



AI TONG SCHOOL

2008

SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT ONE

PRIMARY 6

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2

DURATION : 1 h 50 min

DATE: 6 May 2008

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Do not open the booklet until you are told to do so.  
Follow all instructions.  
Answer all questions.

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

Class : Primary \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Marks :

95

**Section A : Comprehension-Graphic Stimulus (5 marks)**

Study the following text and then answer questions 1 to 5.

# The Sing Challenge Contest

Organised by: The  
Singapore Aesthetic  
Association

Here's your chance to sing your way home with cash prizes worth more than \$3000. This singing contest is open to all teenagers aged between 13 and 18. The details are as follows:

**Date :** Sunday, 16 December 2008  
**Venue:** Rock Auditorium at The Joy City  
**Time :** 7 pm – 10 pm



***Sing Challenge Winners will receive:***

- ❖ A two-year recording contract with Victory Recording Centre
- ❖ A one-year free subscription of the monthly "Teens Alive" magazine
- ❖ A \$200 dollar dining voucher at the Four Seasons Hotel
- ❖ A delightful 3 days 2 nights stay at the Sunway Beach Resort

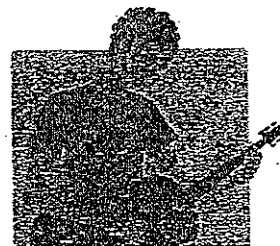
Three Fujitsu notebooks will be given away to the lucky contestants on the performance night

**Category A: The Soloist**

The first three winners will be invited to perform at the Victoria Theatre on Christmas Eve, 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 2008

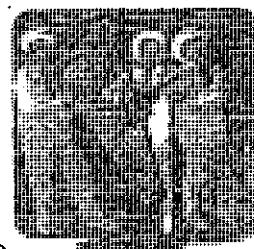
**Category B: Group Performance**

Maximum number of participants in each team is 5



**Entry forms can be obtained from:**

- Sing-a-long Music School at 40 Raffles Link, #01-05
- Innovative Music Centre at 3 Blossom Walk, #05-03
- Victory Recording Centre at 2 Galaxy Centre #02-02



For more details, visit <http://www.singchallenge.com> or call 98765432

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. The singing contest is organised for \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) adults
  - (2) children
  - (3) teenagers.
  - (4) elderly people
  
2. At which one of the following places is the entry form **not** available?
  - (1) Four Seasons Hotel
  - (2) Innovative Music Centre
  - (3) Victory Recording Centre
  - (4) Sing-A-Long Music School
  
3. Which of the following statements is true for all contestants?
  - (1) They will receive cash prizes
  - (2) They will perform at the Victoria Theatre
  - (3) They can register as a soloist or as a group
  - (4) They will be holidaying at Sunway Beach Resort
  
4. Recording contracts will be offered to the \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) soloists
  - (2) contestants
  - (3) group performers
  - (4) winners of the singing contest
  
5. One can telephone 98765432 to \_\_\_\_\_
  - (1) dine at The Joy City
  - (2) collect the lucky draw prizes
  - (3) find out more about the contest
  - (4) subscribe to the "Teens Alive" magazine

**Section B : Grammar MCQ (7 marks)**

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. We were surprised that \_\_\_\_\_ of the doors to the mansion was locked.
- (1) all
  - (2) most
  - (3) some
  - (4) none
7. The little boy \_\_\_\_\_ when he tripped over the pebble and fell.
- (1) ran
  - (2) runs
  - (3) has run
  - (4) was running
8. \_\_\_\_\_ the heavy downpour, the road was flooded and many shops were closed.
- (1) Despite
  - (2) Due to
  - (3) Except for
  - (4) Regardless of
9. Neither David nor his parents \_\_\_\_\_ the Zoo tomorrow as they intend to do some spring-cleaning in the house.
- (1) visits
  - (2) visited
  - (3) is visiting
  - (4) are visiting
10. All the boys except Johnny \_\_\_\_\_ playing football.
- (1) enjoy
  - (2) enjoys
  - (3) has enjoyed
  - (4) are enjoying

11. Rachel watched her favourite TV programme after she \_\_\_\_\_ her homework.

- (1) completing
- (2) has completed
- (3) had completed
- (4) have completed

12. The building was cleared \_\_\_\_\_ occupants when the firemen came to extinguish the fire.

- (1) of
- (2) off
- (3) out
- (4) with

**Section C : Punctuation MCQ (3 marks)**

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.

One evening, in the beginning of June, I had stayed very late with Mary Ann in the woods. We had, as usual, separated ourselves from the others and had wandered far (13) We were so far that we lost our way and had to ask for directions at a lovely cottage where a man and a woman lived.

Together, we knocked on the door of the cottage. A woman opened the door (14) looking surprised. "Can you tell us where we are (15) asked Mary Ann worriedly.

Adapted from Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte

13. (1) [:] colon  
(2) [,] comma  
(3) [.] full-stop  
(4) [;] semi-colon

14. (1) [:] colon  
(2) [,] comma  
(3) [.] full-stop  
(4) [;] semi-colon

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

**Section D : Vocabulary MCQ (5 marks)**

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. Rosie was \_\_\_\_\_ by her family's financial problems and persevered in getting a good grade for her exam.
- (1) disturbed
  - (2) undaunted
  - (3) disconcerted
  - (4) overwhelmed
17. \_\_\_\_\_ his courage, Tom decided to put a stop to the teasing once and for all.
- (1) Arousing
  - (2) Mustering
  - (3) Assembling
  - (4) Consolidating
18. Sue was so afraid of the huge rat that she stood in complete \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) freeze
  - (2) paranoia
  - (3) paralysis
  - (4) detriment
19. Peter tells lies so \_\_\_\_\_ that even the judge casts no doubts on his innocence.
- (1) aptly
  - (2) calmly
  - (3) fluently
  - (4) convincingly
20. The flood that was caused by the incessant downpour had \_\_\_\_\_ the flow of traffic along the expressway.
- (1) disrupted
  - (2) destroyed
  - (3) intercepted
  - (4) interrupted

**Section E: Vocabulary Cloze (5 marks)**

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

My father taught me how to swim. He told me that I could do it and in my heart I believed him. I plunged into the ocean and swam back to shore. I  
(21)  
was exhilarated. As my father proudly looked on, I knew I had overcome my  
(22) (23)  
fear. I felt so grown-up, like a real man.

I grew up loving the ocean like never before. More than that, I realised that obstacles and hardships are a normal part of life. They are meant to be  
(24)  
overcome so that we can cherish the victories and make the most of the  
(25)  
lessons learnt.

My Father's Gift, Reader's Digest, Aug 2005

21. (1) flew  
(2) dived  
(3) stepped  
(4) entered
22. (1) shocked  
(2) delighted  
(3) motivated  
(4) rejuvenated
23. (1) overrun  
(2) exceeded  
(3) controlled  
(4) conquered
24. ~~(1)~~ barriers  
~~(2)~~ blockages  
(3) hindrances  
(4) obstructions
25. (1) perish  
(2) respect  
(3) celebrate  
(4) appreciate



**Section F: Comprehension MCQ (5 marks)**

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

Uncle Daddy and I were out hiking through the woods, surrounded by pine trees so dense that the forest seemed almost gloomy. As we reached the sunny little meadow, we stopped a minute, blinking, letting our eyes get used to the light. He noticed something and stopped to look at some wild blossoms.

"Dandelions," he said and picked one. 5

Back home, Uncle Daddy took a book down from a shelf in his room. It was a gigantic dictionary, the kind one might see in a library. This monster must have weighed at least one kilogramme! It was ten centimetres thick, and it had two thousand and twenty-three pages in it. Those last twenty-three pages really killed me. I mean, they could have just called it quits at two thousand. But no! They just had to give you 10 those extra twenty-three pages, as if you did not already have more words than any one person could possibly use.

Uncle Daddy opened the dictionary and flipped through the pages until he found 'dandelion'. He put the dandelion blossom into the book, right next to that word.

"I'm going to use this dictionary like a memory book!" he explained. "Someday, 15 when you're all grown up, you'll open this book to look up a word and you'll find this stuff and all these little things will remind you of all the fun we've had altogether." He smiled at me. "And you'll remember me." As if I could forget him. Over my adolescent years, I had to divide my time between my friends, school work and family. However, that did not prevent the dictionary from getting bulkier. 20

Last Christmas, as I was walking home, I thought I could see the smile on Uncle Daddy's wrinkled face as he waved at me from the patio, welcoming me with the warmth and love that I had known all my life. I felt as if time had taken me to my childhood. When I finally reached the driveway, Mother was standing on the patio alone. Uncle Daddy must have gone to Uncle Sam's house for a chat; it had happened 25 many times before. So my eyes had played tricks on me! I was certain I had seen him smiling at me. With her arms outstretched, Mother welcomed me home but there was an unusual tinge of sadness in her eyes. A wave of uneasiness washed over me, but I brushed it aside instantly.

*Adapted from Uncle Daddy by Ralph Fletcher*

26. Why did Uncle Daddy and the author have to blink when they emerged from the forest?

- (1) Some dust went into their eyes.
- (2) They were trying to locate the dandelions.
- (3) They were enchanted by the sunny meadow.
- (4) They were not used to the light at the meadow.

27. In what way was the dictionary a "monster" to the author (line 7)?

- (1) It was extremely big and heavy.
- (2) It was extraordinary and mysterious.
- (3) It reminded him of his unpleasant experiences.
- (4) It reminded him of the time he had spent with Uncle Daddy.

28. How did Uncle Daddy ensure that the author would remember him?

- (1) He placed "little things" in the dictionary.
- (2) He made the author read the dictionary everyday.
- (3) He waited for the author at the patio after school everyday.
- (4) He made sure that the author did not spend too much time with his friends.

29. The author realised that his eyes had played tricks on him when \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) his mother hugged him
- (2) he saw a tinge of sadness in his mother's eyes
- (3) he realised that Uncle Daddy was not at the patio
- (4) he saw the smile on Uncle Daddy's wrinkled face

30. The author first realised that something had happened to his family when \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) he saw a tinge of sadness in Mother's eyes.
- (2) he thought his eyes had played tricks on him.
- (3) his mother welcomed him with outstretched arms.
- (4) Uncle Daddy was not at the patio with Mother to welcome him

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

Class : Pr 6 \_\_\_\_\_

**Section G : Grammar Cloze ( 10 x 1 mark )**

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 blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion.

**EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.**

- |                        |                    |                   |                        |                   |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| <del>(A)</del> when    | <del>(D)</del> a   | <del>(G)</del> in | <del>(K)</del> the     | <del>(N)</del> to |
| <del>(B)</del> towards | <del>(E)</del> yet | <del>(H)</del> of | <del>(L)</del> however | <del>(P)</del> on |
| <del>(C)</del> into    | <del>(F)</del> at  | <del>(J)</del> by | <del>(M)</del> about   | <del>(Q)</del> if |

The Singapore flag might be planted on the top of Mount Everest in May. That is when Ms Linda Tan could become the first Singaporean woman to conquer the world's tallest peak (31) \_\_\_\_\_ she succeeds in her bid.

Ms Tan left Singapore on March 29 to begin her quest. She will be taking (32) \_\_\_\_\_ this challenge with a team of climbers from other countries, all supported (33) \_\_\_\_\_ Sherpa guides. The journey to Nepal and back could take two and a half months.

(34) \_\_\_\_\_ a recent telephone interview, she said, "This feels surreal. The atmosphere here is very laid-back, (35) \_\_\_\_\_ it can turn very exciting anytime." She was recently stationed (36) \_\_\_\_\_ a base camp where she was resting and acclimatizing herself (37) \_\_\_\_\_ the weather. "I'm taking it one step at a time and getting used to (38) \_\_\_\_\_ life here," added Ms Tan.

Asked if she was confident (39) \_\_\_\_\_ her attempt, the climber (40) \_\_\_\_\_ five years said, "If the weather allows me to, I will definitely make it to the top." Indeed, if all goes well, she will begin her intensive summit climb on May 11 and reach the peak on May 15 or 16.

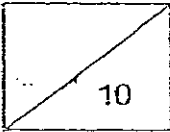
Source : The Sunday Times

**Section H : Editing for Spelling and Grammar ( 10 x 1mark )**

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

Staff at bookstores all over Singapore will heave a collective sigh of  
(41)  (42)   
relief at closing time tonight: the week-long March school holidays has finally end and fewer  
parents will treat the stores as a free baby-sitting service.  
(43)   
The problem of parents leaving their kids alone in bookstores are  
(44)   
perennial, but it intensify during the holidays. *Lifestyle* spoke to twenty-five parents and  
seven said they would not mind doing so.  
(45)   
Housewife Sarah Lim said, "I think it is fine and not dangeres as long  
as my daughter knows not to leaye the store and I've specified a time when I will be back  
(46)   
for her. She is the sougt who loves reading and will sit down quietly to do so.  
(47)   
Occassionaly, I have left her unattended in a bookstore, usually for up to half an hour."  
(48)   
Most parents, however, think it is an irésponsebel attitude. Private  
(49)   
tutor Tracy Peng commented, "The staff should attend to customers which are here to buy  
(50)   
things. It is not their job to take care of your kids or answer for you if your kids disappear."

Source : The Sunday Times



**Section I : Comprehension Cloze ( 15 x 1 mark )**

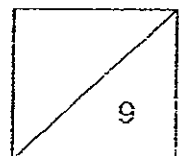
**Fill in each blank with a suitable word.**

Simple yet tasty is the cooking mantra of chef Eddie Goh, 41, who heads Fairmont Hotel's Plaza Market Café. Thus, it comes as (51) \_\_\_\_\_ surprise that his decision to become a chef was spurred by army food.

He explains, "The sergeant in charge of the army kitchen (52) \_\_\_\_\_ passionate about cooking. He whipped up (53) \_\_\_\_\_ simple but delicious fare that the soldiers (54) \_\_\_\_\_ coming back for more."

(55) \_\_\_\_\_ by the sergeant's love for cooking, Chef Goh decided to pursue his culinary (56) \_\_\_\_\_ professionally. However, he was unable to find any openings for cooks in restaurant kitchens after completing his national service. Instead, he worked as (57) \_\_\_\_\_ operations assistant in a transport company for three years.

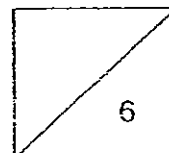
In 1991, he finally learnt of a (58) \_\_\_\_\_ for a cook at the American Club and willingly took a pay cut to fulfill his dream. That was the first of many restaurants that he has worked in for the last seventeen (59) \_\_\_\_\_.



On his claim to serving authentic Peranakan cuisine at the café's buffet spread, Chef Goh says he inherited his recipes from his late grandmother, (60) \_\_\_\_\_ she was Teochew, she had (61) \_\_\_\_\_ up in a predominantly Peranakan village and learnt to cook from her Nonya (62) \_\_\_\_\_. She then passed these recipes to his mother, who, in (63) \_\_\_\_\_, taught him the secrets to a great *ayam buah keluak* (chicken braised with black nut), among other Peranakan (64) \_\_\_\_\_.

Chef Goh says, "My greatest satisfaction is to see repeat customers at the café who cannot get (65) \_\_\_\_\_ of our Peranakan food." The buffet is available at the Plaza Market Café daily for lunch and dinner.

Source : The Sunday Times



**Section J : Synthesis / Transformation ( 5 x 2 marks )**

For each of the questions from 66 to 70, rewrite the 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).

66. "I must pay the fees tomorrow," Mdm Tan said.

Mdm Tan said \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

67. All the staff members have arrived. Only the Principal has not.

Except for \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68. We set off early for the airport. We did not want to miss the flight.

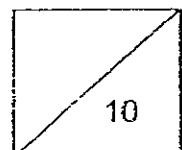
\_\_\_\_\_ so that  
\_\_\_\_\_

69. Julie is the best defender in the netball team.

No one \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

70. I tried to explain. She became angrier and angrier.

The more \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Section K : Comprehension OE ( 10 x 2 marks )**

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

In the following extract, the writer was travelling with the Schilling family on a steamboat. They were leaving China, as the communists were taking over control of the country. Aunt Reine was the sister of the writer's stepmother, and it was the first time the writer had ever met her family.

"Boys to the right and girls to the left," Uncle Jon said. Our two cabins were directly opposite each other. Inside, everything was neat, bare and clean.

While Aunt Reine, Claudine and I were unpacking, there was a knock on the door. Victor stood there, grinning from ear to ear and wearing a bright-red and orange life-jacket. 5

"Why are you wearing that?" Claudine protested. "We haven't even set off from Tianjin yet!"

"In case the *China Star* starts going down. Then you'll be sorry you're not wearing one yourself! Here, let me show you something!" He parted the curtain and looked out of the round porthole. Our cabin was below deck. Outside we could see nothing but deep dark water. It did appear rather sinister and forbidding. 10

Claudine became alarmed. "Mama, how often does a ship sink?" she asked.

Before Aunt Reine had time to reply, Victor quipped with a straight face, "Only once!" 15

Aunt Reine and I could not help laughing. Then Victor did something my brothers would never have done. He took off his life-jacket, slipped it on his sister and showed her how to adjust the straps.

There were only two narrow twin beds in our cabin. At night, our steward brought in a tiny roll-out cot; I assumed the cot was for me. Though the mattress was thin and barely six inches from the floor, I did not mind because it was a small price to 20



pay for being rescued from the communists. I was arranging the blankets and pillow when Aunt Reine put a restraining hand on my arm.

"Now, now! Remember what I told you on your first day with us? It's share and share alike in our family. Nobody is going to be treated differently. Come, 25 let's draw lots to decide who will sleep on the floor." She tore a sheet of paper into three slips, wrote 'Bed 1', 'Bed 2' and 'Cot', then folded and placed them in a paper bag from which we made our picks, including Aunt Reine herself. Claudine picked first. She opened her slip; it read 'Cot' and she slept there the entire journey without protest. 30

That was how Uncle Jon and Aunt Reine treated me during the time I spent with them. They made me feel like I was their third child. For the first time in my life, I did not automatically get the short end of the stick but was given an equal share.

As we travelled southwards, the weather became noticeably warmer. The sea was calm and we three children spent much time playing hide-and-seek on 35 the decks. Often, in the games we played on deck, Victor pretended to be a sailor. When we got tired of these games, we would retreat to the library, where, to my delight, mysteries, romances and travel books abound. We found stacks of games in the library too, and Claudine turned out to be a whiz at Monopoly. While we played, I could not help noticing that though Victor liked to tease Claudine, he was gentle and 40 protective towards his sister at the same time.

For long stretches of time on that voyage, I actually felt I was part of the Schilling family and no longer the unwanted daughter who always came last. At night, I would fantasise about being adopted by them, belonging to them and going off with them forever. How wonderful life would be if I did not have to face my family, 45 especially my stepmother, ever again! Then I would remember my true status; I dreaded the day we would steam into the dock at Hong Kong harbour, where I was to meet my family.

*Source : Chinese Cinderella*

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

71. How many members were there in the Schilling family?

---

---

72. Where was the *China Star's* destination?

---

---

73. Why was a roll-out cot needed in the writer's cabin?

---

---

74. Why did Aunt Reine 'put a restraining hand on (the writer's) arm' (line 23)?

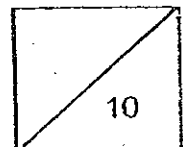
---

---

75. What different interests and strengths did the writer and Claudine have?

---

---



76. Give two examples from the passage to show that Victor was a good brother.

---

---

77. What do you think the relationship was like between the writer and her own brothers? Why?

---

---

78. Which phrase in the passage means 'without expression'?

---

---

79. How was the writer treated in a way that she was unfamiliar with on this journey?

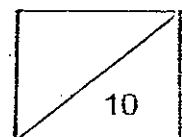
---

---

80. Why did the writer dread the day she was to meet her own family?

---

---



# Ai Tong Primary School

## Primary 6 English SA1 Exam (2008)

### Answer Keys

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
3	1	3	4	3	4	4	2	4	1
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
3	1	3	2	3	2	2	3	4	1
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30
2	2	4	3	4	4	1	1	3	1
Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
Q	P	J	G	E	F	N	K	M	H

- |                |                  |                   |                 |               |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 41. relief     | 42. ended        | 43. is            | 44. intensities | 45. dangerous |
| 46. sort       | 47. Occasionally | 48. irresponsible | 49. who         | 50. to        |
| 51. no         | 52. was          | 53. such          | 54. kept        | 55. Inspired  |
| 56. interested | 57. an           | 58. vacancy       | 59. years       | 60. Although  |
| 61. grown      | 62. neighbors    | 63. turn          | 64. dishes      | 65. enough    |

66. Mdm Tan said that she had to pay fees the next day.
67. Except for the Principal, all the staff members have arrived.
68. We set off early for the airport so that we would not miss flight.
69. No one and the netball team is a better defender than Julie.
70. The more I tried to explain, the angrier she becomes.
71. There were four members in the Schilling family.
72. It was Hong Kong.
73. There were not enough beds for the writer, Aunt Reined and Claudine.
74. Aunt Reined did not want the writer to sleep on the floor as she knew that it was unfair to the writer.
75. The writer liked to read books while Claudine was good at playing Monopoly.
76. He showed his sister how to put on the life jacket and he was gentle and protective towards her when they played.
77. She was not close to them. She noticed that Victor who was kind to his sister had done to her.
78. the phrase is, "with a straight face".
79. She was not fairly treated and made to feel like part of the family.
80. The Schilling family had treated her well and she did not want to leave them to return to her own family.