

**Primary Four
English Language
Semestral Assessment One**

Section A

Choose the most suitable words to complete the blank and write its number 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the boxes provided.

1. Sally _____ herself with the boiling water from the kettle when she tried to pour some into her cup.

- (1) burned
- (2) scaled
- (3) steamed
- (4) poached

2. Tom tried to _____ his questions by pretending that he knew nothing about the mother.

- (1) escape
- (2) desert
- (3) defect
- (4) avoid

3. Mary _____ her cymbals too loudly during the rehearsals.

- (1) claps
- (2) bongs
- (3) strums
- (4) clashes

4. Peter was _____ when he did not get a place in the School Badminton Team. He had practiced very hard for the past three weeks,

- (1) snubbed
- (2) offended
- (3) disgusted
- (4) disappointed

5. The scientist was trying to _____ the objects according to the materials they were made of.

- (1) classify
- (2) estimate
- (3) calculate
- (4) demonstrate

6. Our teacher told us to watch a good educational _____ on television next week,

- (1) article
- (2) picture
- (3) forecast
- (4) programme

7. There is a _____ of monkeys at Upper Pierce Reservoir.

- (1) herd
- (2) flock
- (3) troop
- (4) school

8. The man could not help _____ when the policeman shone his torch into his eyes.

- (1) peering
- (2) blinking
- (3) peeking
- (4) glancing

9. That boy _____ the whole incident to his mother.

- (1) related
- (2) chatted
- (3) deliberated
- (4) instructed

10. Kelly was so _____ when she heard her best friend criticizing her that she went back to cry.

- (1) restless
- (2) bashful
- (3) nervous
- (4) distressed

Section B

Choose the most suitable word to complete the blank and write its number 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the boxes provided. (5 x 1 mark)

11. That woman, _____ I have mentioned before, is my mother's friend.

- (1) who
- (2) whom
- (3) which
- (4) whose

12. You will be late for school _____ you hurry up.

- (1) if
- (2) since
- (3) unless
- (4) although

13. Does Mary's sister _____ the way to the stadium?

- (1) know
- (2) knew
- (3) knows
- (4) known

14. She sang as she _____ her clothes.

- (1) iron
- (2) irons
- (3) ironed
- (4) is ironing

15. "How can you _____ with his unreasonable behaviour?"

- (1) put in
- (2) put up
- (3) put off
- (4) put out

Section C

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

We crammed into a jeep with our meagre luggage, just a couple of suitcases. At the time, officials like my parents did not own any property at all – only a few articles of basic clothing. We drove over pot-holed dirt roads until we reached the town of Neijiang in the morning. It was a sweltering day, and we had to wait there for hours for the train.

Just as it was finally coming into the station, I suddenly decided I had to relieve myself. My wet-nurse picked me up and carried me to the edge of the platform. My mother tried to stop her as she was afraid that the train might suddenly leave. My wet-nurse, who had never seen a train before and had no concept of a timetable, said rather grandly. “Can’t you tell the driver to wait? Er-hong has to pee.” She thought everyone would, like her, automatically put my needs off.

Because of our different demands, we had to split up when we got on the train. My mother was in a second-class sleeper with my sister, my grandmother had a soft seat in another carriage, and my wet-nurse and I had a cot. The bodyguard was in the fourth carriage, with a hard seat.

As the train chugged slowly alone, my mother gazed out into the heat at the rice paddles and sugarcane.

Adapted from *Wild Swans* by Jung Chang

Choose the most suitable answer for each question. Write its number 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the boxes provided. Your answer must be based on the passage. (5 x 2 marks)

16. Er-hong's mother did not bring along many suitcases because _____.

- (1) they were in a hurry to get to Neijiang
- (2) her parents could not afford to have many clothes
- (3) they needed only a few pieces of clothing for the journey
- (4) the jeep was too small to carry both people and luggage

17. In line 6, "Just as **it** was finally coming into the station," the word "**it**" refers to a _____.

- (1) jeep
- (2) train
- (3) coach
- (4) carriage

18. Er-hong's mother tried to stop her wet-nurse from _____.

- (1) boarding the train
- (2) informing the driver to wait
- (3) carrying Er-hong up the train
- (4) allowing Er-hong to relieve herself

19. Er-hong's wet nurse thought that the train would wait for them because she _____.

(1) had never taken a train in her life

(2) was with a child who needed to visit the toilet first

(3) did not know that a train operated according to a schedule

(4) expected the driver to wait for all to be comfortably seated before moving off

20. The members of Er-hong's family were not in the same carriage because they _____.

(1) did not wish to sit together

(2) sat according to their needs

(3) were unable to get enough seats

(4) did not feel comfortable sitting together

Section E

Read the following passage carefully. Choose the words given in the box and fill in each blank with the correct word. Write its letter (A to J) in each blank. USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE. (5 x 1 mark)

(A) contain	(E) sent	(I) imported
(B) discover	(F) affordable	(J) find
(C) regularly	(G) relatively	
(D) inexpensive	(H) consist	

Fruit should form an important factor in our daily consumption of food. This is because fruit (21) _____ all kinds of vitamins and minerals.

Here in Singapore, we can (22) _____ all types of fruit at the local markets. Most of these fruit have been (23) _____ from countries like Malaysia and Thailand. However, the prices of these fruit are certainly very (24) _____.

If you wish to buy fresh yet (25) _____ cheap fruit, you can take a bus ride into Peninsula Malaysia. There, you can purchase fruit directly from the orchard owners.

Section F

Read the following passage carefully. Choose the words given in the box and fill in each blank with the correct word. Write its letter (A to E) in each blank. USE EACH WORD ONLY ONCE. (5 x 1 mark)

(A) of	(B) along	(C) in	(D) after	(E) before
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There are many parks and gardens in Singapore. For example, (26) _____ Napier and Cluny Roads, you will come across the Botanic Gardens. These gardens were her even (27) _____ Henry Ridley planted the first rubber trees. On the other hand, we have the Chinese Garden with its twin pagodas that reminds us (28) _____ the Beijing Summer Palace.

(A) satisfy (B) satisfied (C)satisfying (D)satisfaction (E)satisfies

Mrs Lee has been a widow for thirty years. However, she is a very (29)_____ mother. She has brought up her three sons single-handedly and has the (30) _____ of seeing them graduate from universities. What can (31) _____ her even more is for her sons to get married and start their families. It is indeed (32) _____ to know that her eldest son is getting married soon.

(A) who (B) how (C) when (D) whom (E) which

Last year, my parents and I toured Europe. We were walking in a famous park (33) _____ we bumped into my former pupil. She was one of the pupils (34) _____ gave me many problems during my first year as a teacher. Her work was untidy and she was quite a forgetful girl. Despite that, the one thing (35) _____ made teaching her rewarding was that she became a responsible pupil at the end of the year.

Section G

Read the passage carefully and answer questions that follow. Your answers must be based on the passage. (5 x 2 marks)

Rocky always used to walk with Totto-chan as far as the gate of the other school and then come back home. Naturally, he was expecting to do the same today.

Totto-chan removed the cord with the pass from Rocky's neck and carefully hung it around her own. She called out once more to Mother and Father, "Goodbye!"

Then she ran off, without a backward glance, her bag flapping against her back. Rocky bounded along happily beside her.

The way to the station was almost the same as to the old school, so Totto-chan passed by children from her former class.

Should she show them her pass and impress them? Totto-chan wandered. However, she did not want to be late, so she decided not to and hurried on.

When Totto-chan turned right at the station instead of left as usual, poor Rocky stopped and looked around anxiously. Totto-chan was already at the ticket gate, but she went back to Rocky, which stood looking mystified.

"I'm not going to the other school anymore. I'm going to a new one now."

Totto-chan put her face against Rocky's. His ears were smelly as usual, but to Totto-chan it was a nice smell.

“Bye-bye,” she said and showing the man her pass, she started climbing up the steep station stairs. Rocky whimpered softly and watched until Totto-chan was out of sight.

Adapted from Totto-chan by Tetsuko Kuroyanagi

36. What did Totto-chan carry with her to school?

37. "Should she show them her pass and impress them?" (line 11)

What does the word "them" refer to?

38. Why did Rocky look confused when Totto-chan turned right at the station?

39. What would Rocky do when Totto-chan was out of sight?

40. Write down the sentence which shows that Rocky ran with jumping movement next to Totto-chan.
