



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION ONE (2010)
PRIMARY SIX
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET B

Name: _____ ()

Class: Primary Six: _____

Date: 20 May 2010

50 Questions
(65 Marks)

Components	Marks
Booklet A	30
Booklet B	65
TOTAL	95

Parent's
Signature: _____

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

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

Write your answers in this booklet.

This booklet consists of 8 printed pages excluding the cover page.

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 in order to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) but	(B) in	(C) on	(D) than	(E) when
(F) despite	(G) its	(H) or	(I) that	(J) who's
(K) how	(L) it's	(M) should	(N) then	(O) whose

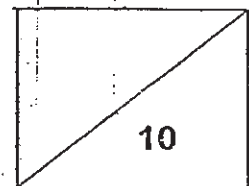
A dog is said to be man's best friend. It is faithful to (31) _____ master and would sacrifice itself for him.

How well do we protect our dogs in return? We may provide plenty of tender loving care (32) _____, many of us tend to forget that dogs bred in the city are more exposed to danger (33) _____ dogs in the rural areas. (34) _____ often have we come across carcasses of dogs on the roads, the result of unavoidable accidents? (35) _____ fault is it? Are motorists to be blamed entirely?

Motorists (36) _____ not be solely responsible for dogs and cats. (37) _____ simply dash across busy roads without the slightest warning. Sometimes this could cost a human life (38) _____ motorists try to avoid running down the animal and hit a pedestrian (39) _____ an oncoming vehicle in the process.

Yet the law disallowing dogs from being let loose outside was imposed not to protect the dogs but people. It was imposed following an incident (40) _____ which eight boxer dogs attacked and injured several people.

No wonder it is said that a dog is a man's best friend and not vice versa.



Correct each word in bold for spelling and each underlined word for grammar. Write the correct word in the relevant box. (10 marks)

These tiny villages were not on any maps, so I never knew I

41.

would come across one. When I **stambeld** into the village, everyone

42.

43.

stopped what they were doing and staring at me. I was in a **rimoat**

44.

45.

place. The villagers has never seen a **fourixer** up close before.

46.

Their eyes gawk at me from below straw hats. Children stood

wide-eyed. I was so much taller and bigger than the villagers!

47.

48.

I pulled up my empty water bottle and **jestured** for help. It

49.

took a while for them to figure out what I was saying. Thankful, a young

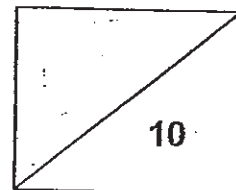
boy understood. He rushed inside his hut and came back with water. I

50.

took a sip. What a **releaf**! I filled up my bottle and got ready to head

back.

Source: National Geographic Explorer, May 2008, Rain Forest.



Fill in the blanks with the most suitable answer. (15 marks)

A plentiful supply of good water is most important in a hot jungle country. There is little movement of air and you sweat profusely, especially if you are travelling. Drink several quarts of water everyday to (51) _____ your efficiency. You can live for weeks without food (52) _____ you cannot survive without water. (53) _____ leads to decreased efficiency, a feeling of fatigue and ultimately death. When you find a good (54) _____ of water, drink plenty and carry as much as you can.

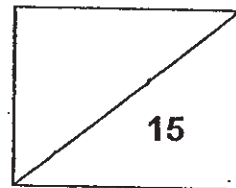
In most rain forests, you will find adequate water in sources like streams, springs and pools. However, the main problem is, how (55) _____ the water is. No surface water should be drunk without being boiled or chemically treated.

(56) _____ is usually safe to drink and can be conveniently caught in a parachute cloth stretched between trees or in containers (57) _____ from large leaves or bamboo.

When no surface water is available, you have to investigate (58) _____ water sources. (59) _____ water from plants is one of the easiest ways. To get at the water, select a good-sized vine and cut off a section five to six feet long, making the top cut first. Then, hold at head-height and let the water (60) _____ into your mouth. Grapevine also contains pure water and may be obtained in the same (61) _____. Bamboo, too, is a useful source of water with the hollow stem serving as a reservoir.

Observe one (62) _____ rule always: Never drink from a vine that has a milky sap.

The branches and trunks of many trees support air plants which are (63) _____ of producing water. The rainwater collects in the cup-like hollows (64) _____ the base of the leaves. The water is safe to drink without purifying it. (65) _____, most of these rain-catchers are high in the trees. They are inaccessible without climbing.



For each of the questions from 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). (10 marks)

66. The chicken rice in this stall is cheap and delicious.

Not only: _____

67. "Boys, you must finish this project quickly as you have to hand it in tomorrow," the teacher told.

The teacher told _____

68. Tom did not realise how difficult the competition was. That was why he agreed to participate.

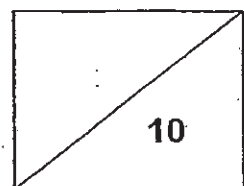
Had _____

69. Chris cannot collect the parcel from the post office. He needs to show some identification.

_____ unless

70. Joshua is a good runner. David is better than Joshua.

Comparatively, _____



Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

Carlo rowed all night, taking a breather only once in a while but not venturing to relax for any length of time. A boat juddering on the water was likely to arouse suspicion; besides, the current was not exactly in their favour. Indeed, several times, they might have been smashed to bits onto the shore. On the other hand, he could not move too far from the shoreline since he was not altogether certain of the direction. Again, he could not afford to lose time. They got so close in sometimes that they could make out rows of trees along the road near the shoreline.

5

Carlo's hands were so chapped and sore that it was now an ordeal just to grip the oars. Catarina pestered him to let her have a go but he knew very well that she would not be able to manipulate the heavy lengths of wood. Moreover, if one or even both of them were to drop irrecoverably into the water, that would mean the end of them. It was raining cruelly and they were drenched. Catarina's scarf had long since been blown away, leaving her soaking hair clinging to her face. It had been an act of insanity ever to have considered this scheme. If they did not drown in the icy Luba, they would die of pneumonia or be picked off by some trigger-happy soldier seeking promotion and not thinking twice about the value of a human life. Carlo was a competent swimmer, though he did not possess great stamina. As for Catarina, she would go hysterical if she had to entrust herself to the depths. The boat bobbed along.

10

15

Before long, the rain came to a halt and the wind began to drive the clouds, with the moon shining through, as if to symbolise hope. Carlo could see a lake and in the distance, a snow-capped mountain. In a moment, clouds covered the moon again and the mountain and the lake were hidden once more behind the widow's veil. Carlo preferred it this way as the darkness lent an appropriate tone to their flight.

20

Gradually, the rowing became more challenging, the distance covered by each stroke less and less significant. The sky was getting brighter. If there had been any guards patrolling the roads just then, the fugitives would have been spotted easily.

25

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

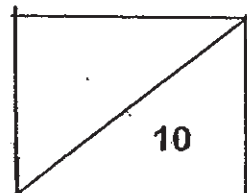
71. What were the two factors that stopped the couple from ~~resting~~ too long?

72. Why did Carlo have difficulty rowing the boat?

73. Why was it unwise to let Catarina do any rowing?

74. Which word in the passage has the same meaning as "manage"?

75. Give two reasons why Carlo and Catarina might die of pneumonia.



76. Explain clearly in your own words what "be picked off by some trigger-happy soldier" in line 15 means.

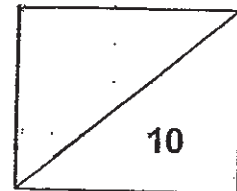
77. Was swimming ~~an~~ an option for Carlo? Why or why not?

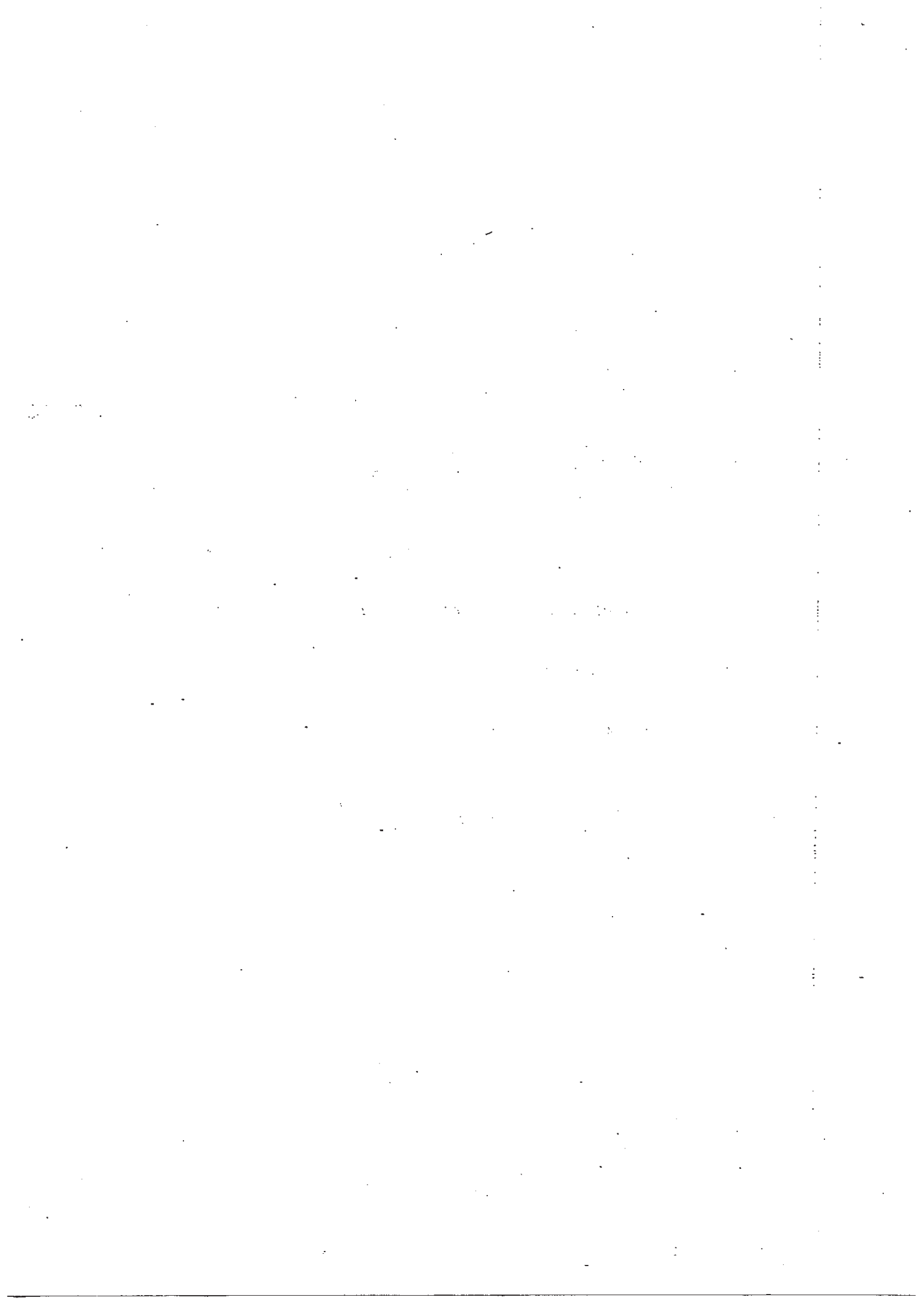
78. Based on the passage, what does the phrase "widow's veil" in line 22 refer to?

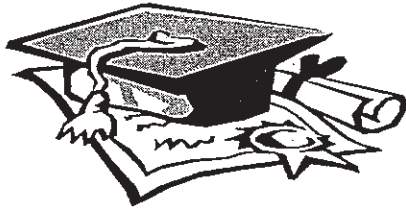
79. Line 23 mentions that Carlo preferred the darkness. How would the darkness help him?

80. How do you know that Carlo was really too tired from rowing towards the end?

END OF PAPER





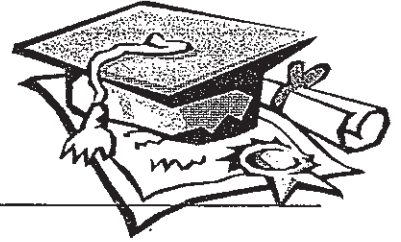


ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2010

**SCHOOL : CATHOLIC HIGH PRIMARY
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH**

TERM : SA1



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

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

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
Q	J	L	N	M	D

41)stumbled 42)stared 43)remote 44)had 45)foreigner

46)gawked 47)out 48)gestured 49)Thankfully 50)relief

51)increase 52)but 53)Dehydration 54)supply 55)clean

56)Rainwater 57)made 58)other 59)Getting 60)drip

61)way 62)important 63)capable 64)at 65)However

66)Not only the chicken rice in this stall is cheap, but also it is delicious.

67)The teacher told the boys that they had to finish that project quickly as they had to hand it in the following day.

68)Had Tom realised how difficult it the competition was, he would not have participate.

69)Chris cannot collect the parcel from the post office unless he shows some identification.

70)Comparatively, David is a better runner than Joshua.

71)The two factors were that the current was very strong and it would arouse suspicion if the boat was dallying in the water.

72)Carlo's hands were chapped and sore.

73)Catarina would not be able to manipulate the heavy lengths of wood and if one or two dropped into the water, they would die.

74)The word is "manipulate".

75)The water was cold and they were drenched from top to toe.

76)It means to be caught by a soldier who would shoot before he investigates the situation.

77)No, swimming was not an option for Carlo as he did not possess great stamina and it was raining so heavily, and he was very tired.

78)It refers to the dark clouds.

79)The darkness provided a cover Carlo so that nobody would not spot him easily.

80)The distance covered by each stroke was becoming less significant.