



**AI TONG SCHOOL**  
**2009**

**SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT TWO**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**  
**PAPER 2**  
**PRIMARY 5**

**DURATION : 1h 50 min**  
**DATE : 2 Nov 2009**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**Do not open the booklet until you are told to do so.**  
**Follow all instructions.**  
**Answer all questions.**

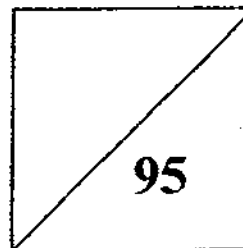
**Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )**

**Class : Primary \_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Date : \_\_\_\_\_**

**Marks :**



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

Read the details of a writing competition and answer Questions 1 to 5.

# National Education Writing Contest 2009

*- strengthening our bond with Singapore*

**Theme: I am proud to be a Singaporean**

Take part in this writing competition.  
Win prizes for *yourself and your school!*

Category	Age	Minimum Length of Composition
A	7-9 years	150 words
B	10-12 years	250 words

Specially designed bookmarks  
for the first 20 participants  
Sponsored by Creative Art Studio

Attractive prizes to be won! Sponsored by Cashbank

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Individual	\$300	\$200	\$100
School	\$500	\$400	\$200

Consolation prizes: 10 sets of exquisite pens sponsored by Nexus Book Company

You may send in as many entries as you wish. You are required to:

- Submit your entry/entries with a completed participation form through your school.
- Send in your entry/entries to Budding Writers Club by 29 October 2009.
- Acknowledge all books, magazines and information sources used for reference.

Organised by : Budding Writers Club

For more information, please call Mr Johnny Tan at Tel: 1234567, email Ms Tammy Tan at tammytan.bwc.com.sg or visit the website: <http://www.bwc.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.

1. The organiser of this writing competition is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) Cash Bank
  - (2) Creative Art Studio
  - (3) Budding Writers Club
  - (4) Nexus Book Company
  
2. The main aim of the "National Education Writing Contest 2009" is to encourage young people to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) write well
  - (2) design bookmarks
  - (3) be proud Singaporeans
  - (4) earn money for themselves and their school
  
3. James wants to take part in the writing contest. His entry will be rejected if it \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) has more than 500 words
  - (2) explains his pride for Singapore
  - (3) reaches the organiser on 29 October 2009
  - (4) lacks acknowledgement of books read for ideas
  
4. A student who wins \$500 for his school will receive \_\_\_\_\_ for himself.
  - (1) \$100
  - (2) \$200
  - (3) \$300
  - (4) \$400
  
5. For your composition to be accepted, it must be sent in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) through any school
  - (2) as many times as possible
  - (3) with the completed participation form
  - (4) through the Creative Art Studio

**Section B : Grammar MCQ (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. That girl \_\_\_\_\_ the principal commended was awarded the Prime Minister's Book Prize last year.
- (1) who
  - (2) whom
  - (3) which
  - (4) whose
7. Mrs Tan made Daniel and Jonathan \_\_\_\_\_ their project before allowing them to go for a swim
- (1) complete
  - (2) completes
  - (3) completed
  - (4) completing
8. Everyone was interested in the story of Harry Potter, \_\_\_\_\_ ?
- (1) was he
  - (2) wasn't he
  - (3) were they
  - (4) weren't they
9. It was David and not his sister who cleaned the house all by \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) herself
  - (2) himself
  - (3) ourselves
  - (4) themselves
10. Smokers are \_\_\_\_\_ risk of developing lung cancer if they do not quit their harmful habit.
- (1) at
  - (2) in
  - (3) on
  - (4) with

11. Given Mark's strong potential, we really \_\_\_\_\_ give him the opportunity to take part in the school debate.

- (1) will
- (2) could
- (3) might
- (4) should

12. "There isn't \_\_\_\_\_ soup left in the pot. Why don't you finish all of it?" said Catherine to Diana.

- (1) any
- (2) some
- (3) much
- (4) many

**Section C : Punctuation MCO (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.

Thomas and Janet did not stay for refreshments. The rest of us (13) including Rascal, enjoyed the cool drink.

"I'm sorry," Mrs Wong said to me as she was leaving. "Rascal didn't know he was in the wrong (14)

After the neighbours were gone, I said bitterly to my father, "You can put criminals in jail but you can't put my good little raccoon in jail. How would you like to be led around on a leash (15) He stared at him for a while.

*Adapted from "Rascal" by Sterling North*

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

**Section D : Vocabulary MCQ (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. The robber hid in the bushes and tried to make himself as \_\_\_\_\_ as possible to avoid being detected by his pursuers.
- (1) invisible
  - (2) indiscreet
  - (3) indescribable
  - (4) inconspicuous
17. Whenever John meets his former classmates in their reunion gatherings, they will \_\_\_\_\_ the good times spent together at Ai Tong School.
- (1) renew
  - (2) regain
  - (3) rehearse
  - (4) reminisce
18. The explosion at the mine field has \_\_\_\_\_ the lives of many miners.
- (1) closed
  - (2) cleared
  - (3) claimed
  - (4) cleansed
19. The canteen vendor was caught preparing food under \_\_\_\_\_ conditions, resulting in the cancellation of his licence.
- (1) unwilling
  - (2) unsavoury
  - (3) unhygienic
  - (4) uncomfortable
20. The performance was so \_\_\_\_\_ that the audience paid full attention and stayed glued to their seats.
- (1) enthralling
  - (2) excruciating
  - (3) encouraging
  - (4) exaggerating

**Section E: Vocabulary Cloze (5 marks)**

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

Canadian Sara Renner was leading her team in the arduous cross-country team sprint ski race when her left ski pole broke. She pushed on but it was hopeless. On an uphill slope, several skiers passed her. Then something extraordinary happened. A man stepped forward from the side of the course and handed Renner another pole. She got back in the race, made up for lost time and in the end, Sara Renner captured the silver medal.

*Adapted from The True Olympic Spirit by William Ecenbarger, Reader Digest, Aug 2008*

21. (1) risky  
(2) difficult  
(3) stressful  
(4) gruelling
22. (1) ripped  
(2) snapped  
(3) shattered  
(4) fragmented
23. (1) tolerated  
(2) struggled  
(3) continued  
(4) persevered
24. (1) special  
(2) unusual  
(3) abnormal  
(4) surprising
25. (1) caught  
(2) clinched  
(3) acquired  
(4) awarded



**Section F: Comprehension MCQ (5 marks)**

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

Sharks are commonly regarded as merciless marine predators capable of killing human beings. In reality, out of about 480 shark species in the world, only three – the Great White Shark, Tiger Shark and Bull Shark – are responsible for most of the attacks on people. On the other hand, the activities of mankind have endangered the survival of more than 100 shark species, with many of them on the brink of extinction.

Overfishing is one of the main threats to sharks. According to official estimates, more than 100 million sharks are caught every year. They are heavily fished for their fins to make “Shark Fin Soup”, an expensive but popular delicacy served in Chinese restaurants in China, Singapore and across Asia. In a bid to save the sharks, environmentalists are encouraging people not to consume their fins. They have drawn attention to the plight of sharks by showing pictures and video footages of the cruel act of “finning”. It involves fishermen cutting off the fins of sharks while they are still alive and throwing the creatures back into the sea to die a painful death. Unfortunately, the demand for shark fins has continued to grow as Asian societies become increasingly affluent. In addition, only a handful of countries have imposed restrictions on the killing of sharks for their fins. Large numbers of sharks have also been accidentally captured by commercial fishing boats catching other fishes, especially tuna and swordfish.

Another major threat is habitat destruction. Coastal development has destroyed mangroves and coral reefs that provide sharks with nursery, feeding and reproduction grounds. They are also the breeding grounds of numerous marine organisms that sharks eat. Large tracts of mangrove forests lining the shallow waters of coastlines have been removed to make way for the building of prawn farms, golf courses, resorts, residential estates, marinas and factories. The loss of mangrove forests has deprived young sharks of hiding places to escape predation by larger fish and other sharks. The situation is serious. In the Philippines, for example, mangrove forests have been reduced from 5,000 to only 300 square kilometres. Pollution of the seas has also contributed to habitat destruction. The discharge of oil, poisonous chemicals and other harmful substances has badly affected many coral reefs. Coral reefs are important habitats where the adults of many shark species hunt for food, mate and lay eggs or give birth to their young.

Urgent measures are needed before it is too late to save many shark species. Some of them may already have their populations reduced to levels so low that they are likely to become extinct. A key problem is reproduction. Sharks reproduce slowly. They take many years to reach maturity and produce only a few offsprings at a time. Human beings are catching them at a rate much faster than they are able to reproduce and recover their numbers. The time is now for mankind to act and prevent the extinction of sharks.

26. A suitable title for the passage is “\_\_\_\_\_”.
1. Endangered Sharks
  2. Sharks and Human Beings
  3. The Global Threats to Sharks
  4. Saving Sharks from Extinction
27. According to the second paragraph, the overfishing of sharks is difficult to stop because \_\_\_\_\_.
1. fishing boats always capture them while catching tuna and swordfish
  2. no countries want to stop fishermen from killing them for their expensive fins
  3. the demand for shark fins has been increasing with the rising wealth of Asians
  4. environmentalists are only able to show pictures and video footages of “finning”
28. Why are mangrove forests important to young sharks?
1. They help them reproduce.
  2. They allow them to lay eggs.
  3. They offer protection to them.
  4. They keep them away from human beings.
29. Which one of the following statements is true?
1. Only the Great White Shark, Tiger Shark and Bull Shark kill people.
  2. Habitat destruction is the top reason for the near-extinction of sharks.
  3. The reproduction of sharks must be raised to produce more shark fins.
  4. Human beings have not done enough to ensure the survival of sharks.
30. From the third paragraph, we learn that \_\_\_\_\_.
1. sea pollution has threatened sharks by harming coral reefs
  2. coral reefs are more important than mangroves to large sharks
  3. mangrove forests allow adult sharks to hide from human beings
  4. young sharks grow up in the shallow waters of mangrove forests

BOOKLET B

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

Class : Pr 5 \_\_\_\_\_

**Section G : Grammar Cloze ( 10 x 1 mark )**

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.**

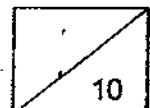
- |          |         |             |              |          |
|----------|---------|-------------|--------------|----------|
| (A) from | (D) are | (G) however | (K) although | (N) of   |
| (B) is   | (E) in  | (H) an      | (L) at       | (P) for  |
| (C) but  | (F) the | (J) towards | (M) to       | (Q) with |

Most Japanese believe confrontation and argument harm relationships. Therefore, direct confrontation in many situations (31) \_\_\_\_\_ avoided. It is also difficult for Japanese people to separate differences in opinion (32) \_\_\_\_\_ personal relationships. When someone disagrees with them, they tend to perceive this as a personal criticism and start wondering what they have done to upset (33) \_\_\_\_\_ other person.

In an attempt to maintain harmonious relationships, Japanese people frequently apologise (34) \_\_\_\_\_ what may seem to be trivial matters. Such apologies, (35) \_\_\_\_\_ do not always indicate an admission of fault. They are usually made to address the inconvenience caused (36) \_\_\_\_\_ not the mistakes made. For example, after a car accident, one driver may apologise (37) \_\_\_\_\_ the other, but this does not necessarily mean that he is (38) \_\_\_\_\_ fault. Rather, it may mean, "It was very unfortunate that the accident happened. I hope we can discuss this calmly". Sales assistants will immediately apologise when a customer complains, regardless (39) \_\_\_\_\_ the reason for the complaint, and even if they are not responsible for what has happened.

In other words, apologies are often used to show sympathy and sincerity (40) \_\_\_\_\_ those who are involved in the incident. In many cases, a word of apology soothes the negative emotions of all involved and makes problem solving easier.

~ Adapted from Culture Shock! Tokyo ~



**Section H : Editing for Spelling and Grammar ( 10 x 1mark )**

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

Denmark's capital, Copenhagen, is a beautiful city. It has both modern and  
(41)  hystorikal attractions. Visiting Singaporeans will enjoy the aesthetic surroundings of this

(42)  European city and their generally relaxed atmosphere.

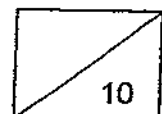
(43)  The difference with Singapore and Copenhagen can be quite stark, especially if you  
(44)  have just step out of a plane from Singapore. Copenhagen is not a city that makes one feel frenetik  
(45)

about having to see all the sights in a short time. There are only a handful of them, all  
(46)  consentreited withn a really small space.

(47)  One thing you must do in Copenhagen is to take a hour-long boat ride at Nyhavn for a  
guided tour around the various canals and waterways, including taking in the famed Little  
(48)  Mermaid Statue, named by Hans Christian Andersen's story. Another reccomendation is to take  
(49)   
(50)  a thrill ride in Tivoli's "The Flight", a flight simulator which offers spekta kuler views of the city.

Copenhagen has the unhurried pace and warmth to make it truly unforgettable.

~ extract from *The Sunday Times*, September 20 2009 ~



**Section I : Comprehension Cloze ( 15 x 1 mark )**

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

Most Singaporeans today own mobile phones. About twelve years ago, however, only a small number could afford one (51) \_\_\_\_\_ mobile phones retailed at high prices. In addition, users had to (52) \_\_\_\_\_ for an expensive subscription service.

The situation started to (53) \_\_\_\_\_ in 1997. On 1 July that year, a new company called M1 (54) \_\_\_\_\_ the second provider of mobile phone services in Singapore. The (55) \_\_\_\_\_ between M1 and its then only rival, SingTel, quickly reduced the prices of mobile phones and subscription fees. Both companies launched promotions offering discounts, gifts, and other perks to (56) \_\_\_\_\_ customers. They (57) \_\_\_\_\_ as many people signed up with them within a few months.

Another company, Starhub, entered the market in 2000, giving Singaporeans one more (58) \_\_\_\_\_ for their mobile service provider. Consumers, choosing from three service providers, soon found (59) \_\_\_\_\_ benefiting from the new situation. In (60) \_\_\_\_\_ to win and retain customers, SingTel, M1 and Starhub slashed the prices of products, introduced various cost-savings plans and improved the quality of services.

In recent years, they have (61) \_\_\_\_\_ heavily in cutting-edge technologies. Their investments, which amounted to billions of dollars, (62) \_\_\_\_\_ mobile phone users in Singapore to access a variety of services linked to the Internet. For (63) \_\_\_\_\_, users can now enjoy the convenience of surfing the Web, and sending emails with mobile phones. Technological innovations have (64) \_\_\_\_\_ transformed the mobile phone from a communications device into a multipurpose instrument, perhaps far (65) \_\_\_\_\_ the imagination of its inventors. Looking ahead, the popularity of mobile phones will continue to grow in Singapore and the rest of the world.

**Section J : Synthesis / Transformation ( 5 x 2 marks )**

**For each of the questions from 66 to 70, rewrite the 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. In 2008, Mrs Wong did not teach Music. She did not teach Art either.

\_\_\_\_\_ neither  
\_\_\_\_\_

67. "Have you read the latest novel written by Dan-Brown?" May asked me.

May asked me \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68. Halim is my cousin. You met him at the bus-stop yesterday.

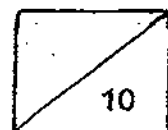
\_\_\_\_\_ whom \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

69. Andy's parents have approved of his decision to join "Singapore Idol".

Andy's parents have given \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

70. Kim San was so tired that he did not complete his project last night.

\_\_\_\_\_ too \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Section K : Comprehension OE ( 10 x 2 marks )**

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

Daniel stifled a yawn and glanced at the clock. Not used to staying up late, the boy struggled to keep himself awake beyond midnight. He decided to turn in when he could no longer concentrate on his reading. "I will wake up early to continue my revision," Daniel told himself.

He went to bed and closed his eyes, but thoughts of the year-end examinations started swirling in his mind. Frustrated, Daniel got up to make himself a cup of cold beverage. As he opened the door, his nose caught a stench that smelt of garbage. "Auntie Elaine must have forgotten to close the rubbish chute again," Daniel muttered angrily, "I'd better wake her up." The last time the domestic helper left it open, two cockroaches entered the house and frightened Daniel.

However, he stopped the moment he passed his parents' bedroom. Its door, visibly ajar to a few inches in dim light, aroused Daniel's suspicion. He knew that his parents always had the master bedroom locked while not at home. Stepping in, Daniel realized that a burglar had broken into his house when he saw the ransacked drawers. He switched off the lights, crept back to his room and closed the door, all carried out in stealth.

Daniel acted sensibly by contacting the police to inform them of the burglary. Next, he wanted to call the domestic helper sleeping in another room near the kitchen. After some consideration, he held back in case the ringing of her mobile phone alerted the intruder who might still be somewhere in the house. Meanwhile, anxiety and fear mounted in Daniel. "Dad would be devastated if he loses his collection of luxury watches," the boy thought. It also made Daniel feel guilty of hiding in his room to wait for the arrival of the police.

Suddenly, he heard a commotion. Daniel rushed out and saw, in the brightly-lit kitchen, Auntie Elaine holding a broom and staring at a very short man next to the refrigerator. He stood at no more than one metre tall. A small torchlight and a bulging haversack lay on the floor. Before Daniel and Auntie Elaine could say anything, the burglar burst into tears and pleaded for mercy. "Was he born with a defect that makes him unable to grow like a normal person?" Daniel wondered, with mixed emotions toward the burglar. Time soon ran out for the latter.

Once the burglar discovered that the police had arrived, he spun around and ran towards the wooden cabinet concealing the rubbish chute. Clearly, he wanted to leave by

the same way he came. That explained the garbage stench in the house. Although he managed to duck into the rubbish chute, police waiting below at the garbage collection point blocked his escape and arrested him. They also found a small ladder that he had used to climb up the rubbish duct to reach Daniel's house.

During the investigation, Auntie Elaine told the police officers what had happened. "I was puzzled when I heard the creaking noise of the rubbish chute being opened," she said, "I decided to check because my young master never opens the rubbish chute as he's scared of cockroaches." Daniel frowned at her comment and turned his face away from the officers. The domestic helper added that she saw a narrow beam of light moving in the kitchen. "I was terrified at first, but after thinking for a while, I got a broom and hid behind a wall to wait for the thief. When he returned to the kitchen, I tripped him with the broom," Auntie Elaine explained.

Just when Daniel thought everything had been settled, an insect flew across the living room and landed on the sofa. "Argh! Auntie Elaine, kill that flying cockroach!"

**ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.**

71. Why did Daniel stay up late?

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72. What did Daniel think was the cause of the "stench that smelt of garbage" (line 7) at first?

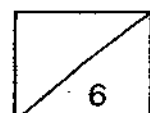
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73. Which word in the passage has the same meaning as 'partly open'?

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74. Why do you think Daniel's actions were "all carried out in stealth" (line 15)?

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75. What does the word 'It' in line 20 refer to?

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76. Did Daniel feel sorry the burglar? Give a reason for your answer.

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77. How did the burglar break into Daniel's house?

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78. State two feelings that Daniel experienced while waiting for the police.

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79. What made Auntie Elaine believe that there was a burglar in the house?

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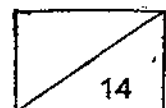
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80. Explain clearly why Daniel frowned at the comment that Auntie Elaine made (line 38).

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~ End of Paper ~





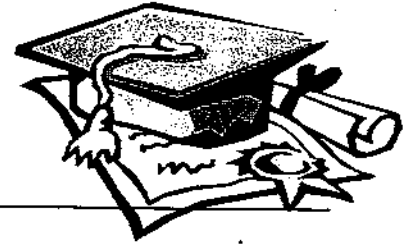


# ANSWER SHEET

## EXAM PAPER 2009

SCHOOL : AITONG PRIMARY  
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 5 ENGLISH

TERM : SA2



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

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
3	3	1	4	2	4	2	2	3	3	3	4	1	B	A	F	P

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
G	C	M	L	N	J

41)historical      42)its      43)between      44)stepped      45)frank

46)concentrated      47)an      48)after      49)recommendation

50)spectacular      51)as      52)pay      53)improve      54)became

55)competition      56)attract      57)succeeded      58)choice

59)themselves      60)order      61)invested      62)allow      63)example

64)indeed      65)from

66)In 2008, Mrs Wong taught neither Music nor Art.

67)May asked me whether I had read the latest novel written by Dan Brown.

68)Halim whom you met him at the bus-stop yesterday is my cousin.

69)Andy's parents have give the approval od his decision to join "Singapore Idol."

70)Kim San was too tired to complete his project last night.

**71)He was revising for his examinations.**

**72)Daniel thought that Auntie Elaine had forgotten to close the rubbish chute again.**

**word is "ajar."**

**74)Daniel thought the burglar might still be in the house and did not want to alert him.**

**75)'It' refers to Daniel thought that his father would be devastated if he loses his collection of luxury watches.**

**76)Yes, he wondered whether the burglar was born with a that makes him unable to grow normally.**

**77)He used a ladder to climb up to the rubbish chute and opened the rubbish chute to enter Daniel's house.**

**78)Daniel was anxious and guilty.**

**79)She saw a narrow beam of light moving the kitchen.**

**80)Auntie Elaine commented to the officers saying that Daniel was afraid of cockroaches which made him feel embarrassed.**