

SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL  
FIRST SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2013  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRIMARY SIX

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

Class: Primary 6 SY / C / G / SE / P

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)  
BOOKLET A

30 questions

30 marks

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.

Study the following text and answer questions 1 to 5.

# RIGHTPRICE

Housebrand

**Eat healthier with RightPrice Red Unpolished Rice.**

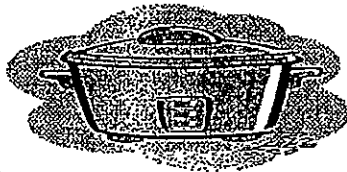
**A brand new recipe to help you switch to RightPrice Red Unpolished Rice, the healthier choice to white rice.**



## Red Rice with Corn and Green Peas

### **Ingredients:**

100 g uncooked RightPrice Red Unpolished Rice, 500 ml water, 2 teaspoons oil, 20 g chopped onion, 5 g chopped garlic, 40 g diced carrot, 40 g corn kernels, 50 g frozen green peas, ½ teaspoon salt, Dash of pepper, 5 g coriander leaves



### **Method of Preparation**

1. Wash and rinse rice in rice cooker.
2. Heat up oil. Add onion and garlic. Fry till aromatic.
3. Add carrot, corn kernels and frozen peas. Stir fry quickly.
4. Add into the rice cooker. Add salt and pepper. Add water and cook rice in rice cooker.
5. Serve hot with a sprinkle of coriander leaves.

*This recipe is created by Ronald Goh of the Good Food Restaurant*

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 RightPrice is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) the name of a building
- (2) the name of a product
- (3) the name of a brand
- (4) a recipe

2 The product advertised is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) white rice
- (2) brown rice
- (3) aromatic rice
- (4) unpolished rice

3 The item in the recipe that need not be cooked is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) green peas
- (2) corn kernels
- (3) chopped onions
- (4) coriander leaves

4 Ronald Goh is likely to be a \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) chef
- (2) housewife
- (3) health officer
- (4) grocery shop-owner

5 You are encouraged to eat the product because it is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) colourful
- (2) a healthy option
- (3) very easy to cook
- (4) delicious when eaten hot

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 Instead of ordering from Madam Looi, Amir and his classmates have decided to bake the cookies \_\_\_\_\_ to raise funds for the children's home.

- (1) himself
- (2) ourselves
- (3) yourselves
- (4) themselves

7 The police has issued an advisory to the public, urging them not to be taken \_\_\_\_\_ by schemes or individuals that promise them huge returns on their investments within a short time.

- (1) in
- (2) on
- (3) away
- (4) aback

8 Everyone \_\_\_\_\_ to the assembly area since the announcement was made about fifteen minutes ago.

- (1) reports
- (2) has reported
- (3) was reporting
- (4) have reported

9 The witnesses said that they saw someone who resembled the victim \_\_\_\_\_ past them before a loud crash was heard.

- (1) run
- (2) ran
- (3) had run
- (4) was running

10 At the meeting, the drivers were reminded again to conform \_\_\_\_\_ the rules and regulations during the race the next day.

- (1) by
- (2) to
- (3) with
- (4) about

11 The exclusion of the star players from the final match between the long-time rivals \_\_\_\_\_ been identified as the reason for the dismal performance.

- (1) do
- (2) has
- (3) does
- (4) have

12 "The outstanding amount has to be settled today. \_\_\_\_\_, your account will be suspended," the officer explained to Mr Wee.

- (1) Therefore
- (2) Otherwise
- (3) Meanwhile
- (4) Nevertheless

For each question from 13 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. (3 marks)

Affectionately known by longtime patrons as “Ghee Leong (13), this traditional bakery – one of only a handful remaining in the country (14) has been producing fresh loaves of bread in its stone ovens for over 50 years. Other than bread, the bakery makes and sells buns which are filled with everything from cream to red bean paste.

Stacks of bread fill both the interior and exterior of the bakery. Meanwhile, the workers are constantly hard at work removing the charred crust from the loaves before the soft, white bread is sliced (15) packed and sent to provision stores and coffeeshops across the island.

*Adapted from an article in Voices Central Singapore (Jan - March 2013)*

- 13 (1) [ , ] comma  
(2) [ . ] full stop  
(3) [ ' ] apostrophe  
(4) [ " ] quotation mark

- 14 (1) [ - ] dash  
(2) [ : ] colon  
(3) [ ; ] semicolon  
(4) [ , " ] comma and inverted commas

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

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. (5 marks)

16 About fifty animal lovers turned up to protest the \_\_\_\_\_ act against the cats.

- (1) fanatical
- (2) exemplary
- (3) reprehensible
- (4) magnanimous

17 "Looking at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the tsunami survivors who are still trying to rebuild their lives, we should be grateful for the relative safety of our region," the NE Coordinator reminded the pupils.

- (1) proposal
- (2) prediction
- (3) prognosis
- (4) predicament

18 "Like last year, business has been very bad after the end-of-year festive season is over," they \_\_\_\_\_ to the chairperson of the association.

- (1) moped
- (2) rebutted
- (3) lamented
- (4) admonished

19 After looking at the evidence, the investigating officers concluded that the victims in all five cases are \_\_\_\_\_ linked to one another.

- (1) haltingly
- (2) minutely
- (3) flawlessly
- (4) inextricably

20 In recognition of their \_\_\_\_\_ performance at the recent Asian Games, the football team was given a special bonus.

- (1) sterling
- (2) atrocious
- (3) lacklustre
- (4) unpalatable



For each question 21 to 25, choose a suitable answer to replace the underlined words. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

My favourite subjects are children. They are genuine, spontaneous and innocent. They mirror your feelings and moods even if you are behind the camera. How they embrace life with innocence and purity comes as a reminder that life is actually very simple. In the world we live in, we have to move all the time. We dream big and pursue it constantly. When we achieved that cherished dream, we aspire for something bigger.

When I take pictures of children, I realise so many things. Here's a girl with sunburnt skin, unadorned yet beautiful, unschooled yet refined. Such is the duality of life. Photography is able to capture this; photography is able to tell a thousand stories.

Adapted from an article in *Asian Geographic*, Issue 2/2011

- 21 (1) sullied  
(2) impure  
(3) debased  
(4) wholesome
- 22 (1) attitudes  
(2) sentiments  
(3) impartiality  
(4) abhorrence
- 23 (1) forgo  
(2) grasp  
(3) relinquish  
(4) surrender
- 24 (1) mindlessly  
(2) unwittingly  
(3) relentlessly  
(4) intermittently
- 25 (1) crude  
(2) cultured  
(3) convoluted  
(4) compassionate

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PAGE**

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

Nakhu stood with his eyes downcast. He was studying his nails as he permitted Balram to speak for him. It was up to Balram, his uncle, to do what was needed to secure the job for him. What the job was had not been divulged to him but he had heard the thrilling word – “movie” – in the dialogue between his mother and uncle last night. He knew plenty about movies. Once a week, he bought a ticket at the Picture Palace and saw whatever it offered. He simply loved movies! However, being in the same room with these three common-looking people in the hotel where he had been sacked from his job as a dishwasher was killing his hopes of working in the movie industry. 5

“Just tell him what you want,” Balram was saying in a loud voice as if to drown out all objections, “and he will do it.” 10

Having no alternative, they drove with Nakhu in their jeep to the spot that Balram had picked for them as the site of the entrance to an illegal phosphate mine. Nakhu did not utter a word – he was uncertain what was happening.

It was not long before Nakhu’s questions were answered. They had reached the spot Balram had suggested – at the edge of a steep cliff. They could not see what was beyond that. Obviously, they believed that he was familiar with the area. Worse, they expected him to dismount and let himself down a stony track that only a goat could have tackled. Nakhu stood hesitating and teetering when Bhatia shouted, “This is where Balram said we’d find the entrance to the mine. Now, take us there!” 15

Chand and Shalini, exchanging looks, decided to take over the lead, asking the others to follow as they stumbled and slid their way down to the promised scene of environmental degradation they might film. 20

The degradation did materialise, even without Nakhu’s help. “Look! Look!” Shalini cried as they came upon a heap of fallen logs and charred stumps. “Loggers have been here!” 25

“Then why go further?” Bhatia had already given up following them and was panting; this exercise was not for him. “Forget the phosphate mine! Let’s just film here and get it over with.”

Chand and Shalini exchanged disgusted looks. To them, the effort was an essential part of their project. If they had wanted to do something easy, they could have filmed in a studio and conducted interviews. However, they had decided on filming actual sites – and that means sites would have to be found, perpetrators tracked down and caught red-handed if necessary! Leaving Bhatia and Nakhu to follow, they continued down the slippery gravel, grasping at any bushes that seemed rooted and got further down the hillside. 30 35

Adapted from *The Artist of Disappearance* (2011) by Anita Desai; Chatto and Windus; London

For each question from 26 to 30, 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)

- 26 Nakhu agreed to meet the others because he \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) knew much about movies
  - (2) had spent plenty of time preparing that morning
  - (3) wanted to share his knowledge about movies with them
  - (4) believed they would be able to help him enter the world of movies
- 27 When Nakhu "saw whatever it offered" (lines 5 - 6), this suggested that he was \_\_\_\_\_ in his choice of movies.
- (1) selective
  - (2) particular
  - (3) compulsive
  - (4) undiscerning
- 28 Balram anticipated that they might reject Nakhu for the job as largely, \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) he had been a dishwasher
  - (2) he was not appropriately attired
  - (3) he appeared only vaguely interested in the job.
  - (4) his expertise as a frequent moviegoer did not match their requirements
- 29 They found the "promised scene of environmental degradation" (lines 21 -22) easily because \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) the loggers were at the site
  - (2) Nakhu had expertly led them there
  - (3) Chand and Shalini had taken over the lead
  - (4) evidence of the large-scale pollution was everywhere
- 30 When "Chand and Shalini exchanged disgusted looks" (line 29), they were \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) disappointed that Bhatia was tired after the physically challenging descent
  - (2) angry that Bhatia dared to suggest that they change the subject of their film
  - (3) upset that they had made the wrong choice in choosing Nakhu to be part of their team
  - (4) appalled that Bhatia did not share their beliefs behind their decision to film actual sites

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRIMARY SIX**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (     )

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: Primary 6 SY / C / G / SE / P

Parent's Signature:  
\_\_\_\_\_

	Marks Obtained	Highest Possible Marks
Booklet A		30
Booklet B		65
Sub-total		95

**PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)**

**BOOKLET B**

50 questions

65 marks

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.

Write your answers in this booklet.

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 in order to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

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

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(A) after	(D) as	(G) himself	(K) may	(N) which
(B) against	(E) at	(H) in	(L) them	(P) will
(C) along	(F) have	(J) into	(M) when	(Q) with

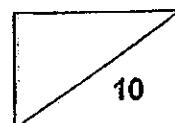
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Driven by his desire to run at the 2016 Olympic Games but crippled by the demands of a medical career, Mok Ying Ren knew that something had to give. He has decided to run \_\_\_\_\_ convention and cast medicine aside. His peers have balked at the idea, saying that he would be too rusty \_\_\_\_\_ he returns to medicine. There is also the loss of income \_\_\_\_\_ he would have drawn during his stint at the Singapore General Hospital.

Self-doubt is part of the journey but Mok's instinct \_\_\_\_\_ a marathoner tells him to push on. Passion and persistence \_\_\_\_\_ guide him but the aspiring orthopaedic surgeon needs sponsors to back him too. Around \$150 000 is required to pay for flights and living expenses \_\_\_\_\_ the way and Mok is counting on companies to buy \_\_\_\_\_ his dream. He can offer advertising space on his race jersey, public appearances and running clinics. In return, he gets a stab \_\_\_\_\_ history.

There \_\_\_\_\_ been other doctors who also swear by sport. Benedict Tan, Eric Heiden and Kumaran Rasappan – Mok recites their feats and dares \_\_\_\_\_ to do the same. "People like them give me hope that anything is possible," Mok adds with firm determination.

Adapted from an article in The Straits Times, 27 December 2012



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

(41)

The disturbing news is finally out. The U.S. coasts are being bad battered by pollution.

(42)

These disturbing reports have not gone unotised. Former Secretary of Energy, James

Watkins highlighted, "Our failure to properly manage the human activities that affect the

(43)

nation's oceans and coasts were compromising their ecological integrity."

(44)

Another activist, Donna Warner became galvanised in the clean water issue in 1990.

(45)

"People kept coming into my surf-shop with a variety of ailments. At first, I was **doutfull**."

Then I did some research and found out that total coliform bacteria counts at the surfing

(46)

beaches were about 1600 times higher than what is considering safe for swimming."

(47)

Armed with hard data, Donna launched a tireless **kampaign** to get warning signs posted,

(48)

(49)

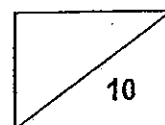
fix leaking sewer pipes and require more **streengent** beach-water monitoring. When she

began her fight, the city has experienced 60 percent fewer beach closures. Although the

(50)

beaches are cleaner, Donna believes there is still more to be done for the **envairemen**.

Adapted from an article in National Geographic, July 2006



Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Philosopher William James believed that one of the greatest discoveries of his generation was the realisation that by changing our attitudes, we can change our lives. Whether you are \_\_\_\_\_ of it or not, you view the world through your own unique attitudes. Your (51) decisions and actions are \_\_\_\_\_ on those attitudes. (52)

When you experience a \_\_\_\_\_ or a personal crisis, it is perfectly normal and healthy to go through the stages of fear, anger and sadness. Then, at some \_\_\_\_\_, we all have to say, "I'm still here. Do I want to spend the rest of my life (54) wallowing in \_\_\_\_\_? Or do I want to rise above what has happened and pursue (55) \_\_\_\_\_ dreams?" (56)

The age-old, time-proven, undeniable truth is that you and I may have absolutely \_\_\_\_\_ control over what happens to us. We are all blindsided \_\_\_\_\_ (57) time to time. \_\_\_\_\_, we can control how we respond. If we choose the right attitude, (58) we can rise \_\_\_\_\_ whatever challenges we face. Once we have whimpered, vented (59) or \_\_\_\_\_ all our tears, we need to pull ourselves together and make an attitude (60) adjustment. (61)

I have never come across a successful, fulfilled, happy person who is also a \_\_\_\_\_ . That is because optimism is empowering – it allows you to adjust your (62) attitude to make the best of \_\_\_\_\_ situations. At times, this is described as (63) 'reframing'. \_\_\_\_\_ you cannot always change your circumstance, you can change (64) the way you look at them. Initially, you may have to do this \_\_\_\_\_. Once you have (65) practised it for a while, it then becomes automatic.

Adapted from *Life Without Limits* (2010) by Nick Vujicic; Random House, New York



For each of the items 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 If you want to stay out of trouble, you need to obey the rules.

\_\_\_\_\_ in order to

\_\_\_\_\_

67 The teacher said, "Class, submit your forms tomorrow."

The teacher instructed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

68 The farms have been cleared to make way for the new industrial park. I spent my childhood at the farms.

\_\_\_\_\_ where

\_\_\_\_\_

69 When Mrs Ng reaches home, the first thing she does is to prepare dinner.

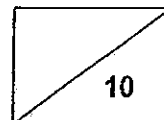
As soon as \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

70 Work hard and revise your work consistently, otherwise, you might fail the coming test.

\_\_\_\_\_ lest

\_\_\_\_\_



Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

Tree-ear emerged from his hiding place and approached the house. Against the wall was a set of shelves holding a few of Min's latest creations. For the first time, he was seeing Min's work at close range. Tree-ear stared intently at a duck. Though it was now a dull grey, so detailed were its features that he found himself listening for the sound of a quack.

He tore his gaze away from the duck to examine the next piece – a rectangular lidded box. Holding his breath, he gently lifted the lid and looked inside. He grinned in delight at Min's skill. The plain box held five smaller boxes – a round one in the centre and four curved boxes that fit around it perfectly. The small boxes appeared to completely fill the larger container but Min had left exactly the right amount of space to allow any of them to be lifted out. Tree-ear's eyes flickered back and forth between the small pieces in his hand and the larger container, his brow furrowed in thought. 5 10

Had Min made the large box then a second one to fit inside and cut the smaller boxes from that? Or did he make the inside box first and fit the larger box around it? Maybe he began with...

Someone bellowed and Tree-ear dropped what he was holding. He stood there paralysed then threw his hands up in front of his face to protect himself from the blows that were raining down on his head and shoulders. 15

"How dare you come here! How dare you touch my work!" Min screamed.

Tree-ear dropped to his knees and cowered in a deep formal bow.

"Please! Please, honourable sir, I was not taking your work. I only came to admire it." 20

From the corner of his eye, Tree-ear could see the tip of the cane as it was lowered to the ground and he allowed himself a single sigh of relief,

Min stared at Tree-ear for a long moment. At last, he seemed to make up his mind about something and when he spoke again, his voice had lost the sharpest edge of its anger.

"Get on your way, then. I know better than to ask for payment for what you have ruined." 25

"Honourable sir, could I not work for you, as payment?"

Min shook his head impatiently. "What could you do, an untrained child? I have no time to teach you. You would be more trouble than help." He continued to mutter under his breath until finally, he glanced at Tree-ear.

"All right," he said, his voice still rough with annoyance. "Come tomorrow at daybreak." 30

Upon his arrival for work the next day, Min handed Tree-ear a small axe and led him to a wheeled cart.

"Fill the cart with wood," Min barked. "Dry wood. Do not come back until the cart is full."

Tree-ear felt as though the sun had suddenly dimmed. He had imagined himself at the wheel, a beautiful pot growing from the clay before him. Resigning himself to his fate, he placed the axe in the cart and wheeled it into the mountains. 35

Chopping wood for hours without a single bite to eat had been hard enough. However, the worst of that day was the long trip back down the mountainside with the cart full of wood. The path was rutted and bumpy. The cart was poorly balanced and awkward with its heavy load. Whenever the wheels hit a deep rut, the cart would tip precariously and the logs would spill out. 40

Adapted from *A Single Shard* (2002) by Linda Sue Park, Harcourt Publishing, New York

**ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES**

71 What evidence in Paragraph 1 supports the fact that Min was considered to be very skilful in his craft?

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72 Explain in your own words why Tree-ear's brow 'furrowed in thought' (line 11).

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73 How did Min react when he found Tree-ear in his house?

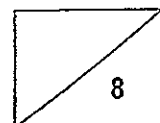
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74 Referring to lines 15 to 20, what did Min mistake Tree-ear for?

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75 Explain clearly why Tree-ear sighed in relief (line 22).

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76 Explain fully what 'something' in line 24 refers to.

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77 What reasons did Min give for rejecting Tree-ear's offer to work for him as payment?

---

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78 Quote the sentence from the passage that tells us that Tree-ear was disappointed when asked to chop wood on the first day of work.

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79 What did Tree-ear expect Min to ask him to do when he worked for the latter?

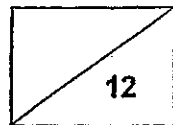
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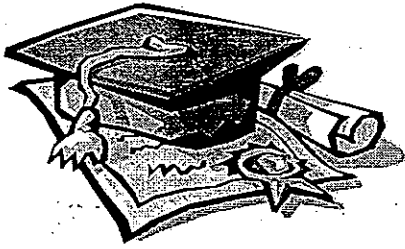
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80 Explain clearly what the greatest challenge Tree-ear faced on his trip back with the cart full of wood was.

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# ANSWER SHEET

**EXAM PAPER 2013**

**SCHOOL : SCGS**

**SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH**

**TERM : SA1**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17
3	4	4	1	2	4	1	2	1	2	2	2	4	1	1	3	4

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

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
P	C	J	E	F	G

- 41)badly      42)unnoticed      43)is      44)by      45)doubtful  
46)considered      47)campaign      48)stringent      49)Since  
50)environment      51)aware      52)based      53)failure      54)point  
55)grief      56)my      57)no      58)from      59)However      60)above  
61)shed      62)pessimist      63)bad      64)Although      65)consciously  
66)You need to obey the rules in order to stay out of trouble.  
67)The teacher instructed the class to submit their forms the following day.  
68)The farms where I spent my childhood have been cleared to make way for the new industrial park.

69)As soon as Mrs Ng reaches home, she prepares dinner.

70)Work hard and revise your work consistently lest you fail the coming test.

71)Min had made a duck that had very detailed feathers.

72)Tree-ear's brow was furrowed in thought as he was thinking hard about how Min managed to leave the exact amount of space for any of the small boxes to be taken out from the big box.

73)Min bellowed with anger and began caning Tree-ear on his head and shoulders as he screamed at Tree-ear furiously when he found Tree-ear in his house.

74)Min mistook Tree-ear for a thief stealing his work.

75)Tree-ear sighed in relief as he saw Min lowering the tip of the cane to the ground, which meant that he would not be caned any more and would not need to endure any more pain.

76)It refers to the fact that Tree-ear was not a thief.

77)Min rejected Tree-ear's offer as he thought of Tree-ear was an untrained child, and as Min had no time to teach him, Tree-ear would be more trouble than help.

78)The sentence is "Tree-ear felt as though the sun had suddenly dimmed".

79)Tree-ear expected Min to ask him to help Min at the wheel, making things from clay such as pots.

80)The greatest challenge that Tree-ear faced was balancing the cart and its heavy load on the bumpy and rutted path properly and preventing the wheels from hitting a deep rut, for if it did, the cart would tip precariously and the logs would spill out.