

**Primary Five  
English Language  
Continual Assessment One**

**Section A: Grammar**

**Choose the correct answer and write your answer in the boxes provided.  
(10 x 1 mark)**

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1. The portraits \_\_\_\_\_ ready to be collected today.

(1) are

(2) were

(3) is

(4) was

2. Last night, my cousin saw a lizard \_\_\_\_\_ across the living room.

(1) runs

(2) run

(3) ran

(4) was running

3. \_\_\_\_\_ of them are going to watch a movie tonight.

(1) Both

(2) Neither

(3) Either

(4) One

4. Sue, \_\_\_\_\_ father is a doctor, wants to be in the medical profession when she grows up.

(1) whose

(2) which

(3) whom

(4) who

5. Andrew was afraid to approach his father for help \_\_\_\_\_ he was in a foul mood.

- (1) so
- (3) until

- (2) and
- (4) because

6. "Did you see anyone \_\_\_\_\_ out of the classroom while I was away?" Mrs. Tan asked her pupils.

- (1) walks
- (3) walk

- (2) had walked
- (4) walked

7. A team of badminton players \_\_\_\_\_ to represent the school in the Inter-School Badminton Competition this coming June holiday.

- (1) have been selected
- (3) selects

- (2) has been selected
- (4) select

8. Although Vivian has been practicing Chinese calligraphy for the past one week, she is not used to writing \_\_\_\_\_ a brush.

- (1) with
- (3) by

- (2) in
- (4) through

9. Mr. Lee had to \_\_\_\_\_ a second job as a waiter to make ends meet.

- (1) take on
- (3) take out

- (2) take off
- (4) take in

10. Neither May nor her sisters \_\_\_\_\_ responsible for the broken vase found in the living room.

- (1) was
- (3) is

- (2) were
- (4) am

**Section B: Vocabulary**

**I. Choose the correct answer and write your answer in the boxes provided. (10 x 2 marks)**

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11. The Chihuahua, weighing as little as six pounds, is \_\_\_\_\_ the smallest breed of dog in the world.

- (1) rightfully
- (3) undeniably

- (2) understandably
- (4) doubtfully

12. The survivors of the shipwreck \_\_\_\_\_ together to keep away the bitter cold.

- (1) jumbled
- (3) huddled

- (2) fumbled
- (4) muddled

13. The hikers saw many wild monkeys as they walked along the nature \_\_\_\_\_ in MacRitchie Reservoir.

- (1) route
- (3) way

- (2) course
- (4) trail

14. The prosecutor decided to \_\_\_\_\_ the case from the court due to insufficient evidence.

- (1) exclude
- (3) summon

- (2) withdraw
- (4) challenge

15. It was reported in the evening news yesterday that an old lady was murdered in a \_\_\_\_\_ spot in the park.

- (1) secret
- (3) private

- (2) secluded
- (4) sheltered

**II. For each question from 16 to 20, choose the most suitable word(s) to replace the underlined word(s). Write your answer in the boxes provided.**

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16. Alex's fists were closed tightly in anger when Peter kept on agitating him.

- (1) clenched
- (3) gripped

- (2) grabbed
- (4) clammed

17. The teacher decided to buy the book after taking a brief look through the content.

- (1) tackling
- (3) examining

- (2) checking
- (4) browsing

18. Mr. Lee was shocked to find his house broken into and searched when he returned home from work.

- (1) ransacked
- (3) looted

- (2) stolen
- (4) robbed

19. My sister shrill and piercing cry was so loud that everyone was startled.

- (1) squeak
- (3) shriek

- (2) command
- (4) shout

20. Susan has to learn to put her foot down when confronted with unreasonable demands.

- (1) stand firm
- (3) control

- (2) give in
- (4) stand tall

**Section C: Comprehension**

**Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

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The atmosphere in the hall was tense and still. The audience looked anxiously as Boris Spassky, a renowned chess player, made a move. In fact, millions of people were watching the match, which was broadcast live all over the world.

The match began more than seven hours ago. This was Russia's most arduous match. Everybody wanted to see Boris's victory against his rival as this was the first time in history, someone had competed with such exceptional player.

"I love chess but I'm never going to play after this match," decided Boris.

Boris started to play chess when he was five. It was always his favourite board game – the only game for him.

“This time I’m going to lose. I know I am,” thought Boris.

He wanted to look at his opponent’s eyes, to really see his enemy, but it was impossible. His opponent saw everything but had no eyes!

“I’m fast,” thought Boris, “I can make one or two moves in a second. But I’ve never played against someone like this!”

Boris was only twenty but he felt old now. “This is it. It’s the end for me. Maybe not just for me but for all of us,” said Boris.

It was true. This enemy was capable of making millions of moves in a second, without feeling tired.

Boris had no energy left. He needed to eat and drink; his opponent didn’t. Boris was nervous and worried; his opponent didn’t understand the meaning of those two words. Just when Boris started to think about this, he lost concentration for a second. One second was enough. Boris’s opponent saw the mistake and make the final move. Checkmate!

And that was how Boris Spassky lost. Boris was the last human chess champion in history.

**Choose the correct answer and write your answer in the boxes provided.**

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21. Chess had been Boris’s favourite game. For how long had Boris been playing chess?

- (1) 5 years
- (2) 11 years
- (3) 17 years
- (4) 32 years

22. What does the word “arduous” in paragraph 2 mean?

- (1) captivating
- (2) entertaining
- (3) stimulating
- (4) demanding

23. Why was Boris so certain that he would lose the game?

- (1) He knew that he was getting old.
- (2) He had made a wrong move previously.
- (3) He could not anticipate his opponent’s next strategic move.
- (4) His opponent had much more experience in chess than him.

24. According to the passage, what was the main reason that caused Boris to lose the game?

He was \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) too complacent.
- (2) not feeling well.
- (3) hungry and thirsty.
- (4) tense and anxious.

25. Who was actually competing with Boris?

- (1) a computer.
- (2) a chessboard.
- (3) a blind chess player.
- (4) an experienced young chess player.

**Section D: Cloze Passage**

In the following passage, there are 10 blanks numbered 26 to 35. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blanks provided. The letter (I) and (O) have been omitted in order to avoid confusion during marking.

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(A) even	(D) at	(G) because	(K) of	(N) into
(B) and	(E) with	(H) by	(L) in	(P) which
(C) who	(F) some	(J) however	(M) since	(Q) from

Every year, hordes of whales and dolphins around the whole strand themselves on beaches and die as a result. This phenomenon had been observed by people (26) \_\_\_\_\_ ancient times, and has been mentioned (27) \_\_\_\_\_ the written records from the past. A Greek poet (28) \_\_\_\_\_ lived in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D., suggested that these creatures beached themselves (29) \_\_\_\_\_ they were dying, and hope that man would bury them. (30) \_\_\_\_\_, no one really knows for sure why they do it. (31) \_\_\_\_\_ scientists till now have not found a satisfactory explanation for the behaviour.

When stranded whales are pushed back (32) \_\_\_\_\_ the water, they still struggled back to the shore. This has led many people to believe that whales are committing suicide. (33) \_\_\_\_\_ beaching themselves. Scientists, however, reject the idea of suicide and have actually put forward a whole host (34) \_\_\_\_\_ explanations for the behaviour. Some believed that stress causes whales to follow their instinct and return to land where they originated (35) \_\_\_\_\_. Still others attributed the behaviour to a variety of factors, including high tides, electrical storms and disorientation.



**Section E: Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar**

In the following passage, there are 10 blanks numbered 36 to 45. Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammar error. Wrong punctuation marks are circles. A missing punctuation is indicated by a circle at the place where it should be. Put the correct punctuation mark or word in each of the blanks provided in the answer sheet provided.  
(10 x 1 mark)

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Once you have a pet, you become a caretaker who must care for the needs of your pet. Pets need many things. Most of all (36)  they need your love and (37) atension. You need to think about how your pet (38) feel and spend time with your pet.

In addition to the care you give to your pets, you have to (39) purchase certain supplies such as bedding for small pets (40) on cages. Proper food and having sufficient exercise (41) is also important for your pet (42)  s health.

Some animals require special suppliers or equipment such as collars and leashes so that you can hold or control (43) it.

It is therefore important for all pet owners to be aware of the (44) indevidal needs of their pets to ensure that they stay healthy and strong. Do you think you can be a good pet owner (50)

- (36) \_\_\_\_\_
- (37) \_\_\_\_\_
- (38) \_\_\_\_\_
- (39) \_\_\_\_\_
- (40) \_\_\_\_\_

- (41) \_\_\_\_\_
- (42) \_\_\_\_\_
- (43) \_\_\_\_\_
- (44) \_\_\_\_\_
- (45) \_\_\_\_\_

**Section F: Synthesis/Transformation**

**Rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Write your answers in the answer sheet.**

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46. It was warm in the room. Mary did not take off her jacket.

Although \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

47. Mr. Ng was the victim. His house was burnt down.

\_\_\_\_\_ whose \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

48. The teacher was pleased with Andy's result. His father was also pleased with his result.

\_Both \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

49. Someone opened the door from the other side. Catherine was turning the key in the lock.

\_\_\_\_\_ while \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

50. A chest of jewels was hidden there. That was the old hut.

\_\_\_\_\_ where \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Section G: Cloze Passage

In the following passage, there are 10 blanks numbered 51 to 60. Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (10 x 1 mark)

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It is a lot of fun to travel to new places. Planning the trip is (51) \_\_\_\_\_ of excitement. My family looks at the maps and (52) \_\_\_\_\_ books about different places. In June every year, each of us picks a place we would like to go. Then we discuss (53) \_\_\_\_\_ each other the place we have chosen. We talk about the things we can do (54) \_\_\_\_\_ the place we have picked. Father always chooses a national park (55) \_\_\_\_\_ he likes to camp. Mother usually picks a city with a nice hotel and big shopping centres. My brother will choose a place near a lake or river because he likes to (56) \_\_\_\_\_. I like exploring new places, so you can (57) \_\_\_\_\_ tell what place I will select. When the family has heard (58) \_\_\_\_\_ all the different places, we vote (59) \_\_\_\_\_ where we want to go. No (60) \_\_\_\_\_ what the decision is, we all agree that our vacations are a lot of fun.

### Section H: Comprehension

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions

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**A hardworking boy or girl wanted.  
Excellent after-school job. Call 310 5566 and  
ask for Mrs. Menon.**

Luke read the notice with excitement. He had wanted a new fishing rod ever since Uncle Roy and Aunt Mary had taught him how to fish during the school holidays. They never ate the fish. They caught them and then gently removed the hook to let the fish swim away. Aunt Mary said the pond belonged to the fish, too. Uncle Roy thought that his wife was silly. When Luke asked his mother and father for a fishing rod, they had said, "Well, son, why don't you earn the money yourself? **Money doesn't grow on trees, you know!**"

Luke had tried to get some jobs around the neighbourhood, but almost everyone had said, "You're too young, boy. Come back in a few years." He went home and called the number. A woman answered. She asked Luke a lot of questions. Did he like little ones? Did he like to play games with them? Would he feed her little one? "Wow!" thought Luke. "This is a baby-sitting job." He said he would be right there.

"Mom! Dad! I got a job. I'm baby-sitting for a little kid!" Luke's twin brother Bob came in and said, "You can't even take care of yourself. You need a baby-sitter!"

Mother said, "You are not even eleven, Luke. Meet with this nice woman, but tell her no. We're sorry."

Luke dragged himself to Smith Street to a cozy old house with a large shade tree in the front. This was going to be embarrassing. He thought for sure he could take this job. He rang the doorbell. It played the song "Bingo". An elderly woman with a kind face and silvery white hair, holding a walking stick, appeared at the door. "She's probably the grandma of the baby," Luke thought.

"Come in," she said warmly. Her voice was like sugary maple syrup. "I'm Mrs. Menon. The little darling is resting. You can see him, though." They tiptoed into a small room. Luke looked around. There, in a big straw basket, almost hidden on a soft, fluffy cushion, was a tiny dog with huge eyes. On the basket was a sign that said "Bingo".

"Here he is," said Mrs. Menon. "I need you to walk him everyday and play with him. He has lots of toys and please talk to him. He's very intelligent as you'll discover. I'll pay you four dollars an hour."

"I'll start now," said Luke. He put Bingo's leash on him and walked the tiny dog over to his own house. "Mom, Dad, Bob, I bought the baby home with me," he called.

As they rushed in, he heard his father say, "We said no, Luke," then he stopped. Bingo jumped up, right into Father's arm and gave him a big, wet doggy kiss.

"Here's the baby," laughed Luke. "I'll have the money for that fishing rod soon."

Bob smiled at his brother and said, "Does his 'mother' have one I can sit for?"

**For each question from 61 to 65, write your answer in the answer on the spaces provided.  
ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.**

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61. Why do you think Luke was so eager to get a job?

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62. What did Luke's parents mean when they said, "Money doesn't grow on trees."?

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63. According to the passage, what was the reason for Luke's failure to get a job?

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64. Which sentence in the passage suggests that Mrs. Menon was too old to walk her dog?

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65. How did Luke surprise his family about the tiny dog?

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