

# Comprehension Open-ended Worksheets

## P4 English Language CA1 2014 / 13

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### Instruction

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

#### P4 Comprehension Open-ended - CA1 – MGS

Tess heard her parents talking about her little brother, Andrew. He was very sick and Daddy did not have enough money to pay for the medical bills. She heard Mummy say, "Only a miracle can save him now."

Tess went to her bedroom and took her savings. Then she walked to the pharmacy.

"What do you want?" the pharmacist asked impatiently.

"My brother is really sick and I want to buy a miracle," Tess answered, "he has something bad growing inside his head and Mummy says only a miracle can save him. So, how much does a miracle cost?"

"We don't sell miracles here, little girl. I'm sorry," the pharmacist smiled sadly.

A well-dressed man, who had overheard the conversation, asked Tess, "What kind of a miracle does your brother need?"

"I don't know," Tess whispered, "I just know he's really sick and he needs an operation but Daddy can't afford it. I am here to buy a miracle with my one dollar and eleven cents."

"Well, what a coincidence," the man answered, "that is the exact price of a miracle for little brothers. Take me to see your family. I might have the kind of miracle you need."

That well-dressed man was Dr. Armstrong, a brain surgeon. He operated on Tess' brother without charge and soon, Andrew was well.

One night, Daddy and Mummy were talking about the chain of events' that had led them to **(Q6) this**.

"That surgery," Mummy said, "was a real miracle. I wonder how much it would have cost."

Tess smiled. She knew exactly how much a miracle cost... one dollar and eleven cents.

Adapted from The Price of a Miracle by an anonymous writer

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. Why did Tess' brother need an operation?

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2. State whether each sentence below is True or False. Give a reason for your answer.

Sentence	True / False	Reason
i) Tess' father could not afford the operation for Tess' brother.		
ii) Tess went to the pharmacy to buy medicine for her brother.		
iii) Tess approached the well-dressed man at the pharmacy for help.		

3. Who was the well-dressed man at the pharmacy?

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4. Write 1, 2 and 3 on the lines. Put the sentences in the right sequence, according to the flow in the story.

\_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Armstrong operated on Tess' brother.

\_\_\_\_\_ Tess went to the pharmacy to buy a miracle.

\_\_\_\_\_ Tess took her money from her bedroom.

5. Fill in the box with a word.

Which word from in last six paragraphs has the same meaning as "two events happening at the same time without planning"?

6. What does 'this' in third last paragraph refer to?

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7. Explain dearily why the surgery was a miracle.

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#### P4 Comprehension Open-ended - CA1 – Ai Tong

When we were children, Hassan and I used to climb the trees in the driveway of my father's house. We annoyed our neighbours by reflecting sunlight into their homes with a shard of mirror. The bright beams of light irritated and hurt their eyes. We would sit across from each other on a pair of high branches, our feet dangling, our trouser pockets filled with peanuts and rambutans. We took turns with the mirror as we ate peanuts, pelted each other with them, giggling.

Hassan was deadly with his slingshot. Sometimes, up in those trees, I talked him into firing rambutans using a slingshot at the neighbour's one-eyed dog, a huge German Shepherd. He never wanted to, but, if I requested really nicely, he would do it. Hassan never denied me **(Q3) anything**.

Hassan's father, Ali, used to catch us and get mad at our pranks. He would wag his finger and wave us down from the tree. **(Q5) Hassan never told on me**. No one ever knew that the various acts of mischief were always my ideas.

Adapted from The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. Explain fully why the writer's neighbours were annoyed with him.

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2. What was the writer and Hassan's act of mischief against their neighbour's German Shepherd?

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3. Quote the four-word phrase which suggests that Hassan was very good at using his slingshot.

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4. What does "anything" in second paragraph refer to?

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5. Explain clearly what the writer meant by "Hassan never told on me." in last paragraph.

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**P4 Comprehension Open-ended - CA1 – MGS 2013**

Michael blew into his gloved hands while he waited for his brother to return from the shed. The wait in the cold seemed **(Q1) like eternity**. When Sam returned, he was carrying some strips of wood.

"It's freezing. Hurry up, Sam," Michael said, looking at the whirling snow around them.

Michael held the lamp for Sam to work on the door. As Sam began hammering the strips of wood to the broken door, some noises echoed from the frozen fields across their farm. Sam dropped his hammer immediately. Michael held up the lamp in the direction of the coop.

"Did you hear that?" Sam asked Michael, who nodded vigorously.

Another sound filled the air again. It was the loud and continuous clucking of the hens in the coop. They sounded frightened and agitated. Sam raced down the stony path in great fury. Michael was close by. Sam had lost three hens in the past fortnight and was not about to lose another. He saw a flash of brownish black as he approached the coop. Then he saw its black-ringed tail. The raccoon emerged from the tree beside the coop.

"Go away!" Sam roared. It stood still and looked at the two boys for a while. The predator only ran into the woods when Michael ran towards it.

The hens in the coop were flapping and running up and down as Michael counted them. He was glad that none of the chickens was missing. Later, Sam checked on the wire fencing. He was relieved that the coop was still secure.

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. Give two reasons why Michael felt the wait was "like eternity" paragraph 1.

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2. What was Sam going to do with the strips of wood?

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3. Which three word phrase tells you that Sam was very annoyed by the presence of the raccoon?

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4. How did Sam know that the raccoon was near the coop?

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5. Why must the wire fencing be secured?

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## Answer Key

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Subject: Primary 4 English – Comprehension Open-Ended  
Paper: CA1 2014

School: MGS 2014

1. He had brain disease.
2. i) True – Tess' father could not afford an operation for Tess' brother.  
ii) False – Tess went to the pharmacy to buy a miracle.  
iii) False – The well-dressed man had overheard the conversation between Tess and the pharmacist and he approached Tess.
3. The well-dressed man at the pharmacy was Dr. Armstrong.
4. 3, 2, 1
5. coincidence
6. The word 'this' refers to Andrew's recovery.
7. The surgery saved Tess' brother and it was without charge.

School: Ai Tong

1. The writer and Hassan reflected sunlight with a shard of mirror into their homes and hurt their eyes.
2. The writer asked Hassan to fire rambutans at the German Shepherd with his slingshot.
3. It is "deadly with his slingshot".
4. It refers to whatever the writer asks Hassan to do.
5. Hassan never revealed that the writer was the mastermind behind the pranks.

School: MGS 2013

1. It was cold so the wait seemed long.
2. Sam was going to use the strips of wood to repair the door as the door was broken.
3. In great fury.
4. There was continuous and loud clucking from the coop.
5. It is to keep the predator out and keep the chickens safe.