



Anglo-Chinese School (Primary)

MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2014  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PAPER 2 (BOOKLET A)  
PRIMARY SIX

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (    )    Class: Primary 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 6 May 2014

Duration of paper: 1h 50min

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's/Guardian's signature

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. This question paper consists of 11 printed pages.
2. Do not turn this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.

Study the advertisement below and then answer questions 1 to 5.

# HBCS Vertical Marathon 2014



I will be running up

**1236** steps

**50 196**  
storeys metres

ON

**30 June 2014**

Back after a  
roaring success in  
2010 & 2012!

Suitable for ages 15 to 50

Join the trendiest sporting activity in Singapore.  
It is a great opportunity to bond with your family and friends and  
have a great workout!

**Starting point** : Raffles City Park - Rock Climbing Wall

**Time** : 7.00 a.m.

*(Latecomers will not be entertained.)*

**Our quest** : Conquer 50 storeys at SeaCrest Tower

**Finishing point** : SeaCrest Tower Rooftop Cafe

**Our reward** : A complimentary buffet of Asian delights for all participants at  
the finishing point.

Fee: \$20 per person

Registration dates: 1 June 2014 to 15 June 2014

Please register at

[www.hbcsvverticalmarathon2014.com.sg](http://www.hbcsvverticalmarathon2014.com.sg)

*The first 500 participants will receive a free  
T-shirt from our sponsor by post.*

FREE  
water bottle for  
the first 50  
runners who  
complete the  
marathon!

Co-sponsored by  
**SEACREST TOWER**

Organised by  
**HBCS BANK**

Sponsored by  
**ABIBAS SPORTS**

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. The main purpose of this marathon is to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) promote SeaCrest Tower Rooftop Cafe
  - (2) to develop a love for vertical marathons
  - (3) recruit participants to work in HBCS Bank
  - (4) encourage family and friends to spend time together
  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ is in charge of the vertical marathon.
  - (1) HBCS Bank
  - (2) Abibas Sports
  - (3) SeaCrest Tower
  - (4) Raffles City Park
  
3. Josephine must be one of the first 500 participants to \_\_\_\_\_ in order to receive a free T-shirt.
  - (1) register online by 15 June 2014
  - (2) register on 30 June 2014 at Raffles City Park
  - (3) sign up at SeaCrest Tower before 1 June 2014
  - (4) send her application by post to Abibas Sports by 15 June 2014
  
4. At the end of the marathon, all participants will \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) receive a free water bottle.
  - (2) enjoy the greenery at Raffles City Park
  - (3) have a great workout at SeaCrest Tower Rooftop
  - (4) enjoy free food and drinks at SeaCrest Tower Rooftop Cafe
  
5. Which one of the following statements is true?
  - (1) Participants will be climbing a rock wall.
  - (2) HBCS Vertical Marathon is a bi-annual event.
  - (3) Latecomers will be allowed to join in the run after it has started.
  - (4) Mr Tan's seven-year-old son will be able to participate in this event.

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. True \_\_\_\_\_ her word, Mrs Rahim rewarded the class for their good behaviour.

- (1) in
- (2) to
- (3) by
- (4) for

7. Jonathan, like his brother David, \_\_\_\_\_ every week.

- (1) swim
- (2) swims
- (3) are swimming
- (4) were swimming

8. \_\_\_\_\_ you are a member of the library, you cannot borrow any books.

- (1) Even
- (2) Since
- (3) Unless
- (4) Despite

9. "Dorothy, this secret must be kept between you and \_\_\_\_\_," pleaded Aisha.

- (1) I
- (2) us
- (3) we
- (4) me

10. "You used a whole chicken to prepare the soup, \_\_\_\_\_ you?" the head chef queried.

- (1) isn't
- (2) didn't
- (3) mustn't
- (4) couldn't

11. Kevin spent his weekend playing computer games and \_\_\_\_\_ his favourite movies on television.

- (1) watch
- (2) watches
- (3) watched
- (4) watching

12. "Raju has neither painted the wall nor \_\_\_\_\_ the painting on it!" shrieked Mrs Jones.

- (1) hang
- (2) hung
- (3) hangs
- (4) hanged

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)

Driving to the front of the house, Ali shot out of the car before the driver had even stopped. He spotted some bystanders.

“Do you know if anyone is in there (13) Ali asked.

He knew there could easily be people still asleep in bed (14) oblivious to the raging fire.

He dashed into the house and he saw a young girl shaking with fear. She was trying to say something to him but he could not understand her.

She spluttered as he carried her outside (15) Mummy and Daddy.”

Ali sprinted back into the house to find more trapped victims. He was relieved when he saw the child’s parents.

Adapted from *Everyday Heroes* by Ali Arshad

- |     |     |         |                                      |
|-----|-----|---------|--------------------------------------|
| 13. | (1) | [ , ]   | comma                                |
|     | (2) | [ ? ]   | question mark                        |
|     | (3) | [ . ” ] | full stop and inverted commas        |
|     | (4) | [ ? ” ] | question mark and inverted commas    |
| 14. | (1) | [ , ]   | comma                                |
|     | (2) | [ . ]   | full stop                            |
|     | (3) | [ ? ]   | question mark                        |
|     | (4) | [ ! ]   | exclamation mark                     |
| 15. | (1) | [ , ” ] | comma and inverted commas            |
|     | (2) | [ . ” ] | full stop and inverted commas        |
|     | (3) | [ ? ” ] | question mark and inverted commas    |
|     | (4) | [ ! ” ] | exclamation mark 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. Telling lies comes \_\_\_\_\_ to Dominic. It is no wonder that his friends do not trust him.

- (1) firstly
- (2) ideally
- (3) suitably
- (4) naturally

17. Tourists were advised against travelling to Thailand as the riot \_\_\_\_\_ worsened last week.

- (1) status
- (2) context
- (3) position
- (4) situation

18. The license of the famous Italian restaurant was \_\_\_\_\_ by the authorities due to unhygienic handling of food.

- (1) detained
- (2) expelled
- (3) suspended
- (4) disintegrated

19. The newspaper reporter used a \_\_\_\_\_ name in the crime report as the identity of the victim had to be kept confidential.

- (1) forged
- (2) fictitious
- (3) specimen
- (4) counterfeit

20. The shoplifter was lucky to \_\_\_\_\_ with only a fine.

- (1) get away
- (2) get along
- (3) get across
- (4) get around

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)

Have you ever heard someone say that cats have nine lives? To the relief of dogs, it is just a popular myth that has been around for hundreds of years.

(21)

Some believe it is related to the cats' ability to always land on their feet after a fall. Cats are known for their agility and are fearless acrobats. Some even

(22)

say that cats are more tenacious than other animals in staying alive.

(23)

But why *nine* lives? It is not known for sure but here are some possibilities. Cats were considered as sacred animals with godly powers and were first worshipped in ancient Egypt. This convinced the people to believe that cats

(24)

could have multiple lives.

In Medieval Europe, however, cats were associated with bad luck. They were sometimes thrown from high towers in an attempt to get rid of them. The origin of this ritual is obscure. However, the cats often survived the ordeal and

(25)

seemed to walk away unscathed, much to the amazement of the Europeans.

Hence, some began to believe that cats must have multiple lives.

Adapted from *Ever Wondered Why Cats Are Said To Have Nine Lives?* by Justine Hankins

21. (1) viral  
(2) reputable  
(3) well-known  
(4) distinguished



22. (1) fragility  
(2) stability  
(3) elasticity  
(4) flexibility

23. (1) bold  
(2) resolute  
(3) obstinate  
(4) confident

24. (1) enticed  
(2) charmed  
(3) persuaded  
(4) transformed

25. (1) pale  
(2) blunt  
(3) uncertain  
(4) misleading

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

Father sighed quietly as he looked across the fields. He had done everything he could to salvage his shrivelled crops in the blazing heat, but it seemed there was nothing more he could do.

My brother and I were raised as village kids in a small village in Myanmar where Mother was a teacher but Father had trouble securing a 5 job. Hence, he bought a few acres of land near the village and tried to make a living as a farmer. Unfortunately, the region's harsh weather never favoured him. Despite their hardships, they were happy.

During a visit to a local store, Twin Cats, we spotted a red battery-operated car. It had real headlights and flickering tail-lights. To our eyes, 10 it was an angel in the world of toys. Infatuated as we were, we **did not enquire about the price**. We had never owned real toys. We could not afford them. All our playthings were built from cardboard boxes and broken housewares.

Father overheard my brother and me talk enthusiastically about that 15 beautiful car. He announced that he would buy it when he had enough money. Elated, we never stopped talking about it.

Soon, the big day came. We bounced as we made our way to the store. I walked straight up to the display case and pointed to the car. The store clerk glanced at us and hesitatingly took it out. No doubt she 20 thought that a weary-looking man and his sons in dirty and worn-out clothes could only be annoying window shoppers.

"It's \$57," she said in a monotone voice. I stood there, waiting for Father to pay.

He smiled and said in a soft voice, "Sons, that's a little bit more than 25 what I've got in my pocket at the moment. We'll have to come back later." There was silence. We might have been young but we understood. Father enquired the price of another car but the clerk ignored him.

Father had always been a brave man, but I wonder how much courage he needed to face his sons as he took our hands and retreated from the store. We walked home in complete silence.

Adapted from *Reader's Digest* (2008)

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. In line 11, "an angel" refers to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) writer's father
  - (2) writer's mother
  - (3) local store, Twin Cats
  - (4) red battery-operated car
27. In lines 11 - 12, the writer and his brother "did not enquire about the price" of the car because they \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) were so captivated by it that they forgot to
  - (2) knew that it would be too expensive for them
  - (3) thought it was spoilt as the head-lights were flickering
  - (4) only liked toys built from cardboard boxes and broken housewares
28. In lines 25 - 28, the writer and his brother understood that their father did not purchase the car as he \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) had insufficient money
  - (2) wanted to purchase another car
  - (3) was annoyed with the clerk who ignored him
  - (4) had no intention of purchasing it from the start
29. According to the passage, which one of the following statements is true?
- (1) The father's crops were destroyed in a fire.
  - (2) The store clerk was not sincere in serving the writer's father.
  - (3) The writer's parents always complained about their hardships.
  - (4) The boys were angry that their father did not purchase the car.
30. Which one of the following best describes what the passage is about?
- (1) tips on farming
  - (2) infatuation with cars
  - (3) living in contentment
  - (4) life of every village child



Anglo-Chinese School (Primary)

MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2014  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PAPER 2 (BOOKLET B)  
PRIMARY SIX

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (     )                      Class: Primary 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 6 May 2014

Duration of paper: 1h 50 min

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's/Guardian's signature

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. This questions paper consists of 10 printed pages.
2. Do not turn this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.

No.	Contents	Marks	Marks Obtained
1.	Oral	30	
2.	Listening Comprehension	20	
3.	Composition	55	
4.	Language Paper	95	
Total Marks		200	

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) an    | (D) and   | (G) by      | (K) for | (N) since |
| (B) above | (E) be    | (H) despite | (L) in  | (P) the   |
| (C) among | (F) below | (J) during  | (M) of  | (Q) up    |
- 

An amputee who lost half of his leg as a child is fighting to realise his dream of becoming a firefighter.

Mr. Isaac Feliciano's fight hit a road bump when city officials \_\_\_\_\_ (31)

Paterson, New Jersey declared him to \_\_\_\_\_ not "physically capable". (32)

He finished 100th \_\_\_\_\_ more than 600 candidates in a recent physical test \_\_\_\_\_ the job, which included pulling a hose and carrying a life-sized (33)

dummy while wearing a weighted vest. However, a medical consultant later ruled that he was not physically capable of sustaining the labours \_\_\_\_\_ firefighting work. (34) (35)

Mr Feliciano has dreamed of taking on the job \_\_\_\_\_ he was three, when a firefighter pulled him from a closet \_\_\_\_\_ a fire. When he was six, gangrene from spinal meningitis claimed his left leg below \_\_\_\_\_ knee. (36) (37) (38)

\_\_\_\_\_ his disability, he played high school football and baseball (39) \_\_\_\_\_ participates in paralympic competitions. Three doctors will make a (40) recommendation to the state authorities in his case.

Adapted from *Fireman Fighting for Job*, Associated Press

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

Typical European family cars have become wider and heavier over the past fifty

(41)

years as manufacturers struggle to deal with their **castemers** becoming bigger.

(42)

Now some manufacturers have began road-testing the next generation of

(43)

larger-sized vehicles that will allow bigger people to **manetane** their comfort on the

(44)

road. BMW have recruited 800 volunteers, ranging from slim to the obese, for a study to

see how obesity affects mobility while driving. The volunteers were put through tests

(45)

such as looking around their shoulder while reversing.

(46)

"People are getting more obese and we want to find out how that limits there

(47)

range of motion and how our vehicles can **adebt** to the changing needs of people," a

member of BMW's ergonomics team said. "For people who find it difficult to turn 140

(48)

degrees to look behind them, he can now look at a screen."

(49)

Mercedes-Benz plans to strengthened grab handles above its doors to help

heavier passengers support themselves. Honda's new range of vehicles will have

(50)

bigger buttons for so-called "**sawsage** fingers".

Adapted from Obesity in Motor Vehicles, Agence France-Presse

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Madam Choon Keng Chan, 99, got out of bed extra early at 6 a.m. yesterday, excited about the reunion lunch she would be having with her 'family'. Her 'family' is an extended one, \_\_\_\_\_ 155 of her elderly neighbours, most of whom live alone \_\_\_\_\_ one-room rental flats in Bukit Merah.

(51)

(52)

Tanglin-Cairnhill Citizens Committee had put \_\_\_\_\_ a reunion lunch for elderly people who live alone to gather and celebrate with one another.

(53)

Wearing a red floral blouse that she reserves \_\_\_\_\_ special occasions, Madam Choon sipped a soft drink as she caught up with her close friends.

(54)

It has been nine years \_\_\_\_\_ she had a last reunion dinner with her family. Her husband and two sons have died and she is estranged \_\_\_\_\_ her daughter. Since then, her annual reunion dinner has been coffee and biscuits.

(55)

(56)

When grassroots leader, Joseph Lee \_\_\_\_\_ some of the elderly people in the area during the lunar new year six years ago, he saw many cooped up in their \_\_\_\_\_ with little festive fare. He rounded up some volunteers the following year and \_\_\_\_\_ \$8,000 to provide a reunion lunch.

(57)

(58)

(59)

Every year since then, elderly residents who have no family reunion dinner of their own are \_\_\_\_\_ by volunteers to the gathering.

(60)

The volunteers get up early to get the drinks from the market, put up the festive

\_\_\_\_\_ and serve the food to the elderly.

(61)

Over lunch, Madam Choon and her good friend of forty years, Madam Yap Ah

Tai, 93, \_\_\_\_\_ food onto each other's plate.

(62)

They live a block \_\_\_\_\_ from each other and usually meet for coffee

(63)

and exercise every day at a seniors activity centre. In their close-knit community,

\_\_\_\_\_ drop by to give them food and help clean their homes.

(64)

"I miss my family, but when you are surrounded by \_\_\_\_\_ you

(65)

don't think so much," said Madam Choon. "I treasure these times of getting together

with friends and neighbours who have become my family."

*Adapted from The Straits Times - Reunion Lunch for Elderly Folk who Live Alone*



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 Fry the onions and carrots. After that, add the minced meat.

\_\_\_\_\_ after

\_\_\_\_\_

67 "Remember to bring in the laundry if it rains," Mother said to Mary.

Mother reminded \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

68 Mark topped his class even though he had to work nights to pay his school fees.

\_\_\_\_\_

in spite \_\_\_\_\_

69 You will not lose any weight if you do not stop snacking.

Unless \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

70 The waiter was efficient. He impressed his manager.

The waiter's \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**BLANK PAGE**

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

(20 marks)

I passed all the other courses that I took at university, but I could never pass Botany. This was because all Botany students had to spend several hours a week in a laboratory looking through a microscope at plant cells, and I could never see through a microscope. I was daft at using that particular equipment and this used to enrage my professor.

5

He would wander around the laboratory pleased with the progress all the students were making in drawing that involved structure of plant cells, until he came to me. I would just be standing there, lost.

"I can't see anything," I would say sheepishly. He would patiently and painstakingly begin by explaining how anybody could see through a microscope. I would nod at every word he said out of sheer politeness although I just knew it would not help much. However, my blank look would always give me away and he would always end up in a fury claiming I was just pretending I could not. Rattled, I would put my eye again to the microscope and see nothing at all, except now and again, a vague milky substance – you were supposed to see a vivid, restless, clockwork of sharply defined plant cells.

10

15

"I see what looks like a lot of milk," I would tell him. This, he claimed, was because I had not adjusted the microscope itself properly, so he himself would readjust it. Then I would look again and see milk. This time, I did not dare utter a word.

Just as I expected, I had to repeat Botany the next semester. The professor had come back from vacation brown and bright-eyed, eager to explain cell structure again to his class. I was quietly hoping that he would have forgotten about me. I looked around nervously. Students to the right of me and to the left of me and in front of me were seeing cells. In addition, they were quietly drawing pictures of them in their notebooks. Of course, I did not see anything. My clean notepad was yearning to be used.

20

He approached me swiftly and gave me a quizzical look. His eyebrows furrowed. He remembered. "We'll try it," the professor said to me grimly, "with every adjustment of the microscope known to man. I myself will arrange this glass so you'll see cells through it or I'll give up teaching." I could see he was trying to keep cool. I, on the other hand, was resigned to fate.

25

We tried it with every adjustment of the microscope known to man. Suddenly I saw, to my pleasure and amazement, a many-patterned mass of flecks, specks and dots. These I hastily drew. The professor, noting my activity, came back from an adjoining desk, a smile on his lips, his eyebrows high in hope. He looked at my cell drawing.

30

"That's what I saw," I said triumphantly.

"You didn't, you didn't?" he screamed, losing control of his temper instantly as he bent over and squinted into the microscope. His head snapped up. "That's your eye!" he shouted. "You've fixed the lens so that it reflects! You've drawn your eye!"

35

Adapted from *My Life and Hard Times* by James Thurber

**ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.**

71 What was the writer's problem in botany class?

---

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72 Which word in paragraph 1 shows his professor's reaction to his problem?

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73 In paragraph 2, how did his classmates perform in the class as compared to him?

---

---

74 In line 9, what does "sheepishly" tell us about the writer's feelings? Give a reason why he felt so.

---

---

75 In paragraph 3, in what way did the writer manage to frustrate his professor?

---

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76 In line 13 why did the professor say that the writer "was just pretending"?

---

---

77 Quote a sentence in paragraph 4 that tells us that the writer was afraid to clarify again.

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78 Explain clearly what the writer meant by "My clean notepad was yearning to be used." in line 24.

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79 In line 26, the professor "remembered". What did he remember?

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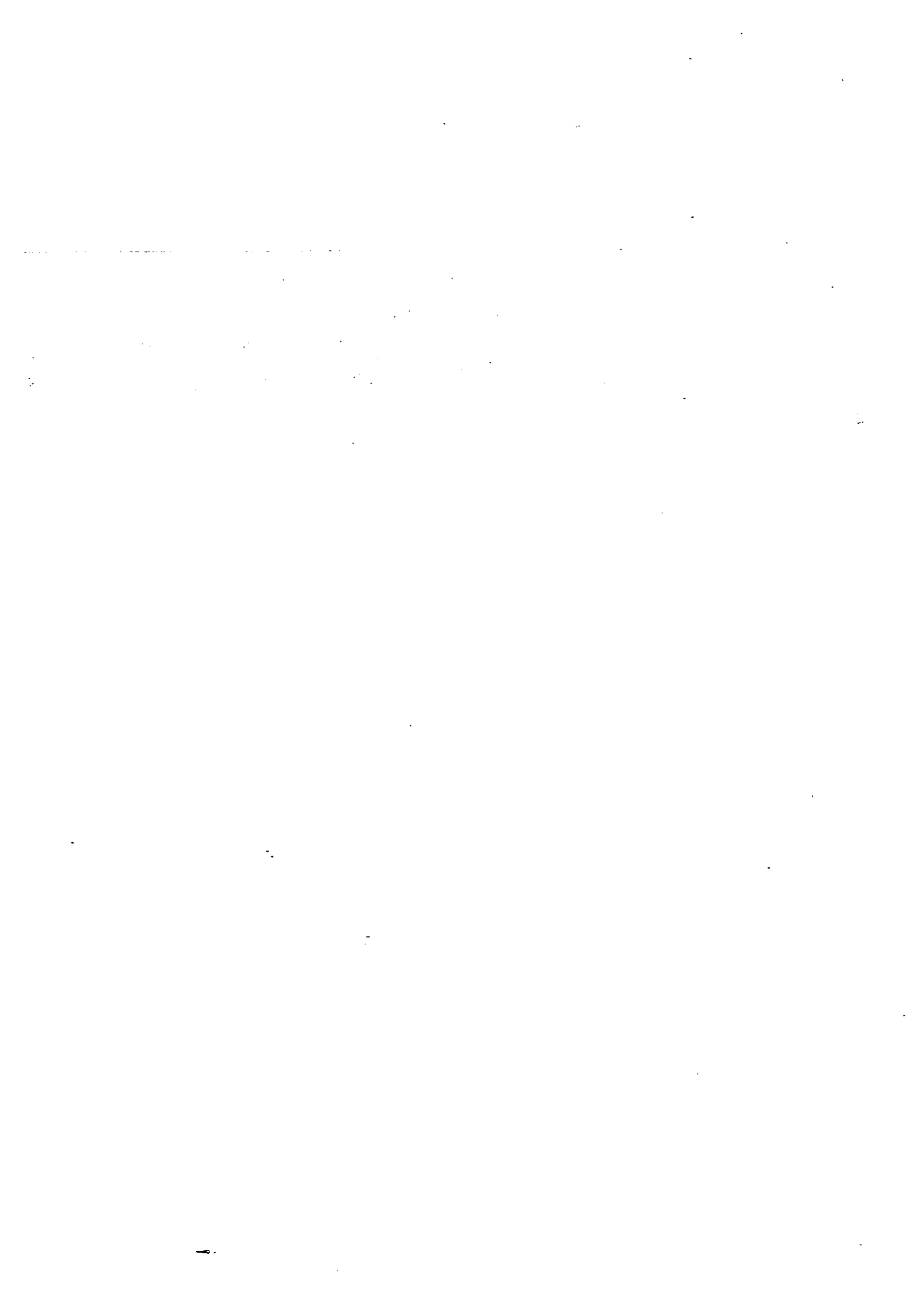
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80 In paragraph 9, why did the writer infuriate his professor?

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END OF PAPER



# ANSWER SHEET

**EXAM PAPER 2014**

**SCHOOL : ACS**

**SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH**

**TERM : SA1**

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

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
3	2	1	3	4	2	3	3	4	2	1	2	3	L	E	C	K

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
M	N	J	P	H	D

- 41)customers      42)begun      43)maintain      44)has      45)over  
46)their      47)adapt      48)they      49)strengthen      50)sausage  
51)comprising      52)in      53)together      54)for      55)since  
56)from      57)visited      58)flats      59)donated      60)welcomed  
61)decorations      62)placed      63)away      64)volunteers      65)friends  
66)Add the minced meat after frying the onions and carrots.  
67)Mother reminded Mary to bring in the laundry if it rained.  
68)Mark topped his class in spite of having to work night to pay his school fees.

69)Unless you stop snacking, you will not lose any weight.

70)The waiter's efficiency impressed his manager.

71)He could not see through the microscope.

72)The word is "enrage".

73)His classmates were all able to see through the microscope and was doing better than the writer in Botany.

74)He was embarrassed. He could not see through the microscope though his friends could.

75)He would patiently explain to the writer how to use a microscope and yet writer still could not see through it.

76)The professor was angry that the writer could not use the microscope after much explanation.

77)The sentence is "This time, I did not dare after a word".

78)The note pad was not used while his other classmate had pictures on their.

79)He "remembered" that the writer was one of his previous students and that he was the one that could not see through a microscope.

80)The professor discovered that the writer had drawn his eye instead of the cell.