



RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL

SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT (2)

2008

Name : _____ Class: P5 _____ Index No: _____

23 Oct 2008

English Language Paper 2

Attn: 1 h 50 min

Your Score Out of 95 marks		
	Class	Level
Highest score		
Average score		
Parent's Signature		

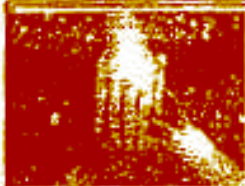
Booklet A

Instructions to students:

1. Booklet A & B consists of 80 questions.
Answer all questions.
2. Do not turn over the paper unless you are told to do so.
3. Questions 1-30 are to be done on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS).

Section A : Graphic Stimulus (5×1 mark)

Study the poster below carefully and answer questions 1 to 5.



RGPS Environmental Club is recruiting

Do you know that our school produces 30 tonnes of rubbish each year?

RGPS Environmental Club wants to work with our school to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle this rubbish!

We are recruiting interested students to be part of the effort to make our school 'Environmentally Aware'!

Don't hesitate... Join us now...



CONTROL OFFICERS

- sort recyclable rubbish from recycling bins
- maintain glass, plastic, aluminium and paper recycling bins
- learn to make 'new' paper from paper rubbish through operating our mini cost-effective recycling plant

WASTE OFFICERS

- be the waste officer in your class
- collect paper rubbish to be made into recycled paper
- conserve electricity in your class to help cut costs
- attend weekly sessions to organise class-based recycling activities, contests and games

COMPOST OFFICERS

- help out in gardening activities to improve the school garden e.g. watering the garden, pruning plants, etc
- maintain a special bin for food scraps which can be made into compost
- add clippings from the garden to the compost which can then be used to improve the soil and make the plants healthier



GO GREEN OFFICERS

- interested in reading magazines, newspapers etc.
- do research on environmental issues
- write relevant articles, design and publish termly 'Environmental Club' newsletters

For more details, please log on to RGPS Environmental Club Website:

<http://www.rgpsenvironmentalclub.com.sg>

Or simply log on to RGPS website: <http://www.rgps.edu.sg>.



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.

1. If you wish to find out how recycled paper is made, you should sign up to be a _____
 - (1) Waste Officer
 - (2) Control Officer
 - (3) Compost Officer
 - (4) Go Green Officer

2. RGPS Environmental Club would not appeal to a student who is _____
 - (1) an avid writer
 - (2) a voracious reader
 - (3) interested in gardening
 - (4) interested in sports activities

3. _____ would cause the school garden soil to improve.
 - (1) Watering the garden longer
 - (2) Adding compost to the garden
 - (3) Helping out in gardening activities
 - (4) Maintaining special bins for food scraps

4. Interested students could receive more information from _____
 - (1) school posters
 - (2) relevant online sites
 - (3) magazines and newspapers
 - (4) 'Environmental Club' newsletters

5. Which of the following statements is not true?
 - (1) Waste Officers help to cut down the school's utility bills.
 - (2) Go Green officers would have to gather information on environmental issues.
 - (3) It is a new initiative by RGPS Environmental Club to recruit Control Officers.
 - (4) This poster creates awareness amongst students on how they can play a part to reduce, reuse and recycle waste materials.

Section B: Grammar Discrete (7×1 mark)

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 number on the Optical Answer Sheet.

6. She came _____ fire for that discriminatory remark against a certain group of people.

- (1) on
- (2) over
- (3) under
- (4) before

7. If I had known this place was off limits, I _____ somewhere else.

- (1) swam
- (2) swum
- (3) would swim
- (4) would have swum

8. This stall is famous _____ its satay bee hoon. I highly recommend it.

- (1) on
- (2) for
- (3) with
- (4) about

9. She _____ here for sixteen years but still _____ no intention of moving.

- (1) lived...had
- (2) had lived...has
- (3) has lived...had
- (4) has lived...has

10. A number of devotees _____ seen going into the temple during the weeklong celebrations.

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

11. Since Siti left for Australia three years ago, she has not called or _____ home. I'm worried that something might have happened to her.

- (1) wrote
- (2) writes
- (3) written
- (4) has written

12. One of the twins _____ who the new Mathematics teacher is.

- (1) know
- (2) knows
- (3) has known
- (4) have known

Section C: Punctuation (3x1 mark)

For each question from 13 to 15, choose the correct punctuation to complete the passage. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct number on the Optical Answer Sheet.

"You see," Mrs Teh explained patiently (13) fish use their gills to breathe in water. They will die if they are out of the water for too long."

Judy stared back at her blankly. Clearly, she was confused.

"But why can't they use gills to breathe on land too then (14) Judy asked.

Mrs Teh was suddenly at a loss for words. While trying to think of an answer (15)

the dismissal bell rang. A relieved Mrs Teh said, "Well class, lesson is over. I'll

tell you the answer to that question tomorrow."

13. (1) [.] full stop
(2) [,] comma
(3) [,"] comma and inverted commas
(4) [."] full stop and inverted commas

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

15. (1) [,] comma
(2) [.] full stop
(3) [:] colon
(4) [;] semicolon

Section D: Vocabulary (5×1 mark)

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.

16. The old stadium was _____ to make way for a new one.
- (1) crushed
 - (2) bombed
 - (3) destroyed
 - (4) demolished
17. The man was released by the police because of the lack of _____.
- (1) alibi
 - (2) clues
 - (3) evidence
 - (4) suspicion
18. My mother did not like the skirt and she tried to _____ me from buying it.
- (1) forbid
 - (2) persuade
 - (3) dissuade
 - (4) encourage
19. Bala is the sole _____ of his father's life-insurance policy.
- (1) investor
 - (2) nominee
 - (3) recipient
 - (4) beneficiary
20. The fire was put out by the firemen but the embers still _____.
- (1) blazed
 - (2) sparkled
 - (3) gleamed
 - (4) smouldered

Section E: Vocabulary Cloze (5x1 mark)

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

John's condition was lamentable. He stood in the rain and wondered what to do.

(21)

His bag and wallet had been stolen and he was stranded in a quiet and deserted place. He

prayed for help, rather than depending on his own discretion. He was hungry, alone and

(22)

miserable. He sat under a tree and contemplated the circumstances which had led him to

(23)

this state.

He was a rich young man and his folly was that he trusted his friends, who were

(24)

more after his money than his friendship. They had enticed him to join them on a hiking

(25)

trip. He had slipped out quietly, as his father would never have given him permission to go

with "the wastrels" as he used to call his friends. How right he was!

21. (1) cruel
(2) queer
(3) pitiable
(4) hilarious
22. (1) bravery
(2) creativity
(3) judgement
(4) imagination

23. (1) cried about
(2) wished upon
(3) reflected upon
(4) daydreamed about

24. (1) idea
(2) wish
(3) mistake
(4) misunderstanding

25. (1) invited
(2) forced
(3) tricked
(4) attracted

Section F: Comprehension MCQ (5 × 1 mark)

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

Great Expectations is a very interesting old story. From the cover you would think what the point of reading this is and when you look at the pages, you would probably think you would never finish this. As a matter of fact if you were to attempt reading the book, it might even be one of the most impressive books you had ever read. The great author Charles Dickens wrote this a long time ago, yet it still rings true and popular among readers today as it unveils the struggles life holds. 5

The story begins with an escaped convict threatening to slit the throat of a young orphan boy named Pip. Much later we discover a bond between these two unlikely characters and cannot help but admire Charles Dickens' masterpiece, *Great Expectations*. 10

Eccentric and bizarre characters litter the novel from beginning to end but none match the strangeness of elderly Miss Havisham. She is a woman who, jilted at the altar years before, is heartbroken and unbalanced. She lives the rest of her life dressed in her bridal gown.

A work of fiction? Well, for Dickens perhaps not. In 1856, five years before the publication of *Great Expectations*, Eliza Donnithorne from Newton, Sydney, was left standing at the altar when her husband failed to show up. For the next 30 years, she never left her house again and lived the life of a hermit until she died in 1886. 15

It would seem the story of poor Miss Donnithorne's situation might have reached Dickens in London during the time he was thinking about writing his novel and might well have helped form the basis of one of literature's remarkable characters. 20

BLANK

PAGE

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.

26. *Great Expectations* is probably best known as a _____.
- (1) play
 - (2) novel
 - (3) short story
 - (4) musical
27. While crafting the plot for *Great Expectations*, Charles Dickens could have been inspired _____.
- (1) by Miss Donnithorne's death
 - (2) by his meeting with Miss Donnithorne
 - (3) by Miss Donnithorne's married life
 - (4) by Miss Donnithorne's experience on her wedding day
28. The underlined word 'bizarre' in line 11 means _____.
- (1) old
 - (2) strange
 - (3) remarkable
 - (4) unbalanced
29. *Great Expectations* is popular till today probably because _____.
- (1) the plot is strange
 - (2) it was a work of non-fiction
 - (3) it reminds of life's struggles
 - (4) it is the only book with remarkable characters
30. Which one of the following statements is true?
- (1) Dickens lived in Newton. x
 - (2) Pip had his throat slit by a convict. ~
 - (3) Pip is a character in *Great Expectations*.
 - (4) *Great Expectations* was published in 1856. x

Booklet B

Name: _____ (.)

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Section G: Structural Cloze (10×1 mark)

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 to avoid confusion during marking.

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) at	(D) for	(G) out	(K) what	(N) which
(B) between	(E) from	(H) such	(L) where	(P) while
(C) by	(F) in	(J) then	(M) with	(Q) who

Paper plays an important role in our everyday life. Almost everyone in the world uses paper.

Paper has a long history ranging (31) _____ ancient times to the present. Long before paper was invented, people wrote on thin slices of bamboo, animal skins and fibres of material (32) _____ as silk. In 4000 BC, the Egyptians made a type of paper using a plant called papyrus, from which the English word paper comes from.

Early paper was made entirely (33) _____ hand. Although the quality was good, the process was expensive and only small quantities of paper could be made (34) _____ a time. Not until the invention of the first paper-making machine in 1803, could paper be produced in greater quantities.

Today, paper is made (35) _____ of materials such as rag fibres, bark of trees, plants, grasses, bamboo and straws. One of the biggest producers and users of paper today, is the United States, (36) _____ makes 64 million tonnes of paper each year.

The paper-making process begins (37) _____ cutting down of trees and sending them to a paper mill (38) _____ they are grated into very small pieces. These pieces are then soaked in water and chemical. After soaking, they are spread out into thin sheets and allowed to dry.

There are different grades of paper depending on (39) _____ it will be used for. Printing grade paper is made for newspapers, magazines, books and computer paper (40) _____ industrial grade paper is used for paper bags, cardboard and boxes that hold food, such as cereal boxes. The above are just some of the many uses of paper.

Section II: Editing for Spelling and Grammar (10x1 mark)

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

41)

The day had not been very **pleasent** to him. He kept thinking about how the interview

42)

could have went instead if he had not made that comment. One of the interviewers

43)

were wearing a pink tie and asked if he knew the latest fashion news. Without

44)

haysitasion, Timothy immediately replied that the colour pink was **passé** and was only

45)

46)

suited for babies' frocks. **Needing** to say, the interviewer was visibly **offensive**.

47)

and remained extremely **horstyle** to him throughout the duration of the interview. He did

not even bother to respond when Timothy **thankéd** him for his time. **Whén** it was all over,

48)

Timothy was certain he had lost the **opurchunlty** to be part of the largest modelling

49)

50)

agency in the world. With a sigh of **residnatqn**, he turned back and headed to home.

He reminded himself to be more tactful in future.

Section I: Comprehension Cloze (15 × 1 mark)

Read the passage below carefully and fill in each of the blanks with a suitable word.

Tropical rainforests are forests with tall trees, warm climate, and lots of rain.

Rainforests are (51) _____ in Africa, Asia, Australia and Central and South America. The largest rainforest in the world is the Amazon rainforest.

In the past 1000 years, half of the world's rainforests have been cleared for farming purposes or for the timber they contain. The burning, logging and bulldozing of rainforests is called 'deforestation'. Continued deforestation can (52) _____ very serious problems.

Rainforests provide a home to many plants and (53) _____ including many endangered species. When the land is being cleared, many endangered animals such as the African elephant, the mountain gorilla, the Javanese white rhinoceros and the Indian tiger, are on the verge of becoming extinct.

Land (54) _____ of rainforests often become useless. The thin soil, no longer held together by roots (55) _____ trees, can easily be washed (56) _____ by heavy rainfall, causing flood and filling rivers with mud. Furthermore, the burning of trees releases a large amount of carbon dioxide into the (57) _____. Carbon dioxide traps part of the Sun's heat in the atmosphere, adding to what scientists call the 'Greenhouse Effect'. This can (58) _____ in an increase in the earth's temperature that will be disastrous for mankind.

Rainforests are (59) _____ because they help to maintain the right level of oxygen in the atmosphere. There are so many other reasons that explain their importance too. Many foods we eat today (60) _____ as bananas, nuts, oranges, lemons, avocados, onions and tomatoes were originally found in tropical rainforests. There are many plants in the rainforests that have not yet

been discovered, and there is some proof that there may be rainforest plants that could help (61) _____ many serious diseases. Many rainforest plants are already used in medicine.

The good news is that there are a lot of people (62) _____ want to save rainforests. The bad news is (63) _____ rainforests is not going to be easy. It will take the efforts of many people working together in order to ensure rainforests and their wildlife will survive for all of us to appreciate and enjoy. Bearing (64) _____ mind the importance of rainforests, we must safeguard them at all (65) _____. Our future depends on them.

Section J: Synthesis / Transformation (2x5 marks)

For each question 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 that of the given sentence(s).

66. I met Ivan three months ago. It was at Jane's birthday party.

_____ since _____

67. I do not really like the idea of shopping during the Great Singapore Sale. I would rather sip tea at a cafe.

I prefer _____

68. Both Peter and Sally were early for the movie premiere of *Mission Impossible*.

Neither _____

69. She was arrogant. In addition, I was put off by the way she ill-treated her servants.

Besides her _____

70. The teacher asked the students, "What did you do last week?"

The teacher asked the students _____

Section K: Comprehension Open-ended (10×2 marks)

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

I had been chosen by my teacher to attend a leadership training course which would be held at the Girls' Brigade campsite. As I stepped into the campsite at Sembawang, I saw the ropes that were fastened from tree to tree and some structures built for climbing. "I hope I don't have to climb up all those trees," I said to myself. I suffered from *acrophobia*. 5

After my friend, Debbie, and I had settled into our dormitory, we went for the briefing. The camp commandant told us that we need not worry about climbing the awesome structures as she and the other officers were there to help us. "To be a good leader, you must lead by example and be brave," the commandant said. 10

The day came when all of us had to climb up the structures. "This is the moment of my life," I told myself. It was a sunny afternoon as I stood under the tree and told myself I would be able to do it.

Debbie was among the brave ones who volunteered to climb up the man-made ladder to the top of the tree where the ropes were. The task was to walk across to the middle of the ropes supported by the two trees and jump down. Although we had support ropes around our bodies, I was still afraid and tried very hard to overcome my fear of heights. 15

My heart pumped so hard while waiting for my turn. When it was finally my turn, I climbed up the ladder with legs shaking. The higher I climbed, the faster my heart beat. Finally, I reached the top and took a deep breath. "Phew, that was easy," I told myself. Then I looked down. "I think I am going to faint," I thought. 20

I could not think for the next few seconds. I shook my head and asked myself, "How am I going to show the people in the Girls' Brigade that I am a good leader if I have no courage?" 25

From the top of the tree, I could see the entire campsite as well as the officers and the other participants. I hummed a tune. Then I held on to the ropes tightly and began to move one step at a time towards the centre. I was enjoying the view around me. "This is fun after all!" I thought. 30

Then I heard cheers and claps from below. I realised that I had made it to the centre. I closed my eyes and jumped. I landed on the ground swiftly. It felt good to be on the ground again although my legs were still shaking. At the same time, *there was a feeling of triumph*. 35

Name: _____ ()

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ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. Where specifically was the training camp held?

72. What does the word 'acrophobia' in line 6 mean?

73. Why do you think the writer was chosen by the teacher to attend the camp?

74. What did the writer have to do when she said 'this is the moment of my life' in line 13?

75. How would you describe Debbie's character? Give a reason to support your answer.

76. What was it that the writer did not want the Girls' Brigade to think of her?

77. Which sentence in the passage tells you that the writer's fellow participants were very supportive?

78. Why did the writer need to hum a tune in line 29?

79. Which word in the passage has the same meaning as 'secured tightly'?

80. Why did the writer have a 'feeling of triumph' in line 35?

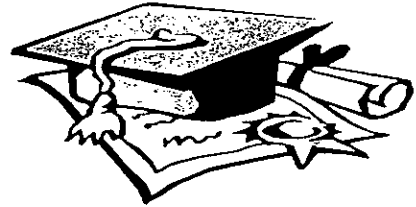
Setters: Mdm Mehmutha, Mrs Irene Bong, Ms Serene Chan



Name : _____ () 5 () Date : _____

Structural Cloze

31	E	36	N
32	H	37	M
33	C	38	L
34	A	39	K
35	G	40	P



Editing for Spelling and Grammar

41. pleasant
42. gone
43. was
44. hesitation
45. Needless
46. offended
47. hostile
48. opportunity
49. resignation
50. for

Comprehension Cloze

51. found / located
52. cause / create / pose / mean
53. animals
54. cleared / rid
55. of
56. away / off
57. atmosphere / air
58. result
59. important / essential / necessary / vital
60. such
61. prevent / treat / cure
62. who / that
63. saving / conserving / protecting / preserving
64. in
65. costs

Transformation and Synthesis

66. It has been three months since I met Ivan at Jane's birthday party. (OR)
I have not met Ivan since Jane's birthday party three months ago.
67. I prefer sipping tea at a cafe to shopping during the Great Singapore Sale.
68. Neither Peter nor Sally was late for the movie premiere of Mission Impossible.
69. Besides her arrogance, I was put off by the way she ill-treated her servants.
70. The teacher asked the students what they had done the previous week / the week before.

Comprehension Open Ended

71. It was held at the Girls' Brigade campsite at Sembawang.
72. It means fear of heights.
73. She had shown good potential to be a leader.
74. She had to climb the structures.
75. She was a person with courage. She was among the brave ones who volunteered to climb up the ladder to the top of the tree.
76. She did not want them to think that she was a coward. (OR)
She did not want them to think that she was not a good leader.
77. The sentence is "Then I heard cheers and claps from below."
78. She needed to calm herself down as she was very nervous.
79. The word is "fastened".
80. She was glad that she had overcome her fear and climbed the structures.

- END -