



NAN HUA PRIMARY SCHOOL
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2 – 2008
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Primary 3

Total Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Name : _____ ()

Class : Primary 3 _____

Date : 23 October 2008

Total Marks: _____ / 48

Parent's Signature

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

Section A: Vocabulary MCQ (6 X 1 mark)

For questions 1 to 6, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Write the correct number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

1. Grandmother _____ herself while filling the flask with hot water.
(1) burnt (2) charred
(3) scalded (4) blistered ()
2. I rented a bicycle and _____ the beautiful city of Beijing.
(1) explored (2) examined
(3) exploded (4) experienced ()
3. Mathew is very _____. He asked a lot of questions about the animals when he went to the zoo.
(1) inquisitive (2) dissatisfied
(3) inattentive (4) disinterested ()
4. We are waiting eagerly to have a look at the surface of the moon through the _____ tonight. -
(1) periscope (2) telescope
(3) microscope (4) stethoscope ()
5. The family members of the victim were very _____ towards the reckless driver who had caused his death.
(1) hostile (2) thoughtless
(3) arrogant (4) inconsiderate ()
6. Mr Cai _____ a heart attack and suddenly collapsed while taking his morning walk.
(1) met (2) suffered
(3) realised (4) discovered ()

Section B: Grammar MCQ (6 X 1 mark)

For questions 7 to 12, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Write the correct number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

7. Sarah did not eat _____ rice even though she was hungry.
(1) little (2) much ()
(3) less (4) many ()
8. While we _____ the tent for the campfire, it started to rain heavily.
(1) pitched (2) had pitched ()
(3) are pitching (4) were pitching ()
9. I had a tiring _____ enjoyable time helping out at the old folks' home.
(1) as (2) but ()
(3) or (4) and ()
10. Grandfather likes the countryside so much that he _____ spends his time there.
(1) rarely (2) frequently ()
(3) seldom (4) occasionally ()
11. The _____ of the two boys will be given an award to study overseas.
(1) smart (2) smartest ()
(3) smarter (4) more smart ()
12. Everyone in the team _____ annoyed with Alice for being bossy while working together on a group project last week.
(1) is (2) was ()
(3) are (4) were ()

Section C: Comprehension MCQ (5 x 2 marks)

Read the passage below and answer questions 13 to 17. Your answers must be based on the passage.

A female turtle can lay hundreds of eggs in one nesting season and they take about 45 to 60 days to hatch. But before they hatch, these eggs in natural nests face many threats to survival. Predators like monitor lizards and ants prey on turtle eggs. They may be accidentally destroyed by other turtles digging new nests or the nests may be swept by high tides. 5

After hatching, the hatchlings will dig their way out of the nest. They then scurry across the beach towards the sea. However, if a hatchling is near the surface of the sand during the day, it will wait for the sun to set before making its way to the sea. This prevents them from drying up and dying from heat exhaustion. It also ensures that most of them make it to the sea as they are not easily spotted in the darkness. 10

When the hatchlings successfully make their way to the water, they swim frantically to reach the open sea. They continue to face the danger of being hunted by predatory fish and birds. As marine turtles are reptiles and have lungs, they need to come to the surface to breathe. Therefore, when they are entangled in fishing nets, they drown. Turtles are also hunted for their shells, flesh and eggs. As a result, their numbers have decreased drastically. 15

For each question from 13 to 17, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Write the correct number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

13. The word "they" in line 1 refers to _____.

- (1) days
- (2) eggs
- (3) nests
- (4) turtles

()

14. Which of these is not a threat to the turtle eggs before they hatch?

- (1) Drying up by the sun.
- (2) Falling prey to predators.
- (3) Being swept by high tides.
- (4) Destruction by other turtles digging new nests.

()

15. In paragraph 2, the hatchlings dig their way out of their nest so _____.

- (1) as to get to the sea
- (2) as to prevent them from drying up
- (3) that they will not die of exhaustion ()
- (4) that they will not be easily spotted

16. If the turtles stay underwater too long they will _____.

- (1) not be able to find food
- (2) get entangled in fishing nets
- (3) surely be hunted by predators
- (4) not be able to breathe and drown ()

17. According to the information in the passage, turtles decrease a lot in numbers because _____.

- (1) they have been hunted
- (2) their nests are often destroyed
- (3) they are food to many predators
- (4) they often get entangled in fishing nets ()

Section D: Vocabulary Cloze (8 X 1 mark)

Read the following passage carefully. Choose the correct word from the words given in the box and write its letter (A to M) in each blank.

USE A WORD ONCE ONLY.

(A) certain	(D) identified	(G) mystery	(K) signs
(B) exists	(E) illustration	(H) prove	(L) survive
(C) fantasy	(F) maintain	(J) seen	(M) universe

Do aliens exist on other planets? Scientists and researchers have been trying to find out more about this.

They are curious to know if there are any life forms other than the human race in the (18)_____. Studies have been done using satellites and radar. Through them, scientists are hoping to detect signs to (19)_____ that there are living creatures on other planets.

However, there is no real evidence showing that life (20)_____ elsewhere in the universe. People who went to the moon have shown that no living things can (21)_____ on it. Although travelling to other planets is still a dream, information received from the satellites shows no (22)_____ of life on these planets.

Some people claimed that they have (23)_____ aliens and stories have been told about aliens trying to capture humans or trying to communicate with them. Others have claimed that they have seen the spaceships of the aliens. As to whether they are telling the truth, we can never be (24)_____. Whether aliens really exist remains a (25)_____ till this day.

Section E: Grammar Cloze (8 X 1 mark)

Read the following passages carefully. Choose the correct word from the words given in the box and write its letter (A to M) in each blank.

Passage 1

USE A WORD ONCE ONLY.

(A) cooks	(B) cooked	(C) cook
(D) cooking	(E) will cook	(F) has cooked

Mother (26) _____ a scrumptious meal for my tenth birthday celebration. The food was so delicious that the guests were full of praises for her culinary skills. Mother learnt (27) _____ when she was very young. Being the oldest child in the family, she had to (28) _____ for her younger siblings when her parents were both at work. Although she is a busy working mother now, she still (29) _____ our favourite food during the weekends.

Passage 2

USE A WORD ONCE ONLY.

(G) although	(H) who	(J) where
(K) however	(L) when	(M) while

Stingrays are usually found in oceans (30) _____ the water is not too cold. A stingray stings with its tail which it whips round with a deadly force. The poison causes a lot of pain to anyone (31) _____ is stung but it is rarely fatal. (32) _____, in September 2006, well-known television personality Steve Irwin died shortly after he was pierced in the chest by a stingray barb (33) _____ he was in the sea in Australia.

Section F: Comprehension OE (5 x 2 marks)

Read the passage below and answer questions 34 to 38.

Mandy dreaded travelling on the MRT train during the peak hours when there was hardly even room for standing. In the morning, she set off earlier for work because she wanted to beat the crowd. On rare occasions when she was lucky, she could get a seat on the train. Otherwise, she would have to stand throughout the whole journey.

5

Mandy was seven months pregnant. Though people could see that her belly was swollen and heavy, very few people would give up their seats to her despite her condition. Her feet hurt after standing for a long time especially at end of the day. Most commuters were not sympathetic and ignored her most of the time on board the train. Some looked away. There were others who pretended to sleep.

10

"Would you like to have this seat?" Mandy broke into a smile and thanked the secondary school boy before sinking gratefully onto the seat.

"At least there are still gracious young people around," she thought. Her journey home that evening was not so bad after all.

All answers must be based on the given text. Answer in **complete sentences**.

34. How did Mandy avoid the crowd in the morning during peak hours?

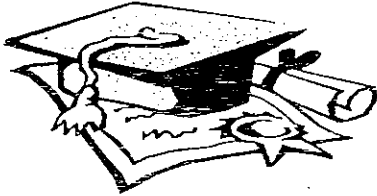
35. What was Mandy's "condition" (line 8)?

36. How did the commuters ignore Mandy?

37. Which **word** in the passage means "understanding and caring about someone's sufferings"?

38. Why did Mandy thank the school boy?

End-of-Paper



ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2008

SCHOOL : NAN HUA PRIMARY SCHOOL
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 3 ENGLISH

TERM : SA 2

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17
3	1	1	2	1	2	2	4	2	2	3	2	2	1	1	4	1

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33
M	H	B	L	K	J	A	G	B	D	C	A	J	H	K	M

34) Mandy set off earlier for work to avoid the crowd in the morning during peak hours.

35) Mandy was seven months pregnant.

36) They looked away or pretended to sleep.

37) The word is "sympathetic."

38) He offered his seat to her.