



**PRIMARY 6 SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2 - 2012**

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Date: 18 July 2012

Class : Primary 6 ( )

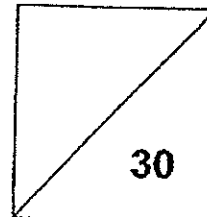
Time: 11.00 a.m. – 12.50 p.m.

Duration: 1 hour 50 minutes

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

Marks: \_\_\_\_\_ / 95

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PAPER 2  
(BOOKLET A)**



**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Write your name, class and register number.
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**

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

# Our ecosystems BIOSPHERE and BIOGLOBE



We use unique NASA technology for our products. The BIOGLOBE and BIOSPHERE® are just two examples of an original collection of educational products that stand out for making art out of science.

The BIOGLOBE is a closed salt water ecosystem, nourished by natural elements such as light and heat. The BIOSPHERE is a closed fresh water ecosystem with several types of animals and plants living in perfect balance.

More information can be found online at [www.bioglobe.com.sg](http://www.bioglobe.com.sg) or you can call us at 64545366.

### Workshop:

Mondays to Fridays from 2 – 3 p.m. or  
Saturday from 5 – 7 p.m.

The weekend workshop will allow parents to bond with their child as they create a BIOSPHERE together.

You don't have to feed us or change our water. We're perfect for busy individuals.

### Special Promotion

1) Additional 10% discount for OCBC & POSB Credit Card Holders.

#### Terms & Conditions:

- The account holder must be present at the point of transaction.
- The BIOGLOBE must be charged to the respective credit cards.

3) Buy 2 BIOGLOBES to get the second one at a 50% discount.

#### Terms & Conditions:

**CASH  
Only!**

Only one discount mode applicable per purchase.

2) Special educator discount of 5%.

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. The purpose of this advertisement is to \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) encourage family bonding
  - (2) promote gardening for busy individuals
  - (3) generate more sales for the BIOGLOBE and BIOSPHERE
  - (4) conserve pond ecosystems and prevent the extinction of animals
  
2. The BIOGLOBE and BIOSPHERE are \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) closed ecosystems which require a lot of maintenance
  - (2) tanks which contain a variety of marine life and shellfish
  - (3) suitable for individuals who enjoy taking care of fish and changing their water
  - (4) self-sustainable environments which do not require any changing of water
  
3. Mrs Lee wants to find out more about the products. She should \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) call NASA
  - (2) buy the product
  - (3) attend the workshops
  - (4) visit the website [www.bioglobe.com.sg](http://www.bioglobe.com.sg)
  
4. Sally wants to buy two BIOGLOBEs. To obtain the most savings she should \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) pay using a credit card
  - (2) purchase both BIOGLOBEs and pay in cash
  - (3) ask a teacher to buy it using the educator discount
  - (4) pay for one BIOGLOBE using cash and the other with a credit card
  
5. Which of the following statements is true?
  - (1) More information is obtainable via email.
  - (2) One can customise the BIOGLOBE prior to purchase.
  - (3) The workshop over the weekends is longer as more people can attend it.
  - (4) The BIOGLOBE is different from the BIOSPHERE due to the type of water used.

**Section B: Grammar**

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. Neither Ali nor his parents \_\_\_\_\_ pork. The family members \_\_\_\_\_ all Muslims.
- (1) take ... is
  - (2) takes ... is
  - (3) take ... are
  - (4) takes ... are
7. In the midst of the investigations, the officers \_\_\_\_\_ some counterfeit currency which the criminals had hidden in the dustbins.
- (1) came to
  - (2) came over
  - (3) came about
  - (4) came across.
8. "Could you allow \_\_\_\_\_ to board the train together?" Sally pleaded with her mother.
- (1) her and I
  - (2) she and I
  - (3) she and me
  - (4) her and me
9. The strange girl, \_\_\_\_\_ everyone was talking about in hushed tones, is the niece of the President.
- (1) who
  - (2) whom
  - (3) which
  - (4) whose

10. The thieves have stolen everything. \_\_\_\_\_ of my money is gone.

- (1) All
- (2) Most
- (3) None
- (4) Some

11. John was adamant to fight for the cause which would bring dignity \_\_\_\_\_ the lives of the foreign workers in Singapore.

- (1) in
- (2) for
- (3) into
- (4) upon

12. Jason's room is in such a messy state. He needs at least two days to clear it \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) up
- (2) off
- (3) out
- (4) through

**Section C: Punctuation**

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)

A motivational speaker held up a hundred-dollar note. He asked (13) "Who would like this note?" Hands started shooting up. "I am going to give this to one of you, but first, let me do this (14) He proceeded to step on it until it was crumpled and dirty.

For the second time, he asked the audience who wanted the note and hands shot up. He explained that in life, we might be dropped (15) trampled on and pounded into the ground. However, we must always remember that no matter what happens, you'll never lose your sense of self-worth.

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

**Section D: Vocabulary**

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. Despite being \_\_\_\_\_ hand and foot, John managed to escape.
- (1) tied
  - (2) bound
  - (3) gagged
  - (4) strapped
17. The aeroplane landed after flying \_\_\_\_\_ for twenty hours.
- (1) continually
  - (2) perpetually
  - (3) persistently
  - (4) continuously
18. As we sat by the campfire and admired the beautiful forest, we heard the \_\_\_\_\_ of burning wood.
- (1) breaking
  - (2) blistering
  - (3) crackling
  - (4) crunching
19. The feud between the two families ended when the two brothers decided to \_\_\_\_\_ and let bygones be bygones.
- (1) face the music
  - (2) kick the bucket
  - (3) bury the hatchet
  - (4) throw in the towel
20. Siti's parents had some \_\_\_\_\_ words for her when she only attained a T-Score of 120 for the PSLE. They were utterly disappointed.
- (1) firm
  - (2) harsh
  - (3) severe
  - (4) disturbing

**Section E: Vocabulary Cloze**

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

Jane was a student of Butterfly Primary School. She was terribly haughty. (21)

due to her self-perception of her superiority. One day, while the teacher was posing a question to Jane's classmate, Jane decided to interrupt. She (22)

displayed such a negative attitude that anyone could tell that her actions were administered without care. Her classmates were appalled and some even (23)

gasped in shock. They felt that her actions would surely get her into hot soup. (24)

Needless to say, the teacher was upset. She did not reduce the (25)  
amount of homework which Jane was subjected to.

21. (1) contented  
(2) conceited  
(3) conniving  
(4) condemning
22. (1) pop in  
(2) run in  
(3) butt in  
(4) come in
23. (1) unwittingly  
(2) indignantly  
(3) unknowingly  
(4) indiscriminately



24. (1) assuredly  
(2) incredibly  
(3) convincingly  
(4) undoubtedly

25. (1) lower  
(2) lessen  
(3) descend  
(4) diminish

## Section F: Comprehension

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

Richard and George Cadbury's entire world-view was shaped by their personal values. These values moulded their early childhood experiences, their social and marriage opportunities, their choice of career, and their all-encompassing view of the wider purpose of their chocolate business.

From the earliest years they had seen their father endeavour to apply 5 these ideals to the community. John Cadbury was deeply concerned about society's 'savage indifference to the child'. In the 1820s, when John was developing his shop on Bull Street, it was not uncommon for children to be carted off from the workhouses 'to the cotton mills or the mines', to be used there as if they were disposable. John was horrified by the misery of children 10 trapped in a life of slavery.

John's greatest outrage was reserved for the barbarous practice of using workhouse boys as young as five as chimney sweeps. Many suffered twisted spines, damaged joints or were maimed by falls. After years of campaigning, John was delighted when a law was passed which eventually 15 banned the use of chimney sweeps.

On the home front, George and Richard persevered with their efforts to keep the company afloat. George saw the relationship with the employees as key. Sitting in the stock room at 6.00 a.m. over breakfast, he encouraged 20 workers to discuss issues in their lives, and tried to help with their education, reading aloud to them and exchanging views on topics of interest or stories from the Bible. By today's standards such actions might seem paternalistic, but at a time when many people could not read, they were greatly valued. Many staff members spoke of their enjoyment of these small meetings, which 25 were 'more like family gatherings'.

In spite of their losses, George and Richard pressed ahead with plans to increase wages, with a new payment structure that tripled women's pay. There was an evening sewing class once a week at the factory, during which George read to the group. Richard and George were the first employers in Birmingham to introduce half days on Saturdays and bank holidays. 30

Adapted from: *Chocolate Wars* by Deborah Cadbury

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 'savage indifference to the child' in line 7 means \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) each child possessed unique qualities
- (2) an attitude of great concern for the child
- (3) a fierce child who aspired to be different
- (4) a beastly attitude of nonchalance towards the child

27. What was most horrifying with regard to the treatment of the boys?

- (1) Boys being enslaved.
- (2) Boys being allowed to work in mines.
- (3) Boys being allowed to work in cotton mills.
- (4) Boys being allowed to work as chimney sweeps.

28. George fostered a close relationship with his employees by \_\_\_\_\_.

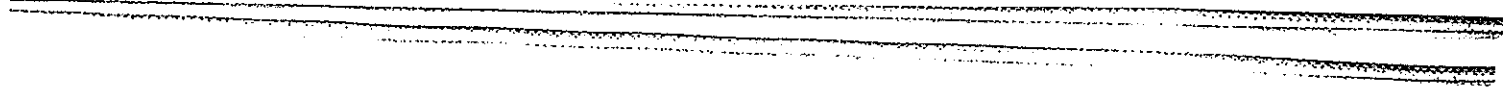
- (1) having all meals with them
- (2) teaching them how to read
- (3) treating them like his siblings
- (4) showing care and concern for them

29. In what way could Richard and George be seen as employers who were ahead of their time?

- (1) They increased wages regularly.
- (2) They taught their employees how to sew.
- (3) They paid their female employees more than the males.
- (4) They allowed their employees to work shorter hours on Saturday.

30. The best title for this passage is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) The Road to Fair Treatment
- (2) The Value of Perseverance
- (3) The Enslavement of Children
- (4) The Success of Richard and George Cadbury



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## PRIMARY 6 SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2 - 2012

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Date: 18 July 2012

Class : Primary 6 ( )

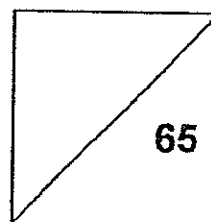
Time: 11.00 a.m. – 12.50 p.m.

Duration: 1 hour 50 minutes

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

Marks: \_\_\_\_\_ / 95

## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2 (BOOKLET B)**



### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Write your name, class and register number.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.

### Section G: Grammar Cloze

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 ONLY ONCE.**

- |          |           |            |            |          |
|----------|-----------|------------|------------|----------|
| (A) into | (D) of    | (G) across | (K) since  | (N) with |
| (B) but  | (E) as    | (H) in     | (L) though | (P) over |
| (C) to   | (F) about | (J) when   | (M) soon   | (Q) on   |

At 8.30 p.m. on Saturday 31 March 2012, millions of people switched off their lights for one hour to support Earth Hour. The largest environmental event (31) \_\_\_\_\_ history, Earth Hour is organised by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). The aim is (32) \_\_\_\_\_ raise an awareness of climate change and unite the Earth's population to take action. Supermodel Miranda Kerr returned (33) \_\_\_\_\_ the face of Earth Hour 2012, along (34) \_\_\_\_\_ cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar. Last year, 135 countries took part, including iconic buildings and landmarks (35) \_\_\_\_\_ the world. This year, the WWF hopes to set a new record (36) \_\_\_\_\_ they need your help! Indeed, many did switch off all lights and fans (37) \_\_\_\_\_ the clock struck Earth Hour at 8.30 p.m. on 31 March. The organiser was able to track the number of participants (38) \_\_\_\_\_ they had to register with Earth Hour. The favourable figures show that many people care (39) \_\_\_\_\_ our planet. Heartened and encouraged by the support, the WWF is confident that more will come (40) \_\_\_\_\_ board to save the planet.

Adapted from: The Reader's Digest

**Section H: Editing for Spelling and Grammar**

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

Not so long ago, the silence of Gleneagles Hospital was shattered by

(41)

my cries. I believe it may have been terribly loud as I was born with a

(42)

fractured leg. I know it must have been **xkrutiating**. Within a week of my

(43)

**aezistance**, my parents received news from the hospital. They were

(44)

(45)

**deestraught** when I was finally diagnosed by a condition in which my bones

(46)

(47)

breaking because my body lacks the **nessessare** collagen. I have come to

(48)

realise I can always take advantage of the **atverceetee**. When I fractured my

(49)

left arm, I learn to write with my right. Now, I am ambidextrous. I realised

(50)

many things during the years but the most important is that I can change the

situation if I control the way I react to it.

Adapted from <http://www.jeremylim.com/old/modules.php?name=aboutme&file=biography>

**Section I: Comprehension Cloze**

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Oscar was named after the character who lives in a dustbin because that is where we met. I was (51) \_\_\_\_\_ at a restaurant and had been assigned garbage duty. While tossing bags into a dustbin, I heard a soft almost (52) \_\_\_\_\_ meow which I could barely hear. I began digging through the trash and I found a cat - cold and (53) \_\_\_\_\_. I was sure that the cat had crawled into the dustbin to scavenge for food. However, I wondered if he had been left there on (54) \_\_\_\_\_. Back on solid ground, it became (55) \_\_\_\_\_ that the cat had an injured leg. The situation created a (56) \_\_\_\_\_ for me. Finances were tight and I was moving to my parents' house - with two cats in (57) \_\_\_\_\_. Dad did not like the two cats so his reaction to another injured stray was sure to be (58) \_\_\_\_\_ than positive. Keeping this in mind, I took the stray to the (59) \_\_\_\_\_ who diagnosed that the cat had a cracked pelvis.

Meanwhile, the response at home was definite (60) \_\_\_\_\_ more cats! As it could not stay for the night, Dad (61) \_\_\_\_\_ I take the cat to the SPCA. I protested that the cat would be put to (62) \_\_\_\_\_ as it was injured. Luckily, my mother agreed that we would keep him long (63) \_\_\_\_\_ for his hip to heal, leading to his eventual adoption. Oscar must have somehow (64) \_\_\_\_\_ his situation. As (65) \_\_\_\_\_ day went by, he seemed to assimilate into our lives. This reduced the possibility of him being put up for adoption.

Source: Reader's Digest Australia



**Section J: Synthesis / Transformation**

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).

(10 marks)

66. I was beaten by him during our last game. I was better prepared for our match this time.

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

67. Mr Lim said, "Sally, when will you come to my house for our discussion?"

Mr Lim asked \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68. Lastly, the seamstress sews the buttons before ironing the blouse.

Finally, the buttons \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

69. The domestic helper prepares breakfast and washes the cars every morning.

The breakfast \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

70. The bomb will explode if you do not key in the right code.

\_\_\_\_\_ unless \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Section K: Comprehension Open-ended

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

The little ship was painted battleship grey. She flew the white ensign and she had a four-inch cannon neatly mounted in her bow. In the eyes of some, this was enough for her to be considered a warship. However, she was not nearly that grand. In fact, she was just a simple freighter, christened the Vyner Brooke. She was far from the largest but she was one of the most reliable ships of the Sarawak Steamship Company. In a matter of days, the ship would gain prominence as she was about to **run for her life**. 5

The Vyner Brooke would carry no freight on this trip; her cargo consisted solely of humans. Those on board would be under Royal Navy leadership. The ship's captain was a newly minted officer of that navy, a middle-aged captain of the Sarawak Steamship Company, R.E. Borton, or affectionately known as 'Tubby'. Tubby was told he would be taking aboard 200 passengers. Most of them were civilians, men, women and children fleeing Singapore before its inevitable surrender to the advancing Japanese forces. 10 15

There were also representatives of several of the armed services currently engaged in the conflict with Japan. Some of these were specialists with technical knowledge that made them simply too important to be allowed to fall into the hands of the Japanese—radar technicians, code breakers, cipher clerks, intelligence officers and the like. The Japanese could exploit them to gain an upper hand in the war. 20

Another group of individuals were present on the ship. They were the nurses from Australia. Not one of the Australian nurses had wanted to leave and until the previous day they all believed they would remain on the island. In their hearts, they believed that their place was with the wounded Australian soldiers they had been nursing in ever-increasing numbers for the past month. 25

Somewhere below them, the engines started and the propeller slowly moved through the water, pushing the Vyner Brooke ahead and around. Up on the bridge deck, an Australian accented female voice began to sing. Then, **the voice faltered and faded away as no one joined in**. They understood that they were moving into an unknown future. Tomorrow would be Friday the 13th, and Tubby was well aware of sailors' superstitions about that date. He was also aware that Japanese ships controlled the seas and Japanese aircraft controlled the skies. 30

"Half speed ahead!" he ordered. 35

Three days later, the Vyner Brooke had been sunk by Japanese bombers. Many of the passengers who were killed in the raid had disappeared at sea. Some others had drifted to Banka Island on which there is a place called Riyadh Beach.

The Japanese forces met them there. After an eternity that lasted no more than two minutes, Captain Masaru called out a command and the soldiers stood up. They forced the nurses into a line, facing the sea, about ten metres away from where they had been sitting. 40

There were twenty-three women in that line. As they moved, they all heard their matron call out, "Chins up, girls. I'm proud of you and I love you all." As they continued to move towards the water's edge, some made eye contact with their friends but most looked straight ahead. Then, the inevitable began. 45

Adapted from: On Riyadh Beach

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

71. In line 3, what does the word 'this' refer to?

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72. What does the phrase 'run for her life' tell you about the speed the ship was travelling at?

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73. How was the impending journey on the Vyner Brooke different from the previous ones?

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74. From paragraph 2, quote a two-word phrase that shows the inexperienced nature of the captain.

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75. Why were the civilians rushing to leave Singapore?

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76. Why would a radar technician be too important to fall into the hands of the Japanese?

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77. Were the nurses initially willing to leave the island? Provide a reason for your answer.

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78. In line 30, 'the voice faltered and faded away when no one joined in. Explain fully why no one joined in.

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79. From line 37 to 39, what happened to the passengers when the ship was bombed?

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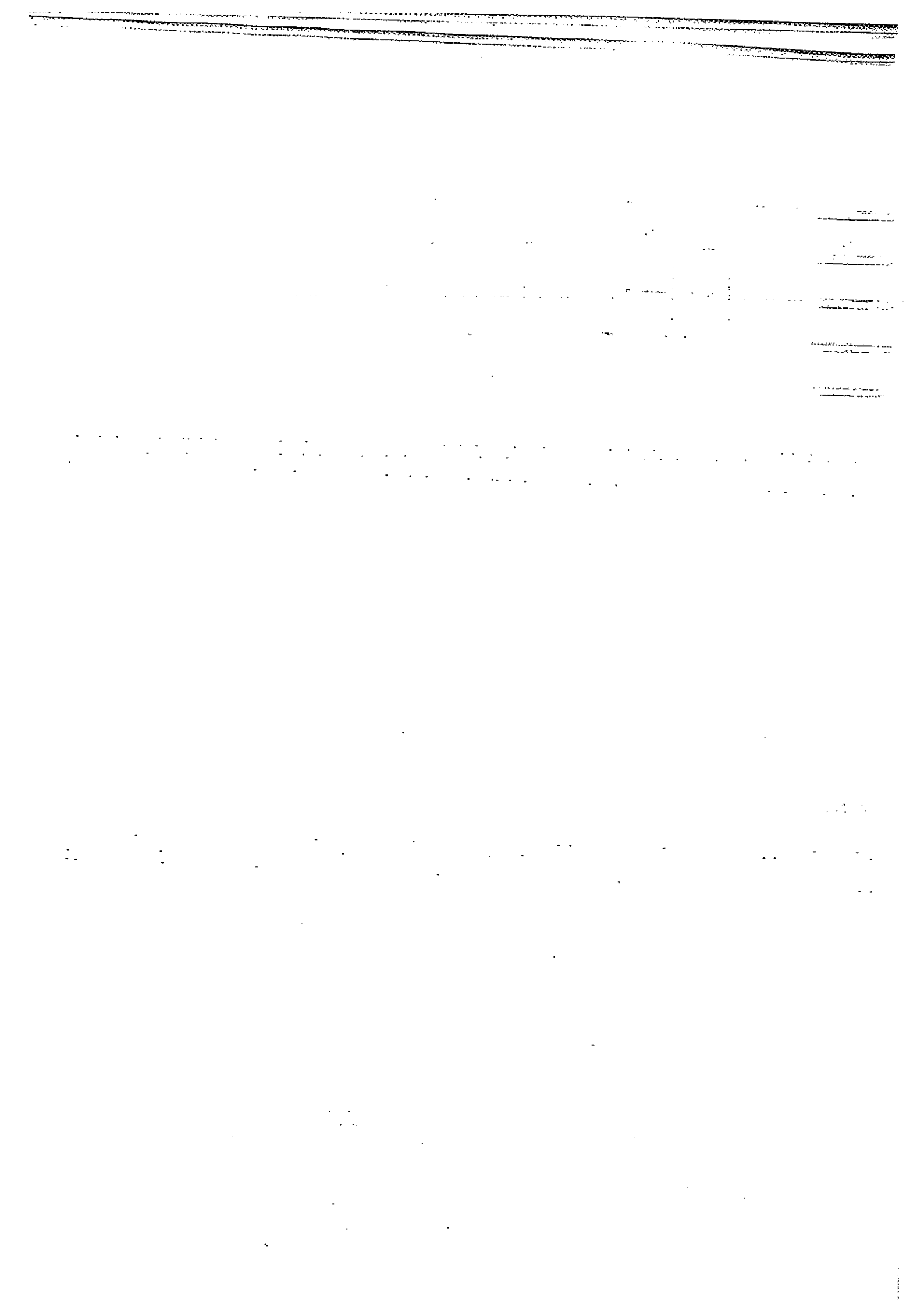
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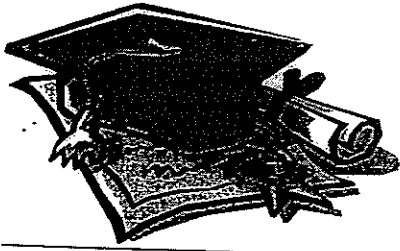
80. Quote a sentence from the last paragraph to show how the nurses displayed bravery.

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End of paper





# ANSWER SHEET

**EXAM PAPER 2012**

**SCHOOL : TAO NAN**  
**SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH**

**TERM : SA2**

1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17
	4	4	2	4	3	4	4	2	1	3	1	3	3	3	2	4
8	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
	3	2	2	3	4	4	2	4	4	4	4	1	H	C	E	N
5	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40											
	B	J	K	F	Q											

- 1)might      42)excruciating      43)existence      44)distraught      45)with  
 6)break      47)necessary      48)adversity      49)learnt      50)over  
 1)working      52)inaudible      53)hungry      54)purpose      55)clear  
 6)dilemma      57)tow      58)less      59)vet      60)no  
 1)ordered      62)sleep      63)enough      64)understood      65)each

- 5)Having been beaten by him during our last game, I was better prepared for our match this time.  
 7)Mr Lim asked Sally when she would go to his house for their discussion.  
 8)Finally, the buttons are sewn and the blouse is ironing by the seamstress.  
 9)The breakfast is prepared and the cars are washed every morning by the domestic helper.  
 10)The bomb will explode unless you key in the right code.

1) It refers to the white ensign that the ship flew and the four inch cannon which was neatly mounted in its bow.

2) It tells me that the ship was traveling very quickly.

3) The ship carried freight on the previous journeys but on the impending journey, the ship carried humans.

1) It is "newly minted".

i) Singapore was going to surrender to the Japanese so they did not want to offer.

) The Japanese could exploit him to gain an upper hand in the war.

) No, they were not. They felt that their place was with the wounded soldiers.

) The passengers were anxious about the future and did not know what would happen to them.

) The passengers were killed, disappeared at sea and drifted to Banka Island.

As they continued to move towards the water's edge, some made eye contact with their friends but most looked straight ahead.