



RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL

SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT (1)

2008

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

5 May 2008

English Language

Attn: 1 h 50 min

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

# PAPER 2

## Instructions to pupils

1. This paper consists of 80 questions.  
Answer **ALL** questions.
2. Do not turn over the paper unless you are told to do so.
3. Questions 1 to 30 are to be completed on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS).

**Section A : Graphic Stimulus**

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

## Travel The World Tours

Voted the best travel agent in 2007 by Travel Vacations Magazine



### EUROPEAN SPECTACULAR PACKAGES

	<u>Normal Price</u>	<u>Special Offer</u>
<b><u>Historical Sites Highlights (10 days)</u></b> <i>Visit historical sites in London, Rome and Berlin</i>	\$2699	\$2499 *
<b><u>European Food Highlights (14 days)</u></b> <i>Visit world famous eateries in the following cities:                      Switzerland - Zurich, Geneva, Bern                      France - Paris, Strasbourg, Bordeaux</i>	\$2999	\$2699 *



### ASIAN DELIGHTS PACKAGES

	<u>Normal Price</u>	<u>Special Offer</u>
<b><u>Thailand Exotic Trail (5 days)</u></b> <i>One night's stay at Emporium Suites in Bangkok and three days on board the world famous Thai Orient train to visit the northern region and its ancient city, Chiangmai, situated in the scenic highlands of this exotic country. Return flight direct from Chiangmai</i>	\$500	\$450 *
<b><u>Marvellous Malaysia (4 days)</u></b> <i>One night's stay in Kuala Lumpur before heading off to the world famous Golden Hotel and Resort at Genting Highlands for two nights</i>	\$420	\$380 **
<b><u>Blissful Philippines Fantasy (3 days)</u></b> <i>Stay at the famous beach resort in Luzon, with breakfast included, daily courtesy of our tour partners</i>	\$450	\$410 *
<b><u>Singapore to Penang Cruise (2 days)</u></b> <i>Sail on board the luxurious liner, Penang Cruiser, and fly back to Singapore after an overnight's stay at the Grand Pacific Hotel</i>	\$298	\$268 *



**Free!**  
 Bus shuttle from Grand Pacific Hotel to Penang Night Market

\* These rates do not apply during the school vacation period (24 May - 22 June)  
 \*\* Does not include entry to Genting Wonderland Park

Bookings Hotline : 6338 1234 or 6338 5678  
 Online Booking : <http://www.traveltheworldtours.com.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. (5 marks)

1. Travel The World Tours has the honour of \_\_\_\_\_
- (1) making special offers for its tour packages
  - (2) offering tour packages to both Asia and Europe
  - (3) being selected as the best travel agent by a magazine
  - (4) having bookings available through the telephone and online
2. Vacationers who wish to dine at renowned European restaurants would have to \_\_\_\_\_
- (1) spend a fortnight in Europe
  - (2) spend time at historical sites
  - (3) visit London, Rome and Berlin
  - (4) visit eight cities in two countries
3. The package which offers complimentary rides from the hotel is the " \_\_\_\_\_ "
- (1) Thailand Exotic Trail
  - (2) Marvellous Malaysia
  - (3) Blissful Philippines Fantasy
  - (4) Singapore to Penang Cruise
4. According to the advertisement, which one of the following statements is true?
- (1) Chiangmai is situated in the highlands of Thailand.
  - (2) Vacationers will sail back to Singapore after a night's stay in Penang.
  - (3) Breakfast at the beach resort in Luzon is paid for by Travel The World Tours.
  - (4) Golden Hotel and Resort and Penang Night Market are located in Kuala Lumpur.
5. The sentence "These rates do not apply during the school vacation period" in the advertisement tells us that one would need to pay \_\_\_\_\_
- (1) \$2699 for the Historical Sites Highlights in Europe starting 24 July 2008
  - (2) \$410 when enjoying the Blissful Philippines Fantasy starting 24 June 2008
  - (3) \$420 for the Marvellous Malaysia tour when travelling starting 26 March 2008
  - (4) \$2699 to enjoy a 14-day package of European food galore starting 8 June 2008

**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. Jane, together with her three neighbours, \_\_\_\_\_ going to Pulau Ubin next week.  
(1) is  
(2) are  
(3) was  
(4) were
7. Mr Lim was walking up the stairs when he smelt something \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1) burn  
(2) burnt  
(3) burns  
(4) has burnt
8. Having \_\_\_\_\_ the first game of basketball, the team will try harder to win the next.  
(1) lose  
(2) loss  
(3) lost  
(4) losing
9. Frozen with terror, Mrs Lee rushed towards her son, not believing what she \_\_\_\_\_ was right.  
(1) see  
(2) seen  
(3) has seen  
(4) had seen
10. All proceeds from the sale of these bookmarks will go to the orphanage, \_\_\_\_\_?  
(1) don't they  
(2) didn't they  
(3) won't they  
(4) wouldn't they

11. Dan has been a thorn in the flesh to his friends \_\_\_\_\_ he is very quarrelsome.
- (1) as
  - (2) unless
  - (3) despite
  - (4) although
12. Julie was cleaning the house the whole morning before she \_\_\_\_\_ that she had a dental appointment.
- (1) realises
  - (2) realised
  - (3) has realised
  - (4) had realised

**Section C : Punctuation**

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)

One day I was walking listlessly past the showroom of Universal Cars when a voice cried out, "Seng! What are you doing in Kuala Lumpur (13) It was a friend of mine, Mr Sim, one of the Ford salesmen. Since the time I was in Kuala Lumpur (14) I had not looked him up. Being jobless, I was always on my guard against being a nuisance to other people. Briefly, I told him what had happened to me over the past few months. "When you left Kuala Lumpur, you were driver to that man from the British High Commission," he said (15) Are you still interested in a job as a driver?" he asked.

*Adapted from "Man of Malaysia" by Tan Kok Seng-*

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

**Section D: Vocabulary**

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. We tried to \_\_\_\_\_ him from carrying out that dangerous act.
- (1) coax
  - (2) influence
  - (3) persuade
  - (4) dissuade
17. You'd better \_\_\_\_\_ with what you have done or I'll send you to the discipline mistress!
- (1) come on
  - (2) come away
  - (3) come clean
  - (4) come forth
18. She's already \_\_\_\_\_! You should be asking the most popular actress to star in your movie instead.
- (1) over the hill
  - (2) over the moon
  - (3) under the weather
  - (4) under the counter
19. You should look at the \_\_\_\_\_ if you wish to know the various prices of the different sets of furniture.
- (1) menu
  - (2) directory
  - (3) catalogue
  - (4) programme
20. He was \_\_\_\_\_ with her the moment he set his eyes on her. She was simply beautiful!
- (1) beguiled
  - (2) besotted
  - (3) besieged
  - (4) bewildered

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. (5 marks)

Jonathan Meyers was a first year Harvard university student accepted on a government scholarship. He was the kind of student who could excel at everything if he wished to, and his contemporaries (21) often paled in comparison when it came to project presentations. However, despite his brilliance, he did not have a lot of friends. This was partly due to his eccentric (22) character. His mother also found it difficult to discipline him and he turned out to be a rather wayward (23) child who refused to be told what to do. She could only hope that he would use his intelligence in the right way.

One day, while Jane was walking along the corridor of the college hostel, (24) she saw Jonathan murmuring (25) to himself and gesturing wildly. He seemed to be in a trance and did not respond when she called his name. Worried about his sanity, she decided to inform the dean and let her deal with him before his condition worsened.

It was later discovered that Jonathan was suffering from a multiple personality disorder. He was warded and several years later, with the love and support of his family, he was discharged.

21. (1) rivals  
(2) relatives  
(3) classmates  
(4) best friends

22. (1) lazy  
(2) rude  
(3) proud  
(4) strange

23. (1) wilful  
(2) indecisive  
(3) impractical  
(4) disillusioned



24. (1) cabin  
(2) library  
(3) dormitory  
(4) classroom

25. (1) saying in a soft manner  
(2) saying in a frightened manner  
(3) saying in an incoherent manner  
(4) saying in an unpleasant manner

**Section E : Comprehension MCQ**

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

(5 marks)

Chinese opera had, of course, its origin in China. It has progressed steadily in China through the years. Occasionally, a few actors who were not making an adequate living, decided to go to the Nanyang and start afresh.

The less successful ones led rather dreary lives, but that was many years ago in China, before the Cultural Revolution. There, they played to wealthy nobleman who paid them little attention or money. They also played at the roadside, to scurrying men with bags of rice or fire-wood for delivery and who only paused to watch, to children and to housewives shopping for their daily requirements. These people gave them nothing as they were poor. However, the process went on. The troupes existed on meagre fare. They slept below the make-shift stages wherever they were, on long narrow benches which were uncomfortable and did nothing to help them. Their profession was a difficult one but they had not experienced enough ease to want to strive for a life of comfort.

Those who came to Singapore found their lives were essentially the same. They still played on make-shift stages in the streets and collected coins at the end of each performance. They brought with them their beliefs, their superstitions and folkways and when they were unhurried, they looked around and saw that, though they felt unchanged, they were in fact changed. Change was inevitable and it was inevitable also for opera actors.

Singapore prospered. With greater purchasing ability, people could now afford some culture. Opera, given a kick, became more popular with the people. More permanent theatres were set up, notably the ones in the Great World, the New World and the Happy World.

*Adapted from 'The Story of a Mask' by Arthur Yap*

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. In paragraph 1, why did some opera actors decide to go to the Nanyang?
- (1) They were hopeful to be able to succeed as opera actors.
  - (2) They had a life of comfort in China and wanted more challenges.
  - (3) They wanted to give up acting and start some business of their own.
  - (4) They wanted to spread their beliefs and superstitions to the people in Nanyang.
27. Which of the following is **not true** about the less successful opera actors?
- (1) They earned very little.
  - (2) Their living conditions were inadequate.
  - (3) They only played to wealthy noblemen.
  - (4) They had little recognition from all who watched them.
28. In paragraph 3, why were the lives of the opera actors who arrived in Singapore essentially the same?
- (1) They performed in streets.
  - (2) They performed in theatres.
  - (3) They performed for children only.
  - (4) They collected coins at the start of each performance.
29. The word "inevitable" in line 17 means something that \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) is not needed
  - (2) is not producing satisfactory results
  - (3) cannot be prevented from happening
  - (4) exists in large amounts that cannot be used up
30. How had the opera scene changed as Singapore prospered?
- (1) Make-shift stages had increased.
  - (2) More permanent theatres were set up.
  - (3) Operas had become more popular all around the world.
  - (4) More people wanted to eke out a living by becoming actors.

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

Class : 5 ( )

Section F : Structural Cloze

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. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

<del>(A)</del> against	<del>(B)</del> for	<del>(G)</del> since	<del>(K)</del> that	<del>(N)</del> who
<del>(B)</del> any	<del>(E)</del> in	<del>(H)</del> some	<del>(L)</del> then	<del>(P)</del> whose
<del>(C)</del> because	<del>(F)</del> of	<del>(J)</del> than	<del>(M)</del> to	<del>(Q)</del> with

BEIJING - China reported ~~on~~ Wednesday its first human case of bird flu in six months, but the farmer who fell ill made ~~a~~ full recovery. The World Health Organisation (WHO) said there was no cause (31) \_\_\_\_\_ alarm.

The 37-year-old man from the eastern province of Anhui showed symptoms (32) \_\_\_\_\_ the potentially deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu on 10 December and was released from hospital on Saturday, the health ministry said (33) \_\_\_\_\_ a statement.

It said the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention only confirmed the man, surnamed Li, had been suffering from bird flu on Monday.

The latest case brings to 22 the number of people in China (34) \_\_\_\_\_ have contracted the H5N1 strain (35) \_\_\_\_\_ it emerged in Asia in late 2003 and spread globally.

Bird flu has killed more (36) \_\_\_\_\_ 150 people worldwide since then and there remain fears it may become a far more highly contagious disease that could trigger a deadly, global pandemic.

However, a WHO spokeswoman said Li contracting the virus should not trigger (37) \_\_\_\_\_ heightened concern.

"One isolated case in six months is certainly not a sign for worry and the threat level (38) \_\_\_\_\_ humans remains unchanged," WHO China spokeswoman Joanna Brent said, adding (39) \_\_\_\_\_ the H5N1 virus seemed to become more active in winter months. Brent also praised Chinese health authorities -- who in the past have been accused of withholding information about bird flu outbreaks -- for proactively dealing (40) \_\_\_\_\_ the case and quickly notifying the WHO.

Adapted from: <http://www.channelnewsasia.com>

**Section G : Editing for Spelling and Grammar**

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

(41)

Somehow Jane felt that something was not right. She **feegeted** in her seat uneasily.

(42)

Her eyebrows had been **tweicheng** all day and she knew it was an ominous sign. She decided

(43)

that she could not concentrate on the lesson, quickly packed her belongings and creep out of

(44)

the lecture hall **noislesly**. She had decided that enough was enough and she would go home to

check on things.

(45)

Glanced at her watch once every minute, she prayed hard that everything would be all right.

(46)

However, when she saw a police car parked outside her house or her mother sobbing

(47)

uncontrollably at the door, her heart frozen. Her worst fear had come true.

(48)

A **solum**-looking policeman approached her and asked grimly, "Are you Jane Agatha?" She nodded.

(49)

(50)

"Your father has met into an accident. He didn't **sirviav** it," the policeman added.

**Section H: Comprehension Cloze Passage**

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Mongoose are well known for their ability to kill snakes. They also kill venomous ones \_\_\_\_\_ cobras. This is because mongooses are able to tolerate snake venom to \_\_\_\_\_ extent that they are seldom bitten \_\_\_\_\_ to their speed, agility and good timing. The banded mongoose \_\_\_\_\_ its name from twelve or more bands that are found \_\_\_\_\_ its back.

Unlike the \_\_\_\_\_ mongooses, the banded mongooses are highly gregarious. They live \_\_\_\_\_ a troop of ten to twenty members with a good \_\_\_\_\_ of males and females.

Within the troop, members are ranked \_\_\_\_\_ to age and individual temperament, not according to gender. When confronted by a large predator, they bunch \_\_\_\_\_ and the front ones make snapping lunges at the \_\_\_\_\_

Digging is the banded mongoose's favourite activity as it \_\_\_\_\_ earthworms, millipedes and termites which it loves to eat. It also \_\_\_\_\_ on fallen fruit, scorpions, snails and snakes.

In the wild, \_\_\_\_\_ the banded mongoose catches a frog, it rolls the frog in the soil to remove the slime \_\_\_\_\_ eating. The banded mongoose practises cooperative hunting when catching bigger and more formidable prey such as snakes.

*Adapted from Zoo Ed March 2002*

**Section I: Transformation and Synthesis**

For each of the question 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. The tennis coach asked, "Why is everyone not here today?"

The tennis coach asked \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

67. My mother ironed the clothes. She then put them into the cupboard.

after she \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68. Jenny does not have a membership card. She cannot go into the country club.

\_\_\_\_\_ unless  
\_\_\_\_\_

69. Mr Tan is poor. However, he donates money to charity.

Despite his \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

70. John's digital camera was stolen last month. He is more careful with his new one now.

\_\_\_\_\_ whose \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Section J: Comprehension Open-Ended

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

<p>With relief, I headed out into the sunlight again, and decided to go shopping. All I had to live on until I found a job was the small sum of money I had squirrelled away from my maid's wages. Now that I was a woman about town, I needed to buy something decent to wear, a new dress to lift my spirits. I walked from the embassy to the big department stores at Oxford Circus. I had been there before with my cousin Basmá when I'd first come to London. Aunt Maruim had sent us down to buy me a few things, since when I arrived, I had no winter clothes. Actually I had had no clothes at all, except the outfit I had worn on the aeroplane and one fine leather sandal.</p>	5
<p>Strolling through the racks at Selfridges, I found the enormous variety of choices mesmerising. The thought that I could stay here as long as I wanted and try on all these clothes - all these colours, styles, sizes - was intoxicating. The thought that for the first time in my history, I was in charge of my own life was intoxicating - no master yelling at me to feed the babies, make the tea, scrub the floor and scour the toilets.</p>	10
<p>For the next several hours, I set to work trying on outfits in the dressing room with the help of two sales assistants. Using my limited English and sign language, I communicated that I wanted something longer; shorter, tighter, brighter. At the end of my marathon session, when dozens of discarded garments lay in stacks outside my fitting room, one of the assistants smiled at me and said, "Well love, what did you decide to have?"</p>	15
<p>The sheer volume of choices overwhelmed me, but by this point, I was getting nervous that down the street, in the next store, there might be something even better. Before I parted with any of my precious money, I had better find out. "I am not having anything today," I said pleasantly, "but thank you." The poor assistants, standing with their arms full of dresses, looked at me in disbelief, then at each other in disgust. I sailed past them and continued on my mission.</p>	20
<p>After visiting several places, I still had not bought anything. As always, the true joy for me was simply to try on things. As I left one building and entered another, I realised the spring-like day was fading. The winter evening was coming on and I still had no place to spend the night. With this thought in mind, I entered the next store and saw a tall, attractive African woman examining a sale table of sweaters. She looked like a fellow Somalian, and I studied her, trying to decide how to talk to her. Picking up a sweater, I smiled at her and said in Somali, "I am trying to buy something, but I cannot decide what I want."</p>	25
<p>Perhaps it was my lucky day. We clicked instantly and after chatting for a while, the woman said her name was Halwu. She was quite friendly and laughed a lot. "Where do you live, Waris? What do you do?" she asked.</p>	30
<p>"Oh you are going to laugh. I'm sure you'll think I am crazy, but I live nowhere. I don't have any place to live because my family left me today. They went back to Somalia." I saw the look of empathy in her eyes; as I later learned that this woman had been through a lot herself. I continued my story, "My uncle was the ambassador here, but now he's gone and the new man is coming, so this morning, they kicked me out, and right this minute, I have no idea where I'm headed." I laughed.</p>	35
<p>She waved in the air to silence me, as if the movement of her hand could sweep away all my problems. "Look, I live around the corner at the YMCA. I don't have a big place, but you can come and stay for the night."</p>	40
	45

*Adapted from 'Desert Flower' by Waris Dirie*



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (     )

Class: 5(     )

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. Which country did the author come from before arriving in London?

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72. Why did the author want '*something decent to wear*' in line 4?

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73. What did the author find '*intoxicating*' in line 12?

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74. What kind of job do you think the author held back in her home country? How do you know?

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75. Why did the author decide not to buy anything in the end when she was at Selfridges?

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76. Why did the two sales assistants look at each other in disgust in line 27?

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77. Which three-word phrase tells you that Halwu could understand the difficulties that the author was going through?

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78. How did the author end up all alone in London?

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79. How did Halwu help solve the author's problem?

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80. Which word from *lines 10-21* has the same meaning as '*unwanted*'?

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**END OF PAPER**

*Setters: Mdm Luwena Goh, Mdm Serene Chan, Mr Desmond Lee and Ms Ho Soo Peng*

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) 5 ( ) Date : \_\_\_\_\_

**30 MCQs (30 m)**

1.	3	6.	1	11.	1	16.	4	21.	3	26.	1
2.	1	7.	1	12.	2	17.	3	22.	4	27.	3
3.	4	8.	3	13.	3	18.	1	23.	1	28.	1
4.	1	9.	4	14.	1	19.	3	24.	3	29.	3
5.	2	10.	3	15.	4	20.	2	25.	1	30.	2

**Structural Cloze (10 m)**

31. D	32. F	33. E	34. N	35. G
36. J	37. B	38. M	39. K	40. Q

**Editing – Grammar & Spelling (10 m)**

41.	fidgeted
42.	twitching
43.	crept
44.	noiselessly
45.	Glancing
46.	and
47.	froze
48.	solemn
49.	with
50.	survive

**Comprehension Cloze (15 m)**

No.	Acceptable Answers
51.	like
52.	an / the
53.	due
54.	gets / derives / obtains
55.	on
56.	other / typical / usual / non-banded / ordinary / normal / regular / common
57.	in
58.	mix / number
59.	according
60.	together
61.	predator / enemy / attacker
62.	uncovers / finds / unearths
63.	feeds / feasts
64.	once / when
65.	before

**Transformation and Synthesis (10 m)**

66. The tennis coach asked why everyone was not there that day.
67. My mother put the clothes into the cupboard after she had ironed them.
68. Jenny cannot go into the country club unless she has a membership card.
69. Despite his poverty, Mr Tan donates money to charity.
70. John (,) whose digital camera was stolen last month (,) is more careful with his new one now.

**Comprehension Open Ended (20 m)**

71. She came from Somalia. (2 m)
72. She wanted a new dress (1 m) to lift up her spirits (1 m) when she was in town.
73. She was fascinated that she could stay at Selfridges for as long as she wanted (1m) and try on a wide variety of clothes. (1 m)
74. She was a maid / domestic helper. (1 m) She was yelled at by her master previously (1m) / and told to do menial jobs like feeding the babies, making the tea, scrubbing the floor and scouring the toilets. (1 m)
75. She thought there might be something better in another store down the street.
76. She did not buy anything (1m) after they had served her for such a long time / she had tried on so many clothes. (1 m)
77. The three-word phrase is 'look of empathy'. (2 m)
78. Her uncle and aunt left for Somalia without her (1 m) after he was no longer the ambassador in London. (1m)
79. She offered her a place to stay for the night. (2 m)
80. The word is 'discarded'. (2 m)