



**RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL  
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT (1)**

**2009**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Class :P5 \_\_\_\_\_

Your score out of 95 marks	
Highest score	
Average score	
Parent's signature	

13 May 2009

English Language

ATT : 1 hr 50 min

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**PAPER 2**

1 hour 50 minutes

95 marks

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1 Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.

**Section A : Graphic Stimulus (5 x 1 mark)**

Study the flyer below carefully and then answer questions 1 to 5.



## Desserts Galore.....



Need a treat for your sweet tooth?  
Coming your way this June 2009 ...

Opening soon! Yummy Treatz, your favourite café @ Yishun Shopping Centre

Come down to our newest outlet during the opening week and just spend \$15 to receive our all-time favourite, the Yummy Muffin, absolutely free.

Other mouth-watering desserts include:

- ▣ Chocolate peanut éclairs
- ▣ Doughnuts with an assortment of toppings
- ▣ Yoghurt ice cream (all 15 flavours of it!)
- ▣ Chocolate mudpies
- ▣ Milkshakes\*



\*In celebration of Youth Day, \$1 off regular price for students when they present their student cards, only in the month of July.

*"The fastest-growing dessert franchise so far this year, with the launch of three outlets each in the months of April and May."*  
Life Magazine, May 2009

*"The desserts are sinfully delicious ... you will not regret standing in line around the block for its scrumptious muffins"*  
Munchies Magazine, April 2009

Location of new outlet:  
**#01-56 Yishun Shopping Centre**  
**Ivory Road, Singapore**  
**(just across North Vista Hotel)**

With 2 more outlets to be opened in the later half of this year!

Simply present this coupon to purchase a bubble tea drink for only half the price on Opening Day, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009, at the Yishun outlet.

\*\*For dine-in customers only.



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

1. Yummy Treatz is the name of a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) café
  - (2) hotel
  - (3) magazine
  - (4) shopping centre
  
2. Yummy Treatz is famous for its delicious \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) eclairs
  - (2) muffins
  - (3) mudpies
  - (4) doughnuts
  
3. The latest outlet is set to open in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) April 2009
  - (2) May 2009
  - (3) June 2009
  - (4) July 2009
  
4. There are currently \_\_\_\_\_ outlets of Yummy Treatz in operation in Singapore.
  - (1) two
  - (2) six
  - (3) three
  - (4) seven
  
5. If you are a student, you can get \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) a Yummy Muffin for free on the opening week
  - (2) all 15 flavours of its yoghurt ice creams for just \$15
  - (3) a bubble tea drink for half its price on Youth Day
  - (4) a milkshake for \$1 less its usual price in the month of July

**Section B : Grammar Discrete (7 x 1 mark)**

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

6. Since the two of you did not leave the room, \_\_\_\_\_ of you are responsible for the broken window.

- (1) one
- (2) both
- (3) each
- (4) either

7. Whenever Tom was naughty, his mother made him \_\_\_\_\_ to bed without dinner.

- (1) go
- (2) goes
- (3) went
- (4) going

8. The blind lady at the bus stop asked me if I \_\_\_\_\_ tell her when her bus arrived.

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

9. Were they the only girls \_\_\_\_\_ were present at the ballet class yesterday?

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

10. We \_\_\_\_\_ everything before our teacher walked into class.

- (1) prepare
- (2) prepared
- (3) had prepared
- (4) have prepared

11. When the wind started blowing, the fire burnt even \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) fiercer
- (2) fiercely
- (3) most fiercely
- (4) more fiercely

12. \_\_\_\_\_ the snakes were harmless, I did not dare to touch them.

- (1) Since
- (2) When
- (3) Even
- (4) Although

**Section C : Punctuation (3 x 1 mark)**

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.

Belle and her mother were taking a stroll along the beach when Belle chanced upon something glittery in the sand – a shell. Belle held up the shell in her hands. "Mummy, look at this pretty shell (13)" she called out to her mother excitedly. She was right (14) The shell was a rare one, one that even her mother had not seen before. It was so enormous that Belle's two hands were barely supporting it. "I've never seen such a shell before, I wonder where it's from (15) Belle's mother said, taking the shell from her daughter's hands. Its beautiful ornament designs reflected the sunlight perfectly.

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

**Section D : Vocabulary MCQ (5 x 1 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.

16. The old school has been \_\_\_\_\_ and residential apartments will be built in its place.

- (1) renovated
- (2) decorated
- (3) demolished
- (4) reconstructed

17. That painting is not a/an \_\_\_\_\_ but it is a good replica of the one painted by Monet.

- (1) hoax
- (2) fake
- (3) original
- (4) specimen

18. With too much \_\_\_\_\_ on his hands and nothing to keep him occupied, he was bound to get into mischief without proper adult supervision.

- (1) time
- (2) space
- (3) wealth
- (4) freedom

19. Please remember to \_\_\_\_\_ my message to Alan. It is urgent and important.

- (1) convey
- (2) review
- (3) transfer
- (4) disseminate

20. He was riding his bicycle at full speed when he hit a tree and was \_\_\_\_\_ the bicycle.

- (1) thrown on
- (2) thrown off
- (3) thrown out
- (4) thrown over

**Section E : Vocabulary Cloze (5 x 1 mark)**

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.

There are many myths and legends surrounding the origin of the ancient Olympic Games. The most prevalent <sup>well known.</sup> legend describes Hercules as the creator of the Games, who built the Olympic stadium and surrounding buildings as a tribute to his father, Zeus, after completing his twelve labours. According to that legend, he walked in a straight line for 400 strides and called this distance a 'stadium' that later also became a distance calculation unit. This is also why a present-day <sup>now.</sup> stadium is 400 metres in circumference. According to scholars, the first Olympic Games were held as early as 884 B.C.

From then on, the Games quickly became much more important throughout ancient Greece, reaching its peak in the sixth and fifth centuries B.C. The Games were held once every four years and the celebration was spread over several days. Winners of the events were greatly revered and were immortalised in poems and statues by the people. With the establishment of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the games started internationally in 1876 and continues till today.

21. (1) popular  
(2) favourite  
(3) infamous  
(4) notorious

22. (1) short steps  
(2) long steps  
(3) quick steps  
(4) unsteady steps

23. (1) modern  
(2) historical  
(3) temporary  
(4) permanent



24. (1) roof  
(2) climax  
(3) ceiling  
(4) summit

25. (1) received  
(2) rewarded  
(3) respected  
(4) remembered

**Section F ( 5 × 1 mark)**

**Read the passage and answer questions 26 to 30.**

Bringing a giraffe into the world is a tall order. A baby giraffe falls 10 feet from its mother's womb and usually lands on its back. Within seconds it rolls over and tucks its legs under its body. From this position it considers the world for the first time and shakes off the last **vestiges** of the birthing fluid from its eyes and ears. Then the mother giraffe rudely introduces its offspring to the reality of life.

5

In his book, "A view from the Zoo", Gary Richmond describes how a newborn giraffe learns its first lesson.

The mother giraffe lowers her head long enough to take a quick look. Then she positions herself directly over her calf. She waits for about a minute, and then she does the most unreasonable thing. She swings her long, pendulous leg outward and kicks her baby, so that it is sent sprawling head over heels.

10

When it doesn't get up, the violent process is repeated over and over again. The struggle to rise is momentous. As the calf grows tired, the mother kicks it again to stimulate its effort. Finally, the calf stands for the first time on its wobbly legs.

Then the mother giraffe does the most remarkable thing. She kicks it off its feet again. She wants it to remember how it got up. In the wild, baby giraffes must be able to get up as quickly as possible to stay with the herd, where there is safety. Lions, hyenas, leopards, and wild hunting dogs all enjoy young giraffes, and they'd get it too, if the mother didn't teach her calf to get up quickly.

15

The late Irving Stone understood this. He spent a lifetime studying greatness, writing novelised biographies of such men as Michelangelo, Vincent van Gogh, Sigmund Freud, and Charles Darwin.

20

Stone was once asked if he had found a thread that runs through the lives of all these exceptional people. He said, "I write about people who sometime in their life have a vision or dream of something that should be accomplished and they go to work."

25

"They are beaten over the head, knocked down, vilified, and for years they get nowhere. However, every time they're knocked down, they stand up. You cannot destroy these people. At the end of their lives, they've accomplished some modest part of what they set out to do."

For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make a choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

26. Another word for 'vestiges' in line 4 is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) vision
  - (2) residue
  - (3) container
  - (4) reminder
27. The calf receives its first lesson on life by \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) listening to its mother
  - (2) trying to stand up on its own.
  - (3) sitting on its legs under its body
  - (4) looking at the world for the first time
28. The mother giraffe kicks her calf again after it has stood up for the first time because \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) she wants to do a remarkable thing
  - (2) the calf is being playful and disobedient
  - (3) she wants her calf to remember how to get up
  - (4) the predators will get to her calf if it doesn't get up quick enough
29. The word 'this' in line 20 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) the life of an exceptional person
  - (2) the biography Irving Stone wrote
  - (3) the time Irving Stone spent studying the people he wrote about
  - (4) the lesson learnt on how to overcome obstacles and accomplish a task
30. The people Irving Stone wrote about \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) were born great
  - (2) were people with great thinking and skills
  - (3) gave up fighting what they believed in when they were knocked down
  - (4) have undying fighting spirit despite being knocked down many times

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

P5 ( )

**Section G : Structural Cloze (10 x 1 mark)**

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.

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

(A) a	(D) can	(G) in	(K) lest	(N) though
(B) and	(E) even	(H) into	(L) must	(P) should
(C) any	(F) from	(J) it	(M) or	(Q) while

Most of us are afraid of sharks. (31) \_\_\_\_\_ is the fish that we fear most. Sharks belong to (32) \_\_\_\_\_ class called chondrichthyes. It includes rays and sawfish. These fishes have no bones (33) \_\_\_\_\_ the skeleton is made up of cartilage. Sharks have to be on the move all the time (34) \_\_\_\_\_ else, they will sink.

Sharks will eat (35) \_\_\_\_\_ object in the water, whether it is moving or still. They feed on sick and injured fishes and (36) \_\_\_\_\_ eat the garbage dumped from ships. When there is a group of sharks, eating turns (37) \_\_\_\_\_ a frenzy. At times like that, they (38) \_\_\_\_\_ even end up eating one of their own kind.

(39) \_\_\_\_\_ some sharks bite off chunks of their prey, others swallow them whole. The harmless sharks that feed on plankton, small plants and animal organisms are, ironically (40) \_\_\_\_\_, the giants of the shark family, the whale shark and the basking shark.

**Section H : Editing ( 10 × 1 mark )**

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

This is a handbook about the craft of fiction writing for new and emerging writers.

This handbook on writing cannot help you unless you invest time and effort in  
(41)  (42)   
**devellopping** your talents. For example, it's unwise to set off to be a writer of fiction

without first being a reader of it. Writers of fiction who are thoughtful readers of it are  
(43)  (44)   
better able to make informed **assèsments** of their own work and forqed their own writing

styles.

(45)

Becoming a writer also **involvs** patience and a readiness to rewrite. I once spent  
(46)   
a week writing a detailed reader's report for a man who first novel had been rejected by  
(47)   
a publisher. The novel had interesting characters and a moving teme, but it was too long

by half, sloppily constructed and badly written.

(48)

I believed that many new writers have false notions about writing, the writer's life  
and getting published. They don't realise that writing and rewriting require thought, care,

(49)

patience and long hours for **solitary** work. As long-distance runners need training, and  
ongoing training, in order to run a marathon, writers learn to write by observing, being

(50)

**perseptive**, reading, writing, drafting and refining, and establishing good work habits:

**Section I : Comprehension Cloze ( 15 × 1 mark )**

**Read the passage carefully and fill in each of the blanks with a suitable word.**

The old dog took a few minutes to take stock of the telephone repairman in that wet, cold night. Being tired, hungry and footsore, he decided to get into his truck, then into his home and soon \_\_\_\_\_ (51) his heart.

Alleybones was not as lucky. He \_\_\_\_\_ (52) in the alley, growing wilder, hungrier, skinnier. As eating was not a \_\_\_\_\_ (53) thing with him, his spine began to stick out like a row of little knobs. He \_\_\_\_\_ (54) a lot of time sleeping and a lot of time trying to get out of the way.

He was a street-smart cat who knew when to fight - not too \_\_\_\_\_ (55) - and when to run away - usually always. For a long time, he was the only cat in the alley, but there was a gang of rats, most of them half his size and twice as tough. So long as he stayed behind the garbage tin, \_\_\_\_\_ (56) for times he had to look for food, they did not bother him. He had no intention of bothering them either.

Alleybones scrounged in garbage bins, \_\_\_\_\_ (57) the occasional mouse, found scraps here and there that people taking a shortcut through the alley, carrying hot dogs or sandwiches or bags of potato chips, had \_\_\_\_\_ (58).

One evening, drifting \_\_\_\_\_ (59) of his sleep, he ventured out and sensed \_\_\_\_\_ (60) different. Sniffing eagerly, he breathed in the wonderful odours of food percolating through the night air. Lifting one paw, then the \_\_\_\_\_ (61), over and over, he sniffed till he felt faint. However, before he lost \_\_\_\_\_ (62), he heard someone say, "You look worse than I thought. Hold on a second."

The old man \_\_\_\_\_ (63) through the back door and emerged a moment later with a plate of scraps. "Left over stuff," he explained. "They make me pile too much food on the dishes and it always goes to \_\_\_\_\_ (64). Got no sense, that's the trouble with most people."

Alleybones was not listening. He gobbled \_\_\_\_\_ (65) pieces of chicken, ham, carrots, onions, pasta - all of it smothered in a buttery sauce.

**Section J: Transformation / Synthesis ( 5 x 2 marks)**

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s).

66. That lady is Miss Tang. My mother knows her very well.

\_\_\_\_\_whom\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

67. "Did you take my library books?" James asked his sister.

James asked his sister \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

68. You must hurry. You will be late for the competition.

Unless \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

69. My siblings enjoy playing basketball but I do not.

Unlike \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

70. The robber saw the policemen. He took to his heels.

\_\_\_\_\_when\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Section J: Comprehension Open-Ended ( 10 × 2 marks)**

**Read the passage and answer the questions 71 to 80.**

<p>It seems to me that all writers, including those eminent ones, need encouragement particularly in their early years. I always knew I could write, but that just meant I wrote a little better than my peers. I hope that I might one day write well enough to derive income from my efforts. Oddly enough, this never occurred to me during my grade and high school years.</p>	5
<p>There was a benevolent teacher at Hyde Park High School in Chicago, who simply by concentrating her attention on me, made me believe that I might be able to master the knack of writing well enough to consider the craft as a profession. Her name was Marguerite Byrne and she taught English, which of course, involved writing skills. Whatever instruction she shared with me was exactly the same as all her other students enjoyed, but the difference was she encouraged me to begin the process of submitting things I was writing, in those days, chiefly poems.</p>	10
<p>To my surprise the Chicago Tribune not only thought enough of several of my verses to publish them, but also paid me -- inadvertently -- the highest compliment a fledgling author can receive. The editor wrote a confidential letter to Miss Byrne, asking her to see, if by chance, one of her students -- a certain Stephen Allen -- might be guilty of plagiarism. The editor's suspicions had been roused because, he was kind enough to say, he found it hard to believe that a seventeen-year-old could create material on such a professional level. When Miss Byrne shared the letter with me, I was ecstatic! It was wonderfully heartening.</p>	15
<p>Miss Byrne made me realise that I should not hide my light under a bushel. This made me muster my courage to enter a writing contest. The assignment was to write an essay titled "Rediscovering America." I was literally astonished when I received a letter saying that I was the winner of the contest. The prize was a thousand dollars. My mother, at the time, was not even aware that I was interested in writing, or if she had somehow found out about it, she took little notice. When I arrived home that evening with the letter, she was indifferent and did not ask how the evening had gone.</p>	20
<p>Without encouragement, talented students will continue to perform below expectations without the motivation to learn. For example, at the same high school, there was a teacher whose Spanish language classes I attended but from whom I, unfortunately learned very little simply because of the woman's cold sarcastically critical attitude. She seemed to know nothing about nurturing students. Soon, I withdrew from her classroom literacy instruction.</p>	25
<p>Years later, I was able to repay my debt to Marguerite Byrne by dedicating one of my books, <i>Wry on the Rocks -- A Collection of Poems</i>, to her. I have enjoyed a lifetime writing books and television scripts because of Miss Byrne's tutelage.</p>	30
<p>Adapted from <i>Chicken Soup for the Writer's Soul</i> by Steve Allen</p>	35



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PAGE**

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

P5 ( )

Answer questions 71-80 in COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. How is Miss Byrne related to the writer?

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72. What additional support did the writer receive from Miss Byrne that her other students did not receive?

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73. What was the editor's suspicion?

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74. Why did Stephen find the editor's suspicion heartening?

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75. What does the "it" in line 26 refer to?

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76. How did Stephen show his gratitude to Miss Byrne?

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77. Why did the writer withdraw from his Spanish language classes?

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78. Name two jobs Stephen held after graduation.

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79. Which word in the passage has the same meaning as the word "famous"?

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80. Which sentence tells you that Stephen realised that he should not keep his writing talent a secret?

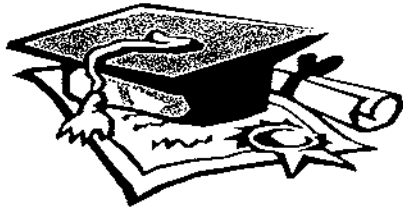
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**END OF PAPER**

Setters : Mdm Wong Liang Min  
Mdm Marlini  
Ms Lim Siew Hoon





# ANSWER SHEET

**EXAM PAPER 2009**

**SCHOOL : RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY**

**SUBJECT : PRIMARY 5 ENGLISH**

**TERM : SA1**

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

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

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
C	E	H	D	Q	N

- 41)developing      42)out      43)assessment      44)forge
- 45)involves      46)whose      47)theme      48)believe      49)of
- 50)perceptive      51)into      52)lived      53)daily      54)spent
- 55)often      56)except      57)caught      58)dropped      59)out
- 60)something      61)other      62)consciousness      63)went
- 64)waste      65)up
- 66)That lady whom my mother knows very well is Miss Tang.
- 67)James asked his sister if she had taken his library book.
- 68)Unless you hurry, you will be late for the competition.
- 69)Unlike my siblings, I do not enjoy playing basketball.

**70)The robber took to his heels when he saw the policemen.**

**71)Miss Byrne was the writer's benevolent teacher at Hyde Park High School in Chicago.**

**72)Miss Byrne encouraged him to submit his writing.**

**73)The editor thought that Stephen Allen might be guilty of plagiarism.**

**74)It was because the editor it hard to believe that a seventeen-year-old could create material on such a professional level.**

**75)The word "it" in line 26 refers to the writer being interested in writing.**

**76)He dedicated one of his books to her.**

**77)It was because the woman's cold sarcastically critical attitude caused the writer to learn very little.**

**78)Stephen became an author and a TV scriptwriter.**

**79)The word is "eminent".**

**80)The sentence is "Miss Byrne made me realise that I should not hide my light under a bushel.**

