



SHUQUN SECONDARY SCHOOL
Mid-Year Examination 2006
Secondary 1 Express

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Paper 1 Composition

1127/01
May 2005

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the Answer Paper.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Write your name, class and index number in the spaces provided on the Answer Paper.
Answer both **Section One** and **Section Two**.
Write your answers on the separate Answer Paper provided.
At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

This question paper consists of 2 printed pages.

[Turn over

Section One [30 marks]

You are advised to write between 200 and 250 words on one of the following topics.

At the head of your composition, write the number of the topic you have chosen.

1. The day I disappointed my parents.
2. A broken promise.
3. Write a story about a time when you found a wallet containing one thousand dollars.
4. The day I did something for charity.
5. Write about a friend who helped you when you needed them. Explain what your friend did for you and how you reacted in return.

Section Two [30 marks]

Begin your answer on a fresh page.

You are advised to write between 150 and 180 words for this section.

You have just had a family barbeque during the holidays. You enjoyed the family gathering so much that you have decided to write about it to your pen-pal in Canada. You must include all of the following points in your letter:

- Where the family barbeque was held
- Who attended the barbeque
- Describe your happiest moments.
- Why you consider this family barbeque important to you?
- Describe one funny incident that happened during the barbeque.

Set your letter in a friendly tone and write in good, accurate English.

End of Paper



SHUQUN SECONDARY SCHOOL
Mid Year Examination 2006
Secondary 1 E

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1127/02

Paper 2 Comprehension & Language Use

May 2006

Additional Materials: Nil

1 hour 30 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, class and index number on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the Answer Paper.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer all questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

This question paper consists of 8 printed pages.

[Turn over

Section A [10 marks]

Read the following passage and fill in each blank with the correct form of the verb in the brackets. You may use more than one word.

Example: When I was ready, I started (start) to write the letter.

Suddenly the lights went out. The audience (1) _____ (fix) their eyes on the stage. Within a split second, the *wayang* actor had 'flown' across the stage amidst the loud banging of drums and gongs. Almost immediately, the curtains (2) _____ (open), the audience cheered and the show (3) _____ (begin).

This was one of the scenes that a Chinese street-opera troupe in Singapore (4) _____ (stage) in an attempt to keep up with the times. *Wayang* operators have been encouraged (5) _____ (tailor) their performances to cater to the younger generation. They (6) _____ (tell) that *wayangs* should not only be (7) _____ (consider) as part of Singapore's cultural heritage but they should also be further (8) _____ (develop) and improved in content and presentation. This is (9) _____ (ensure) that the traditional art, which has been passed down over the generations, (10) _____ (not die) out.

(10 marks)

Section B [40 marks]

The following passage is an excerpt from the book 'The Tropics' in the Survival Skills Handbook by Martyn Forrester. Read the passage, then answer the questions.

- 1 Just before midday on Christmas Eve, 1971, a plane with ninety-two people on board took off on a flight from Lima, Peru. It was heading for Pucallpa, north-east across the Andes mountains. Over the deepest part of the Peruvian jungle, it encountered a violent storm which caused it to disintegrate in mid-air. Only one passenger, Juliane Koepcke, a seventeen year old German girl came out of the jungle alive. 5

Her last thought as she fell from the plane was that the trees in the Jungle looked like cauliflowers. When she regained consciousness, she realised that she was lying in a row of seats that were upside down. Her shoes and spectacles were missing. Although she did not feel the pain from her broken arms and legs, she could not summon the energy to move. All through that night, she drifted in and out of consciousness. 10

- 2 In the morning, she unstrapped herself from her seat. Moving painfully, she started to explore the place where she had fallen to earth. She found a small bag of sweets and a wet Christmas cake. She discarded the cake but kept the sweets that were to be her only sustenance for the next few days of her ordeal. She did not look for food in the jungle simply because she did not know what was edible. Then, before moving on, she armed herself with a long stick as a probe for snakes, spiders and ants. This move was critical now that she had lost her spectacles. 15 20

Meanwhile, planes and helicopters were searching for survivors above the dense jungle but she felt helpless, unable to send them a signal. She was much too weak to climb the trees as they were over thirty metres high. She tried to look for her mother but was unsuccessful. By this time, the site of the crash was full of the noise of vultures and flies. 25

- 3 On the second day, she discovered a tiny stream. Her parents had taught her that a person who was lost in the jungle should look for streams and follow them as they led to rivers. She remembered the case of a young American who used this method to find his way. That gave her encouragement as she thought that if he could do it, so could she. 30

However, progress was slow and painful. The stream, like others in the tropical forests of Peru, twisted and meandered. Walking a mile actually resulted in only a few tens of yards of progress. The banks were a tangled mass of vines and vast rotting tree trunks. Swimming and wading in the river also increased the danger of attack by fish attracted by the blood from the wounds. By now, she was covered with insect bites. The zip of her dress was broken and the jungle mosquitoes and blowflies homed in on the exposed flesh of her back. One blowfly bite 35 40

developed into a deep and painful hole, full of maggots.

- 4 On the third afternoon, the sound of aircraft engines got nearer and nearer. Even though she knew it was useless, she yelled "Hello! Help!" again and again. She never saw them but they must have been quite near, she thought. The drone of engines faded. Once again, she was alone but her resolve was undiminished. 45

By the fourth day, the supply of sweets was exhausted. Her whole body was swollen as a result of insect bites. But at last the stream she had been following ran into a bigger river, and she knew that her chances of coming across civilization had been increased. 50

- 5 For five days more, she alternately swam and walked downstream. But the lack of food and the exposure to the heat and humidity made her weaker as time passed. Juliane considered eating the loaves and the delicious looking fruit she came across but resisted the temptation. She knew that in the jungle, beautiful things like the fruit could be poisonous. 55

The river was widening and the current was strong. Although she was not strong enough to swim in it, she was determined to go on. At last, late in the afternoon of the ninth day of the crash, as she was looking for a suitable place to lie down for the night, she came across a canoe moored on the river bank. In a nearby hut she found a can of gasoline and a bag of salt. She used these to treat her maggot infested wound. 60

- 6 The next morning, she reasoned that it might be weeks before the boat owners returned. At the same time she did not want to use the boat without their permission. Before she could make up her mind, it rained heavily. While waiting for the rain to stop, she heard voices. The door opened suddenly and two woodcutters appeared. After nine days in the jungle, Juliane Kopecke had been found. 65

Early the next morning, after washing her wounds and offering her food, the woodcutters prepared their boat for the trip downriver. She received medical treatment at the agricultural colony of Tournavista. Her eyes were bloodshot, her arms and legs ravaged by maggot holes, her face swollen and disfigured as a result of insect bites. 70

- 7 In many aspects, Juliane's survival was miraculous. Had she not stopped at the hut, she might never have left the jungle alive. Later, it was found that a ligament in her knee was badly torn. Under normal circumstances she would have found it impossible to walk but her courage and determination had kept her going. 75

From paragraph 1

1. Where did the accident take place? [1]

2. What had caused the accident? [1]

3. What was on Juliane's mind just before she lost consciousness? [2]

4. Explain, in your own words, what is meant by 'All through the night, she drifted in and out of consciousness'. [2]

5. Name one injury that Juliane sustained in the crash. [1]

6. Did Juliane's mother survive the crash? How do you know? [1]

From paragraph 2 [1]

7. What did Juliane survive on? [1]

8. Why did she arm herself with a long stick? [1]

9. Why were there vultures and flies at the site of the crash?

[2]

From paragraph 3

10. Why did Juliane follow the stream?

[1]

From paragraph 4

11. Why was Juliane a little relieved on the fourth day of her ordeal?

[2]

From paragraph 5

12. How did Juliane make use of the gasoline and the bag of salt which she found?

[1]

From paragraph 6

13. Why did Juliane decide against using the canoe she had found at first?

[1]

14. Why was it fortunate for Juliane that it rained?

[1]

From paragraph 7

15. How did Juliane's knee injury make her survival 'miraculous'?

[2]

From the whole passage

16. For each of the following words, give the meaning of the word as it is used in the passage. Write the number of the correct answer in the brackets provided.

[5]

- | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| (i) | disintegrate (line 5) | (1) break up
(3) break down | (2) break out
(4) break from () |
| (ii) | unstrapped (line 14) | (1) pulled
(3) removed | (2) untied
(4) forced () |
| (iii) | critical (line 21) | (1) useful
(3) painful | (2) practical
(4) important () |
| (iv) | exhausted (line 47) | (1) spoilt
(3) tired | (2) finished
(4) melted () |
| (v) | normal (line 76) | (1) real
(3) rare | (2) ^{peculiar} normal
(4) ordinary () |

From the whole passage.

17. Write a summary of what Juliane did which helped her survive her terrible experience.

Use materials from line 14 to line 60.

Your summary, which must be in continuous writing (not note form), must not be longer than 120 words (including the 10 words given to start your summary).

Begin your summary as follows : The morning after the accident, Juliane managed to get up

[15]
