

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION ONE (2009)
PRIMARY SIX
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET A

Name: _____ ()

Class: Primary Six _____

30 Questions
(30 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 10 printed pages excluding the cover page.

Study the following advertisement and then answer questions 1 to 5.

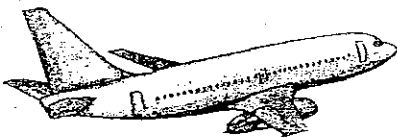
Last 4 days
to sign up!
Closing date - 13 June 2009

You stand to win prizes
totalling \$200 000 in this
mass participation
event of the year!

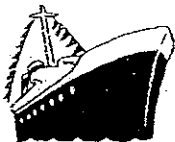
Big Walk Prizes:



First Prize: A trip to Australia



Second Prize: Return air tickets
to Hong Kong



Third Prize: 3 day / 2 night
cruise to Penang

Sponsors:

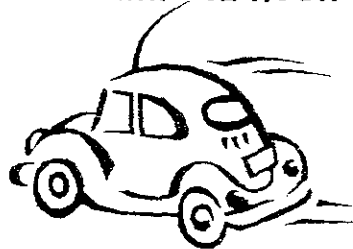
- F&N Beverages
- Running Shoes Company
- Medi Care Ltd

Organisers:

- National Health Board (NHB)
- Bishan Community Centre

BIG WALK

Sunday, 27 June 2009
7 a.m. - 12 noon



A mini car to be won!

Details

- Route: Central Stadium → Conference Hall
→ National Stadium
- Distance: 10 kilometres

How to Register?

Fill up a registration form in person at any of the
following centres:

- **Suntec City Tower A**
Mon-Fri 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sat 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- **National Sports Centre**
Mon-Fri 10 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.
- **Bishan Community Centre**
Mon-Sat 11 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Registration Fee: Adult \$5.00 / Student \$2.00

Each participant gets a T-shirt and a cap free
upon registration

Registered participants who complete the walk
are entitled to the **Lucky Draw** prizes:

- **Grand Prize:** A mini car
- **Consolation Prizes:** Watches, video
games, cassette recorders etc.

*For all enquiries call 888-1234

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

1. This advertisement appeared in the newspapers on _____.
 - (1) 8 June 2009
 - (2) 10 June 2009
 - (3) 13 June 2009
 - (4) 27 June 2009

2. One can register for the Big Walk by _____.
 - (1) paying \$5 at Central Stadium
 - (2) filling up a form and faxing it to 888-1234
 - (3) filling up and submitting a form at Suntec City Tower A
 - (4) filling up a form and posting it to Bishan Community Centre

3. The first person to finish the Big Walk will win _____.
 - (1) a mini car
 - (2) a trip to Australia
 - (3) a trip to Hong Kong
 - (4) \$200, 000 worth of prizes

4. To register for the Big Walk at 3.30 p.m. on a Saturday, one must go to _____.
 - (1) Suntec City Tower A
 - (2) National Health Board
 - (3) National Sports Centre
 - (4) Bishan Community Centre

5. Which one of the following statements is true?
 - (1) A registered participant is entitled to a t-shirt and a cap.
 - (2) All participants have a chance to win the Lucky Draw prizes.
 - (3) A participant who has walked 5 km stands a chance to win a mini car.
 - (4) This walk has been organised jointly by NHB and Medi Care Ltd.

For each question from 6 to 12, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (7 marks)

6. The herd of sheep _____ grazing in the meadows now.

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

7. _____ the severity of the crime, the criminals got away with a light sentence.

- (1) Unless
- (2) Despite
- (3) Although
- (4) Nevertheless

8. Jane, as well as the visitors, _____ watching the show when I entered the hall.

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

9. The old building was pulled _____ to make way for a shopping centre.

- (1) up
- (2) off
- (3) over
- (4) down

10. One of the pupils _____ absent since last week.

- (1) is
- (2) were
- (3) has been
- (4) have been

11. Don't forget to _____ your umbrella with you when you leave the house," Mother reminded me.

- (1) take
- (2) send
- (3) fetch
- (4) bring

12. Kimberly was the one who did it, _____ she?

- (1) isn't
- (2) didn't
- (3) wasn't
- (4) hadn't

For each question from 13 to 15, choose the correct punctuation to complete the passage. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (3 marks)

During my second month of nursing school, our professor gave us a quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions, until I read the last one: 'What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?' Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was dark-haired and in her 50s, but how would I know her name (13) I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank.

Before class ended (14) one student asked if the last question would count towards our quiz grade. "Absolutely," said the professor. "In your careers you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say hello (15) he added. I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learnt her name was Dorothy.

13. (1) [,] comma
(2) [.] full stop
(3) [?] question mark
(4) [!] exclamation mark
14. (1) [:] colon
(2) [,] comma
(3) [-] hyphen
(4) [;] semi-colon
15. (1) [, "] comma and inverted commas
(2) [. "] full stop and inverted commas
(3) [? "] question mark and inverted commas
(4) [! "] exclamation mark and inverted commas

For each question from 16 to 20, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

16. _____ by the failure of the first film, the producer made a come back with his second film.
- (1) Undaunted
 - (2) Astounded
 - (3) Frightened
 - (4) Discouraged
17. As Stacey lay pinned under the rubble, she _____ in pain.
- (1) groaned
 - (2) pleaded
 - (3) implored
 - (4) mumbled
18. When I was driving home, it suddenly _____ on me that I had forgotten about my dental appointment.
- (1) shone
 - (2) dawned
 - (3) beamed
 - (4) appeared
19. No one realised that the man had been injured until he was seen _____ towards the first-aid counter.
- (1) strolling
 - (2) staggering
 - (3) sauntering
 - (4) swaggering
20. Smoking in enclosed areas is _____ to protect the health of non-smokers.
- (1) pardoned
 - (2) punished
 - (3) prohibited
 - (4) prevented

For each question from 21 to 25, choose the word closest in meaning to the underlined words. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

The packed theatre crowd (21) simmered with excitement. Harry Houdini had just performed a series of escapes and had left them (22) perplexed and astonished. He had wrestled out of a *straitjacket* and then changed places in the blink of an eye, with an assistant locked within a rope-bound box.

Many of Houdini's tricks relied on (23) deceptions and illusions familiar to magicians, but he also had two exceptional abilities which made his act unique. The first sprang from a (24) fascination with locks and the other was his muscular, fit and agile body. His feet were almost as (25) nimble as his hands. Houdini relied on his own brute strength and agility to wrestle out of a canvas and leather restraint.

When he first became famous his act was based mainly around locks. But he knew this would not hold the audience's interest forever. He constantly strived to offer his audience a new and exciting escape.

21. (1) fumed
(2) bubbled
(3) sparkled
(4) festered
22. (1) fretful
(2) baffled
(3) enlightened
(4) complicated
23. (1) magic
(2) trickery
(3) disguises
(4) dishonesty
24. (1) curiosity
(2) attraction
(3) distraction
(4) concentration
25. (1) agile
(2) smooth
(3) sluggish
(4) awkward

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

In August 1921, polio paralysed Franklin Roosevelt. He put on a brave front. Having learnt from childhood to bear pain without fuss, he joked about a thirty-nine year old man getting a baby's disease and radiated optimism about his recovery. "The doctors say," he wrote to a friend in December, "that by this Spring I will be walking without limping."

5

But as Franklin's wife, Eleanor, said later, "I know that he had real fear when he was first taken ill." Polio was a trial by fire. It would be a big blow. A big question in everybody's mind was how this crippling blow would affect Franklin's future in politics.

For Sara Roosevelt, the answer was perfectly clear. Her son, she felt, had already served his country well. With her money to support him, he could retire to the family home in Hyde Park and enjoy his business interests and hobbies.

10

Sara's views were typical of the times. In the early 1900s, people with physical disabilities were unfortunately, treated like invalids, either hospitalised or kept at home. Many thought it was 'bad manners' for a disabled person to appear in public.

15

However, Eleanor knew how important Franklin's political ambitions were to him and she encouraged and helped him to stay involved in politics.

Within days after falling ill, Franklin was dictating letters that he could not even sign. He agreed to become a member of the executive committee of the Democratic Party even though at that time he was lying in bed and working for hours to try to wiggle a big toe.

20

With his political advisor, Louis Howe's help, Franklin kept the general public from finding out how seriously ill he was. Meanwhile, he worked zealously to try to regain the use of his legs. He spent much time exercising and struggling to learn to walk.

25

25

In 1924, Franklin could not avoid the National Convention. The agile man who had vaulted over a row of chairs to reach the speaker's platform in 1920 now inched painfully forward in crutches. "But nothing was the matter with his voice or his enthusiasm," wrote a reporter. His half-hour speech was greeted with cheers and applause.

30

Four years later, Franklin still hoped to be freed from his wheelchair and crutches. He initially avoided calls urging him to accept the nomination for governor. Finally, he realised he could no longer plead illness without letting his political party down. Although he never fully recovered, he returned to active politics and was eventually elected as the President of the United States in 1932.

35

For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

26. When Franklin first learnt about his polio illness, he _____.

- (1) felt afraid
- (2) felt hopeful
- (3) was optimistic
- (4) was determined to beat it

27. In paragraph 2, what did the author mean by the sentence 'Polio was a trial by fire.' (line 7)?

- (1) Polio would cause paralysis.
- (2) Polio could only be cured through trial and error.
- (3) Polio could only be cured using the heat from fire.
- (4) Polio would be difficult to deal with and would test Franklin's endurance.

28. It was important to prevent the public from finding out about Franklin's illness as _____.

- (1) too many people would have wanted to visit him
- (2) people at that time were intolerant of people who were ill
- (3) it was illegal for someone with a serious illness to be in politics
- (4) in those days no one who was seriously ill would want to be a politician

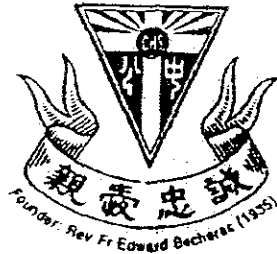
29. The word " _____ " in the passage has the same meaning as "fervently".

- (1) seriously
- (2) painfully
- (3) zealously
- (4) unfortunately

30. Franklin finally decided to return to active politics as _____.

- (1) he wanted to become a governor
- (2) people cheered whenever he gave a speech
- (3) he was asked to become the President of the United States
- (4) he could not use his illness as a reason to stay out of active politics





CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION ONE (2009)
PRIMARY SIX
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET B

Name: _____ ()

Class: Primary Six 6 _____

50 Questions
(65 Marks)

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

Components	Marks
Booklet A	30
Booklet B	65
TOTAL	95

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.

Write your answers in this booklet.

There are 10 blanks, numbered 31 to 40, 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) about	(D) at	(G) it's	(K) than	(N) up
(B) after	(E) but	(H) its	(L) then	(P) what
(C) and	(F) for	(J) out	(M) to	(Q) who

A few years ago, my mother went to a doctor to seek treatment for her neck. "Lately (31) _____ been a little swollen," she told him. He first examined her and (32) _____ told her that she needed to see a haematologist. It turned (33) _____ that there was something wrong with her lymph glands. She was scheduled for surgery on 7 September 2007.

As soon as I found out, I was furious. I screamed and yelled (34) _____ her as it was my birthday that day. I begged her (35) _____ reschedule her appointment. She said with regret, "I'm sorry, but I've done everything I can." Finally, I yelled, "I hate you!" and ran into my room.

I sat on my bed thinking, "(36) _____ did I do to deserve this?" I did not even think about how my mother, the one (37) _____ was actually going to be operated on, was feeling. Deep down, I knew I should not have screamed, (38) _____ I had done it anyway. My mother had her surgery on my birthday. (39) _____ a week later the doctor called to say that she was fine. Later, my father told me that she was suspected of having had cancer. When I thought of what I had said (40) _____ done, I felt sick. If she had been diagnosed with cancer, nothing in our lives would have been the same.

Correct each word in **bold** for spelling and each underlined word for grammar. Write the correct word in the relevant box. (10 marks)

It seems education is the only sure way to get to a stable

41.

life in Singapore. For youngsters who are not **akademikally** inclined, this

42.

43.

proving to be a disadvantage. Many youngsters are naturally **intrested**

44.

in various forms of the arts and **pozess** much talent.

45.

Unfortunately, many of these youngsters are label as being idle

46.

when **prakticing** and developing their talents. They are frowned upon

47.

when they devote time to their passions and were often deprived of

48.

proper platforms on which in display their talents. Even if competitions

are held and there is some hype about the winners for a while, the **glory**

49.

and fame did not last and they are eventually forgotten. This leads to a

lack of motivation for these budding artists. Though there are many

50.

dance talents in Singapore, due to a lack of **reckonition** they do not

shine.

Fill in the blanks with the most suitable answer. (15 marks)

Most animal attacks on people are ferociously swift. But the ordeal that truck driver John Shane faced was agonizingly slow. (51) _____ May 1992, Shane, 46, was delivering 250 beehives to a beekeeper in Florida. Shortly after midnight a collision with an (52) _____ car overturned his truck, leaving his bruised body covered in (53) _____ glass and trapped in twisted metal. There were 5 million bees aboard the mangled truck and (54) _____ soon started to swarm.

In the dark interior of his cab, the trapped truck (55) _____ started to feel hot, pin-like jabs on his neck and face, as the angry insects instinctively attacked the nearest living creature. Shane was used to working with bees. He knew that stinging bees released a scent which encouraged other bees to (56) _____. He knew that few people were strong enough to (57) _____ more than 200 successive stings. The police and fire crews quickly arrived, (58) _____ their flashing lights seemed to make the swarm of bees angrier. Two firemen tried to free Shane, but they too were persistently stung.

After a while, a local beekeeper arrived and was able to (59) _____ the rescuers useful advice. All the (60) _____ were turned off and the truck was (61) _____ with a constant jet of water, which seemed to (62) _____ down the frantic bees. But Shane knew that the bees would grow angrier as dawn broke.

In his desperation, he persuaded the cutting crew to hand over their equipment for him to attempt to cut himself free. It was (63) _____ a try. After a long struggle he managed to cut away the steering wheel which was pinning him (64) _____. He was immediately rushed to the hospital. He had been trapped and stung for a horrific 196 minutes. But apart from the multiple bee stings, his (65) _____ were confined to sprains, cuts and bruises. He was lucky to be alive!

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. It was very cruel of them. They ill-treated the stray cats.

_____ to

67. "This is the field where I played football yesterday," John told Tim.

John told Tim that _____

68. Jenny must exercise regularly. Only then will she be fit and healthy.

Unless _____

69. Ravi does not like eating vegetables. His sisters do not like eating vegetables

Neither Ravi _____

70. Ben worked throughout the night. His project was due next week.

_____ whose _____

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

I had my doubts about hiring Stevie. I had never hired a mentally disabled person before. I was not sure how my customers would react to him. He was short, a little dumpy with smooth facial features and had the thick-tongued speech of Down Syndrome.

I should not have worried unnecessarily. After the first week, Stevie had my staff wrapped around his stubby little finger. He was eager to laugh and eager to please, but fierce in his attention to his duties. Every salt and peppershaker was exactly in its place, not a bread crumb or coffee spill was visible when Stevie was done with the table. Our only problem was persuading him to wait to clean a table until after the customers were finished!

Over time, we learned that he lived with his mother, a widow who was disabled after repeated surgeries for cancer. Their social worker, who stopped to check on him ever so often, admitted that they had fallen between the cracks. What I paid him was probably the difference between them being able to live together and Stevie being sent to a foster home.

The restaurant was a gloomy place that first morning in three years that Stevie missed work. He was at the Mayo Clinic for a heart surgery. Frannie, the head waitress, told the drivers at the restaurant about Stevie's surgery, then sighed. "I'm glad he's recovering, but I don't know how they are going to handle all the bills." After listening to Frannie, they decided to do what they could to help.

Soon, Stevie was ready to get back to work. He had called 10 times in the past week, making sure we knew he was coming, fearful that we had forgotten him or that his job was in jeopardy. I arranged to have his mother bring him to work. "To celebrate your coming back, breakfast is on me!" I led him to a big table. Its surface was covered with coffee cups, saucers and dinner plates, all sitting slightly crooked on dozens of folded paper napkins.

First thing you have to do, Stevie, is to clean up this mess," I said. Immediately, Stevie pulled out one of the napkins. It had "Something for Stevie" printed on the outside. As he picked it up, two \$10 bills fell onto the table. Stevie stared at the money, then at all the napkins peeking from beneath the tableware, each with his name printed on it. I turned

to his mother. "There's more than \$10,000 in cash and cheques on that table. All from the truck drivers who had heard about your problems." Many eyes glistened that day.

But you know what's funny? While everybody else was busy shaking hands and hugging each other, Stevie, with a big smile on his face, was busy clearing all the cups and dishes from the tables.

35

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. What was Stevie's illness?

72. Why did the author hesitate to hire Stevie?

73. What does the phrase "had my staff wrapped around his stubby little finger" in lines 5-6 tell you about the relationship that Stevie had with the staff ?

74. Which four-word phrase tells you that Stevie and his mother were struggling to make ends meet?

75. Why was Stevie unable to report to work?

76. Why was it important that Stevie had a job?

77. Give two examples from the passage that show that Stevie was a careful worker.

78. Which word in the passage has the same meaning as "dull"?

79. Whom does the word 'they' in line 20 refer to?

80. From the passage, what can you conclude about Stevie's character?

ANSWER SHEET

EXAM PAPER 2009

SCHOOL : CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH

TERM : SA2

1. 2 6. 1 11. 1 16. 1 21. 2 26. 3

2. 3 7. 2 12. 3 17. 1 22. 2 27. 4

3. 2 8. 3 13. 3 18. 2 23. 2 28. 2

4. 4 9. 4 14. 2 19. 2 24. 2 29. 3

5. 1 10. 3 15. 1 20. 3 25. 1 30. 4

31.G 32.L 33.J 34.D 35.M 36.P

37.Q

38.E 39.A 40.C

41. academically 42. proves

43. interested 44. Possess

45. labeled 46. practicing

47. are 48. to

49. do

50. recognition 51.In

52.oncoming

53.shattered

54.they

55.driver

56.sting

57.survive

58.but

59.give

60.lights

61. sprayed

62.calm

63.worth

64.down

65.injuries

66.It was very cruel of them to ill-treat the stray cats.

67.John told Tim that that field was where he had played football the day before.

68.Unless Jenny exercises regularly, she will not be fit and healthy.

69.Neither Ravi nor his sisters like eating vegetables.

70.Ben whose project was due next week, worked throughout the night.

71.He was diagnosed with Down Syndrome.

72.It was his first time hiring a mentally disabled person.

73.It tells that Stevie and the staff got along well.

74.The phrase is "fallen between the cracks".

75.He was having a heart surgery at the Maya Clinic, hence ;not able to report to work.

76.It is important that Stevie had a job because the salary from the job would pay for his mother's bill.

77.The salt and peppershaker were exactly in position and the tables were so clean that not a bread crumb or coffee spill was visible after Stevie was done with the tables.

78.The word is "gloomy"

79.It refers to the truck drivers.

80.I can conclude that he is very careful and hardworking.

--end --