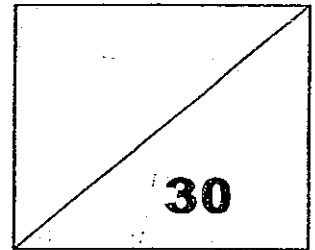


Methodist Girls' School (Primary)
Primary 6 Preliminary Examination 2008
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET A

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.

Name : _____ ()
Class : P 6. _____
Date : 18 August 2008

This booklet consists of 8 printed pages.

Study the following text and then answer the questions 1 to 5.

<http://www.shop.eat.rest>.

Click on * for more information

SHOP . EAT . REST .

Singapore is a paradise for the shopaholic and the foodie
- *a place where shopping & food are easily available*

In fact, shopping and dining are fondly referred to as the two 'national pastimes'.
The options are varied and there is much to choose from for everybody.



Did you know...?

Shop and eat or eat and shop?

Shops are never very far from food outlets, and vice versa.

Does anyone deliver?

Certainly. Relax and let your food come to you.

* Home Deliveries

A one-stop children's mall?

Yes, Forum. Conveniently located on Orchard Road.

* Forum * Orchard Road

What is a Food Court?

Air-conditioned food centres found in almost every shopping mall. Convenient and reasonably priced.

* Food centres

A Great Singapore Sale? - Great savings await you!

A shopper's dream, every year from end May to early July.

* Great Singapore Sale

Singapore's Speciality shopping destinations?

* Holland Village

Calling all

Bargain Hunters out there!

Think you've bagged the best buys of GSS 2008?

Show off your buys and win a relaxing Swedish massage worth \$88

(You deserve it! After all that shopping, what better way to reward yourself with an hour-long pampering?)

1. Register as an 88DB.com member
2. Post a clear picture of yourself wearing or carrying your best Great Singapore Sale buys.

Prizes

A 60-minute Renewal Signature Massage by Renewal Day Spa worth \$88 each.

All participants:

5 free 4R prints with every order of 10 4R prints at PHOTOfrenz

Back to Top

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. (5 marks)

1 *Shop . Eat . Rest.* _____

- (1) displays a variety of food and shops
- (2) attracts you to food courts and food centres
- (3) introduces places where you can eat and shop
- (4) provides you with information on the destination for your holiday

2 Singapore is described as a 'paradise' for the shopaholic who is also a foodie because _____

- (1) package home deliveries are available
- (2) there are numerous shopping centres for children
- (3) air-conditioned food centres make shopping a pleasure
- (4) one can get a variety of reasonably priced food conveniently

3 Which of the following statements regarding the Great Singapore Sale Contest (GSS 2008) is true?

- (1) Participants must submit only passport sized photos.
- (2) Only registered members of 88DB.com are eligible for the contest.
- (3) The winner needs to pay only \$88 for the hour-long Swedish massage.
- (4) All participants receive 5 free 4R prints at PHOTOfrenz with no minimum purchase.

4 The phrase '*national pastimes*' refers to the _____

- (1) hobbies different nationalities engage in
- (2) activities the nation likes to do in the past
- (3) events the country organises for the holidays
- (4) commonly preferred leisure activities of the locals

5 The given text is most likely to be a page from a/an _____

- (1) magazine on food
- (2) advertisement on the internet
- (3) pamphlet printed by Singapore's Speciality
- (4) brochure on shopping and eating for children

(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. (7 marks)

- 6 Jane, together with her classmates, _____ at the party yesterday.
- (1) is
 - (2) are
 - (3) was
 - (4) were
- 7 Geetha comes _____ as an eloquent young lady. I think we may select her to represent the school in the oratorical competition.
- (1) over
 - (2) along
 - (3) across
 - (4) through
- 8 Everyone in the hall knew Aminah was having a good time as they watched her laughing and _____ at the gathering.
- (1) dance
 - (2) dances
 - (3) danced
 - (4) dancing
- 9 I discovered that the lady _____ we met this afternoon actually lectures in the university.
- (1) who
 - (2) whom
 - (3) which
 - (4) whose
- 10 "I _____ not rest until I find out the truth!" Mother declared angrily.
- (1) may
 - (2) shall
 - (3) might
 - (4) should
- 11 The teacher made Mei Ling and _____ finish our work before allowing us to go for our recess.
- (1) I
 - (2) us we
 - (3) me
 - (4) she
- 12 The duck has _____ some eggs but they have not been collected.
- (1) lie
 - (2) lay
 - (3) laid
 - (4) lain

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. (3 marks)

Sarah came into the house sweating from badminton practice. After dumping her racket in her room, she went to the kitchen to get a long, cold drink.

"How did your practice go (13) asked Mum.

"It went pretty well," she said between gulps.

"That's great!" said Mum, changing the subject (14) "Do you remember how disappointed you were last term with your science project?"

Sarah nodded. "That was a real bomb! I came in tenth out of ten entries. I don't want that to happen again (15)

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

- 14 (1) [,] comma
 (2) [.] full stop
 (3) [?] question mark
 (4) [!] exclamation mark

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

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. (5 marks)

- 16 The furious bully looked at me with a _____ in his eyes.
- (1) beam
 - (2) glitter
 - (3) gleam
 - (4) sparkle
- 17 Grandma is recovering from amnesia and can only remember Mei Lin _____.
- (1) lightly
 - (2) vaguely
 - (3) distinctly
 - (4) ambiguously
- 18 The village head was frustrated. He wished he could convince his people that danger was _____ and they had to leave immediately.
- (1) flaring
 - (2) eminent
 - (3) imminent
 - (4) forthcoming
- 19 The rising cost of living has _____ many young couples from parenthood.
- (1) put in
 - (2) put up
 - (3) put off
 - (4) put away
- 20 I was like a _____ when I took my music examination for the very first time.
- (1) fish out of water
 - (2) cat on hot bricks
 - (3) dog with two tails
 - (4) man with ants in his pants

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. (5 marks)

I was whizzing down a slide, moving so quickly that everything was a giant blur. Plop!

I landed on what appeared to be a forlorn beach. I put my hand down to help myself up.
(21)

I marvelled at the strange feel of the sand. I sifted the sand through my fingers, trying to
(22)
decide how it was different from regular sand. It felt more like powdered sugar than sand.

Wait a minute, I thought. I tentatively placed a finger in my mouth. It was POWDERED
(23)
sugar. I licked my fingers clean and stood up to go and explore. I certainly wasn't bored anymore!

I walked towards the shimmering water. I noticed many seashells along the water's
(24)
edge. I had a huge collection of shells from our last excursion to the beach and I quickly
decided to bring home a few shells from this unique beach.
(25)

- 21 (1) barren
(2) wasted
(3) ~~desolate~~
(4) discarded
- 22 (1) sieved
(2) parted
(3) screened
(4) winnowed
- 23 (1) gingerly
(2) carefully
(3) hesitantly
(4) temporarily
- 24 (1) glowing
(2) gushing
(3) glistening
(4) glimmering
- 25 (1) lost
(2) elite
(3) solitary
(4) ~~exceptional~~

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

There are two schools of thought about how much sleep we ought to have. There are some who think we can leave the body to regulate these matters itself. "The answer is easy," says one authority. "With the right amount of sleep you should wake up fresh and alert in five minutes before the alarm rings." If he is right, many people must be under sleeping, including myself. But we must remember that some people have a greater inertia than others. This is not meant rudely: they switch on slowly, but also they are reluctant to switch off; they are alert at bedtime and sleepy when it is time to get up and this may have nothing to do with how fatigued their bodies are, or how much sleep they must take to dispel their fatigue.

5

Other people feel sure that the current trend is towards too little sleep. To quote one medical opinion: "Thousands of people drift through life suffering from the effects of too little sleep. The reason is not that they can't sleep but that they just don't." One can sympathise with this impression. We are depriving ourselves of sleep to meet our waking needs, pushing the boundary back and reaching to a point in our evolution where we will sleep no more. This in itself, of course, need not be a bad thing. What could be disastrous, however, and what these people fear, is that we should press too quickly towards this goal, sacrificing sleep only to gain more time which may jeopardize our actions and decisions due to fatigue and neurosis.

10

15

Then, to complete the picture, there are those who believe that most people are persuaded to sleep too much. Dr H Roberts, writing in *Everyman in Health*, asserts: "It may safely be affirmed that, just as the majority eat too much, so the majority sleep too much." One can see the point of this also; it would be a pity to retard our development by holding back those people who are gifted enough to work and play well with less than the average amount of sleep, if indeed it does them no harm. If one of the trends of evolution is that more of the life span is to be spent in gainful waking activity then surely these people are moving in the right direction.

20

25

Adapted from *How Much Sleep Do We Need?* by RT Wilkinson

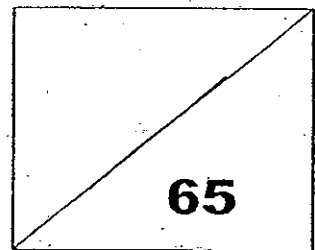
For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

- 26 The phrase 'regulate these matters' (line 2) refers to _____.
- (1) the body deciding how much sleep it needs
 - (2) the solving of the sleep problem by the people
 - (3) people deciding the amount of sleep they require
 - (4) the body asking questions about the amount of sleep needed
- 27 Some people have a greater inertia than others as they tend to _____.
- (1) oversleep
 - (2) get tired all the time
 - (3) react slowly in getting up and going to sleep
 - (4) know nothing about fighting the fatigue in their bodies
- 28 The author sympathises with people who _____.
- (1) cannot sleep
 - (2) do not sleep at all
 - (3) do not like to sleep
 - (4) push back their sleep
- 29 The current trend towards too little sleep can be disastrous as _____.
- (1) it could lead to people sacrificing their time
 - (2) people will be too tired to think and act rightly
 - (3) people will spend more time on their waking needs
 - (4) it will cause people not to be able to sleep anymore
- 30 One of the main reasons Dr H Roberts gives in support of less sleep is that _____.
- (1) people are persuaded to sleep too much
 - (2) our development will be retarded if we sleep
 - (3) some people can do with less sleep and yet function well
 - (4) more of our life span must be spent on gainful waking activity

Methodist Girls' School (Primary)
Primary 6 Preliminary Examination 2008
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET B

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.

Name : _____ ()

Class : P 6. _____

Date : 18 August 2008

This booklet consists of 7 printed pages.

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. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONCE ONLY

A	a	D	his	G	its	K	onto	N	towards
B	against	E	in	H	it's	L	out	P	up
C	an	F	inside	J	on	M	to	Q	with

He stood for a moment more, a grey, empty feeling gripping him and then settled himself onto the motorcycle and set off fast down the hill through the village.

He was nearing the bend before the long straight road. The wind increased, and his eyes filled (31) _____ water, especially when a sudden bump made him bite the end of his tongue.

(32) _____ of nowhere, he saw the Mini. It was stopped on the side of the road, (33) _____ lights turned off. He began to slow down and swing wide to avoid it when suddenly the inside light flashed. The driver's door opened and a figure started to get out. (34) _____ panic, he twisted the handlebars and jammed (35) _____ his brakes. The bike swerved sideways and he felt himself falling backwards.

His right leg hit the road and he crashed down half on his side. Then his head hit the tarmac and there was (36) _____ explosion of light and a crack sounded (37) _____ his brain.

He was unconscious as the bike continued its brief slide. The bike's weight knocked the old lady back (38) _____ the open car door. When he came (39) _____ seconds later, he saw the woman sprawled under the car. He leant (40) _____ her and felt for a pulse.

She was dead.

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

(41)

I watched as he ate and talked simultaneously. He was **sharveling** spoonfuls of

(42)

the chicken rice into his mouth, which was open like a huge cement mixer gone round and

(43) (44)

round as he chewed and talked. Grains of rice are spewed **ocasionaly**, landing all round his

plate, on his lap and on the floor.

(45)

"As I am saying," The ministry ought to do something about the beaches and all

(46)

(47)

that **littling**! How can anyone hope to enjoy a day beside the seaside?"

(48) (49)

He waved a fork into the air to **amphaise** the point while more rice grains came

(50)

spewing out. **Discretely**, I had to push myself further from the table to avoid a stray missile in the form of a rice grain.

Fill in each blank with the most suitable word.

(15 marks)

Hardly a day goes by in Japan without a festival occurring somewhere in the country. Festivals are usually noisy celebrations. They include lively processions, games and loud music.

The biggest (51) _____ of all in Japan is the New Year which falls on the (52) _____ day as our New Year, 1 January. People start (53) _____ for it early in December. They (54) _____ all their debts, clean their homes and put up decorations. They buy new clothes for themselves and gifts for their friends. At midnight on New Year's Eve, the ropes of the giant bells at the Buddhist temples are pulled 108 times to (55) _____ for 108 sins.

New Year's Day is like a birthday party because everyone (56) _____ a year to his age. The day is reserved for visiting family and friends.

The Japanese do not (57) _____ celebrating in winter. In fact, a truly spectacular festival from the tourist's point of view is the Yuki Matsuri – a fantastic snow festival organised by the residents of Sapporo, the capital city of Hokkaido. Trucks transport thousands of loads of snow to the main square. Huge blocks of ice are cut from (58) _____ rivers nearby and are hauled to the site as well. More than two thousand people work together to create massive ice structures. They (59) _____ figures of famous people, animals, spaceships and well-known buildings out of the blocks of ice.

Another equally delightful winter festival which will appeal to the younger visitors to Japan is Kamakura. The word 'kamakura' (60) _____ 'snow hut'. Young girls, with the help of their parents, choose snowdrifts and hollow them out until these big mounds resemble igloos. They (61) _____ the floor with a thick straw mat and place (62) _____ candles on a shelf that has been carved into the wall. The girls sit on the mat and wrap (63) _____ in warm quilts. They heat small rice cakes (64) _____ a little charcoal stove.

Festivals are so much a (65) _____ of the Japanese way of life that someone once jokingly said, "Festivals allow the disciplined Japanese to relax and let their hair down!"

Adapted from *Japan – The Culture* by Bobbie Kalman

For each of the questions 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 sentences(s). (10 marks)

- 66 What a fool Peter was to think that no one would find out that he had stolen John's watch.

It was _____

- 67 It is very exhausting to run ten rounds around the track continuously.

Running _____

- 68 The road works department is building a new road round Clementi.

A new road _____

- 69 Janet was embarrassed that she had worn her bedroom slippers to school.

Much _____

- 70 Father asked us, "What did you get for Mother for her birthday?"

Father asked us _____

(Go on to the next page)

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 - 80.

(20 marks)

It was a hot, humid day at Provident Hospital. As Dr Daniel Hale Williams was writing notations about his latest surgical successes in his diary, he recalled how difficult it was for the nurses working in this unbearable weather. Dr Dan, as he was affectionately called, was proud of the nurses. As the first inter-racial hospital in the United States, he knew, doctors like himself would have the opportunities to prove themselves, which they could not do elsewhere in this day and age.

5

Just as he was finishing his writing, he was interrupted by an all-too familiar sound. "Dr Dan...Dr Dan, this young man has been severely injured in the chest, near his heart. It doesn't look good," the nurse called out frantically.

10

"He is unconscious from the loss of blood and from shock. The wound is quite deep," added another doctor despondently. "He will die if nothing is done, but what can we do?"

Dr Dan did not like to hear this negative thinking. "There is always hope until the very end. We will have to open his chest to see how serious the wound is."

15

"That is unheard of; it is an open invitation to death," exclaimed the other doctor. "We had better just keep him warm and let him rest. This hospital cannot afford to get a bad reputation. You will not be condemned if he dies. He is near death."

Dr Dan stiffened with anger and determination. He stared at the other doctor and commanded him to assist. Antibiotics were given to the patient to fight infection. This, too, was unique, for it was recently that Lister's and Pasteur's studies had proved disease was caused by the spread of germs. Dr Dan worked swiftly, and when he opened the chest cavity, he saw that the wound had penetrated the heart about one-tenth of an inch, cutting the sac around the heart. The atmosphere was tense. No one knew what to expect. Dr Dan often did the unexpected, but what would he do now?

20

"This man has to live. He's too young to die," Dr Dan said with fierce determination. Bravely, he sewed up the heart sac **with the precision of an artist.** Questions spread around the hospital like wildfire. Would it work? Would the patient live? Would the infection kill the patient? Would some other complication set in?

30

Three and a half years after the operation, the headlines of the local newspaper read, "Sewed Up His Heart". Williams had received worldwide acclaim after he finally filed his official report about the success of the historic operation. James Cornish, the man who was operated on, lived for fifty years after the operation. Dr Daniel Hale Williams's contribution to medicine was phenomenal. He had successfully entered the chest cavity and performed surgical repair of the heart. His methods were so good that no sign of infection appeared in the patient. Considering the times, his achievement was miraculous.

35

(Go on to the next page)

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71 Which two-word phrase in the first paragraph suggests that Dr Dan was well-liked by his hospital staff?

72 Quote the sentence that suggests that the hospital Dr Dan worked for tolerated racial differences.

73 Explain clearly what James's condition was when Dr Dan first saw him.

74 What does 'that' in line 16 refer to?

75 Explain clearly what the phrase "invitation to death" (line 16) means.

76 Why ^{were} antibiotics used to treat patients?

77 In line 20, 'Dr Dan stiffened with anger and determination'. Why was he so?

78 The author described Dr Dan as sewing up the heart sac "with the precision of an artist" (line 29). Give two qualities that describe Dr Dan based on this comparison.

79 Give a word to describe the feelings of the hospital staff immediately after the operation? Why was it so?

80 Why was Dr Dan's operation historic?
