

RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT (1)
2015

Your Score Out of 95 marks	
Parent's Signature	

Name: _____ () Class: P5 _____

12 May 2015 English Language Paper 2 Duration: 1 h 50 min

BOOKLET A

Instructions to Pupils

1. Write your Name, Class and Index No. in the space provided above
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.
5. Shade your answers on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided for questions 1 to 28 only.

Section A: Grammar (10 X 1 mark)

For each question from 1 to 10, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

1. The machine, _____ used frequently, will lead to wear and tear.

- (1) when
- (2) which
- (3) where
- (4) whom

2. Joe, together with his cousins, _____ praised yesterday by Mother for being helpful.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were

3. I could see the mischief _____ his eyes when he was talking to the teacher.

- (1) at
- (2) in
- (3) on
- (4) with

4. Siti was late and missed listening to her brother _____ his speech on stage.

- (1) deliver
- (2) delivers
- (3) delivered
- (4) had delivered

5. To ensure safety, nobody is allowed to use the bridge _____ it has been checked thoroughly.

- (1) because
- (2) since
- (3) after
- (4) until

6. Last year, there _____ a shocking increase in the number of species of endangered animals.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were

7. All of us told the truth, _____ we?

- (1) did
- (2) don't
- (3) didn't
- (4) doesn't

8. _____ of the pupils has the mood to celebrate after their embarrassing defeat.

- (1) Both
- (2) None
- (3) Some
- (4) A few

9. We can start the contest now as all the participants _____.

- (1) are arriving
- (2) has arrived
- (3) have arrived
- (4) will be arriving

10. Baking _____ a popular hobby among girls nowadays.

- (1) became
- (2) become
- (3) has become
- (4) would have become

Section B: Vocabulary (5 X 1 mark)

For each question from 11 to 15, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

11. Mother advised Dad to _____ and consider carefully before he decides to buy the expensive car.
- (1) hold his horses
 - (2) make a beeline
 - (3) break his neck
 - (4) bite his head off
12. It would take years to rebuild Fukushima as the destructive tsunami had torn it _____ in 2011.
- (1) astray
 - (2) ablaze
 - (3) abroad
 - (4) asunder
13. The buses _____ operation after clearing the security checks this morning.
- (1) retired
 - (2) revived
 - (3) retreated
 - (4) resumed
14. John, Mary's brother, stood up to _____ the lies that her friends said about her.
- (1) refute
 - (2) permit
 - (3) diminish
 - (4) surrender
15. The poor puppy which was trapped in the burning house barked _____ for help.
- (1) curiously
 - (2) doubtfully
 - (3) desperately
 - (4) triumphantly

Section C: Vocabulary Cloze (5 x 1 mark)

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

It is known that the royal albatross is the biggest bird today. However, it would not have looked so big compared to the *Pelagornis*, a giant ancient flying seabird that lived 25 million years ago. (16)

The *Pelagornis*'s bones were unearthed in 1983 during the expansion of an airport terminal in America by a group of construction workers. Unknown to them, the find proved to be ground-breaking decades later. The bird's fossils had been kept in a museum drawer. It was only recently that paleontologists analysed them and revealed that the bird had a 6.4 metre wingspan. Scientists believe that the ancient seabird weighed about 21 kilograms. (17) (18) (19)

Due to its massive size, the study also found that the ancient bird might have soared just above the ocean waves whereas most large birds these days ascend on air current to maintain great height. (20)

It will certainly be a magnificent sight to see a *Pelagornis* fly in our clear blue skies today.

Adapted from "Ancient Big Bird", National Geographic
Retrieved from: <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/nature/ancient-big-bird/>

16. (1) antique
(2) obsolete
(3) prehistoric
(4) old-fashioned

17. (1) disclosed
(2) displayed
(3) discharged
(4) discovered

18. (1) irrational
(2) irrelevant
(3) impactful
(4) inspirational

19. (1) judged
(2) conjured
(3) examined
(4) interrogated

20. (1) peak
(2) depth
(3) climax
(4) altitude

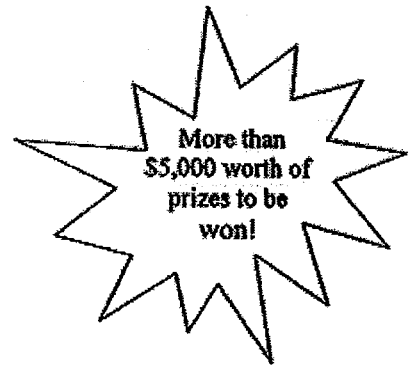
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Section D: Visual Text Comprehension (8 x 1 mark)

Study the poster below carefully and answer questions 21 to 28.



ANNUAL DESIGN A BOTTLE CONTEST

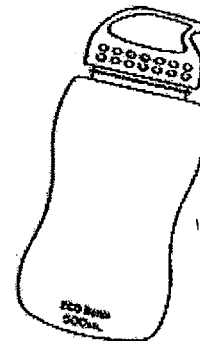


Attention all Singaporean students!

Put your creative minds to work in celebrating Singapore's 50th Birthday!

Design a bottle with the SG50 logo. Be inspired by things that are uniquely Singapore.

Eligibility: Students must be between 7 to 18 years of age.



To participate, submit an artwork based on the following themes together with a write-up of not more than 150 words to describe how your artwork is uniquely Singapore:

Themes

Local Food



Celebrations

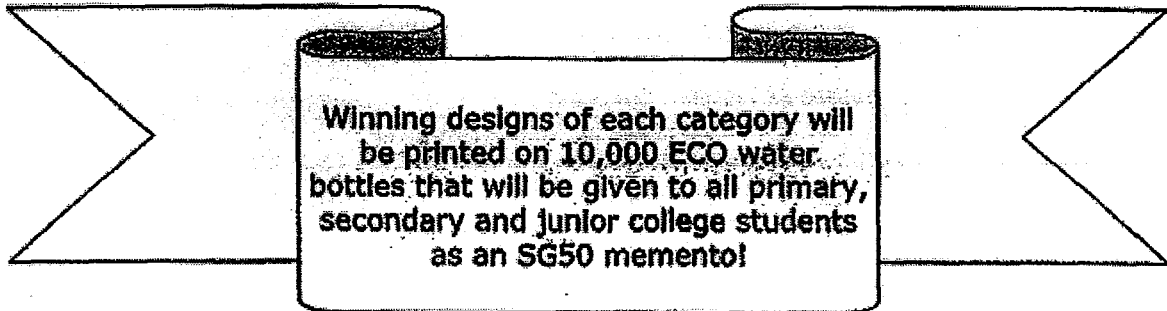


Places of interest



People





Competition Categories and Prizes

Category A (Age 7 to 12)	Category B (Age 13 to 16)	Category C (Age 17 to 18)
1st Prize: \$1400 cash + \$200 ECO Vouchers	1st Prize: \$1500 cash + \$100 ECO Vouchers	1st Prize: \$1600 cash
2 consolation prizes: \$400 cash + \$200 ECO Vouchers	2 consolation prizes: \$500 cash + \$100 ECO Vouchers	2 consolation prizes: \$600 cash

Judging Process

- All entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges appointed by Raffles Beverage.
- 3 shortlisted entries from each category will be posted on Raffles Beverage Facebook page for public voting for 14 days from the last day of submission.
- The design with the highest number of votes is the winner of the category.
- Winners will be notified via SMS and results will be posted on Raffles Beverage's Facebook page on 30th May 2015.

Submission Criteria

- Email your artwork and write-up to rafflesbeverageSG50designabottle@gmail.com by **1st May 2015**
- Artwork submitted must be within the dimensions of 20 x 27 cm (landscape)
- For further enquiries, please send an email to enquiries@rafflesbeverage.com.sg

Presented by:



Raffles Beverage

Sponsored by:



ECO Pte Ltd

In collaboration with:



SG50



For each question from 21 to 28, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

21. Which of the following artwork will not qualify for this competition?
- (1) a drawing of Singapore Zoological Gardens
 - (2) an oil painting of a little girl in a traditional Malay costume
 - (3) a painting of a family having reunion dinner during Chinese New Year
 - (4) a sketch of how foreigners celebrate National Day in their home country
22. The purpose of sharing four illustrations under "Themes" is to _____.
- (1) distract the reader
 - (2) celebrate Singapore's 50th birthday
 - (3) illustrate what each theme means
 - (4) teach interested participants how to take nice photographs
23. How often is the 'Design a bottle' contest held?
- (1) Once a year
 - (2) Once a week
 - (3) Once a month
 - (4) Once every fifty years
24. James is 14 years old and he wants to take part in the competition. He stands a chance to win _____.
- (1) \$1800 cash
 - (2) \$400 cash + \$200 ECO Vouchers
 - (3) \$1400 cash + \$200 ECO Vouchers
 - (4) \$1500 cash + \$100 ECO Vouchers
25. How are the winners selected from the shortlisted entries?
- (1) The general public would vote.
 - (2) A panel of judges would select.
 - (3) Students from all over Singapore would vote.
 - (4) The chairman of Raffles Beverage would select.

26. Participants will know they have won the competition when they receive a _____.

- (1) phone call
- (2) notification sms
- (3) notification email
- (4) message on their Facebook page

27. The sponsor of the prizes of this competition is likely to be _____.

- (1) ECO Pte Ltd
- (2) SG50 committee
- (3) Raffles Beverage
- (4) Singapore Creative Council

28. Exclamation marks are used in this poster to _____.

- (1) confuse the reader
- (2) decorate the poster
- (3) show that it is easy to win the prizes
- (4) encourage pupils to take part in the competition

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BOOKLET B

Name : _____ Class: P5 _____ Index No: _____

SECTION E: GRAMMAR CLOZE (10 x 1 mark)

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 to avoid confusion during marking.

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) almost	(E) by	(J) never	(N) unlike
(B) always	(F) despite	(K) over	(P) when
(C) and	(G) it	(L) their	(Q) which
(D) at	(H) its	(M) them	

On 25 May 2014, India's Malavath Purna became the youngest female to climb to the summit of the world's highest peak – Mount Everest. (29) _____ many young climbers who come from privileged families, Malavath hails from a poor farming family. Though her village lies just 200km north of a bustling city, it is hard to access as there are no proper roads leading to (30) _____.

Therefore, most Pakala girls have (31) _____ seen the inside of a school. Malavath is one of the fortunate ones who was able to get enrolled in a nearby boarding school with the help of Swaeroes, a welfare organisation whose mission is to help India's underprivileged children reach (32) _____ full potential.

Malavath leaped on the opportunity offered (33) _____ Swaeroes to take up mountaineering training. (34) _____ immediately, Malavath impressed the instructor with her determination.

On 15 April 2014, Malavath and 16-year-old S.Anand Kumar, along with their guide (35) _____ a team of sherpas, began the treacherous trek. After a gruelling climb during (36) _____ Malavath experienced altitude sickness and had to be sent back to the base camp. Malavath finally made it to the summit. She proudly hoisted her country's flag (37) _____ the top of the world. The young girl hopes that her achievement will inspire underprivileged people and girls all (38) _____ the world to try to achieve their dreams.

What an impressive feat!

Section F: Editing for Spelling and Grammar (12 x 1 mark)

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word each of the boxes.

In 2013, a group of Dutch students invented a car that converts sunlight to power while

(39)

moving. In addition, it produces energy while it is park. They named it Stella.

(40)

Because solar energy is free and clean than fossil fuels, sun-powered cars are becoming

(41)

a popular concept. Their bodies are light, the panels that turn sunlight to energy are efficient,

and the batteries that store the energy they produce are becoming smaller, lighter and more powerful.

(42)

Advancements like this have enabled electric cars to go further and faster. Environmentalists and

(43)

conservationists are estatic.

(44)

The solar panels on Stella's roof are very well designed that the car produces more energy

(45)

than she uses. The extra electricity can be transferred to a city's power grid for others to uses.

Stella is also designed such that minimal wind resistance is ensured, thus

(46)

(47)

saving valueable energy. She is also made by superlight materials which make her weigh much less than other cars.

(48)

Stella clinched the first positian in an electric car competition in Australia by

(49)

travelling almost 1900 miles powered by nothing but sunlight. What a remakcable achievement!

(50)

For now, electric cars are still considered scarce as most people are still not used to the idea. Environmentalists sure hope that Stella will evolve into a mass-produced car that everyone will buy.

Adapted from <http://www.kidsdiscover.com/quick-reads/futuristic-solar-car-dutch-treat-environment/>

Section G :Comprehension Cloze (15 x 1 mark)

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

Last December holiday, my family visited our relatives in Queensland, Australia. During our time there, we stayed in their house that was near a beach famous for its beautiful sea habitat. One day, my uncle decided to take my cousins and me _____ on his boat to snorkel and fish. We prepared the equipment needed and got onto his boat excitedly. Before setting _____, I had to put on a life jacket as I was not a good swimmer.

My excitement _____ as we rode. I had never snorkelled and could not wait to see the beautiful underwater scene. The boat moved fast and soon, we were so _____ away from the shore that we could hardly see it. As I was enjoying the cool breeze, I saw something jump in and out of the water _____ of us. We steered the boat forward to get a closer look. _____ our pleasant surprise, it was a pod of dolphins! They were leaping in the _____ as if they were putting on a show for us. Seeing that, we _____ our snorkel masks and flippers quickly and dived in to take a closer look. Swimming in the sea was difficult but luckily, the life jacket kept me _____. I looked into the water and was greeted _____ an amazing sight. The dolphins circled us and did tricks. This scene _____ enhanced by colourful fishes and beautiful coral reefs on the seabed.

I have read that fishes live in coral reefs as they _____ the marine creatures with food and shelter. However, it was _____ to spot a fish in the corals. Many reef fish have bright colours similar to the corals that help them to camouflage themselves against the corals.

_____ observing a bright orange coral, a shoal of fish swam out suddenly. I stretched
(64)

out my hand to _____ the fishes gently. They felt smooth and slimy. This adventure sparked
(65)

my interest in the sea habitat and I have since enrolled in snorkelling and diving lessons.

Section H: Transformation / Synthesis (5 x 2 marks)

For each question 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 that of the given sentence(s).

66. Mother was shocked. She saw her long-lost cousin.

_____ to

67. Alice had woken up early. She missed her school bus.

_____ although

68. "Have you completed your test?" Mrs Lee asked her pupils.

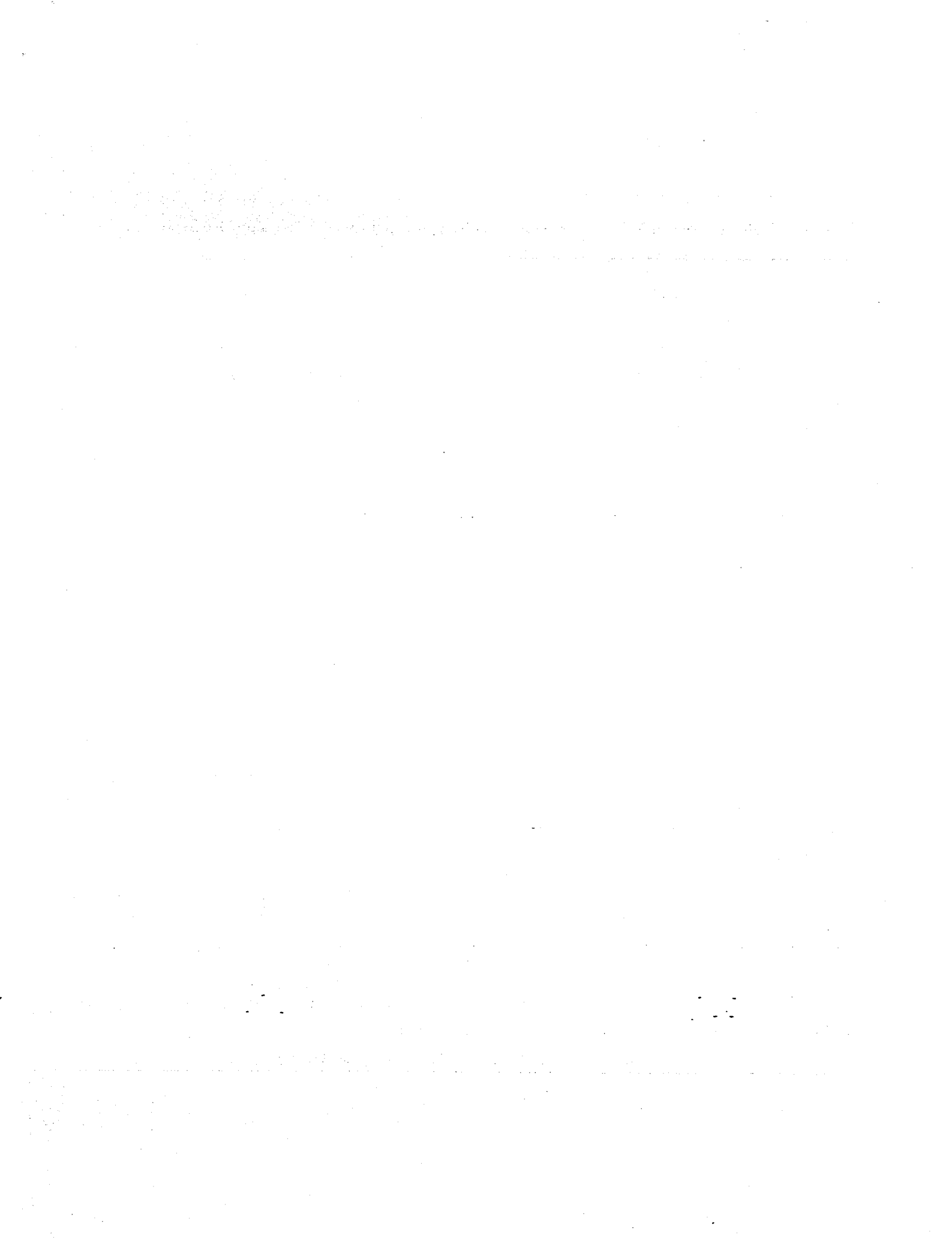
Mrs Lee asked her pupils if _____

69. All the teachers did not accept Ali's explanation.

None _____

70. It was raining heavily. We had to cancel our outing.

As a result of _____



Section I : Comprehension (Open-ended) 20 marks
Read this passage carefully and answer the questions 71 to 80.

My friend, Karen, had a cat named Charcoal. Perhaps, you would have guessed correctly that the cat was all black. When Charcoal was just a kitten, I picked it up from a drain outside my house. I decided to give the kitten to Karen because she was very fond of animals. I was sure Charcoal would be in good hands.

I remember visiting Karen when Charcoal was still a kitten. We would play with the cat using just a strand of woollen string. All it took to entice the nimble cat was to dangle the end of the string in front of it. The furry creature's lovely eyes would be fixed on the end of the string and she would try to catch the string. Its obsession with the string never ended each time I pulled the string away. It was fun and entertaining for both player and 'victim'. 5

I did not visit my friend during the years that I had gone overseas for my studies. When I finally did, Charcoal had already grown into a lovely and majestic-looking feline. It regarded me with suspicion. When I tried to stroke it on the head, it snarled and raised its paws threateningly. It was no longer the fun-loving Charcoal I used to know. Cats, like the lion, tiger or cheetah, are known to be predatory creatures. They hunt and kill their prey in a ferocious manner. They also mark out their territorial boundaries and defend them fiercely against intruders. I was sure that this was an explanation for the significant change in Charcoal's behaviour but I soon realised that was not the reason. 10 15

"Is Charcoal always so unfriendly?" I asked Karen. She picked up the cat at once and scolded it tenderly. In the hands of my friend, it was as domesticated as it could be. It knew and acknowledged its master. Karen then explained that Charcoal's behaviour had been borne out of its bad experiences with a visitor. 20

He was Karen's younger brother, Kelvin, who would drop in at her house occasionally. He liked to play with Charcoal rowdily. It was still a kitten then. There is a saying that a cat has nine lives. Charcoal might have used up some of them when Kelvin was throwing it up excessively to see how it would land. He also wanted to see whether it really had the ability to survive each fall. Thankfully, a cat has the innate ability to always land on its feet. Kelvin also enjoyed pouncing on the cat to frighten it. After being so badly treated by the bully, Charcoal developed a suspicion for visitors. 25

Name : _____ Class: P5 _____ Index No: _____

Your answers must be in complete sentences.

71. How did the cat get its name? [2]

72. Quote a sentence in paragraph 1 that shows the trust the author had in Karen to take good care of Charcoal. [2]

--

73. Who was the victim mentioned in paragraph 2? [1]

74. What did Kelvin do that resulted in a change in Charcoal's behaviour? [2]

Action 1	
Action 2	

75. What did the author mean when he said that Charcoal might have used up some of its 'nine lives' already? [2]

76) Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the story. [1]

- _____ Charcoal went through a series of bad experiences.
- _____ Charcoal was found in a drain.
- _____ The author found a drastic change in Charcoal's behaviour.

77. Based on the passage, state whether each statement in the table below is *True* or *False*, then give one reason why you think so. [3]

		True/False	Reason
i)	Karen picked up Charcoal from the drain.		
ii)	The author had not seen Charcoal for some time.		
iii)	Charcoal had always been unfriendly.		

78. Explain clearly why Charcoal was able to survive the violent throws. [2]

79. Choose the words from paragraph 5 in the passage that have *opposite* meaning to the words below. [3]

i)	regularly	
ii)	acquired	
iii)	trust	

80. Do you think that Charcoal will ever learn to trust humans? Why do you think so? Support your answer with information from the passage. [2]

-END OF PAPER-

EXAM PAPER 2015**LEVEL : PRIMARY 5****SCHOOL : RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY CHIJ ST NICHOLAS GIRLS SCHOOL****SUBJECT : ENGLISH****TERM : SA1**

Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6	Q 7	Q 8	Q 9	Q 10
1	3	2	1	4	3	3	2	3	3
Q 11	Q 12	Q 13	Q 14	Q 15	Q 16	Q 17	Q 18	Q 19	Q 20
1	4	4	1	3	3	4	3	3	4
Q 21	Q 22	Q 23	Q 24	Q 25	Q 26	Q 27	Q 28		
4	3	1	4	1	2	1	4		

Q 29	Q 30	Q 31	Q 32	Q 33	Q 34	Q 35	Q 36	Q 37	Q 38
N	G	J	L	E	A	C	Q	D	K

Q39 parked

Q40 concept

Q41 concept

Q42 these

Q43 ecstatic

Q44 so

Q45 use

Q46 valuable

Q47 with

Q48 position

Q49 remarkable

Q50 scarce

Q51 along

Q52 off

Q53 rose

Q54 far

Q55 ahead

Q56. To

Q57 air

Q58 wore

Q59 afloat

Q60 by

Q61 was

Q62 provide

Q63 difficult

Q64 . After

Q65 pat

Q66. Mother was shocked to see her long -lost cousin.

Q67. Alice missed her school bus although she had woken up early.

Q68. Mrs Lee asked her pupils if they had completed their test.

Q69. None of the teachers accepted Ali's explanation.

Q70. As a result of the heavy rain, we had to cancel our outing.

Q71. The cat got its name from its colour, black.

Q72. I was sure Charcoal would be in good hands.

Q73. It refers to Charcoal.

Q74. Action 1 - throwing Charcoal excessively to see how it would land.

Q74. Action 2 - pouncing on Charcoal to frighten it.

Q75. Charcoal could have died from one of those throws.

Q76. 1- Charcoal was found in a drain.

Q76. 2 - Charcoal went through a series of bad experiences.

Q76. 3 - The author found a drastic change in Charcoal's behavior.

Q77i) FALSE – The author picked up Charcoal from the drain.

Q77ii) TRUE – The author did not see Charcoal for a long time as she went overseas to study.

Q77iii) FALSE – Charcoal used to be an affectionate friendly kitten.

Q78. A cat has the innate ability to always land on its feet, hence when it lands, it will not have suffered much injuries from the violent throws.

Q79i) occasionally

Q79ii) innate

Q79iii) suspicion

Q80. No, I do not think so. Charcoal will never learn to trust humans again because of the bad experience she had.

THE END

