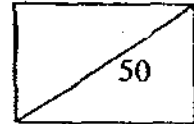




**HENRY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL  
2009 SEMESTRAL EXAMINATION ONE  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRIMARY FOUR**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: P4 \_\_\_\_\_

Duration of Paper: 1h 15 min

**SECTION A: VOCABULARY (5 x 1 mark)**

Choose the correct answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ woman can neither read nor write.

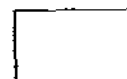
- (1) illegal
- (2) illegible
- (3) illegitimate
- (4) illiterate

( )

2. Our school's table-tennis team \_\_\_\_\_ the other team four goals to one.

- (1) beat
- (2) conquered
- (3) destroyed
- (4) overthrew

( )



3. Although Steven Gerrad was injured, he was \_\_\_\_\_ to finish the match.

- (1) convinced
- (2) determined
- (3) reluctant
- (4) willing

( )

4. Luckily, the knight \_\_\_\_\_ in time when King Arthur threw the spear at him.

- (1) aped
- (2) crowed
- (3) ducked
- (4) parroted

( )

5. Dave broke his leg and it had to be put in a \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) bandage
- (2) dressing
- (3) plaster cast
- (4) sling

( )

**SECTION B: Grammar (6 x 1 mark)**

Choose the correct answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

6. Joel was late for school yesterday, \_\_\_\_\_?

- (1) is he
- (2) isn't he
- (3) was he
- (4) wasn't he

( )



7. All the boys in Henry Park Primary School \_\_\_\_\_ required to keep their hair short and neat everyday.

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

( )

8. Mrs Oh is late for work, \_\_\_\_\_ she is taking her breakfast slowly.

- (1) so
- (2) despite
- (3) however
- (4) yet

( )

9. Danny has only \_\_\_\_\_ coins in his wallet so he cannot buy that expensive toy.

- (1) a few
- (2) a little
- (3) many
- (4) much

( )

10. \_\_\_\_\_ girls over there won the art competition.

- (1) That
- (2) These
- (3) This
- (4) Those

( )

11. "Has anyone here ever \_\_\_\_\_ in a helicopter before?" Mr Zulkifri asked.

- (1) flew
- (2) flies
- (3) flown
- (4) fly

( )



**SECTION C: Comprehension Multiple-Choice Questions (4 x 2 mark)**

Read the following passage and select the best answer for each question. Choose the correct answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

Many years ago, a fisherman was out at sea when he saw something unusual in the distance. Thinking it was a capsized boat, he rowed towards it to have a closer look. To his amazement, he saw it move and this frightened him. It was a full-grown whale. He rushed back to land and informed his friends about the whale.

Immediately, all of them went to the spot where he had seen the creature. There, they saw the fifteen-metre mammal floating opposite a swamp by the shore. The day after, the whale was found stranded on the shore of the west coast of Malaysia. It was trapped in the swamp and it soon died.

When people heard about the dead whale, hundreds of them visited Morib, the village in which the whale was discovered. However, the body of the dead mammal began to decay, giving out a terrible odour. The smell soon worsened and the carcass had to be burnt.

Firewood was placed around the whale and kerosene was poured over it. Shortly after, the wood started to burn. However, rain began to pour down. After that, the tide came in making it impossible to burn the whole whale. The villagers had only succeeded in burning the whale's head.

12 The fisherman spotted something unusual when he was fishing \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) on land
- (2) by the shore
- (3) in the swamp
- (4) out in the sea

( )

13. The fisherman realised that the unusual thing he spotted was actually \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) an adult whale
- (2) a capsized boat
- (3) a dead mammal
- (4) a piece of firewood

( )

14 The tragedy occurred because the whale \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) lost its way home
- (2) was trapped in a swamp
- (3) was floating opposite a swamp
- (4) was left stranded on the shore unattended

( )

15. Which of the following statements is TRUE?

- (1) The rain washed the whale ashore.
- (2) The whale was burned alive because it was dying.
- (3) The carcass had to be burnt because it gave off a foul smell.
- (4) Hundreds of people visited the village because of the disgusting smell.

( )

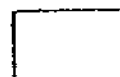


**SECTION D: Vocabulary Cloze (5 x 1 mark)**

**Read the passage carefully and fill in each blank with an appropriate word.**

At last, Mrs Bobbin, the dressmaker, had finished making the duchess' gown for that evening's ball. As she was not (16) \_\_\_\_\_ very well, Mrs Bobbin could not deliver the dress personally. Her (17) \_\_\_\_\_, Irene, volunteered to make the delivery for her.

Despite her mother's objections about the snowy conditions outside, Irene packed the gown carefully and (18) \_\_\_\_\_ warmly for the journey. Along the way, Irene encountered very cold (19) \_\_\_\_\_ and fierce winds which ripped open the box. Out (20) \_\_\_\_\_ the gown; Irene could only watch it disappear into the distance as it was being tossed into the air. She knew she must continue the journey and explain what had happened to the duchess.



**SECTION E: Grammar Cloze (8 x 1 mark)**

**(A) Read the passage carefully. Choose the correct word from the words given in the box and write its letter (A to F) in each blank. USE A WORD ONCE ONLY.**

(A) <del>it</del>	(B) <del>its</del>	(C) <del>itself</del>
(D) <del>me</del>	(E) <del>you</del>	(F) <del>your</del>

One day, a monkey found a baby snake. The snake was dying of starvation. The monkey took pity on the snake and took it home. The monkey looked after it and treated it as (21) \_\_\_\_\_ own child.

One year later, the snake coiled (22) \_\_\_\_\_ around the monkey's neck and said, "I'm so tired of eating fruit. I want to eat (23) \_\_\_\_\_ up!"

"This can't be true. I'm your mother. You ought to be grateful to (24) \_\_\_\_\_!" yelled the monkey. However, it was too late.

**(B) Read the passage carefully and fill in each blank with an appropriate word.**

Taksi is an avid reader. She (25) \_\_\_\_\_ to the community library every Saturday morning. Just last Saturday, she (26) \_\_\_\_\_ to the library to borrow a total of four books.

She also enjoys (27) \_\_\_\_\_ there to read with her friend, Takashi. Sometimes, they arrange to meet and (28) \_\_\_\_\_ there together. They will usually spend the whole morning there before going for lunch together.



**SECTION F : Editing(4 x 1 marks)**

Each of the underlined words contained either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in the boxes provided.

The high jump has been part of the Olympic Games since they were first

(29)

held in Greece. The technique has changed several times. At first the athletes

(30)

approached the jump straigh on. Then they cleared the bar belly-down. Today,

(31)

they clear the bar on its backs. The American Dick Fosbury invented this amazing

(32)

technique. He jumped 25cm higher in this position and win the gold medal at the

Olympics in 1968. Since then, all athletes have been using this technique.

**SECTION G : SYNTHESIS (2 x 2 marks)**

Join these sentences with the given connector.

33. The burglar escaped with lots of valuables. The security was very tight.

Although \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

34. Aminah likes chicken satay. Aminah likes mutton satay more.

\_\_\_\_\_ prefers  
\_\_\_\_\_



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**SECTION H: Comprehension Open-Ended Questions (5 x 2 marks)**

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Write your answers in complete sentences.

He surfed for another hour. Then he thought he saw something that looked like a black triangle. It was about four hundred metres away. He watched it for sometime. He was certain that it was not a dolphin. Then he began swimming towards the shore as quickly as he could.

5

The shore seemed an eternity away. One wave would have been enough to take him to safety but none appeared. To his horror, he saw a shark about two metres away. It was moving very fast towards him. Without any hesitation, he rolled off his surfboard and thrust it between him and the shark. Suddenly, the water around him exploded. Then he was lifted by a tremendous blow and plunged back into the water again. Very quickly, he began swimming towards the shore, expecting to be dragged under at any moment.

10

However, nothing happened. The surfer looked back for a moment. The shark was frenziedly attacking the surfboard twenty metres away, tearing away huge bites of foam. He could not really see the shark through the dark waters.

15

Taking his chances, he decided to swim as fast as he could away from it. The shark might turn to him when it finished with the surfboard. It seemed like hours before he finally climbed up gasping through the breaking waves onto shore. Hands still trembling, he sat at the water's edge till the wind dried the water on his face. Then, he rose and walked back to the car.

20

*Adapted from "A Moment in Time" by Charles de Salis in A Swag of Stories*

35. What was the man doing at sea?

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---

36. What was the piece of equipment that saved the man from the shark?

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37. What does the word 'none' (line 6) refer to?

---

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38. Which word in paragraph three best showed that the shark was behaving in an uncontrolled and excited manner?

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39. Which sentence in the passage shows that the man was still quite shaken even though he was safe on the shore?

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End of Paper  
Remember to check your work!



Setter: Mrs Eileen Ng  
Vetter: Ms Cassandra Sim



# **ANSWER SHEET**

**EXAM PAPER 2009**

**SCHOOL : HENRY PARK PRIMARY**

**SUBJECT : PRIMARY 4 ENGLISH**

**TERM : SA1**

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

16)feeling      17)daughter      18)dressed      19)conditions      20)flew

21)B      22)C      23)E      24)D      25)goes      26)went      27)going

28)read      29)several      30)straight      31)their      32)won

33)Although the security was very tight, the burglar escaped with lots of valuables.

34)Aminah prefers mutton satay to chicken satay.

35)The man was surfing at sea.

36)The man's surfboard saved him from the shark.

37)The word 'none' refers to the waves.

38)The word is 'frenziedly.'

39)The sentence is 'Hands still trembling, he sat at the water's edge till the wind dried the water on his face'.