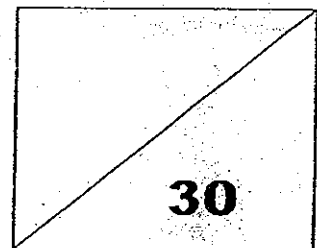


Methodist Girls' School (Primary)
Primary 6 Mid-Year Examination 2008
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET A

Total Time For Booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

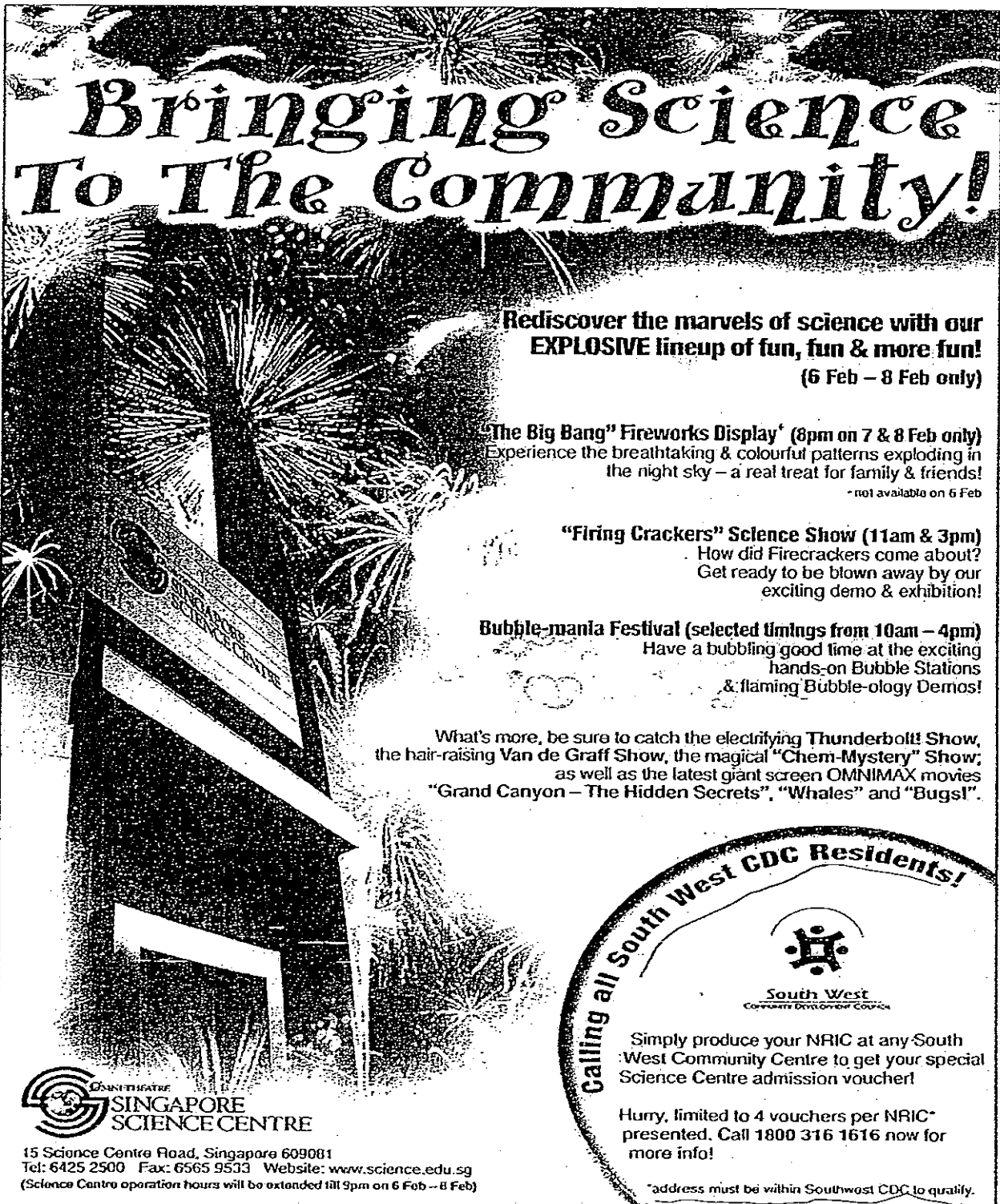
Name : _____ ()

Class : P 6. _____

Date : 8 May 2008

This booklet consists of 9 printed pages.

Study the following text and then answer the questions 1 to 5.



Bringing Science To The Community!

Rediscover the marvels of science with our **EXPLOSIVE** lineup of fun, fun & more fun!
(6 Feb – 8 Feb only)


"The Big Bang" Fireworks Display* (8pm on 7 & 8 Feb only)
Experience the breathtaking & colourful patterns exploding in the night sky – a real treat for family & friends!
*not available on 6 Feb

"Firing Crackers" Science Show (11am & 3pm)
How did Firecrackers come about?
Get ready to be blown away by our exciting demo & exhibition!

Bubble-mania Festival (selected timings from 10am – 4pm)
Have a bubbling good time at the exciting hands-on Bubble Stations & flaming Bubble-ology Demos!

What's more, be sure to catch the electrifying Thunderbolt Show, the hair-raising Van de Graff Show, the magical "Chem-Mystery" Show, as well as the latest giant screen OMNIMAX movies "Grand Canyon – The Hidden Secrets", "Whales" and "Bugs!".

Calling all South West CDC Residents!



Simply produce your NRIC at any South West Community Centre to get your special Science Centre admission voucher!

Hurry, limited to 4 vouchers per NRIC* presented. Call 1800 316 1616 now for more info!

*address must be within Southwest CDC to qualify.

SINGAPORE SCIENCE CENTRE
15 Science Centre Road, Singapore 609081
Tel: 6425 2500 Fax: 6565 9533 Website: www.science.edu.sg
(Science Centre operation hours will be extended till 9pm on 6 Feb – 8 Feb)

(Go on to the next page)

For each question from 1 to 5, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

1. The main purpose of holding the activities is to _____
 - (1) teach the community how to fire crackers
 - (2) arouse the community's interest in science
 - (3) make visitors aware of the fun activities at Science Centre
 - (4) attract only South West CDC Residents to Science Centre

2. One has to _____ to qualify for the Science Centre Admission Voucher.
 - (1) be a resident of the South West CDC
 - (2) produce the NRIC at any South West CDC
 - (3) be a member of the South West Community Council
 - (4) participate in all activities organized by South West Council

3. Mr Tan took his family to the Science Centre in the evening. They witnessed _____
 - (1) the display of fireworks exploding in the sky
 - (2) exciting demonstrations of "Firing Crackers"
 - (3) how patterns can be created through science
 - (4) flames being created in the Bubble-ology demonstrations

4. Which of the following activities is not available on the 6th February?
 - (1) Bubble-mania Festival
 - (2) "Firing crackers" Science Show
 - (3) "The Big Bang" Fireworks Display
 - (4) Omnimax Movie on Grand Canyon

5. Which of the following statements is true?
 - (1) The flaming Bubble-ology demonstrations are available till 9pm.
 - (2) The operation hours at Science Centre will be extended only on 6th Feb.
 - (3) Movies such as "Grand Canyon-the Hidden Secrets", "Whales" and "Bugs" will be screened at the Omnimax.
 - (4) Only four Science Centre Admission vouchers will be given to each household of South West CDC upon presenting their NRIC.

For each question from 6 to 12, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

(7 marks)

6. Desmond is one of the few pupils in my school who _____ able to score straight A's every year.

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

7. May just returned for a visit only to find out that her best friend _____ to Canada.

- (1) migrates
- (2) migrated
- (3) had migrated
- (4) had been migrated

8. Mr Lim is the artist _____ work is on exhibition in London.

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

9. _____ winning the singing contest, she has received many offers to sing professionally.

- (1) For
- (2) Since
- (3) Unless
- (4) Despite

10. If only you _____ to me earlier, I could have helped you.

- (1) come
- (2) came
- (3) has come
- (4) had come

11. My auntie promised to give my brother and _____ a treat at Swenson if we did well for our final examination.

- (1) I
- (2) me
- (3) my
- (4) myself

12. I nearly died _____ embarrassment when I realized that I did not have enough money to pay for the cab fare.

- (1) in
- (2) of
- (3) off
- (4) with

For each question from 13 to 15, choose the correct punctuation to complete the passage. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (3 marks)

Father was fishing one day when he felt a tremendous tug on his line. "Oh (13) he exclaimed. "This must be a big fish. I must pull it in quickly (14) As he tried to wind up his reel, he was pulled into the water.

Down and down he went till his feet reached the sea-bed. There before him, was a golden fish with scales of ruby red.

"Good morning," it said politely. "I am Ash (15) the magician. I shall grant you three wishes."

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

For each question from 16 to 20, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

16. After months of extensive investigation, the drug _____ was finally exposed and neutralized by the narcotics officer.
- (1) mob
 - (2) pack
 - (3) clique
 - (4) syndicate
17. The tenant was asked to _____ his room by the end of the month when he could not pay his rent.
- (1) vacate
 - (2) abandon
 - (3) surrender
 - (4) evacuate
18. Despite the large number of casualties, the _____ of the soldiers remained high.
- (1) hope
 - (2) spirit
 - (3) morale
 - (4) standard
19. The Red Cross has _____ for more food and blankets for the Afghanistan refugees.
- (1) begged
 - (2) appealed
 - (3) demanded
 - (4) summoned
20. The surfers glided through the water, _____ the waves.
- (1) sliding
 - (2) slipping
 - (3) swimming
 - (4) skimming

For each question from 21 to 25, 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)

Once a year the skies of western Brazil grow dark by day as well as by night. Farmers and cattle owners (21) burn down vast areas of the great rain forest to clear land for crop-growing and cattle rearing. Smoke from the fires blots out the sun. Scientists, keenly aware of the dangers to the earth's environment, see this great annual destruction as a major (22) peril for Brazil, and also for the rest of the world. Politicians have (23) joined hands with scientists to try to stop the foolish waste of the precious resources of the planet.

For more than four hundred years, settlers and farmers have been attacking Brazil's forests in one way or another. They tried to snatch land for themselves from the (24) seemingly indestructible jungles, but their power of recovery defeated their efforts. Nowadays, modern machinery can cut down trees at an alarming speed. One result of this destruction is becoming alarmingly (25) noticeable. The variety of animal and plant life in the forests is slowly but surely disappearing.

21. (1) razed
(2) demolish
(3) eradicate
(4) dismantle
22. (1) trouble
(2) danger
(3) menace
(4) dilemma
23. (1) combined
(2) connected
(3) contributed
(4) collaborated
24. (1) clearly
(2) undeniably
(3) apparently
(4) unmistakably
25. (1) evident
(2) striking
(3) outstanding
(4) noteworthy

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

This story is about a boy, Christopher, who lives by the sea and collects things such as birds' eggs, shells and stones - especially stones.

In spite of his fear of the river-bush, Christopher's search for stones drew him ever closer to it. The best jade was up there, his father said, if you knew where to look for it, and the day came when Christopher knew he would have to go in. He was so close now that he could smell its dark, earthy scent. The high banks gleamed yellow where recent floods had torn away the earth, exposing the roots of trees on the terrace above. He watched cautiously, one eye watching the ancient trees high above his head, while at the same time he scanned the river bed at his feet. Very soon, he discovered a thin, oval olive-green stone that was almost transparent when you held it to the light – the largest piece of pure jade he had ever seen. He was so excited by his find that he forgot to watch the trees any more; he leapt from rock to rock, his bag chattering as it bobbed up and down on his shoulder.

The river was narrower, darker, tumbling through a tunnel of boulders and driftwood. And suddenly, from the terrace above, a wild creek gushed down to the river, plunging into a great boulder-strewn pool where the water flowed dark and deep. There seemed to be no way getting past. The sky had grown overcast, and a fine drizzling rain had begun to fall. Christopher knew he had to make his way out quick. He looked up at the terrace and wondered what he would do if the river rose. His father had warned him that it flooded very quickly whenever there was heavy rain in the back country. You could get trapped there.

Then half-hidden in the deep fern and scrub, he saw the steps. They had been roughly hewn out of the clay to make a stairway up the terrace – a secret path. **They gave him quite a start**; somehow it had not occurred to him that someone actually lived in this forest. There were fresh heelmarks in the steps, the imprint of rubber soles. As he began to climb them, it was like stepping into someone's giant footprints. His heart fluttered with airy feelings. What if he were to meet the owner of those big feet coming down? He was ready to fly at the crack of a twig. But nothing stirred, he saw no one. And then he reached the terrace, and a small clearing of brown fern and grass, and in the middle of it a tin shack.

That's an old rabbit's hut, thought Christopher. He went over to look. The yard was full of junk. Near the door was a large, sandy-looking block of stone that someone had been chipping away at. The ground around it was quite thick with stone shavings. There appeared to be nobody at home.

Adapted from *The Stone* by Anthony Holcroft

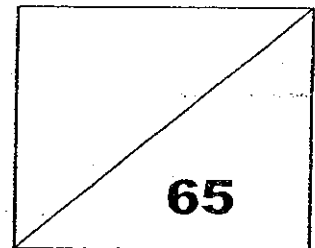
26. Christopher was at the river-bush as he _____.
- (1) wanted to obey his father's instruction
 - (2) hoped to collect birds' eggs and shells
 - (3) wanted to overcome his fear of the unknown
 - (4) knew that the best jade was to be found in there
27. Christopher knew he had to get home when he saw the overcast sky because _____.
- (1) it would rain and he was afraid of its dark, earthy scent
 - (2) he was afraid that the flood would damage the river banks
 - (3) he would be trapped as the rain would cause the river to flood quickly
 - (4) he was worried as he did not know how to swim if the river water rose
28. While at the river-bush, what were the first two things Christopher discovered which made him realize that someone lived in the forest? They were _____.
- (1) footprints and a man-made staircase
 - (2) a man-made staircase and the terrace
 - (3) a man-made staircase and a tin shack
 - (4) footprints and a small clearing of fern and grass
29. "They gave him quite a start." (lines 19-20) The word 'they' refers to the _____.
- (1) fresh heelmarks
 - (2) steps to the terrace
 - (3) imprint of rubber soles
 - (4) fern and scrub at the terrace
30. The phrase "ready to fly at the crack of a twig" (lines 23-24) suggests that Christopher was probably very _____.
- (1) attentive
 - (2) frightened
 - (3) observant
 - (4) distracted

Go to Booklet B

Methodist Girls' School (Primary)
Primary 6 Mid-Year Examination 2008
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET B

Total Time For Booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

Name : _____ ()

Class : P 6. _____

Date : 8 May 2008

This booklet consists of 7 printed pages.

There are 10 blanks, numbered 31 to 40, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONCE ONLY

A	a	D	at	G	in	K	off	N	to
B	an	E	has	H	it	L	onto	P	until
C	above	F	have	J	of	M	since	Q	up

When human beings began to think about getting up before dawn, they found they needed some device to wake them out of their deep sleep. The clock made (31) _____ easier to invent a mechanism that would sound (32) _____ alarm, and the first alarm clock was invented in the eighteenth century. (33) _____ then, many strange wake-up devices (34) _____ appeared in bedrooms.

One wake-up device consisted (35) _____ a large rubber bag laid under the bed's mattress. (36) _____ the wake-up time set on the bedside clock, the clock mechanism started (37) _____ a pump that inflated the rubber bag and tossed the sleeper (38) _____ the floor.

Another clock mechanism set (39) _____ electric shocks in the bed to bring the sleeper (40) _____ sudden consciousness. Other alarm clocks used frightening recorded noises, such as shrieks or howls, or fired water jets.

(Go on to the next page)

Correct each word in **bold** for spelling and each underlined word for grammar. Write the correct word in the relevant box. (10 marks)

It had been agreed the previous night that all except the cook and I were to

(41)

leave and tried to establish Camp Three on the terrace above the ice wall. I watched

(42)

(43)

*my **compairnians** start out; then I adjurned to my tent to write letters.*

(44)

(45)

*Perhaps hálf a hour later I was startled by a **tremandes** roar. I dashed outside.*

(46)

What I saw is indelibly etched onto my memory.

(47)

*An **enomas** portion of the ice had collapsed. Huge masses of ice, as high as*

(48)

cathedrals, is still toppling to destruction. On the slope below was the party, mere black

(49)

dots, strung out in a stragging line. The next moment the avalanche had sweep down

(50)

*upon them; they were **engaffed** and blotted out like insects beneath a tidal wave.*

Fill in each blank with the most suitable word.

(15 marks)

The tiger is a beautiful creature, and certainly the most graceful of all cats. There are many (51) _____ kinds of tiger and they are all rare. Their habitat is related to their (52) _____: the small species with short fur are found in hotter climates, while the larger, stronger Siberian tigers are better suited to the (53) _____.

In common with other cats, tigers are born with their eyes closed, and weigh about 908 grams at (54) _____. There are usually about two or three in a litter, and they have to rely on their mother to feed and protect them. The father tiger provides (55) _____ help at all, and has even known to eat cubs! Tigers usually live about 15 years in the (56) _____, but can survive up to 20 years in captivity.

The tiger, in common with the cheetah, the snow leopard, and most other (57) _____, is a solitary predator. Tigers mark (58) _____ their territory, and the size of that territory depends (59) _____ the amount of meat available.

Tigers love water, and even swim out to islands in (60) _____ of food. They use their stripes as (61) _____ lying in ambush near water-holes, waiting for the food to come to them. They (62) _____ run as fast as cheetahs, and can only reach up to about 64 kilometres per hour when they are sprinting.

Tigers have been killed all (63) _____ the world for fur or trophies, or else just for sport. But there have been other (64) _____ why local people have wanted to destroy them. If surprised, a tiger may kill a human, and (65) _____ a taste for human flesh. When this happens the local inhabitants try to shoot the tigers to protect themselves.

Adapted from *Endangered Species* by Richard Davis

(Go on to the next page)

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. Mary does not realise how serious her illness is.

Little _____

67. The tourists do not like steamed crabs as much as they like chilli crabs.

_____ prefer _____

68. Mathematics was the only subject Bob failed during the Mid-Year examinations.

Bob passed _____

69. I am sorry I did not buy that limited edition watch earlier.

I wish _____

70. "Did any of you watch the concert by Moroon 5 last night?" Nick asked his classmates.

Nick asked his classmates _____

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

In the aftermath of the civil wars in many African countries, resulting from the collapse of the colonial empires, large sections of the countryside remained landmined. This had terrible repercussions. This story is based on a courageous young girl, Sofia, living in the war-torn Mozambique. It describes how she overcomes the horror of being blown up by a landmine and builds a new future out of her life.

Doctor Raul came into her room. She recognized him now, although she still didn't know his name. But he always sat by her bed so that his face was close to her own. He smiled. He looked tired. Wasn't there a bed where he could lie down and rest?

"How are you, Sofia?" he asked.

"Someone has taken one of my legs," she answered. She spoke so softly that he barely heard what she was saying. He leaned closer and asked her to repeat it. 5

"One of my legs is gone," Sofia said.

He looked into her tired eyes. Her face was covered with cuts from the explosion. He felt the rage in his heart again. This is a child who has been deprived of the ability to run, he thought. An African girl who will never dance again. 10

He realized that she thought only one of her legs was gone. She still hadn't noticed that they had also removed the second one. He knew that he would have to tell her. That would be better than letting her find out for herself when she was alone.

He wished he didn't have to. He wished he would never again have to see a girl like Sofia in a hospital bed, torn to pieces by a landmine. Even so, he dared to believe that this girl would survive. There was still a risk that she could get infections. But he thought she might make it. She had an unusual strength. Of course, he would never fully understand the torment she was enduring. 15

Strength had nothing to do with a man being able to lift a hundred kilograms above his head. Strength was a child who survived treading on a landmine. He had heard from the nurses that Sofia rarely cried. She cried silently through all the pain. 20

"It's not only one of your legs that is gone," he said. "We had to remove the other one, too. If we hadn't, you would never have recovered. But I can promise that you'll get two fine artificial legs. And you'll be able to walk again, Sofia. I promise you that. They will be your best friends for the rest of your life." He looked at her face. "Do you understand what I'm telling you?" he asked. 25

Sofia didn't take her eyes off him. She explored her body with her hand. The other leg was gone too. She looked at Doctor Raul. "I want my legs back," she said.

"You'll get new legs," Doctor Raul answered.

"I don't want new ones," she said. "I want my old ones." She hadn't the energy to say anything else. The pain was too great. A nurse gave her something to drink. She was soon asleep. 30

Adapted from *Secrets in the Fire* by Henning Mankell

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. What was Sofia's nationality?

72. "Her face was covered with cuts from the explosion." (lines 8 - 9)
Explain in your own words what had happened to Sofia.

73. Which word from lines 1 - 15 has the same meaning as 'robbed'?

74. What other physical injury did Sofia sustain besides the cuts on her face?

75. What was Doctor Raul's reaction towards Sofia's plight? Pick out the sentence which tells you so.

16 "He knew that he would have to tell her." (line 12) Why did Dr Raul want to stay by her side and tell her terrible news about her leg?

17 What was Dr Raul's fear for Sofia even though he was certain she would survive?

18 "Strength had nothing to do with a man being able to lift a hundred kilograms above his head." and "Strength was a child who survived treading on a landmine." (lines 19 - 20)

In your own words, what kind of "strength" was the narrator referring to in each context?

(19) What do you think was the reason for Dr Raul telling Sofia that she will "get two fine artificial legs" (lines 23 - 24)?

20 What does this passage reveal about the character of Dr Raul? Give reason for your answer.

END OF PAPER

MGS Primary School

Primary 6 English SA1 Exam (2008)

Answer Keys

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
2	1	1	3	3	2	3	4	1	2
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
2	2	4	1	1	4	1	3	2	4
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30
1	2	4	3	1	4	3	1	2	2
Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
H	B	M	F	J	D	Q	L	K	N

- | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| 41. try | 42. companions | 43. adjourned | 44. an | 45. tremendous |
| 46. in | 47. enormous | 48. were | 49. swept | 50. engulfed |
| 51. different | 52. size | 53. cold | 54. birth | 55. no |
| 56. wild | 57. felines | 58. out | 59. on | 60. search |
| 61. camouflage | 62. cannot | 63. over | 64. reasons | 65. develop |

66. Little does Mary know how serious her illness is?
67. The tourists prefer chili crabs to steamed crabs.
68. Bob passed all subject except for Mathematics during the Mid-year.
69. I wish I had bought that limited edition watch earlier.
70. Nick asked his classmates if any of them had watched the concert by Moroon 5 the night before.
71. She was an African.
72. She had stepped on a landmine and the explosion had caused her to have cuts on her face.
73. The word is "deprived".
74. Sofia lost both of her legs.
75. He was angry.
76. He wanted to make sure that she was not alone and that he would be around to comfort her.
77. Dr Raul feared that Sofia might get infections.
78. In the first context, the "strength" is a physical strength. In the second context, the "strength" is a mental strength.
79. He wanted her to know that she would walk again.
80. He cared enough to be there for Sofia when she discovered the truth about her other leg.