



**RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL  
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT ( 1 )  
2007**

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ (     ) Class: P5 \_\_\_\_\_

8 May 2007                      English Language                      ATT : 1h 50 min

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

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**PAPER 2**

**1 hour 50 minutes**

**95 marks**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1 Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.**

**Section A : Graphic Stimulus (5×1 mark)**

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

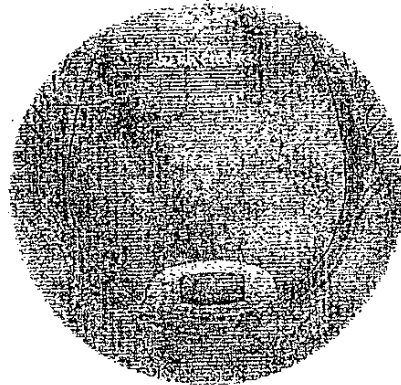
# Improving Life

## The Design of Swedish Innovations

Innovations come in many forms, and many well-known ones have Swedish origins. Through the creativity, knowledge and research of the Swedish researchers and innovators from the modern and historical periods, ideas have developed into products which have helped to make our everyday lives simpler and easier.

These products are :

- ❖ functional
- ❖ well-designed
- ❖ contemporary
- ❖ attractive.



The exhibition is produced by Svensk Form, in cooperation with the Swedish Institute, the Swedish Embassy of Foreign Affairs and the Swedish Trade Council.

Organised by The Embassy of Sweden and the National Museum of Singapore.

### Main Sponsors

Date            **12 January – 11 February**  
Time            **10am – 9pm, Daily**  
Admission      **Free**  
Venue           **The Concourse**



Guided Tours   **11am & 3pm**  
                    **Every Saturday & Sunday**

### Sponsor



*Adapted from National Museum of Singapore Jan-Mar 07 Events Calendar*

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. One of the organisers of the 'Improving Life: The Design of Swedish Innovations' exhibition was \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) Ikea
  - (2) Svensk Form
  - (3) the Swedish Trade Council
  - (4) the National Museum of Singapore
  
2. According to the flyer, the guided tours took place \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) daily at 10 am
  - (2) daily at 9 pm
  - (3) on Sunday at 10 am
  - (4) on Saturday at 3 pm
  
3. The **main** aim of the flyer is to encourage people to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) visit the National Museum
  - (2) support and encourage creativity
  - (3) show their support for Sweden
  - (4) visit the 'Improving Life' exhibition
  
4. The word ' \_\_\_\_\_ ' in the brochure tells you that the Swedish products are modern.
  - (1) attractive
  - (2) functional
  - (3) contemporary
  - (4) well-designed
  
5. The exhibition is held at \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) the Concourse
  - (2) the Swedish Trade Council
  - (3) the National Museum of Singapore
  - (4) the Swedish Embassy of Foreign Affairs

**Section B : Grammar Discrete**

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. The bunch of keys \_\_\_\_\_ already been found.
- (1) was
  - (2) were
  - (3) has
  - (4) have
7. Kimberly, as well as her two brothers, \_\_\_\_\_ here earlier.
- (1) is
  - (2) are
  - (3) was
  - (4) were
8. When we arrived, the party \_\_\_\_\_ already \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) has...began
  - (2) had...began
  - (3) has...begun
  - (4) had...begun
9. I found a bracelet while I was strolling \_\_\_\_\_ the pavement.
- (1) in
  - (2) at
  - (3) along
  - (4) against

10. I saw an intruder \_\_\_\_\_ my neighbour's house at about 8 pm last night.

- (1) enter
- (2) enters
- (3) entered
- (4) has entered

11. The girl \_\_\_\_\_ I met just now is the millionaire's daughter.

- (1) whose
- (2) whom
- (3) which
- (4) whoever

12. Mary \_\_\_\_\_ everyone about the incident by next Monday.

- (1) tells
- (2) has told
- (3) is telling
- (4) will have told

**Section C : Punctuation (3 × 1 mark)**

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.

As soon as the lift door closed (13) the stranger pulled out a knife and pointed it at Mdm Lim's throat.

"Give me your purse (14) he bellowed.

"No, please (15) said Mdm Lim.

Mdm Lim held onto her purse even more tightly. The stranger snatched the purse and immediately ran out of the lift.

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

**Section D: Vocabulary MCQ (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. Joseph likes telling stories that are larger than life. He loves to \_\_\_\_\_ details.
- (1) aggravate
  - (2) complicate
  - (3) exaggerate
  - (4) understate
17. The knight was promoted to the rank of general in recognition of his \_\_\_\_\_ after the battle.
- (1) valour
  - (2) strength
  - (3) cowardice
  - (4) politeness
18. The tyrannical dictator was \_\_\_\_\_ by the rebels who intend to form the new leadership.
- (1) overshadowed
  - (2) overhauled
  - (3) overcast
  - (4) overthrown
19. She spent five minutes \_\_\_\_\_ through the book before purchasing it.
- (1) browsing
  - (2) peeping
  - (3) scrutinising
  - (4) goggling
20. This documentary traces Singapore's \_\_\_\_\_ since independence.
- (1) evolution
  - (2) revolution
  - (3) regression
  - (4) germination

**Section E: Vocabulary Cloze (5 × 1 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.

In the darkness beyond the gully (21), the bush came slowly to life. A lumbering (22) wombat came creeping out of his ground den. His stumpy (23) body forced a way through the undergrowth. His long food-foraging snout was ploughing through the sandy earth in search of his favourite roots. Suddenly, he stopped. He sniffed with his nostrils dilated (24). He followed the strange new scent. Soon, he came to the gully. He looked at the children thoughtfully, not hungrily, for he was a vegetarian, an eater of roots. His curiosity was finally satisfied and he shambled (25) slowly away.

21. (1) hill  
(2) slope  
(3) valley  
(4) mountain
22. (1) moving cautiously  
(2) moving awkwardly  
(3) moving very quickly  
(4) moving in short steps
23. (1) tall and thin  
(2) big and heavy  
(3) short and slim  
(4) short and thick
24. (1) closed  
(2) blocked  
(3) widened  
(4) contracted
25. (1) strode  
(2) shuffled  
(3) marched  
(4) stomped



**Section F: Comprehension MCQ (5 × 1 mark)**  
**Read the passage and answer questions 26 to 30.**

<p>It was the perfect island of paradise for us. Peace and tranquillity reigned here, with the occasional screeching of gulls and hushed whispers of coconut palms. The leafy palms seemed to sway and rustle away all the pressures and burdens of the rat race which we call life. We were, to quote Thomas Hardy, indeed "far from the madding crowd". Then around five o'clock, Dad started calling me and his grandsons, Daryl and Johnny, to pack up. It was time to head home. His voice boomed loud and clear, honed from thirty-five years of experience in shouting at cadets on the drill grounds.</p>	5
<p>The breeze had picked up momentum since the morning. Our boat was just able to cruise along without the need for the engine.</p>	10
<p>We still had another three quarters of an hour to go before reaching the mainland, when I noticed an ominous dark band on the horizon. "Dad, look at that," I called out. "Seems to look quite bad."</p>	
<p>"You're right, dear," he replied. "And once they come, they will be so fast and furious. Get the sails down, Emily. I'll start the engine running. We'd better reach the shore as quickly as we can."</p>	15
<p>I shoed the children into the cabin first before starting on the tedious task with the two sails. In not more than five minutes, the sea seemed less sparkling, that dark band seemed to be extending and broadening slowly but surely. I was looking at the gathering waves, half-waiting, and half-dreading them to show their violent nature. Just when I was lowering the second sail, a huge gust of wind whipped our sand-crusting canopy over the side, taking our yelping Buddy with it. He disappeared into the foaming waves.</p>	20
<p>"Dad! Help! Buddy has fallen in!" I screamed. But in a few seconds, a wet black head came bobbing up about twenty metres from our boat. If not for his ears, Buddy looked almost like a sea lion. Dad and I cried out to Buddy, "Wait Buddy, keep paddling there. Hang on there, old boy, we're coming."</p>	25
<p>The Liberty had begun rocking so wildly that Dad could not steer it towards poor Buddy. My heart kept palpitating as Buddy took turns at disappearing and reappearing amid the angry waves. Fighting against the wind, I could only get the billowing sail halfway down. Then Dad took over while I went to the helm. I scrambled into the cockpit and grabbed the helm as Dad struggled with the sail. The wind increased its blast. Before I could utter a warning, it had swung the beam of the main sail right towards Dad's head from behind. He was sent hurling helplessly into the sea!</p>	30
<p>"Dad! Where are you? Dad!" I could not see him. "No, he is a good swimmer," I told myself. However, he did not resurface, not even Buddy. I hoped against hope for signs of them. "They're gone," I sobbed helplessly. "I can't control this boat. We're doomed!"</p>	35
<p>Just as despair was about to set in, the recognition of Daryl and Johnny's wailing in the cabin below snapped me back into action. "I can't give up. For their</p>	40
<p>(continued on page 10)</p>	

sake, I must fight for our lives!" I thought. With renewed determination and courage, I braced my body against the tiller to hold it as straight as I could. The Liberty rocked on the raging foam beneath an ashen sky.	
--	--

For each of the question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make a choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

26. Why did the author and her family decide to go out to sea?

- 1) They did not like the rats in the city.
- 2) They wanted to have some quiet moments.
- 3) They wanted to get away from the mad crowd.
- 4) They were tired after running a race and wanted peace.

27. The author's father was most probably a/ an \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1) army cadet
- 2) military officer
- 3) prison warden
- 4) band conductor

28. Why was it such a difficult task for the author to get the second sail down?

- 1) She was distracted by her children.
- 2) She lacked determination and courage.
- 3) The strong winds were blowing the sail about.
- 4) A huge wave hit her and she released the sail.

29. How was the author's father hurled into the sea?

- 1) The sand-crusted canopy hit him.
- 2) The waves swept him into the sea.
- 3) The beam of the main sail hit his head.
- 4) The rocky boat caused him to lose his balance.

30. What gave the author 'renewed determination' in line 42?

- 1) She wanted to look for her father and Buddy.
- 2) She wanted to save the lives of Daryl and Johnny.
- 3) She seemed to have heard her father's cries amidst the storm.
- 4) She did not want Daryl and Johnny to keep wailing in the cabin.

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

Class : 5 ( )

**Section G: Structural Cloze (10 × 1 mark)**

There are 10 blanks, numbered 31-40, 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.

**EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.**

---

(A) away	(E) his	(J) this	(N) upon
(B) always	(F) never	(K) thinking	(P) which
(C) although	(G) out	(L) to	(Q) who
(D) but	(H) these	(M) towards	

---

A man had a donkey that he made \_\_\_\_\_ carry heavy burdens. He also had a little  
(31)  
dog \_\_\_\_\_ lived comfortably indoors. Whenever his master came home, the dog would  
(32)  
rush \_\_\_\_\_ to meet him. It would jump up and down, wagging its tail.  
(33)  
\_\_\_\_\_ seeing this, the donkey envied the dog. "I work hard for the master," he  
(34)  
thought. "Yet he \_\_\_\_\_ makes a fuss of me. That dog does nothing \_\_\_\_\_ eat and  
(35) (36)  
sleep. It's my own fault. I've never gone out of my way to be liked. Yet I could easily play  
(37)  
\_\_\_\_\_ tricks my master likes so much."  
The next time his master came into the yard, the donkey ran \_\_\_\_\_ him and  
(38)  
brayed loudly. He planted \_\_\_\_\_ front hooves on his master's shoulders and began  
(39)  
licking his face. The master, \_\_\_\_\_ that he was being attacked, picked up a stick and  
(40)  
beat the donkey unmercifully.

//

**Section H: Editing (10 x 1 mark)**

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

(41)

Owls are raptors. This means that like eagles, hawks and falcons, owls are birds on prey.

(42)

They hunt other animals for food. Owls are nocturnal. They hunt mostly in the evenings and of

night when their prey is active.

(43)

Owls also have long sharp claws to help them be **sucesfull** hunters. When owls catch

(44)

their prey, their claws enclose and **pearse** them to ensure they do not escape.

(45)

Birds are unable to chew their food. Owls **swolow** small prey whole. They use their sharp

(46)

(47)

beaks for teared tissues from the bones of their prey unless the prey is too big to consume in one

(48)

gaulb.

(49)

The skin and soft tissues of the owl's **vicktems** are easily digested. However, hair, bones,

(50)

and beaks are undigestible. As a result, the owl regurgitates the food that is not digested after

about twelve hours.

*Adapted from "Adapted from Hunting" by Jim Cornish, Canada, 2002*

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

Class: 5( )

**Section I: Comprehension Cloze (15 × 1 mark)**

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

Why do we dream? Do dreams have meanings? These are \_\_\_\_\_ which have  
(51)  
troubled men for thousands of years. The oldest surviving book on the interpretation of dreams is  
Egyptian and is nearly four thousand years old. In ancient Greece, it was thought that people  
\_\_\_\_\_ were ill could be cured by telling their dreams. They would relate their dreams to  
(52)  
their doctors who would tell them what they meant and give them medicine to make them  
\_\_\_\_\_. The ancient Chinese believed that if a pregnant woman \_\_\_\_\_ of a bear,  
(53) (54)  
she would have a son. If she dreamed of a snake, she would have a \_\_\_\_\_. There are  
(55)  
many stories about dreams foretelling the \_\_\_\_\_.

Most scientists believe that dreams are \_\_\_\_\_ on events in our own life and on  
(56) (57)  
our feelings. The events are usually very \_\_\_\_\_, mostly within the last two days. Our  
(58)  
emotions, on the other \_\_\_\_\_, our wishes, hopes and fears, may go back many years,  
(59)  
even to early childhood.

In a dream, events are altered. A dream may contain parts of many real-life events. Most  
importantly, something that cannot be shown directly may be shown indirectly. For \_\_\_\_\_  
(60)  
you may dream that you are an actor in a play. The play is about to start but you \_\_\_\_\_  
(61)  
completely forgotten your lines. This dream may seem strange because you are not interested in  
\_\_\_\_\_ and you never want to be in a play. \_\_\_\_\_, the dream may mean that you  
(62) (63)  
have some other problems that you feel is too difficult for you to \_\_\_\_\_.  
(64)

Psychologists sometimes encourage people to talk \_\_\_\_\_ their dreams, so that  
(65)  
their dreams can be analysed. This analysis is very difficult and requires great skill because a  
dream is seldom what it seems.

*Adapted from "A Busy Night", Macmillan Language Skills by Ian Gordan, London, 2001*

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

P5 ( )

**Section J: Transformation / Synthesis**

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. Rachel was speaking to that woman. That woman is my teacher.

\_\_\_\_\_ whom \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

67. "I went to the Science Centre last week," said John.

John said \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68. "Who did all the chores?" the lady said.

The lady asked \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

69. Despite his wealth, he was a miser.

Although \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

70. You will not get to taste the dessert if you do not finish your dinner.

Unless \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

15

**Section K: Comprehension Open-ended**

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

(20 marks)

<p>He was driving home one evening, on a two-lane country road. Work, in this small mid-western community, was almost as slow as his beat-up car. However, he never quit looking. Ever since the Levis factory closed, he had been unemployed, and with winter raging on, the chill had finally hit home. It was a lonely road. Not many people had a reason to be on it unless they were leaving. Most of his friends had already left. They had families to feed and dreams to fulfil but he stayed on. He was born there and knew the country.</p>	5
<p>He could go down this road blind and tell you what was on either side. With his headlights not working, that came in handy. It was starting to get dark and light snowflakes were coming down. He had better hurry up. He almost did not see the old lady, stranded on the side of the road. However, even in the dim light of day, he could see she needed help. Hence, he pulled up in front of her Mercedes and got out. His car was still sputtering when he approached her.</p>	10
<p>Even with the smile on his face, she was worried. No one had stopped to help for the last hour or so. Was he going to hurt her? He did not look safe. He looked poor and hungry. He could see that she was frightened, standing out there in the cold. He knew how she felt. It was that chill that only fear can put in you. He said, "I'm here to help you. Why don't you wait in the car where it's warm? By the way, my name is Joe."</p>	15
<p>Well, all she had was a flat tyre but for an old lady, that was bad enough. Crawling under the car, Joe looked for a place to put the jack. Soon, he was able to change the tyre. As he was tightening up the nuts, he skinned his knuckles. She rolled down her window and told him that she was only just passing through. She could not thank him enough for coming to her aid. Joe just smiled.</p>	20
<p>She asked him how much she owed him. Any amount would have been all right with her. She had already imagined all the awful things that could have happened had he not stopped. Joe never thought twice about the money. This was not a job to him. This was helping someone in need and there were many who had given him a hand in the past. He had lived his whole life that way and it never occurred to him to act any other way. He told her that if she really wanted to pay him back, the next time she saw someone who needed help, she could give that person her assistance.</p>	25
<p>He waited until she started her car and drove off. It had been a <b>cold and depressing</b> day but he felt good as he headed for home, disappearing into the twilight. A few kilometres down the road, the lady saw a small cafe. She went in to grab a bite and take the chill off before she made her trip home. It was a dingy restaurant. There were two old gas pumps outside. The whole scene was unfamiliar to her. The cash register was like the telephone of an unemployed actor which did not ring much.</p>	30
<p>A waitress came over and brought a clean towel to wipe her own wet hair. She had a sweet smile. The lady noticed that the waitress was nearly eight months pregnant but she never let the strain and aches change her attitude. Then she remembered Joe.</p>	35
	40

<p>After the lady had finished her meal, the waitress went to get her change for a hundred dollar note. The lady slipped right out of the door. She was gone by the time the waitress came back. She wondered where the lady could be. Then she noticed something written on a napkin. There were tears in her eyes, when she read what the lady had written. It said, "You don't owe me a thing. I've been there too. Someone once helped me out, the way I'm helping you. If you really want to pay me back, here's what you do. Don't let the chain of love end with you."</p>	<p>45</p>
<p><i>Adapted from "An Act of Kindness" by Lee Ryan Miller</i></p>	<p>50</p>

**Answer questions 71-80 in COMPLETE SENTENCES.**

71. Why did Joe not leave the country to look for another job?

---



---

72. What does the word 'it' in line 4 refer to?

---



---

73. Which sentence tells you that Joe was familiar with the country?

---



---

74. Why did the old lady accept Joe's help although she was worried?

---



---

75. How do we know that the old lady was grateful to Joe for helping her?

---



---



76. Why was it a "cold and depressing" day for Joe?

---

---

77. Why did Joe wait for the old lady to leave before he headed for home?

---

---

78. Which word in the passage has the same meaning as "dirty"?

---

---

79. Why did the old lady enter the small cafe?

---

---

80. Why were there tears in the waitress's eyes when she read what the old lady had written on the napkin?

---

---

**END OF PAPER**

Setters: Ho HL, J Soh, Marlina, G Jane

**Raffles Girls' Primary School**  
**P5 English Language**

**SA1 Examination 2007**

**Answer Key**

**MCQs (30 m)**

Section A	
1.	4
2.	4
3.	4
4.	3
5.	1

Section B	
6.	3
7.	3
8.	4
9.	3
10.	1
11.	2
12.	4

Section C	
13.	2
14.	3
15.	3

Section D	
16.	3
17.	1
18.	4
19.	1
20.	1

Section E	
21.	3
22.	2
23.	4
24.	3
25.	2

Section F	
26.	2
27.	2
28.	3
29.	3
30.	2

**Section G - Structural Cloze (10 m)**

31) L	33) G	35) F	37) H	39) E
32) P	34) N	36) D	38) M	40) K

**Section H - Editing – Grammar & Spelling (10 m)**

41	of
42	at
43	successful
44	pierce
45	swallow
46	tearing
47	if
48	gulp
49	victims
50	indigestible

**Section I - Comprehension Cloze (15 marks)**

No.	Acceptable answers	Unacceptable answers
51.	questions	
52	who	
53	well	
54	dreamed/ dreamt	
55	daughter	
56	future	
57	based	
58	recent	
59	hand	
60	example	
61	have	
62	acting	
63	However,	
64	solve	
65	about	

**Section J: Transformation and Synthesis (10 marks)**

- 66) That woman(,) whom Rachel was speaking to (,) is my teacher.
- 67) John said that he had gone to the Science Centre the week before / the previous week.
- 68) The lady asked who had done all the chores.
- 69) Although he was wealthy, he was a miser.
- 70) Unless you finish your dinner, you will not get to taste the dessert.

**Section K: Comprehension Open-ended (20 marks)**

71. He was born in the country (1m) and knew the place well. (1m)
72. It refers to the lonely road.
73. It is "He could go down this road blind and tell you what was on either side."
74. She was desperate for help (1m) because no one had stopped to help her for at least an hour. (1m)
75. Despite the fact that he had skinned his knuckles (1m), he still changed the tyres of the old lady's car. (1m)
76. Winter was approaching (1m) and he did not manage to find a job. (1m)
77. He wanted to ensure that the old lady's car was working.
78. The word is "dingy".
79. She was hungry (1m) and wanted to warm herself up. (1m)
80. ~~She was touched (1m) by the message/ words on the napkin. (1m)~~  
 She did not expect to receive money from the old lady. (2m)  
 She did not expect to receive money from a stranger. (1m)  
 She did not expect that the old lady would be so kind/ generous to her. (2m)