



**NAN HUA PRIMARY SCHOOL
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 1 -- 2009
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Primary 6**

Booklet A
30 questions
30 marks

Name: _____ ()

Class: Pr. 6 _____

Date: 12 May 2009

Booklet A	/ 30
Booklet B	/ 65
Total	/ 95

Parent's Signature & Date

Total Time for booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes

**DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.
FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.**









Section A – Graphic-Stimulus Comprehension (5 x 1) marks
 Study the brochure below and then answer questions 1 to 5.

SCIENCE MEGA FAIR

*Discover Science in a way never before!
 A host of interesting activities awaits you!
 Boredom is non-existent during this holiday!*

A fair specially organised to (ignite your passion for Science.)

Date: 1 June to 30 June 2009
Time: 10a.m. to 7p.m.
Venue: Singapore Science Centre
Admission Fee: \$6

<p>Laser Quest Find out about the multiple uses of the powerful beam!</p> 	<p>Push & Pull Discover the amazing strength of magnets! Learn more about forces and be thrilled!</p> 
<p>Starry Starry Day Learn about the glittering stars in the sky! You don't have to wait for nightfall!</p> 	<p>Magical Science Be a magician of Science and wow your friends!</p> 
<p>Green Earth (Reuse, reduce & recycle. Learn to save the Earth!)</p> 	<p>Omnimax Film ChemMagic Ticket : \$7 (free 3D spectacles) Be awed for an hour!</p> 
<p>Quiz Wizard Answer Science questions to win attractive prizes instantly.</p>  <p>Time: 4p.m. to 6p.m.</p>	<p>Sherlock Holmes Junior Decipher clues and solve mysteries to win attractive prizes.</p>  <p>Time: 2p.m. to 4p.m.</p>
<p>3 (For more information on the above activities, please call Miss Yani at 67788666 or email her at yani@sciencecentre.com.sg You may also visit The Science Store's website at www.sciencestore.com.sg to view the merchandise available.</p>	
<p>Organised by: Singapore Science Centre</p>	<p>Sponsored by: The Science Store</p>

Section A – Graphic-Stimulus Comprehension (5 x 1) marks

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. Jane should go for _____ to learn more about astronomy.
 - 1) Laser Quest
 - 2) Push and Pull
 - 3) Magical Science
 - 4) Starry Starry Day

2. Green Earth activities aim to remind children to _____.
 - 1) have fun and win prizes
 - 2) decipher clues and save the Earth
 - 3) answer questions about the Earth
 - 4) treasure and conserve the environment

3. The website will give more information on _____.
 - 1) how to be a magician
 - 2) show times of the Omnimax film
 - 3) special products at The Science Store
 - 4) all the activities at Singapore Science Centre

4. Which one of the following sentences is true?
 - 1) All activities except ChemMagic are free.
 - 2) Activities for Starry Starry Day are carried out at night.
 - 3) Magical Science teaches children to use Science for effects.
 - 4) Children can go for any of the Science activities between 10a.m. and 7p.m.

5. The main purpose of the brochure is to _____.
 - 1) arouse children's interest in Science
 - 2) launch the National Science Month
 - 3) publicise Singapore Science Centre
 - 4) keep children occupied during the school holiday

Section C: Punctuation Discrete (3 x 1) 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.

Jamie knelt down by the pond and began to dabble her hand in the water(13) looking fiercely at the bitten nails. "What's the matter, dear(14) Mother said.

"Javier says he's ashamed to have me for a sister," Jamie said sadly after a minute.

"Well, that's a very unkind thing to say (15) exclaimed Mother, startled.

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

Section D - Vocabulary (5 x 1) 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. The report stated that the doctor was found to be _____ as he had failed to give the patient a thorough examination before the surgery.
- 1) neutral
 - 2) negligent
 - 3) indifferent
 - 4) inattentive
17. By asking some _____ questions, Keith has found the answers to his problem.
- 1) pertinent
 - 2) prejudice
 - 3) prominent
 - 4) perplexed
18. The _____ determination of the disabled athlete has earned him great respect from the spectators.
- 1) devoted
 - 2) dedicated
 - 3) unanimous
 - 4) unwavering
19. Unless you _____ with the dress code, you will not be admitted into the clubhouse.
- 1) agree
 - 2) comply
 - 3) accede
 - 4) consent
20. Even after taking on a part-time job to supplement the income from his full-time job, Uncle John still could not _____.
- 1) cut corners
 - 2) make ends meet
 - 3) burn candles at both ends
 - 4) stand on his own two feet

Section E - Vocabulary Contextual (5 x 1) marks

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.

Chicken pox is a common illness and is contagious. The disease usually occurs during childhood days but adults can also have an attack with severe complications. usually starts with a mild fever and cold-like symptoms. Later, rashes, fluid-filled blisters and spots will become prominent on various parts of the body. At the height of the disease, the person looks grotesque with lesions all over the body. To prevent the spread of the disease, we should isolate the infected person from other people.

21. 1) deadly
2) epidemic
3) infectious
4) contactable
22. 1) risky
2) harsh
3) serious
4) extreme
23. 1) vivid
2) important
3) noticeable
4) perceivable
24. 1) odd
2) evil
3) ugly
4) uneasy
25. 1) desert
2) identify
3) remove
4) separate

Section F – Comprehension MCQ (5 x 1) marks

Read the given passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

A **priceless piece of art** has been stolen from a museum and detectives are called in to investigate the crime. The thieves were very clever – they avoided the security cameras, guards and laser beams and their getaway car was never found. However, they left behind one important clue: a single perfect fingerprint. For a quick-witted detective, this is more than enough information to solve the crime. 5

Our fingerprints are very special. You might have the same eye colour as someone else and the same shaped nose. If you are an identical twin, you might even have a face that looks the same, but not a single person on earth has fingerprints identical to yours.

Fingerprints are the patterns on the pads of your fingers made by tiny ridges in the outer layer of your skin called the epidemis. These ridges help you get a better grip on smooth things. This is particularly important when you are climbing trees and swinging from branches. All primates, including monkeys and apes, have fingerprints. 10

Most importantly, fingerprints are used to catch criminals. Dactyloscopy is the use of fingerprints to identify people and it has been used by the police for more than a hundred years. 15

Every time you touch something you leave sweat and oil prints which are the same patterns as your fingerprints. Criminals often leave very clear fingerprints because the stress of carrying out a crime causes them to sweat more than usual. While these fingerprints are normally invisible, police officers can make them visible by dusting them with a fine powder or spraying them with fine chemicals. 20

Once a fingerprint is developed, it can be compared with images on police files. When comparing fingerprints, police look for particular patterns called arches, loops and whorls.

Many crimes have been solved using fingerprints. Unlike people, **fingerprints do not lie.** 25

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. The text begins by describing the theft of a piece of art to _____.
- 1) give an example of a famous crime
 - 2) describe how the thieves stole the piece of art
 - 3) comment on the skills of the investigating detective
 - 4) provide a context for the information which follows
27. A 'priceless piece of art'(line 1) is one which is _____.
- 1) extremely valuable
 - 2) not sold at an auction
 - 3) too fragile to be displayed
 - 4) more beautiful than any other
28. Sequence these events in the order in which they would occur.
- A) The fingerprints are dusted.
 - B) The fingerprints are processed
 - C) The fingerprints are used to convict the criminals.
 - D) The fingerprints are checked against criminal records.
- (1) A,B,D,C (2) A,B,C,D (3) A,D,C,B (4) B,A,C,D
29. The writer says that 'fingerprints don't lie'(line 25) in order to emphasise that fingerprints _____.
- 1) have tiny ridges .
 - 2) are always visible.
 - 3) cannot be developed.
 - 4) provide reliable evidence.
30. According to the text, which statement is incorrect?
- 1) All monkeys have fingerprints.
 - 2) Identical twins have the same fingerprints.
 - 3) Sweat can cause fingerprints to be clearer.
 - 4) Police sometimes spray fingerprints with chemicals.

**NAN HUA PRIMARY SCHOOL
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 1- 2009
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PRIMARY 6**

Booklet B

Name: _____ ()

Class: Pr. 6 _____

Section G – Grammar Cloze (10 x 1) marks

There are 10 blanks, numbered 31 to 40 in the passage below. From the list of words in the box, choose the most suitable answer for each blank and write its letter (A to Q) in it. "I" have been omitted to avoid confusion in marking.

Use each word only **ONCE**.

(A) at	(D) for	(G) onto	(K) that	(N) where	(Q) with
(B) by	(E) how	(H) over	(L) to	(O) which	within
(C) behind	(F) in	(J) with	(M) when	(P) why	

Blame man for the record number of bush fires this year. Blame careless smokers who toss lit cigarette butts (31) _____ vegetation. Blame those who leave (32) _____ lit candles and burnt offerings (33) _____ makeshift altars. Blame those who decide to cook out in the open using charcoal stoves. They accounted (34) _____ 95% of the 339 bush fires so far this year.

Unthinking actions, coupled (35) _____ the dry season, have resulted (36) _____ a huge waste of fire fighting resources, said the Singapore Civil Defence Force's director of operations, Colonel Anwar Abdullah.

The remaining 5% of bush fires are caused naturally -- (37) _____ dry grass rub against one another and triggers sparks, leading (38) _____ spontaneous combustion, or when they are struck (39) _____ lightning. How easy it is to put out a fire depends on the thickness of the vegetation, the gradient of the land and (40) _____ windy it is.

Section H – Editing for Spelling and Grammar (10 x 1) marks

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

Charles Dickens was born in 1812 at Landport near Portsmouth, where

(41)

his father was a clerk in the navy pay office. In 1815, his family móves to

London. Later they relocated to Chatham, where he spent some of his

happier times. On their return to London, their fortunes changed and the

(42)

senior Dickens was jailed for deft while Charles was taken out of school and

(43)

(44)

forced to work in a factory run by a dístance relative. Both these expírences

were to have a lifelong effect on Dickens and contributed much to the somewhat

(45)

(46)

peessimism tones that most of his books posess.

Eventually, Dickens' father was released and the family situation took a

(47)

turn for the well. He resumed his education and was appointed as a solicitor's

(48)

clerk at the age of 15. He also service as a shorthand reporter and a

parliamentary reporter. In 1833, Dickens found his calling when he began

(49)

(50)

kentributing stories to newspapers and megaxines. His early works have been

collected and reprinted in a volume known as 'Sketches by "Boyz"'.
The boxes are empty for the student to write the correct words.

Section I – Comprehension Cloze (15 x 1 mark)

Fill in each blank with a suitable word

On the southern coast of France, near the film festival city of Cannes and the border of Italy, sits the tiny principality of Monaco, a country with no natural (51) _____, no army and no income taxes. Occupying only about 150 hectares on a narrow strip of (52) _____ that is mostly beaches and cliffs, it has the distinction of being the world's most densely (53) _____ country and the second (54) _____ independent nation. Despite its tiny (55) _____, Monaco survives and thrives because of its unusual ability to attract (56) _____, particularly those who like to gamble. Its many casinos attract hundreds of thousands of the wealthy, the not-so-wealthy and those who would like very much to be wealthy. The (57) _____ of Monaco are not poor; in fact, the population of Monaco has a higher percentage of millionaires than any other (58) _____ in the world.

But the casino is only one of the principality's many attractions. Monaco has a pleasant Mediterranean (59) _____ and its picture-postcard (60) _____ is usually filled with the luxurious yachts of the world's richest people. Its sun-splashed streets are a perfect place to spot glamorous movie stars and other (61) _____.

For millions of people around the world, the name 'Monaco' conjures (62) _____ mental pictures of shiny limousines, luxury hotels, millionaires in evening wear, beautiful women in elegant gowns, and, of course, the spinning roulette wheels of the (63) _____. No wonder it is considered one of the most exotic and romantic spots in Europe. (64) _____ having no army or state-of-the-art weapons, Monaco still has tremendous power – the power to attract free-spending tourist from every (65) _____ of the globe. It is listed in Lonely Planet as one of the 'must-visit' places in the world.

Section J - Synthesis / Transformation (5 x 2) marks

For questions 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of the sentence must be the same as the given ones.

66. Eugene won the third prize in the art competition. He was unhappy.

Despite _____

67. Everyone perished when the plane crashed into the sea. Only little Sally did not.

_____ except _____

68. Mrs Tan's missing son was found. Mrs Tan was very relieved.

Much to _____

69. The task seems to be hard. John is determined to accomplish the task.

_____ no matter _____

70. The car will not start. It is the wrong key.

_____ without _____

Section K – Comprehension (10 x 2) marks

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow. For each question from 71 to 80, write your answer in the space provided. All answers must be in complete sentences.

At the age of twenty-six, my grandfather (Ye Ye) entered into an arranged marriage through a professional match-maker. My fifteen year-old grandmother came from an eminently suitable Shanghainese family. Across the street from my great-grandfather's tea-house, her father owned a small herbal store filled with desiccated leaves, roots, powdered rhinoceros horns, deer antlers, dried snakes' gall bladders and other exotic potions. The bride and the groom only saw each other on their wedding day in 1903. 5

On the eve of her wedding, my grandmother was summoned into her father's presence. "Tomorrow you will belong to the Yen family," she was told. "Your duty will be to please him and your in-laws. Sublimate your own desires." 10

Next day, the trembling bride, bedecked in a red silk gown and her face covered with a red silk cloth, was borne into the home of her parents-in-law in a red and gold sedan chair. The wedding procession was a colourful noisy affair accompanied by red lanterns, banners, trumpet blowing and the clanging of gongs. It was a point of honour for families to impoverish themselves for such occasions. However, in the case of my grandparents, friends and relatives gave wedding presents including large cash gifts to defray the costs. 15

The young bride's fears were misplaced because Ye Ye proved to be loving and considerate. At her insistence, the young couple broke with tradition and moved out of the Yen family home into their own rented quarters. Grandmother taught herself Mathematics and used it to her great advantage in her daily mahjong games. I remember her as a chain smoker with bound feet, short hair and a razor-sharp tongue. 20

At the age of three, Grandmother's feet had been wrapped tightly with long, narrow cloth bandage, forcing four lateral toes under the ^{big} toe so that only the big toe protruded. This bandage was tightened daily for a number of years, squeezing the toes painfully inwards and permanently arresting the foot's growth in order to achieve the tiny feet so prized by Chinese men. Women were in effect crippled and their inability to walk with ease was a symbol of both their subservience and of their family's wealth. Grandmother's feet caused her pain throughout her life. Later, she braved social ridicule rather than inflict this suffering on her own daughter. 25 30

My grandparents grew to love each other and had seven children in quick succession. Of those, only the first two survived. Ye Ye supported his family by buying and leasing out a small fleet of sampans (burn boats) which plied the waters of Shanghai's busy Huangpu River. Goods were ferried in and out of China's interior and loaded on to giant ocean cargo steamers moored at the Bund. Ye Ye never gambled or wasted his money in brothels and opium dens. By the time he was forty, he had accumulated considerable wealth. Ye Ye had a secret. Unknown to all, he was prone to seasickness and hated to set foot on one of his own sampans. So though business was profitable, he decided to sell it and move up north. 35

71. Why was the author's grandmother's family and her grandfather's family considered 'eminently suitable' for each other?

72. Write the sentence in the story that tells you that the author's grandparents were strangers before the wedding.

73. Why did the father of the bride summon her to his presence the night before the wedding? *

74. How was the lavish wedding of the author's grandparents partly paid for?

75. What do you think could be some of the young bride's fears?

76. Why did parents bind the feet of young girls in the past?

77. Why did the author's grandmother not bind the feet of her own daughter?

78. Which two-word phrase in the passage tells you that the author's grandmother was quick-witted and mean in her remarks?

79. Why did the author's grandfather decide to sell his business despite it being profitable?

80. Which word in the passage has the same meaning as 'obedience'?

-End of Paper-

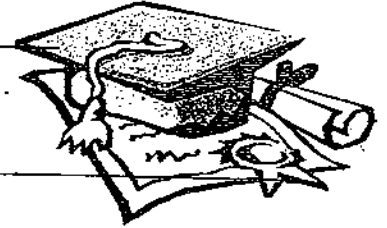


ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2008

SCHOOL : NAN HUA PRIMARY SCHOOL
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH

TERM : SA 1



Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17
4	4	3	3	1	4	3	1	3	4	1	1	2	1	4	2	1

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
4	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4	1	1	4	2	G	C	A	D

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
J	F	M	L	B	E

- 41)moved 42)debt 43)distant 44)experiences
 45)pessimistic 46)possess 47)better 48)served
 49)contributing 50)magazines 51)resources 52)land
 53)populated 54)smallest 55)size 56)tourists
 57)people 58)country 59)climate 60)harbour
 61)celebrities 62)up 63)casinos 64)Despite 65)part
 66)Despite wining the third prize in the art competition Eugene was unhappy.
 67)Everyone except little Sally perished when the plane crashed into the sea.
 68)Much to Mrs Tan's relief, her missing son was found.

69) John is determined to accomplish the task no matter how hard it seems to be.

70) The car will not start without the correct key.

71) Both families were rich.

72) The sentence is "The bride and the groom only each other on their wedding day in 1903".

73) He wanted to tell her that she would belong to her husband's family and had to obey them after the wedding.

74) It was partly paid for by the large sums of money which friends and relatives gave them as wedding gifts.

75) I think that the young bride feared that the groom was not loving and inconsiderate.

76) It was a symbol of their subservience and their family's wealth.

77) She did not want her daughter to suffer the pain.

78) The two-word phrase is "razor-sharp tongue."

79) The author's grandfather was prone to seasickness and hated to set foot on one of his own sampans.

80) The word is "subservience."

