

**Primary Four  
English Language  
Semestral Assessment One**

**Section A (Grammar)**

**For each question 1 to 5, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Write the correct number in the box provided.**

**(5 x 1 mark)**

---

1. Dennis rang the doorbell \_\_\_\_\_ he arrived at the home of his classmate.

- (1) as
- (2) because
- (3) when
- (4) so

2. Our P.E. lessons are \_\_\_\_\_ Fridays, from 8.25am \_\_\_\_\_ 8.55am.

- (1) at.....to
- (2) on...to
- (3) on.....and
- (4) at.....and

3. If we exercise regularly, we \_\_\_\_\_ expect to be fit and healthy.

- (1) can
- (2) may
- (3) should
- (4) must

4. Mabel goes on a holiday every December. She takes a break from her work \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) monthly
- (2) seasonally
- (3) annually
- (4) bi-yearly

5. Tom handed in the \_\_\_\_\_ beautiful piece of sculpture even though he is the \_\_\_\_\_ student in the Art class.

- (1) most.....youngest
- (2) more.....young
- (3) most.....younger
- (4) more.....youngest

**Section B (Vocabulary)**

**For each question 6 to 10, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Write the correct number in the box provided.**

**(5 x 1 mark)**

---

6. My younger brother has the habit of drawing on my worksheets. I find that \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) disgusting
- (2) frightening
- (3) annoying
- (4) boring

7. When we go camping, we have to \_\_\_\_\_ a tent before it gets dark.

- (1) hang
- (2) build
- (3) make
- (4) pitch

8. The animal trainer has to \_\_\_\_\_ his whip to frighten his tigers into performing the trick.

- (1) hit
- (2) bend
- (3) crack
- (4) throw

9. The experiment \_\_\_\_\_ by my Science teacher yesterday showed us the different state of matter.

- (1) observed
- (2) predicted
- (3) drawn
- (4) demonstrated

10. As it was only a \_\_\_\_\_, the boys continued to play soccer in the field.

- (1) storm
- (2) drizzle
- (3) rain
- (4) shower

### Section C (Comprehension)

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

---

Half an hour before daybreak, three boys assembled near the old bridge. The fourth, a boy by the name of Tolly, had not turned up. His absence did not greatly surprise the others. They knew his mother did not want him to come on the expedition into the forest without adult supervision.

Charles, who was the oldest and their accepted leader, waded downstream to where their boat was tied up. Then he rowed the boat back to the shallow water near the bridge, where the boys loaded it with the provisions, blankets and other things, which they were taking on their journey.

Dawn was just breaking as they climbed into their boat and pushed off from the bank. A swift current carried them downstream, so there was no need to row. They took turns to keep the boat in the center of the river. Three hours later, they entered the forest where they intended to spend the next few days.

“Let’s go ashore now and make some tea,” suggested Charles. “No one will see us here.” It was illegal to light fires in the forest, but people rarely come this way.

While Charles tied the boat up, the other two boys set about gathering wood for fire. When they came back, each with a large handful of sticks, they found Charles looking very worried.

“We haven’t got any matches,” he announced gloomily. “Tolly was going to bring them.”

This was bad news as they were kilometers away from the nearest shop.

(Adapted from passage by Don Bryne)

**For each question 11 to 15, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Write the correct number in the box provided. (5 x 1 mark)**

11. Tolly's mother did not let him go on the expedition because \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) she was terribly afraid of the forest herself
- (2) she did not want Tolly to come to any harm
- (3) Tolly would surely be lost in the forest
- (4) Tolly's friend were too naughty and playful

12. The word 'provisions' in line 8 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) food and drinks
- (2) tents and first-aid box
- (3) clothes and shoes
- (4) fishing line and tackle

13. The boys need not row the boat because \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) they were in no real hurry to reach the forest
- (2) they make the boat stay in the middle of the river
- (3) the fast-flowing river carried their boat along with it
- (4) the river was too swift for them to use oars

14. Why do you think the author said that it was against the law to light fire in the forest?

- (1) The fire might get out of control and burn down the forest
- (2) The campers might not know the correct way to light a fire
- (3) It might frighten the animals living in the forest
- (4) It would leave behind ugly patches of burnt ground there

15. The author said it was 'bad news' that the boys did not have any matches with them because they \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) could not sit around a campfire and tell stories
- (2) would have nothing to drink since they could not make tea
- (3) would have to go a long way back to town to buy matches
- (4) could not keep themselves warm at night without a fire

**Section D (Grammar Cloze)**

Fill in the blanks with the correct form of verb in the box. Use each word only ONCE. Write the correct letter of the word in the given blanks.

(4 x 1 mark)

(A) present	(B) presents	(C) presented
(D) presenting	(E) presentation	

Every year the principal (16) \_\_\_\_\_ book prizes to students who have done well in their studies for that year. Sometimes too, a parent may be invited to (17) \_\_\_\_\_ the prizes to deserving students receiving their prizes.

Last November, we also had a prize (18) \_\_\_\_\_ in the school hall. While Miss Chan was (19) \_\_\_\_\_ the prizes, many proud parents went near the stage to take photographs of their children.

**Section E (Grammar Cloze)**

Read the passage below and fill in the blanks with a suitable relative pronoun. Use each word only ONCE. Write the correct letter of the word in the given blanks. (3 x 1 mark)

(A) which	(B) whom	(C) whose
(D) who	(E) where	

I have an irritating neighbour (20) \_\_\_\_\_ has a pet dog. He allows the dog, (21) \_\_\_\_\_ is not on a leash, to wander all over the neighbourhood. It dirties the park (22) \_\_\_\_\_ children play every evening.

I wish my neighbour takes better care of both his dog and the neighbourhood.

**Section F (Grammar Cloze)**

Read the passage below and fill in the blanks with appropriate adverbs of frequency. Use each word only ONCE. Write the correct letter of the word in the given blanks. (3 x 1 mark)

---

(A) frequently	(B) often	(C) never
(D) daily	(E) weekly	

I enjoy school this year. Lessons in class are (23) \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of fun. I am (24) \_\_\_\_\_ scolded by the teacher as I am well prepared for school. I make sure I get all the schoolwork done (25) \_\_\_\_\_ and handed up punctually the next day. It pays to cultivate good habits.

**Section G (Vocabulary Cloze)**

Read the passage carefully and fill in each blank with a suitable word. Use each word only ONCE. Write the correct letter of the word in the given blanks. (5 x 1 mark)

---

(A) classify	(B) predictions	(C) amazing
(D) study	(E) measure	(F) guesses
(G) describe	(H) challenging	(I) observations
(J) experiments		

Meteorologists are people who (26) \_\_\_\_\_ the different things happening in the earth's atmosphere so that they can make (27) \_\_\_\_\_ about the weather. They make use of equipment of all shapes and sizes to (28) \_\_\_\_\_ things like rainfall, air pressure, wind conditions and temperature. They carry out (29) \_\_\_\_\_ before drawing conclusions about the weather. It must be (30) \_\_\_\_\_ to have such a job.

**Section H (Vocabulary Cloze)**

**Read the passage carefully and fill in each blank with a suitable word. Use each word only ONCE. Write the correct letter of the word in the given blanks. (5 x 1 mark)**

---

(A) finally	(B) announced	(C) about
(D) around	(E) interested	(F) moreover
(G) bothered	(H) sold	(I) advertised
(J) bought		

A couple was wondering how to get rid of five attractive puppies. The man drove all (31) \_\_\_\_\_ town trying to give them away but no one would have them.

They (32) \_\_\_\_\_ over the local radio that they had pedigree puppies to give away. No one seemed (33) \_\_\_\_\_.

A neighbour (34) \_\_\_\_\_ advised them to advertise. They went back to announce on the radio that they would sell the pups at fifty dollars each. Before the day was out, every one of the puppies had been (35) \_\_\_\_\_!  
The couple was very pleased that their plan had worked.



## Section J (Comprehension)

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.  
(5 x 2 marks)

---

For some reason dragons have always been popular in fairy tales and what weird and wonderful beasts they were! Some breathed out smoke and flames while others were capable of swallowing a man whole, boots, armour, sword and all. But in all the stories, the dragons represented evil and were always conquered by a good man who would be given the king's daughter as a reward.

Are there any dragons in real life? I am afraid the closest we can come to dragons are members of the lizard family, which only look like dragons.

There are, however, one or two monsters. Biggest of them all is the Komodo dragon, which is a very handsome lizard found in tropical Indonesia. The adult reaches a total length of four metres. They are strong and capable of chasing and killing a fully grown pig. They have heavy jaws and sharp claws.

They were first reported in 1912 by a party of fishermen who told their friends that they had seen an island full of dragons. In 1927, two were captured and sent to London Zoo. They were christened 'Sumba' and 'Sumbawa' and housed in a very roomy, well-lighted tank planted with tropical bushes and small trees. Here they lived happily. As time passed, they became quite tame and would allow their keepers to touch them. These days, Komodo dragons can be found in many zoos around the world.

In Indonesia, these big creatures are now protected and only very seldom is permission given for expeditions to capture one or two of them.

(Adapted from a passage by J Bentley Aistrop.)

**Answer the following questions in complete sentences.**

36. According to the author, what was weird and wonderful about dragons in fairy tales?

---

---

37. When a Komodo dragon catches its prey, how does it kill it?

---

---

38. Which word in the passage has the same meaning as “named”?

---

---

39. Why did the London Zoo keep the Komodo dragon in a very roomy, well-lighted tank planted with tropical bushes and small trees?

---

---

40. The Komodo dragon is a protected animal in Indonesia. It is therefore illegal to harm or ill it. Give a reason to say why you think the Komodo dragon has to be protected.

---

---

End of paper