



RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 1
2012

Name: _____ () Class: P6 _____

Your Score Out of 95 marks		
	Class	Level
Highest score		
Average score		
Parent's Signature		

30 April 2012

English Language

ATT : 1 h 50 min

BOOKLET A

Instructions to Pupils

1. Write your Name, Class and Index No. in the spaces above.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.
5. Shade your answers in the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.

Section A : Graphic Stimulus (5 marks)

Study the advertisement below carefully and then answer questions 1 to 5.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH POTTER!

"A cultural phenomenon."
The Daily News

"Broadway's biggest
blockbuster."
The York Times

"The best musical of the decade."
Entertainment Weekly

POTTER

(1 Dec 2011 – 31 Jan 2012)

NOW SHOWING

PotterTheMusical.com.sg
(Log on for details!)

The Raffles Times "Watch Potter" Contest

POTTER is now showing at Hillcrest Bay Sands and here's your chance to win not just a pair of tickets to catch the show, but also an exclusive back stage tour! Simply answer the question below.



Question: Is Ali Baba the Head Master of Azcaban University?

Answer: A) Yes B) No

SMS your answer to 11233 by midnight 26 December, in this format:
rtpotter<space>Answer<space>NRIC<space>email<space>Your Name
For example: rtpotter A S7854321Z rachel@gmail.com rachel tan

All correct entries are eligible for a lucky draw to be held on 27 December, 2 pm at ABC News Centre. 6 readers will each win a pair of tickets to the show which is on 29 January, 1 pm, inclusive of a backstage tour. There will not be any replacement should a winner not make it on this date. Each SMS costs 20 cents. Participants below the age of 18 must seek parental consent.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Good seats available!
24 Dec 1 pm & 7 pm
25 Dec 1 pm & 7 pm
31 Dec 1 pm & 7 pm

Organised by:

THE RAFFLES TIMES

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. According to Entertainment Weekly, "Potter" is the best musical _____
 - (1) of the year
 - (2) in ten years
 - (3) in twenty years
 - (4) in the last hundred years

2. Ravi would like to find out more about "Potter" the musical. According to the advertisement, he should _____
 - (1) visit ABC News Centre
 - (2) call The Raffles Times
 - (3) send an SMS to 11233
 - (4) log on to the official website of "Potter"

3. Sally would likely know if she had won the "Watch Potter" contest by _____
 - (1) 24 December, 7 pm
 - (2) 26 December, 12 am
 - (3) 27 December, 1 pm
 - (4) 31 December, 2 pm

4. The main aim of the advertisement is to _____
 - (1) publicise a musical
 - (2) celebrate Christmas
 - (3) have a contest for readers of The Raffles Times
 - (4) inform readers that there are still good seats available for the musical

5. Which one of the following is true of the "Watch Potter" contest?
 - (1) Participation in the contest is free.
 - (2) The lucky draw is held at Hillcrest Bay Sands.
 - (3) All correct entries will win tickets and a backstage tour.
 - (4) Your ten-year-old sister must ask your parents for permission to join the contest.

Section B : Grammar Discrete (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. Despite having _____ two litres of water, I was still thirsty.
- (1) drink
 - (2) drank
 - (3) drunk
 - (4) drinking
7. No sooner had Jamie put down the phone _____ it rang again.
- (1) as
 - (2) than
 - (3) when
 - (4) while
8. Ken takes pride _____ his work and he can be trusted to handle major projects.
- (1) in
 - (2) of
 - (3) on
 - (4) for
9. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "The future belongs to those _____ believe in the beauty of their dreams."
- (1) who
 - (2) whom
 - (3) which
 - (4) where
10. Gopal never tells lies, _____?
- (1) did he
 - (2) does he
 - (3) didn't he
 - (4) doesn't he

11. Our coach made us _____ ten kilometres today.

- (1) run
- (2) ran
- (3) had run
- (4) running

12. Mrs Lim told her, "Lisa, this is the short passage you need to memorise. What _____ is the list of words you need to learn."

- (1) follow
- (2) follows
- (3) followed
- (4) following

Section C : Punctuation (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.

"Why are you so quick to make fun of my theory (13) retorted Alfie.

"Well," replied Tash (14) because it is rubbish!"

Alfie cried, "Didn't you feel hurt when Meng did that to you too, when he made fun of your pictures of Crying House?"

Tash had to admit that Alfie was right (15) However, he pursed his lips and kept quiet.

Adapted from "The Women in the Last Carriage"

13.

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

14.

- (1) [.] full-stop
- (2) ["] inverted commas
- (3) [:""] colon and inverted commas
- (4) [,""] comma and inverted commas

15.

- (1) [-] dash
- (2) [:] colon
- (3) [,] comma
- (4) [.] full-stop

Section D: Vocabulary (6 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. A terrible disaster was _____ when the villagers sleeping in their huts woke up in time to discover the fire.
- (1) evicted
 - (2) evaded
 - (3) averted
 - (4) diverted
17. The man who was accused of theft was _____ and released from prison.
- (1) judged
 - (2) acquitted
 - (3) convicted
 - (4) sentenced
18. He has no _____ about cheating money from the elderly. He has been caught doing it several times.
- (1) doubt
 - (2) regret
 - (3) qualms
 - (4) remorse
19. This event is held annually to _____ the founder of the school.
- (1) commentate
 - (2) commiserate
 - (3) commemorate
 - (4) commensurate
20. Everybody makes mistakes and nobody is _____.
- (1) infallible
 - (2) immortal
 - (3) invincible
 - (4) insuperable

Section E: Vocabulary Cloze (5 marks)

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

At a time when a major complaint that Singaporeans have is with overcrowding and breakdowns on MRT lines, congested expressways that road pricing does not appear to have eased, and taxi fare hikes like those recently announced, a proposed

(21)

water taxi service could provide the solution to transport woes.

(22)

For commuters, it will be like taking a bus, only on water. There are many advantages: commuters can bypass road congestion and the infrastructure needed for

(23)

such a transport mode is not as exorbitant to build as roads.

(24)

If found feasible, there is room for ferry services that can operate from off major population centres sited near or along the coast. That could be the next great leap for public transport in Singapore.

(25)

Adapted from "Like buses on water", The Sunday Times, Dec 25, 2011

- 21 (1) moved
(2) solved
(3) lessened
(4) eradicated

- 22 (1) burdens
(2) problems
(3) grumbles
(4) calamities

23 (1) base
(2) system
(3) organisation
(4) establishment

24 (1) posh
(2) complex
(3) exclusive
(4) expensive

25 (1) reliable
(2) credible
(3) possible
(4) reasonable

Section F: Comprehension MCQ (8 marks)

Read the passage and answer questions 26 to 30.

My husband, Ken, and I were on a road trip to Boston with our teenage children, Leah and Shawn, when we decided to stop for lunch and stretch our legs.

As we walked towards the restaurant's entrance, a brusque-looking man jumped up from a nearby bench and opened the door for us. "Good afternoon and welcome to Denny's!" he said in a very jovial voice. In his hand, he held a ceramic mug full of steaming coffee, which was inviting on a cold day. However, from the looks of the rest of him, it appeared that he had not had a good meal or a shower in a long time. An old motorbike loaded down with a sleeping bag and the rest of his earthly belongings rested against the bench and his clothing told of hard times. Regardless of his appearance, he greeted us as if we were his best friends as we entered the restaurant.

Once seated, Ken and I explained the best we could, telling our children to look beyond the dirt and grime to the person underneath and within. As we explained, we watched other customers approach the restaurant; they appeared unsure of the "doorman" and many simply ignored him. Seeing this rudeness truly frustrated me. The day I became a mother, I had resolved to set a good example for my children. Granting some days, when things just did not go right, being a good example was tough.

When our meal arrived, I realised that I had left the car-sick pills in the truck. With the windiest part of our trip just ahead of us, the children really needed them. I excused myself and went to the truck.

As I neared the front door, the same man was opening it for an old couple and welcoming them to the restaurant. They moved past him and did not even acknowledge his presence. I let the couple come through and then said a loud and gracious "thank you" to the man as I exited. He teased me by asking if I was running away from my family and I told him I needed to get something from the truck. When I returned, I showed him the pills and he laughed saying that he understood the need for the pills as he had ridden to Boston before. We talked a bit longer and he told me that the restaurant manager would not let him inside unless he purchased food. All he could afford was coffee which the manager did not count as "food". However, he learnt that if he stayed close enough to the front door, the waitress would sneak out to refill his mug.

I went back to our table and related his story to my family. Then, I asked the waitress to add a soup and a sandwich to our bill. Both children looked at me in surprise as we had already eaten. The waitress was confused too but Ken knew exactly what I was doing. He explained that the food was for the doorman. The waitress smiled and thanked us. As we headed to the doors after paying our bill, we saw that the "doorman" was sitting at a table enjoying his meal. When he saw us, he jumped up and thanked me profusely for the hot meal. He extended his hand for a handshake which I accepted gratefully. It was then I realised he had tears in his eyes – tears of gratitude. What happened next drew gasps of astonishment – I gave the man a hug. Just as surprised as the rest of the crowd, the poor man held me tightly for just a few moments. Pulling away, his tears were now streaming down his face and others were beginning to cry too.

5
10
15
20
25
30
35
40

While we cannot choose many things in life, we can choose to show gratitude and I was just doing that. I was simply thanking a man who had opened the doors for me and giving me the opportunity to teach my children by example. Hopefully, when someone opens a door for Leah and Shawn during their journeys through life, they will remember to say "thank you". Hopefully, they will have a great soup and sandwich special on the menu too.

45

Adapted from Chicken Soup for the Soul – My Resolution

For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Choose the correct answer and shade the corresponding oval on the Optical Answer Sheet.

26. Who was the man who opened the door for the writer and her family as they entered the restaurant?
- (1) He was a waiter.
 - (2) He was a homeless man.
 - (3) He was the writer's friend.
 - (4) He was a doorman hired by the restaurant.
27. Why was the man not allowed in the restaurant?
- (1) He looked poor and very dirty.
 - (2) He did not have the means to buy more than a drink.
 - (3) The patrons of the restaurant did not want him to be inside.
 - (4) He had an argument with the manager of the restaurant before.
28. The word "brusque-looking" in line 3 suggests that the man was
- (1) deft
 - (2) kind
 - (3) gruff
 - (4) tactful
29. Based on the passage, which one of the following is true?
- (1) The poor man was also going to Boston just like the writer and her family.
 - (2) The writer's husband ordered soup and sandwich for the poor man as he felt sorry for him.
 - (3) The waitress would refill the poor man's coffee as long as he opened the door for the customers.
 - (4) Going back to the truck to get the medicine gave the writer an opportunity later to educate her children.

30. In line 42, "doing that" refers to the writer

- (1) hugging the poor man
- (2) teaching her children by example
- (3) showing appreciation to someone who had helped her
- (4) educating the crowd what they should do to show gratitude

Booklet B

Name : _____ Index No: _____ Class : P6 _____

Section G : Structural Cloze (10 marks)

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) and	(E) each	(J) on	(N) was
(B) apart	(F) from	(K) over	(P) were
(C) aside	(G) in	(L) for	(Q) with
(D) by	(H) of	(M) to	

The population of wild elephants is decreasing rapidly. Half of them in Dong Nai Province have been wiped out in recent years, despite steps taken _____ the Prime Minister to save them. A project that he initiated five years ago to provide them _____ a sanctuary in three "elephant provinces" by the year 2010 failed to get underway in the province.

The decision was made after the number of wild elephants fell from as many as 2,000 in 1975 _____ only 100 in 2006. The provinces were told to set _____ wilderness areas for them and survey elephant populations in _____ area.

They were also told to implant positioning devices in the elephants, research their reproduction rates so that numbers could be increased and stop poachers _____ killing them and trading their tusks, tails and meat.

The project got underway in two provinces and research on their reproduction rates _____ gathered. Training courses were set up to train people _____ caring for them.

Recently, farmers took over forest land for cultivation, restricting their living _____ feeding areas. However, this apparently outraged the hungry elephants which started feeding _____ farmers' crops, particularly at night, destroying the crops in the process.

Adapted from <http://news.asiaone.com/News/AsiaOne%2BNews/Asia/Story/A1Story20111229-318881.html>

Section H: Editing for Spelling and Grammar (10 marks)

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

I was six when I **first** performed on stage. My father was working on a magic act

(41)

for the **enuual** Christmas show at the senior centre and his assistant, the receptionist

(42)

who had a real gold tooth and false eyelashes as thick like spiders, got the flu. I was fully

prepared to beg my father to be part of the act.

(43)

At that time, I still believed that my father **trooly** could pull coins out of my ear

(44)

and find a **bookay** of flowers in the folds of Mrs Kleban's chenille housecoat. I really

believed too, that he could make Mr Looen's false teeth disappear. He did these little

(45)

tricks all the time for **airrowbics** or watch old **bläck**-and-white movies with soundtracks

(46)

that crackled like flames. I know some parts of the act were fake, for example, his

fiddlehead moustache and the coin with two heads. However, I was very sure that his

magic wand had the ability to transport me into limbo zone, until he saw fit to call me

back.

(47)

One night of the Christmas show, the residents in our town braved a cold

(48)

and arrived at the senior centre. They sat in a semicircle watched my father while I

(49)

waited backstage. When my father **unbownced** my name, I stepped out proudly wearing

(50)

the sequinned leotard I usually kept in my drawer. That night, I learnt the more important

lesson of my life – things do not vanish into thin air; when you cannot find something,

that is because you have been misdirected to look somewhere else.

Adapted from "Vanishing Acts" by Jodi Picoult

Section I: Comprehension Cloze Passage (15 marks)

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

Many children today do not get to enjoy their childhood. Fifty children illegally locked up in a seventh-floor classroom in a Chinese city to _____ their summer vacation learning the complex principles of a Mathematical Olympiad were discovered _____ passers-by had picked up paper planes with messages pleading for _____.

(51)

(52)

(53)

The children were sent to the unlicensed private class by their parents in the _____ that they would beat their peers in school mathematics examinations, or at least not _____ behind their classmates.

(54)

(55)

The class discovered on Monday usually had lessons _____ in a locked room six floors above a computer store. When educational officials tried to gain _____ to the seventh floor, they found a locked-up iron gate, which the caretaker of the building said he could not _____ as he had no key, reported the local news. The caretaker, when interviewed, claimed that he had no _____ that such activities were taking place. However, the _____ heard the hubbub of children leaving the building by a concealed exit, and when they got to them, their teacher was nowhere to be _____.

(56)

(57)

(58)

(59)

(60)

(61)

Although illegal, many parents tried to get their children _____ in the classes,
believing they were a passport to academic _____ (62).
_____ (63) "It's sad that many of our
children, _____ of having fun somewhere during the summer vacation, are now
(64)
forced to stay _____ to learn some dry mathematical principles," commented the
(65)
Orient Today newspaper

Adapted from "50 Chinese kids locked up for maths classes", The Straits Times

Section J : Synthesis and Transformation (10 marks)

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 sentence(s).

66. The child must be given a sweet. Only then will she take the bitter medicine.

_____ unless _____

67. "Johnny went to the zoo last week," Mary said.

Mary said _____

68. The sweets were put into bags in order to be distributed easily.

_____ for _____

69. Everyone says that Roald Dahl is the best children's book author of all time.

Roald Dahl _____

70. It was raining but Jerry continued to play in the field.

Despite _____

Section K: Comprehension Open-Ended (20 marks)

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

That was all. Only one dollar and eighty-five cents to buy Jim a present and all of them were in coins. Coins saved one and two at a time by *bulldozing the grocer* until one's cheeks burned with embarrassment when the deal was made. Tomorrow was their wedding anniversary and there was clearly nothing to do although Della had been saving every cent she could for weeks.

5

The Dillingham's rented home was furnished with a shabby little couch. They had two possessions which they valued. Had the Queen lived in the flat across the airshaft, Della would have let her hair hang out of the window some day to dry just to depreciate Her Majesty's jewels. Likewise, the King with all his treasures piled up would only pluck at his beard with envy whenever Jim pulled out his pocket watch.

10

Della looked at herself in front of the mirror. Quickly, she pulled her hair down and let it fall to its full length. With a brilliant sparkle still in her eyes, she had an idea. She fluttered out of the door and headed towards Madame Sofrone's hair shop. She sold her tresses for twenty dollars and with her new funds began ransacking the store to find a chain for Jim to secure his watch to his waistcoat. Finally, she found one that was chaste in design, properly proclaiming its value by substance alone and not by flashy ornamentation.

15

When Della reached home, her happiness gave way a *little to anxiety*. Standing in front of the mirror, she murmured, "I hope he thinks I am still pretty."

The door opened and Jim stepped in. His eyes were fixed upon Della and there was an expression in them that she could not read, and it terrified her. He asked, "Your hair is gone?"

20

"Don't make any mistake, Della," he affirmed, "about me. *I don't think there's anything in the way of a haircut that could make me like my girl any less*. If you open this package, you may see why you had me going a while at first."

25

Her fingers tore at the string and paper. Then, there was an ecstatic scream of joy accompanied by hysterical tears and wails. In her hands lay the set of combs her heart had simply craved for without the least hope of possession. Now, they were hers, but the tresses that should have adorned the coveted adornments were gone.

30

Jim had yet to see his beautiful present. Della held it out to him eagerly upon her open palm. The dull precious metal seemed to flash. "Give me your watch. I want to see how it looks on it," she bubbled.

"Della, I think our presents are too nice to use just at present," Jim pronounced.

Noticing that his watch was missing, Della then knew how Jim had enough money to buy her the set of combs.

35

Adapted from O. Henry's Volume 1 Short Stories

Name: _____ ()

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All answers must be in complete sentences.

71. How was Della related to Jim?

72. Della managed to save money by "*bulldozing the grocer*" (line 2). What did she do?

73. Which sentence in paragraph 2 tells you that the Dillinghams were not wealthy?

74. What were the Dillinghams' two most precious possessions?

75. What was the "idea" Della had in line 13?

76. Why did Della's happiness give way a *little to anxiety* (line 18) when she reached home?

77. Jim explained that "*I don't think there's anything in the way of a haircut that could make me like my girl any less*" (lines 23-24). What does this sentence suggest about his love for Della?

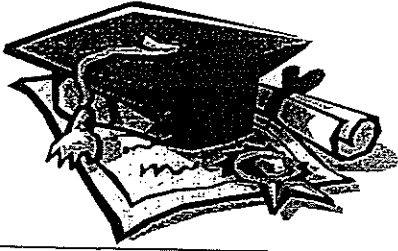
78. Why was Della screaming with joy initially but wailing later when she saw her present?

79. How did Jim have enough money to buy Della a present?

80. Which word has the same meaning as "muttered" in the passage?

End-of-paper

Setters
Ho Win Nie
Pek Xue Yan
Wong Liang Min



ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2012

**SCHOOL : RAFFLES GIRLS'
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH**

TERM : SA1

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

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
3	3	1	3	2	2	4	3	2	2	3	4	3	D	Q	M	C

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
E	F	N	G	A	J

- 41)annual 42)as 43)truly 44)bouquet 45)aerobics
 46)knew 47)the 48)watching 49)announced 50)most
 51)spend 52)after 53)help 54)hope 55)lagging
 56)conducted 57)access 58)enter 59)idea 60)officials
 61)found 62)enrolled 63)success 64)instead 65)indoors
- 66)The child will not take the bitter medicine unless she is given a sweet.
 67)Mary said that Johnny had gone to the zoo the previous week.
 68)The sweets were put into bags for easy distribution.
 69)Roald Dahl is said by everyone to be the best children's book author of all time.
 70)Despite the fact that it was raining, jerry continued to play in the field.

- 71) Della was Jim's wife.
- 72) She bargained with the grocer.
- 73) It is "The Dillingham's rented home was furnished with a shabby little couch".
- 74) They were Della's long hair and Jim's pocket watch.
- 75) It was selling her tresses for twenty dollars.
- 76) She was worried that Jim would not find her pretty anymore with her short hair.
- 77) Jim loves Della as much even when she cut all her hair.
- 78) Della received what she simply craved for without the least hope of possession but she had already cut off all her hair, so the combs would turn out useless.
- 79) Jim sold his pocket watch.
- 80) It is "murmured".