

**Primary Six  
English Language  
Continual Assessment One**

**Section A: Grammar**

For each question from 1 to 20, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Write your answer in the boxes provided. (20 x 1 mark)

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1. Mr. Lim \_\_\_\_\_ his office an hour ago and he is on his way home now.

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| (1) left       | (2) leaves      |
| (3) is leaving | (4) was leaving |

2. My tuition teacher made me \_\_\_\_\_ my sums before dismissing me for break.

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| (1) completed | (2) completing |
| (3) complete  | (4) completes  |

3. \_\_\_\_\_ he ever \_\_\_\_\_ to his parents in Australia?

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| (1) Does ... writes | (2) Did ... write  |
| (3) Did ... writes  | (4) Does ... write |

4. This evening's party will be cancelled as it \_\_\_\_\_ since this morning.

- |                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| (1) rained     | (2) has been raining |
| (3) is raining | (4) had rained       |

5. The long-lost sisters wept and hugged \_\_\_\_\_ when they were united.

- (1) each other
- (3) one another

- (2) the other
- (4) themselves

6. The suitcase, with all the clothes, \_\_\_\_\_ placed in the wardrobe.

- (1) have been
- (3) are

- (2) was
- (4) were

7. The discipline master saw those naughty boys \_\_\_\_\_ the wall and \_\_\_\_\_ the window panes.

- (1) climb ... broke
- (3) climb ... break

- (2) climbs ... breaks
- (4) climbed ... break

8. Aunt Janet \_\_\_\_\_ the honey dew last evening.

- (1) has cut
- (3) cuts

- (2) cut
- (4) was cutting

9. There is \_\_\_\_\_ coffee in the flask. You do not \_\_\_\_\_ to buy any today.

- (1) much ... had
- (3) many ... have

- (2) no ... have
- (4) much ... have

10. The taxi-driver should ply \_\_\_\_\_ this area to get more passengers.

- (1) along (2) by  
(3) through (4) beside

11. The office operator asked me \_\_\_\_\_ .

- (1) whom I wished to speak to (2) I wished to speak to who  
(3) I wished to speak to whom (4) who I wished to speak to

12. The principal was surprised when the students walked \_\_\_\_\_ him without greeting her.

- (1) past (2) with  
(3) pass (4) through

13. Neither Henry nor his friends \_\_\_\_\_ the way to Country Club.

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

14. Mary speaks French and Japanese, \_\_\_\_\_ ?

- (1) didn't she (2) hasn't she  
(3) don't she (4) doesn't she

15. "This glass is empty! Someone \_\_\_\_\_ my milk,"  
exclaimed Tracy.

- (1) drinks
- (3) drank

- (2) has drunk
- (4) had drunk

16. Kelvin is so \_\_\_\_\_. He believes everything he is told.

- (1) naive
- (3) frank

- (2) sincere
- (4) honest

17. \_\_\_\_\_ this medicated liquid. It should take care of your  
mouth ulcers.

- (1) Rinse
- (3) Roll

- (2) Gargle
- (4) Drench

18. I \_\_\_\_\_ his invitation to movie as I had an appointment  
on the same day.

- (1) forfeited
- (3) declined

- (2) withdrew
- (4) accepted

19. The stench and filth in the old hut made everyone feel  
\_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) offensive
- (3) dizzy

- (2) uneasy
- (4) nauseous

20. The back yard has been \_\_\_\_\_ as weeds are growing everywhere.

- (1) neglected
- (3) ignored

- (2) disregarded
- (4) overlooked

**Section B: Vocabulary**

For questions 21 to 25, choose the most suitable word(s) to replace the unlined word(s). Write your answer in the boxes provided. (5 x 1 marks)

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21. When the doctor examined the man's gun-shot wound, he suspected he was a person who ran away from the law.

- (1) a convict
- (3) a criminal

- (2) a fugitive
- (4) a stowaway

22. The pupils took more than is necessary food for their excursion.

- (1) enough
- (3) sufficient

- (2) adequate
- (4) ample

23. That receipt cannot be exchanged for money or used for payment.

- (1) is irredeemable
- (3) is redeemable

- (2) is refundable
- (4) is irreplaceable

24. Due to the improved in Technology, one can easily buy a computer that is convenient for carrying around.

- (1) lightweight
- (3) movable

- (2) portable
- (4) manageable

25. The sudden downpour caused everyone to run helter skelter.

- (1) for shelter
- (3) very fast

- (2) in a disorderly manner
- (4) in a funny manner

### Section C: Comprehension

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. For each question, four options are given. Choose the correct answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) and write your answer in the boxes provided.

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There once lived two brothers in a remote village of China. They were orphaned at a tender age and they had worked together on the family farm since then. Later one of the brothers married and soon he had a family of five children. The other brother remained single. Life in the farm was tough but happy. They worked very hard every day, ploughing the fields and harvesting the crops. Both brothers shared their profit equally.

This continued for many years. One day, the unmarried brother thought to himself while working in the field. "It's not fair to share our profit equally. I am alone and my needs are simple while my brother has to support his family. He needs much more than I." With that in mind, he took a sack of grain from his bin, crept across the field between their houses and dumped it into his brother's bin quietly. He did this every night without fail.

Meanwhile, the married brother, seeing how hard his only brother worked, also had the same thought. "It's not right that we share the produce and profit equally. I have a wife and children to look after me when I grow old. But my brother has no one to take care of his future. He really should have a bigger share." So he took a sack of grain and dumped it in his brother's bin every night without anyone's knowledge.

This went on and both brothers were puzzled why their supply of grain never **dwindled** despite what they were doing. Then one dark night while on the way to each other's bin, the two brothers bumped into each other. It dawned on them what was happening. They dropped their sacks and embraced each other in the moonlit night.

26. The brothers lost their parents when \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) they were very young
- (2) they orphaned
- (3) they were middle-aged
- (4) one brother got married

27. The brother lived \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) in the same house
- (2) separately at each end of the same field
- (3) next door to each other
- (4) in different villages

28. The single brother's consideration was \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) his own needs when he was old
- (2) his health which was deterioration
- (3) his married brother's family problems
- (4) his married brother's needs

29. The word 'dwindled' in the fourth paragraph means \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) decreased
- (2) increased
- (3) disappeared
- (4) remained the same



30. The brothers embraced each other as they were \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) frightened by each other's unexpected presence
- (2) orphaned and had nobody to care for them
- (3) touched by each other's unselfishness and affection.
- (4) feeling cold at night.

**Section D: Cloze Passage**

There are 10 blanks, numbered 31 to 40, 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 blanks. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted. Each word is to be used once only.

- |           |          |             |           |          |
|-----------|----------|-------------|-----------|----------|
| (A) but   | (D) one  | (G) among   | (K) which | (N) most |
| (B) who   | (E) also | (H) despite | (L) in    | (P) for  |
| (C) quite | (F) an   | (J) has     | (M) a     | (Q) have |

John Steinbeck is a famous American writer. (31) \_\_\_\_\_ a number of his novels and short stories (32) \_\_\_\_\_ been made into movies; the (33) \_\_\_\_\_ recent being 'Of Mice and Men' (34) \_\_\_\_\_ was screened in local cinemas last year. Incidentally, this book is (35) \_\_\_\_\_ a literature text for students (36) \_\_\_\_\_ are taking their 'O' Level Cambridge Examinations. (37) \_\_\_\_\_ recognition of his writing ability, he was awarded (38) \_\_\_\_\_ Nobel Prize for Literature in 1962, which is considered to be (39) \_\_\_\_\_ of the highest distinctions (40) \_\_\_\_\_ any writer of serious fiction.

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

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

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Twenty years ago (41)  Samsui women working  
(42) labourants were a common sight at many construction  
(43) sights. These Cantonese (44)  speaking women were easily  
(45) identify by the red hood and black clothes they wore. They each  
(46) carries a bamboo basket which contained a lunch box, a mug  
and a stool.

The first group of Samsui women came to Singapore more than  
fifty years ago from China. They were forced to (47) lived their poor  
homeland to (48) sick a living abroad.

They were usually known to be unfriendly especially towards  
(49) stranglers. They would not answer any personal questions or  
even allow themselves to be (50) potograpgh.

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

(46) \_\_\_\_\_  
(47) \_\_\_\_\_  
(48) \_\_\_\_\_  
(49) \_\_\_\_\_  
(50) \_\_\_\_\_

**Section F: Comprehension Cloze**

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

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“I can’t believe it! I’ve won! I’ve (51) \_\_\_\_\_ lottery!” Mr. Lee exclaimed excitedly. Gesticulating his winning ticket wildly, he proceeded to (52) \_\_\_\_\_ it proudly to his bemused colleagues sitting around him. All of them (53) \_\_\_\_\_ him heartily and showered him attention and praise. Mr. Lee was so happy that he (54) \_\_\_\_\_ to treat them to a free meal with his winnings. Upon hearing this, his colleagues treated him even better. This made Mr. Lee very happy as he (55) \_\_\_\_\_ he had such good friends.

However, misfortune struck Mr. Lee on the day he went to (56) \_\_\_\_\_ his winnings. Unknowingly, a robber had (57) \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Lee after he had collected his prize money. He swiftly (58) \_\_\_\_\_ the cheque from his hand. Mr. Lee was taken (59) \_\_\_\_\_ but he managed to put up a (60) \_\_\_\_\_ with the robber. To Mr. Lee’s (61) \_\_\_\_\_ the latter took out a knife and (62) \_\_\_\_\_ him. Mr. Lee lost consciousness.

When Mr. Lee (63) \_\_\_\_\_ consciousness, he realized he was (64) \_\_\_\_\_ in hospital. Being middle-aged and a (65) \_\_\_\_\_. Mr. Lee had no family to visit or take care of him.

Hence, he was alone in hospital room with no (66) \_\_\_\_\_. This made Mr. Lee very sad. He thought at the very least, his so-called 'friends' from his (67) \_\_\_\_\_ whom he had treated so well would come and visit him. In the end, he realized they were superficial friends who were nice to him only when profit was to be (68) \_\_\_\_\_. This made Mr. Lee rather disillusioned.

However, on the fourth day of his stay, his neighbour, Mr. Tan and his family, visited him. They brought flowers and (69) \_\_\_\_\_ for a visibly touched Mr. Lee. Mrs. Tan offered to clean his house while he was in hospital. This gesture of kindness (70) \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Lee to break down in tears.

**Section F: Synthesis/Transformation**

**For each of the items below, 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)**

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71. Federick took the medicine prescribed by the doctor. He felt much better after that.

Federick felt

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72. My grandmother likes oranges more than pears.

My grandmother prefers

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73. "I went to cemetery with my parents yesterday," said Carol.

Carol said that \_\_\_\_\_

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74. Lorraine dislikes green tea. Yasmine does not like them either.

Neither \_\_\_\_\_

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75. You cannot accuse Jenny for stealing your wallet. You do not have the evidence.

Unless \_\_\_\_\_

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## Section G: Comprehension

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions in complete sentences. (10 x 2 marks)

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At the campsite, the fire crackled merrily in the darkness, casting weird shadows around us. Sparks flew, hurting us occasionally when it touched our skin. Smoke billowed into our faces, causing our eyes to tear. But **none of these** discomforts dampened our spirit. We were seated around the campfire, singing at the top of our voices, cracking silly jokes and laughing in the still of the night. We had never enjoyed ourselves so tremendously as at that moment.

It was almost two in the early morning when we crawled into our tents to retire. Cries of “Goodnight” rang through the stillness of the night. But there was no response from Joe. We were surprised he did not complain of the noise we were making. We called out to him. There was still no reply. Feeling anxious, we crept into his tent only to discover it empty. What had happened to him?

Armed with powerful torches and calling out his name, we padded through the jungle path in search of him. We came across Joe’s favourite cap which no one could ever make him part with. To make matters more alarming, we discovered two sets of footprints at the spot where the cap was. Joe must have been kidnapped!

Filled with anxiety, we followed the trail of footprint which led us to a stream where we usually drew our water. The trail ended there but there was still no sign of Joe. We decided to head back and seek help only to discover a shadowy figure in Joe’s tent. Now who could that be? Could it be the kidnapper? Although frightened, we rushed into the tent hoping to catch the ‘figure’ by surprise only to collide into Joe who looked stunned. We could hardly believe our eyes to find Joe unharmed. Joe recounted what had happened when he saw our shocked faces.

Feeling thirsty after dinner, Joe had gone to the stream to quench his thirst. On the way, he dropped his cap. When he realized it was missing, he returned to retrieve it, but he could not find it in the dark. He did not meet us as he had taken a short cut back to camp. Anger overwhelmed us. We wanted to ‘**skin him alive**’ for worrying us but we were too exhausted to do so at that moment.

76. What does the phrase ‘...none of these...’ refer to?

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77. How did the campers enjoy themselves?

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78. Why were Joe’s friends surprised that he did not respond?

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79. What did the boys do when they discovered Joe’s absence?

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80. What made them think that Joe could have been kidnapped?

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81. Where did the trail of footprint lead them?

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82. What did the boys discover when they returned to camp?

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83. Why was Joe ‘missing’ from the campsite?

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84. What do you think Joe should have done before he went to the stream?

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85. What does '... skin him alive...' mean?

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