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**SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL**  
**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2013**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**  
**PRIMARY SIX**

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

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

Class: Primary 6 SY / C / G / SE / P

**PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)**

**BOOKLET A**

30 questions

30 marks

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.

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

# Fitness Family Jog-a-thon 2013

Back after the successful inaugural event at East Coast Park in 2012!

Fitness Family Jog-a-thon 2013

Date & Time : 2 November 2013, 6.30am

Venue : Marina Bay Park



Organised by



**FITNESS**  
Champions

**This event is OPEN TO ALL!**

Simply come down in a pair with a relative to Marina Bay Park and be a participant!

All participants will receive a free T-shirt from Jog & Co, as well as a lightweight water bottle from Fitness Champions!

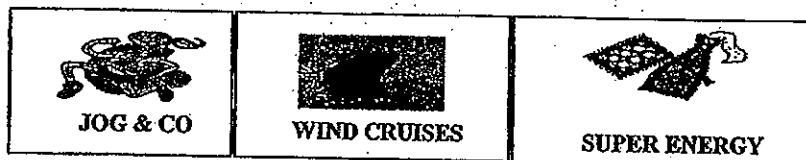


Every jogger will also receive a Lucky Draw ticket for the Fitness Lucky Draw 2013, which will be held on 15 November 2013 at Bukit Timah Stadium, right after the Fitness Marathon 2013. Winners will be announced on the spot and notified by post.

**The FIRST FIVE PAIRS OF JOGGERS TO REACH THE FINISH LINE WILL EACH WIN THE FOLLOWING PRIZES:**

- 1) 3D2N cruise to Redang, Malaysia
- 2) \$250 cash
- 3) 1 year's supply of isotonic drinks from Super Energy

This event is proudly brought to you by:



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). (5 marks)

1. This event will take place at \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) Redang
  - (2) East Coast Park
  - (3) Marina Bay Park
  - (4) Bukit Timah Stadium
  
2. This is the \_\_\_\_\_ Fitness Family Jog-a-thon.
  - (1) first
  - (2) final
  - (3) only
  - (4) second
  
3. Who must a Jog-a-thon participant sign up with?
  - (1) a relative
  - (2) any avid Jogger
  - (3) a participant in 2012
  - (4) a member of Fitness Champions
  
4. Maggie and her sister wish to take a cruise on a ship. They must \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (1) be one of the winners in the Fitness Lucky Draw 2013
  - (2) participate in both the Fitness Family Jog-a-thon 2013 and the Fitness Marathon 2013
  - (3) be one of the five pairs with the shortest completion times in the Fitness Family Jog-a-thon 2013
  - (4) be one of the first five pairs to register for the Fitness Family Jog-a-thon 2013
  
5. Wind Cruises is a \_\_\_\_\_ for the event.
  - (1) judge
  - (2) sponsor
  - (3) competitor
  - (4) committee

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. If James \_\_\_\_\_ his objection then, we would have taken his opinion into consideration.

- (1) raise
- (2) raises
- (3) has raised
- (4) had raised

7. The director had thought of a brilliant idea to save his company. However his plan \_\_\_\_\_ when his subordinates refused to help.

- (1) fell in
- (2) fell off
- (3) fell out
- (4) fell through

8. Justin should have kept his cool. He lost everything he had \_\_\_\_\_ a moment of impulse.

- (1) in
- (2) at
- (3) by
- (4) with

9. Mr Lee hardly ever takes part in lucky draws, \_\_\_\_\_?

- (1) is it
- (2) isn't it
- (3) does he
- (4) doesn't he

10. Benny is a hardworking boy. He \_\_\_\_\_ late into the night before his examinations last month.

- (1) has studied
- (2) had studied
- (3) has been studying
- (4) had been studying

11. Jane would be taking her sister and \_\_\_\_\_ to the amusement park next month.

- (1) I
- (2) me
- (3) mine
- (4) myself

12. \_\_\_\_\_ from Jenny, I am not sure if anyone else would like to join us in this overseas work trip.

- (1) Apart
- (2) Except
- (3) Without
- (4) Besides

**GO TO THE NEXT PAGE**

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)

Most kids and plenty of adults do not like wholewheat bread because of its darker colour and rougher texture. Researchers have come up with the new 'white' wholewheat bread and pasta but are they just as healthy (13) "Yes," says Cynthia Harriman of Whole Grains Council.

The main difference it seems is the colour gene. "Just make sure the first ingredient is wholewheat and avoid enriched and refined grains (14) reminded Cynthia. 'Refined' means about 17 nutrients were removed and 'enriched' means that 5 measly nutrients replaced them. We must aim to have at least three whole-grain servings a day (15) bread, rice, pasta and ready-to-eat cereals all count.

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

**GO TO THE NEXT PAGE**

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 fruiterer tried to \_\_\_\_\_ some rotten oranges on me although I had told him repeatedly that I did not want them.

- (1) toss
- (2) foist
- (3) load
- (4) push

17. The boys \_\_\_\_\_ over the river bank in fright when they spotted an alligator.

- (1) trotted
- (2) ambled
- (3) toddled
- (4) scrambled

18. It is a pity that George is so \_\_\_\_\_ in his choice of friends.

- (1) indifferent
- (2) undefined
- (3) indiscriminate
- (4) undistinguished

19. The sauce \_\_\_\_\_ the succulent steak they served us for dinner.

- (1) contemplated
- (2) complimented
- (3) supplemented
- (4) complemented

20. The retired army officer lived on his \_\_\_\_\_ every month.

- (1) wage
- (2) salary
- (3) pension
- (4) payment

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

In the core of Jurong, Singapore's bustling factory area, is the well-known Bird Park.  
(21)

Within this 50 acres of land are many aviaries containing birds from almost every country in the world.  
(22)

There are Taiwan magpies and German canaries but there are no swans. Recently, however, the escape of a swan from the Botanical Gardens resulted in the Bird Park having a swan. It happened this way. There were six swans in the Botanical Gardens, four of them black and the other two white. All along they were satisfied to swim calmly in the lake. Then one day one of the white swans decided to leave the Gardens and flew off, leaving his five companions behind. The escape took the authorities by surprise because such a thing had never happened before.  
(23)  
(24)  
(25)

Adapted from "Jurong Bird Park, Singapore" in *Reader's Digest*

21. (1) root  
(2) crux  
(3) heart  
(4) centre
22. (1) diverse  
(2) plentiful  
(3) numerous  
(4) voluminous
23. (1) led to  
(2) ended in  
(3) triggered  
(4) give rise to
24. (1) fulfilled  
(2) delighted  
(3) contented  
(4) reassured
25. (1) mates  
(2) partners  
(3) comrades  
(4) accomplices



Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

*Morena, a Caucasian, was hunting in the Africa. He was accompanied by his African driver, Sebe.*

We stopped in a small, sandy clearing surrounded by thick acacia thorn and were all wet, away from the truck when it happened. Sebe, the driver, had gone off on his own, at a tangent to all the others, and had vanished into the thick bush. Subconsciously I had noticed him go, but was busy on my own hands and knees when there was a blood-curdling yell and the confused patter of feet, accompanied by the sand-muffled thunder of hooves. 5

My own reaction was completely instinctive. I was on my feet, sprinting for the truck, and the rifle, before I had time to think out the cause of alarm. The rest of the gang emerged from the bush like rabbits popping out of holes, each one frightening everyone else as the bush crashed and flying feet hit the ground. As I reached the truck, snatched the rifle out of the cab, ran a round up the breech and turned to see what had caused the fright, Sebe broke cover. I would never believe he could run like that, but he had good reason. Two yards behind him was a big, old buffalo bull with blood in its eye! They were moving at about the same speed, very fast and intent on one another. Sebe was ducking and dodging in and out of some small trees, little more than scanty bushes, and the buffalo was following as though tied to him by a string. 10 15

I realised that I was faced with a very difficult shot. The buffalo was either half hidden by the bushy trees or right behind Sebe. When the buffalo was momentarily clear for a fraction of a second and I was all set to take the trigger back that fragment of space that would let the bullet loose, Sebe would instantly appear over the foresight and I would have to release the pressure. Finally he went to one side of a large bush and the buffalo hesitated and ducked round the other side and I let him have it. It was not a very good shot but it brought him down. I tried to get another shot in as his big black body bucketed in the dust but Sebe, reappeared around the bush at exactly the wrong moment. I roared at him to get out of the way, but he either did not hear me because of all the shouting from his pals, all of whom were either on or under the three-ton truck by now, or he was being silly. During the delay, when I did not dare risk a shot, the buffalo rolled to its feet and, half hidden in dust bolted back into cover. He gave a curious sort of moan, angry and surprised, ending in a bellow and I must say it was too much for me. I could hardly see. I ducked unhesitatingly into the cab and slammed the door. As I did so the other door slammed, and there was Sebe! 20 25 30

We were finally safe.

*Adapted from "Land of the Black Buffalo" by P. Smiles*

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. What did the writer do instinctively as soon as he heard the shout?
- (1) He shouted for Sebe.
  - (2) He ran towards the truck.
  - (3) He wondered what was happening.
  - (4) He looked around the sandy clearing.
27. What was the writer trying to convey when he describes the buffalo as having 'blood in its eye' (Line 14)?
- (1) The buffalo had spotted them for awhile.
  - (2) The buffalo was angry and ready to charge.
  - (3) The buffalo had been waiting in the bushes.
  - (4) The buffalo was tired and moving towards them.
28. Why didn't Sebe hear the writer's call to get out of the way?
- (1) The writer was too soft.
  - (2) The buffalo was moaning.
  - (3) Sebe was hiding in a bush.
  - (4) Sebe's pals were shouting.
29. How many shots did the writer make?
- (1) one
  - (2) two
  - (3) three
  - (4) four
30. Which word best describes the writer's feelings after entering the cab?
- (1) tired
  - (2) relieved
  - (3) shocked
  - (4) frightened

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SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2013

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PRIMARY SIX

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

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

Class: Primary 6 SY / C / G / SE / P

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

**PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)**  
**BOOKLET B**

	Marks Obtained	Highest Possible Marks
Booklet A		30
Booklet B		65
Sub-total		95

50 questions

65 marks

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.

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) an	(D) but	(G) has	(K) into	(N) to
(B) at	(E) by	(H) have	(L) so	(P) until
(C) between	(F) furthermore	(J) in	(M) some	(Q) upon

There once lived a young fisherman who worked hard for his living. Every evening, he went out \_\_\_\_\_ sea, and cast his nets into the water.  
(31)

When the wind blew from the land he caught nothing, or little \_\_\_\_\_ best, for it was a bitter and black-winged wind and rough waves rose to meet it. However, when the wind blew to the shore, the fish came \_\_\_\_\_ from the deep, and swam into the meshes of his nets, and he took them to the marketplace and sold them.  
(32)  
(33)

Every evening he went out to fish. One evening the net was so heavy that he could hardly draw it \_\_\_\_\_ the boat. He laughed to himself, "Surely I have caught all the fish that can swim, or snared \_\_\_\_\_ dull monsters that will be a marvel to men, or better yet, captured something of value that the great Queen will desire!" Putting forth all his strength, he tugged at the coarse ropes \_\_\_\_\_, like lines of blue enamel round a vase of bronze, the long veins rose up on his arms. He tugged at the thin ropes, and the net rose till it bobbed gently \_\_\_\_\_ the waves. To his utter amazement, no fish at all was in it, nor any monster or thing of value, \_\_\_\_\_ only a little Mermaid lying fast asleep.  
(34)  
(35)  
(36)  
(37)  
(38)

\_\_\_\_\_ beautiful was she that when the young fisherman saw her, he was filled with wonder, and he put out his hand and drew the net close to him. When he touched her, she woke with a cry like \_\_\_\_\_ anxious seagull, and looked at him in terror with her mauve-amethyst eyes, and struggled that she might escape.  
(39)  
(40)

Adapted from *The Fisherman and his Soul* by Oscar Wilde

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

We all know that it is against the law to steal someone's bike or car. However, did you

(41)

know that it is also **yilegal** to steal a novel invention? That invention is also considered as

(42)

someone else's property. Lawyers refer to them as "intellectual property" - something new that

did not exist until someone thought it up. If you happen to be a budding inventor, the only way to

(43)

guard your new invention from **thifs** is to patent it as soon as you can.

(44)

(45)

Patents are issues by governments. A patent is a court document that **akords** an inventor

(46)

the right to prevent others from making, using or selling a novel device, process or application in

(47)

something. The invention becomes the legal **poseshion** of the creator. Of course, others can

(48)

still make, use or sell a patented invention — but only upon the creator's permission.

A creator gives his or her permission by "licensing" a patented invention to a person or

(49)

company. Usually, that license will cost a lot of money. But there are **xsepsions**. In some cases,

the American government may license something that one of its scientists has invented for just

(50)

\$1. Instead of profit-making, his goal would be to control the ownership of the invention and keep

others from making a profit from selling the licence for the same invention.

Adapted from *What is a Patent?* by Janet Raloff, accessible at <http://www.sciencenewsforkids.org/2013/03/what-is-a-patent/>

Emily Dickinson is one of the most famous American poets who ever lived. She \_\_\_\_\_ in a very recognizable and unusual style, inventing punctuation marks and capitalizing the \_\_\_\_\_ letters of words at will. Emily was \_\_\_\_\_ in 1830 in Amherst, Massachusetts. Her family held education in very \_\_\_\_\_ regard, as evidenced by her brother, who qualified as a lawyer and by Emily herself.

Despite completing less \_\_\_\_\_ a year at university, Emily was a bright student and excellent writer. She had withdrawn from her Christian \_\_\_\_\_ as she was unsure of her religious beliefs and was uncomfortable being forced to show allegiance to a deity she did not believe in. Upon reaching home, she spent the rest of her \_\_\_\_\_ in increasing isolation from the world, content with the company of her family members. Although one may think of her as a \_\_\_\_\_ person due to her aloofness, this is not entirely true. Emily had several very close friends \_\_\_\_\_ whom she exchanged letters in such numbers that a small fraction of them has been collected into a published book.

Emily was a very productive \_\_\_\_\_ and sometimes included poems in her letters to friends, but only published a few poems during her lifetime. All of her poems were published anonymously – whether she was modest or \_\_\_\_\_ of criticism is not known. However, after her death in 1886, her sister \_\_\_\_\_ hundreds of poems stashed in Emily's bedroom. It is estimated \_\_\_\_\_ she wrote almost 2000 poems in her lifetime, many in the late 1850s and early 1860s. Her family and friends published as many as they could in the years following her \_\_\_\_\_, but because of her refusal to follow the conventions of grammar, they were forced to make many changes to standardise her writing. Numerous critics have bemoaned that Emily's original genius \_\_\_\_\_ been lost in translation. Thankfully, efforts were made to reprint her poems more accurately in later years. Readers are finally allowed to draw their own conclusions about the author's intended meaning.

Adapted from *Emily Dickinson*, accessible at <http://www.poets.org/poet.php/prmPID/155>

For each of the items 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 police officer asked the suspect, "Where were you at 2pm yesterday?"

The suspect was asked \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

67 Sharon crept into her house stealthily so that she would not be discovered by her parents.

\_\_\_\_\_ to avoid  
\_\_\_\_\_

68 The students were alert and disciplined that day. The teacher was very impressed.

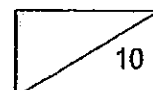
\_\_\_\_\_ was very impressed  
\_\_\_\_\_

69 That actress is greatly admired. She has won an Academy Award.

That actress \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

70 Victor ran too fast during the race. He fell and sprained his ankle.

Having \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. Money hoarded one and two cents at a time by haggling with the grocer, vegetable man and butcher until one's cheeks burned with silent indignity. Della had also resisted buying herself any treats in order to buy a Christmas present for her husband, Jim. They were newly-married and burdened with many expenses. She desperately wanted to get him something special, something that he would treasure. 5

As she stood in front of the mirror, caressing the beautiful, long auburn hair that hung over her shoulders, she was struck by an idea. She flung on her coat and marched out onto the street. Summoning up her courage, she pushed the door open and walked into a store that advertised 'Hair Goods of All Kinds'. "Will you buy my hair?" asked Della. She took her hat off and let her thick, curly locks cascade down her back. 10

"Twenty dollars," said the proprietress, lifting the mass with a practised hand. Della fought back her tears as the first lock fell to the floor. Nevertheless, once she had the money in her hand, the smile returned to her face and she skipped out of the shop to find a present for her beloved Jim. 15

She knew exactly what she was looking for. The one possession that her husband prized above all others was a gold watch that had been his father's and his grandfather's before him. Much as he loved it, he was still ashamed of using it in public because of the old leather strap he was forced to use in place of a watch chain. All he needed was a gold chain to complement the grandeur of the watch. 20

That evening, the moment Della heard Jim's footsteps on the stairs, she ran to the door. He stopped abruptly, his eyes fixed on Della. There was an expression in them that she could not read, and it terrified her. It was not anger, nor surprise, nor disapproval, nor horror, nor any of the sentiments that she had been prepared for. He simply stared at her fixedly with that peculiar expression on his face. 25

She ran towards him, crying, "Jim, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, but surely you still love me, don't you? I sold my hair. I sold it to buy you a present."

He reached into his pocket and withdrew a small parcel. "My darling, I love you, with or without your hair. Open your present and you will see why I had such a reaction."

Tearing open the parcel, Della greeted its contents with an ecstatic scream of joy, which then turned to a wail as she touched her newly-shorn hair. Nestled in coloured paper was the set of combs that she had worshipped for a long time. Beautiful combs, pure tortoise shell, with jewelled rims, just the shade to wear in her long red hair. 30

With tears in her eyes, she turned to her husband and said tenderly, "My hair grows so fast, Jim! I will soon be able to wear them. I know how much they cost and I wonder how you were able to afford them. Now, give me your watch. I want to see how your new chain looks on it." 35

Instead of obeying, Jim smiled, "Della, let's put our Christmas presents away for now. We won't be able to use them for a while."

Adapted from *The Gift of the Magi* by O Henry



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

71 Give two ways in which Della had managed to save up money for Jim's Christmas present.

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72 Which word in paragraph 2 best tells you that Della was very proud of her hair?

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73 Explain fully what the "idea" in Line 8 refers to.

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74 What does the phrase "a practised hand" (Line 12) tell you about the shop proprietress?

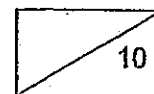
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75 What Christmas present did Della buy for Jim?

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76 Which sentence in Paragraph 5 tells you that Jim was shocked upon seeing Della's short hair?

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77 Explain fully the reason behind Jim's reaction to Della's short hair.

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78 Why did Della have mixed feelings towards her present?

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79 Explain fully what Jim meant by the sentence "We won't be able to use them for a while." (line 39)

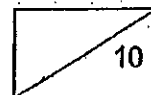
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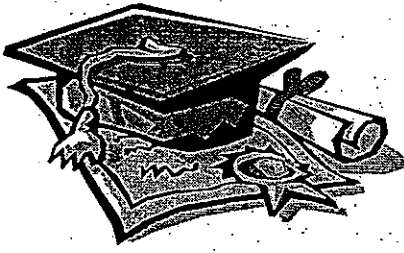
80 How do you know that Della and Jim loved each other very much? Give an example from the passage that tells you so.

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END OF PAPER



# ANSWER SHEET

**EXAM PAPER 2013**

**SCHOOL : SCGS**

**SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH**

**TERM : PRELIMINARY**

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

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
3	4	3	3	3	1	3	1	2	2	4	1	2	N	B	J	K

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
M	P	Q	D	L	A

- 41)illegal      42)it      43)thieves      44)issued      45)accords  
 46)for      47)possession      48)with      49)exceptions      50)its  
 51)wrote      52)first      53)born      54)high      55)than  
 56)school      57)life      58)solitary      59)with      60)poet  
 61)afraid      62)found      63)that      64)death      65)had

66)The suspect was asked where he had been at 2pm the previous day by the police officer.

67)Sharon crept into her house stealthily to avoid being discovered by her parents.

68)The teacher was very impressed by the fact that the students were alert and disciplined that day.

69)That actress is greatly admired for winning an Academy Award.

70)Having run too fast during the race, Victor fell and sprained.

71)She resisted herself from buying any treats and haggled with the stall holders.

72)The word is "caressing".

73)The "idea" refers to Della selling her beautiful long hair so as to get money to buy Jim a nice Christmas present.

74)It tells me that the shop proprietress was very experienced and had cut other people's hair many times before, so she knew what she was doing very well.

75)Della bought a gold watch chain for Jim to use with his gold watch which he loved.

76)The sentence is "He stopped abruptly, his eyes fixed on Della".

77)Jim reacted such as he was shocked and horrified that Della no longer had hair long enough to wear the combs he had bought for her in, so he was horrified that his present would be useless to Della.

78)She was overjoyed that she finally possessed the beautiful set of combs which she had worshipped for so long, but sad that she now no longer had hair long enough to wear them in, so she therefore had mixed feelings towards her present.

79)The presents Della and Jim bought for each other worked in parts and required two parts in order to be functional. Jim meant that when they bought each other the presents, they had sold the other part which they possessed, so in the end they only had one part so the present would not be functional, thus, they could not use it.

80)They both sacrificed something they loved and sold what they prized the most in order to have enough money to buy each other a nice Christmas gift, showing they loved each other very much.