

**SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL  
FIRST SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2015  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRIMARY SIX**

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

Class: Primary 6

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2  
(BOOKLET A)**

**Total time for Booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- 1 Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
- 2 Follow all instructions carefully.
- 3 Answer all questions.
- 4 Shade your answers on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.

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

1 The bedridden patient \_\_\_\_\_ in bed the whole month before she finally recovered.

- (1) lay
- (2) lays
- (3) laid
- (4) lain

2 If there had been signs warning me that it was dangerous to swim at this spot, I would \_\_\_\_\_ elsewhere.

- (1) swim
- (2) swam
- (3) swimming
- (4) have swum

3 It is already past midnight \_\_\_\_\_ my watch.

- (1) at
- (2) by
- (3) with
- (4) from

4 The distraught relatives could not hold back their emotions when they saw their loved one \_\_\_\_\_ on the floor near his hospital bed.

- (1) collapse
- (2) collapsés
- (3) collapsed
- (4) was collapsing

5 Ken knew he could not complete the marathon \_\_\_\_\_ he tried his best.

- (1) so
- (2) yet
- (3) and
- (4) since

6 He said that he would not give \_\_\_\_\_ to our demand regardless of our persistent persuasion.

- (1) in
- (2) up
- (3) back
- (4) away

7 Neither the manager nor the senior clerks \_\_\_\_\_ the course organised by the fire safety committee.

- (1) attend
- (2) attends
- (3) has attended
- (4) have attended

8 Your greatest challenge does not lie in facing her or \_\_\_\_\_ but in facing yourself.

- (1) I
- (2) me
- (3) mine
- (4) myself

9 Not only \_\_\_\_\_ the script, she also acted in the play.

- (1) did she write
- (2) is she writing
- (3) does she write
- (4) was she writing

10 "He would attend the wedding dinner if he could, \_\_\_\_\_ he?" James asked.

- (1) didn't
- (2) hadn't
- (3) couldn't
- (4) wouldn't

For each question from 11 to 15, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

11 This company is in the \_\_\_\_\_ of modern medical research.

- (1) forefront
- (2) foretaste
- (3) foremost
- (4) foreground

12 It was clear from the \_\_\_\_\_ that the plan would fail as there were many problems.

- (1) outset
- (2) outfall
- (3) outcome
- (4) outbreak

13 The burglar crawled \_\_\_\_\_ through the open window in order not to alert the sleeping family.

- (1) overtly
- (2) furtively
- (3) clumsily
- (4) privately

14 The guard dog lies \_\_\_\_\_ in the kennel unless strangers approach the house.

- (1) inert
- (2) latent
- (3) dormant
- (4) comatose

15 James is a good and talented worker who \_\_\_\_\_ himself to all who worked with him.

- (1) attracted
- (2) disposed
- (3) endeared
- (4) encouraged

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**GO TO THE NEXT PAGE** \_\_\_\_\_

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)

Mammoth remains have puzzled scientists for hundreds of years. Large accumulations of mammoth bones have been found at several Stone Age camp sites on the steppes of Eastern Europe – one place contained the remains of over 800 mammoths. (16)

Mammoths had been hunted by prehistoric man during the Stone Age. Even in those days, the ivory of the tusks was highly valued as it was portrayed in small figurines. (17) (18)

Mammoths must have been very important in the lives of these hunters. We frequently find them among the animals painted on the walls of caves in France and Spain. In one cave in France, they are drawn with remarkable accuracy. One of them is practically a scaled-down model of the Siberian mammoth even to the length of the hair. (19) (20)

Scientists are now studying the possibility of bringing this animal back into existence through the science of cloning.

*Adapted from <http://en.wikipedia.org>*

- 16 (1) hills  
(2) plains  
(3) tracks  
(4) courts
- 17 (1) primeval  
(2) prodigious  
(3) precocious  
(4) predominant

18 (1) framed  
(2) depicted  
(3) developed  
(4) caricatured

19 (1) striking  
(2) weighty  
(3) consistent  
(4) exceptional

20 (1) foreign  
(2) minimal  
(3) diminutive  
(4) sculptured

Study this brochure carefully and then answer questions 21 to 28.

# The Volunteer Network



## Volunteers...

make a difference  
Change lives  
build community

### Community Service: Top 5 Reasons to Volunteer

Thinking of becoming a volunteer? Ms Theresa Chia from SG Cares shares a list of reasons that will help you make up your mind.

#### #5: It's good for you.

Volunteering provides physical and mental rewards. It can reduce your stress when you focus on someone other than yourself and make you healthier by strengthening the immune system.

#### #4: It brings people together.

As a volunteer, you assist in uniting people from diverse backgrounds to work toward a common goal and build camaraderie and teamwork.

#### #3: It promotes personal growth and self-esteem.

Understanding what your community needs helps foster empathy and self-efficacy.

#### #2: You learn a lot.

Volunteers learn things like these:

**Self:** Volunteers discover hidden talents.

**Community:** Volunteers gain knowledge of local resources available to solve community needs.

#### #1: You make a difference.

Most importantly, every person counts! Regardless of your age, you CAN make a difference!

Thinking of becoming a volunteer? These are three vital qualities that all great volunteers possess:

**1. Energy:** Great volunteers are fantastic people to work with as they exude energy and approach all tasks with enthusiasm and drive.

**2. Team Player:** Skills required to be a good team player include patience, listening skills, knowing when to contribute, when to hold back and compassion.

**3. Reliability:** The first rule of volunteering is that if you promise to do something, do it! It is vital that an organisation can trust you when you make a commitment.







Are  
YOU  
**GAME?**

## Volunteering Opportunities in January

**(A) Bingo Session with the Elderly**

**Organisation:** Kwong Wai Shiu  
**Date:** 08-Jan-15 (Thursday)  
**Time:** 1:30pm to 4:30pm  
**Location:** Serangoon  
**Contact:** Hilda Chan (9673 2212)  
**Requirements:** Large groups preferred

**(B) SDSC Flag Day 2015**

**Organisation:** Singapore Disability  
Sports Council (SDSC)  
**Date:** 10-Jan-15 (Saturday)  
**Time:** 8:30am to 2:00pm  
**Location:** Islandwide  
**Contact:** Devi at [devi@sdsc.gov.sg](mailto:devi@sdsc.gov.sg)  
**Website :** [www.sdsc.gov.sg](http://www.sdsc.gov.sg)

**(C) Karaoke Sing-a-long**

**Organisation:** Thye Hua Kwan Hospital  
**Date:** 14-Jan-15 (Wednesday)  
**Time:** 2:00pm to 5:00pm  
**Location:** Ang Mo Kio  
**Contact:** Fariq Salleh (6350 8720)  
**Requirement:** Able to host events

**(D) Reading Club for Children**

**Organisation:** YMCA Singapore  
**Date:** 30-Jan-15 (Friday)  
**Time:** 2:00pm to 5:00pm  
**Location:** Bedok  
**Contact:** Mrs Lui Fun Chee (6102 3822)  
**Requirement:** Aged between 16 and  
24 years old

**(E) SANA Befrienders**

**Organisation:** Singapore Anti-Narcotics  
Association  
**Date:** 17-Jan-15 (Saturday)  
**Time:** 3:00pm to 5:30pm  
**Location:** Sengkang  
**Contact:** Tammy Lim (6102 3822)  
**Requirements:** Mature and caring

**(F) BLESS Mobile Family Day**

**Organisation:** BLESS  
**VHO Abbreviation:** KWSH  
**Date:** 31-Jan-15 (Saturday)  
**Time:** 9:00am to 3:00pm  
**Location:** Jurong West  
**Contact:** David Ong at [david@bless.sg](mailto:david@bless.sg)  
**Requirement:** Preferably Christian

For more volunteer opportunities, visit The Volunteer Network website at [www.vnetwork.com.sg](http://www.vnetwork.com.sg) or send an email to Jenny at [jennyloh@vnetwork.com.sg](mailto:jennyloh@vnetwork.com.sg)

For each question from 21 to 28, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (8 marks)

- 21 The main purpose of this brochure is to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) encourage people to volunteer
  - (2) advertise the Volunteer Network
  - (3) inform people about the reasons for volunteering
  - (4) advertise the volunteering opportunities in January
- 22 Which of the following statements is not true?
- (1) Volunteering provides mental and physical rewards.
  - (2) A volunteer can make a difference to the community.
  - (3) You can be a volunteer even if you are under the age of 21.
  - (4) You should only volunteer if you are energetic, a team player and reliable.
- 23 According to the brochure, the most important reason why people should volunteer is that volunteerism \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) is good for them
  - (2) brings people together
  - (3) promotes personal growth and self-esteem
  - (4) can help them to make a difference to the less fortunate
- 24 Joanne is 19 years old. She is only available to volunteer on weekdays and does not enjoy interacting with the elderly. Which event should she volunteer for?
- (1) SANA Befrienders
  - (2) BLESS Mobile Family Day
  - (3) Reading Club for Children
  - (4) Bingo session with the Elderly

- 25 Mrs Tara Lim is coordinating a volunteer session for her group of 40 colleagues. Which event is the most suitable for them?
- (1) SANA Befrienders
  - (2) SDSC Flag Day 2015
  - (3) BLESS Mobile Family Day
  - (4) Bingo Session with the Elderly
- 26 Catherine is a member of the Emcee Club in Singapore Polytechnic and is looking for an event that she can volunteer her twenty club members for. Who should she contact?
- (1) David Ong
  - (2) Tammy Lim
  - (3) Fariq Salleh
  - (4) Mrs Lui Fun Chee
- 27 Serena would like to become a volunteer from February onwards. What should she do to receive further information?
- (1) call Hilda Chan at 9673 2212
  - (2) contact Theresa Chia from SC Cares
  - (3) view the website at [www.sdsc.gov.sg](http://www.sdsc.gov.sg)
  - (4) send an email to [jennyloh@vnetwork.com.sg](mailto:jennyloh@vnetwork.com.sg)
- 28 This brochure is published by \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) SC Cares
  - (2) YMCA Singapore
  - (3) The Volunteer Network
  - (4) Singapore Disability Sports Council

(Go on to Booklet B)



**SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL  
FIRST SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2015  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRIMARY SIX**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (     )

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

Class: Primary 6

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

	Marks Obtained	Highest Possible Marks
Booklet A		28
Booklet B		67
Sub-total		95

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2**

(BOOKLET B)

**Total time for Booklets A and B: 1 hour 50 minutes**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- 1 Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
- 2 Follow all instructions carefully.
- 3 Answer all questions.
- 4 Write your answers in this booklet.

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) above | (D) and    | (G) from    | (K) off     | (N) where |
| (B) along | (E) behind | (H) include | (L) through | (P) while |
| (C) among | (F) down   | (J) into    | (M) when    | (Q) with  |
- 

As part of Singapore's 50<sup>th</sup> (SG50) birthday celebrations, a 300m commemorative walkway called the Art Connector and the Jubilee Walk, an 8km trail, will be launched in November next year. \_\_\_\_\_ many activities have been planned to celebrate SG50 next year, it is also important to leave \_\_\_\_\_ some physical landmarks or legacy.

(29)

(30)

The walkway embellished \_\_\_\_\_ a mural will depict ordinary Singaporeans. It will showcase, \_\_\_\_\_ other things, designs inspired by the artworks on display in the National Gallery and contributions from Singaporeans. The public can submit self-portrait sketches which will be scanned and digitised. These will be incorporated \_\_\_\_\_ the walkway's design.

(31)

(32)

(33)

The Jubilee Walk will take Singaporeans \_\_\_\_\_ key monuments that symbolise different points of the island's history and development. Highlights of the trail \_\_\_\_\_ the National Museum and Marina Barrage. It will also pass through the Padang \_\_\_\_\_ independence was first declared. A new Jubilee Bridge to give pedestrians barrier-free access between the Merlion Park \_\_\_\_\_ the promenade in front of the Esplanade will also be part of the trail. Maps and mobile applications will be developed to guide the public \_\_\_\_\_ the trail. There will be a mass walk in November next year to launch the trail.

(34)

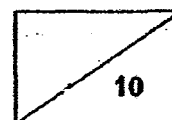
(35)

(36)

(37)

(38)

Adapted from TODAY, 14 Oct 2014



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

An unusual surname had helped link a 62-year-old businesswoman with the

(39)

sinking of the Titanic. The luxury liner strike an iceberg on its maiden voyage from

Southampton to New York. Ann Sweeney's great-grandmother was one of the

(40)

thousands of pasanjers who lost their lives on the ill-fated Titanic in

(41)

1912. However, she knew nothing of the tragically family connection until three

years ago. Her ancestor's handbag, purse and papers were pulled from the ship's

(42)

wrakage at the bottom of the sea.

(43)

She had been given the previlage of seeing for herself the black leather

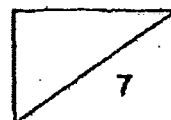
(44)

purse which lead to the unravelling of a family mystery. Ann and her son, Simon,

(45)

were given a personally conducted tour of an exhibition of Titanic artefaks at

Manchester's Museum of Science and Industry. They were able to examine the



purse at close hand.

(46)

[REDACTED]

Peering into the cabinet which housing the fragile leather purse of her great-

grandmother, Marion Ogden Meanwell, Ann strained her eyes to see the writing on a

(47)

[REDACTED]

bank slip ameizinli preserved inside. With the help of her son, she was just able to

(48)

[REDACTED]

make of the details on the slip which showed that Marion Meanwell still had three

pounds in the bank.

(49)

[REDACTED]

"It's inkredebel these things could survive all that time in the sea," said Ann.

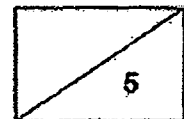
(50)

[REDACTED]

"I have see photographs of her handbag. However, I didn't realise there was a purse

inside."

Adapted from <http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk>





Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

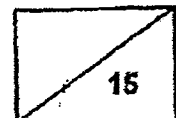
(15 marks)

Is the Taj Mahal in danger of crumbling? The world's most famous testament of undying love may be in dire need of some \_\_\_\_\_ loving care. A group of citizens has raised \_\_\_\_\_ (51) that the wooden foundation of the Taj may have weakened over time, (52) putting it at risk in future. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), the state-run body \_\_\_\_\_ charge of preserving the Taj has maintained that all is well with the (53) monument. Lawmaker Katheria set \_\_\_\_\_ alarm bells when he pointed to the effects (54) a dry river would have on the foundation. Emperor Shah Jahan \_\_\_\_\_ the Taj along (55) the river bank for his wife. River Yamuna, an integral part of the Taj, \_\_\_\_\_ thins out (56) particularly in summer. The water flow strengthens the \_\_\_\_\_. However, the lack of (57) moisture is weakening the wooden parts of the foundation, making it \_\_\_\_\_ and (58) brittle. He urged the ASI to step up conservation efforts.

Claims that the structure would \_\_\_\_\_ in future have so far been dismissed by (59) the ASI. Surveys done over the years had shown that the foundation of the Taj remained \_\_\_\_\_ . The current claims that the structure is going to collapse were 'overblown'. (60)

Debate has raged for years over the preservation of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century \_\_\_\_\_. (61) In the 1980s, activist Metha warned that the Taj had turned yellow \_\_\_\_\_ of pollution (62) from nearby factories. His efforts \_\_\_\_\_ off when the Supreme Court acted on his (63) \_\_\_\_\_ and shut down some factories near the Taj. Conservation archaeologist Mirza (64) said the focus should be on preserving the Taj \_\_\_\_\_ is facing many challenges (65) especially from pollution and tourism. All these things have a negative effect.

Adapted from The Straits Times, 6 Dec 2011



For each of the questions 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 Jane was very grateful to Tom for locating her missing puppy. She gave him a token.

To express \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

67 The prime minister was complacent and that led to his downfall.

\_\_\_\_\_ caused by

\_\_\_\_\_

68 We did not suspect that he was already a father of triplets.

At no time \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

69 In order not to miss the flight, Elizabeth left fifteen minutes early.

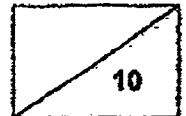
\_\_\_\_\_ lest

\_\_\_\_\_

70 "Did you drink the tea yesterday?" Roy asked Harry.

Roy asked Harry \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Read this passage and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

The next morning, he made his brother repeat the whole incident. His brother said that the Director of Archaeology, Dr Iyengar, bought from someone a historical document written on a Palmyra leaf for the Mysore Oriental Library. Dodu was very attentive when the name of the library, whereabouts and the Director's name were mentioned.

That afternoon, he found his way to the library. His mind was already feasting on visions of a bumper Deepavali with no end of crackers. 5

Dodu entered the building and felt terribly small. Everything looked powerful and big. All around, there were stone images and stone slabs with a lot of writings on them. Many pundits in gaudy shawls were poring over long palm-scripts, on which they were about to give their public opinion. Things were so imposing that Dodu almost decided to run out. He could hear the beats of his own heart reverberating through the long, silent hall. 10

However, he took courage in both hands and stood at an immense table. A mighty man, wearing a turban and spectacles, was sitting on the other side.

"Sir," Dodu called in a respectful whisper, lowering his voice to the point of silence. The mighty man did not hear. "Sir," Dodu repeated. This time, as if to compensate, his voice was unpleasantly loud. Dodu felt awkward. 15

The mighty man started at the noise and looked about for the source of that "Sir" but could not locate it.

"Are you a doctor?" the voice asked. The mighty man was puzzled by the disembodied voice. He searched with his eyes and found a clump of black hair level with the top of his table. He pushed back his chair and rose. He was surprised to see an urchin, standing at the other end of the table. He was accustomed to receiving only dignified scholars and students as visitors but not someone so young. 20

"I have come to see a doctor," Dodu said. "Are you a doctor?"

Dodu climbed a chair and stood on it. "If you are a doctor," he said, "I have something interesting for you. I hear that you give a lot of money for palm leaves with writings on them." He pulled a few leaves crumpled into a ball out of his pocket and gave them to the doctor. 25

This was a refreshing change from his serious work for the doctor. He examined the scripts with keen delight. On one, he found the figures of a jug, a horse and a nose. On another, he found these interesting statements in Kannada: "The cow is a very tame animal. This is Rama's book." All these were copied from an old Kannada book. The last leaf bore on it in English: "Cot. Ox. Fig. Pear. Baby. AAABCFG." 30

The doctor found no difficulty in deciphering the inscriptions. He had succeeded with far more difficult ones carved on stones and copper-plates by kings who lived hundreds of years ago. Dodu's handwriting – irregular as it was – was comparatively, a specimen of fine, legible calligraphy. 35

When he had finished, he paused and then burst into a hearty laugh.

Dodu was offended. The doctor had no business to laugh at him. However, he did not express anything aloud.

Adapted from *Under the Banyan Tree and Other Stories* by R K Narayan (1985) Penguin Books; England

71 From whom did Dodu first get the idea of making money from the sale of Palmyra leaves? [2m]

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72 Which sentence from lines 1 to 6 tells you that Dodu was very certain that his plan would succeed? [1m]

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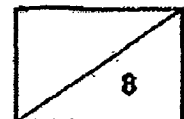
73 Who was the "mighty man" in Paragraph 4? [2m]

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74 Choose a word from lines 7 to 13 which have similar meanings to the words below. Write each word in the appropriate box. [3m]

scholars	
echoing	
huge	



75 Why was the doctor "puzzled by the disembodied voice" (lines 19-20)?

[2m]

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

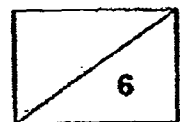
	True / False	Reason
Dodu had no trouble locating the library.		
The doctor was first alerted of Dodu's presence by the clump of black hair.		
The writings on Dodu's palm leaves were entirely in English.		

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Dodu made his way to the library.

\_\_\_\_\_ Dodu got on a chair so that he could speak to the doctor more comfortably.

\_\_\_\_\_ Dodu nearly changed his mind about his plan.



78 What does "This" in line 28 refer to?

[2m]

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79 Based on the evidence in the passage, why was the doctor able to decipher the inscriptions easily? [2m]

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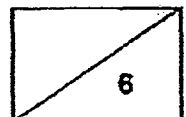
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80 Dodu "did not express anything aloud" although he was "offended" (lines 38 – 39). Why do you think this is so? [2m]

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End of Paper



# Answer Ke

EXAM PAPER 2015

SCHOOL : SCGS

SUBJECT : P6 ENGLISH

TERM : SA1

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

- 39)struck      40)passengers      41)tragic      42)wreckage  
43)privilege      44)led      45)artefacts      46)housed  
47)amazingly      48)out      49)incredible      50)seen  
51)tender      52)concerns      53)in      54)off      55)built  
56)always      57)foundation      58)dry      59)collapse  
60)strong      61)monument      62)because      63)paid  
64)warning      65)which

66)To express her gratitude to Tom locating her missing puppy, Jane gave him a taken.

67)The prime minister's downfall was caused by his complacence.

68)At no time did we suspect that he was already a father of triplets.

69)Elizabeth left fifteen minutes early lest she miss the flight.

70)Roy asked Harry if he had drunk the tea the previous day.

71)Leaves from the Director of Archaeology money from the sale of Palmyra. He got the idea from his brother.

72)His mind was already feasting on visions of a bumper Deepavali with no end of questions.

73)He was or Iyengar, Director of Archaeology.

74)pundits

Reverberating

immense

75)He did not see who was talking to him.

76)True / He was very attentive when his brother mentioned the location

False / He heard someone call him 'sir'.

False / The writings on the second leaf was in Kannada.

77)1, 3, 2

78)It refers to Dodu's attempt to sell a few crumpled scripts/palm leaves with writings on them.

79)He had succeeded with far more difficult inscriptions.

80)He wanted the doctor to buy the leaves from him.