



**RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
2008**

Name: _____ () Class: P6 _____

18 August 2008

English Language

ATT : 1h 50 min

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

BOOKLET A

Instructions to Pupils

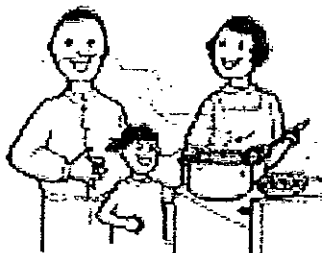
1. Write your Name, Class and Index No. in the spaces above.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.
5. Shade your answers in the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.

Section A : Comprehension (Graphic Stimulus)

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

Family Hangout At Heartland Mall

24 Nov to 22 Dec 2008



Family Cooking Competition 2008 "Family Heritage Food"

Join us at the Family Cooking Competition organised by Heartland Mall, where families come together to prepare their family secret dish that has been passed down from generation to generation. At the same time, you'll also get to witness the exceptional culinary skills of Ms Violet Oon, Singapore's Food Ambassador, during the finals of the competition.

Preliminary Rounds: 14 Dec 2008 at 11am, 1pm and 3pm

Finals: 15 Dec 2008 at 3pm

PRIZES (Per Team)

- 1st Prize - \$1000 cash + \$500 shopping voucher + \$300 Chng Kee's hamper + trophy
- 2nd Prize - \$500 cash + \$300 shopping voucher + \$200 Chng Kee's hamper + trophy
- 3rd Prize - \$300 cash + \$200 shopping voucher + \$100 Chng Kee's hamper + trophy
- 5 Consolation Prizes - \$100 cash + \$50 Chng Kee's hamper + trophy

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Date	Time	Events
10 to 13 Dec (Tue to Fri)	7pm	Live music with Taufik
14 Dec (Sat)	11am 7pm	Family Cooking Competition 2008 Live music with Tanya
15 Dec (Sun)	3pm Intermission 7pm	Family Cooking Competition 2008 Finals Cooking Demonstration by Ms Violet Oon Live music with Stefanie Sun

GIVEAWAYS

Chng Kee's Premium Cooking Sauce
24 Nov to 15 Dec 2008

Spend a minimum of \$80 at any shop on levels 2 & 3 to redeem two bottles of Chng Kee's cooking sauce. (while stocks last!)

\$3 Heartland Mall Voucher
24 Nov to 22 Dec 2008

Spend a minimum of \$30 at any fashion outlet to redeem a \$3 shopping voucher. Maximum 2 combined same-day receipts. Limited to one voucher per shopper per day.

Owned by: Capital Land

Sponsored by : Chng Kee's

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 organiser of 'Family Hangout' is _____
- 1) Violet Oon
 - 2) Chng Kee's
 - 3) Capital Land
 - 4) Heartland Mall
2. Which one of the following teams will be eligible for the 'Family Cooking Competition' ?
- 1) Jane with two of her classmates
 - 2) Mrs Tan with her son and daughter
 - 3) Mrs Lim with her neighbour, Cik Siti
 - 4) Tom's grandmother with her childhood friend
3. Which of the following could be a possible time slot for Violet Oon's demonstration of her culinary skills?
- 1) 14 December 2008 at 3pm
 - 2) 14 December 2008 at 5pm
 - 3) 15 December 2008 at 3pm
 - 4) 15 December 2008 at 5pm
4. In order to get a \$3 shopping voucher, a shopper needs to spend _____
- 1) a minimum of \$30 at any fashion outlet
 - 2) a minimum of \$80 at any fashion outlet
 - 3) a minimum of \$30 at any shop on levels 2 or 3
 - 4) a minimum of \$80 at any shop on levels 2 or 3
5. If Mrs Chen goes to the mall on 24 November 2008 and spends \$100 at a bookshop on level 2, she will be able to _____
- 1) get a \$3 shopping voucher
 - 2) redeem two bottles of Chng Kee's cooking sauce
 - 3) redeem two bottles of Chng Kee's cooking sauce and get a \$3 shopping voucher
 - 4) redeem two bottles of Chng Kee's cooking sauce and get three \$3 shopping vouchers

Section B : Grammar Discrete

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. Sally's Science teacher, _____ lessons she enjoys very much, is an approachable and friendly woman.
- (1) who
 - (2) whom
 - (3) which
 - (4) whose
7. He ~~broke~~ my mother's antique vase, _____ ?
- (1) did he
 - (2) had he
 - (3) didn't he
 - (4) hadn't he
8. The only difference _____ the triplets is that two of them have dimples.
- (1) of
 - (2) with
 - (3) among
 - (4) between
9. My father gives my elder sister and _____ our weekly allowance every Sunday morning.
- (1) I
 - (2) me
 - (3) my
 - (4) mine
10. After the vehicle had knocked Mr Lim down, he _____ unconscious on the pavement.
- (1) lay
 - (2) lied
 - (3) laid
 - (4) lain
11. Mrs Lim heard her daughter _____ and rushed towards her immediately.
- (1) cry
 - (2) cried
 - (3) cries
 - (4) had cried

12. "I have to complete my Mathematics project now. Could you help _____ my brother from the kindergarten?"

- (1) take
- (2) send
- (3) fetch
- (4) bring

Section C : Punctuation

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)

There, tucked in the curve of the archway, perfectly hidden against the dark stone, sat Mr. Sticky. Right next to him was another water snail, even smaller than he was.

Mrs Sticky (13) Abby bellowed. "But where did she come from?"

"I'm beginning to suspect the pond weed. Don't you think?" Mum thought.

They both laughed and climbed into Abby's bed together (14) cuddling down under the duvet. It was cosy but a bit of a squeeze.

"Budge up," Mum said, giving Abby a push with her bottom.

"I can't. I'm already on the edge," Abby sighed.

"My goodness you've grown then. When did that happen (15) You could have put an elephant in here last time when we did this," Mum replied in surprise.

Abby put her head on Mum's chest and smiled.

Adapted from 'Mr Sticky' by Mo McAuley

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

Section D: Vocabulary MCQ

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. No matter how hard the teacher tried to _____ a response from her pupils, her class remained passive and uninterested.
- 1) illicit
 - 2) elicit
 - 3) elect
 - 4) induct
17. After a long battle with the prosecution, the court finally _____ her of drug trafficking.
- 1) absolved
 - 2) released
 - 3) acquitted
 - 4) discharged
18. The _____ words in his letter to his parents clearly expressed his regret and remorse for the pain he had caused them.
- 1) contrite
 - 2) contrived
 - 3) conceived
 - 4) contradictory
19. The captors caught up with Eliza eventually as her blonde hair made her _____ among the dark-haired crowd.
- 1) flashy
 - 2) notorious
 - 3) concealed
 - 4) conspicuous
20. Mr Lin is on leave this week. Have you found someone to _____ for him the entire week?
- 1) fill in
 - 2) fill up
 - 3) fill out
 - 4) fill into

Section E: Vocabulary Cloze

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)

Madam Sim had been suffering from osteoarthritis for six years. Her movements were impeded by her failing knees. The cartilage was so worn down that the bones in her knee joints would grind painfully against each other when she walked. (21)

She found relief last year when doctors completed an ingenious procedure that offers patients an alternative to painful knee replacement surgery and was finally released from the shackles of her deteriorated knees. (22) (23)

Doctors from National University Hospital (NUH) used Madam Sim's cells to grow a tiny amount of cartilage in a laboratory and implanted them into her knee joints. The cells proliferated and filled the spaces between her bones, putting an end to the grinding. (24)

To grow cartilage in a petri-dish, doctors took stem ^{cells} ~~calls~~ from Madam Sim's bone marrow and coaxed them to grow into cartilage. Cartilage implants resulting from bone marrow stem cells are also done in Japan and Taiwan. Countries such as the United States and those in Europe use cartilage cells as the use of stem cells is more controversial there. (25)

Adapted from www.asiaone.com

21. (1) hindered
(2) obstructed
(3) immobilised
(4) paralysed

22. (1) orthodox
(2) innovative
(3) imaginative
(4) evolutionary

23. (1) annulled
(2) liberated
(3) vindicated
(4) exonerated

24. (1) swelled
(2) amplified
(3) multiplied
(4) escalated

25. (1) debatable
(2) unpopular
(3) combative
(4) pugnacious

Section F : Comprehension MCQ

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

In the 16th century, there were no detectives like the ones we know of today. Criminal investigation meant little more than looking for suspects, with almost no attempt made to find clues. Sometimes officials simply walked away from puzzling crimes – they did not even try to solve them.

Other times, officials found a scapegoat, a person who might be innocent but who could be accused and punished anyway. The point was to discover a culprit rather than the culprit as this at least satisfied society that the crime had not gone unpunished.

The standard 16th century procedure was to torture people until they confessed. Of course, torture was highly effective in producing a speedy confession. This had gone on for hundreds of years and was thought to be the best way to solve a crime. In fact, before the 17th century, many people believed it was wrong to even try solving crimes by using thought and reasoning. That had to change before forensic science, the science of crime solution, could begin to develop.

Once people began to accept the notion that logic was valuable in crime-solving, the field of forensic science began to grow – but slowly. It finally came into its own in the 1800s. That was when authorities began to listen carefully to the information being shouted by the clues left at a crime scene.

The next step forward was taken when the detectives realised that much more could be learned from clues if they used new systems to help in analysing them. One of the earliest systems was Alphonse Bertillion's "anthropometry".

What Bertillion did was simple enough. He took eleven measurements of arrested criminals. The most important of these measurements were the length and width of the criminal's head, middle fingers and the little finger of the left hand. The odds of misidentification were relatively small since the odds of two people having identical measurements in these four areas are 276 to 1. The odds against misidentification rose to almost 4, 000, 000 to 1 when seven other measurements were applied. Then Bertillion filed all these data on cards. Each card carried two photographs of the person and details of previous arrest records.

Bertillion's system helped solve many crimes by identifying the living and it provided another benefit too – identifying the dead. On one occasion, a police colleague of Bertillion's, an inspector, asked him to identify a corpse that had been shot several months earlier. The inspector was trying to challenge the new identification method but Bertillion believed in his system so firmly that he accepted the challenge and succeeded.

Bertillion's system might have been competent but it was cumbersome. Fortunately, a more easily manageable means of identification was soon discovered – fingerprints. Fingerprints were easier to obtain than all the measurements required by Bertillion's methods. They were also easier to keep track of and use.

Adapted from 'How Science Began to Solve Crimes' by Anita Larsen

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. According to paragraphs 1 and 2, why were crimes not solved effectively in the 16th century?
- (1) The officials were misled by the clues left at the crime scene.
 - (2) The officials could not locate and identify the suspects.
 - (3) The officials did not bother to make an effort to look for the real culprit.
 - (4) The officials did not have the necessary equipment to track down the suspects.
27. The word "This" in line 9 refers to the _____.
- (1) use of torture as the best way to solve crimes
 - (2) slow development in the science of crime solution
 - (3) use of torture as being highly effective in producing a quick confession
 - (4) strong beliefs that it was wrong to use thought and reasoning to solve crimes
28. According to paragraphs 3 and 4, why was the field of forensic science growing very slowly?
- (1) There were no detectives or law enforcers.
 - (2) People did not believe in thought and reasoning.
 - (3) Officials walked away from puzzling crimes instead of solving them.
 - (4) People were already satisfied that the crime had not gone unpunished.
29. The word "cumbersome" in line 34 means _____.
- (1) difficult to handle
 - (2) not working properly
 - (3) taking up too much time
 - (4) not producing excellent results
30. Which of the following is not true of the Bertillion's system based on the text?
- (1) Bertillion came up with his system in the 1800s.
 - (2) Bertillion's system solved crimes by identifying only the living.
 - (3) Bertillion took a total of 18 measurements of arrested criminals.
 - (4) Bertillion's system could keep track of the data stored on cards over time.

BOOKLET B

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Section G : Structural Cloze

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) against	(D) off	(G) than	(K) then	(N) up
(B) before	(E) out	(H) this	(L) these	(P) which
(C) its	(F) over	(J) their	(M) under	(Q) when

The African ground squirrel or cape squirrel is a socially cooperative animal that lives in the drier parts of southern Africa.

Being poor climbers, (31) _____ squirrels remain mostly on or (32) _____ the ground. They live in complicated networks of interconnecting burrows, which may be shared with meerkats or yellow mongooses.

There are usually thirty members in a colony, comprising females and (33) _____ offspring. The females defend the territory (34) _____ intruders. Males are only accepted into the colony when a female is in heat.

Ground squirrels sunbathe on their bellies with four legs stretched (35) _____. They sunbathe in the same way, every now and (36) _____ throwing sand all over their bodies before shaking it (37) _____.

(38) _____ the ground squirrels are feeding, they often use their tails as sunshades, holding them in bent positions over their backs. Tails are also used as warning flags. When danger is spotted, the squirrel moves its tail (39) _____ and down while giving a long, drawn-out whine, (40) _____ functions as an alarm call.

Taken from 'A Field Guide To Singapore Zoo' by Singapore Zoo

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Section H: Editing for Spelling and Grammar

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

Ryan Mitchell was a young firefighter and paramedic in St. Petersburg, Florida.

(41)

(42)

Although he works in a profession known for their manly quotient as well as

(43)

(44)

stoic heroism, his body reacted like the baby who had just been fed a bowl of extremely

(45)

spicy chilli. Needless to say, he was **embearassed**.

Ryan's problem began in January 2002 when he would get stomachaches after

eating certain foods and during December, he had difficulty keeping anything down. He

(46)

(47)

was plagued with horrible cramps and diarrhoea. When his weight **plummented** from

(48)

82 kg to 70 kg, he finally went to seeking treatment. Within a week, Ryan noticed

(49)

(50)

inprovmants but it took more than a year for all the **simptems** to disappear. According

to doctors, this type of problem affects people of all ages.

Adapted from Quit Your Belly Aching by Patricia Curtis

Section I: Comprehension Cloze (16 marks)

Read the passage carefully and fill in each of the blanks with a suitable word.

The hunting-wasp is the specialist of the insect world and it performs an operation which would make a skilled surgeon pause. There ~~are~~ many different species of hunting-wasp but most of them have (51) _____ habits. For the reception of her young, the female has to build a nursery out (52) _____ clay. This is neatly divided into long cells about the circumference of a cigarette and about half its length. In these, the wasp intends to (53) _____ her eggs. However, she has another duty to perform (54) _____ she can seal them up, for her eggs will hatch into grubs and they will then require food (55) _____ such time as they are ready to undergo the (56) _____ stage of their metamorphosis into the perfect wasp.

The hunting-wasp could (57) _____ her nursery up with dead food but by the time the eggs had hatched, this food would have gone bad, so she is forced to evolve another method. Her favourite (58) _____ is the spider. Flying like some fierce hawk, she (59) _____ upon her unsuspecting victim and proceeds to sting it deeply and skilfully. The effect of this sting is extraordinary, for the spider is left completely (60) _____. With the spider unable to move now, the hunting-wasp then seizes it and carries it off to her (61) _____ before it is carefully tucked away in one of the cells and an egg is laid on it. If the spiders are small, there may be anything up to seven or eight in a cell. Having satisfied herself that the food supply is (62) _____ for her young, the wasp then seals up the cells and flies off. Inside this grisly nursery, the spiders lie in an unmoving row, in some cases for as (63) _____ as seven weeks. To all intents and purposes, the spiders are dead, even when you handle them, and not even under a magnifying glass can you (64) _____ the faintest sign of life. Thus they wait, so to speak, in cold storage until the eggs hatch and the tiny grubs of the hunting-wasp start (65) _____ on their paralysed bodies.

Adapted from Encounters with Animals by Gerard Durrell

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Section J: Transformation / Synthesis

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. Everyone is interested in the art competition. Sally is not.

All but _____

67. Mr Chan asked me, "Where did you go for your vacation last year?"

Mr Chan asked me _____

68. Mrs Ong was very annoyed as her son had broken another antique vase.

Much _____

69. The naughty boys saw their teacher at the door. They ran back to their seats.

Upon _____

70. The luggage Mr Lu bought was expensive. It was also not durable.

_____ neither

Section K: Comprehension Open-Ended

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

<p>In the year 730 B.C., a man by the name of Piye decided the only way to save Egypt was to invade it and he knew that things would get bloody before salvation came.</p>	
<p>"Harness the best steeds of your stable," he ordered his commanders. The magnificent civilisation that had built the great pyramids had lost its way, torn apart by petty warlords. For two decades, Piye had ruled over his kingdom, Nubia, a swath of Africa located mostly in present-day Sudan. However, he considered himself the true ruler of Egypt and the rightful heir to the spiritual traditions practised by pharaohs such as Ramses II and Thutmose III. Since Piye had probably never actually visited Lower Egypt, some did not take his boast seriously. Now, Piye would witness the defeat of decadent Egypt firsthand.</p>	5 10
<p>"I shall let Lower Egypt have a taste of my fingers," he wrote.</p> <p>Under his command, his soldiers sailed north on the Nile River and disembarked at where the commander and his men commenced to do battle with every army in their path to Lower Egypt.</p>	15
<p>By the end of a year-long campaign, every leader in Egypt had capitulated – including the powerful delta warlord, Tefnakt, who sent a messenger to tell Piye, "Be gracious! I cannot see your face in the days of shame; I cannot stand before your flame, I dread your grandeur."</p>	
<p>In exchange for their lives, the vanquished urged Piye to worship at their temples, pocket their finest jewels and claim their best horses. He obliged them. Then, with his troops of men trembling before him, the newly anointed lord of the two lands did something extraordinary – he loaded up his army and his war booty and sailed southward to his home in Nubia, never to return to Egypt again.</p>	20
<p>When Piye died at the end of his 35-year reign in 715 B.C., his subjects honoured his wishes by burying him in an Egyptian-style pyramid with four of his beloved horses nearby. He was the first pharaoh to receive such entombment in more than 500 years. A pity, then, that the great Nubian who accomplished these feats is literally faceless to us. Images of Piye on the elaborate granite slabs, or stelae, memorialising his conquests of Egypt have long since been chiselled away. On a relief in the temple at the Nubian capital of Nutapa, only Piye's legs remain. We are left with a single physical detail of the man – his skin was dark.</p>	25 30
<p>Piye was the first of the so-called black pharaohs, a series of Nubian kings who ruled over all of Egypt for three-quarters of a century. Until recently, theirs was a chapter of history that largely went untold.</p>	35
<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Adapted from The National Geographic February Issue 2008</i></p>	

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ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. Why did Piye say "things would get bloody" in line 2?

72. Why do you think Piye had to "save" Egypt?

73. What does the "magnificent civilisation" in line 5 refer to?

74. Why did some people not take Piye seriously when he claimed to be the true ruler of Egypt?

75. What outcome did Tefnakht hope to achieve after Piye had read his message?

76. How long did the holy war waged by Piye in Egypt last?

77. Which word from the passage has the same meaning as "surrendered"?

78. What did the defeated warlords of Egypt give Piye in exchange for their lives?

79. What were Piye's wishes for his burial?

80. Which sentence tells us that the archaeologists discovered the triumph of the black pharaoh not too long ago?

----- END OF PAPER -----

Raffles Girls' Primary School

Primary 6 English SA2 Exam (2008)

Answer Keys

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

- | | | | | |
|------------|---------------|----------|------------------|-----------------|
| 41. worked | 42. its | 43. a | 44. extremely | 45. embarrassed |
| 46. by | 47. plummeted | 48. seek | 49. improvements | 50. symptoms |
| 51. common | 52. of | 53. lay | 54. before | 55. until |
| 56. last | 57. fill | 58. prey | 59. sets | 60. paralyzed |
| 61. nest | 62. enough | 63. long | 64. spot | 65. feeding |

66. All but Sally is interested in the art competition.
67. Mr Chan asked me where I had gone for my vacation the year before.
68. Much to Mrs Ong's annoyance, her son has broken another antique vase.
69. Upon seeing their teacher at the door, the naughty boys ran back to their seats.
70. The luggage Mr Lu bought was neither cheap nor durable.
71. Piye wanted to invade Egypt and battle with every army in their path, so things would get bloody as people would be killed.
72. Warlords had torn Egypt apart and he had to defeat the warlords in battle so as to save Egypt from the warlords rule, and rebuild Egypt and the great pyramids.
73. It refers to Egypt.
74. Piye had never actually visited lower Egypt, so some people did not take Piye seriously when he claimed to be the true ruler of Egypt.
75. He hoped Piye would save his and his fellow warlords' lives, and accept their surrender to him.
76. It lasted a year.
77. The word is "capitulated".
78. They let Piye worship at their temples pocket their finest jewels and claim their best horses in exchange for their lives.
79. He wished to be buried in an Egyptian-style with four of his beloved horses nearby.
80. The sentence is "Until recently, there was a chapter of history that largely went untold."