



# WHITLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL

*A Caring and Learning Community*

## MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2006

<b>SUBJECT :</b>	<b>ENGLISH LANGUAGE</b> Paper 1
<b>LEVEL :</b>	<b>SECONDARY ONE EXPRESS</b>
<b>DATE :</b>	<b>27 APRIL 2006</b>
<b>DURATION :</b>	<b>1 HR 30 MIN</b>
<b>TIME :</b>	<b>7.45 – 9.15 am</b>
<b>MARKS:</b>	<b>60</b>

### READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST:

- 1 Write in dark blue or black pen on the Answer Paper provided.
- 2 Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.
- 3 Write your name, class and index number in the spaces provided on the Answer Paper.
- 4 Answer **both Section One and Section Two**.
- 5 Begin Section Two on a fresh sheet of paper.
- 6 Submit Section One and Section Two **separately**.

This Question Paper consists of 2 printed pages.

### Section One [30 marks]

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

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

- 1 Describe two or three activities you like to do during your free time and explain why you like them.
- 2 Write about an occasion when you managed to stop a friend from committing a foolish act.
- 3 "Secondary school students should be allowed to bring handphones to school." How far do you agree with this statement?
- 4 Write an essay entitled 'Better late than never'.
- 5 Movies.

### Section Two [30 marks]

Begin your answer on a fresh page.

You are advised to write between 150 to 200 words for this section.

You should read the information carefully and plan your answer before beginning to write.

Your class visited an Old Folks' Home two days ago. You would like to share the experience with your best friend, Sally. Write a letter to her, telling her what you and your classmates did during the visit. Your letter must include the following details :

- the name of the Old Folks' Home and its location
- two ways in which you and your classmates helped out in the Home
- description of a particular aged person
- how this particular aged person left a deep impression on you
- what you have learnt after the visit

You may add further details if you wish.

Your letter should be written in clear, correct English. It should be an informal letter written in a polite tone.

End of Paper

Setter: Mrs Jocelyn Chen



**WHITLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
*A Caring and Learning Community*

**MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2006**

**SUBJECT :** ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
**Paper 2**

**LEVEL :** SECONDARY ONE EXPRESS

**DATE :** 27 APRIL 2006

**DURATION :** 1 HR 30 MIN

**TIME :** 10.00 -- 11.30 am

**MARKS:** 50

**2006 English Mid Year Exam Paper - Secondary One(ALL)**

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST:**

- 1 Write in dark blue or black pen in the spaces provided on the Answer Paper.
- 2 Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.
- 3 Write your name, class and index number in the spaces provided on the Answer Paper.
- 4 Answer **all** the questions.
- 5 Write your answers on the separate Answer Paper provided.
- 6 Mistakes in spelling, punctuation and grammar may be penalized in any part of the Paper.

**2006 English Mid Year Exam Paper - Secondary One(ALL)**

This Question Paper consists of 7 printed pages.

[www.misskoh.com](http://www.misskoh.com)

**Section A: Synthesis of Sentences (10 marks)**

**Make each of the following sets of sentences into one sentence.  
Write your answer on the Answer Paper provided.**

1 The teacher appeared at the door.  
The class became quiet.  
When \_\_\_\_\_

2 She reminded him of his promise to help her.  
He did the job.  
Reminded of \_\_\_\_\_

3 My sister is not going to the party.  
I am also not going.  
Both \_\_\_\_\_

4 They parked their car at the side of the road.  
They walked in.  
\_\_\_\_\_ after \_\_\_\_\_

5 Janet did not go to school.  
She was not feeling well.  
As \_\_\_\_\_

**Section B: Cloze Passage (10 marks)**

**Read the passage carefully and fill in the blanks with a suitable word.  
Write your answer on the Answer Paper provided.**

A woman, Sally Tan, who scalded her maid after she (1) \_\_\_\_\_ too much oil to fry fish, was jailed a total of seven months yesterday on two maid (2) \_\_\_\_\_ charges.

The first charge relates to an incident on April 10 last year, when she found her (3) \_\_\_\_\_ using what she thought was too much oil in the frying pan. After scolding her, the mother of two grabbed the maid's left ring finger and (4) \_\_\_\_\_ it into the hot oil.

The next morning, the abuse continued.

While the maid was preparing (5) \_\_\_\_\_ for the children, aged nine and twelve, at about 6.15 am, Tan asked her why she had (6) \_\_\_\_\_ bread on two consecutive days. She then punched the maid on the forehead and in the right eye. She also (7) \_\_\_\_\_ her left ear.

The maid then ran off to see a friend, who (8) \_\_\_\_\_ her \$10 and told her to make a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ report.

Tan could have been (10) \_\_\_\_\_ for up to 18 months and fined up to \$1500 on each charge.

## Section C: Comprehension (30 marks)

Read Passage A and Passage B and then answer the questions which are printed in the Question Paper.

### Passage A

- 1 More than 350 students and 36 staff members of the Geylang Serai Vocational Training Centre are gearing up to join the new NorthLight School in Dunman Road opening next year.
- 2 The centre will merge with NorthLight and, together with the Assumption Vocational Institute in Upper Bukit Timah, they will help students who repeatedly fail the Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE) stay in school. 5
- 3 One of NorthLight's aims will be to tackle the high drop-out rate at the two vocational training centres. Currently, only about 40 per cent of their students move on to the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) or find a job after completing their course. 10
- 4 The rest, however, leave because they lose interest, face family problems or would rather find jobs, said Assumption principal Christopher Neo.
- 5 Teachers' efforts – including outdoor learning, role-playing activities or even, at times, instruction in students' mother tongue – to keep them interested do not always work. 15
- 6 Said Geylang Serai centre principal Chor Cho Siang: "When a student skips school often, we speak to the family and let them know that, if they need financial assistance, there are means to help them. But often, the student has made up his mind to leave school." 20
- 7 Students at NorthLight will get more than double the number of hours of character building lessons, as compared to the vocational centres – up from 300 to 650 in the first year of study. And the number of hours spent on literacy and maths skills will also be doubled.
- 8 Currently, students at the Geylang Serai and Assumption institutes do a one- or two-year vocational programme and leave with an ITE skills certificate. 25
- 9 Those who fail the PSLE three times or have dropped out after completing Secondary 1 or 2 join the 2-year course, while those who have completed Sec 3 take a one-year course. 30
- 10 Of the two institutes' total of 700 students, 60 to 70 per cent have failed the PSLE while the rest have dropped out of secondary school.
- 11 All students attend classes on basic literacy skills, mathematics, computer

- skills, technical drawing and basic electricity and electronics. They also have physical education and character development lessons. 35
- 12 In the second year of study, students can choose from one of three specializations: electrical servicing, mechanical servicing, and food preparation and service.
- 13 In the electrical course, students learn to install electrical circuits, while the mechanical course teaches them how to overhaul production machinery, among other things. 40
- 14 Students in the food preparation course learn about housekeeping, customer service as well as cooking and food preparation.
- 15 Employment prospects include jobs as electrical and industrial machinery technicians, and kitchen assistants. 45
- 16 Mr Ricky Lim, 20, a former student from Assumption, graduated from the electrical servicing course in 2004.
- 17 He went on to join the ITE and **topped** his National ITE certification course.
- 18 "Even though I did well enough to go to ITE, two years was quite rushed for me. The new three-year programme might be at a better pace and we can learn more about a certain subject," said Mr Lim, who hopes to become an electrical engineer. 50

(ST HOME 11/03/2006)

### Passage B

- 1 A good teacher should ignite her students' interest in school and a good artist should bring to light issues that society neglects.
- 2 That is what Felicia Low, a multi-disciplinary artist and teacher at CiiiJ Katong Convent, strives to do. Her installation art exhibition, titled *Deviant*, will be held at the Substation from next Tuesday to March 24. 5
- 3 "I'm trying to create a space for students to surface. It's about the role of a student in the education system and our expectations of them."
- 4 Unable to get away from the topic of education even in her art, Low jokingly blames her "12-hour days in school".
- 5 Indeed, her students are her source of inspiration. She recalls: "The quiet ones have a lot going on in their heads. A few years ago, I taught this student. Over the Chinese New Year holidays, she cut up lines from a book, stuffed them into *hongbaos* and then threw them out of the window. She still does that every year." 10
- 6 That was performance art, Low says. *Deviant* marks her first showing in 15



"more proper" art space.

- 7 Since 1999, she has held 14 solo and group exhibitions and performances in places as varied as East Coast Park and Singapore General Hospital.
- 8 She graduated with a BA in Fine Art from Goldsmiths College, London, in 1999 on a Ministry of Education scholarship. 20
- 9 Upon her return, Low sat on a platform outside Raffles City Shopping Centre balancing guppies in two water-filled glasses with the backs of her hands for seven hours to a 500-strong crowd.
- 10 She says with a cheeky grin: "It was to reflect my bonded situation and my feelings about it." 25
- 11 Low is also part of the creative team for Arts Without Limits, an art collective set up in 2002 which conducts workshops in corrective and rehabilitative facilities.
- 12 Last year, she spent two days of every school holiday period at Kaki Bukit Prison School. One of the workshops required inmates to draw their perfect claypot and then make them. 30
- 13 At the end of the session, they had to reflect upon their finished pieces and their original versions. In such a way, Low hoped to engage them to "look at themselves and their relation to the world".
- 14 Her dedication to teaching won her the Outstanding Youth in Education Award from National Youth Council last year. 35
- 15 She will also be joining NorthLight School, which caters to students who repeatedly fail the Primary School Leaving Examinations, when it opens next January.
- 16 So excited is Low about the school that she has already drawn up plans for the music, dance, drama and visual arts curriculum. 40
- 17 Before she had even known about NorthLight in December last year, she had sent Education Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam a 40-page report on how the arts can be effectively applied to reach out to students at risk. He praised her for her devotion to teaching and to her students in Parliament on Wednesday. 45
- 18 Low says: "Once a child loses interest in school, he or she becomes interested in everything outside of school. In extreme cases, when they grow older, they can't find jobs and they can't form proper relationships."
- 19 She hopes NorthLight can turn them around "into thinking, 'I can do something. I am fine as I am'". 50

(ST Life! 11/03/2006)

Read Passage A and Passage B and then answer all the questions which follow below. You are recommended to answer the questions in the order set.

Mistakes in spelling, punctuation and grammar may be penalized in any part of the Paper.

**NOTE: When a question asks you to answer in your own words, YOU MUST NOT COPY THE WORDS IN THE PASSAGE IN YOUR ANSWER.**

**From Passage A:**

From paragraph 1:

1 When will NorthLight School be opening? [1]

From paragraph 3 and 4:

2 Name one aim of setting up NorthLight School. [1]

3 (a) What is the percentage of students who drop out of the two vocational training centres? [1]

(b) State three reasons why they decide to drop out. [3]

From paragraph 5 and 6:

4 How do you think teaching in students' mother tongue can help the students? [2]

5 Explain **in your own words** what is meant by 'financial assistance' (line 19). [2]

From paragraph 7:

6 Why do you think students at NorthLight will get more than double the number of hours of character building lessons, as compared to the vocational centres? [2]

From paragraphs 13 and 14:

7 What is the difference between the electrical course and the mechanical course? [2]

8 Name one thing students in the food preparation course will learn. [1]

From paragraph 18:

9 What are the two advantages of the new three-year programme? [2]

10 What is Mr Ricky Lim's ambition? [1]



**From Passage B:**

From paragraphs 2 and 3:

- 11 (a)** What is Felicia Low trying to do with her installation art exhibition? [1]  
**(b)** What is the installation art exhibition about? [2]

From paragraph 16:

- 12** Find another word from earlier on in the passage which can replace 'music, dance, drama and visual arts' (line 41) [1]

From paragraphs 17 and 18:

- 13** What is the purpose of her 40-page report to the Education Minister? [1]  
**14** According to Felicia Low, what might happen to students at risk when they grow older? [2]

**From Passages A and B:**

- 15** For each of the following words, give **one** word or short phrase (of not more than seven words) which has the same meaning that the word has in the passage.

**From Passage A:**

- i. repeatedly (line 6)
- ii. tackle (line 8)
- iii. topped (line 48)

**From Passage B:**

- iv. solo (line 17)
- v. cheeky (line 24)

[5]

**End of Paper**

Setter: Mrs Jocelyn Chen

WHITLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL  
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2006  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Answer Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

Class: Sec 1E \_\_\_

Section A: Synthesis of Sentences (10 marks)

1. When \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

2. Reminded of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

3. Both \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

4. \_\_\_\_\_ after \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

5. As \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

Section B: Cloze Passage (10 marks)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_

(5) \_\_\_\_\_

(6) \_\_\_\_\_

(7) \_\_\_\_\_

(8) \_\_\_\_\_

(9) \_\_\_\_\_

(10) \_\_\_\_\_

**Section C: Comprehension (30 marks)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

2. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

3 (a) \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

3 (b) \_\_\_\_\_ [3]

4. \_\_\_\_\_ [2]

5. \_\_\_\_\_ [2]

6. \_\_\_\_\_ [2]

7. \_\_\_\_\_ [2]

8. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

9. \_\_\_\_\_ [2]

10. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

11 (a) \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

11 (b) \_\_\_\_\_ [2]

12. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

13. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

14. \_\_\_\_\_ [2]

15.  
i. repeatedly - \_\_\_\_\_  
ii. tackle - \_\_\_\_\_  
iii. topped - \_\_\_\_\_  
iv. solo - \_\_\_\_\_  
v. cheeky - \_\_\_\_\_ [5]

End of Paper

WHITLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL  
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2006  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Answer Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

Class: Sec 1E \_\_\_

Section A: Synthesis of Sentences (10 marks)

1. When the teacher appeared at the door, the class became quiet. \_\_\_\_\_ [2]
2. Reminded of his promise to help her, he did the job. \_\_\_\_\_ [2]
3. Both my sister and I are not going to the party. \_\_\_\_\_ [2]
4. They walked in after they had parked their car at the side of the road. \_\_\_\_\_ [2]
5. As Janet was not feeling well, she did not go to school. \_\_\_\_\_ [2]

Section B: Cloze Passage (10 marks)

- (11) used
- (12) abuse
- (13) maid
- (14) pushed
- (15) breakfast
- (16) served
- (17) pulled
- (18) gave
- (19) police
- (20) jailed

**Section C: Comprehension (30 marks)**

3. It will be opening next year. [1]
4. It is to tackle the high drop-out rate at the two vocational training centres. [1]
- 3 (a) 60 per cent. [1]
- 3 (b) They lose interest, face family problems or would rather find jobs. [3]
4. This will enable the students to understand the lesson better as some of them may be weak in English. [2]
5. This means help given in cash form. [2]
6. This is so that they can be citizens with the right values. [2]
7. In the electrical course, students learn to install electrical circuits while in the mechanical course, students learn how to overhaul production machinery. [2]
8. Housekeeping / Customer service / Cooking / Food preparation. [1]
9. It is at a better pace and students can learn more about a certain subject. [2]
10. He hopes to become an electrical engineer. [1]
- 11 (a) She is trying to create a space for students to surface. [1]
- 11 (b) It is about the role of a student in the education system and our expectations of them. [2]
12. Multi-disciplinary. [1]

13. She wants to highlight to him how the arts can be effectively applied to reach out to students at risk. [1]

14. They might not be able to find jobs and form proper relationships. [2]

15.

i. repeatedly – more than one time

ii. tackle – deal with

iii. topped – came in first

iv. solo – one person only / individual

v. cheeky – mischievous

[5]

**End of Paper**

Setter: Mrs Jocelyn Chen