

**Primary Three
English Language
Semestral Assessment One**

Section A

Choose the most suitable answer for each of the following questions. Write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided. (10 x 1 mark)

1. The haunting sounds and _____ scenes in the movie made me cover my eyes with my hands.

- (1) scary (2) romantic
(3) boring (4) educational

2. The poor widow _____ long hours at the factory to support her children.

- (1) toils (2) operates
(3) performs (4) function

3. Tammy's parents donated several parrots for the new _____ in the Science Garden.

- (1) attic (2) aviary
(3) apiary (4) aquarium

4. At a local Japanese restaurant, we handed Mr. Sakamoto the _____ and asked him to suggest a few dishes.

- (1) menu (2) recipe
(3) register (4) directory

5. I shall accept this _____ job as a relief teacher until I find one which suits my interests.

- (1) makeshift (2) replacement
(3) temporary (4) transferable

6. The salesman said, "In the event of difficulties, please do not _____ to contact our Customer Service Department."

- (1) pause (2) delay
(3) postpone (4) hesitate

7. I met the artist who is often asked to paint famous people. His _____ are in great demand.

- (1) designs (2) portraits
(3) snapshots (4) illustrations

8. The plane crash cannot be explained and understood. It remains a _____.

- (1) myth (2) dream
(3) legend (4) mystery

9. Alice brought home many _____ from Europe. They remind her of the wonderful time she had.

- (1) relics (2) symbols
(3) souvenirs (4) offerings

10. Mrs. Tan has _____ fingers. Her plants grow very well in her garden.

- (1) pink (2) green
(3) purple (4) yellow

Section B

Choose the correct answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the boxes provided. (10 x 1 mark)

11. Welcome to Pizza Place. _____ two tables over at the salad bar are reserved for you.

- (1) This (2) That
(3) These (4) Those

12. The burly porter lifted the two heavy suitcases easily. He is as _____ as an ox.

- (1) fit (2) big
(3) brave (4) strong

17. I really dislike Jane. She is always making fun _____ others.

- (1) to
- (3) at

- (2) of
- (4) in

18. I _____ down to pick up an object on the floor when I felt a sharp pain in my lower back.

- (1) bend
- (3) am bending

- (2) bent
- (4) was bending

19. Someone _____ a wallet in the canteen. It is now in the general office

- (1) left
- (3) is leaving

- (2) leaves
- (4) was leaving

20. Few pupils _____ late for the finals of the Talentime held last week.

- (1) is
- (3) was

- (2) are
- (4) were

Section C

Fill in each blank with the most suitable answer.
Use each word once only. (5 x 1 mark)

time	lunch	chore	dust	out
routine	sweep	back	money	breakfast

At 6.30 a.m. every day, a 63-year-old man leaves his home with a dustpan and broom. He takes thirty minutes to (21) _____ the streets, making his neighbourhood spick and span before returning home to have (22) _____ with his wife.

The elderly man is neither a pensioner with (23) _____ on his hands, nor an environmental campaigner. He is a multi-millionaire businessman who carries out his morning (24) _____ because he feels good and wants to give something (25) _____ to his community.

Section D

Fill in the blanks using the correct form of word given in the brackets.
(5 x 1 mark)

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26. The price of vegetables has gone down. They are _____ now compared to last week. (cheap)
27. My little brother often asks the _____ questions just to get attention. (silly)
28. The door _____ open when I gave it a hard push. (swing)

29. Although Mr. Lim is _____, he is still very active. (old)
30. When John heard that his mother was hospitalized, he made a _____ to fly home that evening. (decide)

Section E

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. A wrong or missing punctuation mark is indicated by a circle. Put the correct word or punctuation mark in the spaces provided. (5 x 1 mark)

Two years ago, a medical examination at school revealed the
fact that I was shortsighted. The doctor told me that if I does not
get a pair of spectacles soon 31.
 I would be blind within five
years.

My parents were naturally very worried. They took me to an
 33. 34.
optician whom tested my eyes. It took me some time to chose
 35.
a pair of spectacle flames that I liked.

Section F

Fill in each blank with the most suitable word of your own. (5 x 1 mark)

Muthu is a newsvendor. He has to get up very early each morning. By five o'clock, he is (36) _____ his way to the newspaper office. After (37) _____ the newspapers, he delivers them to the homes. Then he goes to sell them (38) _____ shopping centres and coffee-shops. This keeps him busy the (39) _____ morning. In the afternoon, he does the same thing (40) _____. He collects and delivers the afternoon newspapers.

Section G
Read the passage carefully

If you go to the seashore, you will see that there are seaweeds of all kinds on the shore. Seaweeds do not have flowers, roots, stems or leaves. Most of the seaweeds are flat fronds that grow from tough stalks. The stalks are anchored down to rocks by 'holdfasts'.

The holdfasts are either in the shape of discs or they may appear like bunches of 'roots'. Holdfasts do not collect water as roots do. They are usually very strong. The holdfasts have to withstand the force of the waves that threatens to pull the weeds away from the rocks.

Seaweeds do not resist the flow of water over them – they bend with it. Water runs over them because of their flat shape.

Seaweeds, like all plants, need sunlight to live. They can live in shallow water where light is able to penetrate to the bottom. New weeds grow from spores that float or swim in the water.

Men use seaweeds for many purposes. A certain kind of seaweed called wrack is harvested off the shore of Scotland. They are scattered on fields as fertilizer. The Japanese use many types of seaweed as food. Seaweeds are rich in iodine. They are burned and iodine is extracted from the ashes. the most important use of seaweed is to make the jelly called 'agar-agar'. The agar-agar is used to make medicines and food.

Answer the following questions. Your answers should be based on the passage. (5 x 1 mark)

41. The 'roots' of the seaweed are for _____.

- (1) fastening the plants to rocks
- (2) pulling the weed away from the rocks
- (3) manufacturing food
- (4) collecting water

42. Seaweeds are not found in deep water because _____.

- (1) of the lack of food
- (2) of the absence of sunlight
- (3) the force of the water there is great
- (4) their holdfasts cannot grow well in deep water

43. Seaweeds can withstand the force of water because they have _____.

- (1) iodine
- (2) thin leaves
- (3) flexible bodies
- (4) tough stalks

44. According to the passage, seaweeds are _____.

- (1) useful to man
- (2) plants that need little sunlight to live
- (3) are burned to extract 'agar agar'
- (4) found only in Scotland and Japan

45. Which one of the following statements is incorrect?

- (1) Seaweeds are non-flowering plants that produce spores.
- (2) Wrack is found in the waters surrounding Scotland.
- (3) Seaweeds can be made into medicines.
- (4) People can fashion seaweeds into Japanese ornaments.

Section H

Read the passage carefully.

A rich man bought a cow from a neighbouring farm. As he was taking a walk early one morning, he saw a boy struggling with the cow that he had brought. The boy was trying unsuccessfully to make the cow move. The angry boy, not knowing who the rich man was, called out, "Hey! Give me a hand, will you? I'll give you half of whatever I get." The rich man good-naturedly lent a helping hand.

The rich man asked, "How much do you expect to get for this job?"

"I don't know, but I'm sure to get something as the owner is said to be a generous man."

On nearing the house, the rich man slipped away and reached home by a short cut. Calling the cook, he put a dollar note in his hand and said, "Give this to the boy who brought the cow." He then quickly returned to the place where he had left the boy.

"Well, how much did you get?" inquired the rich man.

"Fifty cents, and here is half for you," said the boy.

"Only fifty cents? Let's go back to the house for a while."

Back in the house, the rich man assembled all his servants. He then asked the boy who had given him the fifty cents. When the boy pointed to the cook, the man fell on his knees and asked for forgiveness.

The rich man was pleased that the boy had not lied, but had kept his word. He then adopted the boy as his own son.

Answer questions 46 – 50. Your answers must be based on the passage.
(5 x 2 marks)

46. Where was the boy taking the cow?

47. Why did the boy ask for the rich man's help?

48. How did the boy get the rich man to help him?

49. Why did the rich man **not** reveal who he really was?

50. Why did the rich man not believe the boy when he said that he was paid fifty cents?
