

Primary Six  
English Language  
Semestral Assessment Two

SECTION A: GRAPHIC-STIMULUS COMPREHENSION

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

**2 Days to Opening  
Get your tickets today**

**THE COMPLETE WORKS  
OF WILLIAM  
SHAKESPEARE** ABRIDGED

By Adam Long, Daniel Singer & Jess Winfield

**Hi, am Bill,** How many of my plays would you expect to see in 97 minutes, One?  
How about all 37 plays in one show? I'll give you Hamlet, Romeo & Juliet, Macbeth! If you come to DBS Arts Centre from 7th May, I'll have a throw in the Merchant of Venice, Twelfth Night, Much Ado About Nothing, at no extra cost. So, hurry. Don't miss this chance to watch London's longest running Comedy!

**DBS THEATRE FANTASY**

Performances from 7-19 May 2002  
DBS Arts Centre - Home of the Singapore Repertory Theatre.

SISTIC Booking Hotline: **6348 5555**  
Booking website: [www.sistic.com.sg](http://www.sistic.com.sg) | Tickets available at SISTIC outlets  
Official Website: [www.dbstheatrefantasy.com](http://www.dbstheatrefantasy.com)

DBS American Express/Master Card/MoneySmart/VISA and POSB MasterCard  
Cardholders enjoy a 10% discount on Categories A & B.

**Hurry!**  
book now for  
good seats  
from \$45

**DBS**

Produced by AMU in association with the Woods and Stone

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) and write your answer in the box provided.

1. The advertisement appeared on \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) 5 May 2002
- (2) 6 May 2002
- (3) 7 May 2002
- (4) 8 May 2002

2. According to the advertisement, William Shakespeare wrote \_\_\_\_\_ plays.

- (1) one
- (2) six
- (3) thirty-seven
- (4) ninety-seven

3. The name 'Bill' was used with reference to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Jess Winfield
- (2) Adam Long
- (3) Daniel Singer
- (4) William Shakespeare

4. 'The Complete Works of Shakespeare' promised to bring you \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) fear
- (2) tears
- (3) laughter
- (4) nostalgia

5. The cheapest ticket cost \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) \$10
- (2) \$37
- (3) \$45
- (4) \$97

**SECTION B: GRAMMAR AND Vocabulary DISCRETE**

For each question from 6 to 25, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

6. Everyone accepted Harry's argument. \_\_\_\_\_, I do not think that it is very convincing.

- (1) However
- (2) Although
- (3) Moreover
- (4) Furthermore

7. Madam Lee made the pupils \_\_\_\_\_ the mess they left in the canteen.

- (1) clean
- (2) cleans
- (3) cleaned
- (4) cleaning

8. If I were you, I \_\_\_\_\_ report for work first.

- (1) might
- (2) would
- (3) could
- (4) should

9. Dressed in the school colours and \_\_\_\_\_ the school flag, John led the team proudly to the field.

- (1) carry
- (2) carries
- (3) carried
- (4) carrying

10. The boy were good \_\_\_\_\_ Mathematics. Naturally they would be chosen to represent the school.

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

11. The Jamesons went on a six-week tour of Europe with a \_\_\_\_\_ in England.

- (1) stop off
- (2) stop from
- (3) stop over
- (4) stop away

12. "One of the most important qualities that all pupils of the school must possess \_\_\_\_\_ a willingness to share and care for each other," said Mr Ahmad early in the morning.

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

13. The panther, which escaped from the zoo yesterday, \_\_\_\_\_ finally \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) has ..... caught
- (2) had ..... caught
- (3) has ..... been caught
- (4) have ..... been caught

14. The deer \_\_\_\_\_ grazing on the grassland serenely when the lion launched a surprise attack on them.

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

15. All except Eugene \_\_\_\_\_ signed up for voluntary work. My teacher is happy with the overwhelming response.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) has
- (4) have

16. The furniture in the bedroom is made purely \_\_\_\_\_ wood.

- (1) of
- (2) on
- (3) with
- (4) from

17. Jacky \_\_\_\_\_ for Australia as soon as the examination is over.

- (1) left
- (2) leave
- (3) has left
- (4) will leave

18. While Mrs Owen \_\_\_\_\_ the floor, she came upon the ring she lost a month ago.

- (1) swept
- (2) sweeps
- (3) is sweeping
- (4) was sweeping

19. The school choir sings as \_\_\_\_\_ as a songbird.

- (1) sweet
- (2) sweetly
- (3) sweeter
- (4) sweetest

20. The poor little beggar said that he was used to \_\_\_\_\_  
under the stairs.

- (1) slept
- (2) sleep
- (3) sleeps
- (4) sleeping

21. In the early days, patients suffering from leprosy were looked  
after in \_\_\_\_\_ places away from the rest of the people  
for fear of infection.

- (1) isolated
- (2) deserted
- (3) neglected
- (4) abandoned

22. The teacher collected all the students' poem and  
\_\_\_\_\_ them into a booklet in preparation for Library  
Week.

- (1) compiled
- (2) composed
- (3) assembled
- (4) accumulated

23. It is illegal to print \_\_\_\_\_ money.

- (1) false
- (2) forged
- (3) imitation
- (4) counterfeit

24. The craftsman managed to \_\_\_\_\_ that antique clock to its original condition.

- (1) renew
- (2) restore
- (3) recycle
- (4) reproduce

25. The man shot his wife and then in a fit of \_\_\_\_\_ shot himself.

- (1) pride
- (2) dismay
- (3) humility
- (4) remorse

**For questions 26 to 30, choose the answer that is closest in meaning to the word or words underlined. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.**

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26. The boy stood tongue-tied before the audience for several minutes before giving his explanation.

- (1) anxious
- (2) nervous
- (3) frightened
- (4) speechless



27. Our training was postponed as many of our players were away on holiday.

- (1) put on
- (2) put off
- (3) put away
- (4) put forward

28. She was reluctant to express her regret for being so rude just now.

- (1) explain
- (2) console
- (3) apologise
- (4) commend

29. My Lim has just come into an unexpected financial gain so he is going to give us a treat.

- (1) a draw
- (2) a strike
- (3) a windfall
- (4) a promotion

30. The jewels had to be carefully guarded as they were all authentic.

- (1) rare
- (2) unique
- (3) genuine
- (4) precious

**SECTION C: Comprehension MCQ (5 x 2 marks)**

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

In early June 1994, India was hit by the worst heat wave in half a century. In New Delhi, temperatures reached 46°C in the day. Hardy camels died of heatstroke and vultures clustered around the elegant fountains of the Indian capital, desperate for a drink. At least 161 people died in the intense heat, particularly in parts of the desert regions.

The streets, which were normally choked with traffic, were strangely empty. People who should be roaming about hid themselves indoors to escape the scorching sun. Those without the refuge of proper shelter huddled in whatever shade they could find. Included among such sufferers were the street peddlers, vendors and of course, the homeless.

Wells and streams dried up and river levels fell. Villagers were forced to trek long distances to look for water. The water storage also caused the sewerage system to break down, giving rise to dangerous diseases that increased the death toll considerably.

Among the worst sufferers were the animals at the Delhi Zoo. A prized orang-utan died. The zoo keepers were kept busy trying to save some rare species from the fate of dehydration.

To counter the heat, many Indians drank lime juice laced with salt and sugar — a traditional way to fight thirst. Some resorted to drinking the juice of half-ripe mangoes or even onion juice.

Some people came up with ingenious ways to stay cool. They hung thick curtains made of fragrant grass and doused them with water — a natural air-conditioner in the days of the Mughal emperors many centuries ago.

The only people who seemed to benefit from the heat wave were the ice cream sellers and the vendors of sliced cucumber and chilled water.

For each question from 31 to 35, 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.

31. The heat wave that hit India in June 1994 \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) scored a world record
- (2) was the worst in the last 50 years
- (3) became known as the hottest in this century
- (4) recorded the highest temperature in Indian history

32. During the heat wave \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) traffic was heavy
- (2) the people stayed indoor
- (3) people roamed about the streets
- (4) camels and vultures left the country

33. The breakdown of the sewerage system \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) spread dangerous diseases
- (2) killed many animals in the zoo
- (3) caused even the hardy camels to die
- (4) forced villagers to trek distances to look for water

34. Many Indians drank lime juice with salt and sugar  
\_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) as medicine
- (2) for enjoyment
- (3) to quench thirst
- (4) in order to reduce the temperature of the air

35. Mughal emperors in the past stayed cool by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) fanning themselves
- (2) using air-conditioners
- (3) hanging damp grass curtains
- (4) drinking half-ripe mango juice or onion juice

**SECTION D: GRAMMAR CLOZE (10 x 1 mark)**

There are 10 blanks, numbered 36 to 45 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 to avoid confusion during marking.

**USE EACH WORD ONCE ONLY.**

(A) as	(B) in	(C) of	(D) on
(E) so	(F) to	(G) by	(H) for
(J) and	(K) into	(L) onto	(M) such
(N) from	(P) with	(Q) off	

There are ominous signs that the reason for the downturn in the music industry is technology. Worldwide sales of music in all formats of CDs, cassettes, vinyl (36) \_\_\_\_\_ mini-discs fell 6.5 per cent last year, translating (37) \_\_\_\_\_ a drop in revenue (38) \_\_\_\_\_ more than three billion dollars for the recording industry. This is attributable (39) \_\_\_\_\_ the easy process of CD burning. Thus there has been a steady increase (40) \_\_\_\_\_ the sale of CD burners for the past months.

In fact, downloading music for free (41) \_\_\_\_\_ the Internet is a favourite pastime of Singaporeans. It is (42) \_\_\_\_\_ addictive that 45 per cent of the 900,000 broadband users cited "music download" (43) \_\_\_\_\_ the most popular application. To overcome this problem, the music labels that produce CDs will try to come up with partnerships and licensing (44) \_\_\_\_\_ Internet service providers to get people to subscribe (45) \_\_\_\_\_ their music downloads. Only then can the music companies remain in business.

**SECTION E: EDITING FOR SPELLING, PUNCTUATION & GRAMMAR**  
( 10 x 1 mark )

Each of the underlined words contains a spelling or grammatical error. A circle indicates a wrong or missing punctuation mark. Put the correct punctuation mark or word in each of the boxes.

The youngsters in South Korea and China are now taking dog meat

as part of their regular diet, much like beef and chicken. Canine

46.

cuisin is becoming such a fad that food joints have dished

47.

48.

out new recipes to whet apetitides. On sale now is hotdogs with real

dog meat, dog cookies and sandwiches and even dog hamburgers. It

has become part of the Koreans' culture.

49.

Some believe that dog meat consuming is beneficial because it

offers three times more calcium than any other types of meat.

50.

Besides the nutritional value  nationalistic pride seems

51.

to be playing a part. "Eating dog meat is a show of defyance,

52.

especially among rebellious young people  " one expert

explained.

53.

Now, for the first time, an Asian grouping makes up of 14

54.

animal welfare societies have protested by sending a letter to

55.

the South Korean government urging a ban in dog meat. After all, it

does not make sense to use culture to justify violence to dogs.

**SECTION F: COMPREHENSION CLOZE ( 20 x 1 mark )**

**Read the passage carefully and then fill in each blank numbered 56 to 75 with a suitable word of your own.**

Some specialists and dentists here are treating a group of very unusual patients. They are (56) \_\_\_\_\_ in to help treat hippopotamuses, orang-utans, sea lions and myriad (57) \_\_\_\_\_ other animals at the Singapore Zoo. Their services are (58) \_\_\_\_\_ free of charge.

Sri Utama, the baby elephant, broke its leg at birth (59) \_\_\_\_\_ its mother tried to get it stand. Five surgeons and five nurses performed (60) \_\_\_\_\_ to mend the broken leg (61) \_\_\_\_\_ an anaesthetist monitored the elephant's vital signs. Sri Utama's leg (62) \_\_\_\_\_ eventually.

Such specialists have a lot of experience and this (63) \_\_\_\_\_ them to be creative so that they can do the (64) \_\_\_\_\_ job for the animals.

The zoo has a (65) \_\_\_\_\_ of about ten consultants (66) \_\_\_\_\_ it can call upon for help (67) \_\_\_\_\_ complicated or unusual procedures. Besides, there are (68) \_\_\_\_\_ many volunteer doctors who work on an ad-hoc (69) \_\_\_\_\_.

They include eye specialists in private (70) \_\_\_\_\_ and medical specialists in different fields from the (71) \_\_\_\_\_ hospitals in Singapore. They (72) \_\_\_\_\_ a unique team which is interested and genuinely dedicated (73) \_\_\_\_\_ the animal. Very often they (74) \_\_\_\_\_ work appointments and provide



their (75) \_\_\_\_\_ dedication to the animals are indeed commendable.

**SECTION G: SYNTHESIS/TRANSFORMATION (5 x 2 marks)**

**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).**

76. “How are you going to the National Stadium tomorrow?” my mother asked me.

My mother asked me \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

77. Louisa likes to chitchat with her friends at recess. She does not like to play at recess that much.

\_\_\_\_\_ prefers \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

78. The players must score one more goal to qualify for the semi-finals.

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

79. Wendy did not attend the party yesterday. Audrey did not attend it too.

Neither \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

80. The second-hand clothes are for the orphans. I have packed them in plastic bags.

\_\_\_\_\_ which \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION H: COMPREHENSION ( 10 x 2 marks )**

**Read the passage below and answer questions 81 to 90.**

Finally he bought a yellow and blue plastic duck that could float in the bath. He knew as he bought it that it was much too young a present for a child of ten. But he bought it feeling that somehow it might be the right thing in the circumstances.

He got back to the flat in Ealing early in the afternoon, carrying the duck in a paper bag. He had thought of stopping at the store in Ealing Broadway and discussing the position across the counter with Katie in the household linen, but he had abandoned the idea. Katie would want to come home early in order to be at home when Janice got back from school, and it did not seem quite fair to him to throw all **the dirty work** on Katie. He felt that he would rather tell Janice himself and get the job done before Katie got home; enough would fall upon her later, anyway.

He was sitting in his chair before the fire in the parlour when Janice came back from school, a slim, dark-haired child in a thick blue coat and a blue hat with the school ribbon on it. He called, "Is that you, Jan? Take off your coat and come in here. I've got something I want to tell you."

She came in, and he sat up in his chair. "What do you want to tell me?" she asked.

"Come over here," he said. She came close and he put his arm around the slender little waist in the gym tunic. He could only take this straight.

"Look, Jan," he said. "I've got something serious I've got to tell you. You know about boat and yachts, and how they get wrecked sometimes, running on shore, on rocks?"

She nodded.

"Sometimes," he said, "the people in the boats get drowned when that happens."

She stared at him, and he knew that realization was already with her. She asked, "Drowned, dead?"

"That does happen sometimes in a shipwreck," he said gently.

"Has that happened to my mummy and daddy?"

"I'm afraid it has, Jan," he said steadily. "They got into a terrible storm, a long, long way from here. And they are shipwrecked."

"Are they drowned, Uncle Keith?"

"I'm afraid they are both drowned," he replied. "Come and sit up on my knee."

He had thought that she would burst into tears, but that did not happen. She came up to his knee and he held her close, and they sat in silence for ten minutes.

**For each question from 81 to 90, write your answers in the space provided. Your answers must be based on the passage read.**

**ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.**

81. Why did Keith feel that buying the blue and yellow plastic duck for Janice was the right thing to do?

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82. Which word in the passage is similar in meaning to 'conditions affecting a particular situation'?

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83. Where was Katie's workplace?

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84. What was Katie's occupation?

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85. What does **the dirty work** in '... throw all the dirty work on Katie' refer to?

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86. Describe Janice's physical appearance.

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87. How do you think Keith was related to Janice's father?

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88. What did Janice first say to seek confirmation of her parents' misfortune?

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89. In the sentence "... **he knew that realization was already with her,**", who was the 'her' and what did she realize?

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90. Janice did not cry when she was told of her parents' misfortune. What could be a reason for this?

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