



RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL

SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT (1)

2016

Your Score Out of 95 marks	
Parent's Signature	

Name: _____ () Class: P5 _____

4 May 2016

English Language Paper 2

1 h 50min

BOOKLET A

Instructions to Pupils

1. Write your Name, Class and Index No. in the spaces provided above.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.
5. Shade your answers on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided for questions 1 to 28 only.

Section A: Grammar (10 X 1 mark)

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

1. Mei Hua refused to _____ with Clea's abusive behaviour and decided to tell her teacher about it.
- (1) put in
 - (2) put up
 - (3) put out
 - (4) put away
2. Either Tom or his classmates _____ to attend the briefing for the inter-class sports competition tomorrow.
- (1) need
 - (2) needs
 - (3) was needed
 - (4) were needed
3. Max has been practising on his violin _____ nine o'clock this morning.
- (1) at
 - (2) for
 - (3) when
 - (4) since
4. I _____ my dinner when my dog started barking very loudly.
- (1) has
 - (2) have
 - (3) am having
 - (4) was having
5. "It is rare to see Tom clean up after dinner, _____? Is he in a good mood today?" asked Mrs Lim.
- (1) is it
 - (2) isn't it
 - (3) does it
 - (4) doesn't it

6. Jean, like her sister, _____ talent-scouted by ABC Sports School at a tender young age and is now a famous sports personality.
- (1) is
 - (2) are
 - (3) was
 - (4) were
7. This is a big step _____ the project's completion.
- (1) into
 - (2) along
 - (3) under
 - (4) towards
8. Do you have _____ information about our new English teacher?
- (1) any
 - (2) many
 - (3) a few
 - (4) a little
9. _____ for a short break at the canteen, the girls from the basketball team have been training all morning.
- (1) Apart
 - (2) Except
 - (3) Besides
 - (4) However
10. Pei Hua saw Tom _____ something from Jerry's bag during recess.
- (1) take
 - (2) took
 - (3) takes
 - (4) taken

Section B: Vocabulary (5 X 1 mark)

For each question from 11 to 15, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

11. The security guard used all his strength to _____ the robber and took him to the police station.

- (1) overcast
- (2) overpower
- (3) overachieve
- (4) overestimate

12. Upon hearing the roar of the thunder, the children in the playground began to _____ back into their homes for shelter.

- (1) dive
- (2) roam
- (3) flutter
- (4) scurry

13. Your secret is safe with me. I promise to _____ and not talk about it.

- (1) eat my words
- (2) pay lip service
- (3) hold my tongue
- (4) whisper it around

14. I have a poor memory. I can only _____ remember having met her before.

- (1) vaguely
- (2) evidently
- (3) precisely
- (4) carelessly

15. They were disappointed that their efforts proved _____ as they could not persuade Mrs Lee to change her mind.

- (1) futile
- (2) deficient
- (3) withered
- (4) shattered

Section C: Vocabulary Cloze (5 x 1 mark)

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

Egypt is considered the oldest travel destination on earth. It was on a whim that I had
(16)

decided to visit it last year. To someone who had been living a city life in a pragmatic
(17)

Singapore, Egypt was a faraway, mystical place I itched to explore.
(18)

Once I landed on the Giza plateau, I was greeted by the most astounding sights created
by the hands of men. Browsing through pictures of pyramids and burying my nose into
books about pyramids had not prepared me for the sight of the imposing structures that
(19)

confronted me as I stood in the middle of the plateau. Interestingly, the primary purpose of
(20)
these triangular wonders was not so much to flaunt any architectural prowess
as it was to serve a sacred end. The Great Pyramids were actually tombs built for the
pharaohs and the queens.

By the time I ended my visit there, I had only one word to describe my experience. It
was magical!

Adapted from Stunning Great Pyramids of Giza by Shoba Nair

16. (1) tight budget
(2) quiet mission
(3) formal request
(4) sudden impulse
17. (1) chaotic
(2) realistic
(3) dynamic
(4) problematic

18. (1) yearned
(2) planned
(3) detested
(4) anguished

19. (1) important
(2) impressive
(3) impoverish
(4) impeccable

20. (1) main
(2) trivial
(3) initial
(4) simple

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Section D: Visual Text Comprehension (8 x 1 mark)

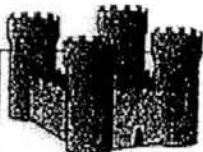
Study the brochure carefully and then answer questions 21 to 28.



Suntosa Island turns 50

Celebrate Suntosa's BIG 50 Birthday with us! Explore the island and enjoy fabulous discounts on admissions over 20 attractions. Take part in fun activities from 25 May 2016 to 30 June 2016!

Celebration Highlights



Sandy Treasures
25 May -30 June

For a nominal fee of \$5, take a walk at **Beach Plaza** and check out a monumental sand sculpture that depicts Suntosa's journey over 50 years from a fishing village to Asia's favourite playground. *This* will surely awe you as you marvel at our change.

(Free admission for children under 12)

Buskers Festival
1 - 8 June * 4 pm to 10.30 pm

Be intrigued by international street performers from London and France who will bring fantastic magical acts and musical performances. Get your whole family down to bask in all the excitement. Admission is free!

Suntosa gives

Do your bit for charity by dropping donations in to the buskers' hats after their performances. All funds raised from donations shall go to the Community Chest.

Artist Attack - Art Competition
1 & 2 June 2016

Calling all young painters out there! Artist Attack is back for the 3rd time! Let your creative juices flow and take part in this annual competition brought to you by Crazy Art Crayons. This competition is open to all children, 6 to 12 years old.

- Registration starts from 9am to 10am at Silo Beach.
- Late registration is not allowed.
- Competition starts at 11am.
- Registration fee: \$15
- Materials will be provided by Crazy Art Crayons.



Opening of a New Exciting Ride at Walt Studios,



To celebrate Suntosa's 50th birthday, Walt Studios present the latest ride, The Pharoah's Fury, on 31 May 2016! The first 50 riders on the day of the opening will receive a limited edition of The Pharoah's Fury T-shirt!

The fun doesn't stop here! All admission passes are on 50% off in the month of June! What are you waiting for? Come revel in the fun and excitement with your family and friends!

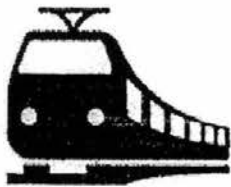
From 1 June 2016 to 30 June 2016, come down to Suntosa with your family and grab hold of fun passes to enjoy the rides at Walt Studios.

Fun Pass	Number of rides	Cost*
Fun 5	5	\$50
Fun 10	10	\$90
Fun 15	15	\$130

*Payment can be made in cash or by credit cards.



Getting to Suntosa:



Monorail can be taken from Harbour Station



By car or taxi



Bus No. 5 can be taken from Harbour Station

Brought to you by: Utopia Tourism Board

Supported by Community Chest
Crazy Art Crayons

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

21. Based on the brochure, which one of the following is true?
- (1) All the celebration highlights require admission fees.
 - (2) All the celebrations are held within the month of June.
 - (3) Visitors can use only cash to purchase the Fun Passes.
 - (4) There is more than one mode of transport to get to Suntosa.
22. The organiser of "Suntosa Island turns 50" is _____.
- (1) Suntosa Island
 - (2) Community Chest
 - (3) Crazy Art Crayons
 - (4) Utopia Tourism Board
23. How often is Artist Attack Art Competition held?
- (1) Every year
 - (2) Every two years
 - (3) Every three years
 - (4) Every half a year
24. James wants to watch some performances and also take part in the Art competition. He should visit Suntosa on _____.
- (1) 2 June
 - (2) 8 June
 - (3) 30 June
 - (4) 31 May
25. The "this" in the write-up of Sandy Treasures refers to _____.
- (1) the fee of \$5
 - (2) Beach Plaza
 - (3) sand sculpture
 - (4) Suntosa's past as a fishing village
26. Mandy will be visiting Suntosa on 1 June 2016. What can she look forward to?
- (1) Receiving The Pharaoh's Fury T-shirt
 - (2) Having fun on the latest ride at Walt Studios
 - (3) Purchasing the buskers' hats after watching performances
 - (4) Watching musical performances put up by local performers

27. Why is the information on Fun Pass presented in a table? It is to _____.

- (1) summarise the information
- (2) emphasise the importance of the information
- (3) rate the popularity of the different Fun Passes
- (4) present the information so that it is easy to read

28. What is the main purpose of the brochure? It is to _____.

- (1) showcase a variety of world renowned acts
- (2) encourage visitors to donate to charity
- (3) highlight the history behind Suntosa
- (4) attract more people to visit Suntosa

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BOOKLET B

Name : _____ Class: P5 _____ Index No: _____

SECTION E: Grammar Cloze (10 x 1 mark)

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.

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) against	(E) by	(J) off	(N) which
(B) among	(F) for	(K) on	(P) who
(C) and	(G) into	(L) than	(Q) with
(D) are	(H) is	(M) whether	

Dogs and cats make babies healthier and families are encouraged to keep pets.

What do dogs or cats have to do (29) _____ your baby's risk of catching a cold? According to the latest research, "pet immunity" took (30) _____ a new meaning as having pets may actually help to lower your child's risk of coughs and sniffles during the first year of life.

Researchers say that babies (31) _____ grow up in homes with a pet are less likely to get sick (32) _____ children who live pet-free. The results strengthened the idea that keeping babies in overly sanitized homes are not good (33) _____ their health. Previous research has linked the presence of pets with a lower risk of allergies (34) _____ babies.

A recent study in mice found that exposure to household dust from homes with a dog prevented infection with a common respiratory virus that causes childhood asthma. So, how do pets protect babies against these diseases? It (35) _____ not entirely clear, but researchers think that coming (36) _____ contact with the microbes that pets carry into the home from outdoors, could prime babies' still-developing immune systems and train them early to fend (37) _____ attacks from common allergens and bugs.

The fact that kids in pet-friendly homes get (38) _____ with fewer antibiotics to treat respiratory infections is encouraging. This allows them to depend less on medication.

Adapted from "Why Dogs and Cats Make Babies Healthier by Alice Park

Section F: Editing for Spelling and Grammar (12 x 1 mark)

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in each of the boxes.

Will social media leave an irreparable effect on our youths today? There is no question that social media, or more specifically social networking, has radikally changed the way we communicate. In just over five years, the oportunities and advantages for those who use it properly has exploded. However, a less positive change came with a breakdown of interpersonal skills in young people.

(39)

(40)

(41)

(42)

(43)

(44)

From my perspective, my kids — at 9 and 10 years of age — are really too young on social media. Facebook thinks so too, restricting membership to ages 13 and above. However, due to the abcense in parental supervision, I know at least a handful of children in our neighbourhood who are below 13 years of age and yet, have active Facebook accounts.

(45)

(46)

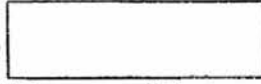
(47)

For this children, meeting their friends is more often a vurtual activity than actually to meet up in person. We have always encouraged our children to be friendly and make friends. Now, thanks through social networking, it is simple to "friend" hundreds with people all around the

(48)

(49)

(50)



world. No one has to leave his own room. It is aparent that our children will soon lose the skill to develop deep, honest relationships. University of Oxford Professor, Susan Greenfield, fears that social network sites will have harmful effects on youths.

Adopted from "Is social media ruining our kids' social skills? By Tom Antis"

Section G :Comprehension Cloze (15 x 1 mark)

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

Salads of the future may still be served in bowls, but their ingredients might be grown in skyscrapers. That is the hope of scientists and architects who are _____ up with a unique strategy to feed a growing _____ with limited farmland.

One solution is to grow everything _____ salad greens to staple grains all year in high-rise buildings located in the heart _____ cities. This form of farming, known as vertical farming, could put food within easy _____ for billions of people. It will also help to _____ carbon emission as fewer ships will be required to transport crops across continents and oceans.

However, at present, vertical farming is just _____ idea. One challenge is how to stack the greenhouses so that layers of crops get enough light to be grown in a vertical structure. Experts say that this concept is too expensive to implement and would be an enormous _____ of electricity. We will need gigawatts of power just to grow crops indoors, compared to free sunlight outside. Indoor _____ is not as intense as the full sunlight needed to grow crops. Using indoor lighting to grow crops _____ different from lighting up a room.

On the other hand, some experts are confident that vertical farming can be carried _____. They argued that architects are already _____ buildings to harvest the maximum amount of natural light.

Another consideration is creating a vertical farm complex that would benefit many people. An ideal farm complex would be 12 storeys _____ and would mix homes with gardens that produce food for the neighbourhood. The residents can tend and harvest the crops for their own consumption or _____ the produce at a local market. Alternatively, these _____ can sell their home-farms.

Perhaps another solution is to eat less meat to free up land, currently grazed by livestock, to be sown with food crops.

Adapted from "High-Rise Farms: The Future of Food?" by John Roach, National Geographic News, June 2009

Section H: Transformation / Synthesis (5 x 2 marks)

For each question 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 that of the given sentence(s).

66. Mrs Soh likes running. However, she likes swimming more.
_____ prefers

67. My father went to work this morning. He was ill.
Although _____

68. "The blooming of these flowers are unusual at this time of the year," Mr Chia told May.
Mr Chia told May _____

69. Belle plays the violin _____ besides

70. Tom was wealthy but he was unhappy.
Despite his _____

Section I : Comprehension (Open-ended) 20 marks

Read this passage carefully and answer the questions 71 to 80.

<p>The snake-man was small and very old, probably over seventy. He wore leather boots made of thick cowhide and he had long leather gloves on his hands. He was just a bit too far away from the snake to reach it with the end of his pole.</p>	
<p>He waited, staring at the snake and it stared back at him with two small malevolent black eyes. Then the snake-man started speaking to the snake "Come along, you pretty," he whispered in a soft wheedling voice. "That's a good boy. Nobody is going to hurt you. Just lie still and relax." He walked nearer to the snake, holding the pole out in front of him.</p>	5
<p>What the snake did next was so fast, like the flick of a camera shutter. There was a green flash as the snake darted forward at least three metres and struck at the snake-man's leg. I heard the snake's head strike against the thick cowhide boot with a sharp little crack and then at once, the head was back in the same deadly backward-curving position, ready to strike again.</p>	10
<p>I could see a thin dark trickle of venom running down the snake-man's right boot where the snake had struck. "That's a good boy," the snake-man said softly. This time I thought I could hear fear in his voice. He simply had no choice but to persist. Mambas are widely considered the world's deadliest snakes. A mamba can move faster than a galloping horse. How could he run that fast? As he was speaking, he was slowly lowering the end of the pole until the forked prongs were about thirty centimetres above the middle of the snake's body.</p>	15
<p>Then without warning, the rubber prongs came down right across the snake's body, about midway along its length and pinned it to the floor. All I could see was a green blur as the snake thrashed around furiously in an effort to free itself. However, the snake-man kept up the pressure on the prongs and the snake was trapped.</p>	20
<p>Holding the very end of the pole, the snake-man began to work his way round the room until he was at the tail end of the snake. Then, in spite of the flailing and thrashing, he started pushing the prongs forward along the snake's body toward the head. Very, very slowly he did it, pushing the rubber prongs forward over the snake's flailing body, keeping the snake pinned down all the time and pushing the long wooden rod forward millimetre by millimetre. It was a fascinating and frightening thing to watch. The snake's body was thumping against the coconut matting, making a noise that if you had been upstairs, you might have thought two big men were wrestling on the floor.</p>	25
<p>Then at last the prongs were right behind the head itself, pinning it down and at that point the snake-man reached forward with one gloved hand and grasped the snake very securely by the neck. He threw away the pole. He took the sack off the shoulder with his free hand. He lifted the deadly green snake and pushed the head into the sack. The sack started jumping about as though there were fifty angry rats inside it but the snake-man was now totally collected. He held the sack casually in one hand and beamed with pride.</p>	30
	35
	40

Adapted from "The Green Mamba" by Roald Dahl

Name : _____ Class: P5 _____ Index No: _____

71. How can one tell that the snake-man was prepared to catch the snake? [2]

72. What did the snake do that was "so fast" (in line 9)? [2]

73. Why did the writer think that the snake-man "had no choice but to persist" (lines 16-17)? [2]

74. Why did the snake-man continue to speak to the snake as he slowly lowered the end of the pole onto the snake's body? [2]

75. Which word from lines 14-20 tells you that the snake was poisonous? [1]

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

_____ The snake-man's boot cracked.

_____ The snake-man sounded a little frightened.

_____ The author had mixed feelings watching the snake-man catch the snake.

77. Choose a word from paragraph 7 that has **opposite** meaning to the words below.

[3]

i)	loosely	
ii)	occupied	
iii)	tensed	

78. What was the writer **implying** about the snake when he described "two big men were wrestling on the floor" in line 34?

[1]

79. Based on the passage, state whether each statement in the table below is *True* or *False*, then give one reason why you think so.

[4]

		True/False	Reason
i)	The snake did not appear hostile.		
ii)	The snake-man did not use any tool to pin the snake to the ground.		
iii)	The snake was still alive after it was caught by the snake-man.		
iv)	The snake was a red mamba.		

80. Do you think the snake-man would continue to take up another assignment to catch a mamba? Support your answer with information from the passage.

[2]

End-of-paper

EXAM PAPER 2016 (P5)

SCHOOL : RAFFLES GIRLS'

SUBJECT : ENGLISH

TERM : SA1

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

- 39)radically 40)opportunities 41)have 42)comes
43)perspective 44)for 45)absence 46)these 47)virtual
48)to 49)of 50)apparent 51)coming 52)nation
53)from 54)of 55)access 56)reduce 57)an
58)waste 59)lighting 60)is 61)out 62)designing
63)high 64)sell 65)residents
66)Mrs Soh prefers swimming to running.
67)Although my father was ill, he work this morning.

68)Mr Chia told May that the blooming of those flowers are unusual at that time of the year.

69)Belle plays the violin besides the cello.

70)Despite his wealthy, Tom was unhappy.

71)He wore leather boots made of thick and he had long leather gloves on his hands.

72)It bit the snake-man's boot to bite the man's leg.

73)He knew it was useless running away as he could.

74)The snake-man wanted to distract the snake so he could trap it.

75)venom

76)1, 2, 3

77)i)securely ii)free iii)collected

78)The snake was very strong /powerful.

79)i)False / It stared at the snake than with two small malevolent black eyes.

ii)False / The snake-man used prongs to pin the snake on the ground.

iii)True/ The snake was put in a sack and the sack started jumping so the snake is still alive.

iv)False / The snake was a green mamba.

80)Yes, When the snake-man caught the snake and placed it in the sack, the snake-man help the sack casually in one hand and he beamed with pride.