her classmates were involved in the search for the bracelet.		

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Do not write in this space.

76 Based on lines 36-40, how can you tell that Mrs Brennan was concerned about the writer? [2m]

_____

_____

77 From lines 45-47, what made the writer think that someone might have found the bracelet and decided to keep it? [1m]

_____

_____

78 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. [2m]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
a) the ones (line 12)	
b) that (line 54)	

79 In lines 50-51, the writer thanked everyone around her and said that they were "so nice". Why did she say that? [1m]

_____

_____

80 How had the writer's opinion of the girls changed by the end of the story? [1m]

_____

_____

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TAO NAN SCHOOL SA2 PAPER

1. Raju's mother insisted that he _____ the truth or face the music.

(1) tell
(2) told
(3) tells
(4) telling

2. "Emily gave up playing the piano just as I said she would, _____?" asked Ruby.

(1) did she
(2) didn't she
(3) would she
(4) wouldn't she

3. If I _____ it was your birthday, I would have brought you a gift.

(1) know
(2) knew
(3) had known
(4) have known

4. "Most visitors choose to travel _____ bicycle. Of course, there are some who love to walk instead," said the tour guide.

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

5. I had _____ choice but to complete my homework before playing with my little brother.

(1) few
(2) less
(3) little
(4) some

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6. "Using electronic devices for a prolonged period of time _____ bad for our eyes," our teacher reminded us.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

7. The team faced a myriad of hurdles. _____, the members persevered and emerged victorious.

(1) Besides
(2) Moreover
(3) Furthermore
(4) Nevertheless

8. All the sports equipment _____ moved to the storeroom and now the room is bare and spacious.

(1) is being
(2) has been
(3) are being
(4) have been

9. Marie _____ for her studies in Australia. I have not kept in touch with her since then.

(1) left
(2) leaves
(3) has left
(4) had left

10. We are looking forward to _____ on a learning journey at the Science Centre next month.

(1) go
(2) going
(3) have gone
(4) having gone

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11. The determined student was able to _____ the difficult concept and solve the challenging problem.

(1) break in
(2) break up
(3) break off
(4) break through

12. With a well-established ferry network, many of the beautiful islands are now _____ to avid travellers.

(1) catered
(2) available
(3) dedicated
(4) accessible

13. Stumped by the question, he paused _____ before answering it a few seconds late.

(1) indefinitely
(2) temporarily
(3) momentarily
(4) intermittently

14. The widespread bushfires caused _____ damage to the forest, resulting in a great destruction of the flora and fauna.

(1) irregular
(2) irreparable
(3) irreplaceable
(4) irredeemable

15. This marvellous painting is the perfect _____ to the furnishing and decoration of our new apartment.

(1) conception
(2) compilation
(3) compliment
(4) complement

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

Anticipation filled the air. We were going to embark on an exciting excursion to the nature reserve. The lush greenery <u>enveloped</u> us as we ventured deeper into the thick forest. The leaves and flowers in the forest created a <u>kaleidoscope</u> of colours. Chatting animatedly, we hiked carefully along the long <u>meandering trail</u>, marvelling at the breathtaking scenery around us. Our experienced guides led us through the forest where we spotted exotic wildlife and a vibrant <u>array</u> of wild blooms. By the end of the day, we felt tired but contented. "I am <u>beat</u> but this outing is certainly well worth it!" our class monitor exclaimed. I could not agree more. Retracing our steps towards the entrance, I knew I would visit this amazing place again.

16.
(1) shaded
(2) covered
(3) enclosed
(4) surrounded

17.
(1) set
(2) burst
(3) pattern
(4) repertoire

18.
(1) winding path
(2) crooked road
(3) twisted course
(4) irregular passageway

19.
(1) batch
(2) display
(3) formation
(4) arrangement

20.
(1) walking on air
(2) hanging in there
(3) running out of steam
(4) like a dog with two tails

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Study this article from a magazine and then answer questions 21 to 28.

CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY TRAIL WEEKEND @PERANAKAN MUSEUM 4 and 5 November

Having been closed for renovation for two years, we are re-opening the Peranakan Museum with a special discovery trail for children between 7 and 12 years old.

WHO ARE THE PERANAKANS?

The term Peranakans or "Straits-born Chinese" generally refers to the descendants of the early Chinese immigrants who married indigenous women from the Malay Archipelago. The Chinese immigrants settled and raised families in the bustling ports of Malacca, Singapore and Penang – which under the British rule were known as the "Straits Settlements". The terms 'Baba' and 'Nyonya' refer to Peranakan men and women respectively.

As the Peranakans settled down, they adopted the local lifestyle but retained their Chinese beliefs. This resulted in the unique culture and practices of the Peranakans and their own variation of the Malay language, Baba Malay.

Food and Feasting

Peranakan cuisine is probably the most diverse of all local cuisine. Also known as Nyonya food, it combines Chinese ingredients with herbs and spices used by the Malay community. The combination of cooking techniques [illegible] its distinctive taste – the tangy and spicy flavours present in Peranakan cuisine



Traditional Arts and Culture

Besides cooking, Peranakan ladies were also expected to excel in embroidery and beadwork – the two distinctive features of Peranakan fashion. In the past, young Peranakan girls were required to master these skills to showcase their patience and attention to detail.



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Discovery Trail – What Can You Expect?



This trail promises an unforgettable experience, offering a plethora of activities. At the museum entrance, pick up a goody bag which consists of snacks, an activity book and a map. Follow the map and collect stamps after completing each activity from the ten stations that are located at the various galleries. Collect all ten stamps to redeem a limited-edition plush toy from the Peranakan museum

Don't miss the Miniature Snack-Making station if you have a sweet tooth. Get to sample these tasty snacks that will tantalise your tastebuds.

Don't miss these special stations!



Peranakan Dress Up

Want to look like a little Baba or Nyonya? Visit us at this booth! The traditional costume for Peranakan women is the *nyonya kebaya* which was adapted from local Malay traditional dresses. Once dressed, add finishing touches with a decorative hairpin and a silver belt for the ladies. Engage in playful role-playing as we capture an image of you for only $2.



Miniature Snack-Making

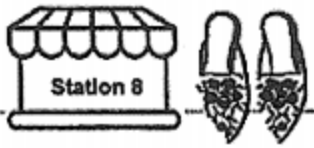
Nyonya snacks are an integral part of Peranakan cuisine. Have fun making mini models of Peranakan snacks using clay and learn more about Peranakan food culture. You will see the different traditional utensils used to make these snacks.

Bring home your own mini model and don't forget to try out the sweet scrumptious snacks!



Congkak

Did you know that this game has up to 250 names? Find out how the various explanations for the different names came about. In the past, no boards were used. The game was played by having holes dug in the ground for placing rounded stones or rubber seeds. This game is especially popular among the Malays (which is why Malay terms were once used for the rules) and the Peranakans. Visit us! Gain as many seeds or marbles as possible in your Congkak storehouse!



Beadwork

Did you know that Nyonyas have to learn to bead their own shoes before getting married? Try your hand at beading – a tradition which involves using tiny colourful beads to embroider intricate patterns.

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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. According to the article, the Peranakans are _____.

(1) also known as Straits-born Chinese
(2) children raised under the British rule
(3) descendants of the Chinese immigrants
(4) people who reside in the bustling ports of Malacca

22. The unique flavour of Peranakan dishes is a result of the _____.

(1) diversity in all local cuisine
(2) use of Chinese herbs and spices
(3) excellent cooking skills of Peranakan women
(4) fusion of Chinese and Malay cooking methods

23. The dash (–) used in the section 'Traditional Arts and Culture' serves to _____.

(1) give some examples
(2) simplify the sentence further
(3) provide more information to the sentence
(4) emphasise the given information in the sentence

24. Which one of the statements is **true** about the Discovery Trail?

(1) This activity is open to all visitors.
(2) Participants who visits the trail will receive a plush toy each.
(3) To get a free gift, participants must complete all the stations.
(4) Participants get to sample savoury snacks at the snack-making station.

25. What can participants do at the **first** station?

(1) Deck out in local Malay traditional dresses.
(2) Pay $2 before they can take part in activity.
(3) See themselves looking like Nyonyas and Babas.
(4) Bring home photos taken at the photo booth for free.

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26. According to the article, visitors who visit Station 5 can _____.

(1) win some marbles and take them home
(2) only speak in Malay as they are playing the game
(3) experience playing Congkak without using a board
(4) learn about the origins of the many different names for Congkak

27. Jenson, a student, likes to make handicrafts. Which stations would appeal to him?

(1) Station 1 and Station 5
(2) Station 1 and Station 8
(3) Station 2 and Station 5
(4) Station 2 and Station 8

28. What is the main purpose of this article?

(1) To arouse readers' curiosity about the Peranakans.
(2) To encourage children to visit the Peranakan Museum.
(3) To celebrate the completion of the museum's renovation.
(4) To inform the public about the re-opening of the museum.

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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) against	(D) by	(G) for	(K) more	(N) should
(B) are	(E) could	(H) in	(L) on	(P) unless
(C) around	(F) despite	(J) is	(M) over	(Q) until

Did you know that the vaquita is the world's rarest marine mammal? Not discovered _____ (29) 1958, this dark and light grey animal has a distinctive black ring _____ (30) its eyes and a dark patch on its lips. Today, a little _____ (31) half a century later, we _____ (32) be losing them forever.

Many different factors have caused the vaquitas to be on the brink of extinction _____ (33) conservationists working diligently to save them. The main threat to the vaquitas _____ (34) the accidental entanglement in fishing nets. _____ (35) they can surface for air, the vaquitas usually drown and die. Other threats include pollution and climate change. In spite of these challenges, conservationists have not stopped fighting _____ (36) the odds. For example, bans on illegal fishing are being implemented _____ (37) the vaquita habitats to protect them.

The vaquita's plight highlights the importance of preserving marine ecosystems and the need _____ (38) sustainable fishing practices. Otherwise, we cannot ensure the survival of this beautiful marine mammal and possibly other marine species as well.

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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)

Dear Raju,

(39) [ ]

How have you been? As I sit down to pen this letter, I can't help but raremenise

(40) [ ]

about the cherished moments we have shared for the _____ ten years. You've

(41) [ ]

taught and snow me that true friendship is not just about shared interests but about

(42) [ ]

being there for teacher, supported each other's dreams and celebrating each

(43) [ ]

other's successes. One of the incredible quality that I deeply admire about you is

(44) [ ]

your keen power of observation. In addition, you possess an ability to persieve and

(45) [ ]

understand the world around us. ife is unpridiqtable. Thankfully, I have you beside

(46) [ ]

me through it all. Time spend in your company feels effortless. Whenever I need a

shoulder to cry on or share my joy and sorrow, you're just a call or text away.

(47) [ ] (48) [ ]

Whenever _____ and bored, you'll cheer me on enthusiatically. Your words

(49) [ ]

of encouragement have always been a great source of motivate, pushing me to

(50) [ ]

overcome the _____.

Thank you, my dear friend, for being the most amazing person you are!

Your best friend,

Jeremy

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

Have you heard about ChatGPT? If you have not, it is a language processing tool driven by Artificial Intelligence technology that has taken the world by _____ (51). Many people have been talking about its convenience and benefits, but _____ (52) all inventions, we must be careful as not only will there be advantages but also _____ (53) related to their use.

One huge benefit of ChatGPT is its _____ (54) to generate responses to your questions at the _____ (55) of light. Students who struggle to keep up _____ (56) the pace in class or who wish to _____ (57) on a topic would welcome it with open arms. By engaging with ChatGPT in a chat or _____ (58) we can gather vast _____ (59) on various topics. Since ChatGPT can operate round the _____ (60), users can have access to its capabilities whenever they need or want to.

While using ChatGPT can be helpful, be wary of the negative consequences. Firstly, the responses generated may not always be _____ (61). To check for their accuracy users should always _____ (62) them with credible sources and websites. Secondly, ChatGPT is an artificial intelligence. Thus, it does not have emotions or empathy to deal with questions that _____ (63) emotional understanding. Thirdly, ChatGPT is not always _____ (64) with its responses. Sometimes, it may provide conflicting and different answers to the same question!

Bearing these factors in _____ (65), it is important to use this tool responsibly. Technology can be incredibly useful, but it is crucial to understand its limitations.

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For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the words(s) provided. Your answers 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. The monitors were very pleased when they received the certificates.

_____ with great

_____

67. Only Mason and Benjamin have not submitted the consent form to the teacher.

Everybody, other than Mason and Benjamin, _____

_____

68. Mrs Tan asked her husband, "How did you come here?"

Mrs Tan asked _____

_____.

69. This popular restaurant is always fully booked.

Due to its _____

_____

70. The master chef is the chief judge. Everyone sang praises about him.

_____ whom

_____

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Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

's Li was returning home after a hard day at work. She could hear her stomach rumbling. All of a sudden, she felt a tug and in a swift motion, someone had snatched her fra·ed bag. Snap! Thud! Her bag strap had broken. he thief had tripped on his shoes in his haste to escape and fallen to the ground. Little did he know that his supposedly easy target was trained in martial arts. The petite lady was startled and stunned for a moment, but she quickly took a deep breath and calmed herself down. She then turned around, bent down and picked the boy up effortlessly

Although she felt upset, her first instinct was not to harbour anger and resentment but was more concerned about **the root cause** of the thief's action. "Why did you do that " the woman probed. Head hung low, he shrugged. "Now, pick up my bag!" she ordered. Still holding him by his wrist, she bent down enough for him to retrieve her bag. Sensing the boy's attempt to escape, Mrs Li tightened her grip, only to hear him mutter an apology tearfully. "If you were my son, I'd teach you to discern right from wrong!" she snapped.

"Please, please let me go. I promise ..."

Mrs Li looked at the boy squarely and cut him off "Don't think about getting away so easily." Perspiration dotted his brow. He began to struggle again and that was when Mrs Li's bag dropped unexpectedly. A photograph fell out. The scrawny teenager in the picture caught the boy's attention. "That's my son. He was young and full of aspirations despite his poor health. I wiped out my savings trying to treat him but ..." Her voice trailed off, choking with emotions.

"What's your name?" Mrs Li asked after gathering her composure.

"Ming. Are... you going to... call the police?"

"What for? I just stepped out of the bakery when you tried to steal my bag. Are you hungry? Would you like some?" She held up the paper bag. The boy's face contorted into a mixture of confusion and disbelief. Was he dreaming? The unmistakable growling sound from his tummy confirmed he was not. Mrs Li chuckled "Join me," she invited, pointing at an empty bench just a few steps ahead of them. Ming's eyes sparkled. He smiled genuinely for the first time. The offer was irresistible. When was the last time he had had a decent meal? The boy could not recall.

"I just wanted to buy a pair of shoes," Ming mumbled as he stuffed the buns into his mouth. Mrs Li smiled and took out more bread which he quickly snatched from her hand.

"You could have got yourself a job. When I was your age, I too bad indulged in luxurious items that were beyond my means," she said. "Looking back, I could have through twice before I spent. Ming locked and unlocked his fingers, staring hard at his shoes. To his astonishment, he noticed that the woman was no longer watching him or her bag like a hawk. Ming sat properly having made up his mind that he did not want to be mistrusted anymore. "Behave yourself and don't make the same mistake again. Remember this – **tough times don't last, but tough people do.**" With that, she stood up and bade him farewell. Speechless and thankful, Ming felt really lucky.

With hard work comes success. Over time the young man transformed his life. He eventually became a wealthy entrepreneur who never forgot the kind woman. Ming credited his saviour's forgiveness as the turning point that inspired him to truly change for the better.

Adapted from "Thank You, Ma'am"

10

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71. Which five-word phrase in paragraph one suggests that Mrs Li was worn out? [1m]

72. Why was Mrs Li able to pick the thief up effortlessly? [1m]

73. In paragraph 2, which **two actions** of Mrs Li showed that she did not trust Ming?

a) _____

b) _____

74. Choose a word from paragraphs 1 and 2 which has similar meaning to each of the words below. [3m]

a) seemingly	
b) intuition	
c) distinguish	

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75. Look at the table below. What do the word(s) in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. [3m]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer to
a) easy target (line 5)	
b) the root cause (line 9)	
c) some (line 25)	

76. What did Ming do which showed that he was very hungry? [2m]

a)

b)

77. Complete the table below with information from lines 34 – 41. [2m]

How Ming felt	What Ming did to show how he felt
guilty	
determined	

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78. Based on lines 16 – 41, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [3m]

	True / False	Reason
a) Mrs Li was not interested in Ming's pleas.		
b) Mrs Li had spent a lot of money on her son's treatment.		
c) Mrs Li used to be a spendthrift.		

79. What was the consequence the boy thought he would face when he was caught red-handed? [1m]

_____

_____

80a) Mrs Li told Ming, "...tough times don't last, but tough people do." In what way did Ming turn out to be 'tough'? [1m]

_____

_____

80b) | What is one quality that Ming displayed which made him 'tough'? [1m]

- End of Paper -

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SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL SA2 PAPER

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 Although the basketball team met with many obstacles, they managed to win the championship _____ all odds.

(1) amidst
(2) despite
(3) against
(4) through

2 My colleagues and _____ treated our new colleague, Amy, to a scrumptious meal to welcome _____ to the team.

(1) I...she
(2) I...her
(3) me...she
(4) me...her

3 "William never came over again after you picked a quarrel with him, _____ he?" Mother asked.

(1) did
(2) had
(3) didn't
(4) hadn't

4 If Siti _____ her work, she would have gone to the party.

(1) completes
(2) completed
(3) has completed
(4) had completed

5 "The boys _____ for over an hour under the sun. Let's give them a 10-minute break," said Mrs Lee.

(1) work
(2) will be working
(3) had been working
(4) have been working

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6 ~~Neither Mary nor~~ her siblings _____ where the party will be held.

(1) know
(2) knows
(3) has known
(4) have known

7 The generous emperor donated _____ sacks of rice to the commoners when famine struck.

(1) few
(2) a lot
(3) much
(4) many

8 The students' eagerness _____ palpable as they prepare for their upcoming learning journey to the nursing home for the elderly.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

9 Many Singaporeans have taken to _____ their own vegetables in their HDB flats.

(1) grow
(2) grows
(3) growing
(4) are growing

10 "_____ it is perfectly normal to feel happy when we have done well in our examinations, we should not boast about our achievements and be too proud," advised Mr Ang.

(1) As
(2) While
(3) Unless
(4) However

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11 Pat has fond _____ of the times she vacationed with her family, and they bring a smile to her face whenever she thinks of them.

(1) testimonies
(2) descriptions
(3) recollections
(4) compositions

12 No matter how formidable her opponent was, she fought _____ and never once thought of giving up.

(1) finally
(2) effortlessly
(3) relentlessly
(4) conclusively

13 Adam was shocked when his usually friendly neighbour gave a _____ reply when he asked her about her weekend.

(1) curt
(2) charge
(3) expressive
(4) sentimental

14 The disgruntled customer tried to _____ the reputation of the restaurant by posting negative comments on social media.

(1) belittle
(2) tarnish
(3) withdraw
(4) admonish

15 The new initiatives from the students _____ positive changes to their school.

(1) brought up
(2) brought off
(3) brought about
(4) brought down

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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)

Singaporeans are keeping isopods as pets. They are catching up on this new and bizarre (16) hobby. Isopod enthusiasts mentioned that there has been a spike in interest in these creatures during the circuit breaker. People were cooped up (17) at home and many of them were bored. Since then, the number of hobbyists has been increasing bit by bit (18). Some isopod enthusiasts breed thousands of them in their homes. In the wild, isopods function as natural decomposers. In captivity, isopods require minimal maintenance (19), and they can be fed simple food such as vegetable scraps. Some breeders attempt to breed them and find it very gratifying (20) when they succeed. However, environmentalists warn against keeping isopods as pets.

*Isopods are animals without backbones but have exoskeletons.

Adapted from The Straits Times, 'Nature's cleanup crew, Man's pets, 2023

16 (1) erratic
(2) peculiar
(3) unstable
(4) extraordinary

17 (1) encased
(2) confined
(3) sheltered
(4) enveloped

18 (1) unevenly
(2) gradually
(3) uniformly
(4) drastically

19 (1) care
(2) effort
(3) application
(4) preservation

20 (1) alluring
(2) rewarding
(3) productive
(4) entertaining

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Study this article from a magazine, Youth Vibes, and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Outdoor Adventures: Good Safety Tips



by James Liew
22 September 2023



If you do not have any plans for the school holidays, you may want to consider embarking on an outdoor adventure. How about doing some hiking in a forest? Or perhaps going on a camping trip with your family or friends? Such activities offer you excellent opportunities to have fun and get close to nature at the same time, but safety needs to be your number one priority. Whatever you do, make sure you pick up essential survival skills and pack wisely before setting off.

Unexpected things can sometimes happen in the great outdoors. Since you can never anticipate exactly what might go wrong, carrying a survival kit in your pocket is always worthwhile. Let's look at how we can find ways to utilise every tiny bit of space inside a small, lightweight and waterproof container and include as many useful everyday items as possible!

How to assemble a personal survival kit:



- Find a pocket-sized plastic or metal container.
- Cut out the rough strip at the side of a matchbox. Bundle the strip and a few matches together in plastic wrap to keep them dry.
- Snap a pencil in two, making sure one of the pieces can fit into your container. Sharpen both ends of that piece.
- Cut plastic straws into pieces that can fit into your container and tape up one end of each piece. After filling each handmade mini tube with small amounts of liquid, especially hand sanitiser and antiseptic cream, tape up the other end. Q23
- Find some plasters of different sizes.
- Fold up a few large sheets of aluminium foil as small as you can.
- Place the above basic items inside your container first. Estimate how much space you have left, then think of other items that might come in handy and fit as many as possible into your personal survival kit! Q24

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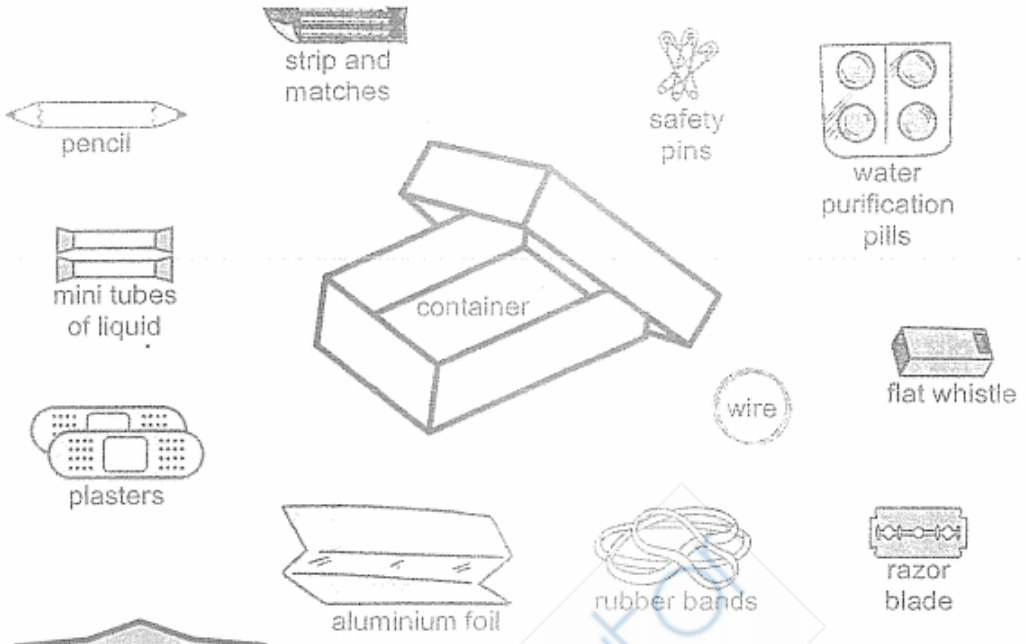
Examples of items in a survival kit



Check this out!

Camp Leap

Dates: 4 to 7 December 2023
Venue: Sunny Forest Campsite
Fee: $120 per participant

For children aged 10 to 12

Early Bird Offer
Register by
31 October 2023
and pay only $100!

Camp Leap is back by popular demand! Organised by Team Leap, this outdoor adventure camp will cater for up to 100 participants this year – the largest number thus far! Visit www.teamleap.sg from now until 15 November 2023 to register and pay the fee online. Registration will close early if all places are filled, so leap into action to avoid disappointment!

Safety Precautions:

- ✓ First aid kits will be readily available, and instructors are trained to deal with emergencies. However, take note that they are not allowed to administer medication.
- ✓ Participants must declare all medical conditions during registration. Those with medical conditions may be asked to sit out strenuous camp activities.

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

21 The purpose of the questions in the first paragraph is to _____.

(1) tell readers about hiking and camping
(2) let readers know what the article is about
(3) give readers suggestions for outdoor adventures
(4) ask readers about their plans for the school holidays

22 According to the article, it is important to carry survival kits in the great outdoors because we _____.

(1) can bring along useful everyday items
(2) can foresee problems and prepare for them
(3) must make full use of the space in the containers
(4) must prepare ourselves for unexpected situations

23 According to the instructions on assembling a personal survival kit, which of the following items should be placed inside such a kit?

(1) a box of matches
(2) a metal container
(3) some rubber bands
(4) some antiseptic cream

24 According to the instructions on how to assemble a personal survival kit, we should _____.

(1) pack the basic items into the container last
(2) try to make use of all the space inside the container
(3) measure how much space is available in the container
(4) choose a container that can hold all the items we want to include

25 Which statement is **not** true about Camp Leap?

(1) Not all children will be able to participate in it.
(2) Up to 100 children can participate in it every year.
(3) Registration may close before the stated deadline.
(4) The registration fee is reduced for more than a month.

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26 Why is the exclamation mark used in the sentence, "Camp Leap is back by popular demand!"?

(1) to emphasise that the camp was held before
(2) to show that only repeat campers can register
(3) to draw attention to the name of the camp, Camp Leap.
(4) to convey excitement that the sought-after camp is back

27 Which of the following will the organiser **not** do? The organiser will not _____.

(1) allow instructors to administer medication
(2) ensure that the first-aid kits are always on hand
(3) request that participants declare all their medical conditions
(4) allow some participants with medical conditions to join the camp

28 What is the **main** purpose of the article?

(1) to attract readers to sign up for an outdoor adventure camp
(2) to emphasise the importance of following safety precautions
(3) to share tips on how to select items for a personal survival kit
(4) to offer readers advice on having outdoor adventures in safety

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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) and	(D) from	(G) have	(K) my	(N) who
(B) are	(E) his	(H) how	(L) or	(P) which
(C) during	(F) has	(J) is	(M) the	(Q) upward

In one of Ms Kawano's classes, more than a dozen students held mirrors to their faces. They were stretching the sides of their mouths _____ (29) with their fingers. The students were practising _____ (30) to smile. It is not something most people would think to pay for but Ms Kawano's services as a smile instructor _____ (31) seeing a surge in demand in Japan, where mask-wearing was mandatory _____ (32) the COVID pandemic. Many people have forgotten what a smile is.

Miss Yoshida is one of the students _____ (33) took the class. It was part of her school's courses to prepare her for _____ (34) job market. She explained that she needed to work on her smile. "I hadn't used _____ (35) facial muscles much in the midst of the pandemic so it's a good exercise," she said.

Ms Kawano's company, Egaoiku, which literally means "Smile Education" _____ (36) seen a more than four-fold jump in demand _____ (37) the previous year. An hour-long one-on-one lesson costs 7,700 yen (S$74). Her trademarked "Hollywood Style Smiling Technique" method incorporates "crescent eyes", "round cheeks" _____ (38) shaping the edges of the mouth to bare eight pearly whites in the upper row. Students can try out these techniques on a tablet to get a score on their smiles.

https://www.todayonline.com/world/japanese-get-trained-hollywood-smiles-masks-slowly-come

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)

(39) ☐

It was the year-end holidays! Siti was in seventh heaven. She and her family be going

(40) ☐

to Korea for a ten-day holiday. It was her first time flying and she was absolutely thrriled.

Siti was still busy packing on the day of her departure. She wanted to make sure that she

(41) ☐

had put everythina she needed in her lagauge. She double-checked against her packing list

(42) ☐

and was totally satisfy that she did not miss out anything.

(43) ☐

Her elder sister felt that she was excess cautious and laughed at her. Her parents

(44) ☐ (45) ☐

simply looked on indulgentlee. All too soon, it was time to leave for the airport. Just as we

(46) ☐

were about to board the taxi to the airport, Siti realised that she had forget to pack in her

(47) ☐

favourite teddy bear. She could not sleep without it! Without hairseatation, her father

(48) ☐

dashed into her bedroom and grab the bear. Siti heaved a sigh of relief.

(49) ☐

Finally, they reached the airport. There was a snaking cue to check in but that did not

dampen Siti's spirits. She just wanted to reach Korea to start her holiday. In the twinkling

of an eye, they were in front of the check-in counter. Siti's father reached into his bag to

(50) ☐

get the passports. He let out an awdeeble gasp when he could not find them. Just then, he

realised that he had left them on the dining table at home!

Everyone was flabbergasted!

-Teacher-created- 12

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

Bread Run is a programme by Food from the Heart, a food charity that feeds the needy in Singapore. It was born from a newspaper article about bakeries discarding their unsold bread. Upon reading that article, the founders of Food from the Heart, Christine and Henry Laimer, spotted an _____(51)_____ to make the most out of the situation – to channel unsold bread to the needy instead of letting them go to waste. Although it was an uphill _____(52)_____ to convince the bakeries to donate their unsold bread at the end of the day, the couple persevered. Eventually, some bakeries, _____(53)_____ incurring additional work and staff duties, agreed. Involvement in the the Bread Run programme _____(54)_____ steadily from only a few bakeries and 120 volunteers to 111 bakeries and 1,700 volunteers today.

The typical Bread Run involves bakery staff setting _____(55)_____ the unsold items at the end of the day before _____(56)_____ them individually to ensure food safety. These are passed to the volunteer Bread Runner _____(57)_____ comes around at closing time. The bread is _____(58)_____ immediately delivered to the location where the bread will be distributed the following day for consumption within 24 hours for food safety reasons.

The delivery of the bread _____(59)_____ completed by volunteers every day of the year, be it rain or _____(60)_____ Each volunteer is assigned a delivery route that _____(61)_____ the pick-up of bread from the Bread Run partners and the drop-off of bread at various bread distribution points in Singapore. Due to this programme, 28000 kg of bread is _____(62)_____ from the bins every month, which works out to 1350 trolleys worth of bread!

Over _____(63)_____, the Bread Runs did encounter disruptions in their daily operations. Some bakeries did not have enough bread to donate _____(64)_____ they were sold out for the day and in some cases, the volunteers were unable to make it for their routes. A few of the bakery partners had also _____(65)_____ operations due to the economic slowdown. Nevertheless, Food from the Heart hopes to continue to engage more bakeries to come on board so that it can continue feeding the needy. https://www.foodfromtheheart.sg/highlights/bread-run-programme-113

15

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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 David can only go to the park to play after he completes his homework.

_____ must _____

_____

67 Frustrated, Betty sighed. She lamented that she was making little progress in her project.

Sighing in _____

_____

68 "Why did you break your brother's toy car?" Mother questioned me.

Mother wanted to know _____

_____

69 Starting next Monday, the shopping mall will extend its opening hours.

With effect _____

_____

70 The police assured the flood victims that help would arrive soon.

The flood victims were given the _____

_____

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Refer to the passage below when you answer questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B. (20 marks)

Benny was trekking alone in the woods when something caught his eye. Spotting something shiny at a distance, Benny's curiosity was piqued, and he approached the strange-looking object that was crinkled and entangled in a fallen tree. Upon closer inspection, Benny realised that it was a weather-worn balloon. He also noticed that there was something attached to it – a child's Christmas wish list.

The note, written in the sloppy handwriting of a child, read, "My name is Laura. I am six years old. This year I have been good. I would like chocolates, a doll and a dog. Love, Laura."

Reading the wish list stirred up old memories for Benny. As a child, he had always written similar lists to Santa, hoping to find his presents under the Christmas tree, but those hopes had been dashed each year when Santa never responded. Holding Laura's note excitedly, a plan sparked in Benny's mind. He wanted to find Laura and make her wishes come true, so she would not experience the same disappointment he had. However, he did not know where to begin. Just as Benny was about to put the balloon and note back where he had found them, a notification appeared on his phone. An idea struck him.

"That might work!" he exclaimed. He remembered hearing stories of many people finding their long-lost relatives through social media. Filled with renewed hope, Benny posted a picture of the balloon and the Christmas list on social media. To ensure that his efforts would bear fruit, he even posted a video of him appealing to the online community to help him locate Laura. At first, he was not confident that the strategy would work. Gradually, he saw the number of people sharing his post creep into the hundreds. Benny felt whatever he was feeling turn to optimism in his attempt to trace Laura. Despite **the positive start**, Benny's hopes of finding Laura without any details grew dimmer with each passing day. It did not help that some users played pranks on him by pretending to be Laura, and it was not easy having to identify the "real" Laura. He felt like he was looking for **a needle in a haystack**.

Fortunately, he saw a glimmer of hope when he received a message from Diana, a friend of Laura's mother. Diana shared that Laura's family had been struggling to make ends meet and her mother wanted to bring some cheer to their home, so she suggested sending a letter to Santa by balloon. "So glad to have chanced upon your post and I immediately recognised Laura's handwriting! Many netizens have spread your post. I can't believe a complete stranger would go to great lengths to help fulfil Laura's wish," Diana added. Together, Benny and Diana hatched a plan to surprise Laura and bring her wishes to fruition. Benny found a puppy from an animal shelter, while Diana prepared homemade chocolates and made a doll for Laura. However, Diana was apprehensive about giving Laura the doll as the stitches were not perfect, and the chocolates might not be to Laura's liking.

Soon, the day of the surprise finally arrived. Decked in a Santa's suit, Benny was a bundle of nerves as he did not know if Laura would like the surprise. Laura squealed in delight when she saw Benny and Diana entering her house with the gifts that she had wished for. Benny heaved a sigh of relief. "I like the yummy chocolates! I really love this beautiful doll!" Laura exclaimed as she embraced Santa. Even though it was a simple gesture, being able to help Laura fulfil her wishes warmed Benny's heart. At that moment, it was as if through Laura, he was experiencing the joyous Christmas morning he had always yearned for as a child.

"I'm glad I made **that decision**," Benny smiled.

Story idea adapted from https://www.rd.com/article/this-man-fulfilled-a-childs-christmas-wish/

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Read the passage on page 10 of Booklet A and answer questions 71 to 80.

71 Based on lines 1-5, why was Benny curious? [1m]

_____

_____

72 Based on lines 8-14, how did Benny show that he had given up executing his plan? [2m]

_____

_____

73 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]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
a) wish list (line 5)	
b) a plan (line 10)	
c) the positive start (line 21)	

74 From lines 15-23, pick out a three-word phrase that tells us that Benny believed that his plan would work again. [1m]

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75 Why did Benny feel like "he was looking for a needle in a haystack"? (line 23) [2m]

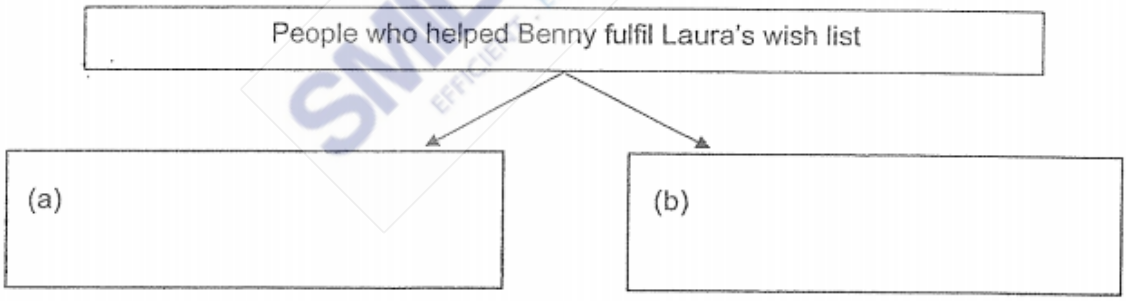
_____

_____

76 Based on the story, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [2m]

	True/ False	Reason
Benny went the extra mile to get the online community to find Laura.		
Diana did not expect anyone to reply to Laura's note.		

77



[2m]

78 "Benny heaved a sigh of relief." (lines 35-36). How is this different from how he felt before he entered Laura's house? [1m]

_____

_____

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79 Fill in the following table with information from lines 24-39. [4m]

	What Diana thought of it	What Laura thought of it
The doll	(a)	(b)
Chocolates	(c)	(d)

80 (a) Based on lines 34-40, what was "that decision" (line 40)? [1m]

_____

_____

(b) Why did Benny choose to make "that decision" in the first place? Support your answer with evidence from the passage. [1m]

_____

_____

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ROSYTH SCHOOL SA2 PAPER

1 My little brother made me _____ by cracking a joke when he saw that I was sad.

(1) laugh
(2) laughs
(3) laughed
(4) laughing

2 My sister and _____ are going to Japan next week.

(1) I
(2) me
(3) mine
(4) myself

3 Practising good hygiene habits _____ crucial in preventing the spread of diseases.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

4 Breathing in vehicular fumes has an adverse effect _____ our health.

(1) in
(2) to
(3) on
(4) over

5 "Grandfather's never travelled out of Singapore before, _____?" Jimmy asked.

(1) did he
(2) has he
(3) didn't he
(4) hasn't he

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6 It is past lunch hour. I _____ be hungry but I am not.

(1) could
(2) might
(3) would
(4) should

7 _____ the successful publicity, the school band performed to sell-out crowds for the entire week.

(1) Due to
(2) In spite of
(3) Apart from
(4) Regardless of

8 Although he was the leader of the team, he had _____ say n choosing the materials to be used for the project.

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

9 Jane is looking forward to _____ the year-end Graduation Concert with her friends.

(1) attend
(2) attends
(3) attended
(4) attending

10 The producer _____ I admire has filmed many documentaries on nature.

(1) who
(2) which
(3) whom
(4) whose

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11 "This vase should not cost you so much! I think you have been _____," John told Siti.

(1) ripped at
(2) ripped up
(3) ripped off
(4) ripped into

12 My father's eyesight _____ as he got older, resulting in poorer vision.

(1) declined
(2) decreased
(3) diminished
(4) deteriorated

13 Commuters in the bus interchange walk _____ every morning to catch the bus to work.

(1) briskly
(2) promptly
(3) laboriously
(4) enthusiastically

14 Mrs. Lim often teaches us to show respect for different races and appreciate the _____ of cultures in Singapore.

(1) mixture
(2) diversity
(3) affluence
(4) multiplicity

15 Wei Ming's _____ handwriting made it difficult for me to read his composition.

(1) illogical
(2) illegible
(3) ineligible
(4) incoherent

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

(5 marks)

The Tokyo Olympics featured an unexpected guest on television. The footage did not highlight an athlete's moment of glory **(16)** during the medal ceremony or heartwarming teamwork. Instead, it focused on a six-legged runner.

The new star of the games was actually a cockroach! Viewers from across the globe got an unusual shock during the concluding **(17)** minutes of a women's field hockey match between Argentina and Spain. A cameraman decided to amuse himself by drawing attention away **(18)** from the live sports coverage to close-up images of the cockroach scurrying across a ledge at the event venue. Although the cockroach was given a fleeting **(19)** appearance on live television, lasting a few seconds, it did not derail the Argentinian team's spirit as they went on to win 3-0. The cameraman's unconventional **(20)** choice of camerawork left many sports fans baffled. The video was shared on Twitter, garnering more than 8.4 million views.

Adapted from The Guardian, Sport

16 (1) progress
(2) milestone
(3) achievement
(4) breakthrough

17 (1) culminating
(2) eventual
(3) latest
(4) final

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18 (1) veering
(2) straying
(3) diverting
(4) digressing

19 (1) instantaneous
(2) momentary
(3) sudden
(4) fading

20 (1) unusual
(2) eccentric
(3) abnormal
(4) unfamiliar

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Study the information from this poster and then answer questions 21 to 28.

CLAY SCULPTURES FOR BEGINNERS!

Welcome to the world of clay sculpting! Shape your imagination and unleash your creativity.

Here are some tips to help you pick the right clay and improve your technique.



What type of clay should you use?

There are several types of clay used for sculptures, depending on how you can handle them and the type of finished product you would like to have.

1. **Oil-based modelling clay**
   - appears rough and does not dry out like water-based clay
   - tricky to work with as it requires heat to soften and mold
2. **Polymer-based modelling clay**
   - soft and does not dry out, making it easy to mold
   - baking is needed and a slight smell will emit during the process
3. **'Firing' clay**
   - water-based clay
   - easy to sculpt with this clay to create different shapes and designs
4. **Walter E. Disney clay**
   - water-based clay
   - used by entertainment professionals

Using water-based clay is the best for beginners to practise sculpting techniques at home. It is by far the easiest to use to create shapes using simple tools and it can be cleaned up easily with soap and water.



You can create your own sculpture in the comfort of your home too!

Set up an organised workspace by doing the following:

1. Adjust your chair and table to a suitable height to prevent hunching. Set them up near a window so that you can see the fine clay details under natural light.
2. Protect your work area with aluminum foil as clay may stain the surfaces of furniture.
3. Store tools within reach or add shelving above your table so you can grab them with ease.

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How to start sculpting?

Follow the five useful tips below to make clay sculptures.



1. Visualise the final piece
Before you start, sketch several designs of how you imagine the final product to look like from various angles.

2. Test clay for wetness
Pull off a small piece of the clay and roll it in your hand until it forms a cylindrical shape. If it is flexible, it is usable. If it cracks, try adding more water.



3. Shape your clay
Coiling the clay is a good way of building up the sides of a hollow shape. This prevents the shaped clay from collapsing.

4. Experiment and Practise
Get a feel for how different tools affect the material. Practise by cutting, poking and dragging the tools across a sheet of clay. Experiment ways of building up clay, connecting pieces and adding details.



5. Have fun
All sculptors improve and grow by learning from their mistakes. Working with clay is supposed to be a relaxing and fun experience that inspires you and awakens your imagination. Do not be afraid to try even if you do not have any experience.

Sign up for Funway Clay Sculpting Workshop 2023

Create your own piece of clay sculpture in any shape you like! Learn the skills of making clay sculpture from an expert. It is a great place to learn the fun way!

Sign up at www.funway.com before 20 September 2023 to get a free goodie bag!

Date of workshop: 25 October 2023

Last day of registration: 20 October 2023

Requirement: Participants will sketch their preferred design during the workshop

Fee: $80 per child (all learning materials, including the clay, are provided.)

For more information, please call our hotline at 6222 4444.

Thoughts about clay sculpting:

"I was so engaged during the clay sculpting workshop last year! Now, I can create my own unique sculpture. My dream is to become a professional sculptor and I hope to conduct classes for others when I am free."



10-year-old Su Lin

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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 Why is an exclamation mark used in the heading, "Clay Sculptures For Beginners"?

(1) To show that clay sculpting is fun
(2) To convey the excitement about clay sculpting
(3) To draw attention to what clay sculpting is all about
(4) To emphasise that clay sculpting is for beginners only

22 For children who are just starting to learn sculpting techniques at home, which type of clay is the most suitable for use? _____.

(1) 'Firing' clay
(2) Walter E. Disney Clay
(3) Oil-based modelling clay
(4) Polymer-based modelling clay

23 Which statement is true about setting up a workspace at home for clay sculpting? You should _____.

(1) place your tools away from the table
(2) adjust your table and chair to sit comfortably
(3) lay plastic sheets on your furniture surfaces to prevent staining
(4) set up your workspace near a window for natural breeze to enter

24 Andy would like to try making a clay sculpture. He must first _____.

(1) coil the clay to ensure its flexibility
(2) use different tools to shape the clay
(3) ensure that the clay is thoroughly wet
(4) sketch various designs of how he wants the final product to look like

25 According to the flyer, 10-year-old Su Lin _____.

(1) finds clay sculpting boring
(2) makes exclusive sculptures for others
(3) wants to conduct free classes in the future
(4) intends to become a professional sculptor in the future

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26 Cindy wants to sign up for the Funway Clay Sculpting Workshop 2023. What must she do?

(1) Submit a sketch of her final product before the workshop
(2) Call the hotline at 6222 4444 to register
(3) Sign up by 20 October 2023
(4) Bring along her own clay

27 According to the flyer, which of the following is **not** true about clay sculpting?

(1) Clay sculpting is a great way to bring out your creativity.
(2) Practice is essential to produce a good piece of art work.
(3) All sculptors improve their art work by learning from their mistakes.
(4) One needs to have experience in clay sculpting before trying it out.

28 The **main** purpose of the poster is to _____.

(1) encourage readers to be interested in clay sculpting
(2) show readers how they can work comfortably at home
(3) promote Funway Clay sculpting workshop held on 25 October 2023
(4) provide general information about different types of clay used for clay sculpting

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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)	also	(D)	because	(G)	in	(K)	on	(N)	then
(B)	among	(E)	by	(H)	instead	(L)	since	(P)	to
(C)	are	(F)	has	(J)	its	(M)	than	(Q)	up

Talk about making lemonade when life gives you lemons. Eagle-eyed shoppers at IKEA Singapore spotted misprinted cloth bags _____ (29) sale at its online store, as well as its physical store at Alexandra Road.

IKEA Singapore had misspelt its website address, printing "www.ikea.co.sg" on its cloth bag. Rather _____ (30) disposing of the misprinted bags, IKEA decided to own _____ (31) to its mistake and proceeded with selling the cloth bags at its retail outlets.

The furniture retailer came clean about _____ (32) error through an explanation on the tag in addition to the words "These bags _____ (33) limited edition and they will not be back!". Similarly, at IKEA's online store, the misprinted bags are _____ (34) being sold, with the explanation given.

A photo posted _____ (35) Facebook user Alicia Cho showed the bags on sale at the physical store. The bag had become popular _____ (36) many young shoppers. This was largely due _____ (37) the fact that the bag was sold at only $1.90.

IKEA explained that it did not scrap the products. _____ (38), IKEA hoped that customers can give a perfectly new bag "a second chance" and consider it for its eco-friendly reusable function. This move is in line with IKEA's motto to care for the planet and use resources carefully.

Adapted from https://cnalifestyle.channelnewsasia.com/

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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)

My grandmother was famous in her little town for the baked goods which she (39) [ ] sold. That was a small bissness which her mother had left her. I loved visiting her (40) [ ] shop as there was always something intresting to look forward to. (41) [ ]

During one visit, she was making one of my favourite snack - chocolate cookies. (42) [ ] (43) [ ] I was exilerated and kept sneaking into her kitchen, hoping to steal a bite on the delicious cookies as soon as they were out of the oven.

Although Grandmother kept chasing me out of the kitchen, I successfully (44) [ ] managed to sneak in to steal one and bite into it. Much to my suprize, it was not what (45) [ ] I had expected. It was a brown coaster that looks just like a cookie! When Grandmother (46) [ ] saw it, she fell into a fit of laughter as she found it bizzare for me to chew on a coaster. (47) [ ] However, back then, I did not find it humour. (48) [ ]

Years later, Grandmother passed over. We went to her house to go through her (49) [ ] belongings. I had all and forgotten the coaster incident until I found, in one paticuler (50) [ ] box, the same coaster with a perfect little bite. Tears began to well up in my eyes.

Adapted from https://www.quora.com/What-are-some-funny-stories-of-your-childhood

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Fill in each blank with **a** suitable word. (15 marks)

Few performers have ever captured the public imagination like Harry Houdini. Houdini was one of the world's most popular entertainers in history.

Houdini grew up in an impoverished family. From an early age, he was forced to work to help make ends _____ (51). As a young boy, he wanted to join a circus because he was drawn to performing. To gain popularity as _____ (52) entertainer, Houdini began to _____ (53) daring feats of escaping from ropes, chains and handcuffs. Soon, he started to escape from various locked containers ranging from coffins _____ (54) prison cells. This earned him an international reputation as his performances _____ (55) typically watched by thousands of people.

In one of his performances, he was chained and placed in a _____ (56) that was locked, roped and weighted. The box was submerged from a boat. Houdini then surfaced after freeing _____ (57) underwater. In another performance, he was suspended in mid-air with his hands tied, about 23 metres _____ (58) ground. After a few minutes, he escaped skillfully. His _____ (59) gasped in awe when they watched his performance. Houdini's amazing escape abilities _____ (60) not only on his great physical strength and agility but also on his extraordinary skill at manipulating locks.

After almost three decades of public performances, Houdini eventually found another new and powerful way to _____ (61) out to people through movies. He made his first _____ (62) in 1918. Although his movie did not feature live magic, Houdini became one of Hollywood's first action heroes and his movie delighted audiences _____ (63) the world.

In 1926, he _____ (64) seriously ill and he died. Many people turned up to pay _____ (65) last respects to Houdini. The world knew it had lost one of the most original and beloved entertainers of all time.

Adapted from https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/houdini-biograp

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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). (10 marks)

66. Megan and the twins do not know when Mrs Lam is picking them up.

Neither _____

_____.

67. Jack confessed to Mr Low, "I am the one who broke the glasses."

Jack confessed to Mr Low that _____

_____.

68. You must remove the electrical cables. Your toddler may be tempted to pull them.

_____ unless

_____.

69. I tried hard but I could not pry open the lid of the tin.

No matter _____

_____.

70. Sally stared at the letter. She could not believe it.

_____ in

_____.

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Refer to the passage below when you answer questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B.

After a challenging jungle trek in West Africa, we arrived at a small cave which was known for snake sightings. Our crew was led by a local ranger, Zari, and two snake handlers. My reptile-loving companion and avid wildlife photographer, Bob, had formed a unique bond with Zari, who had shared some interesting findings about pythons. They had promised us an adventure of a lifetime in seeking out a wild python in a cave. Without second thoughts, we hurriedly headed for the cave.

"Snake's inside. **They** spotted it this morning," said Zari, pointing to the snake handlers. Bob clapped his hands in delight, much to everyone's amusement. He was the first to volunteer to lead the way. Both of us got down on our stomachs and squeezed our way into the cave, trying to spot the python. Surrounded by darkness, my initial excitement turned to regret. With hardly any room to move, the inevitable danger of encountering a menacing python made my heart race. Bob directed his torch beam down the narrow passage to reveal a massive python, coiled up tight, just two metres ahead. I felt a surge of cowardice wash over me as ferocious hisses echoed. We crawled out quickly into the sunlight again and sat up.

Moments later, Bob was squealing with joy as he experimented with his camera. I was about to suggest consulting the locals for help when Bob spotted one of the handlers making a noose out of thick rope. "We need to get **that** around its neck, then pull and drag it out!" suggested Bob as he impatiently pulled me up. I doubted it could work but kept it to myself. I fought to compose myself as I watched Bob behave like an eager child. As Bob skipped around playfully, I clenched my jaw, resisting the urge to yell.

More doubts started to creep in as I assessed the risks. I warned Bob about the dangers of getting entangled with the python within the cramped cave. Determined to prioritise our safety, I insisted that Bob and I wear thick, layered clothing to shield ourselves from potentially getting bitten. Despite these precautions, a nagging sense of worry lingered. Concerned about our well-being, I emphasised the python's strength and unpredictable nature, stating, "Do you really think you'll get a chance to noose it?"

Immediately, one of the snake handlers produced an extendable pole with a grabber tool at one end while the other tested the resistance of the knot.

"This will work. We've got to try, right?" Bob asked. He patted my shoulder, adding, "Don't worry, I understand how snakes react. **This knowledge** will come in handy for sure!"

I sighed in resignation as I knew Bob was not going to give up the prospect of photographing and getting close to the snake. Zari gave us some instructions on how to assist in capturing the snake. Suddenly, the air buzzed with anticipation.

Bob and I crawled into the cave together, wedged shoulder to shoulder. While I shone the torch down the tunnel, Bob slowly inched the pole over the top coil of the python and then yanked with all his strength. To our amazement, the entire bulk of the snake slid down the cave towards us without resistance! My mind grappled with confusion as I had anticipated a fierce struggle as Bob shuffled backwards and pulled. I watched in awe as Bob skilfully manoeuvred the noose over its head in the tight confines of the cave. Soon, the snake hissed madly as it tried to free itself.

"Quick! Pull the rope!" I roared as Bob appeared at the cave mouth. As he stepped back to drag the snake out, he slipped on a loose rock. The pole slipped from his grasp as he tumbled backwards. Within seconds, the python slithered back into the cave, leaving us speechless!

Adapted from "A Zoo in My Luggage" by Gerald Durrell

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Read the passage on page 12 of Booklet A and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

71. Pick out a four-word phrase from the first paragraph that tells us that the narrator was in for an unforgettable experience. [1m]

72. Explain clearly why the narrator said that there was "inevitable danger" (line 11) as they entered the cave. [2m]

73. Which **two** of the following words best describe Bob's character in lines 7 to 15? Pu a tick (✓) in the box beside each of your answers. [2m]
DO NOT TICK MORE THAN TWO BOXES.

cautious	☐	comical	☐
curious	☐	fearless	☐
indifferent	☐	timid	☐

74. From paragraph 3, the narrator compares Bob to 'an eager child' (line 20). What actions led the narrator to think so? [2m]

Action 1	
Action 2	

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75. 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]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
a) They (line 7)	
b) that (line 18)	
c) This knowledge (line 31)	

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

_____ Bob slipped and lost his grasp of the pole. [Line 44]

_____ Bob succeeded in putting a noose over the python's head.[Line 38 ~ 39]

_____ Bob was excited to explore the cave. [Line 8 ~ 9]

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77. 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
a) The narrator visited the cave alone with Bob.		
b) The narrator and Bob could get into the cave easily.		
c) The python resisted being caught after the noose was put over its head.		

78. Based on the information from lines 22 to 27, fill in the blanks in the following table. [2m]

How the narrator felt	Why the narrator felt this way	What the narrator did as a result
	The narrator studied the risks.	The narrator warned Bob about the dangers of getting entangled with the python.
determined	The narrator wanted to prioritise their safety.	

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79. Explain why the narrator thought that Bob would not be able to noose the python. [2m]

_____

_____

80. (a) Circle one word that best describes how the narrator first felt when the bulk of the snake slid down the cave in lines 37 to 38.
DO NOT CIRCLE MORE THAN ONE WORD. [1m]

astonished / dismayed / confused / frightened

(b) Why did the narrator feel this way? [1m]

_____

_____

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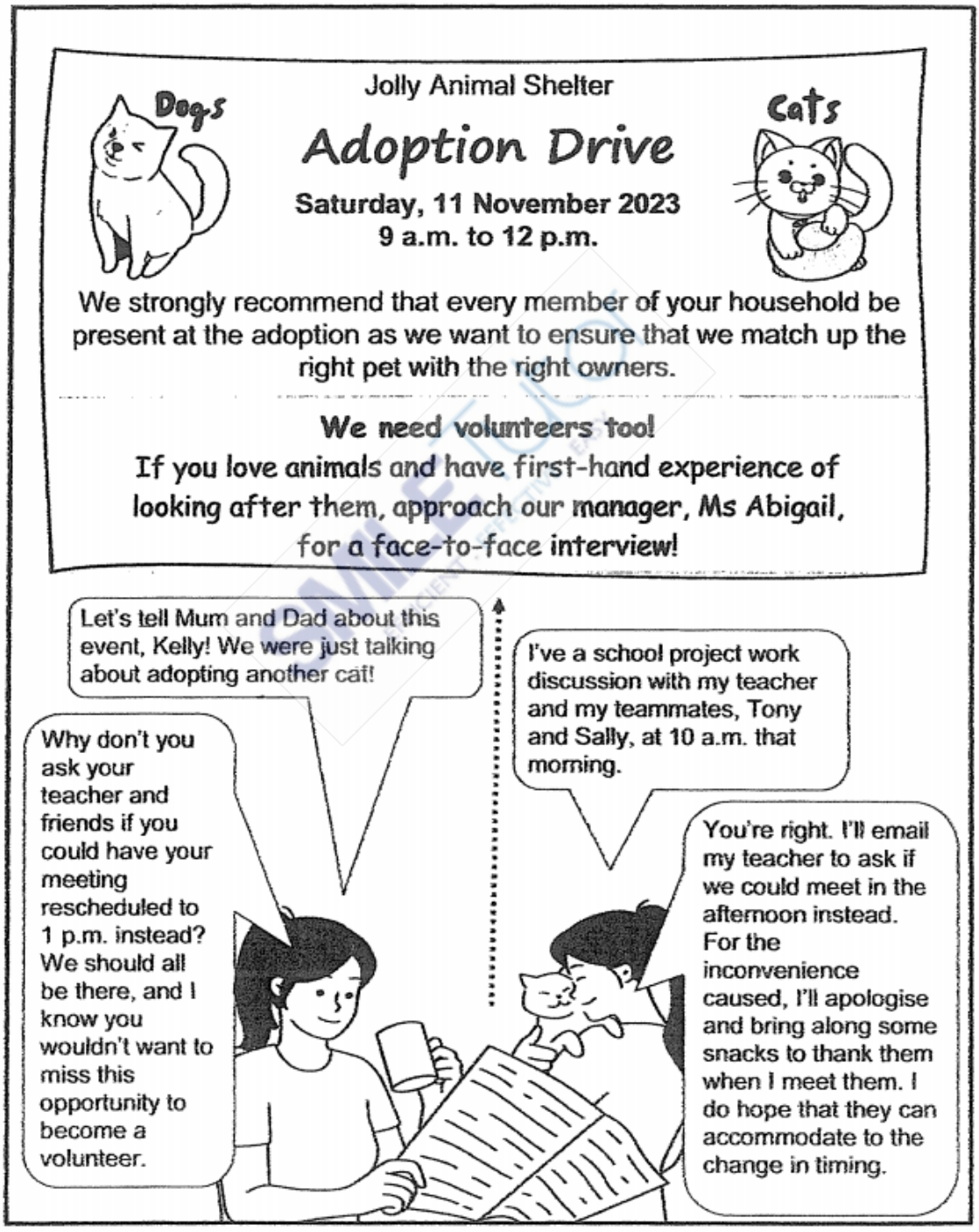
RED SWASTIKA SCHOOL SA2 PAPER

Instructions to candidates:
There are TWO parts to this paper: Part 1 and Part 2. Answer both questions.

Part 1: Situational Writing (15 marks)

1 The picture below shows Kelly and her sister, Tammy, discussing a notice that they saw in the newspaper on 10 August 2023. Study the picture carefully.



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Your Task

Imagine you are Kelly.

Write an email to the teacher in charge of your project work, Mr Tan, asking him if you could reschedule the project work meeting to the afternoon.

You are to refer to the picture and information on page 1 for your email.

In your email, include the following key information:

- when you wish to reschedule the meeting to
- the event you wish to attend and the time it will be held
- two reasons you should attend the event
- what you will do to thank your teacher and teammates

You may reorder the points. Remember to write in complete sentences.

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Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

2 Write a composition of at least 150 words about an important event.

The pictures are provided to help you think about this topic.

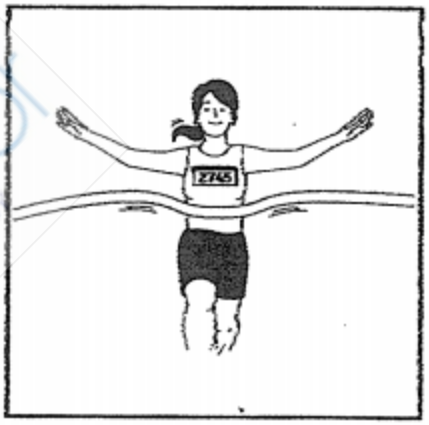
Your composition should be based on one or more of these pictures.

Consider the following points when you plan your composition:

- What was the important event?
- Why was it important?

You may use the points in any order and include other relevant points as well.







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(10 marks)

1 The heavy downpour ruined our plans for a picnic in the park, _____?

(1) isn't it
(2) didn't it
(3) hasn't it
(4) hadn't it

2 "The number of plastic bags collected for recycling _____ increased greatly since the start of the campaign!" said Nurul excitedly.

(1) has
(2) had
(3) have
(4) having

3 Only a brave _____ would be willingly to risk losing their lives for the country.

(1) all
(2) few
(3) some
(4) several

4 "Where _____ the track pants that I need for the camp? It is an essential item on the packing list," Peter asked worriedly.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

5 Which superhero have you _____ to dress up as for the costume party?

(1) chose
(2) choose
(3) chosen
(4) choosing

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6 Chef Daniel is known for his expertise _____ preparing unusual dishes from Asia.

(1) at
(2) in
(3) on
(4) for

7 The puzzle was difficult to solve, _____ Alex persisted and completed it.

(1) for
(2) but
(3) and
(4) while

8 Kingsley saw his mother _____ in the kitchen and offered to help her prepare the ingredients.

(1) cook
(2) cooks
(3) cooked
(4) cooking

9 You can easily spot the eatery as it is located _____ the opposite side of the street.

(1) in
(2) on
(3) by
(4) across

10 "_____ you have any questions about the text we're reading, I'll be glad to explain," Mr Raj reassured his students.

(1) Should
(2) Would
(3) Shall
(4) Will

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11 His poor health was _____ by a poor diet and excessive smoking.

(1) brought in
(2) brought on
(3) brought forward
(4) brought together

12 After the disaster, the streets were _____, and not a soul could be seen in the shopping malls.

(1) isolated
(2) forsaken
(3) deserted
(4) neglected

13 Unable to curb his _____, he bought the expensive video game without a thought.

(1) willfulness
(2) enthusiasm
(3) recklessness
(4) impulsiveness

14 Detectives are still trying to _____ the mystery of the missing aeroplane that disappeared nine years ago.

(1) reveal
(2) divulge
(3) expose
(4) unravel

15 The _____ priced meals at this café attract many people to dine here.

(1) modestly
(2) minimally
(3) miserably
(4) marginally

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

Tom stared at his report card. Having scored rather poorly for his Science project, he began to cry loudly (16). As his best friend, Jack, had accurately (17) predicted, Tom did not take the news of his difficult and unpleasant situation (18) well. It was apparent (19) that Tom thought his project was the best. He had always thought highly of his ability and he could not have anticipated this outcome.

However, amid the devastation he was feeling, Tom was still hopeful (20) that he would be selected to represent the class in the upcoming Science Quiz. He prayed that he would be given a second chance.

Adapted from 'Before the Coffee Gets Cold' by Toshikazu Kawaguchi

16 (1) sob
(2) bawl
(3) weep
(4) whimper

17 (1) exactly
(2) correctly
(3) specifically
(4) appropriately

18 (1) calamity
(2) dilemma
(3) experience
(4) predicament

19 (1) logical
(2) obvious
(3) plausible
(4) reasonable

20 (1) encouraged
(2) reassured
(3) optimistic
(4) inspired

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Outdoor Adventures: Good Safety Tips



by James Liew
22 July 2023



Do you have plans for the school holidays?
How about going for a hike in a forest?
What about a camping trip with your family or friends?

Such activities allow you to have fun and get close to nature, but safety needs to be your *number one priority*. Whatever you do, make sure you pick up essential survival skills and pack wisely before setting off.

Unexpected things can sometimes happen in the great outdoors. Since you can never anticipate exactly what might go wrong, carrying a survival kit in your pocket is always worthwhile. Let's look at how we can find ways to utilise every tiny bit of space inside a small, lightweight and waterproof container. Include as many useful everyday items as possible!

How to assemble a personal survival kit:



1. Get a small plastic or metal container that fits in your pocket.
2. Remove the rough strip from the side of a matchbox.
3. Wrap the strip and a few matches in plastic wrap to keep them dry.
4. Break a pencil in half and keep one piece within the container.
5. Sharpen both ends of the pencil piece.
6. Cut plastic straws into segments that fit inside your container. Seal one end of each segment with tape. Fill each mini tube with small amounts of liquids like hand sanitizer and antiseptic cream. Then seal the other end.
7. Collect plasters of various sizes.
8. Fold several large sheets of aluminium foil as compactly as possible.
9. Begin by placing the essential items inside the container. Estimate the remaining space and consider other useful items that can fit in your personal survival kit. Maximise the use of space to include as many additional items as possible.

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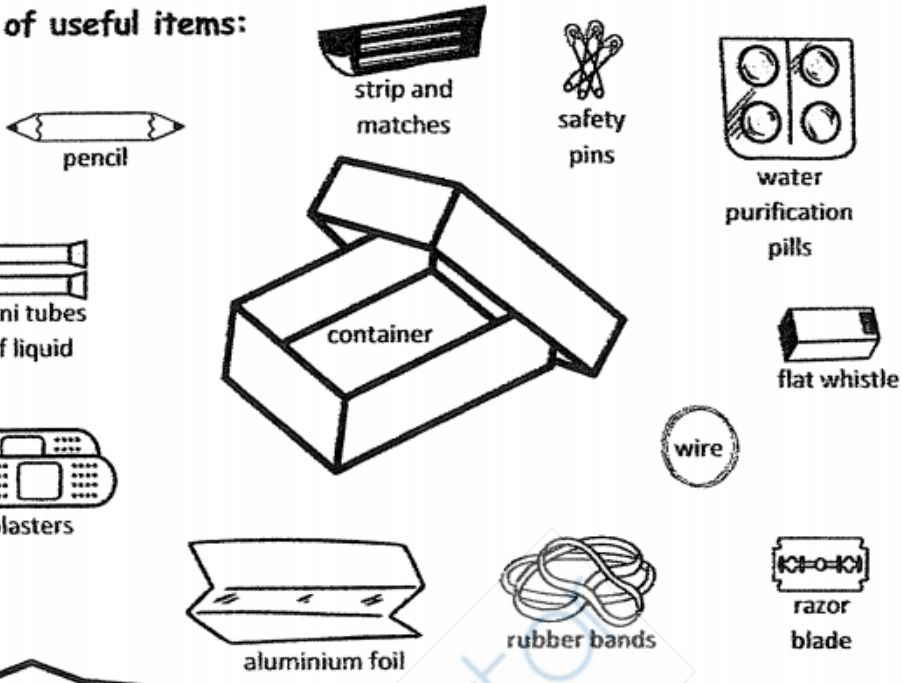
Examples of useful items:



Check this out!

Camp Leap

Dates: 4 to 7 December 2023
Venue: Sunny Forest Campsite
Fee: $120 per participant

For participants aged between 13 and 16

Early Bird Offer
Register by 31 October 2023

Camp Leap is back by popular demand! Organised by Team Leap, this outdoor adventure camp will cater for up to 100 participants this year – the largest number thus far! Visit www.teamleap.sg from now until 15 November 2023 to register and pay the fee online. Registration will close early if all places are filled. Leap into action to avoid disappointment!

Important Points to Note

- ✓ First aid kits will be readily available, and instructors are trained to deal with emergencies. However, take note that they are not allowed to administer medication.
- ✓ Participants must declare all medical conditions during registration. Those with medical conditions will be asked to sit out strenuous camp activities.

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21 The purpose of the questions in the first paragraph is to _____.

(1) encourage readers to go for a hike
(2) tell readers about hiking and camping
(3) make readers consider outdoor activities
(4) ask readers about their plans for the school holidays

22 If you are considering embarking on an outdoor adventure, the phrase "number one priority" in the first paragraph tells you that safety is _____.

(1) something that requires attention soon
(2) the only important thing that deserves attention
(3) at the top of the list of things that need attention
(4) one of the things you may want to pay attention to

23 According to the article, it is important to carry survival kits in the great outdoors because we _____.

(1) can bring along useful everyday items
(2) can foresee problems and prepare for them
(3) must make full use of the space in the containers
(4) must prepare ourselves for unexpected situations

24 According to the instructions on assembling a personal survival kit, which of the following items should be placed inside such a kit?

(1) a box of matches
(2) a metal container
(3) some rubber bands
(4) some antiseptic cream

25 When assembling a personal survival kit, we should _____.

(1) pack the basic items into the container last
(2) try to make use of all the space inside the container
(3) measure how much space is available in the container
(4) choose a container that can hold all the items we want to include

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26. Which statement is **not** true about Camp Leap?

(1) Not all teenagers will be able to participate in it.
(2) Registration may close before the stated deadline.
(3) Up to 100 participants can participate in it every year.
(4) Participants can enjoy a discounted registration fee up till October.

27. The organiser will take all the following safety precautions during Camp Leap **except** _____.

(1) ensuring that first aid kits are always on hand
(2) authorising instructors to administer medication
(3) requesting that participants declare all their medical conditions
(4) excluding participants with medical conditions from strenuous camp activities

28. What is the **main** purpose of the article?

(1) to inform readers of an outdoor adventure camp
(2) to offer readers advice on having outdoor adventures safely
(3) to share the benefits of engaging in regular outdoor activities
(4) to share tips on how to select items for a personal survival kit

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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) a	(D) do	(G) from	(K) less	(N) on
(B) as	(E) does	(H) however	(L) more	(P) the
(C) and	(F) for	(J) in	(M) moreover	(Q) when

Have you ever wondered why we blink? Blinking is an essential _____ (29) involuntary action that helps protect and keep our eyes healthy.

Blinking acts _____ (30) a natural shield for our eyes. It helps to keep foreign objects, like dust, dirt, or even insects, from entering our eyes. When we blink, our eyelids close quickly, acting like _____ (31) protective barrier, preventing anything harmful _____ (32) reaching our sensitive eye tissues.

Not only _____ (33) blinking protect our eyes physically, it also refreshes our vision. _____ (34) we stare at something for a long time, our eyes can become tired or strained. Blinking provides a brief moment of rest _____ (35) our eyes, allowing them to relax and refocus. It is like a mini break for our visual system, helping to maintain clear and comfortable vision.

_____ (36) average, a person blinks about 15 to 20 times per minute. _____ (37), certain activities, such as reading or using digital devices, can reduce our blinking rate. When we concentrate on something, we tend to blink _____ (38) frequently, which can cause our eyes to become dry and strained. It is therefore important to blink regularly, especially during prolonged periods of focused tasks. Start blinking to reduce eye fatigue!

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One of the scariest memories I had as a child was watching the Bukit

(39) [ ]

Ho Swee fire from my balcony. Despite beem miles away, I could see smoke

(40) [ ] (41) [ ]

beelowing from the village With strong winds, the spontaynious fire spread

(42) [ ]

around the village, deevowering everything in its path. Hours later, the

(43) [ ]

incehcent wailing of sirens could be heard as the firefighters arrived at

the scene.

(44) [ ]

The trejerdi left about 16,000 people homeless with four fatalities and

(45) [ ]

property damage estimated in $2 million. The great fire changed the face

(46) [ ]

of the village, which had previous housed many squatters.

(47) [ ]

The fire resulted in an accelerated of the public housing programme.

(48) [ ]

Some, if not all, of the homeless individuals were moved to flats

(49) [ ]

constructed around the vesinity. The government responded very swiftly,

(50) [ ]

provided shelter and support to those affected. The community also came

together to rebuild and overcome adversity, demonstrating the strength of

human spirit in the face of challenges.

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

Have you ever noticed that when you're running around, playing sports, or feeling very hot, your body starts to perspire? Perspiring, as a process, is _____ (51) for our body's well-being. Let us _____ (52) at one important way it benefits us.

Our bodies are like well-oiled machines, constantly working in order to keep everything balanced. _____ (53) of the most crucial things our amazing body does is regulating its _____ (54) temperature. When we exercise, the muscles generate _____ (55), and on hot days, the sun adds to that too. If our body does not _____ (56) down, it will overheat like a computer and that could result in health _____ (57).

Our bodies perspire to _____ (58) us from getting too overheated. Perspiration is a clear, salty liquid produced by tiny sweat glands scattered all over our skin. When our body detects rising temperatures, these miraculous glands _____ (59) perspiration onto the skin's surface. As the perspiration evaporates, it takes _____ (60) some of the excess heat with it, cooling us down like a natural air conditioner!

Remember, perspiring is your body's awesome way of maintaining the _____ (61) temperature, so do not feel embarrassed when you are all sweaty _____ (62) a fun game or exercise. It means your body is _____ (63) perfectly! Just make sure to stay _____ (64) by drinking a lot of water, especially on hot days.

The next time you see those tiny droplets _____ (65) on your forehead or running down your back, appreciate the incredible mechanism your body has to keep you comfortable and healthy. Embrace perspiration as a vital and fascinating aspect of being human!

Adapted from www.healthline.com/health/sweating

15

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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). (10 marks)

66 Only Yoana and Jayson have not submitted their homework.

Everybody, except Yoana and Jayson, _____

_____

67 Jane stared at the decorated room. She found it awesome.

_____ in

_____

68 "Who fell during the game this morning?" the teacher asked the class.

The teacher asked the class who _____

_____

69 Hazy conditions persisted and classes were cancelled.

_____ because of

_____

70 My sister is brewing coffee for breakfast.

Coffee for breakfast _____

_____

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Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

I met Lina at my summer job when we were working for a trading company in Taipei. As a teenager, I frequently quarrelled with my parents, so I was in low spirits all the time. At the age when one tended to exaggerate one's unhappiness, I constantly showed up at work with an expression that suggested the universe would soon come to an end. Lina, on the other hand, always wore a smile on her face, which, with her two dimples, made her look like a carefree angel.

She always listened to my complaints. I harped on how unfair my parents were and what a wonderful life I would have led had I not been born into such a terrible family. Whenever she tried to offer advice, I would say, "You won't understand."

One Wednesday, after yet another squabble with my parents, I decided to teach them a lesson for shouting at me. I decided to 'run away'. I asked Lina if I could stay with her for a while. She smiled, "Sure, but **we** have a small place which we share, if you don't mind that." I assured her that I would not.

After work that evening, I got on the bus with Lina. We rode the bus to the Taipei train station, then walked approximately fifteen minutes to catch another bus. Finally, we hiked along mountain trails for fifteen minutes. When we got to Lina 's home, it was after 8pm. Nevertheless, I looked forward to basking in the warmth of Lina's family, something that I never got at home.

Lina and her grandmother lived in a converted dormitory for miners together with eight families under the same roof. They even shared a common kitchen and bathroom. In the dormitory, Lina and her grandmother resided in a tiny room, smaller than the bathroom at my home. Orphaned from birth, Lina was raised by her grandmother who used to wash clothes for the miners living **there**. When the workers moved away, she was out of work. Since then, Lina attended school in the evening and worked during the day.

Lina showed no signs of unhappiness while telling me about her life. Her home was small but clean. The old wooden door was scrubbed so white that it shone. Her plan was to work as an accountant after she graduated from school. With a steady income, they would move out of the hills and share an apartment with another family. They would have a flush toilet, sparing her grandmother the pain of using a squat toilet.

Lina's grandmother listened to my complaints and was concerned about me. "**They** may not be perfect, but they are still your kin," she said. "Don't be mad at them for too long, or you'll end up not having a family at all." I was left deep in thought.

That night, I was given their small bed. Lina and her grandmother willingly slept on the hard ground. I tossed and turned all night. My 'sorrow' and 'worries' suddenly seemed so insignificant. When I got up at dawn, Lina was preparing porridge in the common kitchen. Seeing me, she turned to the rising sun and said, "Beautiful, isn't it? I like to watch the sunrise from here. I feel life is full of hope when I see the sunlight slowly get brighter and brighter."

After work that day, I meekly went home. My four-room flat felt so much more comfortable compared to Lina's humble abode. The next day, my father prepared a plate of scrambled eggs and pancakes for my breakfast. I started speaking more politely to my parents, and subsequently, we stopped squabbling. Soon, my 'depression' evaporated.

When the summer job ended, both Lina and I went back to school, and we soon lost touch. Now twenty years later, I have two children of my own, but the image of Lina remains with me - the girl with angelic dimples who had so little, yet **taught me so much**.

Adapted from Reader's Digest (Oct 2003) 'Watching the Sunrise'

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71 Which five-word phrase in paragraph 1 suggests that the writer was not as unhappy as she looked? (1m)

72 Both Lina and the writer went to work with different attitudes. Fill in the boxes with evidence from the first paragraph. (2m)

	How she felt when she went to work	Evidence from the passage
The writer	She was always sad and moody.	
Lina		She always wore a smile on her face, which, with her two dimples, made her look like a carefree angel.

73 *'Whenever she tried to offer advice, I would say, "You won't understand."' (lines 8 - 9)*
What assumption did the writer make about Lina which made her feel that Lina would not understand? Quote a sentence from the text which suggests this. (2m)

Assumption	Sentence from the text
The writer assumed that _____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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74 List two things about Lina's living conditions which suggested that she was not well-off. (2m)

1. _____

2. _____

75 Which one of the following words best describes how the writer felt in lines 32 – 34? Put a tick in the box beside your answer. (1m)
DO NOT TICK MORE THAN ONE BOX.

anxious	☐	tired	☐
ashamed	☐	shocked	☐
frustrated	☐		

76 Although Lina did not come from a well-to-do family, she was very proud of her home. What are some things she had done to suggest this? (2m)

_____

_____

77 Look at the table below. What do the words/phrases in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. (3m)

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer to
a) we (line 12)	
b) there (line 22)	
c) They (line 29)	

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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)

Statement	True/False	Reason
a) The writer did not always complain to Lina about her parents.		
b) The writer did not go back home after work that Wednesday to get back at her parents.		
c) The writer was unconcerned after Lina's grandmother advised her to forgive her parents.		

79 The writer felt that her "sorrow' and 'worries' suddenly seemed so insignificant' (lines 33 – 34) in comparison to Lina's. Explain why she felt this way. (2m)

_____

_____

80 To the writer, Lina was 'the girl with angelic dimples who had so little, yet taught me so much' (line 43). What did Lina teach the writer? (2m)

_____

_____

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PEI HWA PRESBYTERIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL SA2 PAPER

1. Wan Li and _____ brought our new pet dog out for a walk.

(1) I
(2) me
(3) myself
(4) him

2. _____ her small frame, she could rearrange the heavy sofa on her own.

(1) Unlike
(2) Though
(3) Despite
(4) However

3. Currently, police _____ no closer to catching the thieves even with video evidence.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

4. The waiter _____ my father praised had only begun work a week prior.

(1) who
(2) whom
(3) whoever
(4) whomever

5. _____ you need any help, I will be a phone call away.

(1) Must
(2) Will
(3) Could
(4) Should

6. When Devi received her new camera, she excitedly took many photographs _____ random.

(1) to
(2) by
(3) at
(4) of

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7. Mother _____ the wet shirt out and hung it up to dry yesterday.

(1) wring
(2) wrung
(3) has wrung
(4) had wrung

8. He'd be annoyed that you had misplaced his favourite book, _____?

(1) didn't he
(2) hadn't he
(3) mightn't he
(4) wouldn't he

9. Have you seen _____ of Kenneth lately? He seems very busy.

(1) much
(2) many
(3) some
(4) little

10. Hardly had Bala left the house _____ it started raining.

(1) as
(2) then
(3) than
(4) when

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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). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. **(5 marks)**

11. Lionel _____ researched on planets to deepen his interest in the solar system.

(1) avidly
(2) decisively
(3) recklessly
(4) indifferently

12. The concerns parents have for their children's health usually _____ all other concerns.

(1) overrun
(2) oversee
(3) overtake
(4) override

13. "Since we have a short time for lunch, shall we go to a restaurant in the _____?" Jeanette suggested.

(1) sector
(2) region
(3) vicinity
(4) territory

14. There are many _____ guests that are well-respected for their efforts in environmental conservation present.

(1) elegant
(2) excellent
(3) esteemed
(4) extraordinary

15. The group was quick to _____ with a solution to tackle the problem.

(1) come up
(2) come down
(3) come out
(4) come away

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

Forests are magnificent natural wonders. These **(16) vast** areas are filled with a large variety of trees, plants, and animals, housing countless species. Forests help to maintain a stable climate, regulate water cycle and provide a habitat for wildlife.

Forests also provide **(17) a great deal of** benefits for our well-being. Known as the 'lungs' of the earth, forests provide clean and fresh air and help to **(18) mitigate** the issues that arise from climate change. Forests also supply resources such as medicine and food and support the **(19) livelihoods** of people. With all these benefits, it is no wonder that we are called to protect and preserve this **(20) invaluable** eco-system.

16. (1) infinite
    (2) massive
    (3) restricted
    (4) established

17. (1) any
    (2) few
    (3) many
    (4) enough

18. (1) avoid
    (2) reduce
    (3) shorten
    (4) decrease

19. (1) duties
    (2) pursuits
    (3) hobbies
    (4) occupations

20. (1) priceless
    (2) worthless
    (3) relentless
    (4) meaningless

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Study this information on the webpage of Give.sg and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Towards a city of care ~ Give.sg | About | FAQs | Contact Us | Sign Up

Donate Today | Volunteer | Campaigns | Learn More

To our alumni, prospective students, family members and interested donors,

White Blossom Primary School Presents:

Shine your Light Carnival!

25 March 2023, 9.30am – 5pm
Address: 300 Amber Road

About our Carnival

White Blossom Primary School's carnival is back after five years! Our carnival will be a celebration of our school's founding and achievements over the years. It also hopes to develop our students' empathy towards others and support the needs in our community. Our school aims to raise $50,000 for our beneficiaries to support their programmes. Let's come together to serve and bless others!

Be a donor!

Donate now! White Blossom Primary School welcomes all donors to contribute. All funds will go to five different charities and organisations.

We encourage you to donate via the following platforms:

- Click on "Donate Today" above
- Buy your carnival tickets
- Sponsor prizes for our games stalls

More information about our beneficiaries can be found on our school website: www.whiteblossompri.sg/shineyourlight.

Tickets

Purchase your tickets* for food and games from any staff or student!

If you purchase 5 or more booklets, you stand a chance to win a new SP5 Game Console worth $250!

*Tickets will only be sold in booklets of $50. All individual tickets of $10 can be purchased only at the General Office.

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Highlights

Live Performances

Join us at our main stage to catch live performances! Listen to the beneficiaries' stories as they share how they have been supported and impacted.

Time	Performance
10am – 10.30am	Guitar Ensemble performance
11am – 11.30am	Percussion performance with Singapore Disability Association (SDA)
12.30pm – 1pm	Folk dance performance with Association for Special Needs
2pm– 3pm	Orchestra performance and Lucky Draw
4pm – 4.30pm	Martial Arts demonstration
4.30pm – 5pm	Closing and Lucky Draw Winners announcement

Game Stalls

Come try out our game stalls! Learn more about the needs of the beneficiaries through unique games such as Wheelchair Basketball, Blindfold Maze, and One-legged Football. Empathise with their struggles as you play and reflect on these activities. You stand to win attractive prizes! See you at the foyer from 11am-3pm!

Heritage Walk

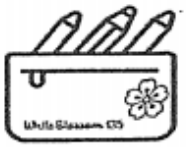
Find out more about our school's rich history! Join us for our tours of the heritage room led by our prefects to learn more about our development and culture from 1888 till now.

Tours are every 30 minutes from 1-4pm.

Exclusive 135th Anniversary Commemorative Merchandise







Walk down memory lane with the limited edition 135th anniversary jersey, pencil case and mug at the school bookshop! Show off your old school badge or uniform to purchase these merchandise. All proceeds will go to our beneficiaries. While stocks last!

Hear from our beneficiaries:

White Blossom Primary School has been a blessing to our organisation. Annually, they send student volunteers to serve the people in our centre. We greatly appreciate that this year's carnival will raise funds for the development of our new centre and raise awareness about the work that we do.

- Mr Lee, Singapore Disability Association Director

Students from White Blossom Primary School are patient and nice. I am grateful that they taught me to dance and that I get to dance with them. My parents are also very happy that I am learning new things when I go for classes at Association for Special Needs.

- S Y, a beneficiary of Association for Special Needs.

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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). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. **(8 marks)**

21. Which of the following is not an objective of the Shine your Light carnival?

(1) To raise $50 000 for the partnering beneficiaries.
(2) To remember the development and culture of the school since 1888.
(3) To develop empathy in students and support the needs in the community.
(4) To celebrate the school's founding and achievements over the past years.

22. If Shafiq does not attend the carnival, he can donate directly to the beneficiaries by _____.

(1) loaning prizes to the game stalls
(2) performing at the Shine your Light carnival
(3) donating electronically through the Give.sg website
(4) purchasing five or more booklets from the school website

23. In "Purchase your tickets*", the asterisk (*) is used to _____.

(1) clarify how the tickets will be sold
(2) list details about where to buy the tickets from
(3) draw the attention of buyers to purchase more tickets
(4) provide information about the number of tickets available

24. Students are staging performances and running games stalls to _____.

(1) raise awareness about the needs of the beneficiaries
(2) advertise the curricular activities in school to prospective students
(3) build relationships between the alumni and the partnering beneficiaries
(4) advocate for donors to support only the Singapore Disability Association

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25. The sale of the 135th anniversary commemorative merchandise is for _____.

(1) interested donors of the beneficiaries
(2) former students of White Blossom Primary School
(3) prospective students ~~for~~ of White Blossom Primary School
(4) family members of White Blossom Primary School's students

26. Which of the following statements about the carnival is true?

(1) The school holds a carnival for the different beneficiaries annually.
(2) Individual carnival tickets can be purchased from any staff or student.
(3) The heritage walk is only for alumni to take a walk down memory lane.
(4) All proceeds from ticket and merchandise sales will go to the beneficiaries.

27. What is the reason for including the section 'Hear from our beneficiaries' on the webpage?

(1) To allow all beneficiaries to express their gratitude.
(2) To share how the donations have benefitted those in need.
(3) To feature background information about the different charities.
(4) To continue the partnership between the school and the various organisations.

28. What is the **main purpose** of this webpage on the Give.sg website?

(1) To encourage people to sign up and donate on Give.sg.
(2) To showcase the organisations and beneficiaries of Give.sg.
(3) To recommend White Blossom Primary School to future students.
(4) To promote the carnival as a fundraising opportunity for potential donors.

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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)	a	(D)	has	(G)	of	(K)	these	(N)	was
(B)	few	(E)	is	(H)	on	(L)	those	(P)	which
(C)	had	(F)	little	(J)	the	(M)	through	(Q)	while

If you want to exercise your body, head to the gym. If you want to exercise your brain, listen to music. There are **(29)**_____ things that stimulate the brain the way music does. Listening to or playing music **(30)**_____ a great tool to keep your brain engaged. It provides **(31)**_____ total brain workout. Research **(32)**_____ shown that listening to music can reduce anxiety and improve sleep quality.

Experts are trying to understand how our brains can hear and play music. A sound system puts out vibrations **(33)**_____ travel through the air and go into the ear canal. **(34)**_____ vibrations form an electrical signal that travels **(35)**_____ the auditory nerve to the brain, where it is reassembled into something we perceive as music.

Researchers have had dozens of jazz performers and rappers improvise music **(36)** _____ lying down inside a machine to watch and see which areas of their brains light up. It **(37)**_____ found that multiple areas in the left and right brain lit up during the improvisation process. You may not be aware of it, but your brain has to do a lot of work to make sense **(38)**_____ the music that you hear. Thus, it is no wonder ~~that~~ that people who listen to music are able to think better!

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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 numbered 39 to 50. (12 marks)

Bethany Hamilton is a well-known surfer. However, her popularity is not (39) [ ] based on her many accomplishes. Instead, it is based on her inspiring story of (40) [ ] returning to the sport while losing her arm in a shark attack.

(41) [ ]

On October 31, 2003, 13-year-old Bethany Hamilton gone for a morning surf (42) [ ] with her best friend. While lie on her surfboard, a huge shark attacked her. The (43) [ ] (44) [ ] shark bite off her left arm and she lost a lot of blood. Imidietly, Bethany was (45) [ ] rushed to hospital where a doctor on duty raced to her resque.

Despite losing her arm eventually, Bethany Hamilton returned to surfing. (46) [ ] Throughout her career, she competed in various surfing compatetions and came in first for many of them.

(47) [ ]

Bethany Hamilton's inkcredibal story teaches us how we can overcome some of (48) [ ] the hardest challenges with zest and determine. Bethany never lost hope and (49) [ ] persooed her dreams. If you are passionate about something, you should find a way (50) [ ] to make it happen. With constant hard work and dedication, we can acheif anything. Do not give up!

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word **(15 marks)**

Do you like taking aim at something and throwing an object at it to knock it down? If so, bowling is a sport that you might be interested **(51)** _____. Instead of taking a random shot, it requires specific techniques to hurl a ball towards ten 'pins' with the **(52)** _____ of knocking them all down. There are several variations of the game of bowling, but the **(53)** _____ common form is 10-pin bowling. Hence, 'bowling' today **(54)** _____ refers to 10-pin bowling.

In 10-pin bowling, there are ten pins which are **(55)** _____ in a triangle formation at the end of a long wooden lane. The bowler has to **(56)** _____ roll a heavy ball down the lane in order to knock down all 10 pins within a maximum of two tries, also known as a 'frame'. In each game, there are ten frames. The **(57)** _____ score is calculated based on the number of pins the bowler manages to knock down after all of his or her **(58)** _____ in the ten frames. Bowlers can also earn **(59)** _____ points if they are able to knock down all 10 pins within a frame consecutively.

(60) _____ rolling a bowling ball down the lane to hit a few pins might sound pretty **(61)** _____, it requires a great amount of skill to consistently knock all the pins down. There are two **(62)** _____ of shots in bowling: a straight ball, and a hook ball. A straight ball is the most **(63)** _____ shot and what most beginning bowlers start with. A hook ball travels in a curve and attacks the pins **(64)** _____ the sides.

Do all these descriptions make you want to try it **(65)** _____ for yourself? If that is so, do head over to the many bowling alleys in Singapore to try knocking down as many pins as you can!

Adapted from "Bowling" ACE Magazine: Issue 38

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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). (10 marks)

66. Chongli wants to complete his project. He is not interested to watch the movie.

_____

_____.

67. If you look carefully at the object, you will find the tear.

_____

_____.

68. "Did you lend Tom your book yesterday?" the teacher asked Sam.

The teacher asked Sam if _____

_____.

69. Paul did not agree with any of his friends' suggestions.

Paul was _____

_____.

70. The boys participated in the quiz actively. The parents were delighted.

What delighted the parents _____

_____.

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Refer to the passage below when you answer questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B.

Ben had always loved dogs and yearned to have a pet dog of his own. Ben's parents were aware of his desire to have a pet dog but were not sure if he was responsible enough to take good care of it. In the end, they made him a promise. "If you can prove your responsibility by caring well for our neighbour, Mr Tan's dog, Fifi, for two weeks, we will get you your own pet dog," they told him.

Excitement filled Ben's heart as he eagerly took on the responsibility of caring for Fifi. He fed her, took her for walks, and showered her with love and attention. However, misfortune struck one fateful day when Fifi, filled with boundless energy, darted through the house, knocked over a shelf and caused his mother's cherished vase to shatter into countless pieces.

Ben was flabbergasted. His mum had always told him about how she loved it as **the masterpiece** was passed down to her from her grandmother. "If mum knows the truth, she will not only scold me severely, but she will never get a pet dog for me!" Ben mumbled to himself as fear gripped his heart. Thankfully, his helper, Mary was upstairs and was not aware of what had happened. In a moment of desperation, he **hatched a plan** to shift the blame away from himself. Ben decided to rush back to his room with Fifi.

When his parents returned home, they asked Mary and Ben what had happened. Ben, feigning ignorance, said, "I was in my room, playing with Fifi the whole time. Then I heard a loud crash and when I came out, the vase was already shattered into pieces. I believe Mary accidentally pushed over the vase when she was doing her chores."

"No, Sir, Madam, it is not me!" Mary vehemently denied any involvement. "I didn't know that the vase was broken until I came downstairs! Please believe me!" Mary cried.

In the end, Ben's parents **did** not ask any **further questions**. His mother was heartbroken about the broken vase and went back to her room. Ben let out a huge breath and thought that the worst was over until that night, he overheard a conversation between his parents at the balcony. In the conversation, they were discussing plans to stop renewing Mary's contract and to send Mary back home because of the broken vase.

Ben's conscience was pricked as he heard about his parents' plan to terminate Mary's contract. He knew that Mary was the sole breadwinner of her family and losing her job would result in her family having no income. While having a pet dog was important to him, he could not cause Mary and her family, who were innocent, to suffer the consequences of his lie. He knew what he had to do.

The next day, Ben approached his parents, trembling with remorse. He confessed and revealed the truth about the broken vase and the role he had played in shifting the blame to Mary. His parents were furious. They admonished him for his lies and commanded him to apologise to Mary. Ben nodded remorsefully and did just **that.** Instead of scolding Ben, Mary thanked Ben profusely. Her name was cleared.

Soon, the two weeks were up. Ben returned Fifi to his neighbour, Mr Tan. Other than the broken vase, Ben had taken good care of Fifi and it had been uneventful. When he returned, his mother told him, "Son, I am proud of you for telling the truth even though it would mean you would never get a pet dog. I have decided that honesty is more important. Would you like to go to the pet shop with me this evening?" Ben broke into a smile. He could **hardly believe what he was hearing!**

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

71. What promise did Ben's parents make in the first paragraph? [2m]

score

_____

_____

72. Which word in the second paragraph shows you that Fifi was moving around very quickly? [1m]

score

73. List down two possible consequences that Ben would have to face if he told the truth about the broken vase. [2m]

Consequence 1	
Consequence 2	

score

74. In line 14, Ben "hatched a plan". What was the plan? How did he carry out this plan? [2m]

What the plan was	
How he carried out his plan	

score

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

score

_____ Ben told his parents the truth about the broken vase.

_____ Ben's parents decided to send Mary back home.

_____ Mary denied breaking Ben's mother's vase.

76. Why do you think Ben's parents "did not ask any further questions" (line 22)? [1m]

score

_____

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77. Based on lines 20 to 31, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [2m]

Statement	True/ False	Reason
Mary knew that her contract would be terminated.		
Mary would be the only one affected should she be sent home.		

score

78. 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]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
it (line 3)	
the masterpiece (line 11)	
that (line 35)	

score

79. From lines 27 to 36, pick out two separate phrases to show Ben's and Mary's feelings and explain why they felt that way. [4m]

Four-word phrase that shows Ben was guilty	Reason for Ben's feelings
Three-word phrase that shows Mary was grateful	**Reason for Mary's feelings**

score

80. Why could Ben "hardly believe what he was hearing" (lines 41-42)? [2m]

_____

_____.

score

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PEI CHUN PUBLIC SCHOOL SA2 PAPER

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For each question from 1 to 10, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 and 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (10 marks)

1. "She's seen the suspicious-looking man before, _____ ?" the police officer asked.

(1) isn't she
(2) hasn't she
(3) wasn't she
(4) hadn't she

(2)

2. Mr Ahmad has asked my brother and _____ to help him water the plants as he will not be at home the next few days.

(1) I
(2) me
(3) mine
(4) myself

3. She mistook the man sitting next to her _____ her husband.

(1) as
(2) for
(3) with
(4) over

4. Woo Young used to have the habit of helping his mother _____ the floor every weekend.

(1) swept
(2) sweep
(3) sweeps
(4) sweeping

5. Joshua arrived late for the concert and so _____ Soo Bin.

(1) did
(2) had
(3) was
(4) does

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6. Try as she _____, she could not find a solution to the problem.

(1) could
(2) ought
(3) might
(4) should

7. Devi's train of thoughts _____ interrupted when she heard a woman scream.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

8. "No one should leave the meeting room _____ the talk ends," the professor warned.

(1) yet
(2) until
(3) despite
(4) because

9. By the time the police arrived, the burglars _____ from the crime scene.

(1) had fled
(2) have fled
(3) will have fled
(4) had been fleeing

10. Throughout her life, she has been devoted to _____ the poor.

(1) help
(2) helping
(3) be helping
(4) having helped

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11. She is not one to _____ just because everyone has bought the latest mobile phone.

(1) break a leg
(2) rock the boat
(3) bite the bullet
(4) jump on the bandwagon

12. Seeing the iconic dragon playground in Toa Payoh filled her with _____ as she recalled many happy moments playing there as a child.

(1) hysteria
(2) nostalgia
(3) confusion
(4) satisfaction

13. The police could not _____ the location of the crime scene as the victim had lost her memory.

(1) detect
(2) decipher
(3) determine
(4) distinguish

14. Our forefathers _____ life-changing adventures when they left their distant homelands for Singapore.

(1) entered into
(2) embarked on
(3) emerged from
(4) experimented with

15. Much to the patient's relief, the doctor managed to _____ his pain.

(1) lighten
(2) vanish
(3) deduct =
(4) alleviate

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

Recognised as the country's national hospital, the Singapore General Hospital (SGH) was <u>established</u> (16) in 1821. Today, what remains of its first premises is its <u>distinctive</u> (17) clock tower, which is now where the SGH Museum stands. In the late 1980s, the hospital was restructured to meet the demands of the <u>rapidly</u> (18) advancing changes in healthcare services and patient expectations. Currently located in Outram, it houses four specialty centres, with a fifth one <u>scheduled</u> (19) to be completed in 2025. SGH is considered one of the best hospitals globally, <u>drawing</u> (20) many patients from around the region.

Adapted from *https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Singapore_General_Hospital*

16. (1) founded
(2) invented
(3) delivered
(4) appointed

17. (1) majestic
(2) significant
(3) picturesque
(4) characteristic

18. (1) fast
(2) high
(3) clear
(4) huge

19. (1) known
(2) targetted
(3) perceived
(4) considered

20. (1) treating
(2) creating
(3) attracting
(4) admitting

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Study this article from a magazine and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Why is Science Important?

by Max Kang

Science encourages us to become curious and discover more about our world. Scientists have made use of that knowledge to improve our quality of life. The amazing thing is that there is still so much more to learn and scientists are still coming up with all sorts of inventions! Get started on your learning journey and you might just become one of the greatest scientists of our time!



Exciting Science

An excellent book that allows children to have fun and learn about Science at the same time through hands-on experiences and careful observations!

Choose Exciting Science!

- ✓ Thirty interesting Science experiments to do at home!
- ✓ Clear instructions and detailed diagrams make it easy to set up the experiments!
- ✓ Simple explanations for key concepts demonstrated by the experiments!
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Check out an extract from Exciting Science on the next page!

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Tornado in a Bottle

What are tornadoes?

Also known as twisters, tornadoes are violently spinning, funnel-shaped columns of air that sometimes form during thunderstorms. The wind from a tornado can top 400 kilometres per hour - faster than a race car - and cause a lot of damage. Tornadoes are capable of ripping apart buildings and bridges and sending trains and cars flying!

What causes tornadoes?

Create your own tornado with just two clear plastic bottles, water, food colouring and strong adhesive tape! Do this experiment and watch closely to see what happens!

Step 1

Clean the bottles and remove any labels so that you can see through the plastic clearly. Pour water into one of the bottles until it is about three-quarters full, then add a few drops of food colouring.



Step 2

Screw the cap back on the bottle tightly. Mix the liquids together thoroughly by giving the bottle a good shake.



Step 3

Fill the bottle to the brim with water and dry the rim with a piece of cloth.



Step 4

Place the empty bottle upside down on top of the full bottle and tape them firmly together, making sure the joint is carefully sealed so that no water can leak out.



Eager to know the other steps needed to create a tornado with the above set-up? Want to learn about what causes tornadoes?
Get a copy of Exciting Science today!

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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. In the section "Why Is Science Important?", "that knowledge" refers to _____.

(1) why Science is important to us
(2) what we discovered about our world
(3) what encouraged us to become curious
(4) why we should improve our quality of life X

22. Which of the following words is used to describe the ideas behind the experiments featured in Exciting Science?

(1) key
(2) clear
(3) simple
(4) detailed

23. The purpose of the exclamation marks in the section "Choose Exciting Science!" is to _____.

(1) give children a surprise
(2) spark interest in the book
(3) get children excited about Science
(4) emphasise how easy the experiments are to follow

24. To get the book at the lowest price, Mr Tan should buy it _____.

(1) at Book Fair 2023 on 20 October 2023
(2) at Book Fair 2023 by 31 October 2023
(3) online at www.books.sg by 31 October 2023
(4) online at www.books.sg on 1 November 2023

25. An extract from the book is included in the article for the following possible reasons **except** to _____.

(1) teach readers how to create their own tornadoes
(2) let readers have a brief look at the book's contents
(3) assure readers that materials required are easily available
(4) show readers that there are clear instructions and detailed diagrams

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26. According to the extract, which statement is not true about tornadoes?

(1) They are also called twisters.
(2) Their violent spinning causes thunderstorms to form.
(3) The wind from some tornadoes travels faster than race cars.
(4) Some buildings, bridges, trains and cars have been damaged by them.

27. Tommy followed the instructions on how to set up the experiment. To prevent water from leaking out while he mixed two liquids together, he _____

(1) shook the bottle gently
(2) put tape around the bottles
(3) screwed the cap on the bottle
(4) left the bottle three-quarters full

28. Which of the following is not found in the extract?

(1) some steps in an experiment
(2) a short description of tornadoes
(3) the materials required for an experiment
(4) an explanation of what causes tornadoes

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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) although	(D) but	(G) for	(K) or	(N) where
(B) are	(E) by	(H) if	(L) should	(P) which
(C) as	(F) can	(J) is	(M) when	(Q) while

What are cavities? Cavities are damaged areas on the hard surfaces of your teeth _____ (29) eventually cause teeth decay. They look like tiny openings _____ (30) holes and are caused by a variety of factors like frequent snacking, not cleaning your teeth well or having bacteria in your mouth. There are three types of cavities. Smooth cavities occur on the smooth sides of your teeth, _____ (31) pit and fissure cavities develop on the chewing surface of your teeth. Root cavities, as the name suggests, occur at the roots of your teeth.

Cavities do not happen overnight _____ (32) occur over time. First, plaque builds up. Plaque is formed _____ (33) bacteria feed on leftover sugar and starch on your teeth. A quick way to check for plaque is _____ (34) running your tongue over your teeth. If they feel fuzzy or rough, there is plaque present. _____ (35) plaque be allowed to stay on your teeth _____ (36) a long time, the acids in it will break down your teeth's hard outer covering, known _____ (37) enamel. Tiny holes called cavities are then created. Cavities tend to happen in your back teeth where there _____ (38) a lot of grooves that can trap food particles. The grooves and position of the back teeth make them harder to clean compared to your easy-to-reach front teeth.

Adapted from *The Little Red Dot, 7 March 2023*

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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 numbered 39 to 50. (12 marks)

(39) [ ]

First, the lights came and then, the sky evolved. Human curiaucity changed

(40) [ ]

to fear and anxiety. One spaceship turned to thousands, which hovering above the

(41) [ ] (42) [ ]

earth. For days, it did not move but just sat in the purple sky. The lightning send

(43) [ ]

shivers down Tom's spine as he hiding in the basement with his family. All of a

(44) [ ]

sudden, the doors opened. Aliens came out like solgers. One by one, they marched

(45) [ ]

forward. To his mother's horrified, Tom ran out towards the spaceships. He

(46) [ ]

manuvered through the shrubs and made his way into one of the ships. The sky

(47) [ ]

roared above as Tom sirraptitiously searched for the controls. Upon pressing a

(48) [ ]

button, the lights flickered on and off. Soon, Tom was sirounded by a dozen aliens.

(49) [ ]

He ran out of the nearest door and sprinted down the coridoor as fast as lightning.

(50) [ ]

It was the bad experience of his life. Tom should not have run out towards the

spaceships.

Adapted from 'The Takeover', author unknown

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Fill in each blank, numbered 51 to 65, with a suitable word. (15 marks)

Gratitude means being grateful. We should be aware of how much we have been given in life and we should count our _____ (51) too. This is because we often take things for granted. Sometimes, it is important to slow down and reflect _____ (52) how fortunate we are.

Feeling grateful on a regular _____ (53) can have a huge effect on our lives. Surprising improvements can stem _____ (54) being grateful for what we have. Research has _____ (55) that people who are grateful are more _____ (56) to remain positive, even in the _____ (57) of negative feedback or unkindness. _____ (58), grateful people have more positive ways of coping with _____ (59) which they may experience in life. Gratitude has also been _____ (60) with better physical health. In one study, teens, who wrote weekly gratitude letters to others, displayed healthier eating _____ (61) over time.

It is impossible to practise gratitude _____ (62) humility. For example, proud people are too wrapped up in _____ (63). More often than not, they also think _____ (64) of others and are unwilling to express their gratitude because they feel they deserve everything they have. Therefore, humility and gratitude go hand in hand.

Adapted from *https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gratitude*

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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). (10 marks)

66. Peter ate the leftover food. He had a stomachache.

Having _____

_____.

67. Mr Wong completed his project before the deadline. His students assisted him.

With the _____

_____

68. My teacher asked me, "Did you submit the consent form last Monday?"

My teacher asked me _____

_____.

69. Huixin has not handed in her homework yet. Everyone has done so.

All but _____

_____.

70. Vicky felt that it was unnecessary to buy the umbrella even though it was raining.

Vicky felt that there was _____

_____.

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Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

Incessant banter chorused through the air as Joe finished work on his farm, along with his two sons, Gordon, seven, and Troy, four. They never passed up a chance to shadow their father whenever he went about his chores on the farm.

The boys darted at full throttle towards the house, widening the distance between them and their father. Gordon, whose throat was parched, stopped at the water tap atop an old well. He was unaware of the danger that lurked below. As Gordon nonchalantly stepped onto the board that covered the well, his eyes widened when he heard a 'crack' beneath. The board was breaking. In a matter of seconds, Gordon disappeared.

Joe caught up a few minutes later. He stopped in his tracks and was initially bewildered when he saw that Troy's eyes were filled with alarm. Then, his gaze shifted to the open well and that was when he realised that **the unimaginable** had occurred. That was not all. Gordon could not swim. Joe peered over the edge of the well and he was strangely relieved when he could hear splashing.

"This is **the only way**," Joe muttered. Without hesitation, he jumped into the darkness although he knew it was impossible to climb back up.

The descent down the well felt like miles as his heart raced. It seemed to take forever before he finally reached Gordon. Panicking and flailing his arms, Gordon tried to keep afloat as his father held him. Since the water was too deep for him to stand upright, Joe could only tread in the water and hoist his son onto his chest as he wedged his legs and back against the narrow walls of the well for support. There was only one hope left.

He called out to Troy. "Troy! You need to be a big boy now and save us! Run to the side of the road and flag someone down for help. Tell them we have fallen into the well. But stay off the road!" He closed his eyes and prayed as the sound of Troy's footsteps became distant. Their lives were now in the hands of his younger son, who, now too, was in another kind of danger himself.

Just when Joe was about to give up came a beacon of hope. He heard familiar voices. Overwhelmed with relief, tears streamed down his face. **They** belonged to Mike and Steven, his neighbours who lived about ten minutes away. They had seen Troy by the side of the road and after learning what had occurred, carried him into their pickup and dialled for the rescue team while driving at breakneck speed to the well.

"Joe, hold on. We are sending a rope down to you," Mike hollered. "All right, I'll send Gordon up first," Joe called out. Mike was stunned. He had no idea. However, there was no time to mull over it so together with Steven, they hauled Gordon out of the water.

Already fatigued from rescuing Gordon, Mike and Steven now wondered how they had any energy left to pull Joe up. It was a good call to call for the rescue team, but who knew how long they would take to arrive? The brothers pushed on.

About an hour after he had jumped in to save his son, Joe emerged. He collapsed the moment his feet felt the ground. As he thanked the brothers profusely, he turned and smiled weakly at his true hero before blacking out.

Adapted from https://www.rd.com/article/neighbors-rescue-man-son-from-well/

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Answer in complete sentences.

71. How can we tell that Joe's sons enjoyed being on the farm with him? [1m]

_____

_____

72. Choose words from **paragraphs 1 to 3** which have opposite meanings to the words below. [2m]

(a) anxiously	
(b) calmness	

73. Explain clearly what 'the danger that lurked below' (line 6) means. [2m]

_____

_____

74. In line 14, why was Joe 'strangely relieved' when he heard splashing? [1m]

_____

_____

75. 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]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
(a) the unimaginable (line 12)	
(b) the only way (line 15)	
(c) they (line 29)	

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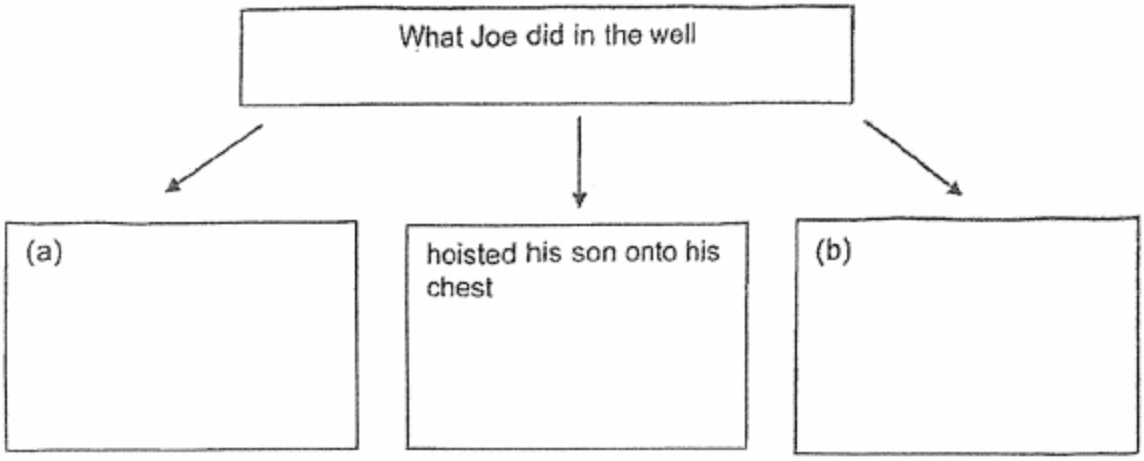
76. Fill in the boxes to show what Ted did in the well to keep Gordon and himself afloat. [2m]



77. 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
(a) It was when Joe looked at Troy that he realised that Gordon had fallen into the well.		
(b) Gordon was calm when his father reached him.		
(c) Troy understood his father's instructions.		

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78. In line 29, Joe was overwhelmed with relief. Give two reasons why Joe felt this way. [2m]

(a) _____ _____.

(b) _____.

79. (a) Which three-word phrase tells you that Mike and ~~Fraser~~ wasted no time in getting to the well? [1m]

(b) Why was Mike stunned (line 34)? [1m]

_____

_____.

80. Who was Joe's true hero? Why do you think so? [2m]

_____

_____.

- End of Paper -

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NANYANG PRIMARY SCHOOL SA2 PAPER

Part 1: Situational Writing (15 marks)

1 The picture below shows Kelly and her sister, Tammy, discussing a notice that they saw in the newspaper on 21 October 2023. Study the picture carefully.



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Your Task

Imagine you are Kelly.

Write an email to the teacher in charge of your school band, Mr Tan, asking him if you could be excused from band practice.

You are to refer to the picture and information on page 2 for your email.

In your email, include the following key information:

- the date you wish to be excused from band practice
- the event you wish to attend and the time it will be held
- two reasons you should attend the event
- what you will do if you are excused from band practice

You may reorder the points. Remember to write in complete sentences.

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Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

2 Write a composition of <u>at least 150 words</u> about **an unexpected friendship**.

The pictures are provided to help you think about this topic.

Your composition should be based on one or more of these pictures.

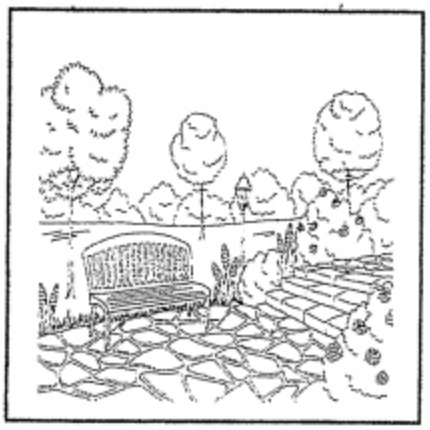
Consider the following points when you plan your composition:

- How was the friendship formed?
- Why was it unexpected?

You may use the points in any order and include other relevant points as well.







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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 (OAS).

(10 marks)

1. "If only I _____ more time to study for the exam," said Michelle. "I would have done better."

   (1) had
   (2) have
   (3) will have
   (4) would have

2. Some of the rubbish is recycled, but _____ of it goes to the landfill sites.

   (1) any
   (2) many
   (3) much
   (4) a few

3. A few dollars _____ all he had left in his wallet.

   (1) is
   (2) are
   (3) was
   (4) were

4. Neither Henry nor Arthur felt pleased with _____ for failing to meet the project's deadline.

   (1) himself
   (2) yourself
   (3) ourselves
   (4) themselves

5. _____ the project on time is important. We need to also make sure the quality is not compromised.

   (1) Deliver
   (2) Delivering
   (3) To deliver
   (4) Having delivered

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6. The students were confused _____ the teacher explained the concept using drawings and diagrams, helping them clarify their understanding.

(1) until
(2) after
(3) since
(4) while

7. While I was walking in the park, I saw a group of teenagers _____ around a tree.

(1) sat
(2) sitting
(3) was sitting
(4) were sitting

8. _____ anyone attend the event or is it just for registered participants?

(1) Will
(2) Can
(3) Must
(4) Could

9. The unsinkable ship, Titanic, sank in 1912 _____ its maiden voyage.

(1) at
(2) in
(3) on
(4) while

10. As far as I know, Alex hates basketball and never plays it, _____?

(1) will he
(2) has he
(3) does he
(4) didn't he

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11. Serena was not feeling well, so she was _____ to go to the class party.

(1) reliant
(2) reluctant
(3) resistant
(4) receptive

12. Miss Tan scolded Eason for leaving the classroom without her _____.

(1) consent
(2) contempt
(3) consensus
(4) concession

13. The motivational speaker was able to _____ powerful emotions from her audience.

(1) evict
(2) incur
(3) imply
(4) evoke

14. The pace of technology is advancing so quickly that it is hard to _____ all the latest developments.

(1) put off
(2) take up with
(3) keep up with
(4) look forward to

15. "We need to be very careful when handling this delicate equipment as it is highly _____ to damage," the teacher told her class.

(1) hard
(2) sensitive
(3) opposed
(4) susceptible

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Jacky loved his grandfather. He cherished (16) the moments spent with his grandfather and he would often visit him after school. One day, Jacky's grandfather asked him to help sift through his collection of vintage (17) photographs. As they were perusing (18) the photographs, Jacky was fascinated by the details he saw and his grandfather would then share stories from his past. Jacky was enraptured (19) by the tales and asked many questions.

After a while, Jacky proposed (20) that they make digital copies of the photographs. "I think that's a wonderful idea, Jacky," said his grandfather. Together, they scanned the pictures and saved them onto a computer. Jacky was happy to help his grandfather preserve such precious memories.

16. (1) ignored
(2) admired
(3) treasured
(4) remembered

17. (1) old
(2) artistic
(3) printed
(4) modern

18. (1) keeping
(2) discussing
(3) sorting out
(4) poring over

19. (1) engaged
(2) enriched
(3) enthused
(4) enthralled

20. (1) presented
(2) suggested
(3) figured out
(4) pointed out

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Study this article published by *Lion City* on their website carefully and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Lyon Bird Park

55 years of sights and flights to remember

- Lyon Bird Park will close on 1 Jan 2024 as it prepares to relocate to a new home in Woodlands and rebrands itself as 'Symphony of Birds'.
- *Lion City* heads down to Lyon Bird Park to speak with individuals who have witnessed the growth of the park over the years.

James Lau
Lion City reporter
28 Oct 2023

Visit the Lyon Bird Park at its original location in Jalan Tuas before it moves to Woodlands for good! The new 'Symphony of Birds' is only slated to open in the last quarter of 2024.



Parting ways with a place that has been home for more than five decades can be a challenging task.

Animal trainer, Mr Tan See Seng, says, "Working at Lyon Bird Park has been an unforgettable experience. I have had the privilege of caring for some of the most magnificent creatures on earth. I also have had the opportunity to witness their playful antics and stunning displays of beauty every day. I remember when I first started working here, a pair of parakeets escaped from their enclosure and fluttered around the park, causing quite a stir among our visitors. It is moments like these that make saying goodbye to this place so difficult. However, I'm excited to see what the future holds for the park and its new home in Woodlands."



Mrs Jane Tan, a horticulturist at Lyon Bird Park, expressed her emotions regarding the park's closure, saying, "Leaving the iconic Waterfall Aviary that I helped to cultivate and maintain for so many years is going to be tough. It's the one thing I will miss the most, although I will also miss the stunning landscaping and botanical displays we have nurtured over the years."

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Be sure to take advantage of the special promotion to commemorate the closure of the park!

Lyon Bird Park

55% OFF ADMISSIONS*

Promo Code: LBP55



** Tickets are originally priced at $39 (adult), $29 (child), and $19 (senior citizen). Promotion for local residents only.*

HOW TO ENJOY THE PROMOTION

- Sign up online for a free account (if you are not yet a member).
- Select tickets for local residents.
- Key in the promo code "LBP55" to enjoy 55% off the admission tickets.
- Complete the payment process.

THINGS TO NOTE

- The promotion can only be applied to online transactions.
- The promotion is available for all ticket types (adult, child, and senior citizen).
- Up to four tickets of each ticket type can be purchased per online transaction.
- Complimentary tram service is included in the admission ticket.
- Promotion ends on 30 Nov.

HOW TO GET THERE

By public transport:
Take the North-South train service and alight at Tuas Station. From there, catch bus no. 990 for a 10-minute ride to Lyon Bird Park.

By taxi or car:
Lyon Bird Park is a 20-minute drive from the city. You can take the Cross Island Expressway (CIE) to reach the bird park.

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21. "Lion City" is written in italics to _____.

(1) show that it is the name of the author
(2) show that it is not the actual name of the website
(3) emphasise that it is another name for Lyon Bird Park
(4) allow the name of the website to stand out from the surrounding sentence

22. Which of the following is true of the Lyon Bird Park?

(1) Anyone can enjoy the discounted tickets.
(2) The new bird park will open by Nov 2023.
(3) It will be renamed as 'Symphony of Birds'.
(4) It is going to move from its current location in Woodlands.

23. For Mr Tan See Seng, what makes it difficult to say goodbye to the existing park?

(1) the opportunity to look after the birds
(2) his past experience interacting with visitors
(3) the potential of what the new park has to offer
(4) his encounters with the birds at Lyon Bird Park

24. Which part of the Lyon Bird Park would Mrs Jane Tan miss the most?

(1) the entrance
(2) the Waterfall Aviary
(3) the parakeet enclosure
(4) the landscaping and botanical displays

25. Mr Ahmad, a local resident, is planning to visit the Lyon Bird Park with his wife and three children. Which of the following is **not** true?

(1) He can only buy a maximum of four discounted tickets.
(2) He needs to sign up for a free account before buying the tickets.
(3) After entering the bird park, he and his family members can ride the tram for free.
(4) He cannot purchase the promotional tickets over the ticketing counter at the bird park.

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26. Mdm Lim lives near Tuas train station. Which of the following is the fastest way for her to get to Lyon Bird Park?

(1) take a 10-minute taxi ride to the city
(2) take a 10-minute bus ride to the CIE
(3) take bus no. 990 from Tuas train station
(4) take the North-South train service to Woodlands train station

27. Mr Tanaka, a tourist from Japan, wishes to purchase an adult ticket. How much does it cost?

(1) $17.55
(2) $19.00
(3) $29.00
(4) $39.00

28. What is the **main** purpose of this article?

(1) to show readers how to get to the bird park
(2) to encourage readers to pay a visit to the bird park
(3) to share more about the bird park's history with readers
(4) to inform readers how to purchase tickets to the bird park

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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)	although	D)	has	G)	its	K)	than	N)	were
B)	are	E)	have	H)	on	L)	that	P)	when
C)	despite	F)	into	J)	of	M)	their	Q)	within

Have you ever wondered why diamonds are one of the most expensive crystals on earth? To understand why, one needs to delve deeper _____ (29) how diamonds are formed. Diamonds are formed deep _____ (30) the crust of the earth, which is located more _____ (31) 150 kilometres beneath our feet.

The question is how is it _____ (32) diamonds can be mined from the earth's surface _____ (33) the fact that they are formed deep below it? Scientists discovered that diamonds _____ (34) transported to the surface of the earth by sudden and powerful volcanic eruptions hundreds of millions of years ago.

_____ (35) newly mined from the earth, diamonds look like cloudy rocks. They are made _____ (36) carbon which is subjected to extreme heat and pressure before they bond together to form diamonds. The mining of diamonds requires scientific techniques, significant resources and labour. These factors explain why diamonds are truly rare and precious.

Today, modern technological advances _____ (37) enabled scientists to grow diamonds artificially in laboratory conditions. However, real diamonds continue to command a higher value than lab-created ones because of _____ (38) rarity and scarcity. As such, owning real diamonds can be seen as a symbol of wealth and prestige.

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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)

Foreign domestic workers have a crucial role to play in Singapore's society. With (39) [ ] (40) [ ] *an age population and declining birth rate, Singapore increasingly rely on these workers* (41) [ ] *to help with household chores. Since they play an important role in our society, they* (42) [ ] *are often treated as if they are invizibel. Their efforts and contributions are usually* (43) [ ] *overlooked and not apreshiated enough.*

(44) [ ] *The lives of foreign domestic helpers was often fraught with difficulties.* (45) [ ] *Besides having to leave their families aside to work in a foreign country, they also* (46) [ ] *ankounter language barriers. It is common for them to feel lonely and homesick. Hence,* (47) [ ] *providing ample oporhtunitees for them to socialise and engage with one another helps* (48) [ ] *to alleviete their feelings of loneliness.*

(49) [ ] *Last year, the Manpower Ministry officially announced that it is compulsory to employers to give their domestic workers a rest day every month starting from* (50) [ ] *1 January 2023. This is one important step towards reconizeing these workers' contribution. After all, they contribute to Singapore's economy and deserve respect and gratitude for their invaluable work.*

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

The lion dance originated from China more than 1,000 years ago. It is performed during auspicious occasions, _____ (51) as the launch of new businesses and the opening of a new store for it is believed to _____ (52) in good fortune and drive away evil spirits. The lion dance is performed _____ (53) the Chinese New Year period because of its _____ (54) with Nian, a ferocious beast that was chased _____ (55) by villagers. Different variations of the story of Nian provided some clues to the origins of the lion dance.

_____ (56) to one legend, on the eve of every Chinese New Year, an unknown animal would destroy the crops and animals that _____ (57) to the farmers of a village in China. Unable to _____ (58) what beast it was, the villagers named it Nian, which means "year" in Chinese. To put a stop to the _____ (59), the villagers made a model of Nian out of bamboo and paper. The model, _____ (60) movements were manipulated by two men, 'pranced' around. Coupled with the deafening beating of pots and pans, Nian was driven away in fear.

Based on _____ (61) version of this legend, the villagers made a model of a lion _____ (62) discovering that Nian was afraid of lions. This was accompanied _____ (63) thundering explosions from firecrackers set off by the villagers. As a result of their actions, they _____ (64) in driving Nian away.

Since then, the lion dance is performed annually on Chinese New Year with musical _____ (65) like drums, cymbals and gongs. Nowadays, the lion dance is performed not only during Chinese New Year, but also for opening ceremonies, the welcoming of dignitaries and other auspicious occasions.

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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). (10 marks)

66. After eating a heavy meal for lunch, Joshua was too full to eat dessert.

Having _____

_____

67. Raju was selling muffins at the charity fair.

Muffins _____

_____

68. Tim was curious. He followed the mysterious black cat into the alley.

_____ due to his

_____

69. Jason saw Nurin on a swing. He then heard loud squeals of laughter.

No sooner _____

_____.

70. Emily was very pleased to receive the book prize award.

_____ with great

_____.

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Refer to the passage below when you answer questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B.

Our Scamper was a humble little boat with three bench seats and a low canvas canopy which provided some shade from the sun and rain. We pushed the boat down to the sea and let the waters pick **her** up. My father hopped onto the boat as she rose and dipped with the waves. I rode on my grandfather's shoulders as he waded out to deposit me in the boat and waved us off on my first fishing trip. My father pointed out Coney Island – a dense group of bushes on a raised mudflat – as we passed it. When we reached his usual fishing spot, my father then cut the motor and dropped the anchor. It was a strange feeling, the island swaying yet never moving, the boat lightly bucking beneath me.

The colours of sunset faded to a purplish bruise over the horizon. Just as my eyes were getting used to the change in light, my father snapped on the torchlight. Everything except our boat vanished into the dark. Squinting to adjust to the glare, I watched as he peeled the lid off a container of fish bait. Adjusting the angle of the torchlight, my father reached into the container for a few pieces of fish bait and slid them along tiny fishhooks. Once the fishhooks were attached to the fishing lines, he scattered them across the water surface. They disappeared over the side of the boat. Then he extinguished the light and put one of the lines into my hand and said, "First, learn how the current feels."

I waited for my first catch and the wait drew on. The sound of my father's voice reached me, as did other sounds – the creaking of the boat, his footfall as he crossed from stern to bow and back. Looking down, the strange feeling that I felt earlier returned. More intense this time. The boat's movement became more pronounced, rocking back and forth with each passing wave. Though I tried to keep my eyes on my line, a subtle queasiness began building up inside me.

I fixed my eyes on the moon in an attempt to distract myself. The moon, huge and low, stared from a cloudless sky, making me more conscious about my boredom as the night progressed. To keep awake, I sipped hot Milo from my father's thermos flask. Time and again, when I thought I had caught something, I drew the line up, only to find my bait still intact, no **takers**. The unease in my stomach was slowly reaching my gullet. My head throbbed and my bottom became sore from the abrasion against the damp seat as the waves rocked the boat. We had been at sea for perhaps one or two hours, but I had begun to imagine being stuck in the stormy sea for days without a catch.

"Waiting is part and parcel of fishing," my father said, his hand closing over mine, "And concentrate. Try to feel the fish bite." I could only feel the line I was gripping and the callouses on his palm against the back of my hand.

Without warning, my father's line began twitching. As he was pulling in the line, our first catch leapt from the water straight towards me and lay writhing on the boat floor while he pinned it down with ease and extracted a hook from its mouth. Suddenly, he was everywhere in the boat all at once. Several other hand-sized fish soon joined the first catch in quick succession, bleeding over ice slabs in the fish cooler bag. A sourness rose up into my mouth. Then the line between my fingers made a series of sharp, irregular jumps as opposed to the regular tug of the ocean currents I had felt earlier. My heart leapt as I sat upright. My father was right: it felt alive. I tried to haul in the line and held on to it with clammy hands, struggling not to lose my first potential catch. In the thick of the moment, it happened. Bending over the side of the boat, I threw up violently. My line grew slack just as suddenly. This time, a sinking sensation set in. Even before the hook emerged baitless and empty, I knew that the fish was gone.

I got better with practice, of course. I learnt to handle a line, eventually a rod and even *Scamper*. However, as I grew older, I accompanied my father on those trips less frequently as I soon became caught up with the demands of school, tests and examinations, and then later, relationships, job commitments and marriage. There were things about those nights out on the water – seasickness, the pungent smell of fish blood, the sore bottom – that I never missed. Nonetheless, those hours out in the sea, waiting in silence with my father – those precious memories would remain with me forever.

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Read the passage on page 10 of Booklet A and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

71. From the first paragraph, how can we tell that the writer was most likely a young child? [1m]

_____

_____

72. From the first paragraph, pick out a three-word phrase that tells us that the grandfather did not join the writer and his father on the fishing trip. [1m]

73. Based on lines 8-19, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [2m]

	True/False	Reason
a) The writer's father turned on the torchlight so that he could search for fish in the water.		_____ _____ _____
b) The writer's father stayed at one spot without moving while waiting for their first catch.		

74. Explain clearly why the writer fixed his eyes on the moon. [2m]

_____

_____

75. Look at the table below. What do the word(s) in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. [3m]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
a) her (line 3)	
b) takers (line 23)	
c) it (line 37)	

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76. How did the writer's father react when he noticed that the writer seemed bored? [2m]

_____

_____

77. From paragraph 6, give two examples which suggest that the writer's father was experienced in fishing. [2m]

(i) _____

(ii) _____

78. Based on information from lines 30-40, fill in the blanks in the following table. [4m]

The writer's feeling	A three-word phrase that shows the writer's feeling	What happened that caused the writer's feeling	Why the writer felt that way
excitement	a)	The fishing line made a series of sharp, irregular jumps.	b)
disappointment	c)	d)	He lost his first catch.

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

_____ The writer learnt how to fish with a fishing rod.

_____ The writer drew the fishing line up, thinking that he had caught a fish.

_____ The writer witnessed for the first time his father catching a fish.

80. a) Do you think that the writer disliked his fishing experiences with his father? [2m]
Circle either 'Yes' or 'No'.

Yes / No

b) Support your answer with evidence from the last paragraph.

_____

_____

END OF PAPER

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NAN HUA PRIMARY SCHOOL SA2 PAPER

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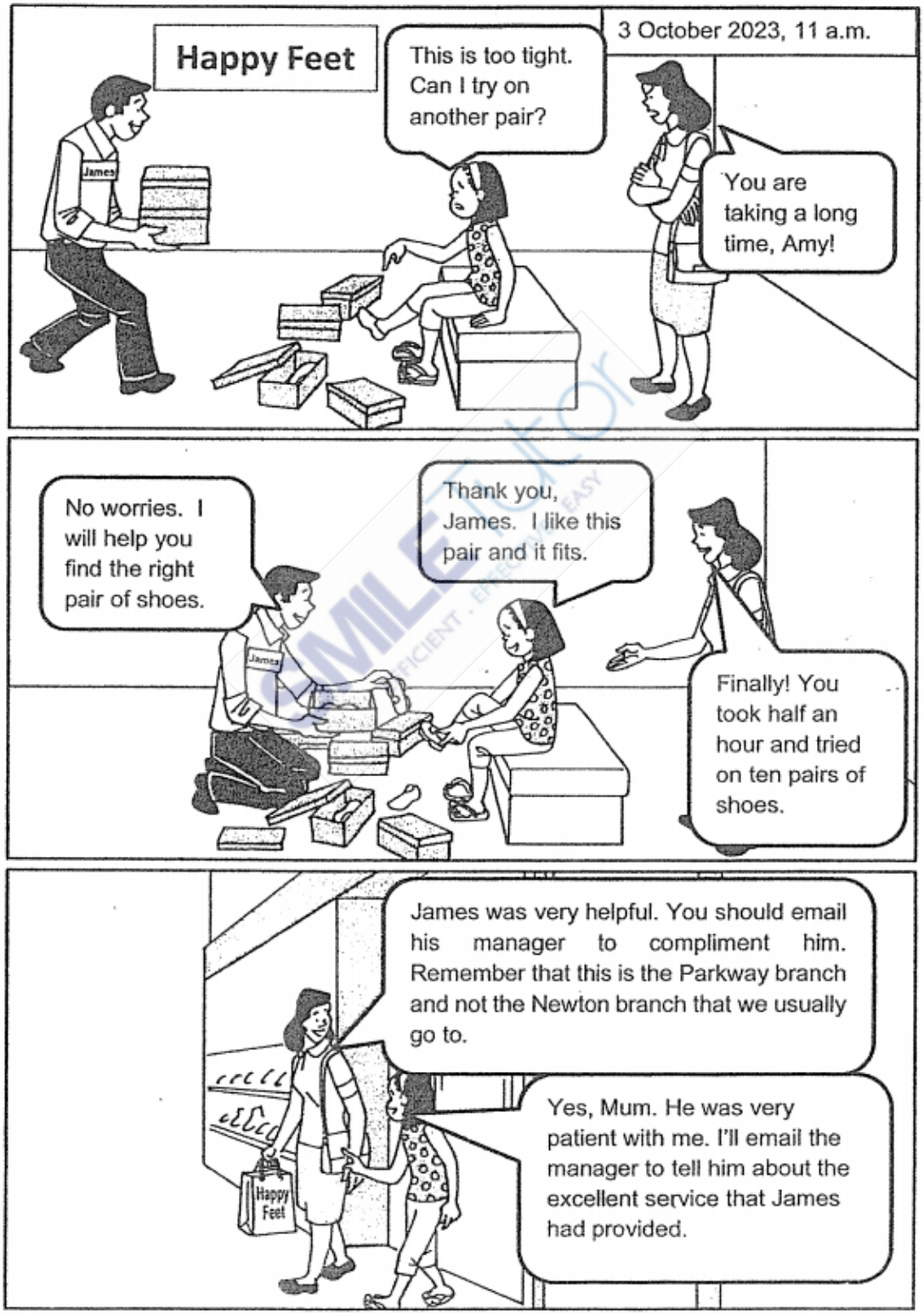
Part 1: Situational Writing (15 marks)

Study the pictures carefully.

The pictures below show Amy and her mother at a shoe shop.



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Your Task

Imagine you are Amy.

Write an email to the manager, Mr Muthu, to tell him about the excellent customer service you received at his shoe shop.

You are to refer to the pictures and information on page 1 for your email.

In your email, include the following key information:

- when and where you received excellent customer service
- the name of the salesperson
- how many pairs of shoes you tried on and how long you took
- what you and your mother liked about the salesperson

You may reorder the points. Remember to write in complete sentences.

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Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

Write a composition of at least 150 words about **an opportunity.**

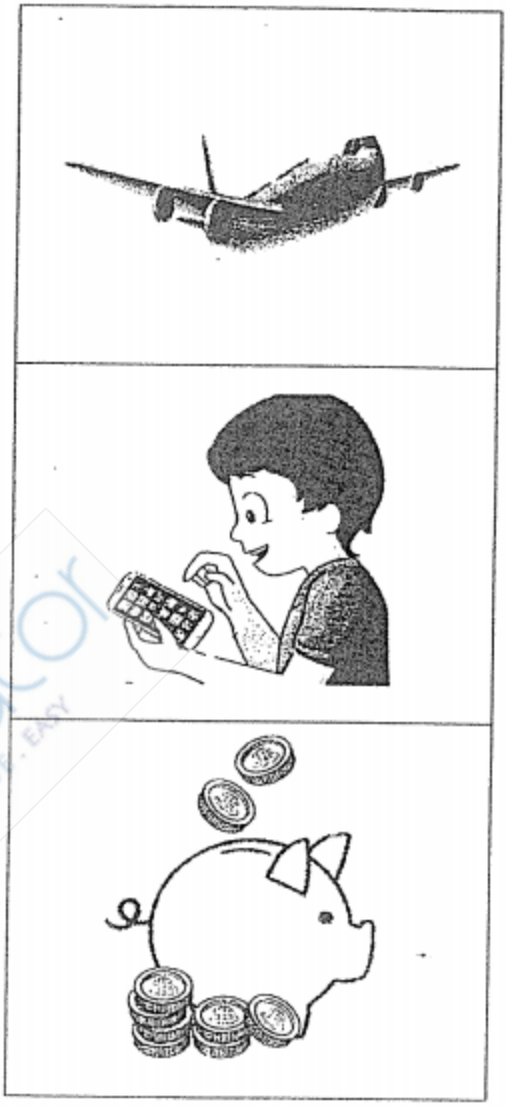
The pictures are provided to help you think about this topic.

Your composition should be based on one or more of these pictures.

Consider the following points when you plan your composition:

- What was the opportunity?
- How was the opportunity used?

You may use the points in any order and include other relevant points as well.



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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 Practically every member of my family _____ when they sleep.

(1) snore
(2) snores
(3) snored
(4) snoring

2 The man told the tourist, "I'm afraid there is _____ information that can give you about this place. I have not visited the place myself either."

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

3 The judges made _____ unanimous decision to give Mark _____ honorary award.

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

4 Mary's mother is very strict. She will not be allowed to attend the picnic _____ she finishes her homework.

(1) if
(2) while
(3) unless
(4) because

5 Melody's father prefers _____ books to watching television in his free time.

(1) read
(2) reading
(3) has read
(4) having read

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6 After completing the marathon, Henry congratulated _____ on a job well done.

(1) itself
(2) myself
(3) himself
(4) themselves

7 The restaurant is only open _____ the day.

(1) at
(2) from
(3) during
(4) between

8 "She's been studying Mandarin for years, _____?" asked John.

(1) is she
(2) has she
(3) isn't she
(4) hasn't she

9 Although the weather forecast has predicted heavy rains, the group of friends _____ still going to the park.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

10 I _____ to reach the internet company all morning but I cannot seem to get through. I will try again later.

(1) shall try
(2) am trying
(3) has been trying
(4) have been trying

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11 The birthday planner organized a _____ party which matched the status of the affluent family.

(1) vivacious
(2) delectable
(3) sumptuous
(4) scrumptious

12 Despite having lived in Japan for five years, my aunt still encounters diffioulty communicating _____ with the local.

(1) informally
(2) effectively
(3) exclusively
(4) interestingly

13 The shoes are the perfect _____ to the entire outfit. Now she is ready for the ball.

(1) compliant
(2) completion
(3) compliment
(4) complement

14 Philip was clearly wrong but he refused to _____ and apologise.

(1) back up
(2) back out
(3) back away
(4) back down

15 On National Day, I enjoyed watching the _____ display of fireworks from my room window.

(1) radiant
(2) shocking
(3) mediocre
(4) exemplary

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Tommy was a mischievous boy who loved to play pranks on his friends and family. One day, his aunt, who was easily startled, paid him a visit. That gave him a perfect opportunity to come up with (16) a prank. The plan was going to be foolproof. (17)

Crouched in a dark corner of the house, he lay in wait for his aunt to stroll past. As his unsuspecting aunt passed by, Tommy jumped out, shouting at the top of his lungs. Taken aback (18), his aunt stumbled and fell, letting out a sharp cry. She was then taken to the hospital for treatment.

Tommy felt an overwhelming sense of guilt and regret. His plan (19) to make his aunt laugh had backfired, causing her harm. Realising the gravity (20) of his actions, he promised to change his ways and never play a prank again. It was a painful lesson learnt.

16 (1) devise
(2) construct
(3) reproduce
(4) implement

17 (1) infallible
(2) invincible
(3) incredible
(4) indescribable

18 (1) infuriated
(2) dismayed
(3) aggravated
(4) flabbergasted

19 (1) ambition
(2) intention
(3) resolution
(4) proposition

20 (1) foolishness
(2) seriousness
(3) recklessness
(4) inappropriateness

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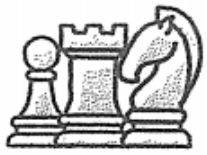
udy this flyer and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Join us at our 1st Chess Fair at the Riverville Community Club!



16 - 19 November 2023

This fair organised by the Riverville Community Club features various activities that will teach you more about chess!

Take part in a workshop to learn chess techniques or play a game of speed chess with friends. You may even get a chance to participate in a friendly match with a Grand Master!

You do not have to know how to play chess to participate. Visit the fair to begin your learning!

Thursday 16 November
10 a.m. to 11 a.m. – Beginner Workshop
11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. – Friendly match with Grand Master John Woo
1.30 p.m. to 3 p.m. – Open boards / Free play*



Friday 17 November
10 a.m. to 12 p.m. – Intermediate Workshop
12 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. – Chess matches
1.30 p.m. to 3 p.m. – Open boards / Free play*

Saturday 18 November
10 a.m. to 12 p.m. – Special Workshop by Mr Christian Owen
12 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. – Chess matches
1.30 p.m. to 3 p.m. – Open boards / Free play*



Sunday 19 November
10 a.m. to 12 p.m. – Advanced Workshop
12 p.m. to 12.45 p.m. – Open boards / Free play*
1.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. – Prize Presentation

***Open boards / Free play is open to players of all levels.**

All workshops are held at Lecture Theatre 1.

Matches are held in the Main Hall.

Take part in the matches for a chance to win attractive prizes!

Registration for workshops/matches and entry is **free-of-charge** and **open to all**.

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The Wonderful Game of Chess

History of Chess

Chess is a popular board game relying on strategy and skill to win. Originating in India in the early 7th century, the game spread to Persia before reaching Russia. It evolved into what we know as chess around the 16th century. One of the first masters of the game was a Spanish priest named Ruy Lopez.

As the rules of chess evolved over time so did the approach to it. Many brilliant players throughout history have developed theories and tactics bringing the game to where it is today.

Now, it is enjoyed by people of all ages and from all walks of life. Its popularity has grown to the point where global competitions and tournaments are regularly held. Chess players now make up one of the largest communities in the world: 605 million adults play chess regularly.

Benefits of Playing Chess

Exercises both sides of the brain

Studies show that in order to play chess well, a player must develop and utilise his brain's left hemisphere which deals with object recognition. It also develops the right hemisphere which deals with pattern recognition. Over time, playing chess exercises and develops not one but both sides of your brain.



Improves children's thinking and problem-solving skills

Chess enhances brain development, especially in children between 7 and 9. Research shows that playing chess improves a child's thinking, problem-solving, reading, and Maths scores. Educators and chess experts generally agree the age of 7 is the ideal time to introduce children to chess, although some as young as four or five may be ready to learn and play the game.



Helps with rehabilitation and therapy

Chess can be used to help rehabilitate patients recovering from a stroke or an accident. It can also be used as a form of therapy for those with brain injuries. Moving chess pieces across the board can help develop and fine-tune a patient's motor skills. Moreover, playing chess brings about a sense of deep concentration and calm which can help to relax patients who are experiencing various degrees of anxiety.



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21 Why is an exclamation mark (!) used in the heading: "Join us at our 1st Chess Fair at Riverville Community Club!"?

(1) to show enthusiasm for the fair
(2) to emphasise the venue of the fair
(3) to highlight the importance of the fair
(4) to stress that the club is organising the fair

22 Wei Xiong wants to attend the Advanced Workshop as well as play a friendly match with a Grand Master. He should be at the fair on _____.

(1) 16 Nov at 10 a.m. and 17 Nov at 10 a.m.
(2) 16 Nov at 11 a.m. and 18 Nov at 12 p.m.
(3) 16 Nov at 11 a.m. and 19 Nov at 10 a.m.
(4) 16 Nov at 1.30 p.m. and 19 Nov at 10 a.m.

23 Linda does not know how to play chess at all. Which of the following activities would suit her the most?

(1) Beginner Workshop and Free play
(2) Intermediate Workshop and Open boards
(3) Advanced Workshop and Chess matches
(4) Special Workshop and Friendly match with a Grand Master

24 Which of the following statements is true about the Chess Fair?

(1) All visitors have to pay a small entrance fee.
(2) Workshops will be conducted in the Main Hall.
(3) There is no age restriction for the chess matches.
(4) It will start and end at the same time for the 4 days.

25 Which of the following shows that chess has become a popular game?

(1) Many brilliant players enjoy playing the game.
(2) It requires many different strategies and skills.
(3) The rules of the game have evolved over the years.
(4) There are many chess competitions held worldwide.

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26 What is the most important benefit of playing chess for 7- to 9-year-olds?

(1) It helps to boost their brain development.
(2) It enhances their object recognition skills.
(3) It helps with the rehabilitation and therapy.
(4) It improves their test scores in all subjects.

27 According to the flyer, patients recovering from an accident play chess to _____.

(1) heighten their senses
(2) improve their motor skills
(3) enhance their reading ability
(4) develop their pattern recognition skill

28 The main purpose of the flyer is to _____.

(1) introduce people to the history of chess
(2) educate people on the many benefits of chess
(3) encourage people to participate in the chess fair
(4) get people to play with their friends during the chess fair

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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) a	(D) how	(G) might	(K) some	(N) their
(B) an	(E) in	(H) more	(L) still	(P) while
(C) by	(F) its	(J) should	(M) the	(Q) who

Dreams remain a mystery that sleep experts are determined to solve. Different cultures have developed _____ (29) own ways of understanding what our dreams mean. _____ (30) psychology, the process of assigning meaning to dreams is referred to as dream interpretation. It is seen as a helpful way to learn about _____ (31) our minds work. Dreams are thought to show our deepest wants, fears, and worries. By looking at our dreams, we can learn about our hidden thoughts and feelings.

There are many ways to interpret dreams. _____ (32) are traditional, like looking at the symbols in the dream, while others are _____ (33) modern, like keeping a dream journal or trying to control your dreams. Some people think that dreams are _____ (34) way for our unconscious mind which contains feelings and thoughts we are unaware of, to talk to us and show us _____ (35) we really are.

Even though lots of people are interested in interpreting dreams, there is _____ (36) a debate about whether it is a scientifically valid practice. Some studies have shown that certain symbols in dreams _____ (37) be connected to specific feelings or experiences, _____ (38) others have not found any proof that dreams have a definite meaning.

No matter what the outcome of the debate is, it is fun to explore the meanings of dreams.

Adapted from Dreams Wikipedia

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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)

Ms. Lui has an incredible story to share. When she was a child, she faced

(39) [ ]

diskriminasion because she has a disability. People would bully, tease, and stare at her

(40) [ ]

because she was different. But something amaze happened. With the support of her

(41) [ ]

family and a charity organisation, she was able to follow her interests and grow into

(42) [ ]

the talented, artistic, and passhunate individual she is today.

(43) [ ]

Ms. Lui has a deep love of singing, but that's not all. She also has a keen interest

(44) [ ]

in drawing, writing, and dancing. Her heart-warming jurney is now being featured in a

(45) [ ]

new film created by Community Chest. This film tell the stories of individuals who

(46) [ ] (47) [ ]

have overcoming challenges in their lives and are shining bright. It calls upon the

(48) [ ]

public to join in supporting and championing the potenshual of people with disabilities.

(49) [ ]

In addition to her creative pursoots, Ms. Lui also has a part-time job as a retail

(50) [ ]

assistant. She recived support from a job placement programme funded by Community Chest. This programme helps individuals with disabilities find suitable employment opportunities that match their aspirations and capabilities.

Adapted from The Straits Times

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

Gaming addiction affects people of all ages, particularly young people. Symptoms of gaming addiction include obsessive thinking about the game, _____ (51) of interest in other activities, poor concentration and work performance, strained relationships, social isolation, and decline in physical health and hygiene. _____ (52) to scientific research, addiction is brought about by psychological, social, and environmental factors.

One major cause of any kind of addiction _____ (53) a brain chemical called dopamine, also _____ (54) as the 'feel-good' hormone. It is released in response _____ (55) a pleasurable experience. It also makes a person develop a strong _____ (56) to seek out that same pleasure again and again. When gamers _____ (57) a goal or a new level, dopamine is released, motivating them to keep _____ (58) Eventually, they get stuck in a cycle in which they are increasingly engrossed in gaming while _____ (59) other important tasks.

_____ (60) factor that contributes to gaming addiction is socialization. Many online games allow players to interact with one another. This develops a _____ (61) of belonging to their online communities. However, in extreme cases, shy and introverted individuals may _____ (62) to gaming as their main source of social life, resulting in addiction.

The home environment is a key factor in gaming addiction too. Children and teens who have _____ (63) access to gaming devices and little supervision from their parents are more _____ (64) to form an addiction.

Gaming addiction is no laughing _____ (65). By understanding its contributing factors, we may prevent its formation among our friends and loved ones.

Adapted from The health effects of too much gaming

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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). (10 marks)

66. All the pupils in class 6J are attending the party. Mr Tan is also attending the party.

_____ together with

_____

67. Cindy asked Jack, "Where can I pass you the book later?"

Cindy asked Jack _____

_____

68. The manager amended the plan before presenting it to his client.

The manager made _____

_____

69. Her parents shook their heads. They disapproved of her decision.

_____ in _____

_____

70. John did not do his part for the group project. Ken was annoyed.

Much to _____

_____.

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Refer to the passage below when you answer questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B.

It was a freezing night. The **weary** couple trudged through the snow against the bitter winds, seeking shelter. The **anxious** father-to-be scanned the roadside for a home, an inn or a stable. He looked over at his struggling companion frequently. She laboured along without complaint, her way made heavier by the new life growing inside her. They needed a warm, dry place for the night, safe from the elements. When the time for her delivery came, it must not be out here along the road. The couple was a pair of dogs, on a rural highway.

Gus, a wildlife officer, was driving home from work when he spotted the dogs. The snowstorm made it difficult to see, but Gus's keen eyes detected the reflection of their collar tags in the flash of his headlights. What were they doing out on this stretch of road in this harsh weather? Gus parked his truck and approached the animals. He squatted and stretched out his hands to the dogs, which made no effort to escape. He read their tags by his truck's headlights: The female was named Pepper, and the male was Cooper. He pulled out his phone to call the number listed on **them**, but it was snowing so hard that his screen blurred. He would have to make the call from his truck.

He placed the dogs in his truck, below the passenger seat. By the time he came around to the driver's side, they had climbed onto the fabric seat where it was warm. Gus dried his phone, snapped a picture of the pair snuggling, and sent it to his wife, Katie.

Then he called the number again. A man who identified himself as Marc answered and immediately grew defensive when Gus told him why he was calling.

"Those dogs aren't mine anymore. I've given them away," Marc replied in an irritated tone.

"Well, who did you give them to?" Gus asked hopefully.

"I don't know," came the curt reply.

"Well, do you want them back?" Gus probed.

"No. I can't take care of them." With that, Marc hung up abruptly.

Thus, these dogs were abandoned, left with no place to call home. The dogs, known for their intelligence, gazed at Gus with pleading eyes. Gus called an animal shelter, but it was too late in the night. So, he left a message. Then he called Katie. "You cannot put them back out in the snowstorm," she said. "Bring them home."

Katie prepared a bed for the dogs in the study room. Soft blankets were arranged with care, providing **a haven of comfort** against the chilly night air. Katie, then lovingly placed bowls of food and water where the exhausted animals lay together. Every now and then, Cooper lifted his head to check on Pepper. **This scene** stirred within Katie a desire to adopt them.

When she told Gus about it, he shook his head. Keeping this pair was out of the question — they already had a family dog. The next day, he called the animal shelter again. Katie took the dogs to the shelter to drop them off on **one condition**. "I'm not signing the dogs over to you if you're going to separate them," she said. The staff promised her that the couple would stay together.

In the days following, Katie **phoned the shelter repeatedly**. Soon after Christmas, the dogs were adopted by a loving family, much to the relief of Gus and Katie. **The dogs had experienced a miracle in which kindness triumphed over cruelty**.

Adapted from: https://www.rd.com/article/pair-of-dogs-rescued/

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Read the passage on page 10 of Booklet A and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

71. Which two words in paragraph 1 tells us that Pepper was indeed 'weary' (line 1)? BOTH WORDS ARE FOUND IN SEPARATE SENTENCES. [2m]

72. Give two reasons why Cooper was 'anxious' (line 2) to seek shelter somewhere. [2m]

73. How did Gus spot the dogs on the highway in the heavy snow? [1m]

74. Based on lines 9-21, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [3m]

	True / False	Reason
a) The dogs were afraid of Gus.		
b) Gus did not manage to speak to the dogs' owner when he was outside his car.		
c) The dogs snuggled at the place where Gus had placed them in the truck.		

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75. Which **two** of the following words correctly describe how Marc felt when Gus called him in lines 22 to 30? [2m]
Put a tick ✓ in the box beside each of your answers.

annoyed	
remorseful	
hesitant	

disgusted	
impatient	
concerned	

76. The table below shows Gus's actions in lines 31-35. Fill in the blanks to show the reasons for his actions using information from the passage. [2m]

Action	Reason for action
called an animal shelter	
called Katie	

77.

What Katie provided to create "a haven of comfort" against the chilly night air (line 37)

(a)

(b)

[2m]

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78. 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. [2m]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer to
a) them (line 16)	
b) This scene (line 40)	

79. Why do you think Katie "phoned the shelter repeatedly" (line 46)? [2m]

_____

_____

80. "The dogs had experienced a miracle in which kindness triumphed over cruelty." (lines 48-49)

With reference to the story, explain clearly what the writer meant in the above statement. [2m]

_____

_____

End of Paper

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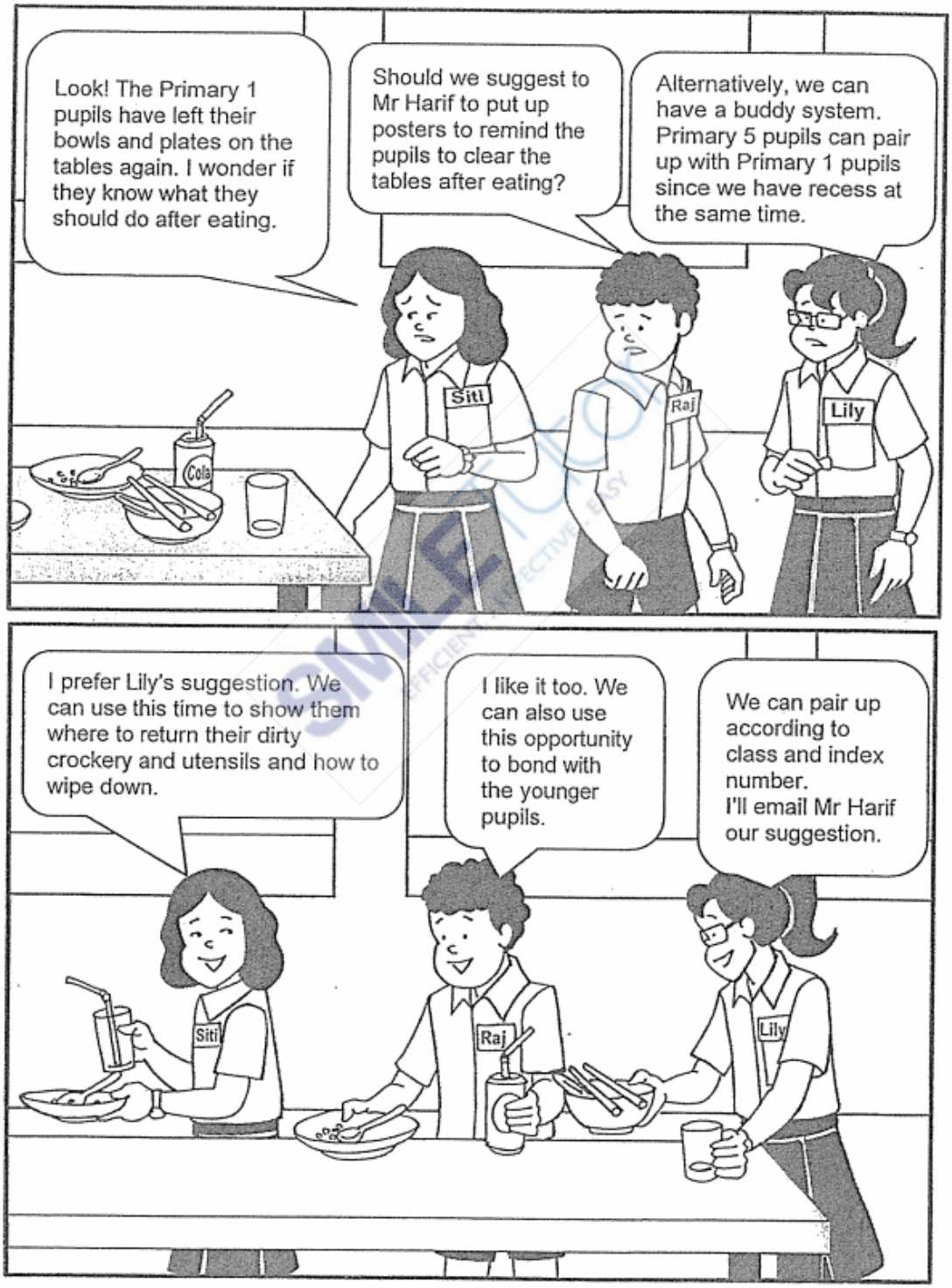
METHODIST GIRLS' SCHOOL (PRIMARY) SA2 PAPER

Part 1: Situational Writing (15 marks)

1 The pictures below show a conversation three pupils had at the school canteen after recess. Study the pictures carefully.



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Your Task

Imagine you are Lily.

Write an email to your discipline master, Mr Harif, telling him about the suggestions on how to encourage pupils to clear the tables after eating.

You are to refer to the pictures and information on page 2 for your email.

In your email, include the following key information:

- what was observed at the canteen
- what were the two suggestions
- what was finally agreed upon and why
- how the pupils can be paired up

You may reorder the points. Remember to write in complete sentences.

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Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

2 Write a composition of <u>at least 150 words</u> about **developing a good habit.**

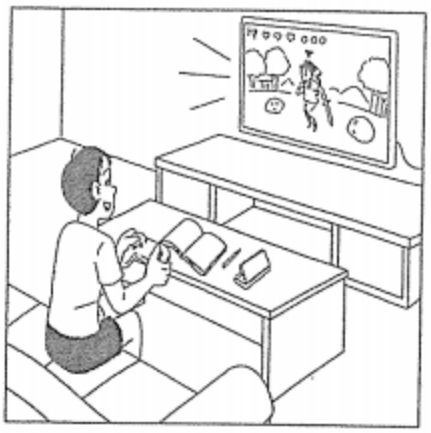
The pictures are provided to help you think about this topic.

Your composition should be based on one or more of these pictures.

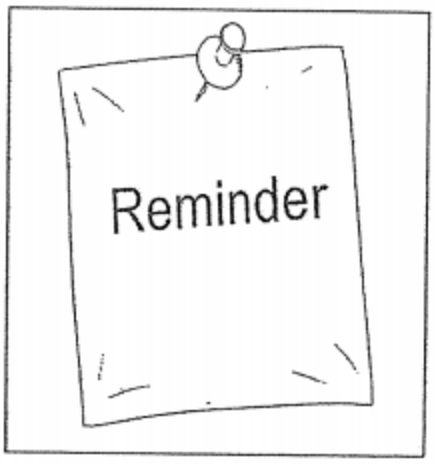
Consider the following points when you plan your composition:

- What was the good habit?
- Why was the good habit developed?

You may use the points in any order and include other relevant points as well.







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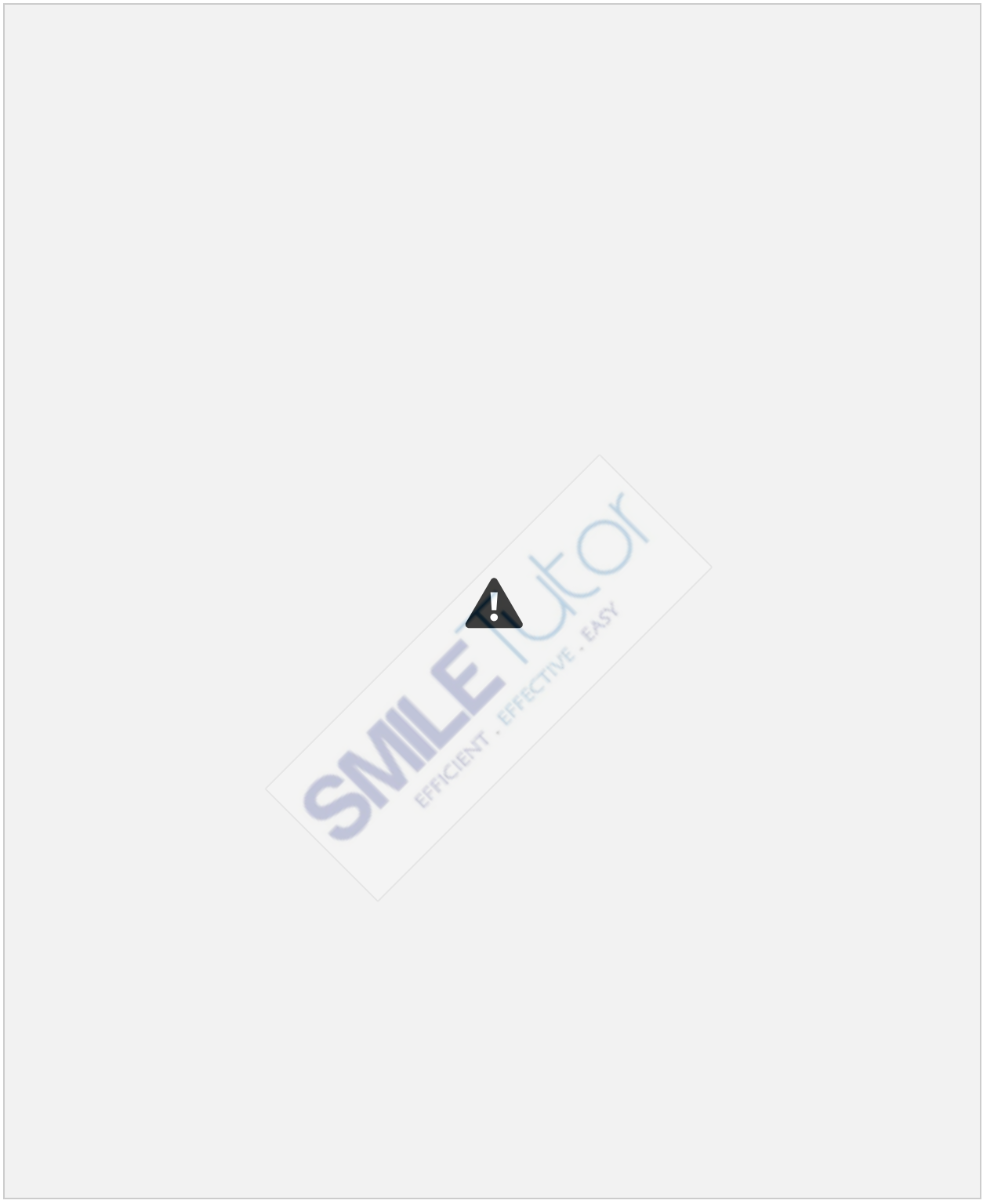

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6 "Dad is going to China for a business trip. He's never been to that country before, _____?" Chenyu asked his mother inquisitively.

(1) is he
(2) has he
(3) isn't he
(4) hasn't he

7 _____ the obstacles they faced, the team remained determined to achieve their goal to become the national champions.

(1) Owing to
(2) In spite of
(3) Except for
(4) Resulting from

8 The weary hiker _____ through the dense jungle for hours before he collapsed in exhaustion.

(1) treks
(2) has trekked
(3) has been trekking
(4) had been trekking

9 Grandfather was very disappointed that none of his sons showed _____ interest in taking over his traditional bakery.

(1) few
(2) little
(3) most
(4) much

10 A collection of vintage cars _____ showcased at the car show last week, attracting many curious onlookers.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

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11 Ever since the Chan family adopted a new puppy, the children had _____ it like best friends, playing with it every day.

(1) taken in
(2) taken to
(3) taken up
(4) taken after

12 Despite his initial hesitation, Justin _____ to peer pressure and joined his friends in skipping school to watch a movie.

(1) adapted
(2) resisted
(3) adjusted
(4) succumbed

13 With the deadline fast approaching, the team felt the stress of the _____ presentation and worked tirelessly to ensure its success.

(1) impactful
(2) imminent
(3) incidental
(4) intermittent

14 Due to Roy's shabby clothes, the shopkeeper harboured _____ against him and accused him of shoplifting.

(1) partiality
(2) prejudice
(3) peculiarity
(4) preference

15 Naomi explained the complex concept _____ in a few sentences, gaining nods of approval from her classmates.

(1) bluntly
(2) concisely
(3) thoroughly
(4) deliberately

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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)

Jennie stepped into the bustling hawker centre, the savoury aromas instantly tickling her senses. She was amazed by the vibrant energy that filled the place. She walked past rows of food stalls, each <u>enticing</u> **(16)** her with its mouthwatering dishes.

Jennie decided to join a stall with the longest queue for she knew that when it comes to hawker cuisine, the queue is the best <u>testament</u> **(17)** to the quality of food at the stall. Savvy diners like her knew that if they wanted the <u>signature</u> **(18)** dish that the stalls offered, they had to endure the wait.

While queuing, she noticed a group of seniors chatting and sipping hot drinks from their saucers - an old and <u>ingenious</u> **(19)** way to cool down their piping hot beverages.

Finally, it was her turn. She ordered a plate of fried char kway teow and watched the stall owner work his magic. He <u>skilfully</u> **(20)** tossed the flat rice noodles and other ingredients into the sizzling wok, infusing them with sauces and seasonings. Jennie could not wait to devour the aromatic and flavourful dish.

16
(1) inspiring
(2) tempting
(3) delighting
(4) influencing

17
(1) evidence
(2) exhibition
(3) realisation
(4) recognition

18
(1) rare
(2) exclusive
(3) distinctive
(4) extraordinary

19
(1) clever
(2) expert
(3) reliable
(4) efficient

20
(1) briskly
(2) adeptly
(3) naturally
(4) persistently

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Study this information from the magazine "The Arts People" and answer questions 21 to 28.

PERANAKAN MUSEUM REOPENS!

CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY TRAIL WEEKEND FUN
2 and 3 December 2023

Having been closed for renovation for 2 years, we are celebrating the reopening of the museum with a special discovery trail for children.

WHO ARE THE PERANAKANS?

In Singapore, the term "*Peranakan*" generally refers to a person of mixed Chinese and Malay or Indonesian heritage. Many Singapore Peranakans trace their origins to 15th century Malacca where their ancestors were thought to be Chinese traders who married local women. These Chinese traders settled and raised families in the bustling ports of Malacca, Penang and Singapore – which under British rule were known as the Straits Settlements. The Peranakans were also known as the "Straits-born Chinese". The Peranakan men and women were referred to as *'Baba'* and *'Nyonya'* respectively.

Over time, the Chinese traders adopted the local lifestyle but retained their Chinese beliefs. This resulted in the Peranakans developing their own culture and practices as well as a variation of the Malay language, Baba Malay.

Food and Feasting

One outstanding feature of Peranakan culture is the cuisine, which is also known as *Nyonya* food, named after the ladies who cook it. Bursting with flavors and colors, their food is known for its mix of Chinese ingredients with Malay herbs and spices as well as cooking methods of both. The mix of cooking techniques and spices resulted in the exceptional tangy and spicy flavours present in Peranakan cuisine.



Traditional Arts and Culture

Embroidery and beadwork are two intricate forms of Peranakan needlework. In the past, young Peranakan girls were required to master these skills and be meticulous with their nimble fingers. These skills showcase their patience, attention to detail and endurance. It involves sewing beautiful miniature beads of different colours to footwear to create dainty slippers called *kasut manek*. The same craft is used to embellish the *nyonya kebaya*, a traditional Peranakan dress, as well as household items.



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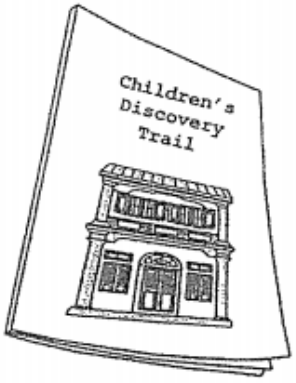
Children's Discovery Trail – What Can You Expect?



Come early and be one of the first 200 children to receive a Peranakan culture-themed balloon*.

What's more? Receive a goody bag containing an activity book and a map. Pick it up at the entrance of the museum. Follow the map and collect stamps after completing the activity at each station. There are 10 stations scattered around the various galleries. Collect all 10 stamps to redeem a limited-edition plush toy* from the Peranakan Museum!

**While supplies last.*

Trail Highlights

Station 1: Peranakan Dress-Up

The traditional costume for Peranakan women, *nyonya kebaya,* was adapted from local Malay traditional dresses. Have fun dressing up as a little Baba or Nyonya and strike a pose at the photo booth for $2.



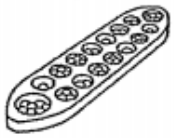
Station 2: Miniature Snack-Making



Nyonya snacks are an essential part of Peranakan cuisine. Have fun making mini models of Peranakan snacks using clay and learn more about Peranakan food culture. You will see on display the different traditional utensils used to make these snacks.

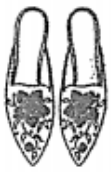
Bring home your own mini model and also pop by the museum café for some delicious traditional snacks!

Station 5: Congkak



Congkak, derived from a Malay word, is a traditional game played across Southeast Asia and popular among the Malays and the Peranakans. Congkak means mental calculation which is essential for the game. Play the game with a friend and the winner is the one who collects the most marbles!

Station 8: Beadwork



Do you know that in the past, Nyonyas had to learn to bead their own shoes before getting married? Try your hand at beading – a tradition which involves using colourful beads to create detailed patterns.

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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 Peranakans, also known as the "Straits-born Chinese", were _____.

(1) the early Chinese traders
(2) the children of locals in the Straits Settlements
(3) the children of Chinese traders and local women
(4) those who lived in the ports of Malacca, Penang and Singapore

22 In "These Chinese traders settled and raised families in the bustling ports of Malacca, Penang and Singapore – which under British rule were known as the Straits Settlements.", the dash (–) is used to _____.

(1) provide more explaination to the main idea
(2) indicate that the information is the main idea
(3) emphasize the earlier information in the sentence
(4) join the earlier and subsequent sentences together

23 Which of the following contributed to the unique taste of Peranakan cuisine?

(1) use of Malay herbs and spices
(2) strong and spicy flavours in the dishes
(3) culinary skills of the Peranakan women
(4) a mix of Chinese and Malay cooking methods

24 In the section "Traditional Arts and Culture", which word best describes Peranakan needlework as an art form?

(1) dainty
(2) nimble
(3) intricate
(4) miniature

25 In the section "Traditional Arts and Culture", the "same craft" refers to _____.

(1) embroidering footwear
(2) embellishing the Peranakan dresses
(3) mastering the skill of embroidery and beadwork
(4) using colourful beads to create detailed designs

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26 According to the information provided in the section "Trail Highlights", which of the following is **not** true?

(1) Players of Congkak game need to use mental calculation.
(2) Children can have a chance to try on the Peranakan traditional costumes.
(3) Children can drop by at the museum café to eat the snacks that they have made.
(4) Nonyas in the past, before getting married, were required to acquire the skill of shoe beading.

27 Ravi is visiting the Peranakan Museum on 3 December 2023. He will surely receive _____.

(1) an activity book and a map
(2) stamps and a limited-edition plush toy
(3) a culture-themed balloon and a goody bag
(4) a culture-themed balloon and a limited-edition plush toy

28 What is the **main** purpose of this article?

(1) to promote the reopening of a museum
(2) to educate children about Peranakan crafts
(3) to introduce the history of the Straits-born Chinese
(4) to encourage children to explore the discovery trail

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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) all	(D) for	(G) having	(K) just	(N) was
(B) any	(E) from	(H) in	(L) of	(P) with
(C) even	(F) have	(J) is	(M) until	(Q) without

The vital role Sherpas have played in Nepal's mountaineering industry has made the term 'Sherpa' synonymous with expedition guides, even though not all Sherpa guides are ethnic Sherpas.

Sherpas are a Nepalese ethnic group renowned _____ (29) their rich culture, superior climbing skills and extreme endurance for high altitudes. Sherpas, _____ (30) lived in the high mountains of the Himalayas for generations, serve as guides and porters to mountaineers who climb Mount Everest.

Sherpas migrated _____ (31) eastern Tibet to Nepal around 500 years ago. Before the twentieth century, Sherpas did not climb mountains. They eked their livelihood through high-altitude farming, cattle raising, wool spinning and weaving. It was not _____ (32) the 1920s that Sherpas became involved in climbing. Mountaineers who planned climbing expeditions hired Sherpas as porters. From that point on, due to their willingness to work and the ability to climb the world's tallest peaks, mountaineering became part of the Sherpa culture.

The influx of mountaineers into the Sherpa homeland has dramatically transformed Sherpa culture and way _____ (33) life. Each year, hundreds of mountaineers head up the mountain with Sherpa guides. Mostly young men, Sherpa guides are not _____ (34) the muscles in the expedition - carrying up to 35 kilograms of clients' gear, setting up camps, cooking the meals, fixing the ropes and ladder - they are also the expert navigators. _____ (35) their vast experience and support, most climbers will not _____ stand a chance of reaching the peak. Sherpa guides are an absolute necessity for _____ (37) successful climbing expedition in Nepal.

What Sherpa guides do _____ (38) commendable. They put in immense hard work and dedication at the risk of their own lives, to encourage and help climbers so they can summit the world's highest peak.

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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)

Mr Ang's desire to help the less fortunate stems from his childhood. "How do we
(39) [ ]
do something that would be benifechial to the society? This was what I'd always wanted

to do when I was young," he said. When Mr Ang started working at the Soup Restaurant
(40) [ ] (41) [ ]
Group, he thought about when to make philanthropic efforts one of its pryoritis.

(42) [ ]
A memorable visit to a volénteri welfare organisation convinced Mr Ang that his
(43) [ ]
company could leverage its strengths to provide nutrecious subsidised meals. Mr Ang

knew the project had to be sustainable and not only about giving away free food. The
(44) [ ]
iniciativ, was not only about providing meals but also jobs. As such, Mr Ang explored the
(45) [ ]
possible of tapping on the inmates in prison. "They're the people who are stigmatised

when they're in the community. Employing them is a good chance for them to learn a

skill while serving their sentence," said Mr Ang.

(46) [ ]
Within a few months, Samsui Kitchen @ Changi was ready for operation. Thirty
(47) [ ] (48) [ ]
inmates were trained in food haigyene and preparation. They were equip with skills
(49) [ ] (50) [ ]
and knowing which would also prepare them for the workforce by their release.

When Mr Ang first started this Samsui Kitchen project, he did not expect it to

grow to the size it is today, nor that it would change him as a person. "I am very

happy that I'm able to do something that I wanted to do all along."

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

The Clean Tables Campaign was launched by the National Environment Agency (NEA) in February 2021. It is envisioned that the campaign will _____ (51) together individuals and the community to do their part in keeping our environment clean, _____ (52) a national culture to keep Singapore clean.

This was yet another concerted _____ (53) to remind diners at hawker centres and other public dining places to keep tables clean by returning their trays of used crockery to a tray return point, and by _____ (54) used tissues, wet wipes and leftovers into the proper receptacles provided.

We have had many campaigns since the 1960s to keep our country, our water supplies and even our hands clean. _____ (55) have they been effective?

Singapore is a cleaned city, not a clean city. We are _____ (56) on cleaners to keep our city _____ (57) and span. The same is true of our public dining tables. They are cleaned by workers, many of _____ (58) are seniors.

Why do we, in Singapore, have such an entitled _____ (59)? Why do we need someone to clean up _____ (60) us?

NEA's survey found that close to half of the respondents felt clearing their own tables after eating will _____ (61) cleaners of their jobs. This is not true. Cleaners will not lose their jobs just _____ (62) diners have become more responsible and gracious. They are still needed to _____ (63) the general cleanliness of dining places, including sorting the used crockery at the designated tray return points.

In _____ (64), keeping tables clean after our meals will make their work easier by _____ (65) their workload in having to make frequent rounds to the tables. This will allow the cleaners to have more time to wipe down and properly disinfect the tables, providing a more sanitary environment.

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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). (10 marks)

66 Fred asked Mother how she turned on the dishwasher.

"_____

_____?" Fred asked Mother.

67 Lixun missed out on several interesting activities in school. Lixun was frequently absent.

_____ caused him

_____.

68 The sales assistant persuaded Mother to buy the steam oven. Mother eventually agreed to buy it.

The sales assistant was so _____

_____.

69 I did not know she liked the notebook. I would have given it to her.

Had I _____

_____.

70 I eagerly tore open the packaging to unveil the surprise inside when I received the parcel.

Upon the _____

_____.

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Refer to the passage below when you answer questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B.

The year my mother was diagnosed with cancer, my father sent me to live with my neighbour Aunty Loh. He said he could not drive his taxi, ferry my mother to the hospital and take care of me. **I was reluctant to do so and would have protested**, if not for the fact that I had noticed that the bald patch on the back of my mother's head, at first a circle no bigger than a 50-cent coin, was now an uneven patch the size of my fist.

Aunty Loh welcomed my father and me at the door. Aunty Loh had short grey curls and wide-set eyes that blinked rapidly behind her large glasses. Even though she was short and thin, she walked with a heavy foot due to arthritis, each step taken **as if she was ascending a hill**. Photographs of the Loh's daughter lined a shelf and, next to it, was an elaborate-looking sewing machine clad in black and brass plating. I spun the wheel and watched the needle bounce up and down like a finger tapping to music. "Junyi! Don't touch Aunty Loh's things," my father's voice boomed. I jerked and hid my hand behind my back. "Never mind," she said, turning to me. "Don't worry, Ah Boy. Do what you like. Treat this place as your home."

Every day after school, I would do my homework in the living room while Aunty Loh worked on the sewing machine, next to a bulging red plastic bag overflowing with her customers' garments. Aunty Loh chatted a lot when she sewed. I learnt she missed her daughter, Pei Fen, and wished she would visit more often. Pei Fen had married recently and moved out. While Aunty Loh never **explicitly said so**, I could tell they did not have a good relationship. Twice a month, Pei Fen would come over for dinner and stay no longer than an hour. She spoke to her mother in a dismissive manner, often deriding her for being long-winded and bothersome.

A few months later, Aunty Loh announced, "Baby!" after putting down the phone with Pei Fen. Pei Fen then began coming over weekly. Pregnancy seemed to mellow her out. There was laughter during dinner and Pei Fen would listen intently as Aunty Loh shared her pregnancy experiences and stories. Pei Fen would leave each time with a thermos filled with herbal soup.

"Ah Boy, come help me. It's spoilt again." Aunty Loh had set a pot of soup on the stove and turned the stove knob repeatedly - *click-click-click* - but there was no fire. I trooped across the kitchen and, with a quick twist of the knob, the bright blue flame shot out. The old stove had been faulty recently. Somehow, though, I was always able to turn it on. "Magic fingers," I declared to Aunty Loh, who **waved her metal spoon like a wand in the air** and laughed. However, the magic did not work later that week.

That morning, Aunty Loh was preparing soup in the kitchen. "Ah Boy," Aunty Loh called out. "Can help me? It's spoilt again." I was running late for school but I slipped my shoes off and ran to the kitchen. Aunty Loh was rapping the side of the gas stove, trying to get it to work. I moved and turned the knob. *Click-click-click*. No fire. *Click-click-click*. I tried again, but **nothing changed**. "I think it's really spoilt this time. I have to go to school already." Waving to Aunty Loh even though she was not looking, I said, "I will try again when I get home, okay?"

When I returned from school that afternoon, a small crowd had gathered outside Aunty Loh's house. I was surprised to see my father in the crowd. A burnt smell filled the air. I noticed that Aunty Loh's doorway had been cordoned off by yellow tape. "Where's Aunty Loh? Is she okay?" I asked my father as a strange tingle crawled up my neck.

"A fire broke out!" my father said, pointing to the charred walls.

"A fire? How?"

"I'm not sure, but I heard from the neighbour that her stove exploded."

"Exploded?" I echoed. "Is she okay?" I asked again. "They said that when the firemen rescued her, her clothes were all black." I nodded numbly. All I could think of was how Aunty Loh's skin must have blistered under the heat of the fire. I never saw Aunty Loh again. Her house needed extensive repair, so she moved to Pei Fen's house.

My mother, by then, had won the battle with cancer and was in remission. As she sat at the edge of my bed, sewing a button on my trousers, I caught sight of a ball of hair that had landed on her collarbone, similar to the one she first shed while undergoing treatment - and my heart faltered. **With bated breath**, I inched closer to take a second look, only to realise it was simply a clump of black thread.

Adapted from "Close to Home"

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Read the passage on page 10 of Booklet A and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 words)

71 "I was reluctant to do so and would have protested..." (lines 2-3)

Why did Junyi eventually agree to live with Aunty Loh? [1m]

_____

_____.

72 "Aunty Loh welcomed my father and me at the door." (line 6)

a) Circle **one** word that best describes Aunty Loh's attitude towards Junyi when he went to live with her.
DO NOT CIRCLE MORE THAN ONE WORD. [1m]

hospitable / responsive / charitable / helpful

b) What information from lines 6-12 tells us so? [1m]

_____

_____.

73 What do you think Junyi meant when he described each step Aunty Loh took was "as if she was ascending a hill" (line 8)? [1m]

_____

_____.

74 Explain clearly why Junyi jerked and hid his hand behind his back (line 11). [2m]

_____

_____.

75 From lines 13-23, how can you tell that Pei Fen's pregnancy "seemed to mellow her out"? [2m]

_____

_____

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76 Explain clearly why Aunty Loh "waved her metal spoon like a wand in the air" (lines 27-28). [2m]

_____

_____.

77 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. [2m]

Words from the passage	What do the words refer to
a) explicitly said so (line 16)	
b) nothing changed (line 32)	

78 Based on the lines 24-34, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [2m]

	True/False	Reason
a) Aunty Loh was distracted by the faulty stove when Junyi was leaving for school.		
b) Junyi grew attached to Aunty Loh over time.		

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79 From lines 35-45, pick out two separate phrases to show Junyi's feelings and explain why he felt that way. [4m]

Three-word phrase that shows Junyi felt uneasy	Reason for Junyi's feelings
a)	b)
Three-word phrase that shows Junyi was shocked	**Reason for Junyi's feelings**
c)	d)

80 Explain clearly why Junyi inched closer to look at the ball of hair "with bated breath" (line 48). [2m]

_____

_____.

End of Paper

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MARIS STELLA HIGH SCHOOL (PRIMARY) SA2 PAPER

Part 1: Situational Writing (15 marks)

1 The picture below shows Kelly and her sister, Tammy, discussing a notice that they saw in the newspaper on 21 October 2023. Study the picture carefully.



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Your task

Imagine you are Kelly.

Write an email to Mr Tan, teacher-in-charge of your school band, asking if you could be excused from band practice.

You are to refer to the pictures and information on page 1 for your email.

In your email, include the following key information:

- the date you wish to be excused from band practice
- the event you wish to attend and the time it will be held
- two reasons you need to attend the event
- what you intend to do if you are excused from band practice

You may reorder the points. Remember to write in complete sentences.

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1. Neither Tim nor his sisters _____ how to play the piano.

(1) know
(2) knows
(3) known
(4) knowing

2. There were _____ scenes in the movie that made us chuckle non-stop.

(1) any
(2) little
(3) much
(4) some

3. Those cupcakes on the tray were not baked by the instructor, but by the children _____.

(1) himself
(2) yourself
(3) ourselves
(4) themselves

4. Mrs Yap brought along a mat _____ the intention of spreading it on the ground so that she could sit on it when having a picnic.

(1) in
(2) on
(3) for
(4) with

5. "Mr and Mrs Bala have a new car, _____ they?" my neighbour asked.

(1) do
(2) don't
(3) have
(4) won't

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6. If I had known that Jacob was hospitalised, I _____ him today.

(1) will visit
(2) am visiting
(3) would be visiting
(4) would have visited

7. She continued to pursue her dreams _____ many people doubted her abilities.

(1) as
(2) but
(3) although
(4) nonetheless

8. Simon _____ father is a Science professor emerged as the champion of the Science Olympiad this year.

(1) who
(2) which
(3) whom
(4) whose

9. The students were able to share on the given topic as they _____ the notes provided by the teacher.

(1) have read
(2) had read
(3) reads
(4) read

10. When the police arrived at the coffee shop, they saw an angry man _____ on the ground.

(1) lying
(2) lain
(3) lies
(4) lay

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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. After much thought, she finally _____ to face her fears and pursue her dream of becoming an astronaut.

(1) obliged
(2) pressed
(3) resolved
(4) compelled

12. The commuters shrieked when they spotted a rat _____ across the MRT platform.

(1) strolling
(2) scurrying
(3) scattering
(4) sashaying

13. The scouts decided to carry on with the hike even though there was an _____ storm.

(1) imminent
(2) inevitable
(3) unforeseen
(4) unpredictable

14. The small boat _____ up and down in the choppy water, causing passengers to feel queasy.

(1) jiggled
(2) bobbed
(3) wobbled
(4) quivered

15. After losing the first half of the match, the coach spoke to the players and their confidence was _____.

(1) restored
(2) refreshed
(3) revamped
(4) recharged

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

Simon and his CCA teammates alighted from the bus at Gardens Primary School. Simon, who was seated at the front, got down the bus **(16)**hastily. They were greeted by the prefects, who **(17)**ushered them to the hall on the third floor. Students from different schools were there to participate in the zonal chess competition.

There was an air of excitement in the hall. The participants waited **(18)**with bated breath for the competition to start. "Good afternoon, everyone. The competition will commence in five minutes," the emcee announced. Simon proceeded to fish for his glasses in his bag and realised that they were missing. He needed his glasses for the competition. Just as he was feeling **(19)**worried and anxious, Miss Phua, his CCA teacher, handed him his pair of glasses. That certainly **(20)**boosted his morale. "Your mother just dropped this off. Now do your best," she said reassuringly.

16. (1) rapidly
(2) instantly
(3) speedily
(4) hurriedly

17. (1) guided
(2) signalled
(3) prompted
(4) instructed

18. (1) eagerly
(2) hopefully
(3) dreadfully
(4) impatiently

19. (1) discouraged
(2) sorrowful
(3) annoyed
(4) troubled

20. (1) raised
(2) elevated
(3) increased
(4) advanced

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Study this article from a magazine, Learning Resource, and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Why is Science Important?

by Max Kang

The learning of science allows us to be curious about the world around us. Scientists have made extensive use of the knowledge gained through their inquisitiveness to improve our quality of life. Many marvellous things we use are the result of years of scientific research. The amazing thing is that scientists are still coming up with all sorts of ingenious inventions! Why not get started on your learning journey with our book recommendation this month? You might just become one of the greatest scientists of our time!

RECOMMENDED

Science Alive

Available at bookstores for the price of $16.90.



An excellent book that allows children to have fun!

Choose Science Alive!

- ✓ Learn about science from hands-on experience and careful observation!
- ✓ Thirty interesting science experiments to do at home!
- ✓ Clear instructions and detailed diagrams make it easy to set up the experiments!
- ✓ Simple explanations for the key concepts demonstrated by the experiments!
- ✓ Only everyday objects found in most households are used, so no further purchases of tools and materials are required!

Get it online at www.books.sg and receive a 10% discount. You will receive an additional 5% discount if you purchase it before 1 September 2023.

Get it at Book Fair 2023, and stand a chance to win a set of children's books worth more than $20 if you make a purchase on the first day of the fair.

Venue: Expo Centre
Dates: 1–5 September 2023

A perfect book for the December school holidays. Get it now!

Check out an extract from Science Alive on the next page, and get a glimpse of what you can expect to find inside the book!

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From page 14 of "Science Alive"

Tornado in a Bottle



What are tornadoes?

Also known as twisters, tornadoes are violently spinning, funnel-shaped columns of air that sometimes form during thunderstorms. The wind from a tornado can reach 400 kilometres per hour – faster than a race car – and cause a lot of damage. Tornadoes are capable of ripping apart buildings and bridges and sending trains and cars flying!

What causes tornadoes?

Before you try to understand the explanation found at the end of this chapter, create your own tornado with just two clear plastic bottles, water, food colouring and strong adhesive tape! Doing this experiment and watching closely to see what happens will help you get a better grasp of the concept!

Step 1

Clean the bottles and remove any labels so that you can see through the plastic clearly. Pour water into one of the bottles until it is about three-quarters full, then add a few drops of food colouring to give colour to the water.

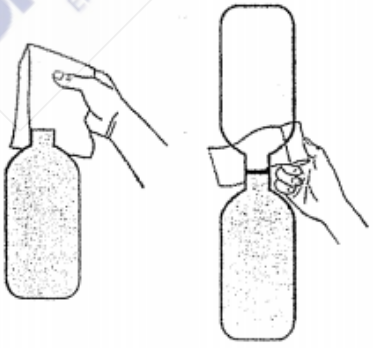


Step 2

Screw the cap back on the bottle tightly. Mix the liquids together by giving the bottle a good shake.

Step 3

Remove the cap and fill the bottle to the brim with water. Then dry the rim with a piece of cloth.



Step 4

Place the empty bottle upside down on top of the full bottle and tape them firmly together, making sure the joint is carefully sealed so that no water can leak out.

Eager to know the other steps needed to create a tornado with the above experiment set-up and learn about what causes tornadoes?
Get a copy of Science Alive today!

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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. What was the tone used by the writer in the section, "Why is Science Important?"?

(1) witty
(2) caring
(3) persuasive
(4) authoritative

22. Refer to the section "Choose Science Alive". Which of the following words tells you that the items used for the experiments can be found easily?

(1) simple
(2) detailed
(3) everyday
(4) hands-on

23. The purpose of the exclamation marks found in the section "Choose Science Alive!" is to _____.

(1) give children a surprise
(2) get children excited about the book
(3) show the importance of learning Science
(4) encourage children to try out the experiments

24. Mr Tan wants to buy the book as a gift for his nephew who is celebrating his birthday in August 2023. To get the book at the lowest price, Mr Tan should buy it _____.

(1) online in September 2023
(2) on the first day of Book Fair 2023
(3) at a bookstore in September 2023
(4) online during his nephew's birthday month

25. An extract from the book is included in the article for the following possible reasons **except** _____.

(1) to get readers to be interested in the book
(2) to let readers have a brief look at the book's contents
(3) to tell readers the steps to create their own tornadoes
(4) to assure readers that materials required are easily available

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26. According to the extract, which statement is **not** true about tornadoes?

(1) They are also referred to as twisters.
(2) Their violent spinning causes thunderstorms to form.
(3) The wind from some of them travels faster than race cars.
(4) Buildings, bridges, trains and cars have been damaged by them.

27. Which of the following statements is **not** true about the materials required for making the Tornado in a Bottle?

(1) Food colouring is used as it is safe for consumption.
(2) A piece of cloth is used to remove water from the rim.
(3) Clear plastic bottles are used to allow for a clear view.
(4) Strong adhesive tape is used to ensure no leakage of liquid.

28. What is the **main** aim of the article in the magazine?

(1) to teach children about creating tornadoes
(2) to introduce Science Alive as a useful resource
(3) to explain how readers can learn science concepts
(4) to inspire children to come up with ingenious inventions

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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) are	(D) could	(G) however	(K) these	(N) where
(B) besides	(E) has	(H) in	(L) through	(P) while
(C) between	(F) have	(J) is	(M) to	(Q) whom

"Hic! Hic!" You may have let out these distinctive sounds after a heavy meal at one time or another. They are known as hiccups and they feel like jumpy gulps in the back of your throat. Have you wondered what causes hiccups? The structure responsible for hiccups in our complex body system **(29)** _____ our diaphragm. This is a dome-shaped muscle at the bottom of your chest and is **(30)** _____ all hiccups begin.

When a person inhales, the diaphragm pulls down to help draw air into the lungs. When one exhales, it relaxes and air flows out of the lungs **(31)** _____ the nose and mouth into the surroundings. **(32)** _____ are actions which take place automatically, whether you are awake or asleep. (33) _____ , there are times when the diaphragm becomes irritated. When this happens, the air rushes into your throat, hits your voice box and your vocal cords close suddenly, resulting **(34)** _____ a big hiccup.

There are many reasons as to why the diaphragm **(35)** _____ be irritated. Stress, eating too much or too quickly and feeling nervous are a few common reasons that may lead **(36)** _____ hiccups.

There are lots of suggestions out there on how you can get rid of hiccups, and you might **(37)** _____ even tried one or two of them. One way is to hold your breath and count to ten **(38)** _____ another one is to sip water. Luckily, most hiccups are not harmful and will stop by themselves after a while.

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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)

Koalas are native to Australia. How much do you know about them? There is

(39) [ ]

a lot more to these antrawling living 'teddy bears' than their cuddly size and laid-

(40) [ ] (41) [ ]

back lifestyle that they are fame for. Is your curiauscity piqued?

(42) [ ]

When the Europeans first settled in Australia, they mistaking these tree

(43) [ ]

dwellers for a type of bear. However, koalas are similar with kangaroos, both of

(44) [ ]

which are marsupials - mammals that nurcher their newborn in a pouch. Of all

(45) [ ]

the marsupials, its closest relatives are the wombats.

Koalas live and feed on the eucalyptus trees. They climb up to the

(46) [ ]

branches to munch on the leaves, voraycously eating up to a kilogram of them

(47) [ ]

daily. Did you know that the leaves of these trees were poisonous? Furthermore,

(48) [ ]

they are tough to digest and provide few nutrition. Koalas have a specially

(49) [ ]

adapted digestive system that not only tharaghly extracts nutrients from the

(50) [ ]

leaves but newtralises their toxins. How amazing they are!

Score: / 12

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

Intelligence is the ability to acquire and apply knowledge and skills. Human intelligence is a unique quality that consists of the abilities to learn from experience and **(51)** _____ to new situations. When a computer or a robot is able to **(52)** _____ a problem, it may seem intelligent. However, this type of intelligence is different **(53)** _____ a human's intelligence. It is called artificial intelligence or A.I. The term A.I. was **(54)** _____ in 1955 by John McCarthy, a computer scientist working on making computers intelligent.

The process of teaching computers to be intelligent involves researchers training the systems to play video games. Games provide a boundary with a set of rules. Computers play the games and based on **(55)** _____ and error, different ways to win are figured out. They **(56)** _____ on their stored memory to build on successes and learn from **(57)** _____ made.

You might also be familiar with "Siri" on iPhone. It is an intelligent personal assistant who responds to your request, provides information and **(58)** _____ tasks when told. You might ask "Siri", for example, to schedule an **(59)** _____ in your calendar for your next visit to the dentist or dial your mother's phone number.

A.I. robots known as chatbots* are being **(60)** _____ in online shops and the websites of government agencies to answer common **(61)** _____ that customers may have. These chatbots have advanced to the stage where they possess **(62)** _____ conversational abilities than ever before. Amazingly, A.I. has enabled these "deep learning" machines to learn from human behaviour, and **(63)** _____ human knowledge and skills. For instance, chatbots can take the **(64)** _____ of a doctor and start prescribing medicines to people. These expert systems can provide more advanced services which are typically carried out by highly **(65)** _____ professionals – those that take many years of learning - such as doctors, lawyers and accountants.

Despite all the benefits, there is fear that artificial intelligence may take over our jobs. Whether artificial intelligence is good or bad, it is an advancement that is here to stay.

* A chatbot is a computer program designed to send messages back to a human user, as if it is having a conversation with the person.

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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). (10 marks)

66. The twins know how to cycle. Joe knows how to cycle.

_____ as well as

_____

67. Tim was thoughtful. He bought a cake for his grandmother's birthday.

It was thoughtful _____

_____

68. George adjusted his school tie before going on stage.

George made _____

_____

69. Everyone was having a good time. The exception was Daniel.

With the _____

_____

70. "Can you explain this difficult problem to me?" John asked Miss Sim.

John asked Miss Sim _____

_____

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Refer to the passage when you answer questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B. (20 marks)

Nigel peered at the photograph that had faded with age. It was a picture of his mother, looking much younger than she was now, standing proudly in front of her noodle stall. Every time he looked at it, it would trigger a rush of memories from his childhood.

His mind wandered to the time he was seven years old. He recalled vividly that his mother had started putting in long hours at work, and he resented that. He could not understand why she did not have time for him anymore. Looking at the throng of people, he was often envious of his friends whose mothers would be waiting eagerly for them at the school gate at dismissal time. Sadly, he could count the number of times she came to pick him up on the fingers of one hand.

On the day Nigel won a creative writing competition, he tried hard to **mask his disappointment** when he saw his grandmother at the school gate. He managed to force a smile, but inwardly, he chided himself for his **unrealistic expectation**. He had been eager to share the good news with his mother but now it had to wait.

His grandmother, **nevertheless**, sensed he was downhearted. She understood why he was feeling that way, and gave him a warm hug. That made Nigel feel better, and he shared the good news with his grandmother. Beaming with pride, she declared, "We must have a small celebration for you tonight." Nigel nodded half-heartedly as his thoughts drifted. That night, as Nigel had anticipated, his mother missed the celebration.

To fulfil **her dream**, Nigel's mother toiled day and night without sufficient rest. Her pay as a cook was not much, but after many arduous months of hard work, she managed to save enough and could finally open her own noodle stall.

The red-letter day arrived. A few relatives had turned up to show support for Nigel's mother's new business. "Ready? One, two, three ... smile," Second Uncle cued, as he clicked on the camera. Her beaming smile lit up the entire place. After that, she showed off her culinary skills, working up a storm at the stove and tossing the ingredients up into the air with finesse. Nigel was mesmerised as he watched his mother in action, his heart swelling with pride. He whispered to himself, "I want to be a great cook just like Mum when I grow up." He had not realised it, but at that moment, in his heart he had made peace with his mother.

Nigel made it a point to help out his mother at the stall, not just to learn cooking from her, but more so to just be with her. It was on **one such occasion** that he learnt what a kind person she was. An elderly man had placed his order and after fumbling around in his pockets, managed to produce only a few coins. Those were not enough. Understanding his **predicament**, Nigel's mother handed him his order when it was ready, and reassured him that no payment was needed. Nigel saw the elderly man's eyes glisten with tears, obviously moved by her kind gesture. As the elderly man thanked her profusely, Nigel noticed the generous portion on the elderly man's plate.

Nigel was brought back to the present when he heard his mother's movements in the house. He placed the photograph back on the shelf, went to his mother and told her the **surprises** he had for her, "Mum, I have just been accepted by a prestigious culinary school! I also have a special present for you and Grandma for Mother's Day! Guess what it is ... I want to take both of you for a holiday overseas."

Upon hearing those words, Nigel's mother gave him a big hug and said, "Son, you are my greatest gift!"

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Read the passage on page 9 in Booklet A and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

71 Nigel "tried hard to mask his disappointment" (lines 10-11).

(a) What did Nigel do to mask his disappointment? [1m]

_____

(b) What does the word "nevertheless" (line 14) tell us about his attempt at masking his disappointment? [1m]

_____

72 Nigel had an "unrealistic expectation" (line 12).

(a) What was Nigel's expectation? [1m]

_____

(b) What evidence was there in the passage to indicate that Nigel's expectation was unrealistic? Refer to information from an earlier part of the text. [1m]

_____

73 Based on lines 4-18, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [2m]

	True/False	Reason
(a) Nigel wished his mother could pick him up at the school gate.		
(b) Nigel was excited when his grandmother said that she was holding a celebration for him.		

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74 Based on lines 19-21, how can we tell that it was not easy for Nigel's mother to save up money? [2m]

_____

_____

75 From lines 22-28, pick out one word and one phrase that tell us Nigel's mother was good at cooking. [2m]

(a) a word: [ ]

(b) a four-word phrase: [ ]

76 From lines 29-36, pick out a four-word phrase which tells us that Nigel put in effort to bond with his mother. [1m]

[ ]

77 Fill in the table below to explain how Nigel's feelings had changed. [2m]

	When Nigel was seven years old	When Nigel's mother opened her stall
How Nigel felt about his mother	Resentful	(a)
Why Nigel felt this way	(b)	He saw his mother cooking with great skill.

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78 Look at 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]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer to
(a) her dream (line 19)	
(b) one such occasion (line 30)	
(c) predicament (line 33)	

79 In what ways did Nigel's mother show kindness to the elderly man? [2m]

(a) _____

_____.

(b) _____

_____.

80 What were the "surprises" mentioned in line 39? [2m]

(a) _____

_____.

(b) _____

_____.

END OF PAPER

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HENRY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL SA2 PAPER

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). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (10 marks)

1. "I'm not fond of animals, _____ I don't keep pets," said Michael.

   (1) so
   (2) for
   (3) but
   (4) though

   ( )

2. "She won't be angry if we're a little late, _____?" asked Kim Kiat.

   (1) is she
   (2) can she
   (3) will she
   (4) would she

   ( )

3. If this dress does not fit, you must return it to the store _____ seven days to get a refund.

   (1) within
   (2) inside
   (3) outside
   (4) without

   ( )

4. Kavitha helped her brother _____ the furniture into his new apartment.

   (1) move
   (2) moves
   (3) moved
   (4) moving

   ( )

5. The battle is of great historical significance, but _____ know of Private Lim's involvement in securing victory over the enemies.

   (1) few
   (2) little
   (3) some
   (4) many

   ( )

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6. By the time Johnny arrived at the party, Wendy _____ her favourite song and left.

(1) sang
(2) sings
(3) is singing
(4) had sung ( )

7. The police officer, along with his K-9 unit, _____ patrolling the streets tonight.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were ( )

8. "_____ for the track and field competition for the past year?" asked one of the athletes.

(1) Did you train
(2) Are you training
(3) Have you trained
(4) Have you been training ( )

9. Mr. Zainal and his daughter like to wash the car _____ rather than take it to the car wash.

(1) himself
(2) herself
(3) ourselves
(4) themselves ( )

10. _____ of the suspects was interrogated separately by the police detective.

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

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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). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

11. The new dress code policy in school, which banned certain types of clothing, was considered _____ with some feeling it was unfair and others feeling it was necessary.

(1) trivial
(2) satisfactory
(3) insignificant
(4) controversial ( )

12. Mr Tan, a retired man in his seventies, has been _____ leaving his home of forty years to live with his married son and grandchildren.

(1) reflecting
(2) meditating
(3) speculating
(4) contemplating ( )

13. Since the chairman of the company was ill, the meeting was _____ that day. The meeting will be rescheduled when he is well.

(1) called for
(2) called off
(3) called up
(4) called out ( )

14. Medicine should be kept where it is _____ to children to prevent accidental poisoning.

(1) invisible
(2) inaccessible
(3) inconvenient
(4) inappropriate ( )

15. "It will take all your _____ and will power to be able to walk again after the accident," said the doctor to his patient.

(1) creativity
(2) happiness
(3) intelligence
(4) determination ( )

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

(5 marks)

Albert Einstein is considered one of the most intelligent people in history. However, as a child, he struggled in some subjects in school but performed well (16) in Mathematics and Science. Despite playing truant and cramming for examinations, he still managed to succeed in school. Einstein found traditional schooling to be dull (17) and unstimulating. However, he was impressed by people's drive (18) to learn despite these factors.

When he entered his teenaged years, he demonstrated skepticism towards authority figures and questioned established mathematical and scientific principles. He then went on to write his first scientific paper at 16. At 26, he earned (19) his advanced academic degree and published four ground-breaking articles in Physics that challenged what man understood about the concepts of time and gravity.

This ultimately (20) led to his own ground-breaking discoveries. These discoveries would establish him as one of the most famous scientists in history.

Adapted from https://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/einstein/life-and-times/the-early-years

16. (1) excelled
(2) achieved
(3) succeeded
(4) accomplished ( )

17. (1) bland
(2) boring
(3) recurring
(4) repetitive ( )

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18. (1) trigger
(2) incentive
(3) motivation
(4) encouragement ( )

19. (1) attained
(2) acquitted
(3) accepted
(4) accumulated ( )

20. (1) instantly
(2) generally
(3) belatedly
(4) eventually ( )

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Study this article from Great Inventions Magazine and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Young Innovators Programme

by Siti Alshah *20 January 2023*

The Young Innovators Programme aims to promote innovative spirit in Singapore's younger generation between 6 and 12 years old. It is aimed at imparting innovation and business skills to students and providing fresh perspectives. You can register for this 4-session programme at the price of $400. Visit www.sginnovation.com.sg/younginnovators to sign up now.

Receive a 20% discount if you are a follower of Great Inventions Magazine Instagram page.

Organiser: Great Inventions Magazine

Sponsor: SG Innovation

Made-in-Singapore Innovations

Do you already have an invention in mind? You will have the opportunity to make this invention come true! Share with Great Invention Magazine your innovative idea and the inspiration behind it. Email it to brightideas@GImagazine.com.sg You may also include a picture of your idea. Open to Singaporeans, aged 6 – 12 years.

The top 5 recipients with the most innovative ideas will be able to attend the Young Innovators Programme conducted by Dr. Aaron Ng for free. Dr. Ng is the founder of SG Innovation who has guided and funded more than 30 small companies to start their business.

The programme will guide and sponsor winners to create 30 pieces of merchandise based on their innovative idea.

All entries sent in will be published in the next issue of Great Invention Magazine.

4 traits to becoming an innovative person

#1 Be curious

Be curious about looking into people's needs and motivation. Don't be afraid to ask questions. The more you question, the more your imagination is stimulated to consider other possibilities. Try to see things from different perspectives.

#2 Be open to changes

Welcome - different ideas and solutions. Don't be too quick to fix on one solution. Take time to explore the different ideas before deciding on a single option.

#3 Keep a book of ideas

Develop the habit of jotting down inspiring ideas or interesting concepts you come across, and even doodling them. This way, you can refer to them later and use them to generate solutions to problems.

#4 Embrace failure

Stay positive despite failure. Be receptive to negative feedback which can help improve your idea, and if it's unsuccessful, explore other options.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Top 10 most innovative nations

Although Singapore is one of the tiniest countries in the world, its economy is among the most innovative. Out of 132 countries, Singapore is now ranked the 7th most innovative nation in the world based on the latest Global Innovation Index (GII) 2022.

Rank	2022	2021
1	Switzerland	Switzerland
2	United States ▲1	Sweden
3	Sweden ▼1	United States
4	Britain	Britain
5	The Netherlands ▲1	South Korea
6	South Korea ▼1	The Netherlands
7	Singapore ▲1	Finland
8	Germany ▲2	Singapore
9	Finland ▼2	Denmark
10	Denmark ▼1	Germany



▲ indicates an increase while ▼ indicates a decrease.

Let's read about some innovations from Singapore.

Roti maker

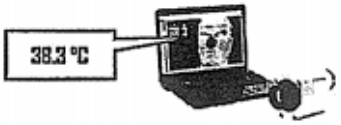
Roti is a traditional Indian flatbread enjoyed by many Singaporeans. Now, you can conveniently 'print' roti without the hard work of mixing and kneading the dough. All you have to do is to put the ingredients – flour, oil, water –into the machine and "Rotimatic" does the rest.



In 90 seconds, you will get a hot and fresh roti!

Infrared Fever Screening System

Fever is one of the most common symptoms of the SARs disease. With infectious disease like SARS, it is necessary to quickly identify individuals who are potentially disease carriers. The infrared fever screening system can detect heat emissions from the body and colour code it to identify those with a fever. It helped to effectively manage the pandemic outbreak in 2003.





Did you know?
The floppy disk has been replaced by the invention of the thumb drive.

Thumb drive



Invented in the year 2000, a thumb drive is a compact data storage that requires no cables and adapters and it can store more data than a floppy disk. It does not require a battery and, instead, is powered by the connection through the computer.

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

21 To get a guaranteed spot at the Young Innovators Programme, Amelia needs to _____.

(1) email her innovative idea to Dr. Aaron Ng
(2) follow the Instagram page of Great Inventions Magazine
(3) create 30 samples of her innovative idea for Dr. Aaron Ng
(4) sign up for the programme through SG Innovation's website

( )

22 What is an advantage of sending in your innovative ideas to Great Invention Magazine?

(1) All ideas will be transformed into an actual product.
(2) All ideas will be published in the next issue of the magazine.
(3) All submissions entitle you to attend the Young Innovators Programme for free.
(4) All submissions entitle you to meet the founder of SG innovation, Dr. Aaron Ng.

( )

23 Ahmad would like to develop his innovation skills. According to the article, he should _____.

(1) be observant to understand people's behaviour
(2) work on the first solution that comes to his mind
(3) stay positive and ignore negative feedback given
(4) challenge himself to answer everyone's questions

( )

24 Based on the table "Top 10 most innovative nations", which of the following statements is **not** true?

(1) Britain maintained its position in 2022.
(2) Switzerland tops the chart in both 2021 and 2022.
(3) Only Denmark and Sweden dropped one position in 2022 compared to 2021.
(4) Singapore and United States moved up one position in 2022 compared to 2021.

( )

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25 The three products introduced in the article are invented to meet the needs of our daily lives. Based on the article, which of the following statement is true?

(1) The roti maker machine is popular worldwide.
(2) The floppy disk is unable to store as much data as a thumb drive.
(3) The infrared fever screening system can identify someone with the SARs disease.
(4) The roti maker helps to knead the dough after you mix the ingredients manually.

( )

26 Why are dashes (–) used in the sentence "All you have to do is to put the ingredients – flour, oil, water – into the machine and "Rotimatic" does the rest." under the section "Roti maker"?

(1) to list information on the ingredients needed
(2) to simplify information on how the machine can be used
(3) to provide information about the convenience of the machine
(4) to indicate information about the ingredients needed in a specific order

( )

27 The thumb drive is a useful innovation for the following possible reasons **except** _____.

(1) to store data
(2) to be small in size
(3) to be connected with cables
(4) to derive power from the computer

( )

28 What is the **main** purpose of this article?

(1) to teach readers the history of innovation
(2) to promote the Young Innovators Programme
(3) to teach readers how to turn their ideas into products
(4) to encourage readers to contribute their ideas to the magazine

( )

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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)

(A) a	(D) because	(G) from	(K) is	(N) under
(B) an	(E) by	(H) however	(L) of	(P) was
(C) and	(F) even	(J) in	(M) ourselves	(Q) yourself

Apologising for mistakes though difficult is necessary for personal growth and improved relationships. It is unavoidable to have gotten on the nerves of one another occasionally when interacting with others. When you are _____ (29) a lot of stress, you might say something unkind or even lash out in anger to someone you care about. All of us make thoughtless mistakes _____ (30) time to time, like forgetting a promise or saying something disrespectful. It _____ (31) important to apologise when you have hurt or angered someone _____ (32) if you do not think what you have said or done is rude.

Apologising is hard _____ (33) we do not want to feel bad about ourselves. We try to have a positive image of _____ (34) which can make sincerely apologising quite hard. _____ (35), not being able to own up to our mistakes or make a sincere apology to someone when we need to can also prevent us from growing and learning from our experiences.

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For _____ (36) apology to be effective, it has to be genuine. You want to convey that you truly feel sorry and care about the person who was hurt and promise to make amends _____ (37) taking steps to avoid similar mistakes going forward. It takes a lot of courage to admit that you have made a mistake _____ (38) to apologise for it. It will be scary at first, but in the long run, it can really improve your relationships with the people around you.

Score:

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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)

A heatwave is currently sweeping across large areas of Asia. According

(39) _____

with local media, at least ten people had died in India. The extreme heat is

(40) _____

affecting agriculture adverse as farmers report a decline in their harvests.

(41) _____

Scientists have warned that this heatwave will persisting. Professor

(42) _____

Emeritus added, "Global warming is experditing extreme weather conditions,

(43) _____

which may be threatening for those without adekuate access to shelters." He warned that soaring temperatures were the result of climate change and the

(44) _____

impact on vulnerable population would be disasterous.

Many low-lying countries, such as Singapore and Bangladesh, have

(45) _____

reported eratik rainfalls. In particular, Bangladesh had been dramatically

(46) _____

impacted by floods whom saw a high number of deaths. Rescue work has been

(47) _____

hempered by heavy rains and a lack of manpower. Many had chosen to remain

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(48) _____ (49) _____

indoors as a prekausion. Sumu Hamid commented, "I do not recall seeing these kind of weather here when I was a young boy." Indeed, as many countries (50) _____ continue to grapple onto the challenges brought by extreme weather conditions, they can only hope that the weather pattern regains some form of stability again. The nation's weather authority will continue to monitor the weather closely.

Adapted from: https://www.channelnewsasia.com/asia/hot-weather-swathes-asia-south-asia-south-east-asia-sweat-heatwave-3429371

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

"Something tells me it's all happening at the zoo" is the opening line of the 1960s pop song "At the Zoo." In fact, a great deal is happening in the zoo world these days. Zoos and aquariums around the world _____ (51) over 700 million visitors a year. More than 6,000 animal species live in zoos including 1,000 endangered species.

Zoos today no longer just display animals. They focus on educating the public about Earth's remarkable biodiversity. At the _____ (52) time, they also entertain and excite visitors with shows and performances.

Why, then, _____ (53) so many zoos being urged to change quickly? Zoos are not new creations. Menageries, which are collections of wild animals maintained to entertain the rich and royalty, have been around _____ (54) thousands of years. There are ancient carvings and artwork from Egypt and Mesopotamia dating back to 2500 BCE that show animals _____ (55) in cages and pits.

_____ (56) their long history, some critics are saying that zoos are simply bad for wild creatures. The animal advocacy group, PETA, has _____ (57) that zoos are cruel places that teach people it is acceptable to

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take animals from their homes and deprive them of any _____ (58) over their lives.

However, famed animal activist Jane Goodall insists that based on scientific research, if designed well, zoos _____ (59) undoubtedly help preserve the lives of wild animals by educating the public. She maintains that the best place for animals is not the zoos but in _____ (60) natural habitats. Zoos are now changing their physical layouts. They are replacing traditional zoo-designs such as cages and animal houses with larger and more naturalistic habitats _____ (61) animals can roam freely. Instead of forcing wildlife _____ (62) the human environment, they are inviting humans into the creatures' world.

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Another change is the Species Survival Programme, which brings together endangered animals from different zoos, offering them the _____ (63) to breed. The zoo in Phoenix, Arizona, undertook such a dramatic rescue. Scientists there _____ (64) up a breeding programme for the Arabian Oryyx, a type of antelope that had gone extinct in the wild. It was a roaring _____ (65)! Now, more than 1,000 Oryxes have been successfully returned to the wild. Today's zoos, with their eyes on the future, are working hard to honour and respect Earth's magnificent wildlife.

Adapted from Readworks 2020

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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 We were caught in a traffic jam. We did not arrive for our lessons punctually.

_____ so

_____

67 James asked Molly, "Did you attend the concert by the world renown pianist yesterday?"

James asked Molly _____

_____.

68 The children organised the surprise party for Mrs Lim.

The surprise party _____

_____.

69 Jolene prefers to stay at home. She does not want to attend the party.

Jolene would rather _____

_____.

70 We were impressed as Betty was generous.

Betty's _____

_____.

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Read this passage and answer questions 71 to 80.

I prepared to go to school for the first time, an event that I had been eagerly anticipating, together with my older sibling, John. Once I was finally at school; however, I found that my teacher, Miss Rhode, was a strict disciplinarian. Miss Rhode began the day by reading us a story about cats. By the time Mrs Cat called the local bakery for an order of chocolate coated mice, the class was **fidgeting like a bucketful of wriggling worms**. Miss Rhode seemed unaware that her class, most of whom had never left the farms on which they were born, were completely uninterested. They were immune to imaginative literature.

Then she chose me to read the alphabet that she had written on the blackboard. "Jane, I want you to read me these letters I have written on the board," Miss Rhode's raspy voice echoed in the classroom. Her demeanour in the school was enough to frighten even her fellow colleagues. No one dared to approach her even if their lives depended on it.

As I read the alphabet, a faint line appeared between her eyebrows; and after making me read most of our English textbook and several newspaper articles from *The Daily Mail* (the name of our local newspaper) aloud, she discovered that I was literate and looked at me with more than a faint distaste.

"Young lady, you can go home and tell your grandfather not to teach you anymore. You may be able to read but I want all my students to follow my way of reading!" she instructed. I mumbled that I was sorry and retreated, meditating upon my crime. She had gone on a verbal rampage and it was evident her **tirade** was meant to make me feel guilty.

At lunch time, Miss Rhode asked everybody who would be going home for lunch to raise their hands. The town children did so and she looked us over. The children from the rural countryside could not afford the time to go home to eat. Then she asked everyone who brought lunch to school to put it on their desk. Everyone did, except Tom Carson.

"Did you forget your lunch this morning?" asked Miss Rhode.

Tom looked straight ahead. I saw a muscle jump in his skinny jaw.

Miss Rhode went to her desk and opened her purse. "Here's a dollar for your lunch. You can pay me back tomorrow."

Tom shook his head. "No, thank you Ma'am," he murmured softly, but firmly, his head held high. He knew that her intention was to embarrass him in front of the class. Impatience crept into Miss Rhode's voice as she repeated her offer twice more.

Tom Carson did not forget his lunch – his family simply could not afford it. He had none today nor would he have any tomorrow or the next day.

Tom's family was large and poor—so poor that they paid the local lawyer with whatever they managed to harvest from their farms when they needed legal help and Tom would never be able to pay the teacher back or bring lunch to school. I attempted

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to explain these circumstances but Miss Rhode pretended not to understand and grew so frustrated that she slapped my hand with a ruler.

Tom continued to refuse Miss Rhode's 'so-called' kind gesture. He knew she was shaming him in front of everyone. Just then, the shrill sound of the bell rang. Saved by it, the class filed out for lunch.

"Come home to lunch with us, Tom," John grinned at him. Tom's face brightened and his eyes lit up. John tried to camouflage his invitation in the guise of a play date so as not to make Tom aware of his social circumstance. John always did have a heart of gold.

At home, Tom piled food on his plate and asked for some syrup. He poured syrup on his vegetables and meat and would probably have poured it into his milk glass as well had I not told him that syrup did not go with vegetables, meat and milk. He quickly put his hands on his lap and ducked his head.

My mother heard what I had said and requested my presence in the kitchen. She was furious.

"Jane, anyone who sets foot in this house is a guest! Don't you let me catch you remarking on their ways like you are so high and mighty!"

When I returned to school, I spent the rest of the day sulking away.

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71. According to paragraph one, where did most of Miss Rhode's students live? (1m)

_____.

72. 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)

Words from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
us (line 4)	
tirade (line 21)	
it (line 35)	

73. Explain clearly why Miss Rhode's class was "fidgeting like a bucketful of wriggling worms" in lines 5 to 6. (2m)

_____

_____

74. Which four-word phrase in paragraph four tells us that the writer was wondering what she had done wrong after she had read the alphabet? (1m)

75. Was Miss Rhode happy that Jane was able to read? Give a reason why you think so. (2m)

_____

_____.

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76. Give two reasons why Tom did not take the money that Miss Rhode had offered him. (2m)

(a)
(b)

77. Based on lines 28 to 52, fill in the table below. (2m)

Action(s) that showed Tom was embarrassed	Reason(s) for Tom's embarrassment
Tom looked straight ahead. I saw a muscle jump in his skinny jaw.	
	The writer told Tom that syrup did not go with vegetables, milk and meat.

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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. (3m)

	True/False	Reason
Miss Rhode's colleagues did not dare approach her for help.		
Tom's family paid the lawyer's fees with money.		
Tom was delighted to go to Jane and John's house for lunch.		

79. State <u>one</u> quality that best describes John. Support your answer with information from the passage. (2m)

Quality	Information from the passage

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80. (a) Which of the following words best describe Jane's mother? Put a tick (√) in the box beside your answers. Tick only **ONE** box. (1m)

arrogant	☐	pitiful	☐
empathetic	☐	unreasonable	☐

(b) Support your answer with evidence from the passage. (1m)

_____

_____.

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CHIJ ST NICHOLAS GIRL'S SCHOOL (PRIMARY) SA2 PAPER

Part 1: Situational Writing (15 Marks)

The pictures below show three pupils at the school canteen during recess. Study the pictures carefully.





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Your Task

Imagine you are Lily, the girl in the picture.

Write an email to your teacher, Mr Harif, to share with him about the suggestion Raj, Siti and you have agreed upon.

You are to refer to the pictures and information on page 2 for your email.

In your email, include the following key information:

- the problem Raj, Siti and you observed
- how the buddy system can be arranged
- what the Primary 6 pupils can help in
- Raj's ideas to encourage canteen cleanliness

You may reorder the points. Remember to write in complete sentences.

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Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

Write a composition of at least 150 words about **a foolish act**.

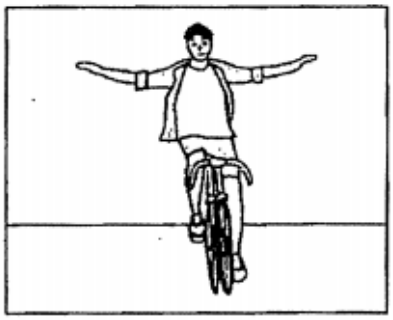
The pictures are provided to help you think about this topic.

Your composition should be based on one or more of these pictures.

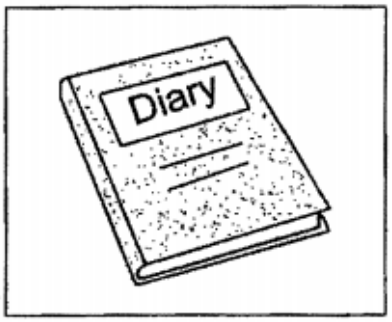
Consider the following points when you plan your composition:

- What was the foolish act?
- Why was/ were the person(s) foolish?

You may use the points in any order and include other relevant points as well.







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For each question from 1 to 10, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.
(10 marks)

1 The red dress with white stripes _____ bought during a sale last weekend.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

2 Hiccups usually go away by themselves _____ taking sips of water may shorten the duration.

(1) as
(2) since
(3) unless
(4) although

3 Johnny was able to catch the last train home, _____ to his relief.

(1) less
(2) little
(3) most
(4) much

4 All the tickets to the concert were sold out _____ minutes of the ticket sales opening.

(1) from
(2) within
(3) around
(4) between

5 "Siti is a very sweet girl. She's never been upset with anyone before, _____?" remarked Nara.

(1) is she
(2) has she
(3) isn't she
(4) hasn't she

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6 "The food is ready! Can someone _____ the table for me?" Grandma Choo called out from the kitchen.

(1) lie
(2) lay
(3) laid
(4) lain

7 All the furniture, including tables and chairs, _____ to be shifted to the empty room before the concert starts.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

8 The community club is organising a talk _____ response to the recent rise in high-rise littering.

(1) in
(2) at
(3) on
(4) for

9 The safari guide stopped in his tracks when he spotted a deer _____ behind the tall grass.

(1) rests
(2) rested
(3) resting
(4) has rested

10 "Rarely _____ such a heavy downpour in our town!" exclaimed Melody as she ran for shelter.

(1) we experience
(2) we experienced
(3) do we experience
(4) did we experience

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11 When I walked past the waste bin, I had to pinch my nose as it was giving off a terrible _____.

(1) scent
(2) aroma
(3) breath
(4) stench

12 Timothy's presence will be _____ missed by his best friend when he goes abroad to study.

(1) barely
(2) sorely
(3) sincerely
(4) gradually

13 The motivational speaker has left a _____ impression on me. I will never forget her.

(1) fixed
(2) lasting
(3) weighty
(4) continuing

14 The poor victims were unable to _____ the scammer's evil scheme and lost all their money as a result.

(1) see to
(2) see off
(3) see into
(4) see through

15 After the tiring hike, the famished camper _____ off three plates of chicken rice within minutes.

(1) grazed
(2) nibbled
(3) brushed
(4) polished

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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)

As a preteen, I was never the helpful child at home. I found myself <u>not starting promptly on</u> (16) tasks at home, even with <u>the simplest</u> (17) task. I needed to be asked or told to do things – things I could <u>plainly</u> (18) see needed doing. This clearly upset my parents. For a long time, I was not bothered by my <u>indifferent</u> (19) attitude but I did feel a prick of guilt.

Something happened one day when I returned home from supermarket with Mum. Instead of running back into my room, I helped her bring all the groceries out from the car. <u>Taken aback</u> (20) by my change, Mum smiled brightly and thanked me. The guilt I struggled with for so long vanished there and then; it was replaced by a warm glow.

Adapted from 'Doing the Right Thing: Just Do It' by Wendy Hobday Haugh

16 (1) putting away
(2) putting off
(3) putting on
(4) putting in

17 (1) the most straightforward
(2) the most extraordinary
(3) the most monotonous
(4) the most boring

18 (1) obliviously
(2) clearly
(3) purely
(4) only

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19 (1) nonchalant
(2) impulsive
(3) reckless
(4) insolent

20 (1) encouraged
(2) surprised
(3) triggered
(4) satisfied

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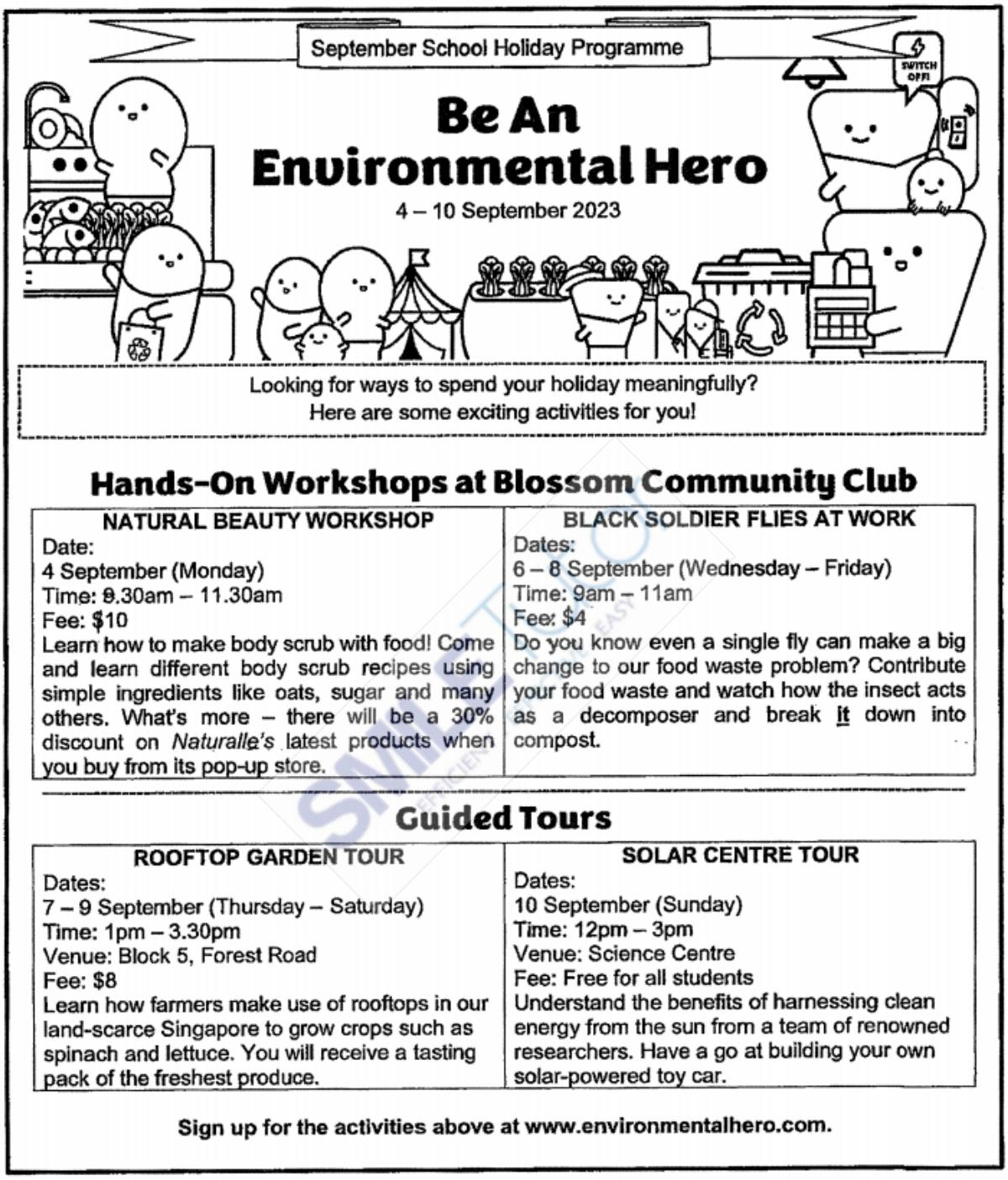
Study this poster and then answer questions 21 to 28.



September School Holiday Programme

Be An Environmental Hero

4 – 10 September 2023

Looking for ways to spend your holiday meaningfully?
Here are some exciting activities for you!

Hands-On Workshops at Blossom Community Club

NATURAL BEAUTY WORKSHOP	BLACK SOLDIER FLIES AT WORK
Date: 4 September (Monday) Time: 9.30am – 11.30am Fee: $10 Learn how to make body scrub with food! Come and learn different body scrub recipes using simple ingredients like oats, sugar and many others. What's more – there will be a 30% discount on *Naturalle's* latest products when you buy from its pop-up store.	Dates: 6 – 8 September (Wednesday – Friday) Time: 9am – 11am Fee: $4 Do you know even a single fly can make a big change to our food waste problem? Contribute your food waste and watch how the insect acts as a decomposer and break it down into compost.

Guided Tours

ROOFTOP GARDEN TOUR	SOLAR CENTRE TOUR
Dates: 7 – 9 September (Thursday – Saturday) Time: 1pm – 3.30pm Venue: Block 5, Forest Road Fee: $8 Learn how farmers make use of rooftops in our land-scarce Singapore to grow crops such as spinach and lettuce. You will receive a tasting pack of the freshest produce.	Dates: 10 September (Sunday) Time: 12pm – 3pm Venue: Science Centre Fee: Free for all students Understand the benefits of harnessing clean energy from the sun from a team of renowned researchers. Have a go at building your own solar-powered toy car.

Sign up for the activities above at www.environmentalhero.com.

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READY TO GO THE EXTRA MILE?

Every effort counts! Join us in any of the activities listed to do more for our environment.

How to challenge yourself:

1. Download the "Let's Do It" app onto your mobile phone to take part in the challenge.



2. Earn points by uploading photographs of your green actions like bringing your own shopping bag, donating to the food bank, etc.

3. Use these points to redeem a limited-edition reusable tote bag.



How to volunteer:

Volunteer with Westfield Primary School in Project Food Aid. The school started this environmental project three years ago. In this programme, the student volunteers will take time out during their school holidays to collect, pack and redistribute excess food to needy families and other beneficiaries. Hear what some student volunteers have to say.

"Through volunteering, I learnt more about the value of food and I only buy what I can finish eating." – Rina (Primary 2)

"I'm glad to do my part to reduce food wastage." – Mingli (Primary 6)

"It's a meaningful activity to contribute back to the society." – Terry (Secondary 4)



To volunteer, call Westfield Primary School at 6321 4567 or send an email to i_can_volunteer@foodaid.com.

Organisers

Kids' Green Movement

Blossom Community Club

Sponsors

SG Farmers

The Compost Company

Content is adapted from various sources and graphics adapted from GoGreen

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

21 This poster is targeted at _____.

(1) school students
(2) farm tour guides
(3) student volunteers
(4) families who need help

22 What does the word "it" on page 8 refer to?

(1) decomposer
(2) food waste
(3) compost
(4) insect

23 Which statement is **not true** about the hands-on activities?

(1) Participants need to pay a fee to attend either of the hands-on activities.
(2) Participants will attend the hands-on activities on the weekday mornings.
(3) Participants of Natural Beauty Workshop can enjoy a discount on all *Naturalle* products at the pop-up store.
(4) Participants of Black Soldier Flies At Work will get to see how the bugs turn food scraps into useful fertilisers.

24 Samuel can only make it for the "Be an Environmental Hero" event on one day. Which two activities would you recommend him?

(1) Natural Beauty Workshop and Solar Centre Tour
(2) Natural Beauty Workshop and Rooftop Garden Tour
(3) Black Soldier Flies At Work and Rooftop Garden Tour
(4) Black Soldier Flies At Work and Natural Beauty Workshop

25 Why is the colon (:) used in "How to challenge yourself:"?

(1) to give examples of the challenge
(2) to provide more information on the green actions
(3) to indicate the information about the challenge in a sequence
(4) to emphasise the importance of information about the challenge

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26 Which of the following is **not** the reason for sharing the views of Westfield Primary School students?

(1) to give students who volunteered a chance to share
(2) to provide the readers with a volunteering experience
(3) to show the readers the positive impact on the volunteers
(4) to attract readers to volunteer with Westfield Primary School

27 Who are the sponsors of the "Be an Environmental Hero"?

(1) SG Farmers and Kids' Green Movement
(2) The Compost Company and SG Farmers
(3) Kids' Green Movement and Westfield Primary School
(4) Blossom Community Club and The Compost Company

28 What is the **main** purpose of the poster?

(1) to encourage readers to participate in the environmental event
(2) to raise awareness of the importance of caring for the environment
(3) to attract readers to attend the guided tours and learn more about the environment
(4) to encourage readers to reduce food waste and donate excess food to the food bank

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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) along	(D) even	(G) of	(K) than	(N) where
(B) although	(E) go	(H) over	(L) through	(P) while
(C) down	(F) goes	(J) such	(M) to	(Q) with

Have you wondered what happens when you flush the toilet? Each time you flush, waste, toilet paper, and water _____ (29) through a pipe called a sewer. This sewer pipe collects and removes other waste, _____ (30) as soapy water from baths and leftover water from dish washing.

Combined waste from your house, known as sewage, joins that _____ (31) other homes, flowing into larger sewer pipes, some bigger _____ (32) a bus. These large sewer pipes transport all the sewage to treatment plants _____ (33) harmful substances are removed from the waste water.

Sewage contains many germs. People become very sick if they come into contact _____ (34) the germs. The treatment process also eliminates items flushed _____ (35) the toilet, like toys, jewellery and _____ (36) money. Moist towels or baby wipes can cause significant problems for the sewerage system, and experts caution they should never be flushed _____ (37) they are labelled as 'flushable'.

Treatment plants clean the sewage _____ (38) several days, removing harmful components and using chemicals to kill germs. The treated water is then released into local rivers or the ocean.

Adapted from various sources

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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)

(39) [ ]

I stood in the long line, queueing for my turn. Without warning, an arguemant broke out

(40) [ ]

between two people ahead of me. It was the least ideal situation, especially when my stahmack

(41) [ ] (42) [ ]

was grumbling with hunger. I casting a glance at the commotion, pondering wether to intervene or not. In the end, I decided against it.

(43) [ ] (44) [ ]

In the corner of my eye, I noticed a figure looking in the same direction. A sercureety guard

(45) [ ] (46) [ ]

was observing the situation disapproval. I shook my head and could not help while think about

(47) [ ]

how easily a small disagreement could esskalate into a full-blown rant if not handled properly.

As the line gradually moved forward, I realised that queueing is more than just a mundane

(48) [ ]

task. It teaches us payshionce, respect for others, and how to control our emotions. It is a test of

(49) [ ]

character in a society where efficiency and fairness went hand in hand.

(50) [ ]

With each step closest to the counter, I reminded myself to stay calm and be more understanding. After all, the minutes spent waiting would soon be forgotten whereas the lessons learnt from queueing would last a lifetime.

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

Motion sickness can cause dizziness, nausea and vomiting. It occurs when what your eyes see is different _____ (51) what your inner ear feels. You can get motion sickness in a car, on a train, an aeroplane _____ (52) a boat. Motion sickness can make travelling unpleasant but there are _____ (53) to manage it.

The best way to tackle motion sickness is to prevent it from happening. As such, try to _____ (54) situations that cause motion sickness.

If you are travelling in a car as a passenger, take the front seat whenever _____ (55). You may find that doing _____ (56) can prevent nausea. If you are seated at the back, consider exchanging seats with the _____ (57) passenger before your nausea gets worse. Hopefully, you will be able _____ (58) have a more comfortable ride for the rest of your journey.

If you have a driver's _____ (59), consider taking the wheel of the vehicle. A driver of a car is less _____ (60) to motion sickness because you control the car and can predict its motion. Putting yourself behind the wheel will keep the queasiness _____ (61) bay.

When travelling on an aeroplane or a boat, some people suffering from motion sickness may find that lying _____ (62) makes them feel better. Others may find it more effective to stand up _____ (63). Your options will depend on your modes of _____ (64), so you may need to experiment to find out which one works best for you.

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When natural _____ (65) do not work, you may want to talk with a doctor about your symptoms. They may be able to recommend additional therapies or prescribe medication to help alleviate your symptoms.

Adapted from https://www.healthline.com

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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). (10 marks)

66 The gate was not locked but I did not know.

Little did _____

_____.

67 In the event of an emergency, a park ranger will assist you.

A park ranger will give you _____

_____.

68 The boy is my classmate. I met him at the theatre last night.

_____ whom _____

_____.

69 Hannah asked us who had shifted her books the previous day.

Hannah asked us, "_____

_____?"

70 The whole team will be disqualified if they are not present.

_____, failing which

_____.

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Refer to the passage below when you answer questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B.

In a garden atop a hill, three children were having a heated discussion. "It's not fair!" Mag threw her bike to the ground. "Why won't you let me have a go?"

Paul looked at his fuming sister and then at his best friend, Billy. The two boys had planned to build a bike ramp in order to train for an upcoming stunt bike competition. "You're too young for it," Paul said. Mag stomped off toward the backdoor of the lawn at the foot of the hill. The boys shrugged, agreeing there was nothing they could do for Mag.

Paul and Billy set out to build a bike ramp out of a wooden plank and an upturned metal bucket. One end of the plank rested on the ground while the other rested on the bucket. The hilly terrain made it a perfect place to practise flying off the ramp. To the boys' dismay, every time they tried to ride on the ramp, the plank toppled off.

Determined to secure the plank in place, Paul hurried off to look for something. He made his way to his father's shed and re-emerged soon after, carrying four house bricks left over from the building of the garden wall. Paul placed the **extra support** under the plank. He announced to **his mate**, "This should do **it**." He was sure that the ramp would now be stable enough to give them the lift they needed to launch their bikes into the air.

Paul gave Billy the thumbs up. Billy, who had been waiting at the highest point on the hill, raised himself off his seat. He was determined to successfully complete the stunt. Down the hill, he rode. Strong wind was blowing in his face as his helmet wobbled from side to side.

With both boys so engrossed in testing out the ramp, neither of them noticed that Mag was approaching the ramp with a plan of her own. She had been sulking behind a tree. Now, her rage had reached boiling point. "If they won't let me play, then they won't play either." She kicked at the plank, sending it off the bucket which started to spin.

Just at that moment, Billy's bike arrived where the plank should have been but he simply could not brake in time. With no ramp, his bike's pedal got caught in the handle of the spinning bucket. The bike swung violently off course, and now, Billy was heading directly toward the shed.

Paul's response came automatically, leaping like a frightened frog away from the path of the speeding bike, out of harm's way. Alas, Billy was too stunned to react and he hit the shed door with a loud bang.

"Mag! Seriously, why did you do that?" Paul dusted himself down. Jumping up, he turned to face his sister.

"Because you guys said I couldn't have a go...," she blubbered, trembling in fear. As tears ran in rivulets down her cheeks, she rambled over and over, "What have I done?" She was certainly regretting her rash act.

His anger fading away, Paul said gently, "You can't take part in the sport, but you can help us rebuild the ramp." Smiling weakly, Mag put her hand in her big brother's. They headed over to help Billy, who was a little shaken but otherwise unhurt.

Adapted from 'Billy Helps Mag' by Paul Minter

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Read the passage on page 12 of Booklet A and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

71 Why were Paul and Billy building a ramp? [1m]

_____

_____

72 Which **two-word phrase** shows Mag's exasperation in paragraph 2? [1m]

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

_____ Mag headed down the hill.

_____ The boys refused to allow Mag onto the ramp.

_____ Mag threw her bike to the ground.

74 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]

Word(s) from the passage	**What the word(s) refer(s) to**
a) extra support (line 13)	
b) his mate (line 14)	
c) it (line 14)	

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75 Based on the information from lines 16-27, fill in the blanks in the following table. [3m]

The action that triggered Billy's response	As a result, Billy...
a)	started racing towards the ramp
b)	did not realise that Mag had run back to the ramp
c) Billy's bicycle pedal got caught in the handle of the bucket.	...

76 "Mag! Seriously, why did you do that?" (line 31)

a) Circle **one** word that best describes the tone Paul would have used in line 31 when he questioned Mag. DO NOT CIRCLE MORE THAN ONE WORD. [1m]

eager / disbelieving / offensive / sarcastic

b) What was Paul referring to when he asked Mag why she did **'that'**? [1m]

_____

_____

77 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
a) The boys left Mag out from the stunt bike training as they did not like her.		
b) Billy was approaching the ramp at a fast speed.		
c) Paul instinctively avoided a disaster.		

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78 With close reference to lines 20 – 35, use **one word** to describe how Mag felt before and after witnessing Billy hit the shed door. [2m]

Before witnessing Billy hit the shed door, Mag felt _____

After witnessing Billy hit the shed door, Mag felt _____

79 Explain clearly why Mag said, "Because you guys said I couldn't have a go...,"(line 33). [2m]

_____

_____

80 Paul's view about including his sister in the preparation of the competition had changed.

a) Pick out a **four-word phrase** from lines 31 – 38 that suggests Paul realised he had a part to play in his sister s outburst. [1m]

b) How did Paul make amends? [1m]

_____

_____

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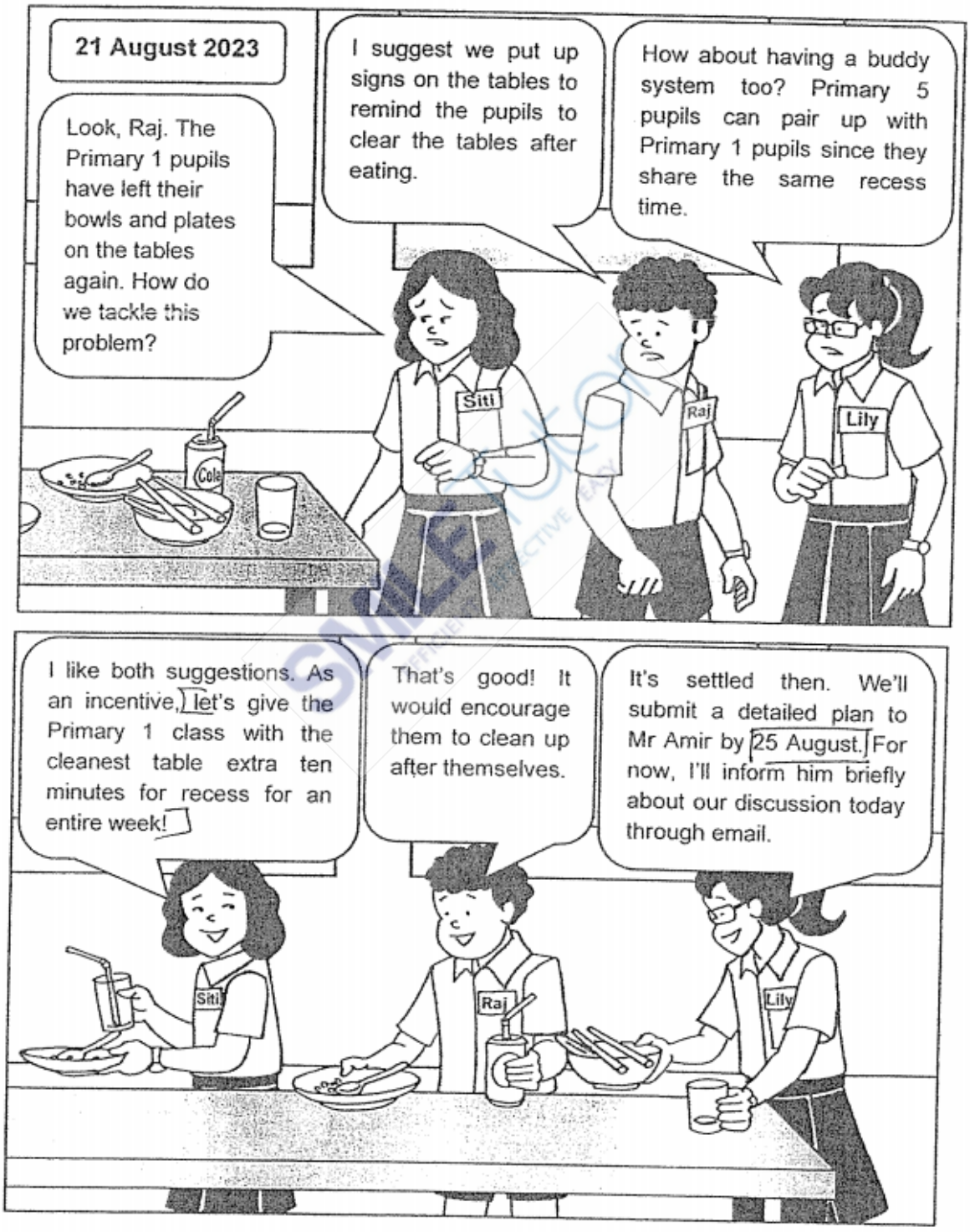
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL (PRIMARY) SA2 PAPER

Part 1: Situational Writing (15 marks)

1. The pictures below show three prefects at the school canteen.Study the pictures carefully.



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Your Task

Imagine you are Lily.

Write an email to your discipline master, Mr Amir, to inform him about what you observed at the canteen and the suggestions you and your fellow prefects have come up with to solve the matter.

You are to refer to the pictures and information on page 1 for your email.

In your email, include the following key information:

- who were present at the discussion
- what was observed at the canteen
- what two suggestions were given
- how else to motivate the pupils to keep the tables clean
- when you plan to submit the detailed plan to Mr Amir

You may reorder the points. Remember to write in complete sentences.

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Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

2. Write a composition of at least 150 words about **trying something new.**

The pictures are provided to help you think about this topic.

Your composition should be based on one or more of these pictures.

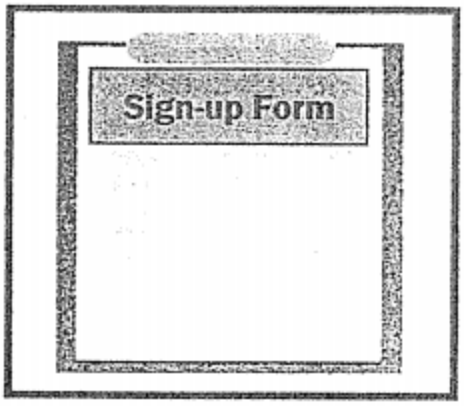
Consider the following points when you plan your composition:

- What was the new thing?
- What happened in the end?

You may use the points in any order and include other relevant points as well.







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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). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. **(10 marks)**

1. She called the police as soon as she saw the burglar _____ over the fence.

   (1) climb
   (2) climbs
   (3) climbed
   (4) had climbed

2. If Lisa _____ about the toy sale, she would have informed us about it.

   (1) know
   (2) knew
   (3) knows
   (4) had known

3. The collection of rare coins, as well as a few antique stamps, _____ currently on display at the exhibition.

   (1) is
   (2) are
   (3) was
   (4) were

4. _____ of the guests at the party was given a welcome pack.

   (1) All
   (2) Both
   (3) Each
   (4) Some

5. _____ from being an accomplished pianist, Azman is a skilled painter.

   (1) Apart
   (2) Despite
   (3) Besides
   (4) Although

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6. "She's been playing the guitar since she was young, _____?" asked Mrs Lee.

(1) isn't she
(2) hasn't she
(3) doesn't she
(4) haven't she

7. Neither Rahim nor his siblings _____ playing badminton with their father every Thursday.

(1) enjoy
(2) enjoys
(3) has enjoyed
(4) are enjoying

8. The determined hiker made a beeline _____ the summit, eager to conquer the world's highest peak.

(1) at
(2) for
(3) from
(4) along

9. By the time she called me last night, I _____ my dinner.

(1) finish
(2) finished
(3) has finished
(4) had finished

10. Louis is one of the many boys who _____ in the Mathematics Olympiad every year.

(1) participate
(2) participates
(3) was participating
(4) were participating

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11. The manager had to _____ a plan to boost the sales of the company's products.

(1) invent
(2) devise
(3) concoct
(4) fabricate

12. The pupils made an agreement to _____ their differences and work together to complete their project.

(1) put off
(2) put down
(3) put aside
(4) put away

13. Even after being caught cheating during the examination, William failed to _____ the seriousness of the situation.

(1) seize
(2) admit
(3) grasp
(4) grapple

14. The teacher _____ important information about the upcoming excursion to all her pupils.

(1) dispersed
(2) distributed
(3) dispatched
(4) disseminated

15. The government officials warned the residents of the city that an earthquake was _____ and could strike the area at any moment.

(1) eminent
(2) pertinent
(3) imminent
(4) prominent

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

It all started as a small influenza in China. We thought we were safe. We thought it was nothing serious – a small virus could not cause much trouble, could it? We made guesses **(16)** about its origin, laughing about it as we went, until it hit us. It came harder than anything we had faced. The virus claimed lives by the thousands. Our economy was smashed like a wrecking ball **(17)** leaving nothing but mass destruction in the wake of **(18)** the coronavirus. We thought it was all over.

In Singapore, the number of cases rose **(19)** to 60 000. It was 14 January 2020. That week, I went to work as usual despite not being in the pink of health. However, to my dismay **(20)**, my condition seemed to worsen with each passing hour. Heat pulsated through my body, almost knocking me down. Popping a mint, I boarded a taxi to the nearest clinic, hoping for the best.

Adapted from Inspire Magazine's 'A Survivor of COVID-19'

16. (1) mulled
(2) considered
(3) questioned
(4) speculated

17. (1) ruthlessly
(2) carelessly
(3) cautiously
(4) effortlessly

18. (1) in the midst of
(2) in the event of
(3) in the effects of
(4) in the aftermath of

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19. (1) climbed
(2) elevated
(3) expanded
(4) ascended

20. (1) horror
(2) frustration
(3) annoyance
(4) disappointment

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Study this article from a magazine, Youth Vibes, and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Outdoor Adventures: Good Safety Tips

by James Liew
22 September 2023





If you do not have any plans for the school holidays, you may want to consider embarking on an outdoor adventure. How about hiking with your friends? Or perhaps going on a camping trip with your family? Such activities offer you excellent opportunities to have fun and get close to nature at the same time, but always remember safety needs to be your number one priority. You may not have sufficient time to pick up all the basic survival skills. However, to ensure your safety, make sure you pack wisely before setting off.

Unexpected things can sometimes happen in the great outdoors. Since you can never anticipate exactly what might go wrong, carrying a survival kit in your pocket is of utmost importance. It can even be shared among family members or friends! Let's look at how we can find ways to utilise every tiny bit of space inside a small, lightweight and waterproof container and include as many useful everyday items as possible!

How to assemble a survival kit:



- Find a pocket-sized plastic or metal container.
- Cut out the rough strip at the side of a matchbox. Bundle the strip and a few matches together in plastic wrap to keep them dry.
- Snap a pencil in two, making sure one of the pieces can fit into your container. Sharpen both ends of that piece.
- Cut plastic straws into pieces that can fit into your container and tape up one end of each piece. After filling each handmade mini tube with small amounts of liquid, especially hand sanitiser and antiseptic cream, tape up the other end.
- Find some plasters of different sizes.
- Fold up a few large sheets of aluminium foil as small as you can.
- Place the above basic items inside your container first. Estimate how much space you have left, then think of other items that might come in handy and fit as many as possible into your survival kit!

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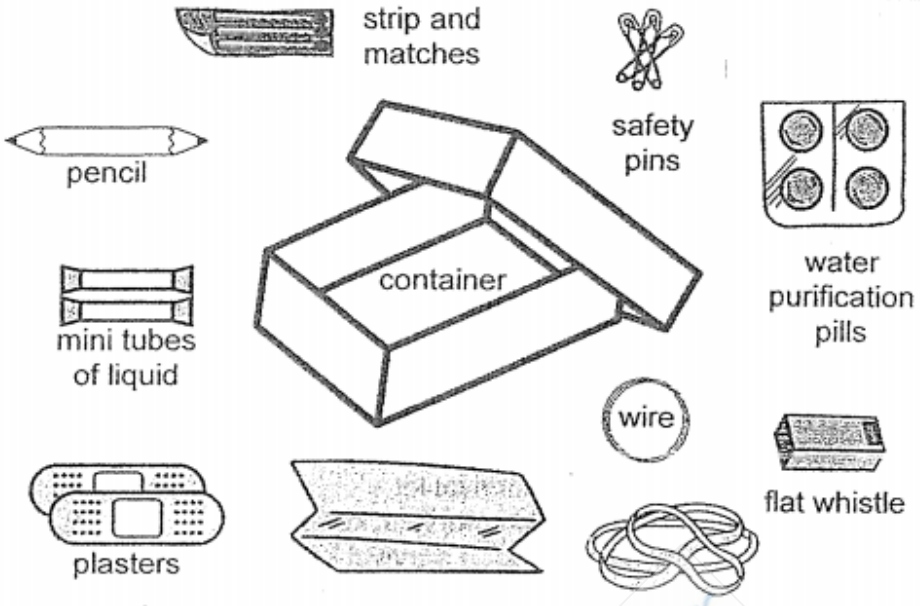

Check this out!

Camp Leap

Date: 4 to 7 December 2023
Venue: Sunny Forest Campsite
Fee: $120 per participant

Register in groups of 5 & enjoy 10 percent off!

For children aged between 12 & 16

Looking for an unforgettable outdoor adventure? Look no further than Camp Leap! Camp Leap is the ultimate destination for thrill seekers and nature lovers alike. Our exhilarating activities, including rock climbing and kayaking, will have your heart racing with excitement. Unleash the inner explorer in you as you hike through scenic trails, discovering hidden wonders along the way. At Camp Leap, we believe in the power of teamwork, fostering lifelong friendships and creating memories that will last a lifetime. With expert guides and top-notch safety measures, you can relax and fully immerse yourself in the joy of the great outdoors.

This outdoor adventure camp will cater for up to 100 participants this year – the largest number thus far! Visit www.teamleap.sg from now until 15 November 2023 to register and pay the fee online. For further enquiries, please email us at teamleap@gmail.com. Registration will close early when all places are filled, so leap into action to avoid disappointment! Remember to bring your survival kit along!

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

21. What should be the top priority when planning an outdoor adventure?

(1) having fun
(2) getting close to nature
(3) learning basic survival skills
(4) packing the necessary items

22. Why is the colon (:) used in "How to assemble a survival kit:"?

(1) to emphasise the importance of a survival kit
(2) to list the steps on how to assemble a survival kit
(3) to simplify facts and information about a survival kit
(4) to give more information about the survival kit in a specific order

23. Which of the following item is not one of the basic recommended items found in the survival kit?

(1) a sharpened pencil
(2) sheets of aluminium foil
(3) matchbox with matches
(4) plastic straws filled with liquid

24. Which of the following is true about the survival kit?

(1) It should not be shared among family and friends.
(2) It should not be filled to the brim with items.
(3) It should be able to fit in one's pocket.
(4) It should only include the basic items.

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25. What is the focus of Camp Leap's activities?

(1) encouraging solo exploration to discover hidden wonders
(2) providing thrilling experiences for children of all ages
(3) promoting teamwork and building friendships
(4) offering a serene environment for relaxation

26. In "This outdoor adventure camp will cater for up to 100 participants this year - the largest number thus far", the dash is used here to _____.

(1) present additional information
(2) highlight the total number of participants
(3) emphasise that the information is important
(4) indicate that the information is the main idea

27. Mrs Raja wants to register her child for Camp Leap. What must she do?

(1) register via the website
(2) register by 4 December 2023
(3) register by emailing teamleap@gmail.com
(4) register in person at Sunny Forest Campsite

28. What is the **main** purpose of the article?

(1) to attract readers to attend Camp Leap
(2) to encourage readers to go on outdoor adventures
(3) to recommend possible school holiday activities to the readers
(4) to remind readers on important safety tips for outdoor adventures

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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 in order to avoid confusion during marking. **(10 marks)**

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) across	(D) at	(G) behind	(K) in	(N) when
(B) among	(E) been	(H) being	(L) into	(P) which
(C) as	(F) before	(J) from	(M) upon	(Q) with

Travellers acquainted with Singapore will probably already know of our city's national icon - the mythical Merlion. There are seven authorised Merlion statues (29) _____ the island, the most well-known (30) _____ the one found at Merlion Park, a popular Singapore landmark.

Before you visit this tourist spot, you may want to learn more about the symbolism (31) _____ the Merlion, and how it intertwines (32) _____ our nation's history. According to legend, Sang Nila Utama, a prince, landed on our shores amidst a storm. He spotted a strange creature which he identified as a lion. He saw this (33) _____ a good omen and decided to name the island "Singapura", (34) _____means Lion City in Sanskrit.

Today, the Merlion continues to be a beloved symbol of Singapore. You can glimpse echoes of this legend, embodied (35) _____ the statue at Merlion Park. Spouting water (36) _____ its mouth, the Merlion statue stands (37) _____ 8.6 metres and weighs 70 tonnes. Originally located at the mouth of the Singapore River, it was built by Lim Nang Seng, designed by Kwan Sai Kheong, and unveiled on 15 September 1972 by then Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew.

(38) _____ completion of Esplanade Bridge in 1997, the statue could no longer be viewed clearly from the waterfront and was relocated to the Merlion Park. As you travel around Singapore, try to spot other statues of our city's national icon!

Adapted from https://www.visitsingapore.com/

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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)**

Being adventurous, Tom decided to explore the dense woods. After hiking for an

39. [ ]

hour, he stumbled upon a hiding cave. Excited by the prospect of discovering something

40. [ ]

new, Tom entered the cave. He maneuvered his way along the winding pathway. Little did

41. [ ] 42. [ ]

he knew of the danger that was awaiting him. As he vanchered deeper into the cave, he

soon found himself stuck in a narrow passageway. [ ]

Tom tried to wriggle his way free, but the rocks around him were too tight packed.

44. [ ]

With heartbeat racing and panicked rising within him, he started screaming for help.

45. [ ] 46. [ ]

Filled with dispare, Tom was about to give up hope. Then, he rimambered

something his grandfather had told him - there was always a way out if one stayed

47. [ ]

vigilant. With a renewed cence of determination, Tom began to scour the walls of the

48. [ ] 49. [ ]

cave, searched for any crack or opening. When looking for two hours, he finally found a

hole big enough for him to squeeze through. Tom pushed through the hole and finally

50. [ ]

emreged into the light. A wave of relief washed over him as he took in a deep breath of

fresh air. [ ]

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. **(15 marks)**

Do you know that 8 February is National Kite Flying Day? It is a day to encourage people to get out and enjoy the process of making a kite and flying it. On this day, kite enthusiasts mark the day by (51) _____ together to showcase their individual kites and flying them. While the exact origin of kite-flying is unknown, it is believed to have originated in China thousands of years ago. It has since gained (52) _____ as a recreational activity all over the world, bringing joy and excitement to people of all ages and walks of (53) _____.

The first kite was (54) _____ of simple materials like wood and cloth. Gradually, kite designers have experimented with new materials and designs have evolved (55) _____ the years, with modern kites made from nylon fabric which is tear resistant, lightweight and durable. In the early years, kites were often made to (56) _____ the shape of birds. Today, they come in elaborate and unique designs. Some kites even have LED lights attached (57) _____ them to allow for night flights and fun light shows.

Kite (58) _____ are organised in many countries where enthusiasts come together to showcase their creativity. These competitions are a delight to spectators, as they witness the sky decorated with colourful kites that can (59) _____ intricate tricks.

Kite-flying offers (60) _____ than just entertainment. You can learn important (61) _____ through the experience of kite-flying. For example, patience is required as you (62) _____ for the wind to pick up and carry the kites. Perseverance is also needed when a kite fails to launch immediately. Launching the kite in the air may require some running. You can exercise while having fun and may not even realise how (63)_____ exercise you have done. (64)_____ you finally get your kite up, the thrill of seeing something in motion and tossed about by the wind can be a truly uplifting (65)_____. So, if you want to get out and about with a novel activity with your family, try kite-flying!

Adapted from https://www.nationalkitemonth.org/kite-history-overview/kite-history/

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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. "Did you go for the choir rehearsal yesterday?" Andy asked me.

Andy asked me _____

_____

67. The company is launching a new product this year.

A _____

_____

68. Lisa was shocked by how deep the pool was.

The _____

_____

69 All of us do not want to go to Bishan Park for a picnic.

None of _____

_____

70. The chefs prepared for the cooking competition. They were enthusiastic about it.

It was with _____

_____

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Refer to the passage below when you answer questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B. (20 marks)

Ben, a bright-eyed twelve-year-old, stood bewildered before Mr Lim. "I find it hard to understand, Mr Lim. Are you suggesting that I return the pigeon to the very place I discovered it?"

Sighing softly, Mr Lim nodded wearily. "Indeed, that is precisely what I meant," he replied, his voice carrying the weight of exhaustion. Meanwhile, Ben, driven by empathy and concern, continued to make his plea. "But Mr Lim," he implored, his voice tinged with earnestness. "It is injured. Shouldn't we show empathy to the vulnerable?"

At that very moment, the pigeon nestled within the confines of a cardboard box that Ben held stirred, fluttering its unharmed wing while emitting a soft coo. Mr Lim, looked nonchalantly, his gaze lingering for a few reflective moments before returning his attention to Ben. He went on to address the young boy's genuine desire to save the wounded bird.

I understand your noble **intention**, and I must admit that having such empathy for animals is indeed commendable," Mr Lim began, his tone laced with sincerity. "However, truth be told, there is little that can be done for this poor creature. If we had time, we could take it to the SPCA. Even if we were able to do so, all they would do is put it down." Ben stared at Mr Lim, his eyes widened in disbelief upon hearing that. "But, Mr Lim," he interjected, full of optimism, "surely a broken wing can be easily mended. Wouldn't the SPCA be able to provide the necessary care?"

"Do you have even the slightest idea about the staggering multitude of pigeons in this world?" Mr Lim inquired, his voice tinged with a subtle hint of exasperation. Ben, caught off guard, merely shrugged in response, realising he could not rely on another shrug to convey his uncertainty. Summoning his courage, he replied, "Perhaps a million?"

"Multiply **that** by four hundred times," Mr Lim retorted, his impatience thinly veiled in his words. Ben gazed at his teacher in confusion. However, the expression etched upon Mr Lim's face revealed his intent to convey an important point.

"That amounts to an astonishing four hundred million pigeons," Mr Lim clarified, his tone laced with urgency. "I've got a class to teach in..." he paused, his gaze drifting to his watch, "...seven minutes and thirty-one seconds. Therefore, I cannot possibly take this pigeon, just one among four hundred million, to the SPCA, only for them to inevitably end its life. My guess is you have lessons after recess?"

English lesson with Mrs Marie. But I could skip **it** and catch up later. We're **only** doing poetry today," said Ben. "That's hardly the point. Neither you nor I possess the luxury of time. Consider the reality of four hundred million pigeons coexisting with us. Would the

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absence of one make a big difference? Return the pigeon to its original place. By then, it shall be time for your English lesson. Okay?"

"But Mr Lim..." Sensing Ben's persistence, Mr Lim immediately gave a dismissive wave and Ben's words hung in mid-air. Without waiting for Ben to finish his sentence, Mr Lim headed back into the staffroom. Ben's heart sank. Left with no choice, he did what Mr Lim had instructed him to do.

The talk with Mr Lim on that fateful day continued to stir a lasting guilt within Ben, even to this day. As he grew older and embarked on a career as an educator, it became a story he would share time and again to emphasise something that Mr Lim had failed to teach him. Ben hoped to instil in his pupils a profound virtue that had been absent in his encounter with Mr Lim years ago. He would ask his pupils a question that had weighed heavily upon his conscience: "What if it were you in the cardboard box?"

Adapted from Salt and Vinegar by Mike Gayle

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Read the passage on pages 11 and 12 of Booklet A and answer questions 71 to 80.
(20 marks)

71. Why did the pigeon need help? [1m]

_____

72. Pick out a word from lines 8 -11 which tells us that Mr Lim did not care about helping the pigeon. [1m]

73. Based on lines 12-18, pick out two separate phrases to show Ben's feelings and explain why he felt that way. [4m]

Four-word phrase that shows Ben was shocked	**Reason for his feeling**
a)	b)
Three-word phrase that shows Ben was hopeful	**Reason for his feeling**
c)	d)

74. In line 27, why was Mr Lim's tone laced with urgency? [1m]

_____

75. What does "only" (line 31) suggest about Ben's attitude towards poetry? [1m]

_____

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76. According to Mr Lim in lines 31-35, why did he not want to help the pigeon? [2m]

_____

_____

77. Based on lines 19-39, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [2m]

Statement	True / False	Reason
a) Ben's estimation of the number of pigeons in the world was accurate.		
b) Ben did not help the pigeon in the end.		

78. a) How do you know that Mr Lim was no longer interested in continuing the conversation with Ben? [2m]

_____

_____

b) How did Ben feel when his conversation with Mr Lim ended? [1m]

_____

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79. 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]

Word from the passage	What the word refers to
intention (line 12)	
that (line 23)	
it (line 31)	

80. "What if it were you in the cardboard box?" (line 45)

a) Why did Ben ask his pupils this question? [1m]

_____

_____

b) What virtue was Ben trying to teach his pupils by asking this question? [1m]

_____

END OF PAPER

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ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOL (PRIMARY) SA2 PAPER

1. Both my brother and _____ love Japanese food.

(1) I
(2) us
(3) me
(4) we

2. Tim rarely loses his things, _____ ?

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

3. The poor lady gave the _____ that she had left to a beggar.

(1) all
(2) little
(3) much
(4) some

4. The man with _____ you were speaking earlier is my neighbour.

(1) who
(2) which
(3) whom
(4) whose

5. The necklace was on the table a while ago Someone _____ have taken it.

(1) will
(2) shall
(3) could
(4) should

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6. Sharon, ~~as well as her cousins~~, _____ in the same primary school.

(1) study
(2) studies
(3) are studying
(4) have been studying

7. Everyone in the class _____ present at the workshop last week.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

8. To succeed, we must not give up _____ challenging the project is.

(1) while
(2) despite
(3) although
(4) however

9. I sensed a chill _____ down my spine as I imagined the scene in the horror book.

(1) running
(2) has run
(3) runs
(4) ran

10. The boy was praised by his teacher _____ his moral courage in stopping the bullying.

(1) at
(2) in
(3) on
(4) for

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11. Realising that his car was stolen, Mr Tan decided to _____ a police report.

(1) file
(2) record
(3) deliver
(4) publish

12. To save up for the trip, John has decided to _____ on his spending.

(1) cut up
(2) cut off
(3) cut out
(4) cut back

13. Marc was so _____ in his work that he missed watching his favourite show.

(1) instilled
(2) indulged
(3) immersed
(4) imprisoned

14. Jane's speech was so _____ that everyone donated generously to the charity event she promoted.

(1) confiding
(2) convincing
(3) commanding
(4) compromising

15. "You'd better _____ if you want to make it to the finals!" the coach warned the team.

(1) break a leg
(2) take a rain check
(3) step up your game
(4) run around in circles

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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)

We often feel annoyed by the inconsiderate behaviour of others in public places. Hence, we should practise good <u>etiquette</u> **(16)**. For example, when speaking in public places, we should keep our voices low, but <u>loud enough</u> **(17)** for our target audience only. This is especially important when we are in <u>enclosed</u> **(18)** spaces like on board a bus, in a cinema, library or museum. We also need to be <u>aware</u> **(19)** not to draw attention to ourselves by behaving <u>inappropriately</u> **(20)**. We should not laugh loudly, play or run in busy places like shopping malls and supermarkets. Being considerate and respectful towards others will make shared spaces and experiences pleasant for everyone.

16. (1) values
(2) manners
(3) attributes
(4) upbringing

17. (1) visible
(2) legible
(3) audible
(4) credible

18. (1) locked
(2) confined
(3) sheltered
(4) restricted

19. (1) calm
(2) clear
(3) confident
(4) conscious

20. (1) informally
(2) unsuitably
(3) inadequately
(4) unintentionally

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Study the poster and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Support Local Farms!

Do you know that there is a variety of farms found in Singapore? We have farms that produce vegetables, fish, eggs and milk. Many such farms operate in the Kim Chu Kang area. These farms are one of our sources for food and play an important part in helping us to be more self-sufficient as a nation.

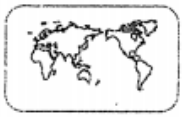
There are several reasons why we should buy from local farms. We can buy fresh produce directly from them. Fresh food tastes better. When food is picked and eaten at its freshest, it not only retains more nutrients, but it also tastes better. Furthermore, by choosing food produced locally, we help keep our local farmers in business.

Besides producing food, these farms offer unique experiences. You can take part in many exciting activities at the monthly farmers' market organised to bring the community together. A small number of the local farms organise educational tours with fun activities such as treasure hunts and cooking classes for visitors. For farms with animals, you can view the milking process of farm animals and even feed them.

Show your support for our local farms by visiting Granji Farmers' Market!



Did you know?



Apart from local farms, we also depend on farms overseas. We buy most of our food from many different countries. We do not depend only on a single source of supply.



To ensure that we do not depend solely on other countries for our food supply, we aim to increase our food production. The target is for our local farms to produce 30% of our food supply by 2030.



We encourage local farms that want to expand their businesses to grow their food overseas as well. Besides sending their food produce back to Singapore, they also produce fresh food for the countries they have set up farms in.

(Adapted from SFA | Our Singapore Food Story – The 3 Food Baskets)

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Granji Farmers' Market

(Address: 50 Farm Road, Singapore 430450)

2 – 3 September 2023 & 7 – 8 October 2023

Come and enjoy two weekends of fun-filled activities!

Mini Zoo

Toddlers can feed and interact with animals like rabbits and chicks. No registration is required.

Dates: 2 & 3 September, 7 & 8 October
Venue: Atrium
Time: 10.30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Admission is free.



Email our staff at Kenny@PCZ.com.sg *if you have queries.*

Yummy Muffins

This is a workshop for 10 and 11-year-olds organised by KidsBake. They will learn how to bake muffins of different flavours. The first 20 participants to sign up will each receive a free recipe book.

Dates: 2 & 3 September
Venue: Gourmet Hall
Time: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Course Fee: $20 per session



Email our staff at Tim@KB.com.sg for registration and other queries.

Veggie Home

Pick up tips on how to grow an edible garden in your home. The activity is open to all visitors. No registration is required for this one-hour talk.

Dates: 3 September, 8 October
Venue: Garden Corner
Time: 9 a.m., 11.00 a.m., 1 p.m., 3.30 p.m.
Admission is free.



Food Galore

Enjoy delicious food cooked with ingredients from local farms.



Support local farmers by buying fresh produce from them.

Granji Cooking Competition

(7 October)

If you are between 13 and 16 years old and love cooking, this activity is for you. There are attractive prizes to be won. Contact our staff at Gary@GFC.com.sg to sign up for it.

Organised by:	**Supported by:**	**For event enquiries:**
Granji Farmers' Community (GFC)	National Food Agency	Email our staff at Dan@LFF.com.sg

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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 question 'Do you know that there is a variety of farms found in Singapore?' is to _____.

(1) list the number of local farms
(2) stress the importance of farming
(3) test the readers' knowledge about farming
(4) arouse the readers' curiosity about local farms

22. According to the poster, to ensure that Singapore has enough food, we _____.

(1) purchase many overseas farms
(2) depend on both local and overseas farms
(3) increase the number of local farms by 30%
(4) insist that all local farms grow their food overseas

23. Which statement is true about local farms?

(1) Only food grown in local farms is fresh.
(2) Visitors are not allowed to buy from local farms directly.
(3) All local farms organise treasure hunts and cooking classes for visitors.
(4) Visitors to local farms can look forward to participating in many activities.

24. The **main** purpose of the poster is to _____.

(1) inform readers about the types of produce
(2) attract readers to organise activities in local farms
(3) persuade readers to buy more from overseas farms
(4) encourage readers to buy produce grown in local farms

25. The purpose of using the exclamation mark in the sentence "Come and enjoy two we of fun-filled activities!" is to _____.

(1) convince readers to visit local farms
(2) inform readers about the local farmers
(3) challenge readers to consider setting up local farms
(4) enthuse readers to attend the farmers' market event

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26. Both Mrs Suni and her teenage daughter enjoy taking part in cooking competitions. They plan to attend the Granji Farmers' Market. Which is the most suitable date she should consider?

(1) 2 September 2023
(2) 3 September 2023
(3) 7 October 2023
(4) 8 October 2023

27. Lynette has registered for the baking workshop and wishes to find out if she will receive a free recipe book. She should send her query to _____.

(1) Tim@KB.com.sg
(2) Dan@LFF.com.sg
(3) Gary@GFC.com.sg
(4) Kenny@PCZ.com.sg

28. Which statement is not true about the Granji Farmers' Market?

(1) The Mini Zoo is organised for young children.
(2) At least two activities require payment of fees.
(3) Visitors can take part in the activities on selected weekends.
(4) Visitors who are interested in gardening may attend The Veggie Home talk.

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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)	are	(D)	despite	(G)	of	(K)	to	(N)	while
(B)	as	(E)	however	(H)	that	(L)	were	(P)	why
(C)	by	(F)	moreover	(J)	them	(M)	when	(Q)	with

Sneezing is a common experience we all share. On an average, each person sneezes about four times a day. Sneezing is our body's way _____ **(29)** removing anything that may irritate our nose. We often sneeze _____ **(30)** something tickles or irritates the inside of our nose. Our body has a sneeze centre _____ **(31)** sends messages to some of our muscles which work together to produce a sneeze. These muscles _____ **(32)** the chest muscles, muscles of our vocal cords and muscles in our throat.

Another interesting fact is that we cannot sneeze _____ **(33)** our eyes open. This is only possible if we try really hard _____ **(34)** we have to fight our body's reflex. No one really knows _____ **(35)** this happens. Possibly, the brain sends a message to our eyes to close before we sneeze.

_____ **(36)** avoid embarrassment in public places, we may have tried to hold our sneezes in. _____ **(37)**, we should not do that since it can be dangerous. When we hold _____ **(38)** in, pressure builds up in the nasal passages and can damage the blood vessels in our eyes or nose. Sneezing is a natural response that we cannot control.

Adapted from *Why We Sneeze* by Beth Orenstein

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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)

I lived with my family in my grandfather's wooden house built on stilts during my childhood days.

(39) _____ (40) _____

The house was seetueted on a big piece of land that was fenced. The rusty gate of the entrens was

(41) _____

always locked. It tower over me like a giant watching over the property.

(42) _____ (43) _____

I used to sit in a big swing in the garden with my dog, Fluffy. She seemed to smile wherever

I made the swing go higher. I would pretend it was a bus and 'drive' the kids in the neighbourhood

(44) _____

to a make-believe destinayshen.

(45) _____

On some okaysians, I cycled along the compound with a long umbrella in one hand. My

(46) _____

grandfather's flock of geese had a habit of pinch my legs with their sharp beaks. Therefore, the

(47) _____

umbrella was actually an imagineri sword to chase the nasty creatures away.

(48) _____

From my parents' bedroom window, I could simple reach out to the tree to pluck rambutans.

(49) _____ (50) _____

That konveniens came at a price. I was bitten by fierce red ants several times by the process,

The house was demolished soon after we moved. Today, I can only recall with fondness that

house on stilts.

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

New Year celebration is never complete without fireworks. Imagine seeing colourful lights bursting in the night sky to usher in the first day of the (51) _____. A fireworks display has always attracted (52) _____ young and old. Thousands will flock to venues near the display area to get the best (53) _____ of the fireworks. Countries around the (54) _____ go to great lengths to put on the best show.

Do you know that fireworks were actually developed (55) _____ China? The first natural 'firecrackers' were (56) _____ of bamboo stalks. When thrown into a fire, the air pockets in the bamboo stalks would cause them to explode. The Chinese (57) _____ that such loud explosion would ward off evil spirits. Later, bamboo stalks were filled with gunpowder which would explode when ignited. That was (58) _____ the first man-made fireworks was invented.

Soon fireworks gained (59) _____ in many countries. In Europe, they were widely used for religious festivals and entertainment. The Europeans eventually began to manufacture their own fireworks. They even (60) _____ the Americans their first taste of fireworks when they settled in America. As interest in them grew, the use of fireworks (61) _____ widespread. Many countries began to include them as (62) _____ of a celebration. In this modern day, fireworks displays can be seen during special events (63) _____ as Christmas and the New Year.

The anticipation of the boom (64) _____ comes after the lights usually makes us happy. We are drawn to the suspense (65) _____ create. No one ever complains after a fireworks display as it sparks joy, lifts our spirits and brings back happy memories.

Adapted from *The National Geographic*

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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). (10 marks)

66 The thief stole the truck when the owner was not looking. He confessed to it.

The thief confessed to _____

_____

67 "A special guest will be visiting the school next week," the teacher informed the class.

The teacher informed the class _____

_____

68 You will receive a free gift if you register for the competition today.

Unless _____

_____

69 Mrs Tan came home from work. She had dinner immediately.

_____ as soon as _____

_____

70 Rita was reluctant to complete her assignment. It upset her mother.

Rita's _____

_____

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Read the passage below when you answer questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B.

It was a Monday morning. Father was helping Danny pack his bag for a holiday camp the next day. "Do I really have to go, Father?" Danny asked, stomping his feet. "Son, sometimes the best lessons in life are learnt at camps," Father encouraged. "But I never have the right words to say when talking to someone new," Danny grunted. "Alright, let's make a deal. If you learn something good at this camp, then this shall be the last holiday camp I sign you up for," Father promised. "Deal," Danny replied, frowning as he recalled the uncomfortable conversations he had had with his camp mates the previous year.

The first day at camp flew by with the flurry of activity. Right after dinner, everyone was busy packing their bags in their rooms in preparation for the night walk. That was something Danny looked forward to, especially since he had never gone on one before. Fumbling for coins in his pocket, Danny headed to the canteen to get a bottle of iced tea from the vending machine. "Ah! **The perfect companion** for the night walk!" he exclaimed as he took a few sips and exhaled. Just as Danny was about to secure the bottle cap, he heard footsteps. He was caught off-guard as someone suddenly brushed past him and hit his elbow. The bottle slipped out of his hands and fell to the floor. Light brown liquid gushed out, creating ugly puddles on the floor. Danny caught a glimpse of a boy in a green T-shirt running off into the distance. "How rude!" Danny shouted, gritting his teeth. "Not even an apology!"

Just then, Mr Halim, the camp guide, approached Danny. "What are you doing here inste- " he asked but stopped midway when he saw the mess on the floor. "It wasn't me!" Danny raised his voice in his defence. "I'm sure there's an explanation for this, but there's no reason to use that tone with me," Mr Halim replied as he glared at Danny. "You'll fix this mess you created before we head out for the night walk," he remarked and walked off in a hurry before Danny could explain himself.

"How unfortunate," Danny sulked. "It wasn't even my fault to begin with." Getting down on his knees, he started wiping up the mess. In the silence of the night, all he could hear was the chirping of crickets in the distance. Twenty minutes had passed. Danny managed to calm himself down and think clearly. He recalled how Mother had given him a second chance when he broke her vase by mistake a week ago. Realising that what had happened just now might have been **an accident**, Danny resolved to let bygones be bygones.

Soon, the floor was dry and Danny's work was done. As he got up to leave, he heard a strange sound. It seemed to be coming from behind a pillar. What could it be, Danny thought as he scratched his head. Everyone had left for the night walk. "A lizard? A cricket?" he mused as he inched forward, craning his neck to see what was behind the pillar. From a distance, he spotted something green sticking out of the pillar. He stopped dead in his tracks when he came face to face with the boy he had seen earlier.

"You… you…" Danny started. "Please don't yell at me," the boy begged. "Let me explain. I'm Siva. I felt bad for causing the spill earlier when I ran to get my torch for the night walk. I knew I had to make up for what I had done earlier. That is why I've been here all this while, trying to find the courage to say sorry," he said meekly.

"Well, I was upset at first," Danny admitted. "But not anymore. I figured you might not have done it on purpose," he added. Just then, the boys heard a familiar voice. "I'm glad you've cleaned up the mess. Now, we can all head out for the night walk," Mr Halim remarked with a smile. Nodding his head, Danny replied, "I'm sorry about the incident earlier, Mr Halim."

The next day, Father went to the campsite to fetch Danny when the camp ended. He was pleasantly surprised to see Danny chatting animatedly with another boy. On the drive home, Danny could not stop talking about his new friend, Siva. "I had a good time, Father, and I learnt a valuable lesson about second chances!" Danny chirped. "So, would you be keen to attend another camp the next holiday?" Father asked. Looking at Father, Danny smiled and nodded.

Written by Anna M.

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Read the passage on page 10 of Booklet A and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

71 From the first paragraph, pick out a three-word phrase that tells us that Danny was not keen to attend the camp. [1m]

72 Why was Danny looking forward to the night walk? [1m]

73 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. [2m]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
a) The perfect companion (line 10)	
b) an accident (line 25)	

74 Based on lines 4-15, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [2m]

	True / False	Reason
a) Danny was attending a camp for the first time.		
b) When Danny went to get a drink, he thought he was alone in the canteen.		

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75 Circle **one** word that best describes how Danny felt when he saw the boy run off in lines 14-15. DO NOT CIRCLE MORE THAN ONE WORD. [1m]

uncertain / confused / annoyed / threatened

76 From lines 16-26, pick out two separate phrases to show the characters' responses and explain why they responded that way. [4m]

One word that shows Mr Halim was angry with Danny	**Why Mr Halim felt that way**
a)	b)
Four-word phrase that shows Danny was no longer affected by the incident	**Why Danny responded that way**
c)	d)

77 Which **two** of the following words best describe Danny in lines 27-30? Put a tick √ in the box beside each of your answers. [2m]
DO NOT TICK MORE THAN TWO BOXES.

disappointed	☐	surprised	☐
regretful	☐	puzzled	☐
curious	☐	shocked	☐

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78 Based on lines 16-37, fill in the following table. [4m]

	What he thought had happened	What actually happened
When Mr Halim saw the spill	a)	b)
	What he thought would happen	**What actually happened**
When Siva saw Danny approaching him	c)	d)

79 Why was Danny's father pleasantly surprised to see him chatting animatedly with another boy? (lines 40-41) [2m]

_____

_____

80 Why do you think Danny smiled and nodded (line 44)? [1m]

_____

_____

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AI TONG SCHOOL SA2 PAPER

Part 1: Situational Writing (15 marks)

1 The picture below shows Kelly and her sister, Tammy, discussing a notice that they saw in the newspaper on 21 October 2023. Study the picture carefully.



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Your Task

Imagine you are Kelly.

Write an email to the teacher in charge of your school band, Mr Tan, asking him if you may be excused from band practice.

You are to refer to the picture and information on page 1 for your email.

In your email, include the following key information:

- the date you wish to be excused from band practice
- the event you wish to attend and the time it will be held
- two reasons you should attend the event
- what you will do if you are excused from band practice

You may reorder the points. Remember to write in complete sentences.

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Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

2 Write a composition of <u>at least 150 words</u> about **something that was forgotten.**

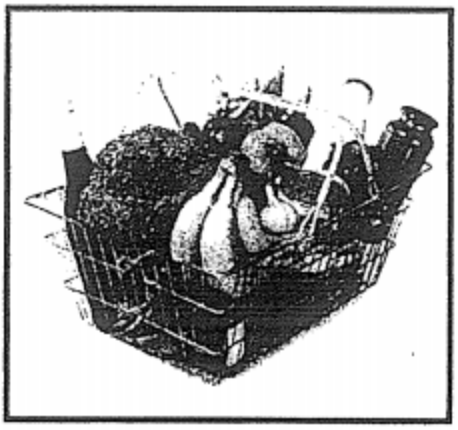
The pictures are provided to help you think about this topic.

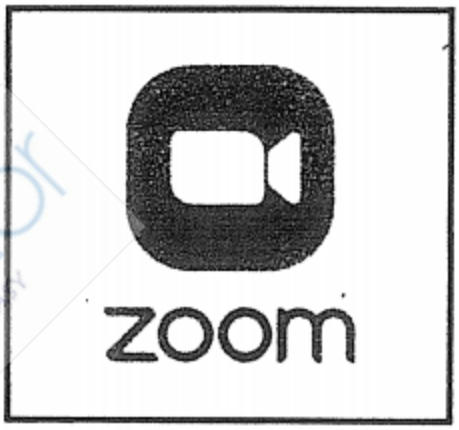
Your composition should be based on one or more of these pictures.

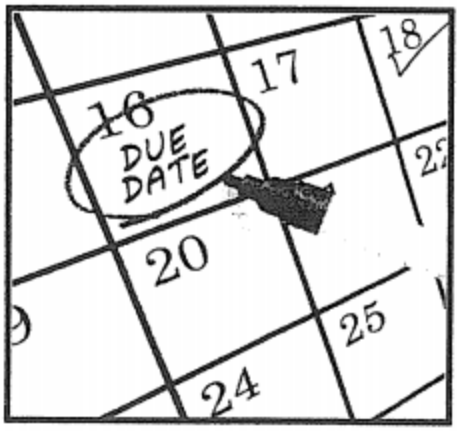
Consider the following points when you plan your composition:

- Why did you forget it?
- What happened in the end?

You may use the points in any order and include other relevant points as well.







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1 "Don't stop. Stir the sugar _____ it dissolves completely," instructed Mother.

(1) but
(2) and
(3) until
(4) while

2 Alicia had to burn the midnight oil as she was asked to prepare for a presentation _____ short notice.

(1) in
(2) at
(3) with
(4) under

3 "Josh will surely make it to the finals. He's improved greatly in the last few months, _____?" said his teacher.

(1) isn't he
(2) hasn't he
(3) wasn't he
(4) doesn't he

4 Timothy's parents made him _____ home earlier yesterday to celebrate Grandfather's birthday.

(1) come
(2) came
(3) comes
(4) had come

5 The burglars left _____ evidence of breaking into the house so the police had to release them.

(1) few
(2) little
(3) some
(4) much

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6 "Where _____ the pair of shoes that I left at the door earlier?" asked Judy.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

7 Sam, knowing that his parents _____ late from work, played computer games late into the night.

(1) returned
(2) had returned
(3) was returning
(4) were returning

8 _____ the recent fire at the museum, the learning journey was cancelled.

(1) Amid
(2) Despite
(3) Owing to
(4) Regardless of

9 "_____ Suresh not used his phone while crossing the road, he would have seen the car approaching," Mei Li commented.

(1) Did
(2) Had
(3) Would
(4) Should

10 After an hour of interrogation, the stubborn boy finally admitted to _____ the vase on the table.

(1) break
(2) breaking
(3) had broken
(4) having broke

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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 In her youth, Siti was led _____ by mixing with bad company, but she had since turned over a new leaf.

(1) adrift
(2) aside
(3) amiss
(4) astray

12 The rescue workers' attempt to locate victims trapped under the rubble was _____ by the shortage of equipment.

(1) interrupted
(2) restrained
(3) hindered
(4) subdued

13 Peter exuded _____ as he spoke, impressing the panel of interviewers with his convictions of how he could serve the school.

(1) idealism
(2) confidence
(3) excitement
(4) persuasiveness

14 Despite facing numerous setbacks, Dylan was determined not to _____ to despair.

(1) give in
(2) give out
(3) give way
(4) give back

15 The teacher was _____ in planning the overseas trip to ensure that every safety measure was taken care of.

(1) vigilant
(2) anxious
(3) energetic
(4) meticulous

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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)

Walking in the garden, a man found a cocoon of a butterfly. He noticed a small **opening** (16) appear in the cocoon. He watched the butterfly **struggle** (17) to force its body through that little hole. Eventually, the butterfly stopped making progress. Deciding to help the butterfly, he took a pair of scissors and snipped off the **remaining bit** (18) of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged **without a hitch** (19), but it had a swollen body and small, shrivelled wings. The man continued to watch the butterfly. He was expecting the wings to enlarge to **support** (20) the weight of the body, which would shrink in time. Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shrivelled wings.

Adapted from: https://www.motivationjet.com

16
(1) break
(2) slot
(3) gap
(4) cut

17
(1) wriggle
(2) stretch
(3) labour
(4) battle

18
(1) leftover
(2) excess
(3) scrap
(4) rest

19
(1) easily
(2) readily
(3) gracefully
(4) conveniently

20
(1) bear
(2) prop
(3) uphold
(4) endure

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Study this article from a magazine, Youth Vibes, and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Outdoor Adventures: Good Safety Tips

by James Liew
22 September 2023





If you do not have any plans for the school holidays, consider embarking on an outdoor adventure. How about hiking in a forest? Or going on a camping trip with your family or friends? Such activities offer you opportunities to get close to nature and have the fun you might not have experienced before, but safety needs to be your top priority. Whatever you do, make sure you pick up essential survival skills and pack wisely before setting off.

Unexpected things can sometimes happen in the great outdoors. Since you can never anticipate what might go wrong, carrying a survival kit in your pocket is always helpful. Let's take a look at how we can find ways to utilise every bit of space in a small, lightweight and waterproof container and include as many useful everyday items as possible!

How to assemble a personal survival kit:



- Find a pocket-sized plastic or metal container.
- Cut out the rough strip at the side of a matchbox. Bundle the strip and a few matches together in plastic wrap to keep them dry.
- Snap a pencil in two, making sure one of the pieces can fit into your container. Sharpen both ends of that piece.
- Cut plastic straws into pieces that can fit into your container and tape up one end of each piece. After filling each handmade mini tube with small amounts of liquid, especially hand sanitiser and antiseptic cream, tape up the other end.
- Add in plasters of different sizes.
- Fold a few large sheets of aluminium foil as small as you can.
- Place the basic items above inside your container first. Check how much space you have left, then think of other items that might come in handy and fit in as many as possible into your personal survival kit!

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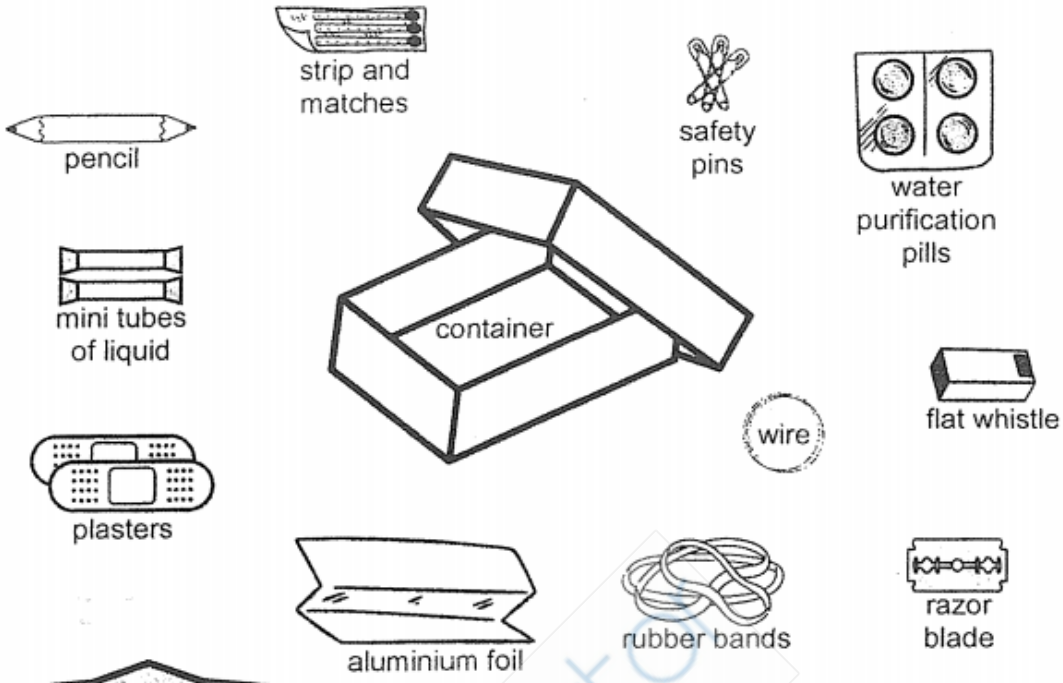

Check this out!

Camp Leap

Dates: 4 to 7 December 2023
Venue: Sunny Forest Campsite
Fee: $120 per participant

For participants aged between 10 and 16

Early Bird Offer: Register by 31 October 2023 and pay only $100!

Camp Leap is back by popular demand! Organised by Team Leap, this outdoor adventure camp will cater for up to 100 participants this year – the largest number thus far! Visit www.teamleap.sg from now until 15 November 2023 to register and pay the fee online. Registration will close early if all places are filled, so leap into action to avoid disappointment!

Safety Precautions

- ✓ Participants must declare all medical conditions during registration. Those with medical conditions may be asked to sit out during strenuous camp activities.
- ✓ First-aid kits will be readily available. Instructors are trained to deal with emergencies, but they are not allowed to administer medication.

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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 questions in the first paragraph is to _____.

(1) tell readers about hiking and camping
(2) let readers know what the article is about
(3) give readers suggestions for outdoor adventures
(4) ask readers about their plans for the school holidays

22 Which statement is **not** true for those interested to go on an outdoor adventure?

(1) They must know essential survival skills.
(2) They will have the chance to get close to nature.
(3) They must follow the packing list given by Team Leap.
(4) They will get to enjoy activities they have not tried before.

23 According to the article, it is important to carry survival kits in the great outdoors because we _____.

(1) can bring along useful everyday items
(2) can foresee problems and prepare for them
(3) must make full use of the space in the containers
(4) must prepare ourselves for unexpected situations

24 Which of the following items are optional when assembling a personal survivor kit?

(1) safety pins and wire
(2) pencil and rubber bands
(3) plasters and water purification pills
(4) aluminium foil and mini tubes of liquid

25 When assembling a personal survival kit, we should _____.

(1) pack the basic items into the container last
(2) try to make use of all the space inside the container
(3) measure how much space is available in the container
(4) choose a container that can hold all the items we want to include

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26 Which statement is true about Camp Leap?

(1) Only teenagers will be able to participate in it.
(2) Up to 100 children can participate in it every year.
(3) Registration may close before the stated deadline.
(4) The registration fee is $120 for anyone who signs up.

27 The organiser will take all the following safety precautions during Camp Leap **except** _____.

(1) allowing instructors to administer medication
(2) ensuring that first-aid kits are always on hand
(3) requesting that participants declare all their medical conditions
(4) excluding participants with medical conditions from strenuous activities

28 What is the **main** purpose of the article?

(1) to attract readers to sign up for an outdoor adventure camp
(2) to emphasise the importance of following safety precautions
(3) to share tips on how to select items for a personal survival kit
(4) to offer advice on keeping safe when going for outdoor adventures.

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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) among	(D) from	(G) of	(K) since	(N) then
(B) and	(E) had	(H) on	(L) than	(P) up
(C) by	(F) have	(J) or	(M) that	(Q) while

Having a dream is a natural and fascinating aspect of human experience. It is characterised _____ (29) vivid mental images and emotions. Taking _____ (30) a story-like structure, dreams occur involuntarily in the mind during sleep. Its content can range _____ (31) being ordinary and mundane to bizarre and fantastical.

_____ (32) the purpose and function of dreams are still not fully understood, various theories suggest _____ (33) dreams may serve as a way _____ (34) processing and consolidating information, emotions and experiences during the time one is awake.

More often _____ (35) not, dreams are forgotten shortly after waking up. The ability to remember dreams varies _____ (36) individuals. Some people may recall vivid details yet others may only have vague recollections _____ (37) even no memory of their dreams at all.

Dreams evoke a wide range of emotions in people and can sometimes be intense. Do you recall a recent dream you _____ (38)? What emotions did it trigger then?

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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)

Complaints about wild chickens in Singapore have been growing. Their (39) [ ] existent is becoming a common sight in many neighbourhoods across the island. (40) [ ] (41) [ ] Residents whose reside in these neighbourhoods are concerned of the noise (42) [ ] from the inconsedrate roosters at ungodly hours. The unwelcome crowing could (43) [ ] start as early as 5 a.m., fustreiting many residents as their sleep is often (44) [ ] disrupted. Even the slight sound could break the silence of the night, what more the resounding crows from the roosters. (45) [ ]

Another gripe that residents have is the unhygenik droppings the wild chickens leave everywhere. Those with young children are worried that their (46) [ ] children would fall ill easy when they touch the droppings at playgrounds, as (47) [ ] their immune is weaker. (48) [ ]

Though the wild chickens have been a niusence in the affected (49) [ ] neighbourhoods, many of the residents are against the agressif culling of the (50) [ ] chickens. Instead, they rekommand that the chickens be caught and relocated to farms. Hopefully, the Town Councils can address this issue soon.

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Fill in the blanks with a suitable word. (15 marks)

Pulau Ubin is the last stronghold of rustic village life in Singapore. To get _____ (51), you will need to take a bumboat from Changi Point Ferry Terminal, at the _____ (52) of $4 per person per trip. Only a short boat ride away, the rural island will transport you to a _____ (53) time and place from modern Singapore. There are various ways to appreciate the _____ (54) and sounds of Pulau Ubin. You can choose a self-guided tour where you decide how to discover the island at your own _____ (55). Every month, NParks will run guided tours on Pulau Ubin.

A trip to Pulau Ubin begins at the Main Jetty. Ubin Town, which is to the left of the jetty, is made _____ (56) of a cluster of wooden houses and building. This small settlement consists of two _____ (57) of businesses: bicycle rental shops and eateries. To rent bicycles, you can _____ (58) to do so at one of the many shops. Bike rental fees can vary from $10 to $30 for a full-day rental. You can also rent bike helmets and bike locks. For a nostalgic trip back to an old-fashioned provision shop, _____ (59) a visit to Yak Hong. At this 100-year-old shop, you can _____ (60) up some snacks or drinks for your exploration of Pulau Ubin. _____ (61) the centre of the village is the Wayang Stage that was built in 1971. The Wayang Stage was an essential part of the village's social life, _____ (62) entertainment for residents. In the 1960s, it was even _____ (63) as classrooms for the island's Bin Kiang School.

Nature lovers may also wish to visit the Sensory Trail in Ubin Town _____ (64) leaving the island. The Sensory Trail was first developed in 1995 for the visually handicapped to experience Ubin using their _____ (65). On the Ubin Sensory Trail, you can see, touch, smell or even taste different plants and listen out for birds and animals. It also showcases the cultural heritage of Pulau Ubin through the plants that are commonly found on the island.

Adapted from www.littledayout.com

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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 in the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

66 Tim was scolded. It was due to his mischief.

_____ for being

_____

67 In getting help when she needed it, Julie showed her humility.

The fact that Julie _____

_____

68 "I fell while running in the park just now," Brother told Mother.

Brother told Mother that _____

_____

69 Grace explained the situation. Aunt Lucy ignored it.

_____ ignored Grace's

_____

70 Bob improved steadily in swimming. It earned him praises from his coach.

Bob's _____

_____

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Refer to the passage below when you answer questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B.

Mr Lim had been in a foul mood ever since his retrenchment three months ago. His efforts to find another job had been futile as well. To make ends meet, his wife, Mrs Lim, had to take on an overseas job offer. This meant that Mr Lim was left to tend to his two children, Luke and Lisa, all by himself. Seeing their father being so downcast every day, Luke and Lisa wanted badly to cheer him up. On the day of Mr Lim's birthday, the children saw an opportune moment to turn their **intention** into action.

"Hurry, Luke! Dad will be home anytime now! Let's hide to surprise him!" Lisa chirped. After placing the birthday cake on the table, something that Luke and Lisa were sure Mr Lim would not have expected, they sneaked under **it**. It took the children many weeks to save enough money to buy their father's favourite cake. They smiled gleefully at each other when the lingering smell of fresh paint wafted into their nostrils. Luke and Lisa had painted on their dining area's wall, intending that as decoration for Mr Lim's surprise birthday party. Moments later, the main door creaked open. Suddenly, an unexpected holler reverberated in the air!

"Who messed up the wall on purpose?" Mr Lim bellowed ferociously. Hearing that **accusation**, Luke and Lisa stared at each other in shock. Did they do something wrong? Why was their father so angry? The children had never seen him in such a state before. Frightened by Mr Lim's sudden outburst, Luke cowered under the table. Lisa also cringed beside him and trembled in fear.

As the elder brother, Luke knew he had to protect Lisa. Steeling himself, Luke crept out from underneath the table. Before he could utter a word, Mr Lim gave him **an earful**. He harshly reprimanded Luke for being irresponsible in vandalising the wall. Indignant, tears welled up in Luke's eyes. Hoping to clear the misunderstanding, Luke retorted, "Dad, you're wrong. We just wanted to ..."

"Don't you dare give me excuses!" Mr Lim hollered. Then, Mr Lim forcefully flung the newspaper he had been holding at the dining table. It smashed into the birthday cake, damaging it! Seeing that, Luke's heart shattered. All their efforts in wanting to surprise Mr Lim had gone down the drain. Overwhelmed by a gamut of emotions, Luke was at a loss for words. Then, he fell on his knees and cried.

"Daddy ... we're ... we're sorry! All we wanted to do was ... was to give ... give you a birthday sur ... surprise," Lisa explained in between sobs, after crawling out from her hiding spot.

Hearing that, Mr Lim fell silent for a moment. Then, he approached Luke. Sensing an intimidating presence nearing, Luke braced himself. He did not want **the worst** to happen. Instead of inflicting a physical punishment, Mr Lim bent slightly and helped Luke up. Gently, Mr Lim whispered, "I'm so sorry, Son." Then, Mr Lim held his children in a warm embrace.

After **the tension** defused, Luke and Lisa sang a birthday song for Mr Lim. Even though the birthday cake had been ruined, Mr Lim still thanked his children for the surprise and planted a kiss on each of their cheeks. He added that the painting on the wall was beautiful and it should be left there indefinitely. Luke and Lisa glanced at each other. They smiled. Luke was glad to have cheered Mr Lim up with this birthday surprise. That day, he was even happier to know that he **could count on** his little sister, Lisa.

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Read the passage on page 10 of Booklet A and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

71 Why had Mr Lim been in a bad mood? [2m]

_____

_____.

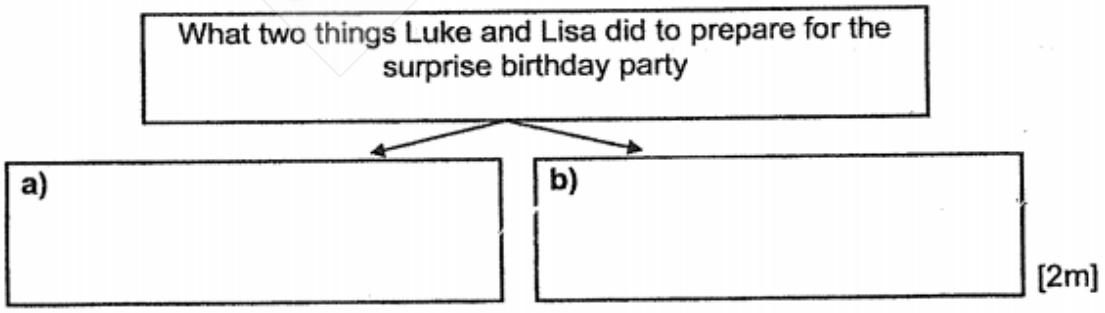
72 Look at the table below. What do the words in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. [3m]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
a) intention (line 6)	
b) it (line 9)	
c) accusation (line 16)	

73 Circle one word that best describes how Lisa felt in lines 7-8.
DO NOT CIRCLE MORE THAN ONE WORD. [1m]

hurried / worried / surprised / excited

74



[2m]

75 Mr Lim gave Luke "an earful" (line 21).

a) How can you tell that Luke was hurt by Mr Lim's scolding? [1m]

_____.

b) Why did Luke talk back to Mr Lim after being scolded? [1m]

He knew that his father had _____.

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76 Based on lines 15-29, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [3m]

	True/False	Reason
a) **Mr Lim had often vented his anger at Luke and Lisa.**		
b) **Luke and Lisa ran to the room to hide from Mr Lim.**		
c) **Luke felt responsible to shield Lisa from harm.**		

77 From lines 30-37, find two separate phrases to show the characters' feelings. [2m]

a) Five-word phrase that shows Mr Lim felt guilty

b) Five-word phrase that shows Luke felt threatened

78 What was 'the worst' (line 34) that could happen to Luke? [1m]

_____

79 What did Mr Lim do to lessen "the tension" (line 38)? [2m]

_____

_____

80 Luke felt that he "could count on" (line 43) Lisa. Why did Luke feel this way? [2m]

_____

_____

End of Paper

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