



**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2015
PRIMARY FIVE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

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

Name: _____ . ()

Class: Primary Five _____

12 May 2015

28 Questions
(28 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.

This booklet consists of 8 printed pages excluding the cover page.

For each question from 1 to 10, 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. (10 marks)

1. "I saw Mrs Dorai _____ some money to charity just now," Tom told Paul.

- 1) donate
- 2) donates
- 3) donated
- 4) had donated

2. _____ of the boys wants to buy the doll.

- (1) Many
- (2) None
- (3) Some
- (4) A few

3. Tom, together with his cousins, _____ more than an hour trying to assemble the Lego plane.

- (1) spend
- (2) has spent
- (3) have spent
- (4) are spending

4. _____ he ran as fast as he could, he still missed the bus.

- 1) Unless
- 2) Despite
- 3) Although
- 4) In spite of

5. The bag with all the documents _____ left behind in the taxi just now.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were

6. No sooner had James put the phone down _____ he heard a loud cry.

- (1) as
- (2) then
- (3) than
- (4) when

7. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "The future belongs to those _____ believe in the beauty of their dreams."

- 1) who
- 2) whom
- 3) where
- 4) whose

8. All of you like the book "Around the World in Eighty Days", _____ you?

- 1) do
- 2) does
- 3) don't
- 4) doesn't

9. It was Madam Chua and not Mr Teo who completed the assignment all by _____.

- 1) herself
- 2) himself
- 3) ourselves
- 4) themselves

10. Jennifer wrote a letter of complaint _____ the salesgirl who was rude towards her.

- 1) of
- 2) at
- 3) for
- 4) about

For each question from 11 to 15, 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)

11. With an improved transportation system, several places in the island are easily _____.

- (1) usable
- (2) available
- (3) accessible
- (4) approachable

12. It was obvious from the dark clouds that a storm was _____.

- 1) eminent
- 2) imminent
- 3) dominant
- 4) prominent

13. By the time Ahmad was eighteen, he had advanced from _____ pens and pencils to stealing jewellery.

- 1) looting
- 2) pilfering
- 3) swindling
- 4) ransacking

14. We must not _____ the copyright by downloading movies from the internet without permission from the authorities.

- 1) flout
- 2) resist
- 3) infringe
- 4) disobey

15. The chicken pox caused me to _____ in a rash.

- 1) break up
- 2) break out
- 3) break down
- 4) break through

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

My first encounter with giraffes in the wild was a revelation. I was travelling with a friend, a Kenyan, in Samburu National Park in Kenya's far north. I was new to the continent and was (16) dazzled by everything I had seen. But as we rounded a bend in the forested area, my jaw dropped. There, no more than 6 metres before us, was the largest living thing I had ever seen: a two-storey-tall reticulated giraffe (17) biting gently the leaves of an acacia tree. In the dappled light, we had nearly crashed into it – my first lesson in giraffe camouflage – yet her manner was utterly (18) collected. She barely stopped eating to acknowledge us, but that one look was all I needed. I was (19) hooked.

When I went home, I told everyone about those miraculous beings. Most of my friends nodded politely, but my best friend looked at me very wisely, nodded and said, "Of course. Tall blondes."

Of course, I felt that I could understand and (20) associate with giraffes, as someone who reached 1.8 metres as a thirteen-year-old could. I understood the mixed blessings of being taller than most of the crowd.

Adapted from: Sherr, L. (2004). *From National Wildlife*.

16. (1) affected
(2) distracted
(3) fascinated
(4) exasperated
17. 1) poking
2) pecking
3) nibbling
4) munching
18. (1) bold
(2) confident
(3) distressed
(4) composed
19. (1) caught
(2) cornered
(3) captivated
(4) connected
20. 1) tag on
2) refer to
3) relate to
4) blend with

Study the following flyer and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Proudly brought to you by Onwards Outdoor Activities School

ADVENTURE CAMP 2015

Dates: 15 to 19 June 2015

Venue: Onwards Outdoor Activities School Campsite

Theme: Everyone Can Be A Winner

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS



It's that time of the year again!

The registration for our ever-popular Adventure Camp is now open!

- Information on the camp programme can be found at www.ooas.sg
- To register, go to www.ooas.sg/camp
- Only online payment is accepted
- Registration closes at 5 p.m. on 31 May 2015 or when all vacancies are filled, whichever is earlier
- To make enquiries, email Lydia at lyd@ooas.sg or call her at 61111111

One of the strengths of our camp programme is the emphasis on keeping camp journals by participants. The following journal entry was written last year by Kendrick Beh, a Secondary One student who was a camp participant for four consecutive years.



This morning, I wished I could just zip myself up in my sleeping bag and escape everyone's notice. There was an activity called "Soaring Eagle" lined up for the day and it had caused me many sleepless nights.

I first noticed the name of that activity listed in the camp programme, and my curiosity was aroused. I had never heard of it and Adventure Camp had never included it in previous years so I had no clue what it was all about. I could not wait to find out and asked my friend, Kevin, if he had heard of such an activity. For a split second, I thought I caught Kevin giving me a sly look. Then, he told me that he tried it during a camp he had gone for and it was an experience he would never forget. He had to jump off a fifty-metre platform wearing only a parachute-like piece of equipment and whizz over a muddy river filled with creepy-crawlies before he could finally land on open ground! My eyes almost popped out! My greatest fears combined! I could feel myself breaking out in cold sweat. For once, I wanted to give Adventure Camp a miss.

Thankfully, I did not chicken out. (As I sat in the briefing room listening to Instructor Alex's instructions for "Soaring Eagle", I knew that I'd been taken for a ride. "Wait till I get my hands on you, Kevin!" I muttered under my breath.

"Soaring Eagle" turned out to be one of my favourite camp activities, featuring a mere one-metre jump and no creepy-crawlies!



FUN FACT

Soaring Eagle: a beginner level aerial rope course that (incorporates a short and safe step off a low platform.)

For each question from 21 to 28, four options are given. One of them is the answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (8 marks)

21. Based on the flyer, which of the following is **true** of the camp?
- 1) There is no limit to the number of camp participants.
 - 2) The camp is held around the same period every year.
 - 3) The participants will emerge champions in a sporting event.
 - 4) Lydia will be able to register participants making cash payment.
22. According to the journal entry, Kendrick did not want anyone to take notice of him because he _____.
- 1) wanted to go back to sleep
 - 2) was breaking out in cold sweat
 - 3) wanted to skip the day's activity
 - 4) was upset about not being able to fall asleep
23. According to the journal entry, how did Kendrick first figure out the truth about "Soaring Eagle"? He _____.
- (1) knew that Kevin lied to him all the time
 - (2) experienced "Soaring Eagle" for himself
 - (3) chanced upon the "Fun Facts" section on the flyer
 - (4) listened to the instructor's briefing about the activity
24. How can we tell that Kevin knew Kendrick well? Kevin _____.
- (1) gave Kendrick a sly look
 - (2) was aware of Kendrick's fears
 - (3) understood Kendrick's question
 - (4) noticed that Kendrick looked fearful
25. What do "greatest fears" in the second paragraph of the journal entry most likely refer to? It refers to the fear of _____.
- (1) water and dirt
 - (2) water and insects
 - (3) height and insects
 - (4) height and parachutes

26. Which of the following is the most likely reason that the journal entry was included in the flyer? It is to _____.

- 1) feature good journal writing skills
- 2) draw attention to Kevin's positive camp experience
- 3) attract people who like to read to register for the camp
- 4) introduce an activity that participants can expect to be engaged in

27. Some of the information in the flyer about the activity called "Soaring Eagle" is factual. Which of the following is factual? It _____.

- 1) incorporates a jump off a fifty-metre platform
- 2) takes participants across a river before landing
- 3) is suitable for people without prior experience with rope courses
- 4) requires participants to wear a parachute-like piece of equipment

28. What is the main purpose of the flyer? It is to _____.

- 1) list all the camp's programme highlights
- 2) announce the theme for this year's camp
- 3) inform the public that they can start signing up for the camp ✓
- 4) share a humorous incident that happened during the previous camp



**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2015
PRIMARY FIVE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)

BOOKLET B

Name: _____ ()

Class: Primary Five _____

12 May 2015

52 Questions
(67 Marks)

Components	Marks
Booklet A	28
Booklet B	67
TOTAL	95

Parent's
Signature: _____

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.

This booklet consists of 8 printed pages excluding the cover page.

There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38, 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)

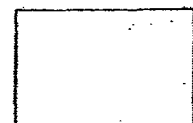
EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

- | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| (A) a | (D) for | (G) later | (K) on | (N) to |
| (B) after | (E) from | (H) nor | (L) or | (P) where |
| (C) an | (F) in | (J) of | (M) the | (Q) which |

Mother Teresa was born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu. She was the youngest of three children of (29) _____ Albanian builder in Macedonia. At the age (30) _____ 18, she joined the Order of the Sisters of Our Lady of Loreto in Ireland. She trained in Dublin and chose (31) _____ name of Sister Teresa, in memory of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux.

(32) _____ December 1928, she began her journey (33) _____ India and continued to Darjeeling, at the base of the Himalayan Mountains, (34) _____ she would continue her training towards her religious vows. Soon (35) _____, on January 6, 1929 she arrived in Calcutta to teach at a school for girls. While in Calcutta, she was moved by the presence of the sick and dying on the city's streets.

Something happened (36) _____ September 10, 1946, while she was in a train heading to Darjeeling, where she was to go on a retreat and recover (37) _____ suspected tuberculosis. Mother Teresa recalled, "I realised that I had the call to take care of the sick and the dying, the hungry, the naked, the homeless – to be God's Love in action to the poorest of the poor. She neither hesitated (38) _____ questioned the call. That marked the beginning of the 'Missionaries of Charity.' She and her fellow nuns gathered dying people off the streets of Calcutta and cared for them during the days before they died.



Correct each word in each underlined word for spelling or grammar. Write the correct word in the relevant box. (12 marks)

In rapidly growing cities such as Beijing and New Delhi, air pollution has become

39.

very severe. Respiration diseases are on the rise, flights have been grounded and the

40.

public is often warning against letting children play outside.

Chokingly thick blankets of smog are often a by-product of economic growth.

41.

42.

which results in more vehicle on the road and more burning of fossil fuels, espeshelly

coal. The bad air can be deadly. Outdoor air pollution, both in cities and rural areas,

43.

44.

premeturly killed 3.7 million people worldwide in 2012, according by the World Health

Organisation. With two-thirds of the population expected to live in cities by 2050, the

45.

need to ease urban pollution is partikulerly acute.

46.

The problem goes beyond respiratory health and kwality of life. In a recent study,

47.

it was found that in India, short-lived air polutaris such as ozone and black carbon,

48.

along with the changing climate, cuts crop yields in 2010 by half. Rules to make cars

49.

and fuels cleaner helped achieve the redukshens in some cities. However, they still

50.

struggle in air quality issues and this suggests that the fight against air pollution remains

a challenge for cities dealing with it.

Fill in the blanks with the most suitable answer. (15 marks)

In 2003, the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) infected over 8,000 people. It took over 700 lives worldwide. (51) _____ March to May 2003, SARS raged (52) _____ Singapore, where 238 people were infected. Various national prevention measures were put in (53) _____ to control and eliminate the transmission of the virus. Schools in Singapore closed on 26 March 2003 as a precautionary (54) _____.

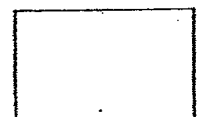
About a month into the epidemic, a public education campaign was mounted to (55) _____ Singaporeans on SARS and the adoption of methods to prevent the (56) _____ of the disease. As the public was advised to (57) _____ indoors, shopping malls and restaurants were deserted.

During that period of time, the medical staff in Singapore risked their (58) _____ to save the lives of SARS patients. However, many felt prejudices from the people around them, even from family members. These people were afraid that if they were around the medical staff, they might be (59) _____ with SARS. They avoided sitting (60) _____ to them at tables in crowded food courts and one doctor even had to stay with a colleague because his parents had kicked him out of the family home.

(61) _____ all the prejudices and risks the medical staff faced, they continued to fight the battle against SARS. Sadly, some of them died while doing their medical duty. The four SARS heroes and heroines in Singapore were Jonnel Pabuayon Pinera, a Filipino (62) _____ as a nurse in Singapore, Singaporean physicians, doctors Alexander Chao and Ong Hok Su and nurse Hamidah Ismail. The four of them had unselfishly disregarded (63) _____ own safety in the midst of (64) _____ for SARS patients. They gave up their lives fighting SARS in Singapore.

Along with them, the rest of the medical staff who survived the ordeal are also (65) _____ as heroes and heroines. Despite knowing the deadly dangers of SARS, they bravely risked their lives to battle against the common enemy, SARS.

Adapted from Singapore Heroes – Sars Heroes



For each of the questions from 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. "You have to prepare the poster before the presentation next week," Mrs Lim informed me.

Mrs Lim informed me that _____

67. Max cannot collect his package from the post office. He must show his identity card.

Unless _____

68. Jonas was reciting the poem when I walked into the room.

The poem _____

69. The owner left the front gate open. His dog ran away and could not be found for days.

_____ whose

70. Hari sat for the examination. He was not feeling well that week.

_____ although



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

It was a sweltering hot day in Singapore. The morning sun seethed with ferocity in the sky. The sun was stinging his eyes as Zheng Nian took in the unremarkable sight below him – a sea of yellow. There were hundreds of strangers packed in the vast construction site. They were strangers from various countries, clad in yellow helmets and black safety boots. They had gathered at that site for the same reasons as he had, leaving wives and children behind miles away. From his village alone, a handful had worked in the city-state. Those who did not land a job in Singapore left their village for the bigger, richer cities in China. He had felt compelled to leave like the others to build a better world for himself and his family. **“Maybe they are not strangers after all,”** he thought to himself. He could not resist leaning forward again from where he squatted, surveying the foreign world below him. He did not feel like he belonged here.

5

10

Assigned to pave cement on the roof, Zheng Nian wondered if the ground twelve storeys below him was equally hot. Up on the roof, the ground surprised his feet with the heaviness of heat burning through his safety boots. He thought of his body plunging accidentally down the point of no return. It caused him to break out into cold sweat. He retreated a little from the unfinished edge of the roof.

15

Since his arrival two days ago, the unforgiving heat and humidity in Singapore had persisted. Zheng Nian suddenly thought about his hometown in Hubei – walking in the creeping cold, wisps of winter in the air – when he could think so clearly, so effortlessly. He was usually huddled in layers of wool, scrunching across the snow-swept ground he could barely feel through his winter boots, the milky whiteness in the air blinding him, the harsh cold of winter biting into his heart. Now it was the other way around. Zheng Nian was all ready to ditch the white singlet on him, surrendering it like a white flag to the onslaught of the punishing heat.

20

25

He recollected the times spent at the factory where he worked in his hometown, endlessly packing pair after pair of branded shoes into cartons that caused merciless cuts. Sneaking out with his buddies for hot tea and chit-chat sessions had somehow lightened the workload. It did not pay well but it was familiar.

He recalled listening fervently to his supervisor just two days ago during the short thirty-minute journey from the airport to the workers' dormitory. He was to get ready every morning to be picked up and brought to the site. They would work all the way through to five in the evening. Time would be given for their catered meals, including lunch at noon, and they would typically return to the dormitory by eight. At that moment, he could only imagine what his days were going to be like in a land filled with strangers. **“Don't worry, you will be well taken care of,”** the supervisor

30

35

reassured at the end. Zheng Nian could only draw some comfort from his words.

The heat rising up from the concrete snapped him back to reality abruptly. The edge of the roof stared at him demandingly. The heat was soon too much to take. His eyes drew a dizzy blank. Before he knew it, his parched body hit the free flight to the ground.

40

Doctors say that it was a miracle that he survived. Yet, **Zheng Nian could not seem to shake the tinge of sadness that came with this blessing.** Now, lying in the hospital bed, he could neither construct the buildings he had come to construct nor fulfil the promises of the future that was his to keep.

45

Adapted from Two Days in a Foreign Land by Jonathan Tari

71. What was Zheng Nian's occupation? [1m]

72. What does the phrase "a sea of yellow" (line 3) refer to? [2m]

73. "**Maybe they are not strangers after all**" (lines 9-10). Based on paragraph 1, list two ways in which Zheng Nian and his fellow workers were not strangers? [2m]

74. What does the word 'It' in line 16 refer to? [2m]

75. Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in paragraphs 3 and 4. [1m]

_____ He recalled packing shoes in the factory.

_____ He recalled taking breaks with his friends at work.

_____ He recalled the harsh cold weather in his village in Hubei.

76. Choose one word from paragraphs 5 and 6 which has a similar meaning to each word below. [3m]

curtly	
intently	
dehydrated	

77. Based on the passage, fill in the blanks to show how different life was for Zheng Nian before and after he came to work in Singapore. [3m]

	Before	After
Clothes	wore many layers of wool and winter boots	
Weather		extremely hot and humid
Work environment	in a factory with his buddies	

78. List two ways in which Zheng Nian's company provided support for their workers?
[2m]

79. "...he could only imagine what his days were going to be like..." (line 35) What does this tell you about how Zheng Nian felt about his future? [2m]

80. What do you think the writer meant by 'Zheng Nian could not seem to shake the tinge of sadness that came with this blessing' (lines 42-43). [2m]

END OF PAPER

EXAM PAPER 2015**LEVEL : PRIMARY 5****SCHOOL : CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL****SUBJECT : ENGLISH****TERM : SA1**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
1	2	2	3	3	3	1	3	1	4
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
3	2	2	3	2	3	3	4	3	3
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28		
2	3	4	2	3	4	3	3		

Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38
C	J	M	F	N	P	B	K	E	H

Q39 Respiratory
 Q40 warned
 Q41 vehicles
 Q42 especially
 Q43 prematurely
 Q44 to
 Q45 particularly
 Q46 quality
 Q47 pollutants
 Q48 cut
 Q49 reductions
 Q50 with

Q51. From
 Q52 across
 Q53 place
 Q54 measure
 Q55 educate
 Q56 transmission
 Q57 stay
 Q58 lives
 Q59 infected
 Q60 next
 Q61 Despite
 Q62 working
 Q63 their
 Q64 caring
 Q65 regarded

Q66. Mrs Lim informed me that I had to prepare the poster before the presentation the following week.

Q67. Unless Max shows his identity card, he cannot collect his package from the post office.

Q68. The poem was being recited by Jonas when I walked into the room.

Q69. The dog, whose owner left the front gate open ran away and could not be found for days.

Q70. Hari sat for the examination although he was not feeling well that week.

Q71. Zheng Nian was a construction worker / factory worker / labourer.

Q72. It refers to the hundreds of construction workers at the worksite who were wearing yellow helmets.

Q73. They had let their loved ones behind and came to Singapore in the hope of building better lives for themselves and their families.

Q74. It refers to Zheng Nian's thought of his body plunging down from the rooftop to the point of no return.

Q75.

2 - He recalled packing shoes in the factory

3 - He recalled taking breaks with his friends at work

1 - He recalled the harsh cold weather in his village in Hubei.

Q76.

Curtly - **abruptly**

Intently - **fervently**

Dehydrated - **parched**

Q77

Clothes - wore a yellow helmet, black safety boots and a white singlet.

Weather - harsh cold winter

Work environment - at a construction site with strangers

Q78. The company provided accommodation / transportation / catered meals / reassuring talks by the supervisor.

Q79. He was uncertain / worried / anxious about his future.

Q80. The writer meant that while Zheng Nian felt blessed to be alive, he felt sad that could not work to fulfill his dreams.

THE END