



RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL

SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT ( 2 )

2007

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Class: P5 \_\_\_\_\_ Index No: \_\_\_\_\_

3 October 2007      ENGLISH      Att: 1 hr 50 min

Your Score Out of 95 marks		
	Class	Level
Highest score		
Average score		
Parent's Signature		

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2

Instructions to Pupils

1. Write your Name, Class and Index No. in the spaces above.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Write your answers in the Answer Booklet provided.

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

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.

# WALKATHON for a good cause

Fund-raising for the tsunami victims

By the New Season Sports Club  
on Sunday, 25 November 2007  
at MacRitchie Reservoir

Join as a family for a good cause and win attractive prizes!

There will be a **LIVE** telecast on Channel Asia.  
You can make contributions to the following hotline  
**1800-4456686**  
between 19 November and 5 December 2007.

Early bird discount  
for students!  
Register by 1  
November 2007;  
enjoy a 50%  
discount in the  
registration fee.  
Student pass is  
required

### Register Now!

Register at any community club or at Singapore Post. You can  
also log on to our website: [www.nssc.org.sg](http://www.nssc.org.sg)

Registration fee - \$20 (ages 21 years and above)  
- \$10 (ages 16 -20)  
- \$8 (ages 10 -15)

Please register by 15 November 2007.

This project is organised by New Season Sports Club for the  
children who had lost their family and home in the tsunami.  
Give generously to the needy!

Sponsors:  
Channel Asia  
(Television  
Group),  
HBBC Bank  
and Niki  
Sports Wear

For more information, kindly log on to [www.nssc.org.sg](http://www.nssc.org.sg) or call 6625 6625.

1. The event is organised by \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) Channel Asia Television Group
  - (2) New Season Sports Club
  - (3) MacRitchie Reservoir
  - (4) Singapore Post
  
2. Students are given special concession if they \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) register by 15 November 2007 and make contributions
  - (2) register by 15 November 2007 and produce their student passes
  - (3) register by 1 November 2007 and make contributions
  - (4) register by 1 November 2007 and produce their student passes
  
3. The event will be shown 'live' on Channel Asia on \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) 15 November 2007
  - (2) 19 November 2007
  - (3) 25 November 2007
  - (4) 5 December 2007
  
4. Emily wishes to donate some money. According to the advertisement, she will have to \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) visit the Singapore Post
  - (2) log on to [www.nssc.org.sg](http://www.nssc.org.sg)
  - (3) call 1800-4456686
  - (4) call 6625 6625
  
5. Which one of the following statements is **not true**?
  - (1) Niki Sports Wear is a sponsor for the event.
  - (2) All tsunami victims will benefit from the event.
  - (3) Anyone can register for the event at any community club.
  - (4) Attractive prizes can be won if the whole family registers.

**Section B: Grammar Discrete (7 × 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. Gloria, together with her cousins \_\_\_\_\_ the orphanage this November.

- (1) is visiting
- (2) are visiting
- (3) has visited
- (4) have visited

7. Ever since the accident, the authorities have) \_\_\_\_\_ steps to improve the traffic control system.

- (1) take
- (2) took
- (3) taken
- (4) taking

8. Neither the pupils nor the teacher \_\_\_\_\_ on the coach when the accident happened.

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

9. Many people died of tuberculosis \_\_\_\_\_ the epidemic.

- (1) at
- (2) for
- (3) on
- (4) during

10. I saw her \_\_\_\_\_ that chair when no one was in the class.

- (1) kick
- (2) kicks
- (3) kicked
- (4) had kicked

11. \_\_\_\_\_ the maid's contract is renewed, she will return to her own country.

- (1) If
- (2) Since
- (3) Unless
- (4) Although

12. Sharon is the air stewardess \_\_\_\_\_ we met on the flight back to Singapore.

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

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

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.

John was my classmate. He was a brilliant boy. However (13) I did not have a good impression of him. I thought he was very stingy.

Recently, something happened to change my opinion of John. Our teacher told us that our school was helping to raise funds for the victims who have lost their homes in the flood and hoped that we would donate some money to this worthy cause.

For the next few days, he would bring food from home. He did not spend any money in the canteen nor at the school bookshop. Once, I made a remark, "Don't you ever have any cravings for titbits in school (14)

"I don't fancy titbits actually," John replied. "Well, if you offer me some, I won't decline it (15) he added.

The next day, when my teacher passed the donation tin around, she commented that the highest donor in my class was John. He had donated sixty dollars, which he had saved up from his pocket money. I regretted my earlier opinion of him as a miser.

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

**Section D: Vocabulary MCQ (5 × 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. This antiseptic cream reduces \_\_\_\_\_ and relieves pain.
- (1) dehydration  
 (2) germination  
 (3) degeneration  
 (4) inflammation
17. The children were being \_\_\_\_\_ when they laughed and pointed at the old man's strange walking stick.
- (1) indolent  
 (2) insolent  
 (3) indulgent  
 (4) indifferent

18. Please write clearly. Your handwriting is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) illicit
- (2) illegible
- (3) illiterate
- (4) illegitimate

19. This store sells good-quality products at \_\_\_\_\_ prices when it has a sale.

- (1) essential
- (2) exorbitant
- (3) economical
- (4) expendable

20. There are some \_\_\_\_\_ characters loitering outside your shop. You may want to alert the police for your safety.

- (1) docile
- (2) dubious
- (3) dejected
- (4) degrading

**Section E: Vocabulary Cloze (5 × 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.

"It's just an ant's bite!" the clinic assistant said impudently. She swiftly inserted needles into  
(21)

the areas below my knee, forearm and abdomen. I was left lying on the bed for the needles to work their magic. Soon, my stomach pain eased. Supported by my mother, I stepped out of the clinic,  
(22)

subdued by the experience. I was awed by the whole incident. My respect for my mother's wisdom  
(23) (24)

was reinforced. Though my mother was not infallible, she could still teach me many things that I did  
(25)

not know.

- 21. (1) loudly  
(2) rudely  
(3) seriously  
(4) reassuringly
  
- 22. (1) lessened  
(2) remained  
(3) increased  
(4) disappeared
  
- 23. (1) amused  
(2) humbled  
(3) restrained  
(4) overpowered
  
- 24. (1) amazed  
(2) disturbed  
(3) frightened  
(4) threatened
  
- 25. (1) steady  
(2) perfect  
(3) reasonable  
(4) experienced



**Section F: Comprehension MCQ (5 × 1 mark)**  
**Read the passage and answer questions 26 to 30.**

As a thirteen-year-old, the thought of finally moving to a new country sounded amazing. My parents were also looking forward to leaving, but were more cautious about the challenges ahead. **I should have been as well.**

The first day in a new country felt strange. I woke up and went outside. I was surprised by how fast people talked and the way they seemed to take deep breaths while speaking.

It was soon time for school. I was really excited to see my new school. I had this naive idea that I would make lots of friends and have a great time. How wrong I was. Straightaway, I was singled out as the refugee kid and was soon made fun of on a daily basis. It did not help that I did not speak the language but I could still understand when I was being made fun of. You do not need language skills to realise that you are not liked. What made it worse was what was behind the jokes: all the prejudices that go with the stigma of the word “refugee”.

I was determined not to let people see my despair, so I had to gather my courage and prove people wrong. However, it was hard to stay strong. Day after day my self-esteem was being eroded little by little. During my time in middle school, which lasted for three years, I always sat alone at the school canteen.

It was not easy for me to understand why all this was happening. My parents knew about my difficulties but I did not want to trouble them as I felt they had enough problems of their own to deal with. There was hardly anyone to talk to or confide in but I believe nothing lasts forever. Unfortunately, at that time, it felt like eternity.

Nowadays, I can look back at my harsh times of growing up in a foreign country and see how it has made me the much stronger person that I am today. I feel that I have overcome all those difficulties of integrating into a new society, with its new language, culture and customs. These difficulties have helped me to believe in myself and to ignore people’s prejudices. I can also use my experiences as a refugee to help others understand the truth behind the issues involved and gain an insight into how it feels to be a refugee.

Due to my background, not many people even believed that I would finish high school. Having made it through university and gaining work experience have proven those people wrong. Instead of listening to others telling me how

5

10

15

20

25

30

<p>incapable I was because of being a refugee, I decided instead to set my own goals. Today, I have achieved some of them though I still have many more things I want to achieve.</p> <p>I have proven that it is possible to integrate into a new society, preserve one's <u>ethnic</u> identity and most importantly, remain true to myself.</p> <p>Adapted from "It Is Tough Growing Up As A Refugee" by Baharak Bashmani</p>	35
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For each of the question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the Optical Answer Sheet.

26. "I should have been as well" in line 3 tells us that the author should have been more \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1) suspicious of strangers
  - 2) cautious when she interacts with classmates
  - 3) prepared for the problems that she might face
  - 4) optimistic about her new life in a foreign country
27. How did the author know that she was being made fun of by her classmates?
- 1) Her parents revealed the truth to her.
  - 2) She could interpret her classmates' behaviour.
  - 3) She understood the language of her classmates.
  - 4) Another classmate informed her that she was being ridiculed.
28. Which word in the passage tells us that feelings of shame and dishonour are associated with being a refugee?
- 1) naive (line 8)
  - 2) ethnic (line 37)
  - 3) stigma (line 13)
  - 4) prejudices (line 13)
29. Why didn't the author confide in her parents about her problems?
- 1) Her parents would not understand.
  - 2) Her parents were always not at home.
  - 3) She did not want her parents to worry about her.
  - 4) She did not have a close relationship with her parents.

30. In what way has the author shown to others that she was capable?

- 1) She set her own goals.
- 2) She made it through university.
- 3) She was recognised as a citizen of the new society.
- 4) She learnt to speak the native language of her classmates.

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

Class: 5( )

**Section G: Grammar Cloze (10 x1 mark)**

There are ten blanks 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. Each word can only be used once.

<del>(A)</del> after	<del>(B)</del> are	<del>(C)</del> as	<del>(D)</del> at	<del>(E)</del> because
<del>(F)</del> by	<del>(G)</del> for	<del>(H)</del> from	<del>(J)</del> in	<del>(K)</del> into
<del>(L)</del> is	<del>(M)</del> next	<del>(N)</del> of	<del>(P)</del> since	<del>(Q)</del> with

At examination time, students talk about nothing but examinations.

In school, you can see students with their heads buried (31) \_\_\_\_\_ their books. Most of them are trying to cram in as much knowledge as they can (32) \_\_\_\_\_ the eleventh hour.

(33) \_\_\_\_\_ you enter the examination hall, you can feel the tense atmosphere. When the invigilator enters, the hall is so quiet that you can hear a pin drop. The invigilator informs the students (34) \_\_\_\_\_ the hard and fast rules that they have to abide (35) \_\_\_\_\_ during the examination. If anyone is caught violating any of the rules, he or she will be disqualified (36) \_\_\_\_\_ the examination.

(37) \_\_\_\_\_ the question papers have been given out, the students begin to read the questions. By the expressions on their faces, you can tell whether or not the questions (38) \_\_\_\_\_ a walk in the park. Some students stare blankly (39) \_\_\_\_\_ space, probably hoping that the answers will appear in front of them. Some complete the question paper in half an hour and you wonder how intelligent they must be to have completed it so quickly. When the time is up, they hand in their answer sheets, heave a sigh of relief and go home to prepare (40) \_\_\_\_\_ the next paper.

**Section H: Editing (10x1 mark)**

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

(41)

Have you heard of Florence Nightingale? She is popular known as the 'Lady with the Lamp'. Florence Nightingale was an **extrodinary** woman. She came from a **wealthy** family and her parents had expected her to marry and settle down. Instead, she chose to be a nurse. She **apoached** her parents about her desire to enter training as a nurse, but (43)

(44)  (45)

they were horrific at the low-class nature of her interest, and tried to **distuede** her. (46)

Ultimately, they forbided her, but within a few years, she ignored their protests and enrolled in the Institution of Deaconesses in Germany. She returned to London at the age of thirty-three to become the superintendent of a woman's hospital.

(47)

In 1854, thousands of wounded British **sholdgers** were dying due to the poor medical conditions in the makeshift hospitals that had been set up. The British people were angered that their men, who had served their country so well, were now being (48)

**niglekted** in their hour of need.

(49)

Nightingale worked tiredly, caring for them, day and night. By night, she (50)

carried a lamp through the corridors, stopping in times to help the suffering. For this, she was nicknamed the 'Lady with the Lamp'.

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

Class: 5( )

**Section I: Comprehension Cloze Passage (15 x 1 mark)**  
**Fill in each blank with a suitable word.**

Volcanoes are often considered a destructive force. When a volcano \_\_\_\_\_, it  
(51)  
destroys both the land and people surrounding \_\_\_\_\_. Steam and ashes are forced through  
(52)  
the \_\_\_\_\_ of the volcano, spraying the surrounding area \_\_\_\_\_ fiery debris and  
(53) (54)  
boiling molten rock called lava.

Volcanoes can also be considered helpful. Many beautiful islands in the Pacific Ocean,  
(55)  
\_\_\_\_\_ as Hawaii, were completely formed by volcanic eruptions. These  
islands \_\_\_\_\_ excellent soil and drinking water because the land is made of  
(56)  
\_\_\_\_\_ that has cooled and broken down to \_\_\_\_\_ soil. When lava cools, it becomes  
(57) (58)  
porous, making pools where fresh water can collect. As lava breaks down into soil, its  
minerals make the soil rich \_\_\_\_\_ fertile. Cooled lava is also a good road-building  
(59)  
material. In Iceland, the steam \_\_\_\_\_ active volcanoes is used to supply heat and power  
(60)  
\_\_\_\_\_ factories and homes.  
(61)  
Many volcanoes have become tourist \_\_\_\_\_ because they are so powerful and  
(62)  
beautiful. People enjoy climbing \_\_\_\_\_ to the top of these volcanoes to get a bird's eye  
(63)  
\_\_\_\_\_ of the countryside. Some like to stand at the crater's edge to \_\_\_\_\_ at the  
(64) (65)  
bubbling lava and hot steam inside. At night, the hissing steam and glowing flames  
are a dramatic sight.

*Adapted from INSIGHTS: Reading as Thinking*

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

Class: 5( )

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

For each of the question 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. Could you please help Sally with her Social Studies project?

Would you mind \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?

67. "How did you fare in your interview today?" he asked me.

He asked me \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68. Neither Lucy nor John speaks Japanese well.

Both \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

69. Sam studied very hard for the final examination. He wanted to perform well.

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

70. The pupils were very noisy in the hall. The discipline mistress had to shout at them.

\_\_\_\_\_ so \_\_\_\_\_  
that \_\_\_\_\_

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

Class: 5( )

**Section K: Comprehension open-ended (10×2 marks)**

I wouldn't have become famous if it hadn't been for the watermelon. Besides, I wouldn't have been in possession of the watermelon if it hadn't been for the kids, so I'd better start with that.

Normally, the choice of books that I read to my class is dictated by the school, but this morning, I'd rebelled and read them a Brer Rabbit story I'd found in a box of (battered) childhood books. I thought one day I might have children myself, and then I could read them the stories that Mum had read to me before she died.

I wish I could say the class was enthralled by this classic piece of storytelling, but what mainly emerged afterwards was that (nobody knew what a watermelon was. I drew one on the blackboard for them in red and green chalk. However, all I drew were complete blank stares. I decided to bring in a watermelon for them the next day.

On the way home, I got off the bus a stop later than usual. I walked down the road past the greengrocers and stalls. It was just after five o'clock, so the traffic was already starting to grind to a halt. The fumes were hot against my face, but I was feeling almost cheerful. I was fighting my way through crowds of people as usual, but many of them were in good spirits and wearing bright colours.

I bought a watermelon the size of a basketball and the weight of a bowling ball. It needed four carrier bags one inside the other and there was virtually no practical way of carrying it. Very gingerly, I swung the bag over my shoulder, almost spinning myself into the traffic as I did so, and carried the melon like a man with a sack of coal on his back. It was about 300 metres to the flat. I'd probably make it.

As I crossed the road and turned into Holloway Street, people stared at me. Goodness knows what they thought I was up to, a skimpily dressed young blonde hunched over and carrying what must have looked like her own weight in iron ore in a shopping bag. Then it happened.

There were two of them, apparently joined together by straps. The one behind was a woman, older than he was. She lost her footing horribly and hit the ground and rolled over. I saw her feet crazily high in the air and she crashed against a bin. I saw her head hit the pavement. The man wrenched himself free. He was holding a bag – her bag. He held it in two hands, chest high. He had a strange, tight smile on his face (and his eyes were glassy. He was running straight for me, so I had to step out of the way. However, I didn't just step out of the way. I let the watermelon slip off my shoulder, leaned back and swung it. Its circular progress was suddenly halted as it hit the man full in the stomach, with the most amazing thud. There was a whoosh of ejecting air and he went down as if there were no body inside his clothes and they were attempting to fold themselves up on the pavement. He clawed at the pavement a bit, but he wasn't able to get up. Then we were all surrounded by a crowd and I couldn't see him any longer.

*Adapted from 'Beneath the Skin' by Nicci French*



Answer the following questions in COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. What do you think is the occupation of the author? (Be as specific as you can in your answer)

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72. Why did the author decide to buy a watermelon?

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73. Which word in the first three paragraphs of the passage has the same meaning as 'worn out and badly out of shape'?

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74. Why did people stare at the author in line 23?

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75. In your own words, describe as clearly as possible how the author made use of the watermelon to stop the man.

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76. Give a word that has the same meaning as 'gingerly' in line 20.

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77. Why was the man trying to run away?

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78. Which sentence in the passage tells you that the author lived very near where she bought the watermelon?

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79. '**...and his eyes were glassy.**' (line 32) :  
Explain in your own words what the above phrase means.

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80. How do you think the author became famous after this incident?

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END OF PAPER

42

# Raffles Girls' Primary School

## Primary 5 English SA2 Exam (2007)

### Answer Keys

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
2	4	3	3	2	1	3	3	4	1
Q11	12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
3	3	1	4	3	4	2	2	3	2
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30
2	1	2	1	2	3	2	3	3	2
Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
J	D	C	N	F	H	A	B	K	G

41. popularity    46. forbade    51. erupts    56. have    61. to  
42. extraordinary    47. soldiers    52. it    57. lava    62. attractions  
43. approached    48. neglected    53. top    58. form    63. up  
44. horrified    49. tirelessly    54. with    59. and    64. view  
45. dissuade    50. at    55. such    60. from    65. look

66. Would you mind helping Sally with her Social Studies project?  
67. He asked me how I had fared in my interview that day.  
68. Both Lucy and John do not speak Japanese well.  
69. Sam studied very hard for the final examination in order to perform well.  
70. The pupils were so noisy in the hall that the discipline mistress had to shout at them.  
71. The author works as a teacher in a nursery.  
72. Her class did not know what a watermelon was and she bought it to show them.  
73. The word is "battered".  
74. The people did not know what the author was up to, a skimpily dressed young blonde hunched over and carrying what looked like her own weight in iron ore in a shopping bag.  
75. She swung the watermelon in a circular way and used it to hit the man in the stomach.  
76. The word is "carefully".  
77. He was a robber and he had snatched the lady's handbag.  
78. The sentence is "It was about 300 meters to the flat."  
79. His eyes were lifeless.  
80. After the incident, reporters interviewed her, took some pictures of her, and then put them on the news and newspapers.