

SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL  
FIRST SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2012  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRIMARY FIVE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: Primary 5 SY / C / G / SE /

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)  
BOOKLET A

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.

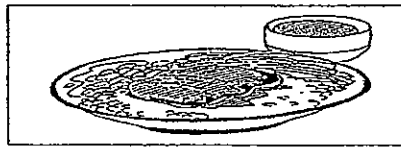


Study the following advertisement and answer questions 1 to 5.

## *Oiishi Sushi*

ENJOY ...

1 FREE TERIYAKI CHICKEN DON & MISO SOUP (WITH MINIMUM SPEND OF \$30)



TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- VALID FOR DINE-IN ONLY AT ALL *OIISHI SUSHI* OUTLETS (IN SINGAPORE ONLY).
- VALID WITH A MINIMUM SPEND OF \$30 PER BILL.
- NOT VALID WITH OTHER PROMOTIONS, COUPONS OR VOUCHERS.
- LIMITED TO ONE REDEMPTION PER COUPON PER BILL.
- COUPONS CANNOT BE COMBINED.
- VALID FROM 1 – 30 APRIL 2012
- CASH PAYMENT PREFERRED
- CREDIT CARD PAYMENT FOR PURCHASES OVER \$50.



**Usher in the Year of the Dragon with...**

**10% off Medium or Large Yusheng\* & Chinese New Year Party**

**Trays\*!** (\*for self-collection only/ only available from 13th to 20th of February)



Terms and conditions:

- valid for self-collection at all *Oiishi Sushi* outlets (in Singapore only).
- not valid with other promotions, coupons or vouchers.
- for takeaway orders on 14, 15 and 20 Feb 2012. Kindly call at least three hours before collection.
- Cash payment preferred
- CREDIT CARD PAYMENT for purchases over \$50.



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. Oiishi Sushi is the name of a \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) cafe
- (2) bakery
- (3) restaurant
- (4) seafood market

2. The promotion coincides with \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Christmas
- (2) Deepavali
- (3) Hari Raya Puasa
- (4) Chinese New Year

3. To be eligible for the free Teriyaki Chicken Don and Miso Soup, you must \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) eat at the restaurant
- (2) order it as takeaway
- (3) order a platter of sushi
- (4) have at least 30 people dining

4. All Yusheng orders are \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) valid for three hours
- (2) sufficient for 10 people
- (3) available for a limited period
- (4) available for the month of February

5. A customer's bill came up to \$55. He can pay by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) cash
- (2) cheque
- (3) cash card
- (4) credit card or cash

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. While I was watching television, I \_\_\_\_\_ asleep.
- (1) fall
  - (2) fell
  - (3) falling
  - (4) had fallen
7. I need to break \_\_\_\_\_ my new trainers before I run in the marathon next week.
- (1) in
  - (2) up
  - (3) out
  - (4) into
8. I am not going to let the matter rest \_\_\_\_\_ I get an apology from you.
- (1) then
  - (2) until
  - (3) though
  - (4) despite
9. When the civil war ended, there was rejoicing \_\_\_\_\_ the land:
- (1) near
  - (2) among
  - (3) beyond
  - (4) throughout
10. The pair of twins \_\_\_\_\_ walking to school when they spotted a snake.
- (1) is
  - (2) are
  - (3) was
  - (4) were

11. There was a commotion coming from the coffee shop, Susan heard bottles \_\_\_\_\_, then she saw two men pushing each other.

- (1) break
- (2) broke
- (3) breaks
- (4) were breaking

12. Mary was annoyed at her older brother because he had left \_\_\_\_\_ smelly socks on her bed.

- (1) his
- (2) hers
- (3) ours
- (4) theirs

**GO TO THE NEXT PAGE**

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)

A tourist asked a taxi driver, "Can you take me to Orchard Hotel (13)

"Oh dear (14) cried the driver, "I do not know where the hotel is."

"It is alright, I will take another taxi (15) said the tourist while alighting from the taxi.

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

GO TO THE NEXT PAGE

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 increasing number of students dropping out from school has produced a growing number of juvenile \_\_\_\_\_. The number of youths going to reformative homes has also increased.
- (1) loners
  - (2) delinquents
  - (3) blackmailers
  - (4) transgressors
17. The cashier at the private school accepted my cheque for two hundred dollars without any \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) reply
  - (2) query
  - (3) investigation
  - (4) interrogation
18. I am hoping \_\_\_\_\_ that it will not rain tomorrow as my sister is having a garden wedding.
- (1) hastily
  - (2) ardently
  - (3) fervently
  - (4) cheerfully
19. We should brush our teeth frequently to \_\_\_\_\_ bacteria that are found on our teeth.
- (1) expunge
  - (2) extirpate
  - (3) eradicate
  - (4) exterminate
20. The drivers who were involved in an accident came out of their cars to \_\_\_\_\_ the damage of the wreckage.
- (1) rate
  - (2) review
  - (3) survey
  - (4) critique



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

In 2009, the Housing Board (HDB) launched the Interim Housing Rental to help families in difficulty and who are facing a transition in housing arrangements.

(21)

This year, the HDB is tweaking this scheme to better serve Singaporean families who are in need. The Housing Board will better match the families who have to live together in the same flat and the lease of the flat can be extended to ease the tenants' anxiety. In addition, more flats will be added to this rental scheme.

(22)

(23)

National Development Minister Mr Khaw Boon Wan said that he hopes that these changes will help those in transition but Singaporeans must acknowledge that many facing social problems will require concerted aid efforts from various social service and self-help groups.

(24)

(25)

Adapted from The Straits Times, 31 Dec 2011

21. (1) drift  
(2) motion  
(3) change  
(4) stagnation
22. (1) settle  
(2) assist  
(3) handle  
(4) sustain
23. (1) vex  
(2) improve  
(3) alleviate  
(4) promote
24. (1) respect  
(2) consent  
(3) approve  
(4) recognise
25. (1) joint  
(2) deviated  
(3) promoted  
(4) constructed

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

Smart devices are empowering. They put a world of knowledge and information at your fingertips. They free people to work from home instead of squeezing onto a train with **malodorous** strangers, causing people to hold their breaths till they alight. That is a huge boon for parents seeking flexible work hours. Smartphones and tablets can also promote efficiency by allowing people to get things done in spare moments that would otherwise be wasted. 5

For most people, the servant has become the master. Not long ago, only doctors were on call all the time. Now, everyone is contactable most of the time. Bosses think nothing of invading their employees' free time. Work invades the home far more than domestic chores invade the office. Otherwise-sane people check their smartphones obsessively, even during meals and send e-mails first thing in the morning and before they turn in. 10

Hyper connectivity exaggerates some of the most destabilizing trends in the modern workplace. There seems to be a decline in the certainty of certain activities in the organisations. Activities and appointments have become more flexible and unpredictable than before due to hyper connectivity. The culprit to this raising trend of instability is the rise of global supply chains and the general cult of flexibility. Smartphones make it easier for managers to change their minds at the last moment: for example, to e-mail a minion at 11pm to tell him he must fly to London the next day. 15 20

Employees find it even harder to distinguish between "on-time" and "off-time" – and indeed real work and make-work. What can be done to keep smartphones in their place? One solution is digital dieting. Just as the abundance of junk food means that people have to be more disciplined about their eating habits, so the abundance of junk information means they have to be more disciplined about their browsing habits. Banning texting at weekends, or one day each week, can really show the smartphones who is boss. 25

Adapted from The Economist, March 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> 2012, pg 68

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 the passage, smart devices are empowering because they \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) cut down queueing time
- (2) help mothers to work from home
- (3) help people by cutting down commuting time
- (4) enable people to be more efficient and effective

27. Which word has the same meaning as "malodorous" (line 3)? It means \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) busy
- (2) tired
- (3) smelly
- (4) diligent

28. According to the passage, how do people become beholden to their smartphones? People tend to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) be easily contactable
- (2) download more applications
- (3) stay up longer to answer their phone calls
- (4) spend more time answering e-mails than doing household chores

29. How does hyper connectivity work against the worker? It \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) adds uncertainty to a worker's life
- (2) makes the organization more stabilised
- (3) helps people to browse the world wide web easily
- (4) makes the worker become addicted to his smartphone

30. A suitable title for this article is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Human Slaves to Smartphones
- (2) How Smartphones affect free time
- (3) Reasons why people use Smartphones
- (4) The Disadvantages of having Smartphones

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**FIRST SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2012**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**  
**PRIMARY FIVE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (     )

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: Primary 5 SY / C / G / SE /

Parent's Signature:

Booklet A		30
Booklet B		65
Sub-total		95

**PAPER 2**  
**BOOKLET B**

**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.

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) also | (D) and  | (G) which | (K) to   | (N) who |
| (B) had  | (E) off  | (H) or    | (L) away | (P) all |
| (C) of   | (F) such | (J) from  | (M) than | (Q) in  |

Unlimited Short Message Service (SMS) at no extra charge?

Great but most people will still stick to WhatsApp anyway. Young people here are increasingly turning                      from good old SMS to the new mobile messaging app                      **(31)**                      has taken the world by storm. WhatsApp offers powerful features                      **(32)**                      as unlimited characters in every message, group chats                      **(34)** the option **(33)** to send photographs and videos.

As the youth are the biggest users of mobile messaging here, telcos have                      **(35)** no choice but to offer unlimited use of SMS as a sweetener to sign up new students as well as to prevent existing ones                      **(36)** jumping ship over the last few years. Currently, all three telcos here offer unlimited SMS on                      **(37)** student post-paid plans.

The decline in SMS usage is not just among the young. Statistics from the Infocomm Development Authority (IDA) showed that the overall increase in the use of SMS has slowed over the last few years. The trend is not unique                      **(38)** Singapore. The International Telecommunication Union's (ITU) annual global report                      **(39)** showed a slower rate of growth of 58 per cent in 2008 compared to 41 per cent last year. It is no coincidence that the declining growth of SMS here is sharper                      **(40)** the worldwide figures.

This month, Wired.com revealed that Singapore currently has the highest WhatsApp penetration rate in the world, at 90 per cent. In comparison, the United States came in 16<sup>th</sup> with 35 per cent.

*Adapted from an article : What's Appening to SMS\* StraitsTimes (Digital Life) 28 Dec 2011*

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

All eyes are on China – the economy is booming and many have recognized the benefits of living, learning and working in the country. Not only have language schools in China seen an (41)  (42)  **influhks** in students over the years but along with the increase in foreigners on the city, there (43)  has been an increase in the prominent of International schools in the country – especially in the capital city, Beijing.

(44)  For **expaytriade** parents choosing a school for their children outside their own country, (45)  there may be worry, concern and even fear that our child may not fit in or get the education that (46)  (47)  he or she need. However, parents need not worry as Beijing's international schools were (48)  ranked among the best in the world and there are many **excilent** options to choose from.

(49)  Beijing offers a whole **aray** of international schools catering to students of every age. (50)  Many international schools use English as their main **midium** for teaching but there are other international schools catering to speakers of other languages. There is also a range of curriculum to choose from.

Adapted from an article – Newsweek October 24 2011 issue

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Not very far from Singapore, a sad and lonely drama is being played out in increasingly quiet jungles. Sumatran tigers are being killed at an alarming \_\_\_\_\_.

(51)

These tigers are being killed, skinned \_\_\_\_\_ butchered senselessly. After

(52)

the South China tiger, the Sumatran tiger is probably the most likely to disappear from the face of the \_\_\_\_\_.

(53)

Refined census techniques show a \_\_\_\_\_ drop in the number of tigers left in the wild in India. The truth cannot be denied, the continent of Asia

(54)

is losing \_\_\_\_\_ tigers.

(55)

The South China tiger is probably functionally extinct – meaning that, in a genetic dead-end, the population is \_\_\_\_\_ small and scattered to breed.

(56)

Officials and conservation organisations from Jakarta and New Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ been struggling to catch up with the escalating crisis. Indonesia has

(57)

already lost two races of the tiger – the Javan and Balinese \_\_\_\_\_, it is in the process of losing the last – the Sumatran. In Sumatra, there are now only 400 to 500 tigers

(58)

(59)

"It doesn't take a mathematician to work out that the Sumatran tigers will \_\_\_\_\_ like the Javan and Bali tigers if the poaching and trade continues," said

(60)

Mrs Julia Ng, programme officer with TRAFFIC South-East Asia, which monitors illegal \_\_\_\_\_ in wildlife. Habitat conversion – in short, the destruction of once-green

(61)

\_\_\_\_\_ to make way for highways, plantations, towns and industry – is the overall driver of the tigers' extinction across Asia.

(62)

However, what is proving the \_\_\_\_\_ straw is the direct removal of individual animals by poachers \_\_\_\_\_ the Chinese and Far Eastern markets with

(63)

tiger products. \_\_\_\_\_ to a recent report, tiger body parts were on sale in 28 cities

(64)

and towns across Sumatra. Medan, the capital of North Sumatra and the smaller adjacent town of Pancur Batu have been identified as the main hubs for the trade of tiger parts.

(65)

*Adapted from "SOS – Save our Sumatran" The Straits Times Feb 2 2008*

For each of the items 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 sale of that car model will increase. There are many advertisements on it.

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67. You will get a stomachache if you continue to eat uncooked food.

Unless \_\_\_\_\_

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68. Peter was completely shocked that he had clinched the top prize in the art competition.

To \_\_\_\_\_

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69. "Fiona, do not touch the wet paint on the wall," warned her father.

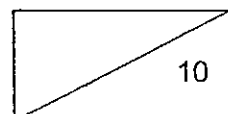
Fiona's father \_\_\_\_\_

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70. Helen is too poor to buy a computer.

Helen is not \_\_\_\_\_

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Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

( 20 marks )

It was late afternoon and I was standing at the end of a long dock jutting out over the glistening South Pacific Sea. I checked my snorkel and mask, cinched my fins one last time and leaped into the turquoise water with only one thing on my mind: I wanted to find a black pearl. I could hear my breath, steady and deep, through my snorkel as I swam past the parrotfish to where the water deepened into a richer blue. I reminded myself that the hammerhead and blacktip sharks that patrolled that lagoon at sunset would not arrive for a few hours yet, by which I should be back on land. 5

Shafts of sunlight cut deep. Suddenly I saw them, hundreds of encrusted oyster shells secured to a rope stretching from an anchor on the sea bottom to buoys floating on the surface. At last! Those gnarly-looking shells housed some of the ocean's finest treasures. I dived but I had not taken enough air. Fearing that my prize would be lost if I retreated for even a moment, I went deeper. Pressure screamed in my ears. I clutched the algae-covered rope and grabbed for a shell. Would it hold the pearl I had come to find? 10

The quest for the black pearl began in New York City. My mother, with a big birthday coming up, had coyly told me, "Years ago, I saw a single black pearl hanging from a simple chain. I've never forgotten it." 15

That was all I needed to hear. I spent the next uninspiring day traipsing from one jewellery shop to the next, finding only a few black pearls. Then I asked a jeweller a simple question: "Where do these come from?" 20

"Tahiti", he answered.

Are you sure?" I asked in an incredulous tone.

My mind swam with images of white sand and cool breezes. Why has it never occurred to me to view Tahiti in another aspect till then? Instantly, I hatched a plan. I would pluck my mother's gift from the sea, personally, still soaking wet. 25

Thus, I had come to the French Polynesia, a loose collection of 118 islands – Tahiti being the most populous with 275 000 people – splattered over an area nearly the size of Europe and situated roughly between South America and Australia. This was the epicentre of the black pearl universe.

Hence, that explained how I came to be clutching at oysters deep in a shark-infested lagoon, my lungs feeling as if they were about to explode, my ears ready to burst. Safely back on the dock, I pried open the oyster with the help of a local, Mateata. He made a small incision and there it was, a fairly good size, oval, blue-grey pearl. Mateata tilted the shell and the treasure dropped into my palm. I grinned widely. It might not be the most beautiful pearl I had ever seen, it did not shimmer like the midnight sun 35

but it was mine. I would not trade it for the world. I knew I had to rush back as there was a birthday party to attend.

*Adapted from an article "The Black Pearl" National Geographic 2011*

**ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES**

71. Which word in the **first paragraph** suggests that the writer fastened his diving equipment tightly before diving into the water?

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72. What was the writer in pursuit of when he dived into the waters of the South Pacific Sea?

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73. Which **two** actions of the writer in paragraph one show that the writer knew he could not find what he was looking for in shallow waters?

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74. At what time of the day did the writer expect to return to shore from his dive?

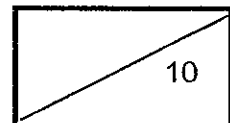
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75. Which sentence in paragraph two shows that the writer was willing to go all out to get whatever he was seeking?

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76. Explain clearly the circumstances that prompted the writer to go to Tahiti.

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77. What does the writer's response "Are you sure?" in line 22 tell us how his impression of Tahiti had changed?

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78. What does "This" in line 28 refer to?

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79. What was the main danger the writer would encounter while in the South Pacific Sea?

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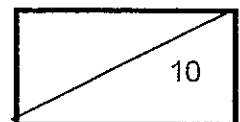
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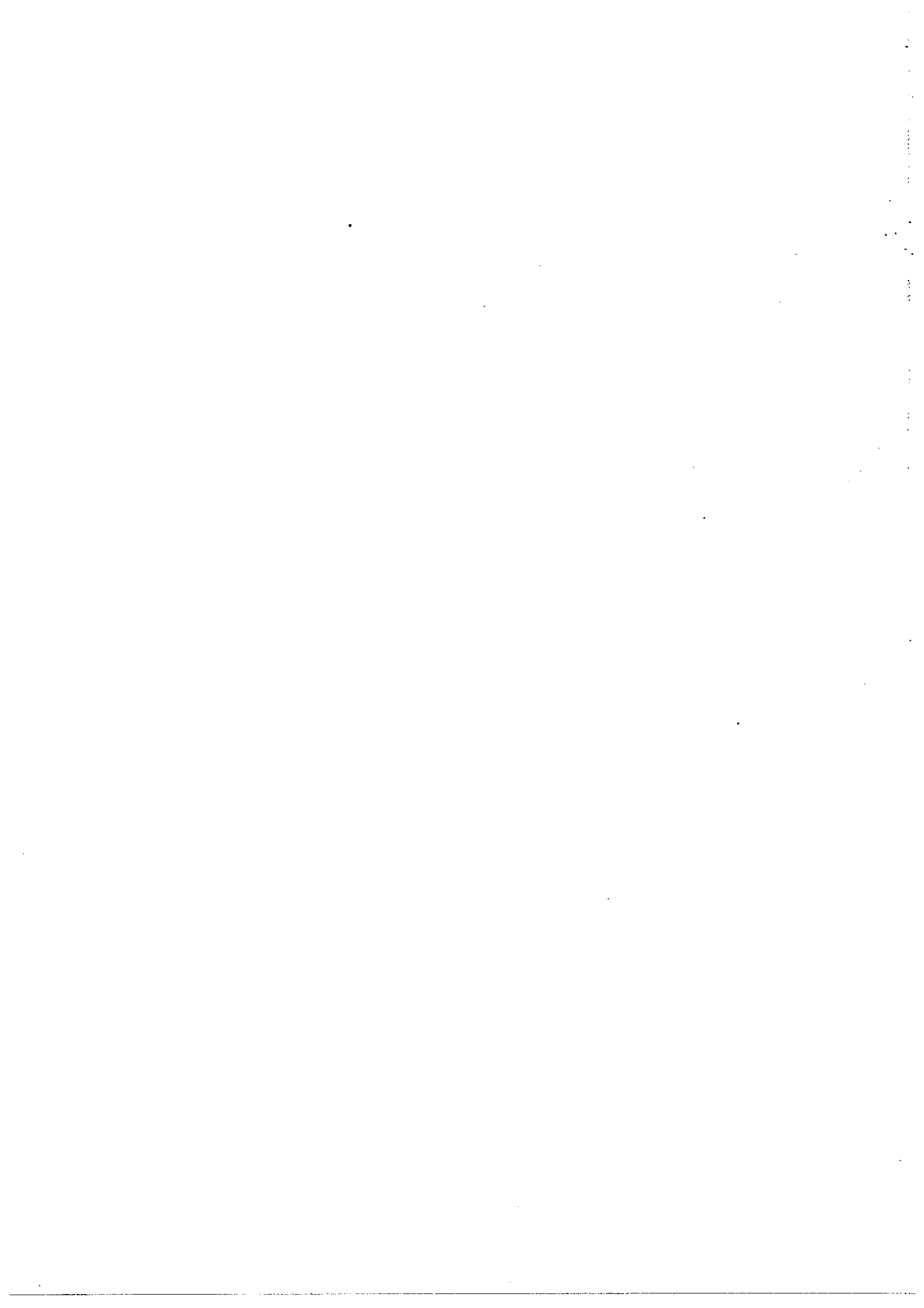
80. According to the passage, what did the writer plan to do with the object he found?

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END OF PAPER





# **ANSWER SHEET**

**EXAM PAPER 2012**

**SCHOOL : SCGS  
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 5 ENGLISH  
TERM : SA1**

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

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
3	3	3	3	2	3	4	1	4	3	4	1	1	L	G	F	D

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
B	J	P	K	A	M

- 41)influx            42)in            43)prominence            44)expatriate            45)their  
 46)needs            47)are            48)excellent            49)array            50)medium  
 51)rate            52)and            53)earth            54)drastic            55)its  
 56)too            57)have            58)presently            59)left            60)vanish  
 61)trade            62)forests            63)last            64)supplying            65)According  
 66)There are many advertisements on that car model so that the sale of it will increase.  
 67)Unless you stop eating uncooked food, you will get a stomachache.  
 68)To Peter's complete shock, he had clinched the top prize in the art competition.  
 69)Fiona's father warned her not to touch her wet paint on the wall.  
 70)Helen is not wealthy enough to buy a computer.  
 71)The word is "cinched".  
 72)The writer was in pursuit of a black pearl when he dived into the waters of the South Pacific Sea.  
 73)He put on his snorkel and mask and cinched his fins.  
 74)The writer expected to return from his dive before sunset.  
 75)The sentence is "Fearing that my prize would be lost if I retreated forever a moment, I went deeper".  
 76)The writer's mother had told the writer that she wanted a black pearl and the jeweler told him he could go to Tahiti to get a black pearl.  
 77)Tahiti was not only an island with sandy beaches and cool breezes but also a place where he could find black pearl s.  
 78)"This" refers to Tahiti.  
 79)He could encounter as shark in the South Pacific Sea.  
 80)The writer planned to give the object he found to his mother as her birthday present.

