



NAN HUA PRIMARY SCHOOL
SEMESTRAL EXAMINATION 1 - 2009
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Primary 3

Total Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Name : _____ ()

Marks: _____ /48

Class : Primary 3 _____

Date : 12 May 2009

Parent's Signature

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

Section A: Vocabulary MCQ (6 X 1 mark)

For questions 1 to 6, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Write the correct number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

1. It was raining very _____ yesterday afternoon.
(1) heavily (2) slowly
(3) strongly (4) quietly ()
2. More animals are endangered because their _____ are destroyed.
(1) holes (2) houses
(3) haunts (4) habitats ()
3. Peter was so _____ that he believed Tom's joke that school would be closed tomorrow.
(1) kind (2) gentle
(3) timid (4) trusting ()
4. As the discipline master walked towards the classroom, the pupils _____ to their seats immediately.
(1) strolled (2) slipped
(3) scampered (4) shuffled ()
5. I could not _____ Alex's birthday party because I was sick.
(1) stay (2) visit
(3) attend (4) come ()
6. The crabs were _____ back into the sand during the high tide.
(1) diving (2) gliding
(3) hopping (4) scurrying ()

Section B: Grammar MCQ (6 X 1 mark)

For questions 7 to 12, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Write the correct number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

7. The blue whale is a mammal as it _____ birth to its young alive.
(1) give (2) gives
(3) gave (4) are giving ()
8. Tim's pet dog _____ last week as it was poisoned by the burglar.
(1) die (2) dies
(3) died (4) was dying ()
9. "My friends _____ to Malaysia this evening," replied Linus.
(1) is flying (2) are flying
(3) was flying (4) were flying ()
10. "_____ restaurant are we having lunch at?" John asked his mother.
(1) Who (2) When
(3) Which (4) Where ()
11. Jane will be late for school _____ she misses the bus.
(1) if (2) or
(3) as (4) but ()
12. _____ I borrow your book? I lost mine.
(1) May (2) Will
(3) Must (4) Shall ()

Section C: Comprehension MCQ (5 x 2 marks)

Read the passage below and answer questions 13 to 17. Your answers must be based on the passage.

Otters are active and curious animals. They can be found in many parts of the world except Australia and Antarctica. They belong to a group of animals called Mustelids. Their cousins include weasels, skunks, badgers and ferrets. Although otters are well adapted to living in water, they are equally at home on land.

5

Marine mammals such as polar bears and seals have a thick layer of blubber or fat under their skin to help them stay warm in a cold environment. Unlike these animals, the otter does not have blubber. Instead, it depends on its thick fur to battle the cold. Its fur is packed with some one million hairs per square inch. In fact, sea otters have the thickest fur among mammals.

10

Otters have very sensitive whiskers and nimble fingers to help them 'feel for food'. In unclear waters or on very dark nights, they are unable to see well and therefore need to use their whiskers to detect the vibrations made by fish. They also use their sense of touch to search for snails, clams and crayfish. Using their nimble fingers, they dig into mud and probe into cracks for food. The otter brings the clams on land and leave them to open in the sun before feeding on them.

15

For each question from 13 to 17, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Write the correct number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

13. Otters are _____ animals.

- (1) tricky and cunning
- (2) lively and inquisitive
- (3) restless and strange
- (4) busy and mischievous

()

14. Otters can be seen living _____.

- (1) on land only
- (2) in the cold seas only
- (3) in murky waters only
- (4) both in water and on land

()

15. Otters are different from other marine animals because they use a thick layer of _____.

- (1) oil to stay warm
- (2) fur to stay warm
- (3) blubber to stay warm
- (4) hard skin to stay warm

()

16. The word " _____ " has the same meaning as fight.

- (1) battle
- (2) probe
- (3) detect
- (4) search

()

17. Otters use their _____ to reach for food in cracks and small areas.

- (1) eyes
- (2) hair
- (3) fingers
- (4) whiskers

()

Section D: Vocabulary Cloze (8 X 1 mark)

Read the following passage carefully. Choose the correct word from the words given in the box and write its letter (A to M) in each blank. The letter 'I' has been omitted to avoid confusion.

USE A WORD ONCE ONLY.

(A) ability	(D) crawl	(G) hurriedly	(K) stories
(B) amazing	(E) different	(H) information	(L) swallow
(C) carefully	(F) feed	(J) leap	(M) sweep

Chimpanzees are very intelligent creatures. They are known for their (18) _____ to make use of objects including grass and sticks as tools to get food. Besides humans, they are the only group of animals that use many (19) _____ objects as tools.

One example is their way of "fishing" for termites. Chimpanzees (20) _____ on termites as a snack. They insert a piece of long grass into the termite hole to allow the termites to (21) _____ onto the grass. Once the termites are on the long grass, the chimpanzees then (22) _____ pull up the grass to prevent the termites from falling off. After that, the chimpanzee quickly uses one big lick to (23) _____ off all the termites on the long grass into its mouth.

Chimpanzees are such (24) _____ creatures! We can find more (25) _____ about chimpanzees from documentaries, magazines and non-fiction books. Many people are interested in finding out more about them.

Section E: Grammar Cloze (8 X 1 mark)

Read the following passage carefully. Choose the correct word from the words given in the box and write its letter (A to M) in each blank. The letter 'I' has been omitted to avoid confusion.

Passage 1

USE A WORD ONCE ONLY.

(A) sell	(B) sells	(C) sold
(D) selling	(E) will sell	(F) has sold

Mr Tan owns a small bookshop. He used to earn a lot from (26) _____ books last year. However, he only (27) _____ less than half of his books last month. It has become difficult to (28) _____ books with so many competitors. Mr Tan (29) _____ off his store if the sales of his books do not pick up. He cannot afford to suffer more losses.

Passage 2

USE A WORD ONCE ONLY.

(G) all	(H) any	(J) some
(K) more	(L) many	(M) much

One day, an old lady went from farm to farm begging for rice. "Do you have (30) _____ rice to spare, Sir?" asked the old lady. "No, I do not have (31) _____ to give you," the man said. When the man's son heard this, he asked, "But Father, we have so (32) _____ rice." "Nonsense! We need (33) _____ the rice we have for ourselves," the man replied angrily. The old lady was so cross with the man's unkindness that she cast a spell on him. From then on, not a grain of rice was found on the man's field.

Section F: Comprehension OE (5 x 2 marks)

Read the passage below and answer questions 34 to 38.

Once upon a time, there was a very selfish lion who lived below a large pear tree full of the juiciest pears on the land. Lion would growl at anyone who came near the pear tree. All the other animals wished for the pears as there was little water left in the land. One day, Monkey, who was swinging by, heard about the pear tree and thought of a plan to help the other animals.

5

One morning, Monkey gathered all the animals secretly in the forest near the tree where Lion was sleeping. Then, Monkey ran across the tree with a large, thick rope shouting, "Oh, my! Oh, my!"

Lion sleepily opened an eye and growled at him. "Lion! You must run! A strong wind is approaching us and it will blow everyone off the earth!" cried Monkey. At that moment, (the animals which had hidden in the forest shook the trees to make the entire forest seem to be swaying to the wind)

10

Lion was terrified. "What do I do?" he screamed.

"You must run," Monkey said. "I cannot help you now. I have to tie the other animals down with this rope so that they do not fly off the earth!"

15

"No!" Lion roared. "You must tie me up now!"

Upon hearing this, Monkey tied Lion to the tree. When he was done, all the animals came out of the forest to celebrate. Then, they sat in the shade of the big pear tree and happily feasted on the delicious fruit together.

All answers must be based on the given text. Answer in complete sentences.

34. Which **sentence** in the first paragraph tells you that Lion did not share the pears with the other animals?

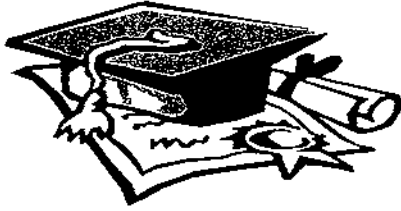
35. Why did the animals long for the pears?

36. What did the other animals do to trick Lion into believing that a strong wind was approaching?

37. Which word in the last passage has the same meaning as the word "ate"?

38. What is the lesson we can learn from Lion's foolishness?

End-of-Paper



ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2009

SCHOOL : NAN HUA PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUBJECT : PRIMARY 3 ENGLISH

TERM : SA 1

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

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33
A	E	F	D	C	M	B	H	D	C	A	E	J	H	M	G

34)The sentence is ' Lion would growl at anyone who came near the pear tree'.

35)The animals were thirsty.

36)The other animals shook the trees in the forest.

37)It is 'feasted.'

38)We should not be so trusting.

