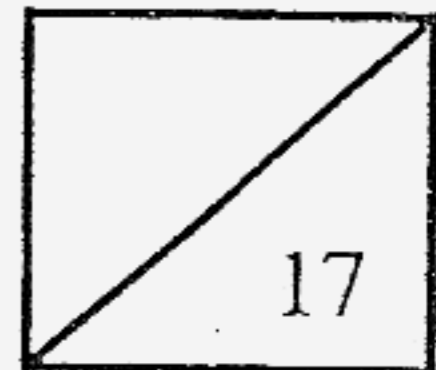




ROSYTH SCHOOL
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2, 2006
ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2
PRIMARY 4

Name: _____

Total
Marks:



Class: Pr 4 - _____

TOTAL DURATION FOR BOOKLETS A & B: 1 h 15 min

Register No. _____

Date: 30 - 10 -2006

Parent's Signature: _____

Booklet A

Instructions to Pupils:

1. Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.
2. Follow all instructions carefully.
3. This booklet consists of 17 questions (Questions 1 to 17)
4. Answer ALL the questions and shade them in the correct ovals on the OAS provided.

* This paper consists of 6 pages altogether.

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Section A: Grammar (6 marks)

For items 1 to 6, choose the most suitable answer and write its number in the brackets provided. (6 x 1 mark)

1) Indonesia, _____ the volcano Merapi is about to erupt, has been struck off my holiday destination list.

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----|
| (1) when | (2) where | |
| (3) whenever | (4) wherever | () |

2) Leave John and _____ out of this problem, please.

- | | | |
|--------|----------|-----|
| (1) I | (2) my | |
| (3) me | (4) mine | () |

3) He practised hard _____ he lost the game.

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------|-----|
| (1) and | (2) since | |
| (3) however | (4) therefore | () |

4) He _____ on the ground motionless after being knocked down by the car.

- | | | |
|----------|----------|-----|
| (1) lie | (2) lay | |
| (3) laid | (4) lain | () |

5) Patrick enjoyed the Mathematics and Science trail at the Esplanade, _____ he?

- | | | |
|----------|-------------|-----|
| (1) does | (2) doesn't | |
| (3) did | (4) didn't | () |

6) The cheesecake and the blueberry pie _____ on offer. Get a piece each if you can!

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

Section B: Vocabulary (6 marks)

For each question 7 to 12, choose the most suitable answer and write its number in the brackets provided. (6 x 1 mark)

7) The typhoon downgraded to a _____ when it lost speed and strength once it entered the city.

- (1) tornado (2) cyclone
(3) dust devil (4) thunderstorm ()

8) A/An _____ occurs when the rainfall falls below the normal amount for a long period of time.

- (1) drought (2) hurricane
(3) mudslide (4) earthquake ()

9) Bird flu has reached _____ proportions since it hit the fifth continent across the globe last month.

- (1) disease (2) disaster
(3) ~~epidermic~~
epidemic (4) pandemic ()

10) Halim was amazed at the speed Marcia _____ down her food.
He was not even half done with his dinner when she ordered her dessert.

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| (1) gobbled | (2) wolfed |
| (3) nibbled | (4) scoffed () |

11) Three balanced _____ a day is grandmother's secret to her good health.

- | | |
|-----------|----------------|
| (1) diets | (2) foods |
| (3) meals | (4) dishes () |

12) The crewmember of that pirate ship had not been given a fair _____ when he was pushed off the gangplank.

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| (1) trial | (2) sentence |
| (3) defence | (4) accusation () |

Section C: Comprehension (MCQ)

Read the following passage carefully. Then answer questions 13 to 17 by choosing the most suitable answer and write its number in the brackets provided:

(5 x 1 mark)

Contrary to what you might think, the inspiration for the name piggy bank did not come from the pig! The piggy bank was first made in Western Europe between 16th and 17th centuries. They replaced the clay jars used to keep small change in the house and were made of an orange clay called 'pygg'.

Since the name of the clay sounded so much like the pig, the potters that made the banks decided to model their coin bank after the pig, the animal that shared the same-sounding name as the material it was made from. Even after potters replaced "pygg" with "clay", the name "pig", stuck. It was an apt name for the saving habit. We store excess money like we feed excess food to pigs until they are fat enough to be slaughtered.

In German-speaking countries, it was a tradition for artisans to give their apprentices a piggy bank to reward them for years of learning their respective trades.

Even today, it is considered good luck in many countries to give piggy banks or 'Lucky Pigs' during occasions like New Year's Day as people believe that pigs symbolise good fortune.

Of course in countries where pigs are taboo, they still have coin banks, but just not in the shape of a living thing.

5

10

15

- 13) The inspiration for the name 'Piggy Bank' comes from _____.
- (1) bankers in China
 - (2) apprentices in Egypt
 - (3) artisans in Germany
 - (4) potters in Western Europe ()
- 14) Pig-shaped coin banks were first created because _____.
- (1) they used "pygg" to create these banks
 - (2) they were considered lucky by the Chinese
 - (3) they allowed more coins to be stored in them
 - (4) their shape could contain or store more food than others ()
- 15) Apprentices to artisans received piggy banks as _____.
- (1) encouragement to continuously save all their earnings
 - (2) marks of honour for mastering their work and tradeskills
 - (3) reminders to constantly upgrade and improve themselves
 - (4) tokens of appreciation for assisting the experienced artisans ()
- 16) From the passage, banks present "Piggy" banks during festive seasons to _____.
- (1) continue with an age-old tradition that has been on-going
 - (2) instill good saving habits in the younger generation of bankers
 - (3) wish prosperity and fortune for the new year on the customers
 - (4) cultivate good relations between themselves and the customers ()

17) According to the passage, the name of this coin bank came about by

_____.

- (1) trial and error
- (2) word substitution
- (3) accidental discovery
- (4) testing and troubleshooting

()

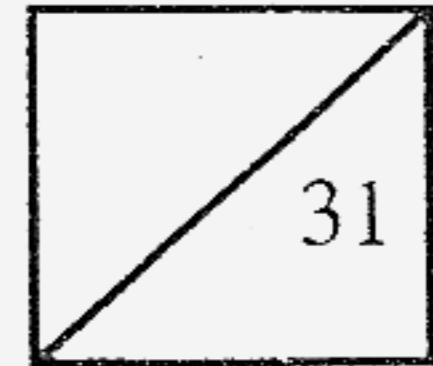
End of Booklet A



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Booklet B

Instructions to Pupils:

5. Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.
6. Follow all instructions carefully.
7. This booklet consists of questions (Questions 18 to 43)
8. ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS.

* This paper consists of 7 pages altogether.

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Section A : Grammar (8 marks)

For questions 18 to 21, 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. Use EACH OPTION ONCE ONLY. (4 x 1 mark)

EACH OPTION ONCE ONLY

(A) fly	(B) flies	(C) flew	(D) will fly
(E) has flown	(F) was flying	(G) has been flying	

The word "pilot" will be the last word on your mind if you had to describe Louisa Thorp. A petite, wheelchair-bound redhead can be seen waiting for her turn to "take to the air" in the plane. Louisa (18) _____ with her instructors numerous times before.

Paralysed from the waist down for most of her life, Louisa has spent most of her life in a wheel chair. However, this has not stopped her from leading a normal and fulfilling life. She joined an international flying club for youths and (19) _____ with them ever since.

"I just love to (20) _____. It gives me a sense of freedom and makes me forget that I am a paraplegic. What's even better is that these lessons are free, thanks to the Sir Douglas Boder Scholarship that I am on. The late Sir Douglas was a legless fighter pilot, we have something in common!" winked the spunky young lady. Asked what she would do when she gets her pilot licence, Louisa replied, "I (21) _____ my parents around the world!"

For questions 22 to 25, 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. Use EACH OPTION ONCE ONLY. (4 x 1 mark)

EACH OPTION ONCE ONLY

(A) by	(B) out	(C) away	(D) of
(E) from	(F) at	(G) up	

The motor car was a 19th century invention which changed the everyday lives of people in the 20th century. The first motor cars were luxury vehicles built (22) _____ hand in a small workshop. A group of steel workers would work on all parts (23) _____ the same car. In 1908, Henry Ford built the model T very cheaply on a production line. Cars were passed along on trolleys (24) _____ worker to worker, each doing one small job on each car. This way, Henry Ford could build 100 cars in one day and sold them (25) _____ a price ordinary people could afford.

Section B: Vocabulary (8 marks)

For questions 26 to 29, read the following 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 mark)

USE EACH WORD ONCE ONLY

(A) return	(B) exit	(C) engaged
(D) indulged	(E) necessary	(F) transported
(G) meaningful		

What someone does regularly during his spare time is called "a hobby". Having a hobby is useful as it helps one occupy his free time with a (26) _____ activity.

Take fishing, for instance. When one fishes, he is (27) _____ from his hectic work environment to a calmer one. His stress level is lowered while his mind is (28) _____ yet relaxed as he awaits his catch. At the end of the activity, he is rested and can (29) _____ to his work place as a more productive worker.

Hobbies are beneficial as they allow us to maintain a healthy balance between work and play.

For questions 30 to 33, choose the most suitable answer and write its answer in the brackets provided. (4 x 1 mark)

It was a very wet day. The rain had been falling (30) _____ since morning. However, Mr. Chen had decided to head for his favourite coffeeshop to meet with his friends anyway.

While conversing with his peers, Mr. Chen had (31) _____ that the rain was getting heavier. It was also accompanied by thunder and lightning.

Suddenly, an especially big (32) _____ of lightning struck. A crash was heard just above their heads. The lunch crowd realized that a tree had fallen on the roof of the coffeeshop! Screams could be heard as customers ran out of the coffeeshop and headed for (33) _____. Mr. Chen and his friends ran too.

Unfortunately for Mr. Chen, a bough of the tree fell through the roof and knocked him out cold, before he could make it out of there.

30. (1) inconsistently (2) incessantly
(3) incoherently (4) incredibly ()

31. (1) noticed (2) discovered
(3) deduced (4) understood ()

32. (1) stripe (2) clap
(3) gust (4) bolt ()

33. (1) shelter (2) shade
(3) safety (4) shield ()

Section C: Comprehension Cloze (5 marks)

For questions 34 to 38, read the passage carefully. Fill in each of the blanks with the most suitable word. (5 x 1 mark)

YOU ARE ONLY ALLOWED TO USE ONE WORD FOR EACH BLANK.

Joseph Lister was born in England in 1827. He grew up in Scotland where he learned to be a doctor. Lister noticed that many of his (34) _____ had died after surgery. He was puzzled. It was only when Louis Pasteur discovered the existence of germs did Lister (35) _____ that germs were the culprits causing these deaths. With this realisation, Lister ordered all surgical equipment to be boiled or sterilized to kill the germs found on (36) _____.

With the process of sterilisation in place, the transmission of germs from equipment to wounds was reduced significantly. All this was to ensure that future surgeries would be a (37) _____. As a result, many more were able to survive their surgeries. Based on the number of patients who pulled (38) _____, Lister's discovery was able to reduce the number of failed surgeries.

Sterilization proved so effective that it is still being carried out in today's world of medicine.

Section E: Comprehension (OE)

Read the following passage carefully. Then write the answers for questions 39 to 43 (5 x 2 marks)

Once there lived Youin Grade, a chemist, in a faraway town. He was a brilliant chemist who mixed chemicals and created potions expertly for the folk of the bustling town. Unfortunately, Youin Grade had a shortcoming. He despised growing old. Now that he was middle-aged, Youin Grade did not look as comely, walk as briskly or see as clearly as he used to. The chemist found old age repulsive and did not want anything to do with it. Thus, Youin Grade **worked hours at a stretch** to create the potion of eternal youth.

5

One fateful day, a loud explosion shook the entire town! When the dust settled, the town folk appeared. They began to cry and wail when they laid eyes on each other. They were bent double and wrinkled like prunes. Even the animals and plants were not spared. Every living thing in that town was old with age. Amidst the catastrophe, a young man appeared and announced with joy, "I am young now and will finally be happy forever!"

10

Days passed and one by one the town folk began to wither and die. Youin Grade stayed young and strong while his peers grew old and weak. The worried chemist suspected that he was drawing the life out of his friends. Youin Grade also had to complete any chores and tasks around the town himself since everyone else was too feeble to do so. He soon grew very tired of **this** and decided to create a Reversal Potion. Youin Grade began working round the clock.

15

When the successful chemist finally leapt out of his house to announce his new discovery, he discovered something else instead. His potion had come a day too late. The noisy town, once filled with young and old, was now filled with complete silence. The young chemist was not only as youthful as he could have ever imagined; he was also as friendless. Far from happy, Youin Grade gained youth only to experience it alone.

20

39) What potion did the chemist try to create?

40) What do the words "worked hours at a stretch" tell us about the chemist?

41) How ^{did} ~~do~~ the town folk feel about the explosion? How do you know?

42) What does the word "this" Line 18 refer to?

43) What do you think ^{Youin} ~~Youin~~ Grade learnt from this incident?

1. 2 39) He tried to create the potion for
 2. 3 eternal youth.
 3. 3
 4. 2 40) He is very determined to make it a
 5. 4 success.
 6. 3
 7. 4 41) After the dust settled, they looked
 8. 1 at each other and cried.
 9. 4
 10. 4 42) It refers to the chores and tasks he
 11. 3 had to complete himself.
 12. 1
 13. 4 43) He learnt not to be so selfish.
 14. 1
 15. 2
 16. 3
 17. 2
 18. E
 19. G
 20. A
 21. D
 22. A
 23. D
 24. E
 25. F
 26. G
 27. F
 28. C
 29. A
 30. 2
 31. 1
 32. 4
 33. 3
 34. patients
 35. realize
 36. them
 37. success
 38. through