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NAN HUA PRIMARY SCHOOL
2021 MID-YEAR EXAMINATION
PRIMARY 6

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Name: _____ ()

Class: Pr. 6 _____

Date: 10 May 2021

Booklet A	/ 28
Booklet B	/ 67
TOTAL	/ 95

Parent's Signature & Date

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. For Booklet A, shade your answers on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.

Section A – Grammar

For each question from 1 to 10, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet. (10 marks)

1. "Karim has been busy recently, _____?" his sister asked.
 - (1) isn't he
 - (2) didn't he
 - (3) hasn't he
 - (4) hadn't he

2. We watched a video showing the pupa transforming _____ a butterfly.
 - (1) in
 - (2) to
 - (3) on
 - (4) into

3. The police _____ quick to respond to the scene of the accident when they received the call.
 - (1) is
 - (2) are
 - (3) was
 - (4) were

4. All, except for Jules, _____ completed the class presentation.
 - (1) do
 - (2) has
 - (3) does
 - (4) have

5. Karen exclaimed proudly, "My brother and I built that machine _____."
 - (1) myself
 - (2) herself
 - (3) ourselves
 - (4) themselves

6. _____ waking up late, Haikel made it to school punctually.

- (1) Despite
- (2) Although
- (3) However
- (4) As a result of

7. I _____ the picture up on the wall last night.

- (1) hang
- (2) hung
- (3) hanged
- (4) will hang

8. Since early this morning, it _____ continuously till now.

- (1) rained
- (2) had rained
- (3) was raining
- (4) has been raining

9. Darlene _____ stop bullying her peers online or she will be suspended.

- (1) will
- (2) may
- (3) must
- (4) could

10. The tourists felt pity for the children who were sharing so _____ rice with one another.

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

Section B – Vocabulary

For each question from 11 to 15, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

11. Having been inactive for months during the lockdown, Gary, who was panting, felt _____ five minutes into the basketball game.
- (1) strained
 - (2) satisfied
 - (3) spectacular
 - (4) spontaneous
12. Even though she was sick, Stephie told her cousins to _____ with the meeting.
- (1) carry on
 - (2) carry off
 - (3) carry out
 - (4) carry through
13. Jared shudders every time he sees the _____ house that has been abandoned for decades.
- (1) mangled
 - (2) dilapidated
 - (3) remarkable
 - (4) picturesque
14. Fernie was full of _____ after tearing up Tom's artwork in jealousy and apologised profusely to him.
- (1) grief
 - (2) remorse
 - (3) sympathy
 - (4) compassion
15. The foolish people _____ after gambling away thousands of dollars.
- (1) bent backwards
 - (2) let their hair down
 - (3) burnt their fingers
 - (4) gave the cold shoulder

Section C – Vocabulary Cloze

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)

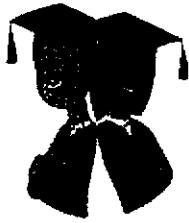
As soon as I stepped out of the lift, I could hear my Labrador, Tootsie, bark incessantly. Immediately, all distressing thoughts left my mind as a smile
(16) (17)
found its way across my face. The moment I unlocked the door, I braced for impact
(18)
as Tootsie jumped at me. I had only a minute to put my things down before she shoved me fiercely to the door – leash in her mouth.
We headed to the dog park together, Tootsie wagging her tail in anticipation
(19)
of meeting her canine friends. Once unleashed, she charged towards them. Amusingly, the dogs played their version of 'Catch' and 'Hide and Seek'. I bantered
(20)
with my fellow dog enthusiasts, laughing and keeping our eyes on our furry children. As the sky turned a dark shade of blue, I lured Tootsie with her favourite treat.
With one last goodbye bark, Tootsie and I returned home.

Original

16. (1) instantly
(2) furiously
(3) excitedly
(4) relentlessly
17. (1) regretful
(2) worrying
(3) gratifying
(4) optimistic
18. (1) bent over
(2) leaned back
(3) got prepared
(4) crouched down
19. (1) zest
(2) anxiety
(3) satisfaction
(4) hopefulness
20. (1) joked
(2) argued
(3) gossiped
(4) discussed

Section D – Visual Text Comprehension

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



The Annual National Spelling Whiz is back!

The National Spelling Whiz 2021 is open to all Primary 4, 5 and 6 pupils in Singapore. It aims to help them appreciate the importance of spelling in learning the English language.

In the competition, pupils will have to spell a multitude of words both familiar and unfamiliar to them.

COMPETITION EVENTS

1. Preliminary Round (3 June, 10a.m. at Expo City)

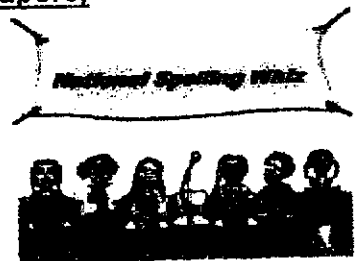
Participants are required to take a 40-minute written test. A list of 50 words will be read out to them and they have to spell them out on paper. The top 80 participants will move on to the semi-final round.

2. Semi-Final (10 June, 2 p.m. at Expo City)

The semi-final round will take place on stage. A Pronouncer will read words and participants will take turns to spell them aloud. Each participant is given a time limit of 1 minute to spell the word correctly. Participants who are unable to do so will be immediately eliminated. The elimination process will continue until the top 10 participants emerge. They will compete in the Grand Final.

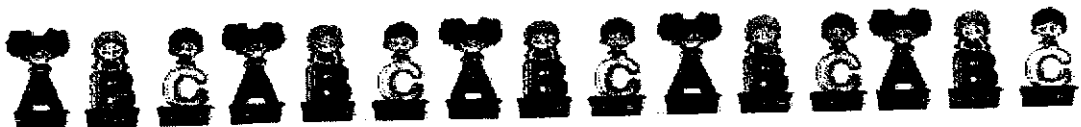
3. Grand Final (22 June, 10 a.m. at University of Singapore)

The format of the Grand Final will be similar to the semi-final round. Each participant will spell aloud the word given. When he/she is unable to do so, he/she will be eliminated. This will go on until one speller emerges as the Champion.



Organiser: Singapore News 

Sponsors: Big Bookstore
Expo City
University of Singapore



Great Prizes to be won!

First Prize: \$3000 cash prize, Big Bookstore vouchers worth \$800 and a trophy for your school

Second Prize: \$2000 cash prize and Big Bookstore vouchers worth \$200

Third Prize: \$1000 cash prize and Big Bookstore vouchers worth \$100

*All prize winners will also receive certificates of achievement.

*All remaining finalists will receive certificates of participation.



What teachers and pupils have said about the National Spelling Whiz:

"This competition is a great way to ignite the passion for and interest in spelling. I use spelling games and materials provided by the organiser to help my pupils prepare for the competition. My pupils enjoyed and loved it!"

Mrs Tan, Teacher from Greenview Primary School

"I used to hate spelling and found it boring. After taking part in the competition, I realised that spelling is very interesting. During my preparation for the competition, I studied etymology, which is the origin and history of words, to help me spell better and it is now my newfound love. The ability to spell the words correctly takes hours of practice and coaching from my English teacher."

John Lim, 2019 Champion

"I prepared for the competition by looking through word lists. I am an avid reader and learn new words from books such as the Harry Potter and Percy Jackson series. I've made many new friends through this competition. In the past, I was very shy and had stage fright. Now, I am comfortable on stage."

Siti Nuratika, 2020 Champion

ELIGIBILITY

All participants must be nominated and registered by primary schools in Singapore only. The competition is open to Primary 4 to 6 pupils only.

REGISTRATION

Each school can send in a maximum of 10 pupils. Registration, based on a first-come-first-served basis, is capped at 800 pupils. Schools must register online at www.singaporenews.com.sg

Closing date for registration: May 3, 2021

Please call Mr Jonathan Lim at 6224 5678 for any enquiries.

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

21. Why is an exclamation mark used in the heading, "The Annual National Spelling Whiz is back!"?
- (1) to convey surprise that the competition is held
 - (2) to draw attention to the name of the competition
 - (3) to highlight that the competition is held every year
 - (4) to show excitement about the return of the competition
22. Which of the following about the "Competition Events" is true?
- (1) Only the top ten participants will compete in the Grand Final.
 - (2) All participants have to go through three rounds of competition.
 - (3) There will be a total of 80 participants in the Preliminary Round.
 - (4) Both the Semi-Final and Grand Final are held at the same location.
23. What must a participant do in the last round of the competition?
- (1) complete a written test
 - (2) read and spell a list of 50 words
 - (3) correctly spell aloud the words given
 - (4) take turns to listen and write the words on paper
24. If Riya emerges second in the Grand Final, she will receive _____.
- (1) Big Bookstore vouchers and a certificate of participation
 - (2) Big Bookstore vouchers and a certificate of achievement
 - (3) a cash prize, Big Bookstore vouchers and a certificate of participation
 - (4) a cash prize, Big Bookstore vouchers and a certificate of achievement
25. In the flyer, John was quoted as saying etymology was his newfound love. According to John, he developed this interest because _____.
- (1) it helped him to learn new words
 - (2) it was encouraged by the organiser
 - (3) it was taught by his English teacher
 - (4) it enabled him to improve his spelling

26. According to the flyer, which of the following is true of Nuratika?
- (1) She played spelling games with her teacher.
 - (2) She used to hate spelling and found it boring.
 - (3) The competition allowed her to bond with her friends.
 - (4) The competition helped her to be more confident on stage.
27. Which one of the following students can be registered for the National Spelling Whiz?
- (1) Kenn, Primary 4, by ABC Tuition Centre
 - (2) Nash, Primary 6, by ABC Primary School in Australia
 - (3) Linae, Primary 5, by ABC Primary School in Singapore
 - (4) Savin, Primary 3, by ABC Primary School in Singapore
28. What is the main purpose of the flyer?
- (1) to promote the National Spelling Whiz
 - (2) to identify the top spellers in Singapore
 - (3) to emphasise the importance of spelling
 - (4) to create interest in the English language



**NAN HUA PRIMARY SCHOOL
2021 MID-YEAR EXAMINATION
PRIMARY 6**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

BOOKLET B

Name: _____ ()

Class: Pr. 6 _____

Date: 10 May 2021

Booklet B

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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 carefully.
4. Write all your answers in this booklet.

Section E – Grammar Cloze

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 to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE

- | | | | | |
|-------------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|
| (A) a | (D) by | (G) from | (K) some | (N) than |
| (B) all | (E) can | (H) into | (L) shall | (P) was |
| (C) because | (F) for | (J) our | (M) the | (Q) were |

Salt is a mineral, naturally found in the seas and in underground deposits. It _____ also be easily manufactured in factories. Salt is not just _____ (29) food seasoning; it is actually required _____ life. Sodium _____ (30) ions in salt help _____ bodies to maintain fluid in blood cells and our small _____ (31) intestines to absorb nutrients. _____ (32)

In ancient times, salt _____ used as medicine and to preserve food. It _____ (33) was even part of _____ ceremonies like weddings. People even used salt to _____ (34) ward off evil. _____ these made it a valuable product. Early hunters could get _____ (35) a steady supply of salt _____ the meat they ate. However, once people _____ (36) discovered more uses for salt and more salt was needed, they had to locate salt deposits _____ following animal tracks. Nowadays, salt has become readily available _____ (37) and inexpensive _____ of modern technology. Thankfully, we no longer need _____ (38) to go in search of salt mines or stay near the sea in order to have salt.

Score:

Section F – Editing for Grammar and Spelling

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

Sniffer dogs in Thailand are being trained to detect Covid-19 from human sweat. Six Labrador Retrievers are trained to detect a compound found (39) (40) in the sweat of Covid-19 paysients. This compound is present even in the absens of (41) symptoms. The dogs are able to detect the virus corrected 95 percent of the time. (42) They do this by sniffing a person or small sample of sweat. During a practice last (43) month, the dogs gone through 60 samples in a minute which was an amazing feat. (44) (45) Thai authoratees are thinking about tapping on its high accuracy and speed of (46) detection. The use of dogs can increase the effectiveness about screening in areas (47) (48) where there are many commuttors. The dogs are much faster and more presize in detecting the virus than temperature checks. (49) Thailand is not the only country to have thought of using sniffer dogs for these purpose. Researchers from Chile, Finland, Germany and India have also done so. In (50) the future, dogs could also be trained to detect other deseases, such as diabetes, depression, and malaria.

Score:

Section G – Comprehension Cloze

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Flies are not always pesky insects buzzing around garbage and spreading germs. They can be beneficial and necessary for the environment. In Singapore, the black soldier flies play an important role in our fight _____ food waste. The black soldier fly larva are renowned for their _____ to consume food waste and transform that into body mass in a _____ short time. It is difficult to find _____ other animal or insect that can do it as efficiently. With a voracious _____, the larvae can eat and grow a few thousand times their size in a few days. These fattened maggots are then _____ into nutritious pet food or fertilizers. These flies offer an effective solution to our food waste _____.

Recently, raising black soldier fly larvae has become even _____ lucrative. *Insectta*, which is an innovative _____ based in Singapore, is breeding the maggots for a different purpose. They are using a new environmentally-friendly process to extract high-quality substances. The technology used to extract the substances from the larvae does not leave much carbon footprint. These substances, melanin and chitosan, which _____ a few hundred dollars per gram, are then sold to other companies. _____ this process was made possible, melanin could only be extracted from squid ink, which involved a very expensive process.

As a good conductor of electricity, melanin is also used in the production of semiconductors, electronic components and batteries. Chitosan, on the _____ hand, is a
(62)
substance with anti-inflammatory properties. It is often used in the _____ of
(63)
cosmetics and medicine.

With the global market valued at US\$7 billion and expected to grow
 _____ more, *Insectta* has been developing more uses of melanin and
 (64)
 chitosan. For _____, they are looking into the use of these substances as
 (65)
 ingredients in wound healing medication. Given its creativity in developing processes and
 uses for these substances, there is great potential for *Insectta* to become a highly profitable
 business through the humble soldier fly.

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Section H – Synthesis & Transformation

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. If they are provoked, most wild animals will attack.

_____ unless

67. Mrs Lim asked the children, "Did you clean the canteen tables?"

Mrs Lim asked the children _____

68. The air conditioner was maintained regularly. It still broke down.

Despite regular _____

69. The company has built a new bridge that links the two office blocks.

A new bridge _____

70. One of the students asked an interesting question. The guide did not answer the question.

_____ which

Score:

Section I – Comprehension

Read this passage and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

During the forty-seven days he had spent alone after the plane crash, Brian came to a realisation. Making mistakes here was not the same as making mistakes in the city. If he made a mistake in the city, there was usually a way to rectify it. If he fell off his bike and sprained a leg, he could wait for it to heal. If he wanted a particular dish but did not have it at home, he could always find something in the refrigerator. It was different in the wild. If he sprained a leg here, he could starve before he could move again. If he failed to hunt, fish or gather food, he would starve. Here, even small mistakes could mean facing death.

A week after the crash, he had learned to build a fire, make a fishing spear, and gather eggs and berries. However, he had forgotten the dangers of the wild and let his guard down. He had fallen asleep in his shelter when he was suddenly woken by a smell. His eyes darted around in search of the source. He found it near the fire. In the faint light, he could see its bushy tail and the white stripes down its back, digging for the eggs he had found and buried.

For a moment, he thought the skunk looked almost cute as it dug in the sand and scooped up the eggs. That feeling disappeared once he realised the skunk was trying to take his food. Enraged, he grabbed a handful of sand and threw it at the skunk. The response from the skunk was immediate. It sprayed a direct shot at Brian's head. The effect was devastating as the thick sulfurous rotten odour filled the tiny shelter.

The corrosive spray also hit his face and eyes, blinding him. He screamed and clawed out of the shelter, bumping into trees and stumbling down a slope as he made his way towards the lake. He scrambled into the water, trying to wash his eyes. His eyes continued to sting and he began to fear that he would be permanently blind. Thankfully, he regained his sight after a few hours, though the pain in his eyes remained for about two weeks. The smell in the shelter, in his hair and on his clothes, lingered for a month.

Food is the single driving influence in nature. All living things in the woods are always looking for food. Nothing in nature is lazy. Brian could not blame anyone else for what had happened. He knew he had not put in the necessary effort to secure the shelter well. He paid a heavy price for **this**.

Brian finally understood that he not only needed a shelter that shielded him from the rain and sun but also one that could protect him and his food supply. Finding food was just the first step. Protecting what he had was equally important.

He wasted no time improving his shelter. He gathered heavy logs and stacked them around his shelter to make strong walls. He then tied long branches together and created a make-shift door. Checking his shelter one last time, he was certain no small animal would get through. However, he knew he would have to think of what else he could do later if a large animal tried to force its way in through the door.

Next, he worked on a way to keep his food out of reach from small animals. He measured a height of about 1-metre off the ground on the wooden wall and carved a small shelf out of it. That would surely keep his food safe.

When he was done, he stood back and admired his handiwork: his reinforced shelter and his food shelf. Not bad for someone who used to have trouble fixing his own bicycle. He was now more certain he could survive until he was found.

45

71. Pick out a word from lines 1-5 which tells us that Brian has understood certain truths about his environment. [1m]

72. Why did Brian think that it was better to make mistakes in the city than to do so in the wild? [2m]

73. Look at the table below. What do the words in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. The first one has been done for you. [3m]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer to
e.g. it (line 3)	a mistake
a. here (line 6)	
b. it (line 12)	
c. this (line 31)	

Score:

74. Which **two** of the following words best describe Brian's change in feelings from lines 15-20? Put a tick ✓ in the box beside each of your answers. **DO NOT TICK MORE THAN TWO BOXES.** [2m]

Initial Feeling	
fearful	
confused	
amused	

Subsequent Feeling	
angry	
bemused	
relieved	

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

	Brian built a shelter that protected him from small animals.
	Brian learned to hunt and gather food.
	Brian stored food in a wooden shelf.

76. From lines 32 to 34, pick out a two-word phrase that tells us that Brian had truly learnt a lesson about shelters. [1m]

--

77. What was the heavy price (line 31) that Brian had to pay for being lazy? Name two of them. [2m]

- i. _____
- ii. _____

78. State what Brian used the following materials for when he was rebuilding his shelter. [2m]

heavy logs	
branches	

Score: _____

79. Based on the passage, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [4m]

	True / False	Reason
Brian woke up because of all the noise the skunk was making.		
Brian lost his sight because of the attack but regained it after two weeks.		
Brian's escape to the lake after the attack was not an easy one.		
Brian was certain his improved shelter could keep even the big animals away.		

80. From line 45, why was Brian now more certain that he could survive until he was found? [2m]

*** End of Paper ***

Have you checked your work thoroughly?

Score:

NHPS 2021 P6 EL MYE
Answer Key

Booklet A

Sections A to D (28m):

(1) 3	(6) 1	(11) 1	(16) 4	(21) 4	(26) 4
(2) 4	(7) 2	(12) 1	(17) 2	(22) 2	(27) 3
(3) 4	(8) 4	(13) 2	(18) 3	(23) 3	(28) 1
(4) 4	(9) 3	(14) 2	(19) 4	(24) 4	
(5) 3	(10) 2	(15) 3	(20) 1	(25) 4	

Booklet B:

Section E: Grammar Cloze (10m)

(29) E	(34) K
(30) A	(35) B
(31) F	(36) G
(32) J	(37) D
(33) P	(38) C

Section F: ESG (12m)

(39) patients	(45) their
(40) absence	(46) of
(41) correctly	(47) commuters
(42) samples	(48) precise
(43) went	(49) this
(44) authorities	(50) diseases

Section G: Comprehension Cloze (15m)

	Answers
51	against
52	ability / capability / capacity
53	very / rather
54	any
55	appetite
56	converted / turned / transformed / processed
57	problem / challenge
58	more
59	company
60	cost / are
61	Before
62	other
63	production / manufacture
64	even
65	example / instance

Section H: Synthesis/Transformation (10m)

66. Most wild animals will not attack **unless** they are provoked.
67. Mrs Lim asked the children if/whether **they had cleaned the canteen tables**.
68. **Despite** regular maintenance, the air conditioner still broke down.
69. **A new bridge** that links the two office blocks has been built by the company. OR
A new bridge has been built by the company to link the two office blocks.
70. One of the students asked an interesting question(,) **which** the guide did not answer.
 One of the students asked an interesting question(,) **which** was not answered by the guide.
 One of the students asked the guide an interesting question(,) **which** was not answered.

Section I: Comprehension (20m)

71. Realisation / realisation
72. Rectifying mistakes in the city were easier (1m) whereas making mistakes in the wild could cost him his life (1m).

73. (3m)

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer to
a. here (line 6)	the wild / forest / jungle
b. it (line 12)	the source of the smell / the skunk
c. this (line 31)	not putting in the necessary effort to secure the shelter well / not securing the shelter well

74.

Initial Feeling	
amused (line 15)	✓

Subsequent Feeling	
Angry (enraged – line 17)	✓

75. 2, 1, 3

76. finally understood

77.

- Brian almost became blind.
- He had to live with the rotten odour in the shelter
- He had odour in his hair
- He had odour in his clothes which lingered for a month.
- His food was almost stolen by a skunk.

78.

heavy logs	build a strong wall for the shelter
branches	create door(s) for the shelter/ food storage shelf

79.

	Reason	
Brian woke up because he smelled the skunk.	False	Brian woke up because he smelled the skunk. It was the smell of the skunk that woke him up.
Brian regained his sight after a few hours.	False	Brian regained his sight after a few hours. It was the pain in his eyes that lasted for two weeks.
Brian bumped into trees and stumbled down a slope as he made his way towards the lake.	True	Brian bumped into trees and stumbled down a slope as he made his way towards the lake.
Brian was only certain that he could keep the small animals away.	False	Brian was only certain that he could keep the small animals away. Brian would have to think of what else he could do later if a large animal tried to force its way in through the door.

80. He had successfully completed a difficult task like building a strong shelter (1m) which was amazing because he could not even do a simple task like fixing his bicycle (1m) in the past.