



**RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT (1)
2008**

Name: _____ () Class: P6 _____

5 May 2008

English Language

ATT : 1h 50 min

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

BOOKLET A

Instructions to Pupils

1. Write your Name, Class and Index No. in the spaces above.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.
5. Shade your answers in the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.

Handwritten mark

Section A : Comprehension (Graphic Stimulus) (5 marks)


Study the following text and then answer questions 1 to 5.

BSOP Carnival

Organiser : Residents' Committee
Newtown Estate

Date: 3 Oct 2008 – 5 Oct 2008

Venue: Newtown Estate



Fire Rescue Demonstration
(9 am -10 am)
Open Carpark beside
Blk 29

Sale of fire extinguishers for offices and private homes
Place: Blk 29, Void Deck
Newtown Crescent
Time: 8 am - 4 pm

4 October 2008

On-the-spot Art Competition

Eligibility:
Applicants must be below 14 years old
Venue: Newtown Gardens
Time: 9am -11am

4 October 2008

Talk on Home Safety

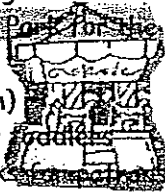
Venue : Newtown CC Auditorium
Time : 1 pm - 2.30 pm
(No admittance after 1.20 pm)

5 October 2008

Food cum Fun Fair

Venue : Newtown CC
Time : 9 am - 9 pm
(All funds raised will go to the building of a Physical Park for the Elderly)

- ✂ Lucky Draw (3 pm)
- ✂ Free Balloons for adults
- ✂ Free Mai Lo drink for adults



Sponsored by
BSOP Singapore (Offshore Bank)
Mai Lo Energy Drink

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. All the events in the BSOP Carnival are held at _____.

- (1) Newtown Gardens
- (2) Newtown CC Auditorium
- (3) Newtown CC
- (4) Newtown Estate

2. If you want to purchase a fire extinguisher attend the carnival on _____.

- (1) 3 October 2008 at 9 am
- (2) 3 October 2008 from 8am to 4pm
- (3) 4 October 2008, at 9 am
- (4) 4 October 2008, from 8am to 4pm

3. People who are interested to learn about the safety in the home must be seated at Newtown CC auditorium _____.

- (1) by 1 pm
- (2) at 2.30 pm
- (3) after 1.20 pm
- (4) not later than 1.20 pm

4. Which of the following statements is true?

- (1) Residents can buy fire extinguishers at Newton Gardens
- (2) The Physical Park is for the young and old.
- (3) The On-the-Spot Art Competition will be held on the same day as the Food cum Fun Fair.
- (4) Mai Lo drinks are complimentary during the Food cum Fun Fair.

5. The food and fun fair is organised to _____.

- (1) advertise Mai Lo products and BSOP banking services
- (2) aid the handicapped
- (3) create awareness for fire safety
- (4) raise funds for a project for the old

Section B: Grammar (7 marks)

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.

6. Neither Andrew nor his classmates _____ to go for the outing.
- (1) wants
 - (2) want
 - (3) is wanting
 - (4) are wanting
7. ~~As soon as~~ had I entered the room _____ my mother called me from the kitchen.
- (1) and
 - (2) when
 - (3) than
 - (4) then
8. One of the girls _____ not prepared for the interview.
- (1) is
 - (2) are
 - (3) were
 - (4) does
9. Father said, "Let's go swimming in the evening, _____ we?"
- (1) can
 - (2) will
 - (3) shall
 - (4) should
10. Michelle as well as those girls _____ not like to eat sushi.
- (1) does
 - (2) do
 - (3) is
 - (4) are
11. That lady _____ my mother waved to is my teacher.
- (1) when
 - (2) whom
 - (3) whose
 - (4) which

12. You ~~will~~ score well for the PSLE as long as you _____ hard.

- (1) study
- (2) studies
- (3) studied
- (4) studying

Section C: Punctuation (3 marks)

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.

Wolf shot under a juniper bush and refused to come out.

"Put him in your pack!" shouted Renn from the other side (13) It's the only way you'll get him across!"

"If I did that(14) yelled Torak, "he'd never trust me again!"

He sat down in the moss on the edge of the bank. Then he yawned and stretched to show Wolf how relaxed he was.

After a while(15) Wolf emerged from the juniper bush and came to sit beside him.

- 13. (1) [. "] full stop and inverted commas
- (2) [? "] question mark and inverted commas
- (3) [" .] inverted commas and full stop
- (4) [" ?] inverted commas and question mark

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

- 15. (1) [,] comma
- (2) [:] colon
- (3) ['] apostrophe
- (4) [.] full stop

Section D: Vocabulary (5 marks)

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. As a young child, he has always _____ a childhood dream of becoming a violinist.
- (1) constructed
 - (2) developed
 - (3) haboured
 - (4) practised
17. No amount of persuasion could arouse her interest in cooperating with us. Her _____ is truly frustrating.
- (1) inconsistency
 - (2) indecision
 - (3) indifference
 - (4) invalidity
18. You are _____ if you continue to express your opinions bluntly.
- (1) on dangerous ground
 - (2) working yourself into the ground
 - (3) thin on the ground
 - (4) keeping both feet on the ground
19. The younger generation should _____ the honesty and generosity of our forefathers.
- (1) evade
 - (2) emulate
 - (3) eschew
 - (4) entail
20. Rani, our secretary, is very _____ about her work. I cannot imagine her ever making a mistake.
- (1) stipshed
 - (2) established
 - (3) sensitive
 - (4) meticulous

Section E: Vocabulary Cloze (5 marks)

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

Lu Yu's work, *The Classic of Tea*, was the single most influential aspect in developing
(21)

the cultural importance of tea.

(22)

Lu Yu elevated the preparation and drinking of tea to near-religious status. Like a

(23)

religious ceremony, there is a set ritual, using utensils which are endowed with individual

significance. There are also guidelines on the appropriate state of mind for the tea drinker.

As a child, Lu Yu proved ~~precocious~~. His childhood must have included many hours of

(24)

working in tea fields for he gave precise observations and practical directions for cultivating the

tea field to perfection.

(25)

21. (1) dormant
(2) dominant
(3) indomitable
(4) domineering
22. (1) Influence
(2) Importance
(3) Tradition
(4) Trademark
23. (1) Made
(2) Raised
(3) Shaped
(4) Directed
24. (1) Clever
(2) Brilliant
(3) Attentive
(4) Observant
25. (1) Clear
(2) Useful
(3) Simple
(4) Detailed

Section F : Comprehension MCQ (5 marks)

Read the passage and answer the questions 26 to 30.

Every morning, James Marshall, who lived and built saw mills in the Mexican territory known as California, walked along the mill race, the canal in which water goes to a mill wheel and studied the wheel of the saw mill he had constructed. He wanted to be able to tell the mill's owner, John Sutter, when the water in the race was deep and swift enough to turn the mill's wheel.

On the morning of 24 January, 1848, Marshall noticed something unusual in one of the deep pools along the bank of the mill race. Under the clear water lay a yellow lump: a gold-coloured, chewed-up piece of rock, sitting on top of a smooth and flat rock. He reached into the cold water and backed it up. Then he stood by the bank pondering what his next step should be. Was it really gold? James Marshall knew several tests for gold, but only one such test could be conducted there by the bank of the mill race. Marshall decided to perform this one simple test. He laid the stone on a smooth rock, and then he picked up another rock that he felt would make a good hammer. He hammered at the gold-coloured lump. He noticed that it did not break, but careful inspection showed that it had changed shape. He put the lump in his pocket and took it to the mill. There the mill crew conducted another test.

They placed the lump on an anvil and beat it with a hammer. When the lump flattened but did not become fragmented, the mill crew knew that the lump was not iron pyrite, also known as fools' gold.

Three more tests were used in order to ascertain the exact composition of that gold lump. The mill cook threw it into a kettle of lye, a strong alkaline solution, where it was boiled for a day. The prolonged boiling did not change the lump's colour: it remained the colour of gold. John Sutter, the mill's owner, was shown the lump on January 28, 1848, five days before his land became part of the United States. He performed two different tests on the gold-coloured lump. After the first test, John Sutter observed that the acid did not damage the lump's appearance. Then he placed the lump on a scale. Its weight showed that it was much denser than silver.

John Sutter and James Marshall were then sure that they had in their possession a gold nugget. They decided to keep the find a secret, and they told the mill crew to keep quiet about the news. However, one mill hand wrote to his friends about his own efforts at gold mining. Then, a storeowner overheard another mill hand bragging about a piece of gold he had kept in a small bag. Finally, when a deliveryman got a look at a handful of gold dust, shown to him by a small boy at the mill, the arrival of a California Gold Rush was almost unavoidable. Its occurrence was made a certainty with the publication of a San Francisco news headline reading "GOLD MINE FOUND".

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

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. According to the passage, James Marshal _____.
- (1) employed John Sutter
 - (2) worked for John Sutter
 - (3) lived and built a mill race
 - (4) owned a mill at which gold was found
27. In line 8, the word "it" refers to _____.
- (1) the cold water
 - (2) a smooth and flat rock
 - (3) a yellow coloured rock
 - (4) the bank of the mill race
28. The word "pondering" in line 8 has the same meaning as _____.
- (1) asking
 - (2) guessing
 - (3) wondering
 - (4) speculating
29. Which test did John Sutter perform on the gold-coloured rock to confirm if it was gold?
- (1) He weighed it.
 - (2) He hit it with a rock.
 - (3) He hit it with a hammer.
 - (4) He boiled it in a kettle of lye for a day.
30. From the passage, what change took place after the discovery of gold was leaked out?
- (1) California remained the same.
 - (2) San Francisco remained the same.
 - (3) People swarmed to California to claim their fortune.
 - (4) People swarmed to San Francisco to claim their fortune.

BOOKLET B

Name: _____ ()

P6 ()

Section G : Structural Cloze (10 marks)

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) and	(D) from	(G) in	(K) of	(N) was
(B) are	(E) has	(H) or	(J) should	(P) were
(C) as	(F) have	(I) on	(M) than	(Q) would

~~Nine~~ probable cases of chikungunya fever have been detected as of Sunday. The Ministry of Health (MOH)

and the National Environment Agency (NEA) ~~was~~ all nine _____ assessed at the Communicable
(31)

Disease Centre at Tan Tock Seng Hospital and five of them remained in the hospital for isolation and

management. ~~Eight~~ _____ the probable cases are from Clive Street, while ~~the ninth is~~ _____
(32) (33)

the nearby vicinity of Dickson Road. The MOH said that more than 800 people _____ the
(34)

Clive Street area have been screened since the first case was detected _____ 14 January.
(35)

The NEA inspected more _____ 2,500 premises in Little India, and a total of 43 breeding sites were
(36)

detected _____ destroyed. People infected with chikungunya fever _____ stay indoors.
(37) (38)

to reduce the risk of further transmission of the virus. Those who _____ been in the Clive Street
(39)

area recently and have developed a fever _____ advised to consult their doctors.
(40)

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

Section H: Editing for Spelling and Grammar (10 marks)

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

I was very glad that I left before Hurricane Andrew hit. When I returned the next day, I found

(41)

a whole tree in my bedroom roof and the floor flooded under a foot of water. I had loss almost everything.

(42)

The week after the storm caused more inconvenience than anything else. I had to drive about 150

(43)

kilometres a day to get gas, food, money and building supplies for my family. After about a week, I give up

(44)

and moved into my office. I desperately tried to regain a sense of normalcy. My cousin's house was not as

(45)

(46)

badly damaged as mine. Since my cousin was inside her sturdy home when the hurricane strikes

(47)

listening to the house being pummelled by flying objects for several hours, she had left her

(48)

nervous and apprehensive of even the slightest rainstorm.

Almost four years after the storm and to the untrained eye, South Florida looks like it was never hit

(49)

by Hurricane Andrew. However, those of them who grew up here know better. Lives were lost and some

(50)

communities were permanently destroyed. Our hearts will always remember.

Section I: Comprehension Close (15 marks)

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

From her first days, Legadema, as we came to call her, was under constant threat. Whether it was a troop of baboons that dragged both mother and daughter out of their 51) _____ or lurking hyenas, death was never 52) _____ away. Lions a significant threat to young leopards, 53) _____ in this part of the Modem Game Reserve. However, none of this kept Legadema from 54) _____ the forest on her own when her mother left her alone for days at a time to bring back meat. Wherever Legadema went, vervet monkeys with ~~gaming~~ 55) _____ spotted her a few kilometres off, and squirrels set up alarm calls. In time, these incidents only made her better 56) _____ concealment and stealth

Her mother, a patient teacher, instructed Legadema in the skills she would need to survive as a predator: how to 57) _____ down prey and where to clamp on their throats with her jaws to 58) _____ them. Only after mastering these and many other lessons would she grow into a solitary hunter that all leopards must one day 59) _____

When Legadema was five months 60) _____, her mother brought her a live baby impala. At first, Legadema was not sure 61) _____ what to do, playing inquisitively, then attacking ineffectually. Her mother guided her tolerantly through every 62) _____ of the kill, until at last Legadema learned that living things can become a 63) _____. Her predator skills honed, Legadema turned her 64) _____ to squirrels becoming almost obsessed with dizzying and deadly games of hide-and-seek. Over time, she became adept, killing hundreds of squirrels as 65) _____ as larger prey like baby warthogs.

Adapted from 'Lessons of the Hunt' National Geographic April 2007

Section J: Transformation / Synthesis (10 marks)

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).

66. Frank is a famous badminton player in Singapore. His mother sells chicken rice every morning.

_____ whose _____

67. Jane has a test which begins in half an hour's time. Jane is still in bed.

_____ but _____

68. Greg was angry with Jonathan. Jonathan broke his favourite toy car when he tripped over it.

_____ for _____

69. You must concentrate on the music. You will be able to enjoy it.

Unless _____

70. Mr Yong was very grateful to Sergeant Harry for recovering his stolen car. Mr Yong gave Sergeant Harry a reward.

To express his gratitude, _____

Section K: Comprehension Open-Ended (20 marks)

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

Raju came and informed us that a villager's cow had been killed by a tiger. Being in charge of the rehabilitation programme of the forest, it was my uncle's duty to investigate by checking on the carcass of the cow.

Cattle owners were given a decent compensation if the involvement of a tiger was confirmed. Raju and I followed my uncle to learn how to investigate a kill. My uncle said we should hurry because it was already getting close to sundown and tigers would return to their kills once the cover of darkness enveloped the surroundings.

We had been driving for half an hour when we arrived at the closest point on the path to the kill. We trekked through very thick undergrowth to reach the spot. My uncle listened a while longer. When he was more satisfied about the safety of the venture, we moved in the direction of the kill. As we reached the kill, I pinched my nose and cried, "What a horrid stench!" My uncle cast a stern glance at me and I shut up instantly. The kill had obviously been there for more than a single day and was already partly eaten. My uncle relaxed a little as he could see that the tiger had already had quite a meal the previous night. He then began our lessons.

First, we examined what was left of the hind legs. On these, there were clearly visible straight deep gashes where the tiger had dug in its claws to pull down the cow. The second part of the body to be checked was the neck. On it were the teeth marks where the tiger had applied the famous choke grip. Suddenly, my uncle raised his hand and motioned us into keeping absolutely silent and still. Next, we heard a deer give its loud warning call. The tiger was in the vicinity.

We edged towards the only tree in sight. Just as we reached the middle of the clearing we were in, there was an earth-shattering roar. The bush almost blew apart to make way for a massive tiger coming straight at us. Raju and I screamed but his father and my uncle raised their arms and let out very fearsome "roars" of their own. This loud retaliation luckily had its desired effect. The tiger disappeared into the jungle to our left. We all edged our way a little faster towards the tree. I knew that tigers were known to be able to sometimes climb trees. Somehow at that time, that tree was the only glimmer of hope I could see.

Raju's father saw an abandoned bamboo stick and picked it up. Just as we thought we were

about to make it to the tree, the terrifying roar came again. This time, the two of us were more prepared with exactly what to do. We raised our arms, looked at the beast straight in the eyes and screamed as loudly as our vocal cords would allow. It made no difference this time. I was having visions of meeting my creator when there was a loud cracking sound to my left. The bamboo stick had been smashed against a rock at the very last moment. The tiger deflected off its initial line of attack. Suddenly, it crouched down low and once again bared his teeth. One could actually see that every ounce of confusion had disappeared from its mind. Then it charged towards us for the third time.

35

40

Adapted from "Courage Under Fire" by Mohit Midha

Answer Questions 71 – 80

Name: _____ ()

Pg ()

Section K: Comprehension Open-Ended (20 marks)

Read the passage on Pg 14 and 15 and answer questions 71 to 80.

71. ~~Why~~ did the author go into the forest with his uncle?

72. According to the author, it was his "uncle's duty to investigate by checking on the carcass of the cow" (lines 2 and 3). ~~How~~ could the author's uncle help a villager whose cow had been killed?

73. ~~Why~~ did the author's uncle tell the author to start their journey into the forest before sundown?

74. ~~How~~ did the author know that the carcass of the cow had been in the forest for more than a day?

75. ~~Why~~ did the author's uncle feel more relaxed when he realised that the tiger had "quite a meal" the previous night?

76. ~~On which parts~~ of the tiger's kill were the wounds found?

77. ~~How did the author's father and uncle manage to drive the tiger back into the jungle?~~ **How did Raju's father and the author's uncle manage to drive the tiger back into the jungle?**

78. ~~Which sentence~~ shows that the "abandoned bamboo stick" (line 32) was effective in distracting the tiger?

79. ~~Who~~ does "the two of us" (line 33) ~~refer to?~~

80. ~~Which phrase~~ in the passage has the same meaning as "nearby"?

~~~~~ END OF PAPER ~~~~~

Prepared by: Miss Ho Hsien Lin  
Mrs Jenine Soh  
Mdm Wirda Sukor

# Raffles Girls' Primary School

## Primary 6 English SA1 Exam (2008)

### Answer Keys

|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Q1  | Q2  | Q3  | Q4  | Q5  | Q6  | Q7  | Q8  | Q9  | Q10 |
| 4   | 2   | 4   | 4   | 4   | 2   | 3   | 1   | 3   | 1   |
| Q11 | 12  | Q13 | Q14 | Q15 | Q16 | Q17 | Q18 | Q19 | Q20 |
| 2   | 1   | 1   | 4   | 1   | 3   | 3   | 1   | 2   | 4   |
| Q21 | Q22 | Q23 | Q24 | Q25 | Q26 | Q27 | Q28 | Q29 | Q30 |
| 2   | 2   | 2   | 1   | 2   | 2   | 3   | 3   | 1   | 3   |
| Q31 | Q32 | Q33 | Q34 | Q35 | Q36 | Q37 | Q38 | Q39 | Q40 |
| P   | K   | D   | G   | J   | M   | A   | L   | F   | B   |

41. lost    42. inconvenience    43. gave    44. desperately    45. sturdy  
 46. struck    47. seemingly    48. apprehensive    49. us    50. permanently  
 51. home    52. far    53. thrive    54. roaming    55. eyes  
 56. at    57. track    58. kill    59. become    60. old  
 61. about    62. move    63. prey    64. attention    65. well
66. Frank, whose mother sells chicken rice every morning, is a famous badminton player in Singapore.
67. Jane has a test which begins in half an hour's time but she is still in bed.
68. Gerg was angry with Jonathan for breaking his favorite toy car when he tripped over it.
69. Unless you concentrate on the music, you will not be able to enjoy it.
70. To express his gratitude, Mr Yong gave Sergeant Harry a reward for recovering his stolen car.
71. The author went into the forest with his uncle to learn how to investigate a kill.
72. The author's father would check the carcass of the cow and would tell her village what had happened to the cow and what killed the cow and if the tiger was involved, he would be compensated.
73. The tigers would return to their kills once the cover of darkness enveloped the surroundings and if the tiger return to its kill, they would be able to investigate it.
74. The carcass of the cow gave off a horrid stench and it was already partly eaten.
75. He knew that if the tiger had eaten already, it would not be hungry and would not eat them.
76. The wounds were found on the hind legs where there were straight deep dashes where the dug its claws to pull down the kill and its neck had teeth marks where the tiger has applied the famous choke grip.
77. They raised their arms and let out fearsome "roars" of their own and loud retaliation.
78. The sentence is "The tiger deflected off its initial line attack".
79. It refers to Raju and the author.
80. The phrase is "in the vicinity".