

**SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL  
SECOND SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2015  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRIMARY FIVE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Class: Primary 5 SY /

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2  
(BOOKLET A)**

**Total time for Booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- 1 Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
- 2 Follow all instructions carefully.
- 3 Answer all questions.
- 4 Shade your answers on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.

1 Uncle Tom heard a woman \_\_\_\_\_ for help and rushed to look for her.

- (1) screams
- (2) screamed
- (3) screaming
- (4) is screaming

2 According to Aunt Sue, "It never rains but pours" as trouble often \_\_\_\_\_ one after another.

- (1) came
- (2) come
- (3) comes
- (4) has come

3 The tall boy leaning \_\_\_\_\_ the lamp post is my cousin.

- (1) over
- (2) along
- (3) around
- (4) against

4 The damaged roof was his bone of contention \_\_\_\_\_ his landlord.

- (1) by
- (2) with
- (3) from
- (4) beside

5 Neither my siblings nor I \_\_\_\_\_ running. We prefer cycling.

- (1) enjoy
- (2) enjoys
- (3) enjoyed
- (4) will enjoy

- 6 It was a minor mistake \_\_\_\_\_ the consequences were far-reaching.
- (1) but
  - (2) lest
  - (3) unless
  - (4) whereas
- 7 Mr. Lee told us that Maggie was one of \_\_\_\_\_ people who simply took a long time to warm to strangers.
- (1) this
  - (2) that
  - (3) these
  - (4) those
- 8 An angry Lisa complained that someone \_\_\_\_\_ her iced lemonade and that there was not a single drop left.
- (1) has drunk
  - (2) had drunk
  - (3) is drinking
  - (4) ~~had been drinking~~  
have drunk
- 9 Jane was so stunned by the news that she just could not take \_\_\_\_\_ what I was trying to tell her.
- (1) in
  - (2) on
  - (3) up
  - (4) over
- 10 I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ replace my old car with a new one. It has been giving me problems.
- (1) could
  - (2) might
  - (3) would
  - (4) should

- 11 A child's growth and development could be \_\_\_\_\_ by a lack of nutrition, vaccination against diseases and insufficient rest.
- (1) retarded
  - (2) muddled
  - (3) restrained
  - (4) constrained
- 12 When the inexperienced teacher realised she could not handle the \_\_\_\_\_ in her classroom, she ran out of the door.
- (1) turmoil
  - (2) joviality
  - (3) tranquillity
  - (4) melancholy
- 13 I do my grocery shopping at this grocery store \_\_\_\_\_. The owners know me so well they call me by my name.
- (1) rarely
  - (2) presently
  - (3) frequently
  - (4) occasionally
- 14 Mr Lee, a well-mannered and \_\_\_\_\_ old man, has many friends and acquaintances.
- (1) sullen
  - (2) boorish
  - (3) gregarious
  - (4) cantankerous
- 15 The construction worker who was fixing the roof fell off the \_\_\_\_\_ when he lost his balance.
- (1) cellar
  - (2) tarmac
  - (3) paddock
  - (4) scaffolding



The avocado fruit is actually a berry. It has a large central seed, yellow-green flesh and a nearly black rubbery skin depending on variety. Selecting an avocado in the shop can be tricky. These tips should help you. If the avocado is firm, it will take about five days to ripen. You can quicken this process by sealing your avocado in a paper bag with a ripe banana.

The banana gives off ethylene gas which accelerates the ripening process. If you wish to preserve your avocado and slow the ripening, put it in the crisper of the refrigerator. A ripe avocado will keep for 2 to 3 days in the refrigerator. However, once it has been cut, it becomes very hard to keep avocados from turning brown. To prevent this, it is best to leave the seed in, squeeze some lemon or lime juice over the avocado. Then, cover it in plastic wrap and keep in the refrigerator for 1 to 2 days.

*Adapted from <http://ezinearticles.com/?Avocado-Facts&id=727058>*

- 16 (1) virtually  
(2) thoroughly  
(3) extensively  
(4) comprehensively

- 17 (1) risky  
(2) strenuous  
(3) hazardous  
(4) problematic

18 (1) enclosing  
(2) besieging  
(3) encircling  
(4) immersing

19 (1) retains  
(2) hastens  
(3) impedes  
(4) suspends

20 (1) divert  
(2) forestall  
(3) withhold  
(4) interrupt

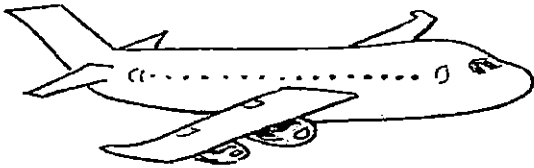
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2<sup>nd</sup> person: \$1100

Receive a **FREE** luggage for \*every holiday package purchased.  
\*only for packages which includes Jeju Island

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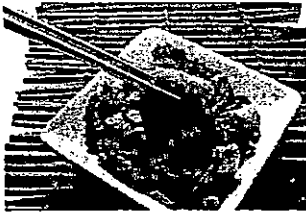
## Enchanting Time in Korea



Why should you visit Korea? The following brief written by Andy Chow, a celebrity traveller, tells us why Seoul is his favourite city.

South Korea is a country often known for its separation from the north. It is however not its tumultuous history of destruction that defines this country. It is its wonderful mix of modernisation and long-valued tradition resulting in a diverse and dynamic culture which people remember it for. If you prefer to experience a cutting-edge holiday, look no further than capital city, Seoul. Filled with towers of commercial buildings, it positions itself as the world's leading megacity. Such a formidable skyline stands in stark contrast to the crumbling temples and smiling pagodas of southern ancient city Gyeongju, a millennial throwback to the days of the Emperors.

Seoul is the second largest metropolitan area in the world after Tokyo. Almost half of South Korea's population live in Seoul Greater Metropolitan Area, making it a central political, financial and cultural hub, attractive to Koreans as well as foreigners. 25 million people live in this city. It is an open-all-hours playground of galloping commerce, pierced with skyscrapers and a sheen of searing neon, Seoul is a feast for the senses - the ears are set ringing with a cacophony of piped K-pop or sounds erupting from underground karaoke rooms, the taste buds tingling by spicy barbecued beef or wriggling octopus tentacle. Come and experience Korea for yourself!



*Getaway Travels*

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*Email: [getawaytravels@singnet.com](mailto:getawaytravels@singnet.com)*

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- 21 What is the main purpose of the flyer?
- (1) to encourage people to travel to Korea
  - (2) to advertise The Korean Tourism Board
  - (3) to provide information on the history of Korea
  - (4) to provide Andy Chow, a celebrity traveller, more publicity
- 22 Based on the flyer, which of the following is true about the holiday packages to Korea? All holiday packages \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) are at half price
  - (2) include one free luggage
  - (3) include a visit to Jeju Island
  - (4) on special offer are valid until 30 June 2015
- 23 According to the brief, how do we know that Korea was once ruled by a dynasty?
- (1) World War II affected Korea.
  - (2) Seoul is a megacity with 25 million people.
  - (3) Seoul is known for its long-valued tradition.
  - (4) Gyeongju, an ancient city, has temples and pagodas.
- 24 What does "skyline" in the first paragraph of the brief refer to?
- (1) temples
  - (2) pagodas
  - (3) megacity
  - (4) commercial buildings
- 25 According to the brief, what is Seoul known for?
- (1) sightseeing
  - (2) delicious food
  - (3) shopping streets
  - (4) outdoor adventure

26 The travel agency prefers readers to \_\_\_\_\_ for enquires.

- (1) call
- (2) email
- (3) visit their website
- (4) visit the head office and branches

27 Why do you think the travel agency decided to include a brief on Korea?

- (1) to provide more details to the travel packages .
- (2) to allow readers to learn more about Andy Chow
- (3) to provide readers with more information on Korea
- (4) to warn readers of the dangers of visiting the ancient cities in Korea

28 Based on the brief, how do we know that Seoul is a modern city?

- (1) It has a population of 25 million.
- (2) It is known for its separation from North. .
- (3) It is the second largest metropolitan area. .
- (4) It is attractive to Koreans as well as foreigners.

**SECOND SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2015  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRIMARY FIVE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (     )

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

Class: Primary 5 SY / C /

Parent's Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

	Marks Obtained	Highest Possible Marks
Booklet A		28
Booklet B		67
Sub-total		95

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2**

(BOOKLET B)

**Total time for Booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- 1 Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
- 2 Follow all instructions carefully.
- 3 Answer all questions.
- 4 Write your answers in this booklet.

There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38, 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) and | (D) by   | (G) his  | (K) its | (N) they |
| (B) as  | (E) for  | (H) in   | (L) of  | (P) to   |
| (C) but | (F) have | (J) into | (M) out | (Q) with |

There is no such thing as a banana tree. The banana plant is actually a giant herb and the bananas are \_\_\_\_\_ berries. A herb is a plant \_\_\_\_\_ a fleshy, non-woody stem. (29) (30)

After the plant has bloomed and set seed, it dies down to the ground. This is not always true: sage, thyme \_\_\_\_\_ rosemary have woody stems. \_\_\_\_\_ the definition says, after (31) (32)

flowering, the part of the herb above the ground dies. With bananas, this gives rise \_\_\_\_\_ (33)

a strange effect. After the stem dies, another one grows, slightly further along the root. Bananas are native to Malays and have been cultivated for 10,000 years. Wild bananas contain large stone seeds and a small amount \_\_\_\_\_ flesh. \_\_\_\_\_ are pollinated by bats. The (34) (35)

banana in your local supermarket is a cultivated variety chosen by farmers \_\_\_\_\_ its (36)

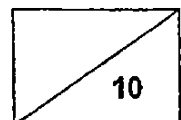
fleshy pulp and lack of seeds.

Domestication has produced plants that are sweet and tasty \_\_\_\_\_ they cannot (37)

reproduce without human help. Almost every banana we eat has been propagated \_\_\_\_\_ (38)

hand from a sucker of an existing plant whose genetic material has not changed in 100 centuries. As a result, bananas are extremely susceptible to disease. Some species have already succumbed to fungal infection.

Adapted from *Book Of General Ignorance*, John Lloyd and John Mitchinson



The modern history of toothpaste began in 1892. That year, Dr. Washington

Sheffield of the USA invented the collapsible tube for storing toothpaste. Four years

(39)

(40)

later in 1896, Colgate began making their own brand. The earliest known referranca to any

mixture for cleaning teeth came from a 4th Century AD Egyptian manuscript. The

(41)

(42)

ingredients included flowers that will be crushed together. Pricisly how this was used is

unclear. However, it is known that the Greeks and Romans used some form of toothpaste.

(43)

Among the ingredients they used are animal bones and oyster shells. The history of

(44)

toothpaste also shows that it was obteirable in 9th Century Persia. A musician named

(45)

Ziryab invented a mixture similar with toothpaste. However, it became very popular

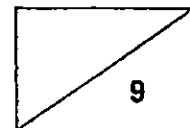
(46)

especially in Spain. To these day, it is still uncertain as to how these toothpastes were

(47)

used. Some Native Americans used neem tree twigs as a toothbrush. Wether these twigs

were used by the ancient Europeans is still undetermined.



(48)

Some historians maintain that the early toothpastes were rubbed on the teeth

(49)

using cloth. During the 19th Century, tooth powders became popular in the UK. They were

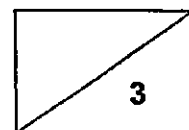
made from salt or chalk. In 1900, toothpaste consisting of hydrogen peroxide and baking

(50)

soda started to be manufactured. However, it was not until the outbreak of World War I

that Sheffield's invention became popular.

Adapted from <http://www.whoinventedit.net/who-invented-toothpaste.htm>



Bukit Batok's rat horror days are over. After hundreds of hours of monitoring the rat movement, twenty infra-red cameras deployed to track them at night and the clearing of vegetation, the Bukit Batok rat \_\_\_\_\_ seems to have been solved. Over 230 rats were killed in a hilly area near the Bukit Batok MRT station.

The Housing Development Board (HDB) started clearing the vegetation on the hill after the completion of rodent eradication. "Keeping the land well-kept will minimise the recurrence of \_\_\_\_\_ infestation. It will facilitate the removal \_\_\_\_\_ hiding ground for stray dogs," said an HDB spokesman. \_\_\_\_\_ the operation, pest controllers found about 10kg of food left for stray dogs in the area. It was said to have \_\_\_\_\_ to the rat woes. Surveillance \_\_\_\_\_ have been put near the fencing on the hill to monitor those who feed stray dogs \_\_\_\_\_. The rat problem first came to \_\_\_\_\_ last December after Bukit Batok resident Ryan Keith Smith took videos and pictures of the rodents and posted \_\_\_\_\_ online.

Pest controllers spent the first part of the extermination process attacking the rats' nests and burrows. It involved about thirty pest controllers who scoured the area and \_\_\_\_\_ infra-red cameras and binoculars to track rodent activity. "Pest controllers are still monitoring the area once \_\_\_\_\_ twice a week for rodent activity," he added. They look out for \_\_\_\_\_ signs such as rat droppings, food waste and rodent nests. "We have not \_\_\_\_\_ any rat movement at the moment which is a healthy sign," he said. "It's \_\_\_\_\_ that they will return unless there's food available." A spokesman from the National Environment Agency said it has stepped \_\_\_\_\_ inspections of the food shops near the area and found no infestation there. He added that all the food shops have also increased the frequency of the pest-control measures.

Adapted from *The Straits Times*, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015



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 Benjamin put on the chef's hat. He strutted about proudly.

Having \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

67 He decided on putting a space in front of all the punctuation marks. He annoyed Mrs Lee.

His \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68 Give the food hampers to the foreign workers. They will be grateful.

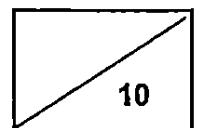
\_\_\_\_\_ for  
\_\_\_\_\_

69 The lady in blue asked me what I would do if I lost my school bag.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?" the lady in blue asked me.

70 The new clerk was diligent. The manager sang his praises this morning.

Impressed by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





At the end of 2013, my 18-year-old daughter, Rika was poised between two worlds having just completed her final year of school and facing the challenge of starting at the University of Auckland. In the interim, [she chose to fly over 11 500km to visit the city of her birth: Mumbai. Rika planned to spend her break visiting her ailing 80-year-old grandmother, Nana.

5

Our family migrated to New Zealand in 2000 when Rika was just five years old. We have returned to Mumbai three times since then but it had been four years since Rika had last seen Nana. Rika could not wait to see her Nana again.

Compared to the ease of Auckland where she now lives, the journey ahead was daunting - apart from flying alone, there would be the heat, pollution, language barriers and chaos of Mumbai to contend with. There would also be the hardship of leaving behind her iPhone, iPod and laptop. After her final school examination at the end of October, Rika left for the airport and boarded the plane for a seventeen-hour flight.

10

As Nana was too frail to wait at the airport, Rika was to be greeted by her Aunt Maria and her five cousins. Once they all arrived at Nana's home, Rika flew straight into her grandmother's arms for a long and endearing hug. She told me later that they celebrated Christmas and New Year together. [As my mother loves having people and food around her, the holidays were spent laughing and cooking while sharing wisdom.

15

Although Rika tried to inject some small changes into her grandmother's rigid routine, she soon settled into Nana's daily life. [She learnt to go with the flow and realised that her presence was everything that her grandmother needed. It was the first time Rika had come face-to-face with the loneliness and pain of old age.

20

"Mum, time is running out. You need to visit Nana soon," Rika would urge me.

Time flew by and soon it was time for Rika to return. I was prepared to see some changes in my child as I waited at the international arrival area. [However, I was also full of anticipation, expectation and joy. In her absence, our home had been empty and quiet.] After half an hour, Rika appeared. I could hardly recognise the young adult who walked through the gate. Gone was the teenager who grumbled about everything. Her face was calm and serene. I could tell she was grateful to be home and that some tiny part of her had been left behind in India. We hugged tightly and made our way home.

25

30

Later at home, Uditi, Rika's elder sister, casually mentioned Nana. Upon hearing Nana, quiet tears coursed down Rika's cheeks. Although she was home, Rika's mind was occupied by thoughts of the ailing grandmother she had left behind. She imagined her calling out to somebody. Often, there would be no one to answer that call. Just silence.

My mother is on the brink of becoming bedridden but her fiercely independent spirit tells her to persevere and continue to potter around her home. This summer proved that Rika was a **strong person**. In a foreign world devoid of technology and the usual luxuries, Rika focussed on the precious things in life and has come away with priceless memories.

35

Rika and Nana parted with hugs, tears, prayers and blessings. However, instead of pity or regret, she remembers the experience with gratitude.

40

*Adapted from "Indian Summer" By Christine Pandya*

72 Referring to Paragraphs 1 and 2, which sentence tells us that Rika misses Nana badly? [2m]

---

---

73 Why do you think that the writer is worried that her daughter would not be able to converse with anyone when she visited Mumbai? ( lines 9 to 10) [2m]

---

---

74 Was Rika successful in making changes to Nana's life? Give a reason to support your answer. [2m]

---

---

75 Explain why Rika said that "time is running out" (line 23) and urged her mother to visit Nana. [2m]

---

---

76 Choose words from Paragraphs 3 to 5 which have similar meanings to the words below. Write each word in the appropriate box. [3m]

difficult	
weak	
inflexible	

77 Based on the story, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [3m]

	True / False	Reason
Rika was born in New Zealand.		
Rika spent a month with Nana.		
Rika was missed by her mother when she was away.		

78 Give two reasons why Rika cried when Uditi mentioned Nana. [2m]

Reason 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Reason 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

79 Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the passage. [1m]

\_\_\_\_\_ Rika appreciated the time spent with Nana.

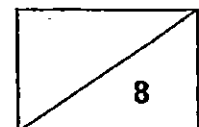
\_\_\_\_\_ Rika migrated to New Zealand.

\_\_\_\_\_ Rika visited Mumbai.

80 How did Rika show that she was "a strong person" (line 37)? [2m]

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

END OF BOOKLET





## EXAM PAPER 2015

LEVEL : PRIMARY 5

SCHOOL : SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL

SUBJECT : ENGLISH

TERM : SA2

Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6	Q 7	Q 8	Q 9	Q 10
3	3	4	2	1	1	4	2	1	1
Q 11	Q 12	Q 13	Q 14	Q 15	Q 16	Q 17	Q 18	Q 19	Q 20
1	1	3	3	4	1	4	1	2	2
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28		
1	4	4	4	2	1	3	3		

Q 29	Q 30	Q 31	Q 32	Q 33	Q 34	Q 35	Q 36	Q 37	Q 38
K	Q	A	B	P	L	N	E	C	D

Q39 its

Q40 reference

Q41 would

Q42 Precisely

Q43 were

Q44 obtainable

Q45 to

Q46 this

Q47 whether

Q48 maintain

Q49 became

Q50 manufactured

Q51 problem

Q52 rat

Q53 of

Q54 Throughout

Q55 contributed

Q56 cameras

Q57 daily

Q58 light

Q59 them

Q60 used

Q61 or

Q62 rodent

Q63 seen

Q64 unlikely

Q65 up

Q66. Having put on the chef's hat. Benjamin strutted about proudly.

Q67. His decision on putting a space in front of all the punctuation marks annoyed Mrs Lee.

Q68. Give the food hampers to the foreign workers for they will be grateful.

Q69. "What will you do if you lose your school bag?" the lady in blue asked me.

Q70. Impressed by the new clerk's diligence, the manager sang his praises this morning.

Q71. Interim

Q72. The sentence is " Rika could not wait to see her Nana again."

Q73. Rika spoke a different language.

Q74. No. She was not. Although Rika tried to inject some changes into Nana's rigid routine. She soon settled into Nana's daily life.

Q75. Nana was old and may pass on any time.

Q76. Difficult – daunting

Q76. Weak – frail

Q76. Inflexible – rigid

Q77. FALSE – Rika was born in Mumbai

Q77. FALSE – She left for Mumbai at the end of October and returned after New Year.

Q77. TRUE – When Rika was in India. Her family’s home was empty and quiet. When Rika’s mother was waiting for her at the international arrival area, she was filled with anticipation, expectation and joy.

Q78. Reason 1 : Although Rika was home, her mind was occupied by thoughts of the ailing grandmother she had left behind.

Q78. Reason 2 : Rika imagined Nana calling out to somebody, but often, there would be no one to answer that call, just silence.

Q79. 1 – Rika migrated to New Zealand

Q79. 2 – Rika visited Mumbai

Q79. 3 – Rika appreciated the time spent with Nana.

Q80. In a foreign world devoid of technology and the usual luxuries. Rika focused on the precious things in life and has come away with precious memories.

**THE END**