

PEI CHUN PUBLIC SCHOOL
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 1, 2010
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 2: LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION
PRIMARY 3

Name: _____ ()

Class: Primary 3 ()

Subject Teacher: _____

Date: 13 May 2010

Duration: 1h 15min

Parent's Signature: _____

Component	Marks obtained	Maximum marks for each component
Paper 1 (Writing)		20
Paper 2 (Language Use and Comprehension)		48
Paper 3 (Listening Comprehension)		16
Total marks for all components		84

Note: There is no Paper 4 (Oral Communication) for Semestral Assessment 1.

Section A: Vocabulary MCQ (6 x 1 mark)

Choose the most suitable answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

1. Alan always reads the _____ section of the newspaper for news of his favourite soccer player.
- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| 1) sports | 2) finance |
| 3) entertainment | 4) comics |
- ()
2. The librarian needs to mend the _____ of this book as its pages are falling out.
- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1) title | 2) spine |
| 3) index | 4) cover |
- ()
3. The hungry lions were _____ in that area looking for food.
- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1) crawling | 2) prowling |
| 3) slithering | 4) waddling |
- ()
4. The villagers did not believe the man because he was as _____ as a fox.
- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 1) vain | 2) trusting |
| 3) cunning | 4) foolish |
- ()
5. The bear ambled _____ out of its cave after sleeping through a long winter.
- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1) clumsily | 2) daintily |
| 3) gracefully | 4) smartly |
- ()

6. Weiling sent a/an _____ to Dave to inform him that she would be attending his party.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-----|
| 1) form | 2) greeting | |
| 3) invitation | 4) reply | () |

Section B: Grammar MCQ (6 x 1 mark)

Choose the most suitable answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

7. That lady wants to know _____ the flight from Bangkok will arrive at the airport terminal.

- | | | |
|---------|----------|-----|
| 1) how | 2) what | |
| 3) when | 4) where | () |

8. Zebras _____ stripes on their bodies to help them camouflage so that they cannot be easily spotted by their predators.

- | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----|
| 1) has | 2) had | |
| 3) have | 4) having | () |

9. Mary and John _____ to eat the cookies made by their mother.

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-----|
| 1) like | 2) likes | |
| 3) is liking | 4) are liking | () |

10. Look! The flying fish _____ out of the water now!

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-----|
| 1) was leaping | 2) is leaping | |
| 3) leaps | 4) leapt | () |

11. Did you _____ the game show on television last night?

1) watch

2) watched

3) watches

4) watching

12. Salim scattered _____ rice in his garden to feed the pigeons.

1) any

2) few

3) many

4) some

Section C: Vocabulary Cloze (8 x 1 mark)

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

USE EACH WORD ONCE ONLY.

(A) achieve	(D) darkness	(G) scorching	(K) thirst
(B) build	(E) descended	(H) harvest	(L) light
(C) continue	(F) endure	(J) shocked	(M) whipped

Long ago, in China, there used to be nine suns in the sky. The world did not know what (13) _____ was as one sun rose when another set. The heat charred the farms and burnt the trees. Men and animals died of (14) _____ and hunger.

Despite such hardships, the emperor continued to send thousands of young men to (15) _____ the Great Wall of China. The men, of course, could not (16) _____ the heat of the nine suns. Many of them died each day.

One day, Er Lang Shen, a deity, saw the Earth from Heaven. He was (17) _____ to see so many men suffering. They had to work under the (18) _____ suns while being beaten and (19) _____ by their supervisors. Hence, he turned himself into an old man with a long beard and travelled to Earth. He (20) _____ on the Great Wall. He was determined to save these men from their suffering.

Section D: Grammar Cloze (8 x 1 mark)

Read Passage 1 and Passage 2 carefully. Choose the correct word from the box and write its letter (A to G) in each blank.

Passage 1

USE EACH WORD ONCE ONLY.

(A) how	(C) when	(E) who	(G) why
(B) what	(D) where	(F) whose	

After dinner, I decided to get an ice cream. I went to the shop

(21) _____ my favourite ice cream was sold. It was my father

(22) _____ first bought the ice cream from that shop for me.

When I reached the shop, I saw a girl (23) _____ face was

familiar at the counter. She was my former neighbour, Devi. She did not seem to

recognise me. She asked me (24) _____ flavour I would like for my ice

cream.

Section E: Comprehension MCQ (5 x 2 marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Choose the most suitable answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

Cotton, flax, hemp, wool and silk all have one thing in common; they are natural fibres used to make cloth. However, silk is special. Unlike the first four natural fibres, silk is produced by an insect, the silkworm moth.

Silk was first used in China nearly five thousand years ago. It is believed that the art of obtaining silk from the silkworm was introduced by Empress Lei Zu. It is the larva of the silkworm moth that produces silk. When the larva or caterpillar of the silkworm moth is hatched, it is only about three to four millimetres long. The larva is a picky eater and feeds only on the leaves of the mulberry tree. After six weeks of non-stop feeding, the larva is ready to enter into the pupa stage. It produces the silk fibre from a gland in its mouth and spins it into a cocoon around itself. People then process the cocoons to obtain silk.

At first, silk could only be found in China. However, it became so popular in ancient times that many traders travelled thousands of kilometres to China to trade in it and brought it back to their countries. The route used by these ancient traders is now recognised as the oldest route linking China and Europe. It is commonly referred to as the Silk Road. The famous Venetian trader, Marco Polo, was one of the first Europeans to journey to China by this route more than a thousand years ago.

Passage 2

USE EACH WORD ONCE ONLY.

(A) among	(C) into	(E) through	(G) to
(B) in	(D) on	(F) from	

The weather was fine and the sea was calm. The passengers were gathered
(25) _____ the deck of the ship. They were chatting and enjoying the
sea breeze.

Suddenly, someone shouted, "Man overboard!"

The alarm rang immediately and the engines of the ship stopped. There was
great anxiety (26) _____ the passengers. There was a boy struggling
(27) _____ the water. Before a lifeboat could be lowered, a shark was
seen approaching him. Many passengers were screaming frantically. One of the crew
members bravely dived into the water to save the boy (28) _____ being
attacked by the shark.

29. Silk is a natural fibre obtained from the _____.

- (1) bark of a tree
- (2) leaves of a plant
- (3) hair of an animal
- (4) cocoon of an insect

()

30. Silk was first used by the people in _____.

- (1) China
- (2) Europe
- (3) Venice
- (4) the Silk Road

()

31. The larva begins to produce silk when it _____.

- (1) hatches from the egg
- (2) enters the pupa stage
- (3) is three or four millimetres long
- (4) has eaten all the mulberry leaves

()

32. The Silk Road was so named because it was _____.

- (1) the route used by Marco Polo
- (2) the place where silk was discovered
- (3) the route used by silk traders in ancient times
- (4) where Empress Lei Zu taught the people how to get silk

()

33. Which of the following statements is **false**?

- (1) Silk is used to make cloth.
- (2) Marco Polo travelled to China using the Silk Road.
- (3) It takes six weeks for the larva to change into a pupa.
- (4) The larva of the silkworm moth feeds on the leaves of the cherry tree.

()

Section F: Comprehension OE (5 x 2 marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow in complete sentences.

Once, there was a little boy who had a bad temper. His father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, he had to hammer a nail into the wooden fence in their garden.

The first day, the boy hammered forty nails into the fence. Over the next few months, he learnt to control his temper. The number of nails he hammered into the fence dwindled gradually. He discovered that it was easier to hold his temper than to hammer the nails into the fence. 5

The day came when the boy did not lose his temper at all. He ran to tell his father the good news. He thought his father would be pleased. However, his father told him to pull out a nail each time he was able to hold his temper. As the days passed, the boy was finally able to remove all the nails from the fence. 10

This time, the boy's father took him by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same again." Pointing to a hole, he continued, 15
"When you say something in anger to someone, it leaves a scar just like this one. It does not matter how many times you apologise to him because the damage is already done." After listening to his father, the boy realised the virtue of being able to exercise self-control and did not lose his temper again. 20

34. What did the little boy have to do every time he lost his temper?

35. How many times did the boy lose his temper on the first day?

36. Which word in paragraph 2 has the same meaning as “became fewer”?

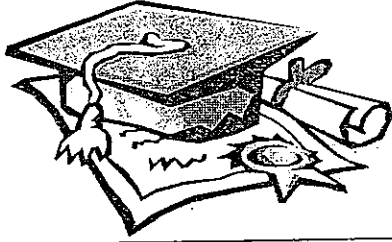
37. What does the phrase “this one” in line 17 refer to?

38. According to the little boy’s father, why would an apology not help after one lost his temper?

End of Paper

Set by : Miss Chin Cher-ly



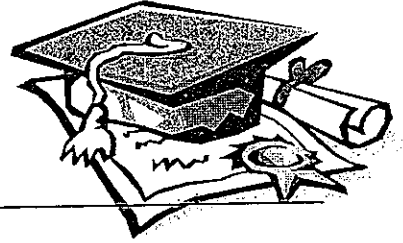


ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2010

**SCHOOL : PEI CHUN PRIMARY
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 3 ENGLISH**

TERM : SA1



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

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33
G	M	E	D	E	F	B	D	A	B	F	4	1	2	3	4

34) He had to hammer a nail into the wooden fence in their garden.

35) He lost his temper forty times.

36) It is "dwindled".

37) It refers to the hole in the fence that the father was pointing to

38) The damage would have been done.

