

SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL
SECOND 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.

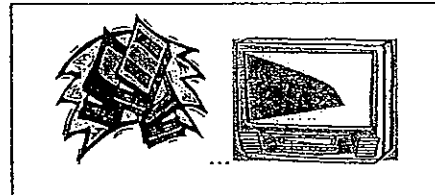
Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

Study the following advertisement and answer questions 1 to 5.

General Knowledge Quiz

Who wrote the play "Romeo and Juliet"?
Which language is the most widely spoken?
What are the countries in the EU?
Where will the next World Cup be held?
Who is Barack Obama?



Do you know the answers to the questions above?
Maybe you know a whole lot more!

On 30 November 2012, we will be holding a **GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ**.

This Quiz is open to all upper primary students from Singapura Primary School.

All contestants will be grouped according to their levels.

The top 3 winners in each level will be rewarded with handsome prizes!

Register now at the General Office! Registration ends 28 November 2012.

Students who register before 15 November 2012

will receive a free copy of the October issue of

"It's a BIG World!" magazine immediately!

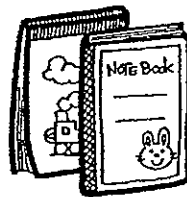
For each of the 3 levels:

1st Prize - \$100 book voucher

2st Prize - \$75 book voucher

3st Prize - \$40 book voucher

All prizes kindly sponsored by:



**UNIVERSAL
BOOKS AND
STATIONERY**

COME SHOW US WHAT YOU KNOW!

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. To enter the quiz, students have to _____.

- (1) read many books
- (2) subscribe to "It's a BIG World!" magazine
- (3) know the answers to the questions in the poster
- (4) register at the General Office by 28 November 2012

2. Prizes for the competition are provided by _____.

- (1) teachers
- (2) the General Office
- (3) Singapura Primary School
- (4) Universal Books and Stationery

3. The competition is open to _____.

- (1) all primary school students
- (2) all Singapura Primary School students
- (3) Primary Six students from Singapura Primary School only
- (4) Primary Four to Primary Six students from Singapura Primary School

4. Susan registers to enter the Quiz on 10 November 2012. Upon registration, she will receive _____.

- (1) nothing
- (2) a \$40 book voucher
- (3) a copy of the October issue of "It's a BIG World!" magazine
- (4) a copy of the November issue of "It's a BIG World!" magazine

5. How many students will receive the \$100 book voucher prize?

- (1) 1
- (2) 2
- (3) 3
- (4) 4

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. If I _____ that you would react so strongly, I would never have told you about the incident.

- (1) knew
- (2) know
- (3) known
- (4) had known

7. When Marcy was given the opportunity to be the emcee at her school's upcoming event, she knew it was an experience too good to _____.

- (1) pass by
- (2) pass on
- (3) pass up
- (4) pass away

8. The sandstone structure is pleasing to the eye because it is infused _____ minerals that reflect the light.

- (1) in
- (2) by
- (3) with
- (4) through

9. Although it was a blistering hot day, the devoted mothers of the soccer players were all present to watch them _____.

- (1) play
- (2) plays
- (3) played
- (4) playing

10. Trevor is a very uncooperative boy. Many students _____ complained about his laziness since the beginning of the year.

- (1) had
- (2) has
- (3) have
- (4) having

11. "How could you forget to bring the materials? The fault is _____ if we fail to complete the project on time!" Jean shouted angrily at Leah, her partner.

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

12. _____ the rich businessman had all the money in the world, he was an unhappy man without any friends and family.

- (1) As
- (2) Until
- (3) Although
- (4) Because

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)

The wagon, without any direction from Pierre, would roll along three blocks down St. Catherine Street. It would turn right two blocks along Roslyn Avenue, then left (13) for that was Prince Edward Street. The horse would stop at the first house, allow Pierre perhaps thirty seconds to get down from his seat and put a bottle of milk at the front door and would then go on, skipping two houses and stopping at the third. It would continue down the length of the street. Yes, Joseph was a smart horse (14)

Pierre would boast at the stable of Joseph's skill. "I never touch the reins. He knows just where to stop. Why, a blind man could handle my route with Joseph pulling the wagon (15)

13. (1) [,] comma
(2) [.] full stop
(3) [?] question mark
(4) [!] exclamation mark and inverted commas
14. (1) [.] full stop
(2) [?] question mark
(3) [,] comma and inverted commas
(4) [.] full stop and inverted commas
15. (1) [.] full stop
(2) [?] question mark
(3) [.] full stop and inverted commas
(4) [?] question 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 weather remained _____, going from calm to stormy with no warning.

- (1) balmy
- (2) reliable
- (3) unpredictable
- (4) untrustworthy

17. The owner is happy because her shop made a substantial _____ this year.

- (1) profit
- (2) return
- (3) interest
- (4) earnings

18. When we _____ approached the basking turtle, it promptly turned over on its back.

- (1) foxily
- (2) overtly
- (3) privately
- (4) stealthily

19. The angry parent _____ his child sternly for misbehaving in public.

- (1) teased
- (2) berated
- (3) advised
- (4) maltreated

20. Brent admired the sculpture on its marble _____.

- (1) table
- (2) totem
- (3) pedestal
- (4) structure

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)

Wielding only a needle and thread, seamstress Wendy Tsao makes children's drawings
(21)
come alive with stunning accuracy.
(22)

Tsao, who displays and sells her handiwork on her blog, Child's Own Studio, made her first soft toy in 2007. She was inspired by her young son's self-portrait. Since then, the muralist
(23)
turned crafter has received hundreds of requests from children's drawings – curious-looking stick figures, fairy princesses, bunnies with massive ears, and more – into soft, squeezable
(24)
dolls.

(25)
Says Tsao, "When I see these drawings, I just want to celebrate them."

Adapted from Alison Caporimo's "The Art of Toys" in *Reader's Digest*

21. (1) Having
(2) Operating
(3) Utilising
(4) Exercising
22. (1) regularity
(2) exactness
(3) consistency
(4) truthfulness
23. (1) excited
(2) inflamed
(3) motivated
(4) possessed
24. (1) awkward
(2) imposing
(3) brimming
(4) enormous
25. (1) copy
(2) honour
(3) magnify
(4) remember

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

"Passion" has gained importance in college admissions for a few years now. Having a passion gives an applicant an edge. However, this is a rather new development. A decade or two ago, colleges expected candidates to be "well-rounded". Students would scramble to sign up for as many different clubs and extracurricular activities as they could fit into their calendars. Having a passion requires early specialization, talent, time and often money. It also cannot easily be faked. 5

Identifying a passion is pretty easy for some students. In my practice advising students about college admissions, I have had clients who dedicate hours every day to dancing, singing, swimming, acting or figure skating. However, a lot of students do not have a big, consuming passion. Or if they do, it is either not too unique or not the sort of thing you would want to advertise on a college application. 10

So what happens to the students who have little passion? All too often, well-meaning parents, teachers, or guidance counsellors try to make them "find" one anyway. Some even try to direct their passions so that they will be more appealing to colleges. I worked with a student who wrote his own graphic novel, but whose mother kept pushing him into more traditional painting. I have also worked with other parents who have latched onto the first sign of interest their child shows in something sufficiently impressive. They would then engage in mad searches for programmes to support that interest. 15 20

However, I have seen a positive side to the search for a passion too. I once worked with a student who was interested in photography. Her mother was concerned in doing whatever she could to help her daughter get into the best school. Her daughter's love of photography was something non-academic that might have been suppressed in favour of something more academic in the past. Instead, it was nurtured, and over the course of several years, the daughter went from being a complete novice to a talented amateur. She even won some photography contests! As her success grew, so too did her confidence. 25

The greatest benefit of this new emphasis on passion is that it encourages students to find something that is truly theirs. It encourages students to assert their identity and interests, to employ the discipline and to experience the challenges that come from the enthusiastic engagement in an interest. Does every student need a passion? Not at all, and it certainly should not be forced upon them. However, the search for one, done right, can be a tremendous boon. 30

Adapted from Dan Edmond's "Does Every Kid Need a 'Passion'?" in *Time*

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. Why do colleges today prefer students to have a passion rather than be "well-rounded"?
- (1) Students with a passion have more time.
 - (2) Students with a passion have more money.
 - (3) Colleges do not offer many clubs and extracurricular activities.
 - (4) Students with a passion are willing to put in time and effort to pursue it.
27. Why would some students choose not to include their passion in their college application? Their passion _____.
- (1) is fake
 - (2) is too ordinary
 - (3) does not take up much time
 - (4) does not cost any money to pursue
28. Why do adults try to direct students' passions? They want students to _____.
- (1) win contests
 - (2) pursue traditional art
 - (3) be more appealing to colleges
 - (4) take programmes that support their interest
29. How did the mother's encouragement in paragraph 4 help her daughter? Her daughter _____.
- (1) became interested in photography
 - (2) was about to get into the best school
 - (3) became a confident amateur photographer
 - (4) grew up to become a professional photographer
30. What does the author believe to be the greatest benefit of the new emphasis on passion? It _____.
- (1) makes students more appealing to colleges
 - (2) helps students participate in and win contests
 - (3) allows well-meaning adults to direct students' interests
 - (4) encourages students to pursue something that they are truly interested in

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SECOND 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) a | (D) around | (G) is | (K) on | (N) to |
| (B) along | (E) as | (H) into | (L) over | (P) was |
| (C) an | (F) at | (J) of | (M) since | (Q) which |

When I moved to the country more than two decades ago, I took a temporary job _____ a relief bus driver to fill a gap. I never had any aspirations to drive country
(31) schoolchildren to and from school, but years later, I was still _____ the payroll. There
(32) are many good reasons why I stayed. Firstly, it was the variety of conversations to which I
(33) _____ privy. I have had seven-year-olds arguing about whose father achieved the highest score on the opening day of duck shooting season. I would listen intently as I coasted downhill towards _____ intersection.
(34)

On one occasion, we had just left the primary school and were waiting at the intersection when a little voice behind me asked if he was going to get home on time. A short distance _____ the road he asked me again, and I reassured him that he would not be home
(35) late. I asked him what the rush was. Jiggling from foot to foot, he informed me that he needed _____ pass motion and if I could please hurry. Three stops later, he was out the
(36) door before I had come to a complete stop at his letterbox, one hand clutching his bag, the other cupping the backside _____ his shorts.
(37)

I also got to hear all the family secrets, and agonise with the newbies who were frightened or awed to be starting _____ a new school. I remembered a little girl who got
(38) on the bus one morning and cried loudly all the way to school. She threw her arms _____ my neck when we reached school and sobbed that her grandfather had passed
(39) away. A school bus driver needs to keep one eye on the road and the other on the mirror to watch what the little darlings are doing down the back. Now it _____ humbling to think
(40) how many lives I have been responsible for throughout the years, and how many kilometres I had driven in order to get my charges home safely.

Adapted from Reader's Digest June 2012 "All Aboard"

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

Ikea stores are vast, averaging 28,000 square metres. They employ a strict one-way
(41) (42)
system that made urban traffic planners go green with jealousy. With the **axseption** of the odd

shortcut, you have to walk through every section before you get to the checkout. It is hard to
(43)
resist filling up your giant yellow Ikea bag among candle-holders, lampshades and bottle

stoppers along the way. The experience can take so long that it sometimes cannot be
(44)
completed over a day, so Ikea stores in Norway thoughtfully offer customers the chance to stay

overnight. After starting out in 1943 as a store selling pens, picture frames and nylon stockings
(45)
in the southern Swedish town, Ikea has become one of the world's most **reckonised** brands.

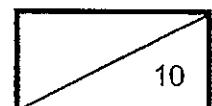
There are 260 Ikea stores worldwide. New Zealand is expected to get its first in the next couple
(46)
of years. Ikea describes its **bissines** idea, as "good design and function at prices so low that as

many people as possible will be able to afford them." It keeps prices down with economies of
(47)
scale, advanced production **teknorlagy** and selling furniture that customers have to assemble

(48) (49)
himself. Its supporters see it as more than just a shop - it is a **revolusionery** organisation that

(50)
has made style affordable. It is not just the middle classes that have fell under Ikea's spell. The

King and Queen of Sweden also own Ikea furniture.



Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Sleep is one of the most discussed topics among parents. We quickly learn just how important sleep is for everyone's well-being. For a start, it means the _____ (51) between a cheery or grumpy baby and between a calm or frazzled parent. The _____ (52) of sleep does not end when a baby grows out of the cot. It is equally important for school-aged children. A good night's sleep sets a child up for the day. It helps kids _____ (53) with the social stresses and pressures of a busy school environment and also promotes learning. Sleep is essential for growing brains. Children have long rebelled against set bedtimes and now there are more _____ (54) to keep them awake and alert and out of bed longer. TV, the internet, talking on the phone and playing video games all _____ (55) for their bedtime attention. _____ (56) it may seem that your kids are the only ones still up and about at 10pm, the reality is that many children struggle to get a good night's rest. Difficulty _____ (57) falling asleep, unrefreshing sleep, trouble staying asleep, early morning awakening and nightmares are among the most common problems affecting our kids.

All children differ in the _____ (58) of sleep they require. Throughout his childhood and adolescence, my son seemed to function perfectly well on a fraction of the sleep his two sisters needed. My wife and I came to realise that there is not a mandatory number of hours for _____ (59) at certain ages. Most preschoolers _____ (60) ten to twelve hours a day. At age nine, it is closer to ten hours. For teenagers, just at the time when their schedules typically overflow _____ (61) activities, the developing body and brain place extra demands on their body system and the _____ (62) of sleep needed increases again. Lack of sleep can _____ (63) to bad temper, inattentiveness at school, inconsistent performance and poor memory. An interesting fact about adolescents' physiology is that their sleep-wake cycle gets _____ (64) by up to two hours.

This means they do not become sleepy until later in the night and subsequently, wake up _____ in the morning. Sleep experts stress that while adults may not have control (65) over children's biology, we can assist them to adopt good sleep patterns.

Adapted from Reader's Digest June 2008 "The Science of Sleep"



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. "Find out if Amy has finished her work!" my aunt instructed me

My aunt instructed me to _____

67. Her desire to succeed is strong. She will persevere till the end.

Given that _____

68. All of us did not believe what John said.

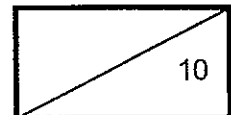
None _____

69. Many people read the news article with interest

_____ by many people.

70. I was horrified when my mother fainted in front of my eyes.

Much _____



"No, no, Mr Das. I didn't come to buy today. I came to bring you a gift," Mrs Devi explained.

He looked even more pleased.

"This is Koly," Mrs Devi continued. Mr Das stared at me. I am sure he knew from my appearance that I was not there to buy a sari of king's muslin. Still, he bowed to me and waited. 5

Mrs Devi spread open the quilt I had made. I wanted to disappear – I had looked around the shop and the embroidery on the saris was very fine. I was sure it was beyond anything I could do.

Mr Das bent over the quilt, taking a corner up in his hand and holding it close to his eye. He turned the work over, and I silently thanked my mother for teaching me that one side must look as well done as the other. He nodded as if the quilt was something of value that had been dropped upon his path. 10

"That is Koly's doing," Mrs Devi said. "She is looking for work and why should she not work here for you? Could she find a more suitable place?" 15

Mr Das's quick black eyes darted from the quilt to me and back. He did not seem anxious to have me but I could see he did not want to displease his good customer. "There would be much to teach her," he answered politely.

"Could she find a better teacher than you?" Mrs Devi prompted with a smile.

He looked at me again. "We might try," he said. 20

"Excellent! There is no time like the present. I'll just leave her here," Mrs Devi said. With that, she bowed briefly to Mr Das, who hastened to return her bow. In a moment, she was gone and Mr Das and I were left facing one another.

I could not help saying in a small voice, "You don't have to take me." I edged toward the door. 25

Mr Das seemed pleased with my remark. "At least you do not push your way in because of Mrs Devi. Come with me."

I hurried along behind him. He led me through a long, dark passage that was more tunnel than hallway. At last, we came into a large, bright room with five or six women sitting cross-legged, some on the floor, all bent over lengths of cloth that were spread out over the floor like bright carpets. Around them were skeins of thread, scissors, and little fabric squares poked full of needles. 30

The women paused in their work and glanced at me curiously. They were all older than I, and I was sure that they did not think I could even draw a thread through a needle. Mr Das hunted about until he came upon a scrap of cloth. He tossed it to me. "Show me what you can do with this." 35

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. What did Mr Das think Mrs Devi had come for?

72. What did the "gift" (Line 1) refer to?

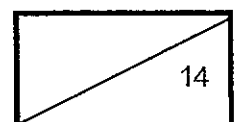
73. Mr Das sold expensive goods. From Paragraph 3, write down the 4-word phrase that tells you this.

74. Describe clearly what "it" (Line 8) referred to.

75. Mr Das was an expert in embroidery. Which action from Paragraph 5 demonstrated this?

76. Why did Mrs Devi bring Koly to Mr Das's shop?

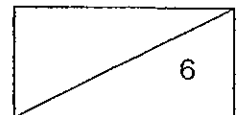
77. In Line 16, "Mr Das's quick black eyes darted from the quilt to me and back." Explain his reason for doing that.



78. Mrs Devi was an important customer for Mr Das. Referring to Lines 20 – 23, describe one way in which he demonstrated this.

79. When did Mr Das's initial hostility towards the narrator change?

80. In your own words, explain fully why Mr Das tossed a scrap of cloth to the narrator.



ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2012

SCHOOL : SCGS

SUBJECT : PRIMARY 5 ENGLISH

TERM : SA2

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

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
4	2	3	3	2	3	4	2	4	2	3	3	4	E	K	P	C

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
B	N	J	F	D	G

- 41)makes 42)exception 43)with 44)in 45)recognized
 46)business 47)technology 48)themselves 49)revolutionary
 50)fallen 51)difference 52)importance 53)cope
 54)distractions 55)compete 56)Although 57)in 58)amount
 59)children 60)sleep 61)with 62)amount 63)lead
 64)delayed 65)later
- 66)My aunt instructed me to find out if Amy had finished her work.
 67)Given that her desire to succeed is strong, she will persevere till the end.
 68)None of us believed what John said.
 69)The news article was read with interest by many people.
 70)Much to my horror, my mother fainted in front of my eyes.
 71)Mr Das thought that Mrs Devi had come to buy a sari or piece of cloth from his shop.
 72)It was Koly.
 73)The phrase is "sari of king's muslin".
 74)"It" referred to the fine embroidery on the saris, which was beyond anything that Koly could do.
 75)Mr Das turned the quilt over, making sure that both sides were just as well done, which was what all experts in embroidery would do.
 76)Mrs Devi brought Koly to Mr Das's shop to ask Mr Das to employ koly as she was looking for work Mrs Devi thought that koly could work for Mr Das and that he would be a good teacher for her.
 77)He did not believe that it was koly who made it.
 78)He did not want to lose Mrs Devi as an important customer and he did not want to displease her so he accepted koly to work for him reluctantly.
 79)Mr Das's initial hostility towards the narrator changed when the narrator told him that he did not have to take her in and did not push her way in because of Mrs Devi.
 80)Mr Das tossed a scrap of cloth to the narrator to see how good her embroidery skills were and to see how she could improvise without any preparation beforehand.

