



**NANYANG PRIMARY SCHOOL
2006 FIRST SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT
PRIMARY 6EM1/EM2**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 1: BOOKLET A
TOTAL TIME FOR BOOKLETS A & B: 1 h 50 min

Name: _____ () Pr 6 ()

There are a total of 80 questions – 30 MCQ and 50 open-ended questions.

Instructions to pupils:

- 1. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.**
- 2. Follow all instructions carefully.**
- 3. Answer all the questions**
- 4. Shade your answers in the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.**

Section A: Graphic Stimulus (5x1 m = 5m)
 Study the advertisement below and answer questions 1 to 5.

FOR GREAT STORIES, GENERAL KNOWLEDGE AND AMAZING INFORMATION, DON'T MISS

QUEST

WHERE FINDING QUESTIONS



Ms. Joey Chon, *Raffles Girls' Primary School*

“ I really enjoy reading Quest and learn in a fun way lots of general knowledge. I find the stories and current affairs very interesting. The illustrations are nice too. I really look forward to receiving the magazine every month. ”

An initiative of

STU singapore teachers' union

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For each question from 1 to 5, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

1. Those who subscribe to Quest Children's Magazine today will _____.

- (1) receive a free CD-ROM
- (2) receive a free issue of the magazine
- (3) have to wait six weeks for the first delivery.
- (4) enjoy free delivery of the magazine to their homes

2. Payment for subscriptions _____.

- (1) must be made immediately
- (2) may be made by cheque or cash
- (3) must be sent through the school
- (4) must be submitted to River Valley Building

3. The contents of the magazine include _____.

- (1) more than 70 software for the entire family
- (2) stories, general knowledge and amazing information
- (3) a CD, great stories, general knowledge and exam papers
- (4) exam papers, games for children, professional software and lifestyle software

4. The magazine was produced by _____.

- (1) www.questmag.com
- (2) Quest Children's Magazine
- (3) Raffles Girls' Primary School
- (4) the Singapore Teachers' Union

5. Which one of the following statements is **TRUE**?

- (1) Quest Magazine is published monthly.
- (2) It costs more to have the magazine sent to the school.
- (3) Only new subscribers are entitled to the special rate offered.
- (4) Existing subscribers must wait two to four weeks for their magazines.

Section B: Grammar Discrete (7 x1m = 7m)

For each question from 6 to 12, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

6. Ali did not reach school on time this morning _____ he had woken up late.
- (1) if
 - (2) as
 - (3) so
 - (4) but
7. If she had listened to her mother, this would not _____ happened.
- (1) has
 - (2) had
 - (3) have
 - (4) having
8. Neither Teck Meng nor his parents _____ at the Meet-the-Parents session last night.
- (1) is
 - (2) are
 - (3) was
 - (4) were
9. The car skidded and we could hear the crunch of metal _____ metal.
- (1) over
 - (2) across
 - (3) against
 - (4) between
10. Mother was taking a bath when the telephone _____.
- (1) ring
 - (2) rang
 - (3) rings
 - (4) ringing
11. You don't like fish, _____ you?
- (1) do
 - (2) does
 - (3) don't
 - (4) doesn't
12. Mrs Tan told the twins, "Clean _____ up!"
- (1) himself
 - (2) ourselves
 - (3) yourselves
 - (4) themselves

Section C: Punctuation (3 x 1m = 3m)

For each question from 13 to 15, choose the correct punctuation to complete the passage. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

As you age, you lose the power to focus your eyes, a problem commonly known as eyestrain. "It's a gradual process that happens to everyone (13) says Dr Maria Yap-Veloso, an ophthalmologist at the Asian Eye Institute in Manila.

And younger people who spend long hours in front of the computer aren't immune, warns Dr Gerald Chuah (14) a senior consultant ophthalmologist at the Mount Elizabeth Medical Centre in Singapore.

"How does one ease the strain (15) Take a break after about 45 minutes in front of the computer," advises Dr Chuah.

Adapted from *RDHEALTH: Ease the Strain*, Reader's Digest March 2006!

13. (1) [",] inverted commas and comma
(2) [".] inverted commas and full stop
(3) [, "] comma and inverted commas
(4) [."] full stop and inverted commas
14. (1) [,] comma
(2) [-] hyphen
(3) [.] full stop
(4) [!] exclamation mark
15. (1) [?] question mark
(2) [!] exclamation mark
(3) [?"] question mark and inverted commas
(4) [!"] exclamation mark and inverted commas

Section D: Vocabulary (5 x 1m = 5m)

For each question from 16 to 20, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

16. Please _____ from smoking on board the plane.
- (1) remit
 - (2) refrain
 - (3) restrict
 - (4) restrain
17. It has not rained for four months and many animals in the nature reserve have died for _____ of water.
- (1) lack
 - (2) loss
 - (3) absence
 - (4) necessity
18. The doctor advised Samy to take a lot of _____ as he was having a fever.
- (1) fluid
 - (2) syrup
 - (3) liquor
 - (4) moisture
19. As I passed the Victoria Concert Hall, I was pleasantly surprised by the beautiful _____ of the clock at the old clock tower.
- (1) rings
 - (2) notes
 - (3) chimes
 - (4) strokes
20. Having been ill for some time, Grandmother is now tired and _____.
- (1) alert
 - (2) feeble
 - (3) revived
 - (4) decayed

Section E: Vocabulary Cloze (5 x 1m = 5m)

For each question from 21 to 25, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined words. - Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

It was a chance encounter with an electronic organizer that dramatically changed Chung Juen Sen's life.

It started when Juen Sen's father let him play with his Personal Digital Assistant (PDA). The boy fiddled with the machine and (21) stumbled upon a game of chess. Juen Sen soon developed a deep interest for it.

He went on to compete in his first chess competition and won a trophy. He (22) accumulated 35 trophies within the short span of five years. In his home is a whole cupboard shelf (23) showcasing his various trophies and medals. At the 5th Asean Championships 2004, he (24) clinched the top prize.

While his parents are proud of their son's achievement, they had not expected him to be a top chess player because he suffers from Asperger Syndrome. Children who suffer from this affliction frequently become distressed for reasons not (25) apparent to others. They find it hard to express their needs and mix with others.

Adapted from *The New Paper On Sunday*, 19 March 2006.

- 21.
- (1) was surprised by
 - (2) found with difficulty
 - (3) walked unsteadily into
 - (4) discovered unexpectedly
- 22.
- (1) grouped
 - (2) collected
 - (3) mustered
 - (4) harvested
- 23.
- (1) keeping
 - (2) covering
 - (3) displaying
 - (4) demonstrating
- 24.
- (1) won
 - (2) made
 - (3) sealed
 - (4) backed
- 25.
- (1) shown
 - (2) known
 - (3) obvious
 - (4) revealed

Section F: Comprehension MCQ (5 × 1m = 5m)
Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

My mother's favourite entertainment was to attend *bangsawan* performances in the evenings whenever a Malay drama group happened to be in town. The traditional *bangsawan* was usually a play about legendary kings and queens. The stage was bare except for the backdrops indicating a palace or a street or a jungle, but the actors and actresses wore gorgeous costumes.

5

As a child, I was spellbound by the *bangsawan* which always began explosively with a loud firecracker as the curtains rose and the drama began.

My mother had a large circle of friends who visited her frequently to gossip. As she could not read, this was her favourite pastime apart from buying jewellery and disciplining her children. She was very strict with me, my sister, and later my brother, using the cane quite liberally to chastise us. My father never laid a finger on us. He disliked corporal punishment and rescued us from my mother whenever he could. Unfortunately, he was often away at work for weeks at a time as his road-building duties required him to travel long distances far from the town. He was the first man to survey a route across the Malay Peninsula from Kuala Lumpur to Kuantan through the mountains and jungles.

10

15

It was while he was on this job in 1926 that the great flood of the year deluged Malaya. It is well known that the East Coast is subject to annual flooding when the North-East Monsoon blows across the South China Sea from October to March. But the great flood of 1926 was the worst ever and my family had to evacuate our bungalow, splashing through chest-high floodwaters to reach higher ground. To this day the rest-house in Kuala Lipis has the high watermark of the flood drawn near the ceiling.

20

Rumours had it that my father and his team of workers were either drowned or eaten by tigers in the forest, but they survived on the mountain. It was weeks before the survey team, led by my father, emerged from the jungle. My father knew the jungle well and was so at home in it that even after his retirement, he used to march off into the Cameron Highlands forest a whole day at a time. I accompanied him once - and only once - as climbing up damp, slippery slopes and contending with leeches was too much for me. I kept out of sight whenever he planned to go trekking into the woods, pretending to be busy with my studies.

25

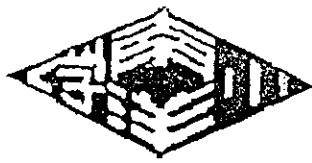
30

Adapted from A Time of Fireflies and Wild Guavas by Maurice Baker, Federal Publications, 1995.

For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

26. A *bangsawan* was _____.
- (1) a Malay drama group
 - (2) usually a play about royalty
 - (3) a bare stage with minimal props
 - (4) a performance staged in a palace
27. The favourite pastime of the author's mother was to gossip because _____.
- (1) she was illiterate
 - (2) she had no other pastime
 - (3) she did not enjoy buying jewellery
 - (4) her husband was often out of town
28. Which one of the following statements is TRUE?
- (1) The author's mother was a strict disciplinarian.
 - (2) The author's father used the cane quite liberally.
 - (3) The author found the *bangsawan* too noisy for his liking.
 - (4) The author's father was stranded in the forest for a few days.
29. During the great flood of 1926, floodwaters _____.
- (1) reached the author's shoulders
 - (2) was chest-high even on higher grounds
 - (3) covered the roof of the rest-house in Kuala Lipis
 - (4) almost reached the roof of the rest-house in Kuala Lipis
30. The author was not keen to go trekking with his father because _____.
- (1) he was busy with his studies
 - (2) there were wild animals in the forest
 - (3) the area where they lived was prone to floods
 - (4) he did not enjoy climbing or fending off leeches

END OF BOOKLET A



**NANYANG PRIMARY SCHOOL
2006 FIRST SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT
PRIMARY 6EM1/EM2**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2: BOOKLET B
TOTAL TIME FOR BOOKLETS A & B: 1 h 50 min

Booklet A	/30
Booklet B	/65
Total	/95

Name: _____ () Pr 6 ()

Parent's Signature: _____

Instructions to pupils:

- 1. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.**
- 2. Follow all instructions carefully.**
- 3. Answer all questions.**

Section G: Grammar Cloze (10 X 1m = 10m)

There are 10 blanks, numbered 31 to 40. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted in order to avoid confusion during marking.

Use each WORD once ONLY

A) from	D) and	G) that	K) who	N) for
B) whom	E) yet	H) but	L) its	P) so
C) at	F) their	J) of	M) with	Q) then

The priests of ancient Egypt slipped silently through the moonless darkness. Their servants carried the awesome burden - 30 mummies! (31) the priests were not grave robbers, they were grave rescuers.

Robbers had been coming to the Valley of the Kings and stripping the graves of (32) riches. Not satisfied (33) just taking the gold, they had been tearing open the mummies' bandages to get (34) the hidden jewels. Everyone knew (35) the thieves were. No one could stop them. The robbers had friends in high places.

The loyal and caring priests could do just one last act to save their kings (36) queens. In a secret operation, the mummies of some of the greatest kings were taken (37) the broken tombs and placed together in a new and hidden home, deep beneath the rocky valley.

The tattered bandages were patched and the few treasures (38) were left were put with them. (39) the tomb was sealed and the entrance disguised. That kept the thieves out (40) thousands of years.

Marks

Go on to the next page

Section H: Spelling and Grammar (10 x 1m = 10m)

Correct each word in **bold** for spelling and each underlined word for grammar. Write the correct word in the relevant box.

In South America, in the mountain caves along the coast, lives a bird called guacharo or oilbird. It is found in Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Trinidad.

(41)

For ~~sentures~~ the fat of the young guacharos has been boiled. From the boiled

(42)

fat, humans obtain a clear, yellow, ~~odorless~~ oil. The people use it to cook and for lighting for their homes.

The guacharo has large, blue eyes, short legs, weak feet and a strong,

(43)

(44)

yellow, ~~hook~~ bill. When it spreads its wings, they stretch out to ~~aproximately~~

(45)

one metre. The colour of the guacharo is reddish-brown, ~~spotting~~ with black and

(46)

white. Around its mouth are long, stiff ~~brissles~~.

As it flies around in the dark cave, the guacharo gives off clicking sounds.

(47)

(48)

~~Eks~~ come back to the guacharo. This helps the bird avoid ~~bump~~ into anything

(49)

that is at the way. Deep in the caves, the guacharo builds its nest on ledges. In

(50)

the ~~saucer~~-shaped nest were laid three or four white eggs. Both parents take turns sitting on the eggs until they hatch.

Marks

Go on to the next page

Section I: Synthesis/Transformation (5 x 2m = 10m)

For each of the questions 51 to 55, 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 meaning of the given sentence(s).

51. The soup is not properly cooked. It has to start bubbling first.

_____ until _____

52. He refused to obey simple instructions. It made me very angry.

His _____

53. The board recommended that all activities be cancelled until further notice.

The board recommended the _____

54. He withdrew from the competition in the last minute and this left the officials in a dilemma.

His last-minute _____

55. Miss Ho said to Mary, "If you do not practise hard, you will not win the match."

Miss Ho warned Mary that unless _____

Marks

Go on to the next page

Section J: Comprehension Cloze (15 x 1m = 15m)

In the following passage, there are 15 blanks numbered 56 to 70. Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

Hans Schmidt is better known by his nickname, Tiger Jim. He has unusual _____ (56) in his garden -- two powerful Siberian tiger cubs which he eats and plays with. As a result, he has a _____ (57) of happy and overgrown pussycats.

Tiger Jim hopes to ensure that the giant cats will breed faster and _____ (58) more cubs in this way than they will in a zoo. Naturalists have found that in the _____ (59), only one or two cubs out of six will _____ (60) and each surviving cub counts.

There are fewer than 200 Siberian tigers in the wild today and about 450 are found in zoos and parks around the _____ (61). Besides, their numbers are decreasing. In trying to _____ (62) the species from dying out, the Russian Government has _____ (63) the hunting of tigers. However, scientists say it is too _____ (64) as the tigers will live for only about another thirty years.

Tiger Jim's experience with tigers _____ (65) when he was fourteen. One evening, he was at a circus. The lions, leopards and tigers had just finished their _____ (66). Then the trainer announced, "I will give a hundred US dollars to anyone who _____ (67) come into the cage." The boy took up the _____ (68). "I wasn't frightened at all," he recalled. "I simply took the trainer's whip and walked up to the animals. Suddenly, I _____ (69) the whip and the animals started to go _____ (70) their paces. The trainer was as much surprised as I was."

Marks

Go on to the next page

Section K: Comprehension Open-ended (10 x 2m = 20m)

Read the passage below carefully and answer questions 71 to 80.

The prison camp which the Nazis sent Joseph Balicki to was in the mountains of South Poland. A few wooden huts clung to the edge of the bleak hillside. Most of the prisoners were Poles, but there were Hungarians and Russians too. Each hut held about a hundred and twenty – yet it was hardly big enough for more than forty. Few had the strength or the spirit to escape. Some of their prison mates had slipped out of the camp before. Those who were not caught and sent back died of exposure in the mountains. But Joseph was determined to escape. He would sit around the hut, thinking of his family and staring at the few tattered photos of them. How he longed to see them again!

He decided to wait till early spring, when the snow was beginning to melt, and the nights were not so bitter. Very carefully he laid his plans. There was only one way out – the way the guards went, through the gate and past the guard-house. His idea was to disguise himself as one of them and follow them as they went off duty. But how was he to get hold of the uniform?

One March day, during the morning hut inspection, he flicked a paper pellet at the guard. It stung him behind the ear and made him turn round. Within five minutes Joseph was in a cell in "the cooler". For two days he stamped up and down, to keep himself warm. Twice a day a guard brought him food. On the third evening, the guard came as usual. When Joseph heard the soft thud of his footsteps in the snow, he crouched down on the floor at the back of his tiny cell. He had a smooth round stone and a catapult in his hands. He had made the catapult from pine twigs and the elastic sides of his boots. In a moment the guard would unlock the door, peer inside and hand in the food.

Tensely Joseph waited. He heard the key grate in the rusty lock of the outside door of "the cooler". The hinges creaked open. Joseph drew back the elastic. He heard the padlock on the door being unlocked. The guard had not seen Joseph when the stone struck him in the middle of the forehead and knocked him down. The floor shook as he tumbled. A few moments later Joseph was kneeling beside the senseless body, hastily stripping off the uniform. **There was no time to lose.** Already the locking up of the prisoners had started and he could hear the guards shouting at them outside.

Joseph felt warm in the guard's uniform. Turning up his collar so that the tips touched his cheek-bones, he went out into the night. He hid behind the huts until the trumpet sounded the change of guard. Hundreds of times he had watched the guards fall in and march out of camp. It seemed to him quite natural now to be lining up with the **others**. The officer walked up to each guard.

"Anything to report?" the officer asked each of them in turn.

"All correct, sir," they answered.

"All correct, sir," said Joseph in his best German.

"Guard, dismiss!" said the officer.

Joseph dropped to the rear and followed the other soldiers out – out of the great spiked gate and into freedom. **It seemed too good to be true.**

Adapted from The Silver Sword by Ian Serrailier

ANSWER IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. How many prisoners lived in each hut?

72. Why do you think few prisoners had the 'spirit to escape' (line 5)?

73. What was Joseph's main reason for escaping?

74. Which word in the second paragraph means 'unpleasantly cold'?

75. What difficulty did Joseph have in his plan to escape?

76. Why did Joseph flick a paper pellet at the guard?

77. 'There was no time to lose.' (line 29). Explain **clearly** why Joseph needed to hurry when he heard the guards locking up the prisoners.

Marks

Go on to the next page

78. What does 'others' (line 36) refer to?

79. Give **two** reasons why the officer was unable to tell that Joseph was a prisoner in disguise.

80. 'It seemed too good to be true.' (line 42). Explain what this sentence means.

Setters: J Yeo
SH Sim

Marks

END OF PAPER

Nanyang Primary School
Primary 6 English SA1 (2006)

Answer Sheets

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
1	2	2	2	1	2	3	3	3	2
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
1	3	3	1	1	2	1	1	3	2
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30
4	2	3	1	3	4	1	1	4	4
Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
but	their	with	at	who	and	from	that	then	for

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------|------------|----------------|
| 41 centuries | 46 bristles | 56 pets | 61 world |
| 42 odourless | 47 Echoes | 57 pair | 62 prevent |
| 43 hooked | 48 bumping | 58 produce | 63 banned |
| 44 approximately | 49 in | 59 zoo | 64 late |
| 45 spotted | 50 are | 60 live | 65 started |
| | | | 66 performance |
| | | | 67 dares |
| | | | 68 challenge |
| | | | 69 lashed |
| | | | 70 through |

51. The soup is not properly cooked until it starts bubbling.
 52. His refusal to obey simple instructions has made me very angry.
 53. The board recommended the cancellation of all activities until further notice.
 54. His last-minute withdrawal from the competition left the officials in a dilemma.
 55. Miss Ho warned Mary that unless she practiced hard, she would not win the match.
71. About a hundred and twenty prisoners lived in each hut.
 72. Prisoners did not want to take the risk as those who had slipped out of the camp were either caught and sent back or died of exposure in the mountains.
 73. Joseph longed to see his family.
 74. The word is "bitter".
 75. Joseph planned to disguise himself as a guard, but he did not have their uniform.

- 76. Joseph wanted the guard to bring him to “the cooler” where he could have more chances of getting a guard’s uniform.**
- 77. He wanted to join the guards it marching out of the camp.**
- 78. It refers to the other guards who were lining up.**
- 79. He turned up his collar to hide his face and spoke to the officer in German.**
- 80. It meant that Joseph was glad to be free at last and was able to see his family again.**