

**SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL
FIRST SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2016
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PRIMARY SIX**

Name: _____ () Date: _____

Class: Primary 6

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2
(BOOKLET A)**

Total time for Booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- 1 Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
- 2 Follow all instructions carefully.
- 3 Answer all questions.
- 4 Shade your answers on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.

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

- 1 The unique technique he uses for his designs _____ him stand out from the other contestants.
- (1) make
 - (2) makes
 - (3) are making
 - (4) were making
- 2 The movie featuring local artistes _____ in cinemas until the end of next month.
- (1) shows
 - (2) showed
 - (3) is being shown
 - (4) has been shown
- 3 In light _____ the recent theft cases, the management has decided to employ more security personnel.
- (1) of
 - (2) on
 - (3) with
 - (4) from
- 4 Passers-by were shocked when they saw a group of boys _____ stones at the dogs.
- (1) throw
 - (2) threw
 - (3) throws
 - (4) thrown
- 5 The trekkers continued with their hike up the hill _____ their injuries.
- (1) yet
 - (2) despite
 - (3) however
 - (4) although

6 Many have commented that Shane takes _____ his father in terms of his temperament.

- (1) in
- (2) up
- (3) back
- (4) after

7 Except for Jane, everyone else _____ at the annual general meeting now.

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

8 The groups of students divided the prize money among _____.

- (1) itself
- (2) yourself
- (3) ourselves
- (4) themselves

9 Having just joined the team this morning, Susan has not spoken _____ today.

- (1) less
- (2) little
- (3) some
- (4) much

10 "I think the blue dress is more suitable for you, _____ it?" Mary commented.

- (1) isn't
- (2) hasn't
- (3) doesn't
- (4) wouldn't

For each question from 11 to 15, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

- 11 Much to my mother's _____, my brother decided to go for a holiday without informing her.
- (1) scorn
 - (2) scorch
 - (3) dismay
 - (4) disregard
- 12 Owing to the bad weather, the number of people who have been late for work for the past month has _____.
- (1) surged
 - (2) hurtled
 - (3) oscillated
 - (4) advanced
- 13 The forest was so thick that we had to _____ through it. We were so relieved when we finally reached the river.
- (1) stride
 - (2) wade
 - (3) stomp
 - (4) lumber
- 14 Mr Ahmad was _____ with fear when he spotted a snake in his vegetable plantation.
- (1) firm
 - (2) rigid
 - (3) inbred
 - (4) settled
- 15 Peter's salary is so _____ that he has trouble making ends meet.
- (1) lean
 - (2) trivial
 - (3) meagre
 - (4) moderate

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

Social networking has enjoyed explosive growth in recent years. As of 2012, Facebook declared that it has 950 million active users. It is by far the most popular social-networking site and among the most visited internet sites. On many popular social-networks, the exchange of messages is casual but some networks focus on business and career development or academic discussions.

The speed and richness of social-networking sites have been made possible by two recent technological progressions. The first consists of sophisticated programming that constantly updates and syncs the homepages of everyone in their network. The second change is the increased convenience of broadband internet connections that allows users to easily handle large media files at high speeds. These improvements have opened up avenues of communication that were unimaginable just a few years ago. However, they have also introduced dangers and downsides that the users of such sites must consider carefully.

Adapted from 'Social Networking', Communication Technology, Expert Space

- 16 (1) insisted
(2) admitted
(3) proclaimed
(4) denounced
- 17 (1) familiar
(2) relaxed
(3) informal
(4) approachable

18 (1) worldly
(2) advanced
(3) enlightened
(4) experienced

19 (1) scope
(2) chance
(3) possibility
(4) availability

20 (1) accession
(2) expansion
(3) increments
(4) developments

Study this brochure carefully and then answer Questions 21 to 28.

Are you ready to take on the digital age?
Take the first step by mastering the computer!

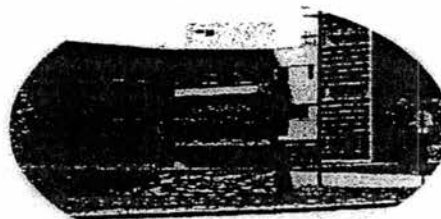
COMPUTER SMARTS 2016

NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION!



Computer Smarts, the renowned course conducted personally by tech whiz, Jake Ho, is back! And this time, it's bigger, better and more power-packed than ever!

Come join us for a trial lesson on 5 June 2016 at 10am, 12nn, 3pm and 5pm! This lesson will be held at Evergreen Community Club and it will be absolutely free of charge! There are no strings attached! Simply register personally at the Evergreen Community Club reception before 15 May 2016.*



This free trial will be conducted by Jake Ho himself. The lesson will focus on the basics of internet safety protocol and identity protection. Aside from the serious business of online security, there will also be a lot of fun as students will form groups to create their very own computer games!



JAKE HO

Jake Ho is the founder of The Digital Age, a private school teaching children and teens between the ages of 7 and 18 how to navigate the digital age by equipping them with savvy know-how of all things gadget. The Digital Age is located at Sapphire Towers.

Jake Ho returned to Singapore in 2010 after graduating from Stanford. Since then, he has been making waves in the local technology scene. He received the Brilliant Innovator Award in 2014 and is nominated for the 2016 Game-Changer Awards.

Participants of this trial class will also be able to join the Computer Smarts 2016 course at a discounted rate. This rate will be announced during the trial lesson.

*Vacancies will be filled on a first-come-first-served basis. Once all vacancies are taken, interested parties will be waitlisted for another free trial at a later date.

What previous students of the Computer Smarts class have to say:



Cynthia Woo, 14

Armed with the knowledge I got from the Computer Smarts course, I created a programme to keep track of shopping items. This programme was later sold to an Australian company. After that, I created two other programmes and sold those too!

Jesse Wong, 10

After this course, I was able to create my very own computer game. My two brothers and I have lots of fun playing it every day. Even my mum joins us sometimes!



Sundram, 8, Ravi, 12 and Prakesh, 15, brothers

We went to different Computer Smarts courses because of our difference in age. The lessons were superb and we really learnt how to use the computer to help us with our schoolwork! Jake is also a really great teacher who makes even the dullest topics interesting!!

Ho Swee Song, 17

This course was an eye-opener regarding the role and function of computers in our future. I attended a few other courses at The Digital Age after that and I will be choosing to pursue Computer Science in university.



Darren and Darlene Chan, 13, twins

The Computer Smarts course is fabulous! Darlene used to be terrible with gadgets and Darren hated any work that involved the use of a computer. Now, we can easily whip up an elaborate presentation on the computer and our classmates come to us for advice on how to improve their own work!

**FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN BENEFIT
FROM THIS AMAZING COURSE TOO!**

Go to www.thedigitalage.com.sg/computersmarts today

For each question from 21 to 28, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (8 marks)

21. Where is the venue for the trial class?

- (1) Stanford
- (2) The Digital Age
- (3) Sapphire Towers
- (4) Evergreen Community Club

22. Would students who joined the trial class have to sign up for the Computer Smarts course?

- (1) Yes, but they will be given a discounted rate.
- (2) No, but they will have to pay for the trial class.
- (3) Yes, because this trial lesson is part of the course.
- (4) No, they are not compelled to join any of the courses.

23. Who is Jake Ho?

- (1) a brilliant swimmer
- (2) a creator of games
- (3) a Stanford graduate
- (4) a part-time teacher at The Digital Age

24. Katherine wants to join the Computer Smarts course at a discounted rate. She should _____.

- (1) join the trial class
- (2) go to www.thedigitalage.com.sg/computersmarts
- (3) register for the Computer Smarts course immediately
- (4) find out more details at the Evergreen Community Club reception

25. Leon signed up for the trial class but the classes are already full.
He should _____ as he is only keen on the trial class.
- (1) join other classes at The Digital Age
 - (2) wait to join another trial class in future
 - (3) join other trial classes by signing up online
 - (4) register for the Computer Smarts course at a discounted rate
26. How can we tell that the game created by Jesse is good?
- (1) His mother likes to play it.
 - (2) His brothers helped him create it.
 - (3) An Australian company bought it.
 - (4) He created it after taking the Computer Smarts course.
27. What do the classmates of Darren and Darlene ask them for?
- (1) jokes
 - (2) money
 - (3) guidance
 - (4) elaboration
28. How can interested parties get more details about the Computer Smarts Course? They can _____.
- (1) visit their website
 - (2) send an email to Jake Ho
 - (3) enquire at Evergreen Community Club
 - (4) call one of the former course participants

(Go on to Booklet B)

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PRIMARY SIX**

Name: _____ ()

Date: _____

Class: Primary 6

Parent's Signature :

	Marks Obtained	Highest Possible Marks
Booklet A		28
Booklet B		67
Sub-total		95

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2

(BOOKLET B)

Total time for Booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- 1 Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
- 2 Follow all instructions carefully.
- 3 Answer all questions.
- 4 Write your answers in this booklet.

There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted in order to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

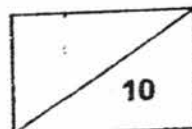
EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) about	(D) as	(G) its	(K) their	(N) which
(B) although	(E) into	(H) of	(L) to	(P) while
(C) among	(F) is	(J) on	(M) up	(Q) with

Polar Bears live in the Arctic and are thought to have evolved from brown bears five million years ago. They are known as apex predators _____ there are no other animals that are large enough to kill them. Polar bears, are therefore at the top of _____ food chain. Superbly adapted to life in the Arctic, their large paws distribute their weight across thin ice and are perfect paddles for swimming. Footpads on each paw are covered in bumps called papillae. Together with fur between the paw pads, they provide traction _____ the ice. A heavy coat of fur provides insulation on land _____ a thick layer of fat provides insulation as well as buoyancy in the water. Heat loss _____ further minimised by the small ears and little tails. Their heightened sense of smell, sight and hearing coupled _____ their patience make them formidable hunters in this harsh environment.

Polar bears hunt mainly seals _____ usually stay in the water. Seals are hunted for their blubber, the highest calorie food source. They are hunted in three ways. Still-hunting is the most common method and takes advantage of the seal's need _____ go to the surface to breathe. Once a polar bear locates a breathing hole, it crouches and waits until a seal comes _____ for air. As soon as the polar bear smells the exhaled breath of a seal, it quickly reaches _____ the hole and drags the seal out with its curved claws. Seals are often hunted by polar bears in this manner.

Adapted from www.planet-science.com



Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in each of the boxes. (12 marks)

Recycling is the process of collecting and reprocessing materials that would
(39)
typically be considered as waste. Waste items that are usually recycled included

newspapers, plastic bags and glass bottles. In nearly every country, there is
(40)
usually some form of recycling law or mandate. Some cities have go as far as to

(41)
make home recycling compulsory. However, as people become more adukated with

(42)
our collective impact on the environment, are we kontinuing to put an undue

(43)
emphasis on recycling to the detriment for the other two modern recycling
rudiments? Are we recycling when we should instead be reducing or simply reusing?

(44)

It would be foolish to claim that recycling was not an important part of
(45)
conservation. Without the established recycling infrestruktore, millions of tons of

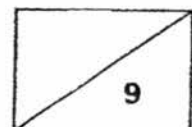
(46)

otherwise reusable materials would end in being buried in landfills or incinerated

(47)

away to ash. Abandoned dump sites can sivearly damage the environment as harmful

chemicals in the trash can mix with water and soil.

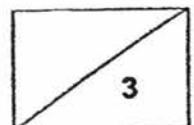


When small, easy-to-break-down items like cans and newspapers are recycled
(48)
and the materials are reused, the energy and carbon expenditures are relatively small

due to the sheer volume of the materials. However, what ^{about} ~~is~~ larger items like
(49)
computers, refrigerators and cars? Recycling is not always the cheapest alternative.

(50)
The resources requiring in collecting, moving and breaking these devices down into
raw materials that can be reused are both intensive and costly. Thus, it is rarely
done.

Adapted from www.thereusepeople.org



Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

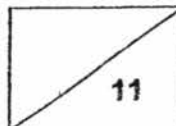
(15 marks)

Around us, children chased each other and slid on the grass. Someone was playing an old tune from a movie soundtrack. Families had gathered. Many had set _____ a spot on the ground using plastic sheets. The air smelled of wet grass, smoke and grilled meat. "It's great to be home," I thought to myself. I wished _____ would stand still. Then, I saw we had _____. A green kite was closing in. I traced the string to a boy standing about thirty yards _____ us. He had a crew cut and wore a T-shirt. He saw me looking at him. He smiled and waved. I _____ back. Sohrab, my nephew, handed the string back to me.

"Are you sure?" I said while taking it.

He held on to the _____. I nodded my head and held on to the string. "Okay," I said. "Let's take on the challenge." The glassy, vacant look in his eyes was gone. His gaze flitted from our kite _____ the green one. His face was a little flushed and his eyes were _____ alert. I wondered when I had forgotten that. Despite everything, he was just a child. The green kite was making its move. "Let's wait," I said. "We'll let him get a little closer." It dipped twice and crept towards us. "Come on. Come to me," I said. The green kite drew _____ and rose a little above us. The unsuspecting kite was _____ of the trap I had set for it.

"Watch, Sohrab. I'm going to show you _____ of your father's favourite tricks, the old lift-and-dive," I continued. Next to me, Sohrab was breathing rapidly through his nose. The spool rolled in his palms. The green kite hovered directly above us. "He is going for it. Anytime now," I said, my eyes flicking from Sohrab to our kite. The green kite hesitated. It held its position. Then, it shot down. "Here, he comes!" I said. I did it perfectly.



After all these years, the old lift-and-dive trap still worked. I loosened my grip and

_____ on the string, dipping and dodging the green kite. A series of quick sidearm

(62)

jerks and our kite shot up counter clockwise, in a half circle. Suddenly, I was on top. The

_____ kite was scrambling now, panic-stricken. _____, it was too late.

(63)

I pulled hard and our kite plummeted. I could almost feel our string sawing his. I almost heard

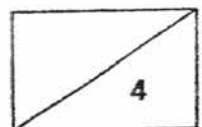
(64)

the snap. Just like that, the green kite was spinning and wheeling out of _____.

(65)

Behind us, people cheered. Whistles and applause broke out. I was panting. The last time I felt a rush like this was that day in the winter of 1975, just after I had cut the last kite.

Adapted from "The Kite Runner" By Khaled Hosseini



For each of the questions from 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

66 She would not have told him the news if she had known that he would react so angrily.

Had _____

67 Susan did not receive her parcel in time. She was disappointed.

Much to her _____

68 Dr Wong completed his project before the deadline. His students assisted him.

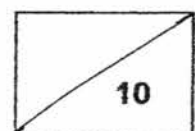
With the _____

69 The dancers trained for their performance. They did so vigorously.

It was with _____

70 "How long will you take to finish your project?" James asked Ken.

James asked Ken _____



Jusuke tried to lower the sail but the wind beat it against the mast until it was torn into shreds. The wind pushed the sea into great mountains of water. It tore the oars from the men's hands and flung them into the sea. Finally, it snapped the mast and ripped the rudder away from the boat. Without a sail, oars and a rudder, the boat tossed about on the heaving sea. Then, a cold rain came that turned to ice. The fishermen huddled in the bottom of the boat. 5

Days passed. At first, they ate the raw flesh of the fish they had caught but soon, the waves that sloshed over the side of the boat had swept away most of their catch. Once they came within sight of land, they shouted and hollered but the wind snatched their voices away. Manjiro's heart sank when he realised that the boat was not drifting toward the island but away.

"Kuroshio," Denzo said. "*The Black Current.*" His voice was as dark as the water that surrounded them. Everyone stared at the wide stripe of indigo water which usually flowed north toward home. This year, however, the current flowed southeast. With no sails, no rudder or oars, they were at *Kuroshio's* mercy and steadily dragged toward the vast unknown. How long until they came to the end of the ocean and fell off its edge? Would they encounter the frightening creatures that were said to live and sail in the far reaches of the sea? Now, in the dark of night, the wind screaming as he bailed bucket after bucket of freezing water out of the boat, images of monster crowded his imagination. 10 15

By the eighth day of drifting, all the food and water were gone. The cold had penetrated their bones and the fishermen huddled together, prepared to die. For a long time, no one spoke. They waited for Denzo, the eldest and the leader, to speak first. At last, he said, "I was going to buy my own boat when we got home." 20

Then, Jusuke said through chattering teeth, "I was just looking forward to a hot bath and a fish dinner!"

"With pickled turnips," added Goemon. Presented with the thought of food, their stomachs ached more fiercely. Manjiro lay shivering, drifting in and out of fitful sleep, listening to the wind whistling through the oarlocks and the waves *tsk-tsking* disapprovingly against the boat. He had hoped this fishing trip would be a way to redeem himself after his dismal failure in his job husking rice for Imasu-san. 25

He had thought he had been so clever to add stones to the grinding machine - it had taken the husks off the rice so much faster. He had not considered that the pebbles and stones get ground up in the rice, too, making it impossible to eat. Imasu-san had been furious, chasing after Manjiro with a willow stick. Manjiro ran. He would rather run than face his mother after such a foolish mistake. He would find some other work, he thought. He would find a job in another village and come home with his pockets full of coins, perhaps! Then, he would not be so worthless! Now, he only wished he had at least stopped to say good-bye to his mother. He could hear her voice calling him over and over again. 30 35

Finally, he opened his eyes. It was not his mother calling. The sound was made by a large seabird wheeling high overhead. A bird! He sat up and shook his friend, Goemon. "Doesn't a bird mean there could be land nearby?" Manjiro thought excitedly.

Adapted from "*Heart of a Samurai*" by Margi Preus

71 Referring to Paragraph 1, describe two things that showed that the fishermen who were on the boat were at the mercy of nature. [2m]

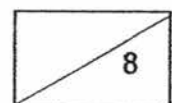
72 Quote the six-word phrase that shows the fishermen shouted in vain. [1m]

--

73 What was the *Kuroshio* and what problem did it cause? [2m]

74 Choose words from Paragraphs 1 to 3 which have similar meanings to the words below. [3m]

surging	
unflinching	
expansive	



75 The fishermen were prepared to die. List two pieces of evidence from the text. [2m]

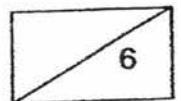
1. _____
2. _____

76 Based on the passage, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false. Give one reason why you think so. [3m]

	True / False	Reason
a) The fishermen could not control the direction of the boat.		
b) They ate all the fish they had caught.		
c) Denzo encountered frightening creatures.		

77 Order the sentences below according to what had happened in the passage. Number the sentences (1, 2 and 3) in the boxes provided. [1m]

- _____ Manjiro lay shivering as he listened to the waves tsk-tsking disapprovingly against the boat.
- _____ Goemon suggested eating pickled turnips with a fish dinner.
- _____ Denzo explained that he had wanted to buy his own boat when they got home.

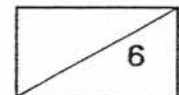


78 Why did Manjiro go on the fishing trip? [2m]

79 Based on the passage, state the corresponding effect for each of the causes listed in the table below. [2m]

Cause	Effect
Manjiro added stones to the grinding machine.	
Imasu-san was not amused by what Manjiro did.	

80 Why was Manjiro excited when he saw a large seabird flying above them? [2m]



End of Paper

YEAR : 2016
 LEVEL : PRIMARY 6
 SCHOOL : SCGS
 SUBJECT : ENGLISH
 TERM : SA1 PAPER 2

Booklet A

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
2	3	1	1	2	4	1	4	4	1
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
3	1	4	2	3	3	1	2	4	4
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28		
4	4	3	1	2	1	3	1		

Booklet B

Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38
D	K	J	P	F	Q	N	L	M	E

Q39	include	Q53	company
Q40	gone	Q54	from
Q41	educated	Q55	waved
Q42	continuing	Q56	spool
Q43	of	Q57	to
Q44	is	Q58	very
Q45	infrastructure	Q59	near
Q46	up	Q60	unaware
Q47	severely	Q61	one
Q48	relatively	Q62	tugged
Q49	alternative	Q63	green
Q50	required	Q64	However
Q51	up	Q65	control
Q52	time		

Q66 Had she known that he would react so angrily, she would not have told him the news.

Q67 Much to her disappointment, Susan did not receive her parcel in time.

Q68 With the assistance of his students, Dr Wong completed his project before the deadline.

Q69 It was with vigor that the dancers trained for their performance.

Q70 James asked Ken how long it would take to finish his project.

Q71 The strong wind tore the oars from the men's hands and tore the sail into shreds.

Q72 The wind snatched their voices away.

Q73 The Kuroshio was The Black Current and caused the water to flow southeast instead of north.

Q74

surging	heaving
unflinching	steadily
expansive	vast

- Q75**
1. They had no food or water.
 2. The cold penetrated their bones.

Q76

True	They did not have a sail, oars and a rudder to control the direction of the boat.
False	The waves that sloshed over the side of their boat swept away most of the fish, so they could only eat what was left.
False	Images of monster crowded his imagination.

Q77 3
2
1

Q78 He wanted to earn money from going on this fishing trip and come home with pockets full of coins so that he would not be so worthless.

Q79

Effect
The husks of the rice had been taken off much faster and the stones were ground up together with the rice, making it impossible to eat.
She chased after Manjiro with a willow stick.

Q80 It meant there could be land nearby and that the men on the ship would not die if they reached the land.