

TAO NAN SCHOOL
PRIMARY 4 MID-YEAR ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXAMINATION 2004

SAT

Name : _____ ()

Date : 10 May 2004.

Class : P4 _____

Duration : 1hr 15min

Parent's Signature : _____

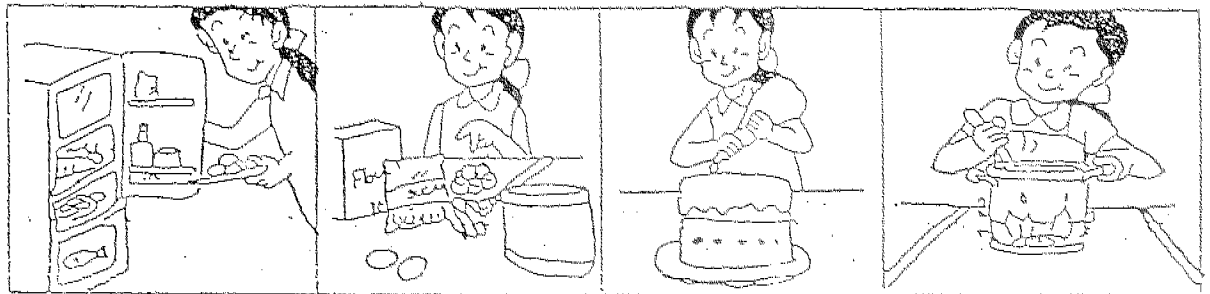
Marks : _____ / 64

Section 1 (4 x 1 mark)

Part 1

Listen carefully to your teacher. Choose the picture that describes the teacher's statement. Write number 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the brackets.

1.



1

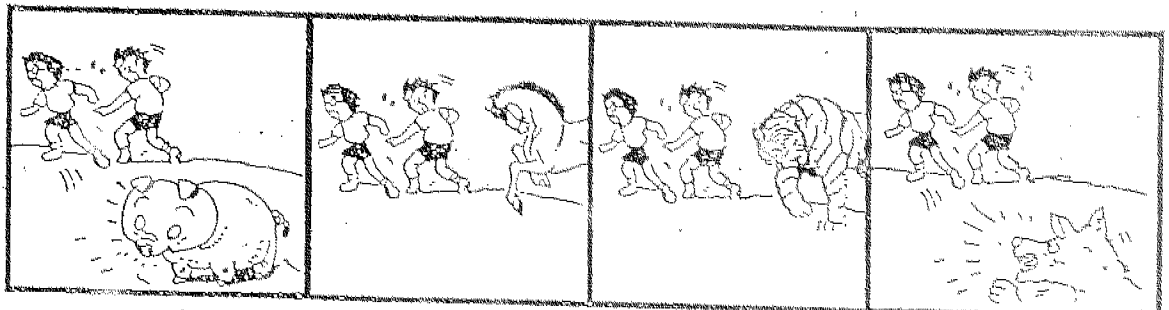
2

3

4

Ans : (.)

2.



1

2

3

4

Ans : (.)

Choose the correct answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets. (12 x 1 m)

5. The police commended the rescuers for their _____ act in saving the trapped victims of the earthquake.

1) diligent

2) charitable

3) courageous

4) determined

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6. As John was paralysed from the waist down, it was a great _____ for him to complete the marathon in his wheelchair.

1) victory

2) success

3) opportunity

4) achievement

()

7. Despite what his conscience was telling him, the boy agreed _____ with his friend's plans to shoplift at the department store.

1) readily

2) forcefully

3) suspiciously

4) convincingly

()

3
pg 101 a repetition

8. The boy managed to _____ the pain of his twisted ankle and completed the ten-kilometre hike.

- 1) overtake
- 2) overlook
- 3) overcome
- 4) overpower

9. After a hard day's work, my mother brought me to East Coast Park for food and _____.

- 1) recreation
- 2) navigation
- 3) celebration
- 4) exploration

10. We should not be _____ waste into streams and rivers.

- 1) recycling
- 2) reducing
- 3) dumping
- 4) devouring

11. Mrs Tan warned her son to be careful when playing at the monkey bars as he might hurt _____.

- 1) itself
- 2) herself
- 3) himself
- 4) yourself

12. Throwing litter into drains will pollute our water system. We shouldn't litter,
_____ we?

- 1) do
- 2) don't
- 3) should
- 4) shouldn't

()

13. The boys met Julie and Joanne at the mall yesterday. _____ invited
_____ to their home next week for a gathering.

- 1) He.....her
- 2) They.....us
- 3) We.....them
- 4) They.....them

()

14. Humpback whales _____ on microscopic living things called
plankton as they do not have teeth.

- 1) feed
- 2) feeds
- 3) have fed
- 4) are feeding

()

15. You should not be spending so _____ money on computer games.
Instead you can donate it to the needy.

- 1) more
- 2) many
- 3) most
- 4) much

()

16. All the TAF pupils, except John, _____ to Bukit Timah Hill for a hike last week.

- 1) goes
- 2) went
- 3) has gone
- 4) were going

Read the following passage and answer the questions which follow. (10 m)

My growing-up years were very average. I had no special talents. I can't recall anyone ever telling me that I would do things that few dared to.

I grew up in the small seaside town of Port Dickson, Malaysia. My childhood memories are filled with endless hours of hide-and-seek 5 around the boats that were moored near our house. Although the ability to swim comes almost naturally to any kid growing up in Port Dickson, that wasn't quite the case for me.

I was the kid who sat on the sidelines and watched others having a good time splashing about in the sea, wishing I could swim. 10 Eventually, I learned how to, the hard way. My brothers threw me into the water. As I floundered and nearly drowned, it didn't occur to me then that my brothers had taught me two important skills: survival and independence. These skills were gifts that I relied on numerous times over as an adult. 15

As a child, I was game for anything. Nothing fascinates me more than the chance to try something new. If nothing else, my curiosity was fuelled by the desire to test my limits.

I was sixteen when I climbed my first mountain. It was Gunung Ledang in Johor, Malaysia, in 1980. It was a horrible experience. I 20 found the heat and thickness of the jungle overwhelming. The night spent on the summit was cold and lonely. As I lay in my tent, with my knees curled to my chin, I vowed that I would never climb another mountain.

And yet, ironically, I was one of the two climbers from the first 25 Singapore Mount Everest Expedition who summited Mount Everest in May 1998.

Choose the most appropriate answer and write its number in the brackets provided.

17. Why did the writer consider his childhood average?

- 1) He learnt to swim the same way as everyone else.
- 2) He played hide-and-seek near his house for many hours.
- 3) He enjoyed watching other kids swim rather than joining them.
- 4) He did not do anything that showed he would achieve great success in the future.

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18. Why did the writer say that 'the ability to swim comes almost naturally to any kid growing up in Port Dickson' (Line 6)?

- 1) Port Dickson is located near the sea.
- 2) The kids are thrown into the sea in order to learn swimming.
- 3) Every kid enjoys playing near the boats moored in Port Dickson.
- 4) Every kid learns to swim eventually if he wants to join the others in the water.

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19. The writer learnt to appreciate the skills his brothers taught him that day at the sea when he _____.

- 1) spent time watching other kids play in the sea
- 2) almost died the day he was thrown into the sea
- 3) became an adult and needed to use those skills
- 4) climbed his first mountain at the age of sixteen

()

20. What made the writer vow never to climb again after his Gunung Ledang trip?

- 1) He wanted to try something new besides climbing a mountain.
- 2) He had spent a miserable time climbing to the top of the mountain.
- 3) He disliked trekking through thick jungle and having to sleep in the open.
- 4) He had tested his limits and was satisfied that he had climbed Gunung Ledang.

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21. The writer made it to the top of Mount Everest when he was _____.

- 1) 16
- 2) 34
- 3) 40
- 4) 50

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Section 1

Part II

Read the passage carefully. Choose the correct word from the words given in the box and write its letter (A to M) in each blank.

The letter (I) has been omitted in order to avoid confusion during marking. (8 x 1m)

USE A WORD ONCE ONLY

(A) ceremony	(B) modern	(C) constructed
(D) collection	(E) demolished	(F) icon
(G) parade	(H) proud	(J) missed
(K) remembered	(L) fashionable	(M) nostalgia

In seven days, the National Library at Stamford Road will be closed for good. The building that houses many fond memories for people is a national (Q1) _____. When it is (Q2) _____, many treasures will be gone and lost. The Library's (Q3) _____ of books will be moved to Jurong Regional Library. In place of the Library will be a new 16-storey (Q4) _____ building. The building will be (Q5) _____ and ready for use next year.

With the Library gone, many people are feeling (Q6) _____ about it. Cassandra Wong, a student, loves the atmosphere the library provides. Even the smell of the library will be sorely (Q7) _____. After 40 years of public service, the library will finally close its doors in seven days. A simple (Q8) _____ will be held at a courtyard and the final chapter of the library's history at Stamford Road will also be written.

Adapted from The Straits Times, Mar 2004

Read the passage carefully, Choose the correct word from the words given in the box and write its letter (A to H) in each blank. (4 x 1m)

USE A WORD ONCE ONLY.

(A) through	(B) above	(C) under	(D) in
(E) when	(F) across	(G) after	(H) by

A fire broke out at a coffeeshop at Bukit Panjang on Sunday night. Firemen rushed to the scene (Q9) _____ receiving calls at nine o'clock that night. Residents who were staying (Q10) _____ the road were the first to see the fire breaking out.

The heat from the fire could also be felt (Q11) _____ all the floors of the flats above the coffee shop. The firemen managed to keep the fire (Q12) _____ control within ten minutes of their arrival. Fortunately no one was injured as the coffeeshop was closed for renovations at that time.

Adapted from The Straits Times, Mar 2004

Read the passage carefully. Choose the correct word from the words given in the box and write its letter (A to G) in each blank. (4 x 1 m).

USE A WORD ONCE ONLY.

(A) when

(B) as

(C) then

(D) so

(E) although

(F) by

(G) and

When Sam woke up it was already nine o'clock. He knew he was late for school (Q13) _____ he quickly put on his uniform and ran out of his room. He climbed down the staircase (Q14) _____ jumped down the last four steps.

(Q15) _____ he landed, he stepped on one of his toy cars. He slipped but he managed to regain his balance and prevented himself from falling. (Q16) _____ he was late for school, he smiled a wily grin because he could now brag to his friends about his cat-like reflexes.

Read the following passage and answer the questions which follow. (10m)

Tuan was a bright fourteen-year-old boy who worked on the streets of Hanoi selling postcards for about four years. He became a well-known face in the area he worked, particularly with a number of foreigners. Tuan had a physical disability that attracted a great deal of attention and sympathy over the years. The problem was a curable one, something that is easily resolved in the West, but in Vietnam it is impossible to fix for someone in the circumstances of a street child. 5

In addition to being visually eye-catching like many postcards sellers, Tuan spoke very good English and could easily interact with and charm foreign tourists. 10

Many street children become great storytellers, realizing that hard-luck tales (often exaggerated, though based on reality) are a good way to be given money. It is also a way of attracting the sympathy, attention and affection the children obviously lack and yearn for. 15

Over the years, a number of foreigners were very taken by Tuan and his problems. While they could do little to solve the numerous problems that led to homelessness, in Tuan's case it was clear that some of these problems could be solved with a straightforward trip to the doctor. Consequently, many people gave money to him without hesitation. Many people who gave money were only visiting the area for a short time, and as a result they were unable to follow up their support or assist Tuan in his treatment. So what happened with the money that was given to Tuan? Sadly, the money led Tuan to a life of drugs. 20 25

(Adapted from *Lonely Planet – Vietnam 6th ed*)

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

17. Give two reasons which made Tuan a well-known boy in the streets of Hanoi.

18. From the passage, how did the street children make a living?

19. What did the storytellers do in order to get more money from the tourists?

20. Why did many foreigners give money to Tuan?

21. Which word from the passage means 'striking and noticeable'?

SAT

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|-------|------------------------------|--|
| 1) 2 | } LISTENING
COMPREHENSION | 5) C |
| 2) 2 | | 6) M |
| 3) 3 | | 7) J |
| 4) 3 | | 8) A |
| 5) 3 | | 9) G |
| 6) 4 | | 10) F |
| 7) 1 | | 11) A |
| 8) 3 | | 12) C |
| 9) 1 | | 13) D |
| 10) 3 | | 14) G |
| 11) 3 | | 15) A |
| 12) 3 | | 16) E |
| 13) 4 | | 17) Tuan had a physical disability and spoke very good English. |
| 14) 1 | | |
| 15) 4 | | 18) They became storytellers. |
| 16) 2 | | 19) They told hard-luck tales and exaggerate them. |
| 17) 4 | | 20) They wanted Tuan to solve some of his problems with a straight forward trip to a doctor. |
| 18) 1 | | 21) The word is "eye-catching". |
| 19) 3 | | |
| 20) 2 | | |
| 21) 2 | | |

Section II

- 1) F
- 2) E
- 3) D
- 4) B