



RED SWASTIKA SCHOOL

RED SWASTIKA SCHOOL
2009 SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 1
ENGLISH LANGUAGE – PAPER 2
LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION
PRIMARY 6

Name : _____ ()

Class : Primary 6 / _____

Date : 4 May 2009

BOOKLET A

30 Questions

30 Marks

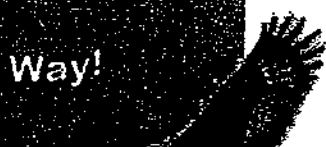
Duration of Paper: 1 hr 50 mins

Note:

- 1. Do not open this Booklet until you are told to do so.**
- 2. Questions 1 - 30 are to be done on the OAS provided.**
- 3. Read carefully the instructions given at the beginning of each part of the Booklet.**
- 4. Do not waste time. If a question is difficult for you, go on to the next one.**
- 5. Check your answers thoroughly and make sure you attempt every question.**

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

**Discover the Bird Park
This School Holidays In A Whole New Way!
14 - 22 June 2009**



The Ostrich Chase! **FREE** **Q1**
 We are looking for teams of 3-6 members (no age limit)
 See who is the fastest when it comes to finding feather
 facts and team-based challenges.

- 1st Prize :**
- 'Wildlife Unlimited Plus' Membership
(unlimited access to Bird Park, Night Safari & Zoo for a year)
 - \$100 Bird Park Food & Beverage Voucher
 - \$100 Bird Park Retail Voucher

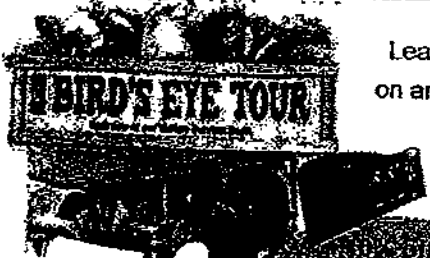


- Consolation Prizes (2 Winners) :**
- 'Feather Friends' Membership
(unlimited access to Bird Park for a year)

**Date: 14 & 21 June 2009
Time: 2 pm - 5 pm**

Registration is free on a first-come-first-served basis. Please register by 12 noon the day before the race.
 Interested participants are to email details of their teams to ostrichchase@birdpark.com.sg or call 6661 7818

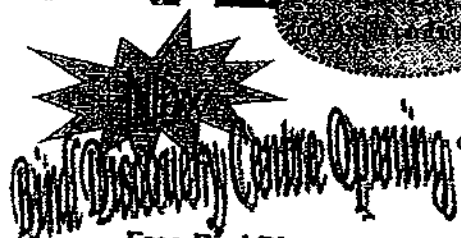
HURRY! Places are limited so reserve your spots today!



Learn fascinating facts about our beautiful birds, as you explore the Bird Park on an exciting and fun-filled 90-minute buggy ride with your own personal guide.

**Time: 2 pm - 5 pm
Cost: \$25 (Adult), \$15 (Child)**

Book your tour now at the Visitors' Services Booth. For advance bookings, call 6265 0022 or email info@birdpark.com.sg

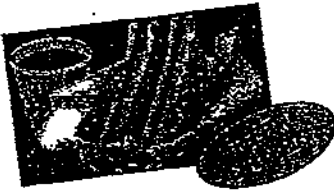


The all new Bird Discovery Centre is now open! Enjoy a unique out-of-the-classroom experience via twelve innovative static and live bird window displays.

Free Bird Discovery Centre Tours
 Time: 11.45 am & 1.45 pm
 Duration: 30 minutes
 Venue: Bird Discovery Centre



Fun Daily Activities for Kids
 Time: 10 am - 3 pm
 Venue: Bird Discovery Centre



The Early Bird Breakfast Show

Breakfast on us @ Bongo Terrace
 Start your exploration with breakfast**on us! Valid with every full-priced Adult admission ticket purchased only. Terms and conditions apply.
 Please visit www.birdpark.com.sg for more information.

** Breakfast is served from 8.30 am to 11 am only.



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

- 1 Participants who wish to take part in The Ostrich Chase need to _____
- (1) register to take part in the race
 - (2) form a team of at least six people
 - (3) complete team-based challenges only
 - (4) email the details of their teams to the organiser the day before the race
- 2 Visitors who wish to look at all the different types of birds in the Bird Park should take part in _____
- ~~(1)~~ The Ostrich Chase
 - ~~(2)~~ The Bird's Eye Tour
 - ~~(3)~~ The Early Bird Breakfast Show
 - ~~(4)~~ The Bird Discovery Centre Tours
- 3 If John goes to the Bird Park from 12 noon to 5 pm on 16 June 2009, which one of the following activities can he take part in?
- ~~(1)~~ The Bird's Eye Tour and The Ostrich Chase
 - ~~(2)~~ The Early Bird Breakfast Show and The Bird's Eye Tour
 - ~~(3)~~ The Ostrich Chase and The Bird Discovery Centre Tours
 - ~~(4)~~ The Bird's Eye Tour and The Bird Discovery Centre Tours
- 4 Which one of the following sentences is true?
- (1) Every visitor to the Bird Park will be entitled to a free breakfast.
 - (2) There will be a total of two winning teams for The Ostrich Chase.
 - (3) Visitors who wish to go for the Bird's Eye Tour can book their tours on the spot.
 - (4) PAssion card holders will enjoy a ten-percent discount on admission tickets to the Bird Park.
- 5 The purpose of the advertisement, 'Discover the Bird Park' is to _____
- (1) encourage the public to take part in The Ostrich Chase
 - (2) highlight to the public of the upcoming events and activities
 - (3) inform the public of the opening of the new Bird Discovery Centre
 - (4) entice the public to visit the Bird Park with the free breakfast programme.

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 The cast in the 'Phantom of The Opera' musical _____ of local as well as foreign actors and actresses.

- (1) consist
- (2) consisting
- (3) is consisting
- (4) are consisting

7 Every morning, I take a slice of bread, two eggs and a glass of milk _____ breakfast.

- (1) at
- (2) in
- (3) for
- (4) with

8 After finding out that Sam had drawn on his desk, Mr Lee _____ him away the marks.

- (1) wipe
- (2) wipes
- (3) wiped
- (4) wiping

9 "She'd her English textbook with her yesterday, _____?" asked the teacher.

- (1) had she
- (2) hadn't she
- (3) would she
- (4) wouldn't she

10 "You will have to carry the haversacks _____," the sergeant told the cadets at the briefing.

- (1) himself
- (2) yourself
- (3) yourselves
- (4) themselves

11 ~~Was~~ the birthday girl _____ out the candles on her cake? ~~Was~~ a guest at the party.

- ~~(1)~~ blow
- (2) blew
- ~~(3)~~ blows
- (4) blown

12 _____ from going to work, Mr Bala stays at home most of the time.

- ~~(1)~~ Apart
- (2) Since
- ~~(3)~~ Except
- ~~(4)~~ Despite

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)

"I can't wait! I can't wait! I can't wait (13) nine-year-old Alula Greenberg-White exclaimed, hugging herself in expectation. It was 9 am outside a large bookshop in North London, and Alula was at the front of a line of 100 excited children and parents. They peered through the windows at big stacks of a thick, new novel, eyes searching for the small, strawberry (14) blonde fabulous writer who had taken them to bookshops around the globe. That same person was somewhere inside nursing a coffee.

"I'm really not a morning person," admitted JK Rowling as she flexed her fingers in preparation for another marathon signing of (15) *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, the fourth volume of a publishing phenomenon.

Adapted from Reader's Digest

April 2001

- 13 (1) [.] full stop
 (2) [!] exclamation mark
 (3) [, "] full stop and inverted commas
 (4) [! "] exclamation mark and inverted commas
- 14 (1) [:] colon
 (2) [,] comma
 (3) [-] hyphen
 (4) [;] semicolon
- 15 (1) [,] comma
 (2) ['] apostrophe
 (3) ["] quotation mark
 (4) ["] 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 The pupil gave a _____ to show that ~~he did not know how to solve the~~ mathematical problem.

- (1) nod
- (2) wink
- (3) shrug
- (4) motion

17 The fireworks display during the National Day Parade was _____. The audience at the Marina Bay Floating Stadium were ~~amazed~~.

- (1) scenic
- (2) panoramic
- (3) picturesque
- (4) breathtaking

18 Mr Lee _____ forward as the taxi he was in braked suddenly at the traffic light.

- (1) tilted
- (2) lurched
- (3) tottered
- (4) floundered

19 Samuel only _____ being a poet; he never actually writes any poetry.

- (1) plays at
- (2) plays on
- (3) plays up
- (4) plays down

20 Siti and Nancy had an argument, but they decided to _____ and become good friends again.

- (1) break the ice
- (2) live and let live
- (3) turn a blind eye
- (4) bury the hatchet

For each question from 21 to 25, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

The dismissal bell sounded and school was over. Janice and Janet walked to the bus stop as quickly as they could. The sky was really very dark and the wind was howling. (21) (22)
It looked as if there was going to be a thunderstorm. The two girls were looking forward to going home. They quickened their pace and soon they reached the bus stop.

After waiting for half an hour, there was no sign of a bus. Both girls started to get anxious. Just then, they saw a blue car stopping at the side. Their father came out and (23) (24)
called out to them. They were comforted at the sight of their father and went home with him (25)

- 21 ~~(1)~~ briskly
~~(2)~~ promptly
~~(3)~~ efficiently
~~(4)~~ simultaneously

- 22 ~~(1)~~ dim
~~(2)~~ bleak
~~(3)~~ lifeless
~~(4)~~ overcast

- 23 (1) worried
(2) restless
(3) impatient
(4) perplexed

- 24 (1) pulling up
(2) pulling out
(3) pulling back
(4) pulling down

- 25 (1) excited
(2) pleased
(3) overjoyed
(4) reassured

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

He questioned if public assistance recipients were getting enough and discovered maybe not. Upon learning that Singapore's needy received \$330 monthly, 19-year-old David Ang was taken aback. "Even a meal at McDonald's is well over \$5. For food, transport, healthcare and other necessities, I couldn't imagine that \$330 was enough," he told TODAY.

5

So he rounded up his friends and with grassroots leaders, surveyed nearly 100 needy in Tanjong Pagar GRC over two weekends last November and December. ~~Struggling with the language barrier,~~ they worked in pairs to conduct the survey. It turned out that every month, those polled spent all of the \$330 and any other money they got. On average, a third of their money went to food alone.

10

"Some had lost their families, and others their jobs. Some just never settled down and somehow, life landed them in this situation," said David. "There is no easy answer on how to help them, but we have to try, regardless."

David's initiative impressed his Member of Parliament, Sam Tan, that the latter highlighted him as an example for others to emulate during Parliament. Mr Tan said that David was **not a stranger to the good life**. However, instead of living it up, he wants to help others. David is a former Anglo-Chinese School (Independent) student, whose father is an oncologist and mother, a radiologist. His father volunteers with the Singapore Cancer Society, while his mother helps out in church. His uncle, who is a psychiatrist, assists Alzheimer's patients.

15

20

David's first eye-opening charity experience was in 2004, during a medical trip to Thailand with the Rotary Club. "We went to Chiang Rai, bringing food and basic healthcare products to the orphaned children of an Aka Hill Tribe. It was an amazing experience seeing the difference between our lives and theirs," he shared.

Before this, David was already helping the needy while schooling. He fondly recalled visits to Dover Park Hospice, where communication with the elderly patients often took the form of just gestures and motions. "Still, we walked away knowing we had done our best," said David, now doing his National Service.

25

Describing himself as an 'ordinary' and 'a lazy hyperactive', someone with a lot of energy but enjoys just reading, watching TV and playing computer games, David stressed he is not 'sheltered'. "I interact with people from all walks of life and have done so since young," he said.

30

The infrastructure coordinator in the Army intends to study medicine at the National University of Singapore, and hopes to continue helping others. "It does not matter if I am well-received, or rewarded. The most important thing is feeling that I have made a difference, and extended help to someone who needs it," he said.

35

Adapted from TODAY

9 February 2009

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 What problem did David encounter when he was conducting the survey with the old folks?
- (1) He did not have many friends to help him.
 - (2) He was unable to converse with the old folks.
 - (3) He found out that they only received \$330 monthly.
 - (4) He did not have enough food to give to the old folks.
- 27 The phrase 'not a stranger to the good life' (line 16) tells us that David _____
- (1) came from a rich family
 - (2) was a sheltered and lazy person
 - (3) lived in poverty when he was young
 - (4) was able to interact with people from all walks of life
- 28 What is the main reason for David's involvement in charity work?
- (1) He wants to be a well-received person.
 - (2) He was touched by the orphans in Chiang Rai.
 - (3) He sympathises with the old folks living in Tanjong Pagar.
 - (4) He wants to make a difference and help people who are in need.
- 29 According to the passage, which one of the following statements is not true?
- (1) David enjoys indoor activities during his free time.
 - (2) David started his first volunteer work with the Rotary Club.
 - (3) David had no simple solution on how to help the recipients of public assistance.
 - (4) David was shocked to know that the needy in Singapore only received \$330 a month.
- 30 What does David aspire to be in future?
- (1) He wants to be a doctor.
 - (2) He wants to be a Member of Parliament.
 - (3) He wants to be an infrastructure coordinator in the Army.
 - (4) He wants to be an undergraduate at the National University of Singapore.



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2009 SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 1
ENGLISH LANGUAGE – PAPER 2
LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION
PRIMARY 6

Name : _____ ()

Class : Primary 6 / _____

Date : 4 May 2009

BOOKLET B

50 Questions
65 Marks

BOOKLET	OBTAINED	POSSIBLE
BOOKLET A		30
BOOKLET B		65
TOTAL		95

Parent's Signature : _____

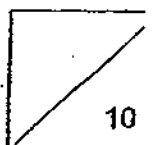
There are 10 blanks, numbered 31 to 40, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| (A) a | (D) as | (C) most | (K) to | (N) will |
| (B) about | (E) at | (H) on | (L) which | (P) with |
| (G) are | (F) is | (J) the | (M) while | (Q) yet |

Do you know that the largest structure ever built by animals is not a skyscraper, but a coral reef? Coral reefs are Mother Nature's _____ (31) diverse and colourful living communities. One _____ (32) never be able to find _____ (33) healthy reef that is not teeming _____ (34) aquatic life and colour. _____ (35) many people still do not know much _____ (36) coral reefs, and even more people do not realise that in Singapore, we also have many patches of reefs that have taken many people many months to conserve.

The coral reefs in our waters are not simply horizontal plates in the sea. One area of a reef that is relatively level and found _____ (37) not very great depths is the reef flat. It is exposed at low tide, hence making it less conducive for coral growth _____ (38) compared to the reef slope _____ (39) is usually a region of the reef further out _____ (40) sea than the reef flat. It has a rather steep gradient, and because of its depth, is never exposed to air.



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

"Who's that?" I called out, trying to appear brave.

(41)

Something darted out in the shadows and disappeared behind the

(42)

(43)

curtains. I had a **glinmps** of what looked like some kind of animal. **Braasing**

myself for a sudden attack, I used the crook of the hockey stick to draw the

(44)

curtain. I trained the torchlight on what was the most **pekiuliar** creature. It was

(45)

(46)

small and brown, with large **loomenous** green eyes. On its head is a pair of

(47)

feelers and two huge droop ears.

(48)

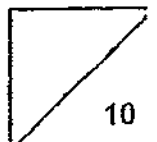
(49)

"What kind of the animal are you?" I wondered as I looked at it close.

(50)

The **qureosity** in me was totally aroused. I was puzzled as to how the

creature had entered the house.



Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Dodos were descendants of a type of pigeon, which settled on Mauritius over 4 million years ago. _____ no predators to attack them, they lost their need and ability to _____. They lived and nested on the ground and _____ on fruits that had fallen from trees. _____ 1515, the Portuguese became the first humans to set _____ on Mauritius. The island quickly became a stopover for ships engaged in the spice trade. Large numbers of these flightless birds were killed for food. Many of the ships that came to Mauritius also _____ along rats, pigs and monkeys. _____ animals made short work of vulnerable dodo eggs in the ground nests. The combination of human exploitation and introduced species reduced dodo populations. Within 100 years, the once abundant dodo became a _____ bird. The last one was killed in 1681.

Soon after the dodo bird had become extinct, the Mauritian calvaria tree stopped sprouting seeds, and it appeared that it would soon face _____ itself. In fact, all the remaining calvaria trees were about 300 years old. No new trees had germinated since the late 1600s. Since the life span of the calvaria trees _____ about 300 years, the last members were extremely old. They would soon die and the species would be extinct. While it was not initially apparent, the calvaria would only sprout seeds after _____ been eaten and digested _____ the dodo bird. Some scientists disagreed on the connection _____ dodo and calvaria, while _____ believed that the dodo _____ an integral part in the spreading of the calvaria seeds.

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 The children do not know the way to the auditorium. Mr Tan does not know the way to the auditorium too.

Neither _____ nor _____

67 Before Mary handed in the class test, she checked it thoroughly.

After _____

68 Being respectful to their Principal, the pupils sat down only after he had done so.

Out of _____

69 Isaac's brother showed him the way to the park.

_____ by his brother.

70 "How long did you take to drive to Johor yesterday?" Sue asked Tom.

Sue asked Tom _____

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

We were eight teenagers on a week-long service project to repair the homes of the less fortunate residing in the Appalachian mountains. The area seemed to contradict itself, for it held so much beauty yet housed so much poverty. Maybe we hailed ourselves as being able to serve those people in need; I do not think we ever imagined what we could gain from it would perhaps be more valuable than any services we could render. 5

Our white van meandered through the broken West Virginia landscape and pulled up alongside Jim's avocado-coloured house. As the doors opened, we poured out with hammers in hand, ready to start our routine. We rotated jobs as we basked in the southern sun; some of us scraped and painted windows, while others stained the deck or repaired the roof. All the while, Jim, a retiree, sat in a lawn chair observing us – the kindest of old men, only too sorry that he could not labour alongside us on the ladders. We passed the time with inside jokes and songs, truly enjoying ourselves regardless of the tedium of painting window after window as Jim just silently observed with a cane in one hand to support him in case he wanted to get up. 10 15

As the clock neared noon, we took our lunch break in the shade of a small tree in Jim's front yard. Sam, our moderator, planted Jim's chair beside us and announced that since he was eager to help in any way possible, Jim would lead us in a before-meal prayer. He saw our tired faces and heard the rumbles from our stomachs. He kept it succinct and we started digging into our food. 20

"Let me tell you a story..." he then began. From the pit of his humble heart, he began to unravel his eighty-some-odd years for us. He was a school teacher who had a dog named Pretty-Face. He told of old hunting expeditions in the mountains where his life was almost lost to a bear, and he talked of conquering a rattlesnake, even showing us the rattles. 25

Then his cavernous eyes just wandered off as if he was no longer talking for our benefit, but more for his own. He described that day his dog died, as fat tears rolled down his weathered cheeks and he gripped the end of his cane. He recalled her loyalty to the end as with one last thump of the tail, looking up at him, Pretty-Face passed on. He remembered his wife gazing up at him much the same way seconds before her death. 30

He always affectionately called his wife 'Mama', and he told of how she had always stayed up until the small hours of the morning to bake the bread for the next day while he, often tired from a long day of teaching or hunting, would retire to bed. 35

"Why hadn't I taken the extra time to stay up with her?" he said in a distant voice as his eyes gazed beyond us. "Why couldn't I do so? Why?"

I remember how profoundly those words rang inside of me. Here was a man brimming with wisdom and reflections on his life, telling me to make the most of mine, to take the extra time with those I love. I was inspired; I was mesmerised by this extraordinary old man whom I had thought I was helping. Jim's house was not a job at all; it was a classroom. 40

*By Kate McMahon
Adapted from Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul II
'A Wider Classroom'*

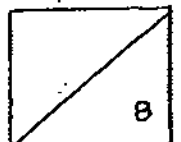
ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71 What does the word 'it' (line 5) refer to?

72 Which sentence in paragraph 2 tells us that it was not the first time the author and her friends were helping the less fortunate?

73 List two tasks that the author and ~~his~~ friends had to do at Jim's house.

74 Explain clearly why Jim was unable to labour alongside the author and ^{her} ~~his~~ friends.



75 Why do you think Jim kept the prayer before their lunch 'succinct' (line 21)?

76 What was Jim working as before he retired?

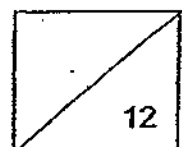
77 Which two-word phrase tells us that Jim looked old?

78 What did Jim use to like to do during his free time before he retired?

79 Explain what Jim meant when he said he could not 'do so' (line 37).

80 Explain clearly why the author regarded Jim's house as a classroom.

END OF PAPER





ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2009

SCHOOL : RED SWASTIKA PRIMARY
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH

TERM : SA1

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

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

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
Q	B	E	D	L	K

- 41)of 42)glimpse 43)Bracing 44)peculiar 45)luminous
- 46)were 47)droopy 48)an 49)closely 50)curiosity
- 51)Having 52)fly 53)fed 54)In 55)foot
- 56)brought 57)These 58)rare 59)extinction 60)was
- 61)having 62)by 63)between 64)others 65)played
- 66)Neither the children nor Mr Tan knows the way to the auditorium.
- 67)After checking her class test thoroughly, Mary handed it in.
- 68)Out of respect for their Principal, the pupils sat down only after he had done so.
- 69)Isaac was shown the way to the park.

70) Sue asked Tom how long he had took to drive to Johor the previous day.

71) It refers to the week-long service project to repair the homes of the less fortunate residing in the Appalachian mountains.

72) The sentence is "As the doors opened, we poured out with hammers in hand, ready to start our routine."

73) They had to stain the deck and repair roof.

74) Jim needed a cane in one hand to support him if he wanted to get up so it would be impossible for him to climb up a ladder and paint the windows with the author and her friends.

75) Jim knew that he the author and her friends when hungry and tried and wanted them to be able to have their food quickly.

76) He was working as a school teacher before he retired.

77) The two-word phrase is "weathered cheeks."

78) Jim like to hunt during his free time before he retired.

79) Jim could not find the extra time to stay up with his wife.

80) The author regarded Jim's house as a classroom because she felt that Jim's reflections on life had inspired her.

