



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION (2019)
PRIMARY SIX
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET A

Name: _____ ()

Class: Primary Six _____

13 May 2019

28 Questions
(28 Marks)

Total Time for Booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

This booklet consists of 8 printed pages excluding the cover page.

For each question from 1 to 10, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet. (10 marks)

1. Had I known you were ill, I would not _____ you.
(1) disturb
(2) disturbed
(3) had disturbed
(4) have disturbed

2. "She'd be upset about her poor results, _____?" asked Munah.
(1) could she
(2) would she
(3) couldn't she
(4) wouldn't she

3. My best friend made me _____ for him so that we could have lunch together.
(1) wait
(2) waits
(3) waited
(4) waiting

4. The twins, accompanied by their father, _____ travelling to Vietnam this weekend.
(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

5. "_____ it rain later, the match will be postponed," the coach reminded the soccer team.
(1) Will
(2) Shall
(3) Would
(4) Should

6. The stranger, _____ was talking to Simon, desperately needed to find his lost cat.
- (1) who
 - (2) which
 - (3) whom
 - (4) whose
7. The pupils will not be able to hear you clearly _____ you project your voice.
- (1) if
 - (2) unless
 - (3) despite
 - (4) in order that
8. Sherin realised that someone had _____ the doorbell thrice.
- (1) ring
 - (2) rang
 - (3) rung
 - (4) rings
9. After being lost in the forest for days, Michael was deprived _____ sleep.
- (1) of
 - (2) on
 - (3) off
 - (4) over
10. To our surprise, we were able to find the secluded village without _____ difficulty.
- (1) few
 - (2) little
 - (3) some
 - (4) much

For each question from 11 to 15, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

11. The number of Siberian tigers in the world has _____ due to poaching.
- (1) drained
 - (2) depleted
 - (3) dwindled
 - (4) depreciated
12. When the captain realised that his efforts to steer his ship to safety were _____, he commanded his officers to release the lifeboats.
- (1) vain
 - (2) futile
 - (3) superficial
 - (4) inappropriate
13. The smooth tangy sauce _____ the succulent beef steak that was served at Rudy Bee Restaurant.
- (1) boosted
 - (2) accompanied
 - (3) complimented
 - (4) complemented
14. I had to take a detour on my way home as many roads were _____ for the National Day Parade.
- (1) closed up
 - (2) closed off
 - (3) closed out
 - (4) closed down
15. After their graduation ceremony, Dominic and his friends started to _____ about the good moments they had shared together.
- (1) recall
 - (2) recover
 - (3) recount
 - (4) reminisce

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.
(5 marks)

All afternoon, Maggie was bent over her table, counting down to the end of another dreary day of school. Her mind was (16) preoccupied with the images of the bird. Blue-green shot with gold, its tail an arrow. She hardly knew what she was writing.

The hands crawled down the cracked face of the clock with aggravating slowness. As the teacher (17) droned on about the Earth's surface, the other children (18) fidgeted in their seats and folded paper darts to throw across the room. All Maggie wanted was to see that bird again. The minute school was over, she (19) flashed a look at Don. They grabbed their bags and raced to the school gate. Don was a little behind, limping because of his sore toe.

"Come on, Don," she snapped impatiently. He growled as he caught up with her. Her eyes sparkled with (20) anticipation as she knew she was getting closer to finding the bird. They panted up the hill and across a clear paddock. And, there it was...

Adapted from 'The Rainbow Bird'

16. (1) oblivious to
(2) confused by
(3) enriched with
(4) consumed by

17. (1) spoke softly
(2) spoke loudly
(3) spoke monotonously
(4) spoke enthusiastically

18. (1) quivered
(2) slumped
(3) squirmed
(4) shuddered

19. (1) glared
(2) glanced
(3) squinted
(4) scrutinised /

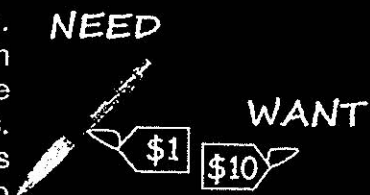
20. (1) hope
(2) affection
(3) impatience
(4) apprehension

Study this article from a magazine, *Students Today*, and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Be Smart and Start Saving

Have you started saving money? Some of your parents may have told you about the importance of saving for a rainy day. Most of you do not have to worry about emergencies yet. Nonetheless, getting into the habit of saving will prepare you to take care of yourselves and your families in future.

The cash gifts that you receive for birthdays or festive occasions present the best opportunities to start saving. You might be tempted to go on a shopping spree with all that extra money you suddenly have. To overcome **that temptation**, learn to distinguish needs from wants. Needs are things that you cannot do without and wants are things that you would be happy to have but can do without.



Bad spending habits, once formed, can lead to financial problems later in life. It certainly makes more sense to spend wisely and plan ahead to achieve your savings goals. If you do not have your own bank account yet, SG Bank offers the Smart Savers account, specially catered to the needs of students.

About the Smart Savers Account

Benefits

- receive a set of Smart Savers stationery when you open an account
- use your Smart Savers membership card to enjoy discounts at selected cinemas, restaurants and local attractions
- enjoy the convenience of joining the priority queue at all SG Bank branches on Sundays
- stay updated on latest SG Bank events and promotions with our free monthly e-newsletter, SG Picks

Requirements

- be between 7 and 16 years old
- go to any SG Bank branch with a parent or guardian
- bring along your identification documents as well as your parent's or guardian's

To find out more about the Smart Savers account, visit any SG Bank branch and speak to our friendly staff!

Join in the fun at the annual Smart Savers Family Day!

Date: Sunday, 2 June 2019
Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Venue: Central Atrium of SG Bank Building
1 Mason Road, Singapore 054321



Special Promotion

Open a Smart Savers account with a minimum deposit of \$200 and get a chance to spin the Wheel of Surprises! Dining and shopping vouchers, each worth more than \$200, will be given away!



Special Guest Appearance

Entrepreneur of the Year 2018, Mr Gavin Yap, will share his personal experience of saving from young. At the age of 7, he began setting aside money and eventually used his savings to start a business while he was still studying.

My Savings Goal

Photo Booth

Choose from a wide selection of cute props or simply write your savings goal on a speech bubble prop! Then, have a photo taken to remind you of your savings goal!



Team Games

Families can form teams, take part in some games, and win attractive prizes! Each team must be made up of 2 adults and not more than 3 children.

Go to www.sgbank.com.sg/ssfamday for more information on the Smart Savers Family Day!

For each question from 21 to 28, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet. (8 marks)

21. What is the purpose of the question "Have you started saving money?"?
- (1) to get an opinion from the readers
 - (2) to get information from the readers
 - (3) to get the readers to reflect on their saving habits
 - (4) to get the readers to check how much money they have saved
22. Look at the second paragraph of the article. What does "that temptation" in the 5th line of that paragraph refer to?
- (1) saving the cash gifts
 - (2) going on a shopping spree
 - (3) having the extra money to start saving
 - (4) distinguishing between wants and needs
23. Look at the section "About the Smart Savers Account". Why did the writer choose to use bullet points to present the information?
- (1) to save space in the article
 - (2) to summarise the key points of the entire article
 - (3) to explain the importance of a Smart Savers Account
 - (4) to highlight the perks and pre-requisites at one glance
24. Gayathri, a Primary Six pupil, just opened a Smart Savers Account. According to the article, she will _____.
- (1) receive an e-newsletter, SG Picks for a fee
 - (2) enjoy shorter queues at all SG Banks on weekends
 - (3) pay less at all cinemas, restaurants and local attractions
 - (4) get information on upcoming SG Bank events and promotions
25. Why is an exclamation mark used in the heading, "Join in the fun at the annual Smart Savers Family Day!"?
- (1) to convey excitement about the event
 - (2) to emphasise that the event is for families
 - (3) to draw attention to the name of the event
 - (4) to show that the event happens once a year

26. What is (the purpose of getting Mr Gavin Yap to share his personal experience?)
- (1) to show that he is a successful business man
 - (2) to show that saving from young pays off later in life
 - (3) to show that everyone can start a business while studying
 - (4) to announce that he was the Entrepreneur of the Year 2018
27. Which of the following statements is correct about the annual Smart Savers Family Day?
- (1) Participants get to take a photo of their saving goals.
 - (2) To play the games, each family must have 3 children and 2 adults.
 - (3) The entrance ticket has to be purchased at the information counter.
 - (4) Everyone who comes for the event can spin the Wheel of Surprises.
28. What is the main aim of the article?
- (1) to promote the importance of saving money
 - (2) to tell the difference between needs and wants
 - (3) to get all adults to open a Smart Savers account
 - (4) to encourage families to spend quality time with one another

END OF BOOKLET A



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION (2019)
PRIMARY SIX
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)

BOOKLET B

Name: _____ ()

Class: Primary Six _____

13 May 2019

52 Questions
(67 Marks)

Components	Marks
Booklet A	28
Booklet B	67
TOTAL	95

Parent's
Signature: _____

Total Time for Booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Follow all instructions carefully.

Answer all questions.

Write your answers in this booklet.

This booklet consists of 8 printed pages excluding the cover page.

There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38, 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 in order to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

- | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| (A) against | (D) but | (G) in | (K) off | (N) were |
| (B) and | (E) for | (H) into | (L) to | (P) which |
| (C) as | (F) have | (J) of | (M) until | (Q) with |

Though many think of pangolins as reptiles, they are actually mammals. They have large protective keratin scales covering their skin and are the only known mammals (29) _____ this feature. With its foreclaws hanging just (30) _____ the ground, it looks like a miniature T-rex (31) _____ it ambles along on its hind legs. The scaly mammal's formidable foreclaws are built not for walking, (32) _____ for ripping open ant hills and termite nests.

When in danger, it may curl (33) _____ a ball, relying on its armour of scales to protect its conical head and delicate underbelly. Unfortunately, that armour is no protection (34) _____ cars travelling at high speed.

Hunched close to the ground, the pangolin is hard (35) _____ any driver to spot on the road. If it is caught (36) _____ the headlights of a vehicle, the shy creature may freeze; and even when fleeing, it can only rev up (37) _____ a man's jogging pace.

According to the National Parks Board (NParks), an average of two pangolins a year were found dead on major roads around the Bukit Timah and Central Catchment nature reserves from 1994 to 2014. That number may not seem a lot (38) _____ one realises that the total number of wild pangolins in Singapore may be just more than 50.

In Singapore, it is illegal under the Wild Animals and Birds Act to remove pangolins from the wild. Those found in nature reserves are also protected by the Parks and Trees Act 2005.



Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in each of the boxes. (12 marks)

Maisy stopped suddenly and stood still on the path in the woods. There was a turn

39.

imeedeatly ahead. As soon as she rounded the turn, she would be able to see the harbour

40.

beyond them.

41.

However, she heard something else. She was certain it was not her imagine. She

did hear a low growl. Cautiously, she took a step forward. As she approached the turn,

42.

she could hear bushes ahead rustling and soliteri footsteps.

43.

Suddenly, he was there, in front of her. An armed soldier. His sudden apeerence

44.

45.

startled her. She styfled a scream and willed herself to stop panic as she stared at the

soldier. Quickly, she held up her basket for him to see the loaf of bread in it. "My uncle

46.

47.

has forget his lunch and I am delivering it to him," she murmered.

48.

He observed her in silent for several minutes. Then he looked around; his eyes

glanced behind her and scanned the bushes on each side with a stiff and

49.

unsmiling dimeener.

50.

Reaching forward and grab the crisp bread from the basket, he examined it

closely. Then he broke it in half, pulling the two halves apart with his fists.

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Covering more than 70 percent of our planet, oceans are among the earth's most valuable natural resources. Unfortunately, plastics accumulating in our oceans and on our beaches has (51) _____ a global crisis. About 8 million tonnes of plastics end up in the oceans every year and at this (52) _____, we face a future with more plastics in the oceans than fish by 2050.

Plastic items (53) _____ bags, bottle caps and fibres from synthetic clothes are washed out into the oceans from urban rivers, sewers and waste deposits. Larger plastics are broken down into smaller fragments that can persist (54) _____ hundreds or even thousands of years. These (55) _____ of all sizes are swallowed by animals and enter the food web, disrupting ecosystems.

Last year, a small male pilot whale was found struggling, (56) _____ to swim or breathe, in a Thai canal near the Malaysian border. Rescuers fought to save the animal by deploying buoys to keep it (57) _____ as veterinarians tended to it and they also propped (58) _____ red umbrellas to protect its exposed skin from the sun's rays.

The whale vomited five plastic bags during the rescue attempt. It died on Friday, five days (59) _____ the rescue attempt had begun.

A report revealed that more than 17 pounds of plastics had clogged up the whale's stomach, making it (60) _____ for it to ingest nutritional food. This waste was in the form of 80 shopping bags and other plastic debris.

Experts concluded that the whale most likely (61) _____ the plastic bags for food. Accumulation of trash in its stomach could have tricked the animal into thinking that it was (62) _____, reducing its instinct to feed. Malnourished, the whale then became sick and lost (63) _____ ability to hunt.

Plastic pollution is a consistent (64) _____ in the world's oceans. In fact, it is threatening the marine ecosystem worldwide. We can do our part to help by (65) _____ down the use of plastic bags and bottles, straws, and avoiding items with plastic packaging. By polluting our oceans, we are also polluting the fish we eat and as a result ingesting the plastics we put into the oceans!

Adapted from <https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2018/06/whale-dead-plastic-bags-thailand-animals/>



For each of the questions from 66 to 70, 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 meaning of the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

66. She arranged for someone to look after her dog. Then, she went on a holiday.

before _____

67. Tom's attendance was so irregular. The coach decided not to select him for the team.

Owing to Tom's _____

68. My dog goes everywhere with his collar.

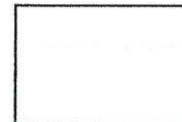
My dog does not _____

69. The tour guide is leading the tourists into the Batu Caves.

The tourists _____

70. "Did you finish the report yesterday?" Hisham's father asked him.

Hisham's father asked him _____



Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

The ancient door swung open. Johnson hesitated. His mouth felt dry and he tried to swallow.

"Go on in!" taunted the old man.

Johnson could see that inside, it was pitch black. There was also a strange smell that made him gag. He changed his mind but before he could leave, the old man shoved Johnson through the door and locked it.

"Let me out! Let me out!" shouted Johnson, pounding incessantly on the door.

But it was of no use. The dried-out wooden door was like iron. Pausing to catch his breath, his fists throbbing, Johnson looked around suspiciously. Slowly, his eyes grew accustomed to the dark as he took in the dreadful sight in front of him. There must be a way out, he thought.

Despite the heat in the barn, Johnson shivered. He gingerly made his way across the barn and found himself standing in front of a boarded-up window. Blocking his exit was a huge board nailed haphazardly into the frame.

"I can probably pull it off with my bare hands," he smiled triumphantly.

The bottom corner of the board was half-rotted and fell apart in his hands. Light streamed in as it came away from the frame. Then he shifted his attention to the top corner of the board. If he could get this part off, he could easily climb out.

But this part of the board was like the old door of the barn, dried out and as tough as steel.

Gripping the remaining part of the board with both hands, he began pulling. The nails squealed in protest and the board started to move. Only a little bit further, grunted Johnson. Then it stopped.

Desperately, Johnson yanked at the board, but it would not yield. That was when he realised that he was trapped.

In his frustration, Johnson did not hear the soft tap...tap...tap on the floor behind him. Tap...tap...tap. Like a blind man with his cane. Then it was too late. It struck.

The force of the attack rammed him face first up against the wall knocking the wind out of him. Warm blood trickled from his nose and ran down his cheek. Fortunately, except for his bloody nose, he was unharmed.

Turning around slowly, he could see, in the light from the window, his attacker. It was a spider. No doubt one of the old man's experiments. But this was no ordinary spider. It was enormous. About the size of a cat, with legs that extended out three or four feet on either side. Its eyes stared coldly at him.

Johnson could see that the creature was wary of his presence. "Spiders are cautious," he told himself. "It's waiting for me to make the next move." Although every fibre in his body screamed run, his brain told him to stay still due to the size and speed of the spider.

35

The spider carefully extended one foreleg towards Johnson. As Johnson tried to knock it away, the spider brushed his arm aside, as if it was a feather.

Suddenly, like a coiled spring, the spider crouched low, ready to strike again. Johnson froze, not knowing what to do.

40

"This is it!" he said to himself. "Let me have another go at it."

Ignoring the spider, Johnson turned his attention to the window.

Adapted from The Petting Zoo by Peter de Niverville

71. What was Johnson hesitating about? (1m)

72. State the two conditions in the barn that caused Johnson to change his mind. (2m)

(i) _____

(ii) _____

73. Why did Johnson have to stop to catch his breath? (2m)

74. Which two words from lines 8–14 show that Johnson was cautious while he was trapped?

The words are found in two separate sentences. [2m]

and

75. Based on lines 12–20, fill in the following table. (2m)

	What Johnson thought would happen	What actually happened
When Johnson saw the board ↑		-

76. Look at the table below. What do the words in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. (3m)

Word from the passage	What the word refers to
it (line 8)	
That (line 24)	
It (line 27)	

77. Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the story. [1m]

_____ Johnson was attacked by the spider.

_____ Johnson turned around and saw the spider.

_____ Johnson tried to look for a way out of the barn.

78. Based on the story, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [3m]

Statement	True / False	Reason
The door of the barn was made of iron.		
The first attack by the spider left Johnson unharmed.		
The spider was unusual.		

79. Johnson did not run from the spider. Choose two traits of the spider that made Johnson stay still and not run from it. Put a tick (✓) in the box beside each of your answers. [2m]
DO NOT TICK MORE THAN TWO BOXES.

huge	
alert	
careless	

athletic	
swift	
cautious	

80. When Johnson said, 'Let me have another go at it.' (line 42), what do you think he intended to do? Why do you think he said that? [2m]

END OF PAPER

ANSWER KEY

YEAR : 2019
 LEVEL : PRIMARY 6
 SCHOOL : CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
 SUBJECT : ENGLISH LANGUAGE
 TYPE : MID-YEAR EXAMINATION (2019)

Booklet A

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
4	4	1	2	4	1	2	3	1	4
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
3	2	4	2	4	4	3	3	2	1
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28		
3	2	4	4	1	2	1	1		

- Q29. Q
- Q30. K
- Q31. C
- Q32. D
- Q33. H
- Q34. A
- Q35. E
- Q36. G
- Q37. L
- Q38. M
- Q39. immediately
- Q40. it
- Q41. imagination
- Q42. solitary
- Q43. appearance
- Q44. stifled
- Q45. panicking
- Q46. forgotten
- Q47. murmured
- Q48. silence
- Q49. demeanour
- Q50. grabbing
- Q51. become
- Q52. rate
- Q53. like
- Q54. for

Q55. fragments

Q56. unable

Q57. afloat

Q58. up

Q59. after

Q60. impossible

Q61. mistook

Q62. full

Q63. its

Q64. problem

Q65. cutting

Q66. She arranged for someone to look after the dog before she went on a holiday.

Q67. Owing to Tom’s irregular attendance, the coach decided not to select him for the team.

Q68. My dog does not go anywhere without his collar.

Q69. The tourists are being led into the Batu Caves by the tour guide.

Q70. Hisham’s father asked him if he had finished the report the previous day.

Q71. He was not sure if he wanted to go into the barn

Q72.

(i) The barn was very dark.

(ii) There was a strange smell inside the barn.

Q73. He was tired from shouting and pounding incessantly on the door.

Q74. suspiciously and gingerly

Q75.

	What Johnson thought would happen	What actually happened
When Johnson saw the board	Johnson thought that he could pull the board of his bare hands and escape	The bottom corner of the board fell apart in his hands but the top corner of the board was as hard as steel and was hard to pull out.

Q76.

(i) it (line 8)- shouting and pounding incessantly on the door

(ii) That (line 24)- when the board did not move

(iii) It (line 27)- the spider

Q77. 2,3,1



Q78.

Statement	True/False	Reason
	False	The door was made of wood
	False	He injured his nose
	True f	The spider was about the size of a cat with legs that extended out three or four feet on either side, no doubt one of the old man's experiments.

Q79. huge and swift

Q80. I think he intended to go back to the window and try to remove the board as that was the way he could escape from the spider.

3
END