

**Primary Five  
English Language  
Semestral Assessment One**

**Section A : Graphic Stimulus (1 mark each)**

**Study the advertisement below and answer the questions that follow.**

# Calendar of March

### **Cabaret Wednesdays**

HAVE a hilarious time with comedians Kumar, Norleena Salim and Irene Ang of Phua Chu Kang fame, who will be backed by a team of singers and dancers. Produced by Calvin Tan and choreographed by Chuck Ante

Venue: Igor's #01-02A Oasis  
50 Stadium Boulevard  
Date: Every Wednesday  
Time: 11pm & 1am  
Fee: \$15 for a standard drink plus the show.

### **Machine**

Instead of his usual dramas, playwright, Tan Tarn How, who is associate director of Artworks' Singapore wing and a Straits Times journalist, focuses on love and relationships in modern times in this play. Directed by Jeremiah Choy, this Artworks production stars Janice Koh, Casey Lim, Low Kee Hong and Karen Tan.

Venue: The Black Box, Fort Canning Centre  
Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> March  
Time: 8pm  
Tickets: \$25, \$30

### **Giselle**

Singapore Dance Theatre's new season of Giselle is in memory of its late founder president and former President of Singapore, Mr Ong Teng Cheong. The ballet tells the story of a peasant girl who loves Albrecht, unaware that he is a count and engaged to the daughter of a duke.

Venue: Kallang Theatre  
Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> March to 15<sup>th</sup> March  
Weekdays: 8pm  
Weekends: 3pm & 8pm  
Tickets: \$20, \$28, \$36 & \$42

### **Lianhe-Zaobao Money-Making Ideas (seminar-cum-exhibition)(Mandarin)**

Organised by Lianhe Zaobao Classified, it is targeted at Chinese-speaking Singaporeans who want to be their own boss. The exhibition features more than 40 booths.

Venue: Singapore International Convention & Exhibition Centre  
Date: March 15<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 2 - 5pm (seminar)  
1 - 8 pm (exhibition)  
Fees: \$128 each (seminar)  
No admission charge for exhibition

### **Stories From the '60s**

Curious about the crime and social scene in Singapore in the 1960s? N.F. Kutty, President of the Society of Singapore Writers and a former journalist with the Straits Times, tells real-life stories and anecdotes from this era.

Venue: National Library Courtyard  
Date: Every weekend  
Time: 6 pm  
Admission is free

### **Pages From The 60s- A Philatelic Display**

Travel back in time to the Swinging '60s of Flower Power and the heyday of the Beatles and rock 'n' roll at this stamp display, marking significant events, personalities and icons of the decade.

Venue: Singapore Philatelic  
Date: 1<sup>st</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> March except Sundays  
Time: 9am to 6pm  
Closed on Mondays  
Ticket: \$1

**Questions 1 to 5 carry one mark each.**

**For each question, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and write it in the space provided.**

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1. Which of the following programmes is held in memory of our late president, Mr. Ong Teng Chong?

- (1) Cabaret Wednesdays
- (2) Giselle
- (3) Stories From The '60s
- (4) Pages From The '60s

2. Mrs. Wong is an avid stamp collector. Where can she go to view the stamp display?

- (1) Fort Canning Centre
- (2) National Library Courtyard
- (3) Singapore Philatelic Museum
- (4) Singapore International Conventional and Exhibition

3. If you want to have a good laugh on Wednesday, you should attend \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Machine
- (2) Giselle
- (3) Cabaret Wednesdays
- (4) Talks by N.G.Kutty

4. MACHINE is a play written by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Janice Koh
- (2) Casey Lim
- (3) Tan Tarn How
- (4) Jeremiah Choy

5. Which one of the following statements about Lianhe Zaobao Money-Making Ideas is true?

- (1) It is conducted in English.
- (2) The seminar will last for three hours.
- (3) It is held at the end of March.
- (4) Only participants of the seminar need not pay for the exhibition.

**Questions 6-25 carry 1 mark each**

**Choose the correct answer for each of the following questions. Write its number in the brackets provided.**

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6. Mr. Lim used to jog but now he only \_\_\_\_\_ long walks.

- (1) take
- (2) takes
- (3) took
- (4) taken

7. After trekking for an hour, the Boy Scouts discovered that four of their members \_\_\_\_\_ missing.

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

8. Would you mind \_\_\_\_\_ a little softer, please?

- (1) speak
- (2) speaking
- (3) to speak
- (4) spoke

9. While Mother \_\_\_\_\_ dinner, Jane was doing her homework.

- (1) cooks
- (2) is cooking
- (3) was cooking
- (4) would cook

10. Your sister enjoys dancing, \_\_\_\_\_ she?

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

11. The cat \_\_\_\_\_ it because I definitely left the fish on the table.

- (1) will eat
- (2) may have eaten
- (3) must have eaten
- (4) was eating

12. Mavis, Linda and I enjoyed \_\_\_\_\_ very much at the fair.

- (1) themselves
- (2) ourselves
- (3) myself
- (4) yourselves

13. "I want to \_\_\_\_\_ this project by Monday," said Devi

- (1) finish
- (2) finished
- (3) finishes
- (4) have finished

14. I heard her \_\_\_\_\_ at the top of her voice in the next room.

- (1) scream
- (2) screams
- (3) screamed
- (4) is screaming

15. If you \_\_\_\_\_ a mistake, simply cross it out.

- (1) make
- (2) made
- (3) are making
- (4) will make

16. He got into trouble with the law only two days after being released \_\_\_\_\_ prison.

- (1) with
- (2) from
- (3) for
- (4) in

17. Soccer fans arrived at the stadium \_\_\_\_\_ the busloads.

- (1) on
- (2) for
- (3) by
- (4) in

18. Nobody in the class \_\_\_\_\_ where she lives.

- (1) knows
- (2) know
- (3) has known
- (4) have known

19. Mother allowed us to go swimming only after we \_\_\_\_\_ our homework.

- (1) completed
- (2) have completed
- (3) had completed
- (4) were completing

20. He did not give me the advice he \_\_\_\_\_ until it was too late.

- (1) should have
- (2) must have
- (3) would have
- (4) will have

21. Mr. Tan was \_\_\_\_\_ a medal for his service to the state.
- (1) rewarded
  - (2) awarded
  - (3) commended
  - (4) recommended
- 
- 22 The hungry tiger pounced on the little lamb and \_\_\_\_\_ it at once.
- (1) chewed
  - (2) munched
  - (3) gnawed
  - (4) devoured
- 
- 23 When Mr. Lee passed away, his widow received many letter of \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) blessings
  - (2) sorrow
  - (3) condolence
  - (4) bereavement
- 
24. Tom began \_\_\_\_\_ with drugs at a young age and later became addicted to it.
- (1) playing
  - (2) meddling
  - (3) tampering
  - (4) experimenting
- 
25. The witness \_\_\_\_\_ in court that he saw the accused stabbing Mr. Lerr.
- (1) notified
  - (2) testified
  - (3) clarified
  - (4) signified
-

**Questions 26 to 30 carry 1 mark each**  
**Choose the most suitable word(s) to replace the underlined word(s)**

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26. Whenever I asked about his family, he would evade my questions.

- (1) refute
- (2) reject
- (3) avoid
- (4) refuse

27. Lee Meng became tongue-tied when his teacher asked him why he played truant.

- (1) worried
- (2) speechless
- (3) afraid
- (4) breathless

28. The general ordered his soldiers to surrender because they had run out of bullets, grenades and dynamite.

- (1) artillery
- (2) equipment
- (3) apparatus
- (4) ammunition

29. The odour came from the rubbish dump.

- (1) aroma
- (2) stench
- (3) scent
- (4) fragrance

30. The surgeon had to cut off Jimmy's diseased arm to prevent the gangrene from spreading.

- (1) amputate
- (2) sever
- (3) dissect
- (4) incise

**Read the passage below and answer questions 31 to 35**

King Hiero was a very wealthy man. One day he summoned a goldsmith.

“I would like to have a new crown,” he said as he showed the design to the goldsmith. “This is the way it must look. Make it out of this block of pure gold which weighs exactly three kilogrammes. You must make sure you use every grain of it.”

Two months later, the crown was ready. It weighed exactly three kilogrammes. Somehow the King sensed something **amiss**. In fact, the crown seemed a little too large and the colour a little disappointing. King Hiero confided in his friend, Archimedes who was a mathematician cum scientist.

“I feel there is something not quite right,” he said. When I compare this three kilogramme block of gold with it, the block is identical to the original one.”

Archimedes examined each carefully and checked the weight.

“There is a difference in the colours. The block of gold has a reddish colour, while the crown looks both brighter and yellower. Perhaps it is due to the melting and moulding.”

“What about the size?” asked the anxious king.

The two objects weigh exactly the same,” replied Archimedes. “Yet the crown seems to be too big. Maybe the goldsmith cheated. He may have kept some of the gold and added some silver to make up the difference in weight.”

Is silver lighter than gold?” King Hiero asked.

“Oh yes. As a matter of fact, it is much lighter,” answered Archimedes. “Therefore he would have to put in quite a lot of silver after he stole the gold – if he stole the gold.”

“Is there any way of proving it?”

“Yes, there is a method we can use,” Archimedes began his explanation. “The greater the volume of the object in the water, the greater the displacement. For example, a bigger person will displace more water than a smaller person. Silver is lighter than gold. So a kilogramme of silver has a larger volume than a kilogramme of gold.”



“Hence, if the crown has the same amount of gold as the original block of gold, it will displace the same amount of water,” said the King thoughtfully.

“That’s right,” said Archimedes. “If the silver has been added to the crown, in order to weigh the same, it would have a greater volume. So when tested in a tub of water, it would take up more space, and...”

“Don’t say anymore!” the King shouted delightfully. “Let’s carry out the experiment at once!”

The goldsmith was soon proved guilty and was punished. As for Archimedes, he was handsomely rewarded.

**Questions 31-35 carry 2 marks each**

**Choose the correct answer for each of the following questions. Write its number in the brackets provided**

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31. The goldsmith went to see the King Hiero because \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) the King had sent for him
- (2) he could make a few crown
- (3) the King appreciated his skills
- (4) he wanted to make a crown for him

32. The King was not very happy with the new crown as it \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) had more gold
- (2) did not fit him well
- (3) did not look the way he wanted it to be
- (4) seemed to be too big compared to the block of gold

33. According to the passage, the word 'amiss' in paragraph 3 can be explained as \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) wrong
- (2) lacking
- (3) missing
- (4) suspicious

34. The goldsmith added silver to the crown in order to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) cheat King Hiero
- (2) beautify the crown
- (3) to make the crown heavier
- (4) to make the crown looked bigger

35. King Hiero shouted delightfully because he could prove that \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) the crown was not his
- (2) silver has been added to his crown
- (3) his new crown was heavier than three kilogrammes
- (4) Archimedes, was not only a great mathematician but also a scientist

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. A wrong or missing punctuation mark is indicated by a circle. Put the correct punctuation mark or word in each of the boxes. (10 x 1 mark )

Recently, the authorities decided to get tough with theatre-goers. The  
(36)   
ushers and managers of these places of entertanment were instructed to shut the

doors at the start of a performance. This took a dramatic turn last week when the  
(37)

chief usher at a locale theatre shut the doors at the proper time. Soon a small  
(38)  (39)

crowd of well-heeled people has collected outside  Some of them were very  
(40)

important people. The chief usher stood his ground, until the manger appeal to  
him to be more understanding and let them in. After many exchanges and letting

(41)  (42)   
everyone know of his oposition such a move  the chief usher gave in.

(43)   
All is not lost, however. It seem Singaporean are too late for everything.

(44)   
For example, they are punctual for work. That is good news. Our economy future

(45)   
is assured. If only people were more courtoeus – they would also be punctual.

**There are 10 blanks, numbered 46 to 55, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. (10 x 1 mark)**

**EACH WORD CAN ONLY BE USED ONCE**

(A) them	(E) if	(J) which	(N) better
(B) worse	(F) when	(K) for	(P) out
(C) from	(G) with	(L) by	(Q) those
(D) went	(H) became	(M) who	

One day, an old lady invited all her friend from a nearby village to a feast on the lawn. About four days later, the old lady's feet (46)\_\_\_\_\_ swollen, and looked like those of a young elephant. The doctor was sent (47)\_\_\_\_\_, but his medicine and treatment brought no relief. Instead, the swelling became (48)\_\_\_\_\_. It was then that someone suggested consulting an old medicine man (49)\_\_\_\_\_ lived some distance away.

The first question that he asked on arrival was (50)\_\_\_\_\_ she had sat on the grass under some trees.

"Yes," said the old lady. "I was having a party on the lawn."

"I see," said the medicine man. "Sit down and uncover (51)\_\_\_\_\_ swollen legs."

He started massaging her legs (52)\_\_\_\_\_ a piece of yellow dough. After about ten minutes he showed her several fine white hairs about two inches long sticking (53)\_\_\_\_\_ of the dough.

"These hairs are (54)\_\_\_\_\_ the white hairy caterpillar. It is a female and its hairs cause swellings (55)\_\_\_\_\_ they enter the skin through the pores." After two weeks, the swellings of both legs had completely varnished

**Fill in each blank with a suitable word ( 20 x 1 mark )**

Changi Airport has become the hangout of choice for retirees, housewives and wailing babies in strollers, since the airport's MRT station opened last month.

They bring no luggage but cameras, and take away (56)\_\_\_\_\_ but snapshots of the station and the airport. Many just loll around the departure and (57)\_\_\_\_\_ halls, gazing at the planes from the (58)\_\_\_\_\_ galleries. The highlights of these family excursions (59)\_\_\_\_\_ the ride on the MRT and a meal or snack (60)\_\_\_\_\_ one of the airport's many (61)\_\_\_\_\_ or one of its two staff canteens.

For some, it is the first time they (62)\_\_\_\_\_ visited the airport. Retiree Harun Osman (63)\_\_\_\_\_ lives in Clementi said, "Cab fare is about \$20, but MRT fare is just \$1.80. There is no direct bus from my home and changing buses is too troublesome."

While the week-long school break has (64)\_\_\_\_\_ more visitors to the airport than usual, people who work there say the place has been packed (65)\_\_\_\_\_ the MRT station opened.

The influx of new customers may please food vendors (66)\_\_\_\_\_ some airport workers are quite unhappy about the intrusion (67)\_\_\_\_\_ their turf. Food in the canteen is cheaper (68)\_\_\_\_\_ in the airport's restaurants. So, budget-minded visitors crowd the canteens. For staff, this adds up to a (69)\_\_\_\_\_ wait for food and sometimes even an empty table to (70)\_\_\_\_\_ at. Sometimes, the food even runs (71)\_\_\_\_\_.

Unhappiest of all may be the taxi-drivers. Mr. Tong Tian Kee, 52, who has been driving for the past twenty years, said, "Now, I have to queue for p to an hour to get a (72)\_\_\_\_\_. Previously, it took only 15 to 30 minutes."

But not everyone (73)\_\_\_\_\_ the train. Many visitors to Singapore are prepared to (74)\_\_\_\_\_ for a cab for the comfort and (75)\_\_\_\_\_ it offers. "The train fare may be cheaper, but the taxi can get me to the right hotel," said Miss Sara Allan from Australia.

(The Sunday Times - - Sunday, March 17, 2002)

**Synthesis/Transformation**

For each of the items 76 to 80, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the given one(s). ( 5 x 2 marks)

**Example: This is the book. I borrowed it.**

**Answer : This is the book which I borrowed.**

76: The football match will be held as usual if it does not rain.

Unless \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

77. John is a very strong boy. He can lift that heavy cupboard easily.

\_\_\_\_\_ so \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

78. Peter likes to play computer games. His brother likes to play computer games.

Both \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

79. My sister wrote this winning essay.

This winning \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

80. "I gave the book to my sister yesterday," said John

John said that \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Read the passage carefully and answer questions 81 to 90 (20 marks)**

He tried to ignore the impulse to watch the dark shadows on the reef bottom below him. The reef's reputation for sharks refused to leave the back of his imagination, and he became painfully aware that his legs were dangling vulnerably over the edge of his surf board. In an admission of defeat, he lay on the board instead of sitting on it.

The waves were good, however, and he soon forgot his fears in the enjoyment of the moment. **A lone dolphin caused him a moment of doubt** when it burst through a wave breaking two metres in front of him but its presence was comforting. It stayed with him for half an hour, playing the waves, before silently continuing its journey.

He surfaced for another hour, racing up and down the steep waves, before he began to tire. The tide changed and the waves became rather inconsistent. Suddenly, his **adrenalin level lurched momentarily** and he squinted even harder against the glare of the sun. He then saw a **black triangle** cutting the surface of the water. He watched it for a long enough to be certain that it was not a dolphin. He began stroking towards the shore as quickly as he was able. His stomach had shrunk into a tight ball of fear. He frantically scanned the ocean around him. He had lost the fin.

**The shore seemed an eternity away.** The clear, cold water had become threatening now, hiding the shark. About two metres away, he saw the white-ghost shape of the shark against the dark kelp. He knew that it was moving very fast towards him. In a reflex action, he rolled off his board and thrust it between him and the shark. The water around him exploded and he was lifted clear by a tremendous blow. With nothing to lose, he began swimming towards the shore expecting to be dragged under at any moment.

Nothing happened. The surfer looked back for a moment. The shark was frenziedly attacking the surfboard. He could not really see the shark through the **boiling water**. He was uncertain as to whether to swim to the shore or to tread water. Hoping the shark would ignore his presence, he decided to swim for it.

It seemed like hours before he finally climbed gasping on to the barbacle-covered granite boulders. His feet and hands were bleeding from cuts inflicted by the sharp shells.

Hand shaking, he sat at the water's edge. Slowly, and stiffly, he rose and began to walk back to the car. In a week or two, he might laugh at the whole incident, but not now.

(Adapted from "A Moment In Time" written by Charles de Sails in a Swag of Stories)



**ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES**

81. What was the reef known for?

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82. Why did the surfer decide to lie on the board instead of sitting on it?

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83. Why did a lone dolphin (paragraph 2) caused a moment of doubt for the writer?

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84. "His adrenalin level lurched momentarily..." (paragraph 3) What does this phrase tell us about the surfer's state of mind?

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85. What did the "black triangle" refer to?

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86. "The shore seemed an *eternity away*." (paragraph 4) Explain the sentence in italics.

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87. Why did the shark attack the surfboard?

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88. Why was the water "boiling" ?

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89. How did the writer reach the shore?

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90. Which sentence tells us that the surfer had suffered minor injuries after struggling to shore?

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End of paper