



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2012
PRIMARY FIVE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET A

Name: _____ ()

Class: Primary Five _____

10 May 2012

30 Questions
(30 Marks)

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

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

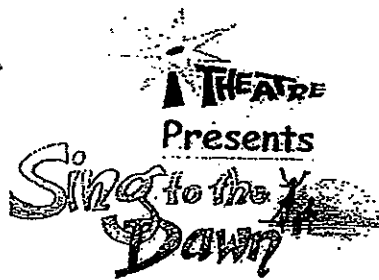
Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

This booklet consists of 9 printed pages excluding the cover page.

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



**Early Bird
Sales from
7 April 2012 to
16 May 2012!**

5 to 19 June 2012 @ Drama Centre Theatre

**Recommended for everyone aged 6 to 106*

Duration – 90 minutes including a 15-minute interval



Fight For Your Dream!

In a small village in Thailand, Dawan competes with her brother Kwai for the coveted single scholarship for the City High School. When Dawan beats her brother to the first place and wins, she becomes the object of her father's anger and her brother's bitter enemy. According to them, Kwai, a boy, should be the one to further his education and she should give up her position for Kwai. Dawan must find the strength and determination to fight for her dream!

Ticket Prices	Category 1 (Early Bird)	Category 2 (Normal Price)
Standard Adult/ Child	\$28.80	\$32.00
** Package	\$109.60	\$121.60

Buy your tickets now through 1) SISTIC Website: www.sistic.com.sg
2) SISTIC Hotline: 63485555 OR 3) SISTIC Authorised Agents islandwide.

Original Literature Text Written by Minfong Ho

Musical Written and Directed by Brian Seward

Music composition by Bang Wenfu

* Whilst we do not ban children below 5 years old, ALL children (including babies in arms) WILL require a valid ticket. Parents are to help ensure the appropriate behaviour of their children.

** Package consists of 4 tickets only.

Sponsored
by:

**The Arts
Council**

TOYS & US

For corporate, school or bulk
bookings call IVAN @ 6341 5960.

For each question from 1 to 5, four options are given. One of them is the 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 musical is organised by _____.
 - (1) iTheatre
 - (2) Toys 'R' Us
 - (3) National Arts Council
 - (4) Drama Centre Theatre

2. Mrs John booked tickets on 15 May 2012 for her family which included Mr John and her son in Primary 5. She bought _____.
 - (1) 3 tickets for \$28.80 each
 - (2) 3 tickets for \$32.00 each
 - (3) a family package for \$109.60
 - (4) a family package for \$121.60

3. The script for the musical show was written by _____.
 - (1) iTheatre
 - (2) Minfong Ho
 - (3) Bang Wenfu
 - (4) Brian Seward

4. The dream Dawan was fighting for was to _____.
 - (1) top her class in City High School
 - (2) win the scholarship to City High School
 - (3) be allowed to use the scholarship to study further
 - (4) please her father and Kwai even though she is a girl

5. Which one of the following statements is true?
 - (1) The actual duration of the musical is 75 minutes.
 - (2) All tickets should be purchased by 16 May 2012.
 - (3) Children aged 0 to 5 years will not be allowed to watch the show.
 - (4) A teacher in charge of a learning journey for pupils should book tickets through SISTIC.

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. Rachel saw Mark _____ the wallet.

- (1) stole
- (2) steal
- (3) steals
- (4) had stolen

7. Mrs. Waldorf, as well as her six children, _____ some relatives in Europe every year.

- (1) visit
- (2) visits
- (3) visited
- (4) are visiting

8. Neither the captain nor his crew members _____ to detect the iceberg in time, which resulted in the tragedy.

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

9. Dominic _____ we were gossiping about is walking towards us now.

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

10. Serena did badly for her year-end examinations _____ studying very hard for it.

- (1) despite
- (2) because
- (3) although
- (4) however

11. My brother and I have only _____ to blame for failing to qualify for the finals of the scrabble competition.

- (1) myself
- (2) himself
- (3) ourselves
- (4) themselves

12. Chuck attends baking classes, _____ he?

- (1) is
- (2) isn't
- (3) does
- (4) doesn't

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)

When a patient was wheeled into our emergency room (13) I was the nurse on duty. "On a scale of zero to ten," I asked her, "with zero representing no pain and ten representing excruciating pain, what would you say your pain level is now?"

She shook her head (14) Then, she said, "Oh, I don't know. Oh dear, I'm not very good with Mathematics, am I (15)

Source: <http://www.rd.com/laughs/math-problems-joke/>

13. (1) [.] comma
(2) [.] full stop
(3) [?] question mark
(4) [!] exclamation mark
14. (1) [,] comma
(2) [.] full stop
(3) [-] hyphen
(4) [;] semi-colon
15. (1) [?] question mark
(2) [. "] full stop and inverted commas
(3) [! "] exclamation mark and inverted commas
(4) [? "] question 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. "Please get to the point. Do not _____. I am busy right now," said Mary in an angry tone.
- (1) bury the hatchet
 - (2) blow your trumpet
 - (3) beat around the bush
 - (4) build castles in the air
17. Due to the _____ response, the musical will be extended for another week.
- (1) overcoming
 - (2) overbearing
 - (3) overpowering
 - (4) overwhelming
18. A scoop of vanilla ice-cream is a good _____ to a slice of chocolate fudge brownie.
- (1) supplement
 - (2) complement
 - (3) enhancement
 - (4) accompaniment
19. The workers were horrified when they found the old building to be _____ with cockroaches.
- (1) infected
 - (2) infested
 - (3) invaded
 - (4) invested
20. The survivors of the shipwreck waved _____ at the passing helicopter hoping to attract its attention.
- (1) frantically
 - (2) cautiously
 - (3) indifferently
 - (4) enthusiastically

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

This extraordinary woman thinks nothing of living a life (21) devoid of luxuries in order to help those less fortunate than her. In the dark and damp market, Chen, nearing her sixties, holds the stall her father had left her (22) dearly. *Yuan-Jin Vegetables* is her everything. With her vegetables selling at "a bundle for 30 dollars, three bundles for 50 dollars", Chen earns only (23) marginal profits. Yet, her (24) frugality has allowed her to donate about NT\$10 million (S\$321,550) towards various charitable causes, including helping schools, orphanages and poor children. The selfless generosity of a woman with such a humble income has placed her under the international spotlight. In March, *Forbes* magazine named her one of 48 (25) outstanding philanthropists from the Asia-Pacific region.

Source: <http://www.rdasia.com/the-generous-vegetable-seller>

21. (1) repleted
(2) deprived
(3) defective
(4) abandoned
22. (1) lavishly
(2) carefully
(3) generously
(4) passionately
23. (1) large
(2) minimal
(3) incidental
(4) substantial
24. (1) thriftiness
(2) intelligence
(3) determination
(4) thoughtfulness
25. (1) remarkable
(2) respectable
(3) established
(4) unexceptional

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

I felt utterly drained as I trudged onward under the blinding, ferocious sun. It was the second day of our first week of expedition to cross China's vast Taklimakan Desert but my strength was already fading. I had heard stories of countless caravans of people, who entered this shimmering ocean of sand, lost their way and never returned. Undaunted, I led fourteen enthusiasts and set off to undertake the first crossing of the full length of the desert. 5

It was a race against time, to finish before the start of the penetrating cold Central Asian winter. By the end of our first week, we had covered nearly 70 miles. Now we were faced with another test: massive sand mountains up to 1000 feet high lay across our route. Mazar Tagh, an ancient settlement now in ruins, was 210 miles ahead. We had planned to meet our support party there for our first supply. Fully aware that our expedition could not cross the desert entirely without help, I had formed a support party of six to assist our main team. They were to travel along the Silk Road up to 200 miles to our south. They were tasked to monitor our progress and enter the desert to supply us at the three most accessible points of our journey. 10 15

Though my knees had become particularly painful, they were not my prime concern. The camels needed up to nine gallons of water every three days and there was no possibility of such a large quantity of water being carried. Our lives and the success of the expedition rested upon a huge gamble – that we would be fortunate enough to find an oasis of water. 20

Centuries ago, melt-water rivers from mountains to the south flowed to the Taklimakan Desert. By skilfully channelling the water to their lands, people then managed to cultivate the lands. Though these rivers had since dried up, some hidden water was still there. The only clues of these oases were patches of white salt crust on the sand. But my map did not show them nor could the local people tell us where they might be. They were the desert's best-kept secret. 25

Luckily, before sunset, we saw the tell-tale salt crust and decided to camp there for the night. The locals started digging and after a while beckoned us over. At the bottom of the almost six-foot deep hole, a pool of water was gradually seeping through the dark, moist sand. Standing in the hole, a man scooped some water into his hands and sipped it. "Ella yuksheel!" he said with a broad grin. That night the camels drank. 30

Adapted from: The Worst Desert on Earth

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. The initial problems encountered by the writer were _____.
- (1) intense heat and thirst
 - (2) intense heat and fatigue
 - (3) fatigue and the prospect of getting lost
 - (4) thirst and the approaching Central Asian winter
27. The main expedition team comprised _____ members.
- (1) six
 - (2) fourteen
 - (3) fifteen
 - (4) twenty
28. The expedition team headed toward Mazar Tagh because _____.
- (1) they wanted to avoid the Central Asian winter
 - (2) they wanted to avoid the massive sand mountains
 - (3) the support team had been instructed to meet them there
 - (4) the locals there would be able to replenish their supply of food and water
29. The 'desert's best-kept secret' in line 27 refers to the location of the _____.
- (1) oases
 - (2) salt water
 - (3) dried up melt-water rivers
 - (4) patches of white salt crust
30. Which one of the following statements is true according to the passage?
- (1) Crops grew well in the Taklimakan Desert centuries ago.
 - (2) The writer was extremely worried about his injured knee.
 - (3) The locals knew exactly where water could be found in the desert.
 - (4) The support team carried their supplies across the Taklimakan Desert.



**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2012
PRIMARY FIVE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET B**

Name: _____ ()

Class: Primary Five _____

10 May 2012

50 Questions
(65 Marks)

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

Components	Marks
Booklet A	30
Booklet B	65
TOTAL	95

Parent's
Signature: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

Write your answers in this booklet.

This booklet consists of 8 printed pages excluding the cover page.

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 in order to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) all	(D) for	(G) in	(K) on	(N) soon
(B) around	(E) from	(H) into	(L) since	(P) the
(C) but	(F) having	(J) is	(M) so	(Q) was

A great part of Arabia is desert. There (31) _____ nothing but sand and rock. The sand is so hot that you cannot walk (32) _____ it with your bare feet (33) _____ the daytime. There are springs of water that come from deep down under the ground in the desert. They are (34) _____ deep that the sun cannot dry them up.

These springs are few and far apart, (35) _____ wherever there is one, green grass very soon covers the ground all around it. (36) _____ fig trees and palm trees grow tall and graceful, making a cool, shady, green place (37) _____ the spring. Such a place is called an oasis.

The Arabs who are not in the cities live in the desert (38) _____ year round. They live in tents that can be put up and taken down very easily and quickly, so that they can move (39) _____ one oasis to another, seeking grass and water (40) _____ their sheep, goats, camels and horses. These desert Arabs eat ripe, sweet figs and also the dates that grow upon the palm trees.

Adapted from: Bartha.G. (2004) Arid Land. Reader's Digest, 2004.

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

41.

Very few countries allow euthanasia because of its moral issues. It is frown

upon by most religious leaders. In fact, nowadays, there is no known religion that

42.

allow a person to kill himself. Typically, religions teach their followers that life is

43.

sakred and human beings should not decide when to end a life. Another reason why

euthanasia is disallowed is that lawmakers fear that a crook may murder someone

44.

45.

and claimed falsely that it was the victim's wish. The crook may even **konvynse** a

46.

sick or disabled person that she would be better of dead. Such evil acts do not count

47.

as they are not done for the benefit of that person. Pro-life **campainers** believe that

48.

all life is precious and there is no excuse good **enuff** for ending anyone's life. Britain,

49.

which does not permit individuals to ending their own life, is facing stiff pressure from

its lawmakers who are contesting the law of disallowing euthanasia. If the High Court

50.

rules in favour of them, it will **defnately** raise important questions about human rights

to live and die in dignity.

Adapted from: *Choosing to end the suffering* by Camillia Dass

Fill in the blanks with the most suitable answer. (15 marks)

Snakes belong to the animal group called reptiles. This group also includes the crocodiles, lizards, and turtles. There are more than 2,700 (51) _____ of snakes in the world. They (52) _____ almost everywhere, in deserts, forests and lakes. There are only a few areas where snakes do not live. They cannot survive in places (53) _____ the ground stays frozen all year around.

The bodies of snakes are covered with scales that are made up of layers of (54) _____ stacked one on top of the other. The outer cells are dead and protect the living ones underneath them. A few times every year, a snake will shed a (55) _____ of dead skin. The cells underneath are then ready to take over as the outer layer. (56) _____ this protective armour, snakes cannot move over rough surfaces like tree bark or rocks.

The backbones of snakes are (57) _____ up of many vertebrae attached to its ribs. These (58) _____ them to be flexible and glide along. The bones and the strong muscles (59) _____ as a protection for the internal organs. The jaws of the snakes are not fused together (60) _____ our lower jaw which is jointed to the upper jaw at ear-level. This makes it (61) _____ for them to eat huge meals, bigger (62) _____ their own heads!

Snakes use their senses to hunt, escape danger and to find a mate. Since snakes have very (63) _____ eyesight, their other senses need to make up for it. Though some snakes can smell with their noses, all snakes smell with their tongues. When a snake sticks out its tongue, it smells its surroundings. The moist (64) _____ collects scents and small organisms from whatever it touches and from the air around it.

In recent times, many species of snakes are disappearing completely for various (65) _____ like being wantonly killed due to fear or for their skins. Their habitats are being continuously eroded and destroyed by human beings to make way for urbanization.

Adapted from <http://www.kidzone.ws/tw/snakes/facts10.htm>

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. Devi has created a huge pizza for the birthday party.

A huge pizza _____

67. His clothes are torn. That man is a beggar.

_____ whose _____

68. Mother loves to go to food centres. She can try a wide variety of dishes there.

_____ where _____

69. "When is your birthday?" Mrs Dhillon asked Simon.

Mrs Dhillon asked Simon _____

70. Michael would rather play basketball. He does not like to play soccer.

_____ prefers _____

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

"Don't be so unkind to the birds!" Koji shouted. "Grandfather says they work hard for us."

"What do I care about what he says?" Taro shouted back from the other boat. "If your grandfather keeps on getting poor catches, I'll rent my boat to a better fisherman and then there will be more fish for me to share."

Soon, all the fishing boats were a good distance away from the shore. The fishermen began to release their birds. Opening the basket, Koji felt under the half-raised lid. His hand found Ichi-Ban, their number-one cormorant, and eased it out. He felt the metal ring around Ichi-Ban's neck. Next, he passed a cord around its breast and fastened it.

"Grandfather?" he asked, holding the cormorant out to the old man, who leaned forward and gently touched the bird's head.

"Go," he said, and allowed Koji to let go of the bird, while holding onto the end of the cord.

It was this way each night, with each bird. Soon all fourteen birds were in the water. Koji's grandfather reeled in one bird, its neck bulging with the fish it had caught but could not swallow because of the metal ring. Holding the cormorant's beak over a basket, he ran his hand along its neck. A big fish spilled from the bird's throat. Just then one of the boats bumped into theirs. This caused a man on the other boat to stumble and lose control of his lines which tangled with the lines of the other fishermen. The boats were nudging and bumping each other, and the birds were flying in confusion, their cords tangling. As the birds panicked, they struggled more and caused a tightening of the cords around one another's necks. Which were Koji's grandfather's cormorants?

"Grandfather?" he asked, and his grandfather nodded. It was the way it had always been between them, the meaning clear without words being spoken. Slowly, Koji and his grandfather unclenched their hands. All at once the birds lifted themselves from the web and rose to freedom. With their faces to the sky, Koji and his grandfather watched this with sadness. It was as though everything he and his grandfather had shared was vanishing with the birds.

A few minutes later, there was a sudden flurry of dark wings and a scrabble of clawed feet on the deck. Koji gasped as Ichi-Ban landed on the fish basket. His grandfather smiled. "Take what it offers us," he said, and Koji took the bird and emptied the fish from its throat. Then a second bird returned and a third. Koji was

dizzy with excitement. He and his grandfather worked together, taking the gifts the cormorants brought. Who could believe it? Koji's grandfather didn't need cords to hold his birds.

Taro shook his head and watched with amazement. Then he opened his hands and let his birds go, but his birds soared into the sky and disappeared.

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. What kind of birds did the fishermen use?

72. Which 5-word phrase tells you that the grandfather was consistently not bringing in fish?

73. Explain clearly how Koji and his grandfather used the "metal ring around Ichi-Ban's neck" in line 9 to fish.

74. Give evidence to show Koji's grandfather's display of affection for Ichi-Ban.

75. Explain clearly why Koji was unsure which cormorants belonged to his grandfather after the boats bumped into each other.

76. In your own words, explain what the phrase "the meaning clear without words being spoken"(line 26) tells you about the relationship between Koji and his grandfather?

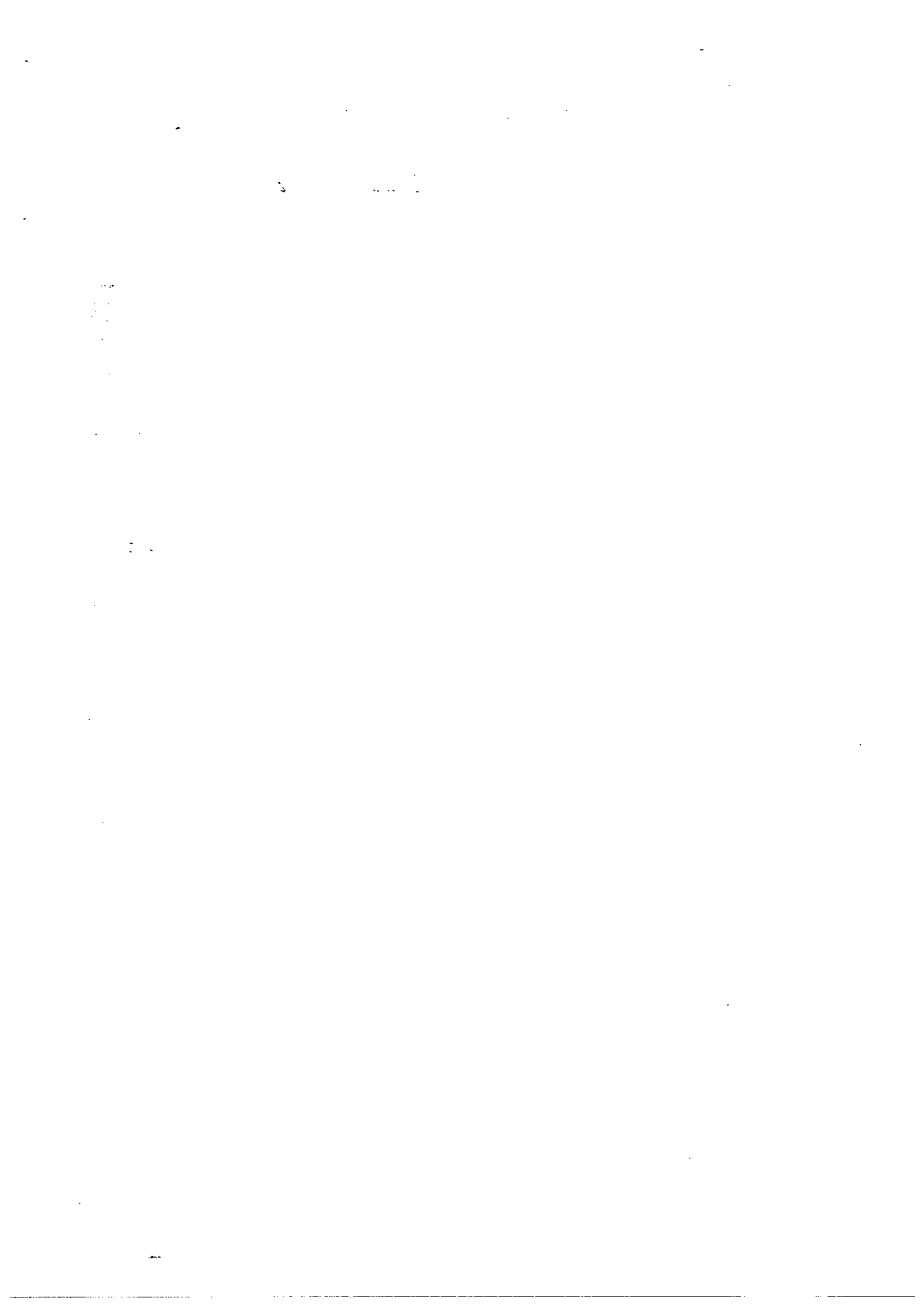
77. What did Koji and his grandfather do to free their birds?

78. What does 'this' in line 29 refer to?

79. Explain fully why Koji was "dizzy with excitement" in line 35.

80. Did Taro's birds return to his fishing boat after he had released them? Why?

END OF PAPER



ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2012

**SCHOOL : CATHOLIC HIGH
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 5 ENGLISH**

TERM : SA1

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

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
2	2	1	2	4	2	1	1	2	3	3	1	1	J	K	G	M

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
C	N	B	A	E	D

- 41)frowned 42)allows 43)sacred 44)claim 45)convince
46)off 47)campaigners 48)enough 49)end 50)definitely
51)species 52)live 53)where 54)cells 55)layer
56)Without 57)made 58)enable 59)serve 60)unlike
61)easier 62)than 63)poor 64)tongue 65)reasons
66)A huge pizza has been created by Devi for the birthday party.
67)The man, whose clothes are torn, is a beggar.
68)Mother loves to go to food centres where she can try a wide variety of dishes.
69)Mrs Dhillon asked Simon when is his birthday.
70)Michael prefers playing basket ball to soccer.
71)The fisher man used cormorants.
72)The phrase is "keeps on getting poor catches".
73)The metal ring did not allow Ichi-Ban to swallow the fish it had caught as it was stuck in its neck.
74)He touched the bird's head gently.
75)The bumping of the boats causing the birds to fly in confusion and tangle their popes in the process.
76)The phrase refers to the fact that Koji and his grandfather clearly understood what each other was thinking without every speaking.
77)They unclenched their hands slowly and let go of the cords.
78)It refers to the birds lifting themselves from the wed and rising to freedom.
79)The cormorants caught fish and brought them back to the boat even though they were free.
80)No, they did not. Taro had probably been cruel to his birds which used the opportunity to fly away.

