

Methodist Girls' School (Primary)
Primary 5 Mid-Year Examination 2008

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Paper 2 (LANGUAGE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET A

1 hour 50 minutes



Name : _____ ()
Class : P 5. _____
Date : 8 May 2008

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.
Follow all instructions carefully.
Answer all questions.

This booklet consists of 8 printed pages.

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



The National Orchid Garden

Since 1859, orchids have been closely associated with the Singapore Botanic Gardens. The products of the Garden's orchid breeding programme, which began in 1928, deserve a place where they can be displayed in their full splendour. The very design of these orchids is, one could say, hand-crafted by the Garden's horticultural staff [dedicated to bringing out the finest in any hybrid cross].

Over 1 000 species and 2 000 hybrids are now found in the Garden's collection and every year, more vibrant hybrids will be added on. The National Orchid Garden now offers a permanent showcase, the largest display of orchids in the world.

National Flower of Singapore

Vanda Miss Joaquim

Chosen to be the National Flower of Singapore in 1981, this exquisite orchid was discovered by Miss Agnes Joaquim in her garden in 1893.

Burkill Hall

Built in 1866, this colonial bungalow is an excellent example of tropical architecture. Once home of the Gardens' directors, the hall is now used to host VIP events and other functions.

Yuen-Peng McNeice Bromeliad Collection

Over 300 species and 500 hybrids of these highly exotic and most unusual plants from Central and South America are housed here.

VIP Orchids

This collection features a select group of orchid hybrids named after visiting State Dignitaries and VIPs from within and outside Singapore.

Orchid Terraces & Water Features

Three hectares of orchid terraces are enlivened by tropical foliage and water features such as the Tiger Orchid Fountain.

Cool House

The Cool House encloses a tropical forest. Trees and rocks are draped with a profusion of (spectacular orchids and fascinating carnivorous plants.) The cool air, drifting mist and rushing torrent provide a highly realistic representation of high elevation sites in the tropics and make for an unforgettable experience.



Visitor Information

Opening Hours

8.30 a.m. - 7.00 p.m. daily (last ticket sale at 6.00 p.m.)

Refreshments

Available at Burkill Hall and Ginger Garden refreshment kiosk.

Admission fees

\$5 for Adults, \$1 for Students
\$1 for Senior Citizens (60 years & above)
Free for Children (12 years & below)

For more information, please contact:

Visitor Services

Singapore Botanic Gardens

1 Cluny Road Singapore 259 569

Telephone: 6471 7361

Website: www.sbg.org.sg

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 "Last ticket sale at 6.00 p.m." means that visitors can purchase their tickets _____

- 1 only after 6.00 p.m.
- 2 no later than 6.00 p.m.
- 3 for the next day at 6.00 p.m.
- 4 only at 6.00 p.m. every evening

2 Visitors who are hungry and thirsty can go to _____

- 1 Burkill Hall
- 2 Cool House
- 3 Visitor Services
- 4 Orchid Terraces & Water Features

3 At the National Orchid Garden, visitors can find 'hand-crafted' orchids which the staff _____

- 1 have been designing since 1859
- 2 chose to be the national flowers in 1981
- 3 have successfully cultivated the hybrids since 1928
- 4 discovered in Miss Agnes Joaquim's garden in 1893

4 Visitors can _____ in the Cool House.

- 1 enjoy a lower temperature
- 2 experience rain and strong winds
- 3 see many varieties of orchids and species of carnivores
- 4 walk through the forests of Central and South America to find spectacular orchids

5 I am taking my three-year-old cousin to the National Orchid Garden. He can _____

- 1 chat with Miss Agnes Joaquim
- 2 have an orchid plant named after him
- 3 find the largest display of orchids in the world
- 4 admire wild species of orchids from tropical forests of Singapore

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 Everyone _____ completed and handed in their Science project yesterday.
- ① has
 - ② had
 - ③ have
 - ④ having
- 7 Pei Ling, together with her cousins, _____ going to Sentosa this afternoon.
- ① is
 - ② are
 - ③ was
 - ④ were
- 8 Someone _____ the doorbell. Please see who it is.
- ① rang
 - ② rings
 - ③ is ringing
 - ④ will be ringing
- 9 Why _____ Fatimah ignore me at the party last night? ^{past tense}
- ① do
 - ② did
 - ③ does
 - ④ done
- 10 This set of furniture ^{singular} _____ on display at the shop ^{past tense} last week.
- ① is
 - ② are
 - ③ was
 - ④ were
- 11 Mrs Tan asked Bala and _____ to help her carry the bags to the restaurant.
- ① I
 - ② me
 - ③ my
 - ④ mine

12 They prefer painting _____ dancing.

- (1) to
- (2) but
- (3) than
- (4) from

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)

Jane's parents gave her a pair of rabbits for her birthday. She was thrilled and named them 'Bunny' and 'Bobo'.

Jane kept the rabbits in a large cage in the garden. She fed them thrice a day (13) once every morning, afternoon and evening. She also changed their water daily. The rabbits ate cabbages and carrots.

Every evening (14) Jane let the rabbits out of their cage. They hopped about happily in the garden. Jane cut the nails on their paws once a week. "In this way, they can't scratch me when I play with them (15) she said. She also brushed their long white hair with a comb before putting them back in the cage again.

- 13
- (1) [-] dash
 - (2) [.] full stop
 - (3) [?] question mark
 - (4) ['] inverted commas

- 14
- (1) [:] colon
 - (2) [,] comma
 - (3) [.] full stop
 - (4) ['] inverted commas

- 15
- (1) [,] comma
 - (2) [!] exclamation mark
 - (3) [, '] comma and inverted commas
 - (4) [. '] full stop and inverted commas

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 You can look up the map of the world in the _____

- 1 atlas
- 2 almanac
- 3 directory
- 4 catalogue

17 The victim felt an _____ pain in the head and then passed out.

- 1 acute
- 2 abrupt
- 3 abstract
- 4 awkward

18 The factory emptied its chemical wastes into that river, _____ the water.

- 1 tainting
- 2 staining
- 3 infecting
- 4 contaminating

19 The entire project _____ because the company lacked sufficient funds.

- 1 fell in
- 2 fell off
- 3 fell out
- 4 fell through

20 Although the musicians had only one _____, they performed very well at the concert the next day.

- 1 trial
- 2 prelude
- 3 audition
- 4 rehearsal

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)

The greatest structure ever built by man is the Great Wall of China. It was built more than 2 700 years ago and covers a length of over 2 400 kilometres.

The building of the wall was started by the first emperor of China. He wanted to bar his enemies from the North from invading China. A million labourers worked with their hands on the construction of the wall and thousands died as a result. From a distance, the wall looks like a snake wriggling around mountains and valleys. In most parts, the wall measures up to nine metres high. Along the top runs a road five metres wide that allows five horses to run side by side or ten men to march abreast.

At every few hundred metres, there is a watch tower where guards would watch out for their enemies. They collected animal waste which they burnt to produce smoke to warn of the enemy's advance. If an attack was executed at night, they lit fires. Then the emperor's soldiers would rush to defend the wall.

- 21 (1) created
 (2) initiated
 (3) instigated
 (4) commenced
- 22 (1) keep to
 (2) keep up
 (3) keep on
 (4) keep out
- 23 (1) finally
 (2) ultimately
 (3) successively
 (4) consequently
- 24 (1) fidgeting
 (2) slithering
 (3) squirming
 (4) clambering
- 25 (1) planned
 (2) prepared
 (3) launched
 (4) implemented

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

Hector remembered when the principal went to his class. He said that every student in the class would take an English test. That was four weeks ago. Hector had studied every night. He had gone to Mr White, his English teacher, whenever he was in doubt and needed help. Hector wanted to do well. He did not want to stay in the special English class. He had only one problem - Sonny. 5

Sonny was a bully. There was no other word for him. He was taller and heavier than anyone else in the class. Sonny was not dumb but he did not like English class. He did not want to take time to study for the test. He did not worry about it because he had a foolproof plan.

Hector felt helpless. Even if he told Mr White, Sonny would still get him. There did not seem much Hector could do about his problem, except do what Sonny said. "Just make sure you sit next to me and make sure I can see your answers," Sonny said with a strange smile. 10

The test was conducted in the largest room of the school. All the students were there. Sonny made sure Hector was next to him. Mr White handed out the tests and reminded the class to check their work carefully before handing in. 15

The test was long. Hector took his time. He thought the test was hard. When he finished, he did not know how well he had done. Sonny found the test easy. He sat to the left of Hector. Every answer Hector checked, Sonny checked too. Hector turned in his test first. Sonny stayed in his seat and pretended to check his answers. 20

A week later, all the tests were marked. Mr White praised Hector and said that he had done very well. Then Mr White called Sonny. Sonny walked to the front of the class with that strange "see how smart I am" smile. "Well, you learned one thing," Mr White said, "the person sitting next to you took a different test. You only got two answers right." 25

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 "He did not worry about it because he had a foolproof plan" (line 9).
The "foolproof" plan was to _____.

- (1) cheat in the test
- (2) study every night
- (3) seek clarification from Mr White
- (4) check his work thoroughly before handing it in

- 27 Hector probably did not tell on Sonny because he _____.
- Ⓐ wanted to help Sonny
 - Ⓑ felt cheating was a good idea
 - Ⓒ thought Sonny would beat him up
 - Ⓓ wanted to stay in the English class
- 28 Hector took a long time with the test because _____.
- Ⓐ he kept looking at Sonny
 - Ⓑ he found the test challenging
 - Ⓒ he did not know any of the answers
 - Ⓓ many students were taking the test at the same time
- 29 Hector excelled in his test because he _____.
- Ⓐ studied hard for it
 - Ⓑ sat next to Sonny
 - Ⓒ was in a special English class
 - Ⓓ did not want to remain in the same class as Sonny
- 30 Sonny did not turn in his paper at the same time as Hector because he _____.
- Ⓐ wanted to check his test answers
 - Ⓑ was confident that he had done well
 - Ⓒ did not want anyone to be suspicious of him
 - Ⓓ did not cheat and tried to complete the test on his own

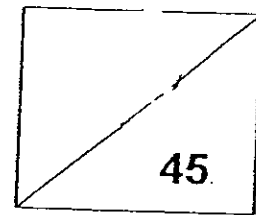
GO ON TO BOOKLET B



Methodist Girls' School (Primary)
Primary 5 Mid-Year Examination 2008

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Paper 2 (LANGUAGE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET B

1 hour 50 minutes



Name : _____ ()
Class : P 5. _____
Date : 8 May 2008

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

This booklet consists of 5 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 ONLY ONCE.

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| (A) and | (D) for | (G) over | (K) through | (N) upon |
| (B) around | (E) into | (H) so | (L) to | (P) when |
| (C) but | (F) out | (J) that | (M) up | (Q) with |

School was the perfect place to launch a new word. Nick wanted to embark

_____ making history in exactly the right class, during English period. Nick
(31)
raised his hand first thing after the bell rang and said, "Mrs Granger, I forgot my *Frindle*."

Sitting three rows away, John blurted _____ "I think I have an extra
(32)
Frindle, I mean I told my mother to get me three or four." Then John made a big show
of looking _____ something in his backpack. "Here it is." John then threw it
(33)

_____ to Nick who missed it on purpose. Mrs Granger and every kid in class
(34)
got the message loud and clear. That back plastic block _____ Nick had just
(35)
taken from John had a funny name, *Frindle*. Mrs Granger turned _____ the
(36)
power in her eyes and swept the room _____ silence. The rest of the class
(37)

quickly went by according _____ plan. Everyone started to leave the class.
(38)

Then Mrs Granger said, "Nick, I would like to have a word _____
(39)
you." Nick's mouth went dry, and he gulped, _____ his mind stayed clear.
(40)

He walked up to her desk, "Yes, Mrs Granger?"

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

When Adrian was just a few months old, his parents realised that he might have

(41)

a hearing problem. They tried all sorts of things to get him to response like banging two

frying pans together. When the doctor finally confirmed that he had profound hearing

(42)

(43)

loss, they were **davestoid**. He went to a school for the hearing **impeared**. However,

(44)

(45)

his mother wants him to læad a normal life, so after spoke to one of the other parents in

(46)

the school, his parents sent him to private speech **terapee** **and** decided he should go to

(47)

a mainstream school. They had to **konvins** the principal to allow him to transfer out

although they knew it would be a difficult transition. Moreover they also had to

(48)

speak to the principals at many **mainstream schools** to accept him. Finally, a school

(49)

(50)

give him an opportunity. His parents' persistence paid off. Adrian **ekseied** in school.

He even went on to win a scholarship to pursue studies in the local university.

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

An earthquake is a trembling of the Earth's surface. Earthquakes are

_____ by natural forces within the Earth itself. The surface of the
(51)

Earth is covered by sixteen rigid rock 'plates' _____ move slowly
(52)

against _____ another. When the force is too _____
(53) (54)

the rock breaks and moves and this causes an earthquake.

Most of such movements occur less than 40 kilometres _____ the
(55)

surface although some occur deeper down. About a million earthquakes are recorded

each year _____ the majority are small and cause little or
(56)

_____ damage. Yet the energy of a large earthquake can be
(57)

10,000 times _____ powerful than that of an atomic bomb.
(58)

Strange as it may seem, a skyscraper may be the _____
(59)

place to be in an earthquake. Many skyscrapers have been left

_____ *After* major earthquakes. This is because a skyscraper is
(60)

_____ (61) on a steel framework which can sway in the tremors, like a tree sways in
the _____ (62)

Most earthquakes occur under the ocean bed and this can _____ (63) in tidal
waves. These _____ (64) are not high in the middle of the ocean but can travel
quickly and may be huge as they rush _____ (65) a shore. Such powerful
walls of water can cause widespread destruction.

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. John does not like to play baseball. John's friends do not like to play baseball too.

_____ nor _____

67. They practised hard for the competition. They still lost.

Despite _____

68. He has been in France for three years but he cannot speak French.

Even though _____

69. Sifi passed her examination with flying colours. She studied hard for the examination.

Having _____

70. Jane asked her mother, "Can I have my own room?"

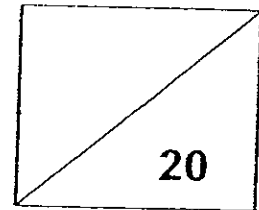
Jane asked her mother _____

END OF BOOKLET 8

Methodist Girls' School (Primary)
Primary 5 Mid-Year Examination 2008

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Paper 2 (LANGUAGE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET C

1 hour 50 minutes



Name : _____ ()
Class : P 5. _____
Date : 8 May 2008

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

This booklet consists of 3 printed pages.

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

When Gloria Estefan started primary school, she could not read, write nor speak English. She felt lost and unhappy and completely frightened. However, someone changed her life - her English teacher, Mrs Collins.

Her family had fled Cuba in 1959 when she was only a year old in the hope of finding a better life in America. Initially they moved to Miami where the family settled in a cluster of apartments with other Cuban women and children who had immigrated. The women were close-knit and supportive. While she felt safe, she was also isolated. They all spoke Spanish, and she rarely heard English.

5

On her very first day in school, which she was looking forward to, she was completely shell-shocked. She came home and told her mother that she had learnt her first English word "stupid". It was the nickname a boy had given her.

10

In every way possible, she was set apart from her classmates. She was the only Hispanic and non-white student. She also found it difficult grasping the English language as it was her second language. The culture, her school friends and the food they ate were different from hers. As such, she was set apart from her classmates.

15

One person made that year bearable for her, Mrs Collins. She was young and African American, so she understood how Gloria felt as she was the only non-white student in class. Mrs Collins never doubted that Gloria could catch up with the other students in time.

Still, the teasing continued. The boy who called her stupid would not let up, mocking her for her accent. He was a good student and the proud holder of the class's reading award. It was an honour given periodically to a student, based on excellence in schoolwork, participation and homework. Gloria wanted that coveted award. As Mrs Collins cheered her on, she gained confidence and language skills. By mid-year, she was well on her way to speaking English fluently and had a good grasp of reading. With the award ceremony coming up, she worked as hard as she could. When Mrs Collins announced Gloria as the winner, in front of the whole class, it was her proudest moment. She immediately took the reading award right out of that boy's hot little hands. The boy was shocked. She felt so happy for herself, there really was no room for gloating.

20

25

Of course, her win caused a mini uproar. The mother of the boy who teased her complained that the only Hispanic in the class, the girl who had just learned English, had taken the coveted prize from her son. In her strong, gentle way, Mrs Collins stood ground. It became a lesson in fairness.

30

This served as a motivation for Gloria who worked even harder in school and earned more 'A' grades. She even went on to study French in high school and college.

Today, Gloria Estefan is a successful singer and entertainer. She continues to reflect on her past as she enjoys her success. When asked about who had inspired her success, she mentioned her teacher, Mrs Collins.

35

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. Why did Gloria Estefan's family move to America?

72. Which word in the second paragraph has the same meaning as "a group of families"?

73. Why was Gloria called "stupid" (line 11) on the first day of school?

74. From lines 12-19, state two reasons that caused Gloria to be 'shell-shocked' (line 10) on her first day in school.

75. Why was English considered Gloria's second language?

76. Why could Mrs Collins understand how Gloria felt in school?

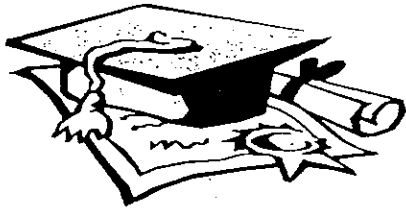
77. What 'coveted award' (line 22) did Gloria want?

78. Which sentence in the 6th paragraph tells us that Gloria was excited to receive the award?

79. What was the "lesson in fairness" (line 32) that the class had learnt from Gloria?

80. What is one way Mrs Collins has inspired Gloria?

END OF PAPER



ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2008

SCHOOL : MGS HIGH PRIMARY SCHOOL
 SUBJECT : PRIMARY 5 ENGLISH

TERM : SA 1

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

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

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
J	M	E	L	Q	C

- 41)respond 42)devastated 43)impaired 44)wanted
- 45)speaking 46)therapy 47)convince 48)of
- 49)gave 50)excelled 51)caused 52)that
- 53)one 54)strong 55)below 56)but
- 57)no 58)more 59)best 60)standing
- 61)built 62)wind 63)result 64)waves
- 65)towards
- 66)Neither John nor his friends like to play baseball.
- 67)Despite practicing hard for the competition,they still lost.

- 68) Even though he has in France for three years, he cannot speak French.
- 69) Having studied hard for the examination, Siti passed with flying colours.
- 70) Jane asked her mother if she could have a room of her own.
- 71) They wanted to find a better life in America.
- 72) The word is "cluster."
- 73) She could not read write or speak English on the first day of school.
- 74) She was the only Hispanic and non-white student . Her friends were of a different culture.
- 75) Gloria's first language was Spanish, thus English was considered as her second language.
- 76) Mrs Collins is African American and is also a non-white.
- 77) Gloria wanted the class's reading award.
- 78) The sentence is "She immediately look the reading award right out of that boy's hot little hands.
- 79) The lesson was everyone must be treated equally.
- 80) Mrs Collins cheered her on, that helped her gain confidence and language skills.