

**TAO NAN SCHOOL**

**PRIMARY 3 ENGLISH LANGUAGE MID-YEAR EXAMINATION – 2009**

**PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)**

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

Date: 12 May 2009

Class: Primary 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Time: 8.00 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.

**Total Time: 1 hour 45 minutes**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

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

**Follow all instructions carefully.**

**Answer all questions.**

	<b>SCORE</b>	<b>MARKS</b>
<b>Section A - D</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>Section E - I</b>		<b>40</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>70</b>

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

Section A (5 x 1m)

Graphic Stimulus

Study the following advertisement and answer questions 1 to 5.

# Write & Win 2009

A CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

presented by  
Green Pen Club

**1<sup>st</sup> PRIZE**

\$500 voucher

School will receive  
\$300 cash

**2<sup>nd</sup> PRIZE**

\$400 voucher

School will receive  
\$200 cash

**3<sup>rd</sup> PRIZE**

\$200 voucher

School will receive  
\$100 cash

Win prizes for yourself and  
your school!

Category	Age	Minimum length of Composition
A	7-9 years	120 words
B	10-12 years	180 words
C	13-15 years	350 words
D	16-18 years	600 words

## JUDGES

- Mrs Jane Thompson**  
Writer and media consultant, columnist for The Straits Paper
- Mr Wickly Li**  
Three-time winner of National Playwriting Competition
- Mr Francis Wee**  
Associate Professor of English Literature, NTE

- Each composition must be accompanied by an entry form found on the back cover of *Young Writers Magazine*. Write your particulars on the entry form.
- All entries must reach *Green Pen Club* before 15 June 2009.
- For further enquiries regarding your applications or the competition, please contact Mrs Suhaila Wijaya at 62249532.

Organised by Green Pen Club (5, Smith Street, Singapore 529 899)  
Cash prizes donated by Great Western Bank  
Pens contributed by Kino Book Store



Free pens for every  
entry submitted!

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 OAS.

1. The organiser of this writing competition is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1) Kino Book Store  
(2) Green Pen Club  
(3) Great Western Bank  
(4) Young Writers Magazine
  
2. Jane, who is eleven years old, wants to take part in the competition. Her composition must be at least \_\_\_\_\_ - word long.  
(1) 120  
(2) 180  
(3) 350  
(4) 600
  
3. A pupil who wins \$200 cash for his school will receive a voucher of \_\_\_\_\_ for himself.  
(1) \$100  
(2) \$300  
(3) \$400  
(4) \$500
  
4. You should contact \_\_\_\_\_ if you want to find out more about the writing competition.  
(1) Mr Wickly Li  
(2) Mr Francis Wee  
(3) Mrs Suhaila Wijaya  
(4) Mrs Jane Thompson
  
5. Your composition must be sent in \_\_\_\_\_ for it to be accepted.  
(1) through Green Pen Club  
(2) with the The Straits Paper  
(3) through the Kino Book Store  
(4) with the completed entry form

**Section B (10 X 1m)**

**Grammar**

**For each question from 6 to 15, 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 OAS.**

6. This vase of flowers \_\_\_\_\_ given by our neighbour yesterday.

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

7. Rani's bag, as well as her books, \_\_\_\_\_ wet after she was caught in the rain.

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

8. The construction work will still go on \_\_\_\_\_ the threatening weather.

- (1) while
- (2) unless
- (3) except
- (4) despite

9. "I know \_\_\_\_\_ wallet this belongs to. It's Mary's!" exclaimed Joseph.

- (1) who
- (2) which
- (3) whom
- (4) whose

10. Mariam cannot go to the camp. She is down \_\_\_\_\_ fever.

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

11. Kathy went out to \_\_\_\_\_ in the garden a while ago.
- (1) play
  - (2) plays
  - (3) played
  - (4) playing
12. "Who is going to take \_\_\_\_\_ the business when Grandfather retires?" asked Tom.
- (1) in
  - (2) of
  - (3) over
  - (4) after
13. Mother needs to buy a packet of salt as there is very \_\_\_\_\_ left in the jar.
- (1) few
  - (2) little
  - (3) many
  - (4) much
14. Neither the competitors nor the coach \_\_\_\_\_ yet.
- (1) arrive
  - (2) arrives
  - (3) has arrived
  - (4) have arrived
15. The lifeguard swam \_\_\_\_\_ the current to save the drowning boy.
- (1) in
  - (2) over
  - (3) along
  - (4) against

Section C (10 x 1m)

Vocabulary

For each question from 16 to 25, 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 OAS.

16. In the bus accident, most of the passengers died. Only five \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) existed
- (2) survived
- (3) endured
- (4) persisted

17. The \_\_\_\_\_ of burglars escaped with the bag of jewellery.

- (1) crew
- (2) gang
- (3) board
- (4) troupe

18. Jennifer jumped with \_\_\_\_\_ when she found out that she had won the first prize in the art competition.

- (1) joy
- (2) warmth
- (3) gratitude
- (4) amusement

19. Mother \_\_\_\_\_ goes to the market in Bishan as it is too far from our home.

- (1) usually
- (2) always
- (3) seldom
- (4) frequently

20. Sumei and her friends laughed uncontrollably as they watched the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) thriller
- (2) horror
- (3) comedy
- (4) documentary

21. Mr Ravi's business is \_\_\_\_\_ by the decreasing number of customers.
- (1) upset
  - (2) affected
  - (3) damaged
  - (4) influenced
22. "That old building is going to \_\_\_\_\_ anytime. Nobody should be allowed to enter," said the architect.
- (1) erupt
  - (2) flatten
  - (3) crumple
  - (4) collapse
23. Susan had her ears \_\_\_\_\_ so that she could wear earrings.
- (1) poked
  - (2) pricked
  - (3) pierced
  - (4) punctured
24. Sally has decided to \_\_\_\_\_ her new product in the magazine.
- (1) inform
  - (2) advertise
  - (3) announce
  - (4) broadcast
25. The toddler likes to \_\_\_\_\_ a tantrum if he does not get what he wants.
- (1) swing
  - (2) throw
  - (3) present
  - (4) explode

**Section D (5 x 1m)**

**Comprehension MCQ**

**Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30. Your answer must be based on the passage. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the OAS.**

Thomas was excited. It was Saturday. His parents had promised to take him out shopping for the upcoming Chinese New Year. He could not wait to buy new clothes. The last time he went to Orchard Road was during Christmas when he bought a new set of stationery and some comic books from a bookshop. They even had some ice-cream after shopping.

5

It was the weekend and there were many people shopping in preparation for the New Year. Thomas's parents told him to stay close to them. As they were walking in New Point Mall, Thomas could not help but stare at all the beautiful toys on display in front of the toy shop.

"Mum, can we please go to the toy shop?" Thomas begged.

10

He tugged at his mother's skirt, trying to get her attention but she ignored him. Thinking that they would be close by, he dashed towards the toy shop to have a quick look.

After admiring the toys, he decided to persuade his parents to buy a toy train for him. To his dismay, his parents were nowhere in sight. Beads of perspiration trickled down his forehead as he continued to search for his parents. Realising that he had indeed lost his parents, Thomas burst into tears.

15

Some shoppers stopped and tried to calm him down. As they were coaxing him, a security guard, who was doing his rounds stopped by.

"Excuse me, is there something wrong?" the security guard asked.

20

Realising that Thomas was lost the security guard immediately took him to the information counter. The receptionist at the counter made an announcement to the shoppers over the public address system.

Ten minutes later, Thomas saw his parents rushing towards him. His face lit up as he ran towards them. He promised his parents never to wander off again.

25

26. Thomas and his family went to Orchard Road to shop for new \_\_\_\_\_ for Chinese New Year.

- (1) toys
- (2) clothes
- (3) stationery
- (4) comic books

27. Thomas's parents advised Thomas not to wander off because they \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) wanted to buy him some new toys
- (2) wanted to buy him some ice-cream
- (3) did not want to lose him in the crowd
- (4) did not want him to disturb the shoppers

28. Thomas tugged at his mother's skirt because \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) his mother ignored him
- (2) he wanted his mother to buy him a toy train
- (3) his mother was afraid that he would wander off
- (4) he wanted his mother to take him to the toy shop

29. Thomas burst into tears because \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) his mother left without him
- (2) he could not find his parents
- (3) he had to search for his parents
- (4) his parents refused to buy him the toy train

30. Thomas's parents got the information about their missing son from \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Thomas
- (2) the receptionist
- (3) the security guard
- (4) one of the shoppers

Section E (5 x 1m)

Grammar Cloze

Read the passage carefully. Choose the correct word from the words in the box. Write its letter (A to K) in each blank. The letter 'I' has been omitted in order to avoid confusion during marking.

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE

<del>(A)</del> was	<del>(B)</del> beside	<del>(C)</del> to	<del>(D)</del> in	<del>(E)</del> for
<del>(F)</del> at	<del>(G)</del> next	<del>(H)</del> were	<del>(J)</del> when	<del>(K)</del> since

Meili had been looking forward to visiting her grandmother in Taiwan. Having been away for ten years, Meili had decided to return (31) \_\_\_\_\_ a visit. The village where Meili and her sister grew up (32) \_\_\_\_\_ situated at the end of a narrow alley.

The village had changed so much since Meili's last visit. The old wooden houses looked outdated (33) \_\_\_\_\_ the modern buildings. Even the beautiful park was gone. (34) \_\_\_\_\_ its place was a huge supermarket. This was nothing compared to the surprise that Meili had (35) \_\_\_\_\_ she found out that the garden where she used to play had been replaced by a bus interchange.

As she watched the children play, Meili realised that her childhood home had just become a beautiful memory. She sighed and then continued making her way to her grandmother's place.

Section F (8 x 1m)

Comprehension Cloze

Read the passage carefully. Choose the correct word from the words below in the box. Write its letter (A to K) in each blank. The letter 'I' has been omitted in order to avoid confusion during marking.

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE

<del>(A)</del> cold	<del>(B)</del> harden	<del>(C)</del> melt	<del>(D)</del> head	<del>(E)</del> emerges
<del>(F)</del> warmth	<del>(G)</del> nurse	<del>(H)</del> cubs	<del>(J)</del> smooth	<del>(K)</del> rough

Polar bears are the largest of all bears. They live on shores and on sea ice in the icy (36) \_\_\_\_\_ Arctic. When sea ice forms over the ocean in cold weather, many polar bears, except for the pregnant females, (37) \_\_\_\_\_ out onto the ice to hunt for seals. When the warm weather causes the sea ice to (38) \_\_\_\_\_, polar bears move back towards shore.

In autumn, pregnant polar bears make dens in earth and snowbanks where they will stay through the winter and give birth to one or more (39) \_\_\_\_\_. In spring, the mother (40) \_\_\_\_\_ from the den, followed by her cubs. Generally, she will (41) \_\_\_\_\_ them for two and a half years.

Polar bears have fur and skin that allow them to absorb sunlight for (42) \_\_\_\_\_. Paw pads with (43) \_\_\_\_\_ surfaces help prevent polar bears from slipping on the ice. Their blubber, or fat, insulates them in cold water. Polar bears have been known to swim one hundred kilometres at a stretch.

Adapted from <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/Animals/CreatureFeature/Polar-bear>

**Section G (4 x 2m)**

**Synthesis**

For each of the questions 44 to 47, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of the sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s).

44. Sumei had a fever. Sumei did not go to school.

\_\_\_\_\_ because  
\_\_\_\_\_

45. Siti bought a bottle of pepper. Siti bought a packet of potatoes.

\_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_

46. I have to make some sandwiches. My sister has to make some sandwiches too.

Both \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

47. Mr Lee said to Mary, "I will buy a new basketball tomorrow."

Mr Lee told Mary that \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Section H (7 X 1m)

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPG)

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical mistake. A wrong or missing punctuation mark is indicated by a circle. Put the correct punctuation mark or word in the box.

(48)

There was a commotion in the living room. Jenny want to find out what had happened. She went up quietly to her mother.

(49)

"What is going on ." Jenny asked her mother.

(50)

"Your brother, John, had been catch shoplifting!" Jenny's father cried. Jenny looked at her parents. They were furious and disappointed. Her father was pacing up

(51)

and down, trying to calm himself down . Then, she looked at her brother who was looking sorrowful.

(52)

(53)

One of the policemen contineued questioning him. John regre~~t~~fully admitid

(54)

that he had taken the pens as he was chalenged by his friends. Thirty minutes later, the two policemen handcuffed John. Jenny watched painfully as her brother was led into the police car.

**Section I (6 x 2m)**

**Comprehension Open**

**Read the passage below and answer questions 55 to 60.**

**Your answer must be based on the passage.**

Mei Chin's mother passed away when she was ten years old. Her father had to work very hard to support Mei Chin and her five younger brothers. He worked as a fishmonger in the morning. In order to make ends meet, he also worked as a security guard in the afternoon.

Two years after her mother's death, Mei Chin's father met with an accident. He was rushed to the hospital. Dr Lee, her father's surgeon, advised him to go for an operation as soon as possible. Mei Chin's jaw dropped when she learnt that the operation would cost twenty thousand dollars.

Mei Chin was at a loss. She felt helpless. Then she decided to seek help from her relatives but none of them could help her family. As she was pacing up and down outside the hospital, she noticed a huge bungalow across the street. There seemed to be nobody in sight. **Suddenly, an idea struck her.**

Quietly, Mei Chin walked towards the house. She noticed a small hole on the fence. She quickly crawled through it. A huge, well-kept lawn lay sprawled in front of her. As she silently crept towards the open window, she accidentally stepped on a twig.

"Please come and join me for a cup of coffee," said an old man sitting on the porch. She almost jumped out of her skin and felt overwhelmed with shame. Slowly, Mei Chin went up and sat next to him.

"Tell me my dear, why are you here?" asked the man.

Tears started trickling down Mei Chin's cheeks. After telling her story, the old man felt sorry for Mei Chin and he gave her some money which Mei Chin accepted readily. In return, she offered to work as his gardener. She was very grateful to the old man.

**ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.**

55. How old was Mei Chin when her father met with an accident?

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56. What did Mei Chin's father <sup>work</sup>~~work~~ as?

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57. Which four-word phrase shows that Mei Chin's father was working very hard to support the family as he was not making enough money?

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58. **"Suddenly, an idea struck her."** (Line 12) What was the idea that Mei Chin had?

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59. How did the old man know that someone had entered his house?

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60. How did Mei Chin show her appreciation to the old man?

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End of Paper



# ANSWER SHEET

**EXAM PAPER 2009**

**SCHOOL : TAO NAN PRIMARY  
SUBJECT : PRIMARY 3 ENGLISH**

**TERM : SA1**

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17
2	2	3	3	4	3	3	4	4	4	1	3	2	3	4	2	2

Q18	Q19	Q20	Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34
1	3	3	2	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	2	2	E	A	B	D

Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40	Q41	Q42	Q43
J	A	D	C	H	E	G	F	K

44) Sumei did not go to school because she had a fever.

45) Siti bought a bottle of pepper and a packet of potatoes.

46) Both my sister and I have to make some sandwiches.

47) Me Lee told Mary that he would buy a new basketball the next day.

48) wanted    49)?    50) caught    51),    52) continued    53) admitted

54) challenged

55) Mei Chin was twelve years old.

56) Mei Chin father worked as a fishmonger in the morning and a security guard in the afternoon.

57) The phrase is 'to make ends meet.'

58) She had intended to steal money from the bungalow.

59) Mei Chin accidentally stepped on a twig.

60) Mei Chin offered to work as the old man's gardener.