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**PEI CHUN PUBLIC SCHOOL  
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2012  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PAPER 2 : LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION  
PRIMARY 6**

**BOOKLET A**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: Primary 6 ( )

Subject Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 30 July 2012

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

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

Follow all instructions carefully.

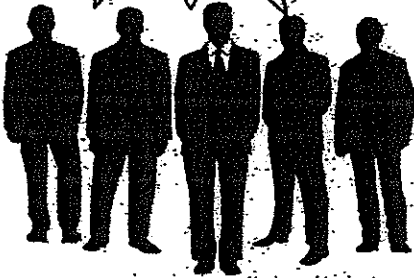
Answer all the questions.

**Section A: Graphic Stimulus Comprehension (5 x 1 mark)**

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

# GRAND VARIETY SHOW

The ever-popular  
biennial show is back  
in town!



Songs by HIGH FIVE!

presented by  
SILVER DRAMA SOCIETY  
&  
supported by  
GUEST ARTISTES  
in aid of  
CHILDREN'S CHARITIES

Performing only on  
Opening Day!



Back by popular  
demand! Famous mime  
artist JACK JILLS  
will once again have  
you glued to your seats!

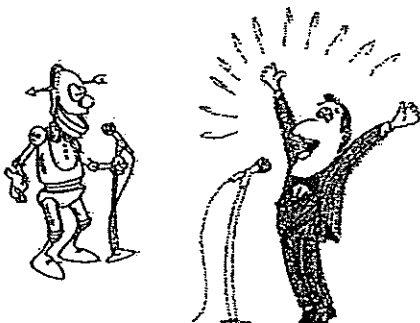
A two-hour fun-filled entertainment package of songs,  
dances, sketches, jokes and magic! The Grand Variety  
Show is sure to have you begging for more!



Dates: 24 August Friday, 25 August Saturday and  
26 August Sunday  
Show times: 10.00 am on Friday  
2.30 pm on Saturday  
7.30 pm on Saturday and Sunday  
Venue: La Fete Drama Society Auditorium  
Admission: \$20 per person for debut show  
\$30 per person for all other shows

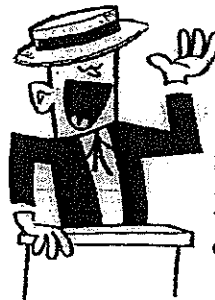


Abacadabra! Alakazam!  
THE GREAT QUINCEY!



ROBOTRON AND ROLANDO  
will have you rolling in the aisles!

The COOPER dancers will  
wow you with their moves!



President of  
Silver Drama Society  
PETER SIMONS will be  
our host for all the shows!

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. An organisation which could benefit from the variety show is a/an \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) hospice  
 (2) orphanage  
 (3) animal shelter  
 (4) home for the aged ( )
2. The act by Robotron and Rolando is likely to be a \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) stand-up comedy  
 (2) choral performance  
 (3) magic show  
 (4) mass workout ( )
3. Mr and Mrs Lee, who buy tickets specially to watch the mime performance, will watch the show at \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) 10.00 am on 24 August  
 (2) 2.30 pm on 25 August  
 (3) 7.30 pm on 25 August  
 (4) 7.30 pm on 26 August ( )
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is not a guest artiste for the Grand Variety Show.
- (1) The group High Five  
 (2) Jack Jills  
 (3) Quincey  
 (4) Peter Simons ( )
5. Which one of the following statements is true?
- (1) The Grand Variety Show is held twice a year.  
 (2) The show on Saturday night ends at 10.00 pm.  
 (3) A family of four pays \$80 to watch the show on 24 August.  
 (4) This is the first time Jack Jills performs in the Grand Variety Show. ( )

**Section B: Grammar (7 x 1 mark)**

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. After having admitted to being the mastermind, the biggest of the bullies \_\_\_\_\_ taken to the Principal's office this morning.
- (1) is  
 (2) are  
 (3) was  
 (4) were
- ( )
7. Knowing that all evidence was against him, the thief had no choice but to plead guilty \_\_\_\_\_ the charge that he was slapped with.
- (1) to  
 (2) in  
 (3) for  
 (4) with
- ( )
8. You barely touched your food, \_\_\_\_\_?
- (1) did you  
 (2) didn't you  
 (3) had you  
 (4) hadn't you
- ( )
9. The opposition parties have finally put \_\_\_\_\_ their differences and called a truce.
- (1) behind.  
 (2) down  
 (3) away  
 (4) aside
- ( )

10. Xuan Ling \_\_\_\_\_ some pictures on the wall to liven up the bedroom as she found it too drab.

- (1) hang
- (2) hangs
- (3) hung
- (4) hanged

( )

11. \_\_\_\_\_ of the boxes has a price tag on it.

- (1) All
- (2) Each
- (3) Most
- (4) Some

( )

12. Father made Joe \_\_\_\_\_ his homework before going to bed.

- (1) complete
- (2) completes
- (3) completed
- (4) completing

( )

**Section C: Punctuation (3 x 1 mark)**

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.

One evening, Tommy and his mother, Debbie, were driving to the neighbourhood mall. All of a sudden, as is the way with children (13) Tommy spoke. "Mum, how old were you," he asked, "when I was born (14)

"Thirty-six, Tommy. Why?" Debbie asked, wondering what his little mind was contemplating.

"What a shame (15) Tommy exclaimed.

"What do you mean?" Debbie enquired, more than a little puzzled.

Looking at her with love-filled eyes, Tommy said, "Just think of all those years we didn't know each other."

Adapted from *Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul*

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

**Section D: Vocabulary (5 x 1 mark)**

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. Johari bore the \_\_\_\_\_ of his mother's complaints after he and his friends did a poor job at pruning the shrubs.

- (1) brunt
- (2) clout
- (3) attack
- (4) majority

( )

17. Mr Kwek was \_\_\_\_\_ when the tailor told him that his suit was not ready for collection.

- (1) disjointed
- (2) disgruntled
- (3) dishonoured
- (4) disillusioned

( )

18. It is disheartening to see poverty being so \_\_\_\_\_ in this country.

- (1) vast
- (2) mutual
- (3) prevalent
- (4) threadbare

( )

19. The instructions were quite \_\_\_\_\_. There was no doubt as to what we had to do.

- (1) illicit
- (2) intrinsic
- (3) explicit
- (4) extrinsic

( )

20. In Chinese culture, it is considered a \_\_\_\_\_ for the bride and groom to meet on the day before their wedding. Such a practice is never allowed.

- (1) ban
- (2) taboo
- (3) penalty
- (4) boon

( )

**Section E : Vocabulary Cloze MCQ (5 x 1mark)**

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

Of all the heroes who fought against Troy, the shrewdest and the most astute was Ulysses, (21)  
king of Ithaca. Longing to stay at home with his wife, Penelope, Ulysses was unwilling to go to war. (22)  
The princes of Greece, however, commanded that he help them and half-heartedly, he assented to (23)  
their demands. Bidding farewell to all he held dear, he sailed away to battle in the Trojan War.

Ten long years passed and the weary siege of Troy ended. One by one, all the heroes reached their homes, but of Ulysses and his friends, there came no word. Every day, Penelope (24)  
stood by the shore and gazed far over the waves, but no sign of sail or glinting oars could she discern. Months passed by, and then years, and still no word. (25)

Adapted from *The Book of Virtues for Boys and Girls*, William J. Bennett

21. (1) loving  
(2) gentle  
(3) weak  
(4) clever ( )
22. (1) indebted  
(2) indecisive  
(3) indisposed  
(4) indiscriminate ( )
23. (1) caved in  
(2) tucked in  
(3) moved in  
(4) slipped in ( )
24. (1) comrades  
(2) accomplices  
(3) conspirators  
(4) perpetrators ( )
25. (1) receive  
(2) perceive  
(3) deceive  
(4) conceive ( )



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**Section F: Comprehension MCQ (5 x 1 mark)**

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

It is generally accepted by scientists and folklorists alike that myths and legends often arise from at least a germ of fact. Picture a large monster that lives in water. Two short, gnarled horns crown its narrow head. Its long neck stretches out from its wide round body. Its curved back makes it look like a big overturned boat. Although it may sound unbelievable, many people have said that they have seen this creature. They say it dwells in Scotland in a lake called Loch Ness. 'Loch' is the 5 Scottish word for 'lake'. They call this animal the Loch Ness Monster or Nessie.

People have reported seeing giant water creatures in the area around Loch Ness for hundreds of years. During the 1870s, a man claimed he was walking along the loch when he spotted something that looked like an upturned boat floating in the water. Moments later, he realised that what he had seen was alive. The creature then bolted off through the water. In 1933, a newspaper report described 10 a couple's sighting in dramatic detail. It reported that when the creature dove down, it sent water in the lake 'cascading and churning like a simmering cauldron'. The local public was stunned and fascinated by these accounts. Before long, reporters and tourists flocked to Scotland, hoping to catch a glimpse of Nessie.

The thought of finding a live water monster was exciting. However, Nessie-hunters soon 15 realised their task would not be easy. Loch Ness measures 1.6 kilometres wide and 24 kilometres long. Much of the loch reaches a depth of 153 metres or more, and in some spots, it goes down to more than 244 metres. If empty, three times the number of men, women and children in the world could fit inside it. Searching a lake like this for anything – even a monster – was a difficult task. Monster-searchers also had to deal with its murky water. Decomposing plants float in the water, 20 giving it a brown colour. Even with the aid of special lighting, observers could not see more than a few feet through water.

Despite such problems, many Nessie-hunters still came to the loch. Reports of new sightings continued to fill Scottish newspapers. Some seemed more believable than others. No matter how sincere they were, Nessie-spotters often only caught glimpses of what they believed was the creature. 25 However, investigations into some sightings revealed that shadows on the lake's water from flying ducks and ripples from gusts of wind had been mistaken for Nessie. Partially sunken tree trunks, floating logs and clumps of dead plants were thought to be the monster as well. Incidents such as these left room for doubt about Nessie's existence.

Adapted from *The Loch Ness Monster*, Elaine Landau

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.

26. One of the things Nessie has been likened to is a \_\_\_\_\_  
(1) boat  
(2) cauldron  
(3) folklorist  
(4) flying duck  
( )
27. The 'task' (line 16) of Nessie-hunters was to \_\_\_\_\_  
(1) search the loch  
(2) find a live water monster  
(3) give a report on their sightings  
(4) use special lighting in the water  
( )
28. Searching a lake 'like this' (line 19) means searching a lake \_\_\_\_\_  
(1) that was empty  
(2) that was deep and large  
(3) with the aid of special lighting  
(4) with the aid of three times the number of men, women and children  
( )
29. What does 'they' in line 25 refer to?  
(1) Scottish newspapers  
(2) reports of new sightings  
(3) people who went in search of the loch  
(4) people who claimed to have spotted Nessie  
( )
30. Based on the passage, which of the following words does **not** describe Nessie?  
(1) fast  
(2) large  
(3) elusive  
(4) gnarled  
( )



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**PEI CHUN PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2012**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**  
**PAPER 2: LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION**  
**PRIMARY 6**

**BOOKLET B**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (       )

Class: Primary 6 (       )

Subject Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 30 July 2012

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

Paper	Marks obtained	Maximum marks for each paper
Paper 1 (Situational Writing)		15
Paper 1 (Continuous Writing)		40
Paper 2 Booklet A (Language Use and Comprehension)		30
Paper 2 Booklet B (Language Use and Comprehension)		65
Paper 3 (Listening Comprehension)		20
Paper 4 (Oral)		30
Total marks for all papers		200

**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 letter (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking.

**EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.**

(A) a	(D) by	(G) is	(K) not	(N) to
(B) are	(E) even	(H) its	(L) of	(P) which
(C) at	(F) in	(J) just	(M) then	(Q) with

One of the world's smallest known frog species, *Microhyla nepenthicola*, lives inside carnivorous pitcher plants on the Southeast Asian island of Borneo. Just shy \_\_\_\_\_ (31) a centimetre long, the frog was discovered \_\_\_\_\_ Malaysia's Kubah National Park in 2004 \_\_\_\_\_ (32) scientists who heard its unusual call, akin \_\_\_\_\_ a fingernail dragging \_\_\_\_\_ (33) along a comb, and then spent \_\_\_\_\_ good half hour locating it. \_\_\_\_\_ (34) (35)

"Because of \_\_\_\_\_ size, we had a hard time even seeing it and then \_\_\_\_\_ (36) when we saw it, it took us a while to catch one," says Dr Indraneil Das, who discovered the frog and recently published a taxonomical description of it.

\_\_\_\_\_ more impressive than the diminutive size of the species \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ (37) fact that it lays its eggs inside a small pitcher plant. Its tadpoles swim around in the plant's \_\_\_\_\_ (38) fluid, \_\_\_\_\_ is filled with enzymes that digest many other animals. "It would be \_\_\_\_\_ (39) interesting to investigate why the tadpoles are \_\_\_\_\_ consumed by the plant," says Das. \_\_\_\_\_ (40) More research is currently being carried out on the species.

Adapted from *Discovery Channel Magazine*, Dec / Jan 2011

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

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

Rembrandt van Rijn (1606 – 1669) was a Dutch painter and etcher. He is regarded not only as

(41)

the greatest artist of the Dutch school, but also as one of the great genius in the history of art. He was

(42)

(43)

a proleefique artist and from an early age, the variety of his subjects are extensive, ranging from

(44)

(45)

portraiture to religious paintings. His ekstrawdinary series of self-portraits, in which over a hundred

(46)

are known, form a record of his life. The *Nightwatch* is one of the most popular and accomplishment

(47)

examples of the genre. Rembrandt's work is unparralleled in the history of art for its depth of

human understanding. A change of taste in Holland led to a decline in Rembrandt's popularity and a

(48)

change in his fortunes, culminating in his bankrupt in 1656. Increasingly, he worked without

(49)

cormision. His last years were clouded by the deaths of those closest to him, yet it was in this period

(50)

that he produced some of his most rekognisable works.

Adapted from *Rembrandt*, Helen Digby

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

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

I first travelled to Mexico City several years ago to meet my then soon-to-be in-laws. Since

then, Mexico has become my \_\_\_\_\_ away from home. Every corner I turn, every meal I

(51)

have and \_\_\_\_\_ new place I explore is a source of inspiration to me. Mexico always

(52)

takes my \_\_\_\_\_ away and has me fumbling for my camera even before the plane touches

(53)

the ground.

Upon exiting the airport, the culture shock is rather strong if you have never been to a

developing country — poverty is evident everywhere you turn. Amidst the hustle and

\_\_\_\_\_ of city life, one can see young children peddling tortillas in the street or elderly

(54)

women begging for a coin at a traffic light. The first impression of the city can be quite disheartening

to those not expecting it. However, like in every other large \_\_\_\_\_, beauty can be found

(55)

almost anywhere. In Mexico, it is especially embedded in the people.

By and \_\_\_\_\_, Mexicans are a warm, trusting and kind people. They are

(56)

respectful of tradition and go to great \_\_\_\_\_ to accommodate and please their guests.

(57)

Children are happy and carefree souls and play in the fields with wild \_\_\_\_\_ . Family is

(58)

always placed ahead of work. Other societal responsibilities and centuries-old traditions

remain important in modern-day Mexico.



Another of my favourite things about the country is its food. Since my very first

\_\_\_\_\_ of Mexican cuisine, I have become enchanted by the passion involved

(59)

in the preparation and the colourful presentation of even the \_\_\_\_\_ of dishes. The food is

(60)

also a reflection of a cultural identity that is uniquely Mexican. From ancient civilisations come

dishes that have changed very \_\_\_\_\_ over hundreds of years. The tortilla has been

(61)

consumed by Mexicans for at least 2000 years. It is a staple in the \_\_\_\_\_ of every

(62)

Mexican family, rich or

\_\_\_\_\_ (63)

If you have an opportunity to visit Mexico, do stop and \_\_\_\_\_ in the details – the

(64)

\_\_\_\_\_, the sounds and the smells. It will deliver to your senses a richness that you never

(65)

could have imagined existed there before.

Adapted from *Mi Casa Es Su Casa*, Canon PhotoYou, Autumn 2011

**Section J: Synthesis and Transformation (5 x 2 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 crew forsook the sinking ship. They drifted in the sea in life vests.

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

67. The minister decided to hold a press conference because the reporters queried repeatedly about the matter.

In response to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68. Tim told Mary that the news of the animals' deaths did not bother him.

Tim told Mary, " \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ "

69. She sang the last verse. Her eyes filled up with tears.

No sooner \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

70. He ran the last lap slowly. Otherwise, he would have won the race.

Had he \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Section K: Comprehension Open-ended (10 x 2 marks)**

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

She is lying in a cave, dying. Legs and arms but knobby sticks, Lidia is curled up close to the campfire. Her eyes are wide in apprehension of death. She coughs, her body convulses and she cries out in pain. Lidia is perhaps fifteen years old. She is not sure. Three months ago, she gave birth and the baby died. The group left the body in a cave and moved on.

But for the glow from the campfire, it is impenetrably dark. Stars. Those would be too much to hope for. It always seems to rain at night here in the mountains of Papua New Guinea. This is why Lidia and what is left of her people, the Meakambut, seek refuge in rock shelters – they are dry. We, a team from National Geographic, have unwittingly walked into a crisis. Our plan to follow the Meakambut, one of the last cave-dwelling peoples of Papua New Guinea, through their mountainous homeland has been eclipsed by the present emergency. An emergency medical technician in our team examines Lidia and discovers that her lungs are filled with fluid. He determines that Lidia likely has a life-threatening case of pneumonia and gives her antibiotics.

At dawn, Lidia is gasping for air. It will take the medical team six hours to machete their way to the Manbungnam River, where we have a dugout canoe with an outboard motor waiting. From there, it is another six hours downstream to reach the nearest clinic. We have little hope that Lidia will survive.

The Meakambut were unknown to the outside world until the 1960s, when Australian patrols began to trek into the most ferocious landscapes in the country. It is only in the most deeply inaccessible regions of the country that enclaves of traditionally nomadic people like the Meakambut still exist. To first search for the Meakambut, our team flew by bush plane into the Sepik River basin. We then skimmed up smaller streams in a motor dugout. Finally we struck out on foot into the mountains. In the first evening, we tried reaching the Meakambut by jungle telephone. When that did not work, we tried again. Three men pounded the two-storey trunk of a towering tree with wooden bats, the deep-voiced thumps reverberating out over the canopy of the jungle. When that, again, did not work, we set out on a gruelling two-day foot patrol to the group's last known whereabouts, Tembakapa. It was deserted. At noon the next day, two Meakambut men came striding into our camp. They had heard the call of the jungle telephone. They were John and Mark – brothers, both slight, muscled and with wide feet.

That night, it was fire-fried sago pancakes for dinner. We sat by the fire, chewing the bland, gummy pancakes. John confided that he was deeply worried for his people. He said that there used to be several hundred Meakambut. Now they lost two babies for every one that lived. He said that there were no pigs left in the mountains, no birds in the jungle and no fish in the streams. When the campfire died out, John whispered something he wanted me to pass on to the government of Papua New Guinea:

*We, the Meakambut people, will give up hunting and live in the mountain caves if the government will give us a health clinic, provide us with an education system and help us with housing.*

Adapted from *Last of the Cave People*, National Geographic, February 2012

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

71. Which phrase in the first paragraph tells us that Lidia is bony?

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72. What is the only source of light for the author and his team in the mountains of Papua New Guinea?

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73. What is the original intention of the National Geographic team in going to Papua New Guinea?

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74. Explain fully what the 'present emergency' (line 10) is.

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75. Why does the National Geographic team have 'little hope' (line 15) that Lidia will survive?

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76. What does 'the country' in line 18 refer to?

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77. How did the writer and his team use the jungle telephone?

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78. What was the alternative way to locating the Meakambut people?

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79. Give two reasons why John was 'deeply worried for his people'-(line 30).

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80. From the last paragraph, what are the main concerns of the Meakambut people?

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Set by : Mrs Celine Low  
Vetted by : Ms Heng Peck Hoon, Ms Teo Bee Poh, Ms Jasmine Wong and Mrs Bernadette Chen

Pei Chun Public School  
Preliminary Examination 2012  
English Language, Primary 2  
Booklet A & B

1)	2	6)	3	11)	2	16)	1	21)	4	26)	1
2)	1	7)	1	12)	1	17)	2	22)	3	27)	2
3)	1	8)	1	13)	2	18)	3	23)	1	28)	2
4)	4	9)	4	14)	4	19)	3	24)	1	29)	4
5)	3	10)	3	15)	4	20)	2	25)	2	30)	4

31)	L	33)	D	35)	A	37)	E	39)	P
32)	F	34)	N	36)	H	38)	G	40)	K

41)	geniuses	46)	accomplished
42)	prolific	47)	unparalleled
43)	was	48)	bankruptcy
44)	extraordinary	49)	commission
45)	of	50)	recognisable

51)	home	56)	large	61)	little
52)	every	57)	lengths	62)	diet
53)	breath	58)	abandon	63)	poor
54)	bustle	59)	taste	64)	take
55)	city	60)	simplest	65)	sights

- 66) Having forsaken the sinking ship, the crew drifted in the sea in life vests.
- 67) In response to the reporters' repeated queries about the matter, the minister decided to hold a press conference.
- 68) Tim told Mary, "The news of the animals' deaths does not bother me."
- 69) No sooner had she sung the last verse than her eyes filled up with tears
- 70) Had he run the last lap quickly, he would have won the race.
- 71) The phrase is "knobbly sticks".
- 72) It is the campfire.
- 73) Their plan was to follow the Meakambut through their mountainous homeland.
- 74) Lidia is dying and the National Geographic team is trying to get her to the nearest clinic.
- 75) It will take too long to get Lidia to the nearest clinic.
- 76) It refers to Papua New Guinea.
- 77) Three men pounded the two-storey trunk of a towering tree with wooden bats, the deep-voiced thumps reverberating out over the canopy of the jungle.
- 78) It is to walk to the Meakambut's last known whereabouts.
- 79) Their population was decreasing and they had no food.
- 80) They were concerned about health, education and housing.

