

SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL
SECOND SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2008
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PRIMARY FOUR

Name : _____ () Date : _____

Class : Primary 4(SY/C/G/SE/P)

Duration : 1 h 15 min

Marks : 21

Booklet A

Section A: Grammar (6 marks)

For each question from 1 to 6, 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.

1. Sue shouted, "Water _____ out of the pipe. Turn off the mains quickly!"

- (1) leak
- (2) leaks
- (3) leaked
- (4) is leaking

2. My sister and I baked the cake _____.

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

3. Last Tuesday, Peter _____ to the bakery with a friend.

- (1) walk
- (2) walks
- (3) walked
- (4) had walked

4. The floral tea in the mug is very sweet. There is too _____ sugar in it.

- (1) few
- (2) little
- (3) much
- (4) many

5. Neither Mrs Lim nor her sisters _____ to the private sale at Macy's departmental store today.

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

6. _____ boy standing over there is my kindergarten friend.

- (1) This
- (2) That
- (3) These
- (4) Those

Section B : Vocabulary (5 marks)

For each question from 7 to 11, 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. At the concert last night, the _____ clapped loudly for the young violinist.

- (1) guests
- (2) audience
- (3) spectators
- (4) competitors

8. Knowing that the kidnapper did not act on his own, the policemen _____ his hideout cautiously.

- (1) hid
- (2) rocked
- (3) withdrew
- (4) approached

9. The match came to an _____ end when the soccer players started fighting among themselves.

- (1) abrupt
- (2) artificial
- (3) abrasive
- (4) awesome

10. The well-dressed lady was so unhappy with the service she received that she _____ on seeing the store manager.

- (1) resisted
- (2) insisted
- (3) assisted
- (4) persisted

11. When Daniel's bedroom door opened, I noticed that his clothes and books were _____ all over the floor.

- (1) cast
- (2) strewn
- (3) floated
- (4) arranged

Section C : Comprehension (10 marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

During the Northern Song dynasty, there was a man called Chen Yaozi who was unrivalled in the art of archery. Chen was so proud of his own skill that he looked down on almost everyone.

One day, when Chen was practising in his own compound, an old oil-pedlar passed by. The old man put down his stuff and stood watching Chen for some time. When the man saw that nearly all the arrows released by Chen hit the bull's eye, he merely nodded his head slightly instead of appearing awed by it. Puzzled by the old man's indifferent attitude, Chen came forward and asked, "Do you know archery? Do you think that I'm not skilful enough?"

The old man answered, "That's nothing special. It comes from regular practice." Chen was angry and asked the old man why he looked down on his archery skill.

The old man answered, "On the grounds that I'm experienced in pouring oil." He then placed a bottle on the ground, took out a coin with a square hole in its centre and put it over the mouth of the bottle. After that, the old man used a scoop to pour some oil slowly into the bottle. The oil dripped through the square hole without wetting the coin.

Cheng was dumbfounded by the old man's performance. The old man said, "There's no secret behind this either. It comes from regular practice. I do it day in and day out. I'm getting more and more skilful, that's all."

Adapted from Ancient Chinese Fables, retold by Suzee Leong

For each question from 12 to 16, 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.

12. Chen Yaozi _____
- (1) was a humble man
 - (2) sold goods from place to place
 - (3) was unrivalled in the art of archery
 - (4) was a good friend of the old oil-pedlar
13. The old man thought _____
- (1) Chen lacked practice
 - (2) Chen should start selling oil too
 - (3) Chen was rude and disrespectful
 - (4) there was nothing special about Chen's skill
14. The word 'it' in line 10 refers to _____
- (1) Chen's arrows
 - (2) the old man's skill in pouring oil
 - (3) Chen's accuracy in shooting his targets
 - (4) the old man nodding his head slightly without speaking
15. The bottle is used by the old man to _____
- (1) store oil
 - (2) keep his coins
 - (3) store drinking water
 - (4) display his collection of coins
16. After Chen's encounter with the old man, it was likely that he would _____
- (1) start teaching archery
 - (2) stop looking down on others
 - (3) pick up the skill of pouring oil
 - (4) spread the word around about the old man's ability

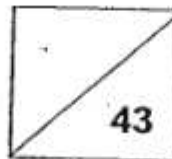
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Name : _____ ()

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Time : 1 hr 15 min



Parent's Signature _____

Booklet B

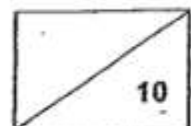
There are 10 blanks, numbered 17 to 26 in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking.

(10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN ONLY BE USED ONCE.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| (A) a | (B) while | (G) of | (K) their | (N) to |
| (B) for | (E) are | (H) in | (L) them | (P) will |
| (C) or | (F) the | (J) is | (M) they | (Q) your |

Flowers can be used as a cooking ingredient. The culinary use (17) _____ flowers dates back thousands of years and can be traced back (18) _____ Roman times. It was especially popular (19) _____ the past. Many different cultures use flowers for cooking. (20) _____ instance, Asians make use of daylily buds (21) _____ Romans use mallow, rose and violets. For best flavour, only flowers at (22) _____ peak are used. Fresh flowers taste (23) _____ best and those that have been sitting in the refrigerator for days and are wilted, tend to lose flavour. Just before using, wash the fresh flowers gently and set (24) _____ aside to dry. They can be consumed raw, cooked (25) _____ used in making sauce. As edible flowers are extremely fragile, (26) _____ should be consumed as quickly as possible.



Correct each word in **bold** for spelling and each underlined word for grammar. Write the correct word in the relevant box. (5 marks)

Castles were built for rich people such as lords and ladies or kings and queens.

(27)

(28)

Servents worked and lived in the castle grounds. Soldiers guard the castle gate. The

(29)

castle's main tower is called a keep. Some castles were made of wood. Other castles

were made using stones.

Some castles even had water around them. This is called a moat. The moat helped

(30)

to keep out enemies. People crossed the moat on a wooden platform called a

drawbridge. There were many rooms inside the keep and the best rooms belonged to

(31)

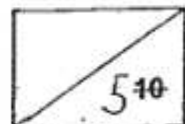
the lord and their family. A castle toilet was just a hole in the floor. Underneath was a

chute that led to a pit outside.

Building a castle sometimes took more than twenty years. Most castles are now

empty. They have crumbled over the years. A few castles have been rebuilt for people

to live in.



Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

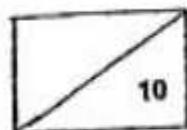
(10 marks)

Did you know that the papaya is also known as paw paw? It is (32) _____ to be southern Mexican and Central American in origin but it now grows in all tropical and subtropical countries. The papaya plants (33) _____ warmth throughout the year.

Papaya trees can grow to (34) _____ ten metres tall. They have no branches and the ^{fruits} ~~trees~~; which produce all year round, grow directly on the trunk of the (35) _____. The fruit is sometimes round in shape or may be more pear-shaped depending upon the variety and growing conditions. Papayas can be fairly large, sometimes as much as fifty centimetres (36) _____

Its deep orange flesh tastes (37) _____ and its texture is soft. They make a wonderful addition to fruit salad and when used in smoothies and ice-cream and pies, it adds tropical flavour to the desserts. Papayas can (38) _____ to cleanse the digestive tract. It also aids digestion. Papayas are rich (39) _____ vitamin C and are good sources of fibre.

Slightly green papayas (40) _____ quickly at room temperature, especially if they are placed in a paper bag. Once they have turned from green to yellow, you can (41) _____ the ripened fruit in a plastic bag in the refrigerator for up to a week. However it is best to use them within a day or two.



For each of the questions 42 to 45, 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). (8 marks)

42. "I want the fluffy teddy bear," Amelia told her parents.

Amelia told her parents _____

43. John's team was losing. The supporters cheered John and his team-mates on.

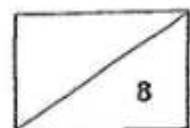
Although _____

44. The pupils ate contaminated food. They have fallen ill.

_____ who.

45. Desmond is different from his classmates. Desmond likes to be by himself.

Unlike _____



BLANK PAGE

Read the passage below and answer questions 46 to 51. 50.

(10 marks)

The scrawny boy in the cave stood watching. Parvana walked over to him and gave him the bread. It disappeared in a flash. She fetched more water and put it to boil over the little fire. When the rice was cooked, she put some on a flat rock and took it to the boy.

Parvana asked for his name and he responded by saying "Asif." She gave him the rice. He frowned and stared at the rice. Then she fed baby Hassan. While putting 5 fingerfuls of rice into Hassan's mouth, Parvana introduced herself and told Asif that she was looking for her family. She also told him that she had found baby Hassan in a village that had been bombed.

"Why do you have a girl's name?" Asif asked. Parvana turned suddenly cold. How could she have made such a mistake? Quickly, she tried to think of something to say to 10 cover up but she was suddenly too tired to lie.

"I'm a girl," she said. "I pretended to be a boy in Kabul so I could work. When my father and I started out on this journey, it was easier to keep pretending to be a boy."

"Why didn't your father work? Was he lazy?"

"No. My father was not lazy and don't you dare say another word about him!" 15

Parvana slammed the ground with a rock. The noise startled Hassan and made him cry.

"I'll say what I please. I don't take orders from a girl," Asif taunted.

"You'll take orders from me if you want to eat any more of my food," Parvana yelled.

"Oh, be quiet, Hassan!" Yelling at the baby to stop crying only made him cry louder.

Parvana turned her back on both of them. She tried to ignore them as she 20 watched the flames of her smoky little fire dwindle into embers.

Adapted from Parvana's Journey by Deborah Ellis

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

46. What does the sentence, "It disappeared in a flash," in line 2 tell us about the boy?

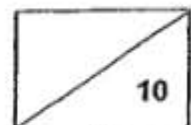
47. Where did Parvana find Hassan?

48. What was the mistake that Parvana made?

49. Why did Parvana pretend to be a boy?

50. What does the word 'noise' in line 16 refer to?

- END OF PAPER -





ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2008

SCHOOL : SCGS PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUBJECT : PRIMARY 4 ENGLISH

TERM : SA 2

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17
4	3	3	3	2	2	2	4	1	2	2	3	4	3	1	2	6

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26
N	H	B	D	K	F	L	C	M

27) Servants 28) guarded 29) from 30) enemies

31) his 32) known 33) heed 34) about

35) tree 36) long 37) sweet 38) help

39) in 40) ripen 41) put

42) Amelia told her parents that She wanted the fluffy teddy bear.

43) Although John's team was losing, the supporters cheered him and his team-mates on.

44) The pupils who ate contaminated food have fallen ill.

45) Unlike his classmates, Desmond likes to be by himself.

- 46) He was very ravenous.
- 47) Parvana found Hassan in a village that had been bombed.
- 48) Parvana accidentally told Asif her real name instead of a boy's name.
- 49) Parvana pretended to be a boy so that she could work in Kabul and it was easier to keep pretending to be a boy.
- 50) It refers to the sound that was made when Parvana slammed the ground with a rock.