

Primary 5 · English · P5 Advanced Papers

English practice 1

Time **120 min** Marks **95** Questions **78**

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____ Score _____ / 95

1. Answer all the questions.
2. For the multiple-choice questions, write 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the brackets.
3. Where a question asks for a sentence, write a complete one.

Section A: Grammar

10 marks

Part 1. Choose the correct option. Questions 1 to 10 carry 1 mark each.

- 1 I offered the two cousins some noodles, but neither of them _____ hungry. [1]
- (1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were
- 2 The coach hurried over when she saw that Rina and _____ were struggling with the rope. [1]
- (1) I
(2) me
(3) mine
(4) myself
- 3 Mr Tan mistook his assistant _____ his brother, because the two look so alike. [1]
- (1) as
(2) for
(3) with
(4) over

- 4 Aisha, _____ used to live next door, is moving away next month. [1]
- (1) who
 - (2) that
 - (3) which
 - (4) whom
- 5 The singer, together with her band, _____ at the hall every evening. [1]
- (1) rehearse
 - (2) rehearses
 - (3) rehearsed
 - (4) rehearsing
- 6 Telling us about her trip, Mei asked if any of us had ever _____ over the valley in a hot-air balloon. [1]
- (1) fly
 - (2) flies
 - (3) flew
 - (4) flown
- 7 She refused _____ that much on a pencil case, because she was careful with money. [1]
- (1) spent
 - (2) to spend
 - (3) spending
 - (4) have spent
- 8 Did Nora hold _____ grudge against her group for missing the deadline? [1]
- (1) any
 - (2) little
 - (3) much
 - (4) enough

- 9 The long snake has _____ still in the corner of the tank all day. [1]
- (1) lie
(2) lay
(3) lain
(4) laid
- 10 "She rarely eats out on weekdays, _____ she?" asked the new helper. [1]
- (1) can
(2) does
(3) doesn't
(4) couldn't

Section A: Grammar (continued)

5 marks

Part 2. Fill each blank with the correct tense of the word in brackets. Questions 11 to 15 carry 1 mark each.

A shopkeeper known for being careful with money moved to a town that flooded often. He, unlike his neighbours, (11) _____¹¹ (be) unused to such weather. He spent some of his savings on a storeroom upstairs, because tales of earlier floods made him nervous. Whenever the sky (12) _____¹² (darken) and the rain beat down, he would carry his goods up. Yet he always came back to find the street dry. Soon he began to feel that he (13) _____¹³ (waste) his money.

Then one afternoon, as he (14) _____¹⁴ (emerge) from the back room, he saw that a flood had reached his doorstep. Water was everywhere. Now that (15) _____¹⁵ (be) more like it, he said, looking out. He was glad he had spent the money.

- 11-15 Write your answers in the blanks above. [5]

Section A: Grammar (word bank)

5 marks

Part 3. Choose from the box. Use each word once. Questions 16 to 20 carry 1 mark each.

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|
| 1 at | 2 in | 3 over | 4 though |
| 5 with | 6 however | 7 while | 8 since |
| 9 through | 10 which | | |

Laksa is to many Singaporeans what pizza is to Italians. Over the past week, (16) _____¹⁶ preparation for a cooking class, I had eaten laksa piled (17) _____¹⁷ the stalls along the street, noodles in a spicy coconut gravy. I tried one bowl (18) _____¹⁸ had a sharpness that made me pause, and another topped (19) _____¹⁹ fish cake and cockles.

At home I had grown tired of instant noodles. It was time to learn. I wrote to a friend who runs a stall. It sounded easy. (20) _____²⁰, I had not realised that making the gravy takes most of a morning.

16-20 Write your answers in the blanks above. Each word from the box may be used only once. [5]

Section B: Vocabulary

5 marks

Choose the correct option. Questions 21 to 25 carry 1 mark each.

21 Nurses who volunteer abroad often treat people who are poor and those _____ by illness. [1]

- (1) infested
- (2) polluted
- (3) afflicted
- (4) contaminated

22 _____ the job of tidying her room, Nina slipped out to watch her programme. [1]

- (1) Waving
- (2) Shirking
- (3) Diverting
- (4) Bypassing

23 Shoppers avoid that store because it charges _____ prices. [1]

- (1) exorbitant
- (2) wealthy
- (3) extraneous
- (4) exaggerated

24 The rooms of the old hotel were _____ after sixty years so that guests would be more comfortable. [1]

- (1) refined
- (2) reformed
- (3) refreshed
- (4) refurbished

25 The leader said the fault in their project needed _____ action before it grew worse. [1]

- (1) prompt
- (2) precise
- (3) efficient
- (4) extreme

Section C: Synthesis and transformation

10 marks

Rewrite each item as one sentence using the word given. The meaning must stay the same.

Questions 26 to 30 carry 2 marks each.

26 Mr Rahim is the owner of the cafe. My aunt was speaking to him this afternoon. (whom) [2]

ANSWER _____

27 Father asked my sister, "Did you go to the bookshop today?" (whether) [2]

ANSWER _____

28 Ben likes the striped shirt more than the plain one. (prefers) [2]

ANSWER _____

29 Mrs Lee heard a crash. She ran into the kitchen to look. (Upon) [2]

ANSWER _____

30 You must not tease the cat. Otherwise it will scratch you. (Unless)

[2]

ANSWER

Section D: Spelling and grammar

12 marks

The passage has thirteen errors. The first is corrected for you. Find the other twelve, and write the correction above each one. Questions 31 to 42 carry 1 mark each.

The queue for the buns

Adapted from a magazine article

When Golden Bun opened its tenth staur in its sixth city last year, hundreds thronged the new shop to queue for the custard buns that were going at half price. Even if heavy winds and rain started pelting down on the crowds gathered outside and a storm warning was issued, the line showed no signs of ebbing.

Nothing, not even inklement weather, was getting between these dezert lovers and the buns from the well-known brand. "When the storm actually hit, there were hundreds of people still lining up against the rain," recalled founder Lina Goh. With such a crowd and the bad weather, tempers were sure to flaire and indeed, there was shoving, shouting and argueing.

Yet making it all about the bun has been Lina's guiding prinsepal for day one. She had worked in an office for a short while before deciding that office work was not for her. She wanted her own shop. The self-professed bun lover had tasted enough buns to know there was not one she truly enjoyed. They was either too sweet or too dense.

She spent months with a baker friend perfecting the recipe. After a year she finally had what could be consider her best bun. The first shop opened without fanfair in a quiet neighbourhood.

31-42 The twelve errors, in order, are listed in the answer.

[12]

ANSWER

Section E: Cloze

15 marks

Fill each blank with one word. Questions 43 to 57 carry 1 mark each.

The fungus and the ants

Adapted from a nature article

Most of the world's insects live in forests. With steady warmth and rain, many kinds have flourished for thousands of years. However, (43) ⁴³ _____ are better at surviving there than the ants. They are so numerous that millions can live in one patch of ground. (44) ⁴⁴ _____ this, forest ants do not have things all their own way.

The ants are always at risk from the spores of a fungus that uses them to spread. When an ant (45) ⁴⁵ _____ across these spores while searching for food, the fungus enters its body and reaches its brain, turning it (46) ⁴⁶ _____ a helpless carrier. It can then steer the ant (47) ⁴⁷ _____ it wants. It also feeds (48) ⁴⁸ _____ the ant's spare tissue until it is ready to spread.

When that time comes, the ant climbs a plant until it (49) ⁴⁹ _____ at a spot with the right warmth and dampness. A stalk then grows from the ant's head and the (50) ⁵⁰ _____ of spreading begins, lasting many days. The fungus uses up the ant's soft tissue, leaving (51) ⁵¹ _____ only its hard outer shell. Fresh spores then burst out, and any ant nearby is in serious (52) ⁵² _____ of death.

The fungus can wipe out a whole colony. Its main growing place then (53) ⁵³ _____ a graveyard for ants that have already died. Other ants carry these far away. Ants are not the only insects that fall (54) ⁵⁴ _____ to it. Although there are hundreds of kinds of this fungus, each attacks (55) ⁵⁵ _____ one kind of insect.

Grim as this sounds, such attacks have a (56) ⁵⁶ _____ effect on the forest. The fungus stops any one insect from getting the upper (57) ⁵⁷ _____ by becoming too numerous. The more common a species grows, the more likely it is to be struck by its own fungus.

43-57 Write your answers in the blanks above.

[15]

Section F: Visual text

8 marks

Study the notice, then answer. Questions 58 to 63 carry 8 marks.

58 Read this notice about the Harbour Model Museum, which is under the arches of an old railway station.

[1]

"Bring your old toys back to life. Want to show your children and grandchildren the models you once played with?"

Who is that line mainly aimed at?

(1) Teenagers (2) Grandparents (3) Toddlers (4) Primary school children

ANSWER _____

- 59** The museum opens Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Last entry is at 4 p.m. It is closed on Sunday and Monday. Sam reaches the area on Friday at 4.20 p.m. When is the earliest he can go in? [1]
(1) Friday 4.25 p.m. (2) Saturday 10.10 a.m. (3) Saturday 11.15 a.m. (4) Sunday 10 a.m.

ANSWER

- 60** What is the main purpose of the notice? [1]
(1) To bring childhood memories back (2) To get people to visit the museum (3) To list every kind of old toy (4) To persuade teachers to book a workshop

ANSWER

- 61** The shop offers a free model engine with purchases over \$20, but only for the first 50 customers. Why does the notice say "only for the first 50"? [1]
(1) To attract engine collectors (2) To point out what the shop sells (3) To push toy fans to buy something (4) To make people come quickly before the offer runs out

ANSWER

- 62** The shop lists these as collectors' items: gauge trains, toy theatres, die-cast models, tin toys, radio-controlled aircraft and helicopters. It also sells ordinary pocket toys and puppets, which are not called collectors' items. Name the two that are not collectors' items. [2]

ANSWER

- 63** Write T or F. [2]
(i) A diorama is best described here as a three-dimensional scene with small figures.
(ii) The museum's workshops cannot be changed to suit a teacher.

ANSWER

Section G: Comprehension

25 marks

Passage 1 carries 12 marks. Passage 2, below, carries 13 marks. Arun thought he might win the essay prize. The title, "Our Town, Today and Tomorrow", suited him perfectly. He planned, drafted and rewrote, then realised nobody could read his handwriting. A teacher had stopped him writing with his left hand, rapping his fingers with a ruler until he switched, and his right-handed writing was full of smudges and reversed letters. His form teacher, Mr Devan, told him kindly that a marker would never read his script, though he knew Arun was trying. Arun heard about the competition on the radio: a cash prize and a trip to the capital. His mother worried about his handwriting; his father said he had a chance. He enjoyed writing so much that he forgot the problem until he finished. He then asked Farid, a neat writer, to copy the essay out, promising him a share of the prize. Nothing in the rules said it had to be in his own hand. Farid agreed only after hearing it read aloud, copied it in two evenings, posted it and signed the form himself. On results night the winner named was Farid. The town celebrated its first national winner. Arun stayed away from the party, knowing Farid would rather he was not there.

Passage 1: The ice field

Adapted from a science report

- ① In June 1992, two walkers found a frozen body high in a mountain range on the border of two countries. At first the police thought it was one of the climbers who go missing up there every year. After the body was brought down, scientists made a startling find.
- ② He was about 5000 years old, the oldest frozen body ever found in those mountains, and he was named after the ice field where he lay. For the scientists this was a huge step. Tests showed he was not young for his time. At 158 centimetres he was the first well-preserved person from the late Stone Age found in that region. He lived before the Iron Age people found in the northern marshes, and he was older still than the royal burials in the desert. Those desert people were taller, though.
- ③ The study of how he died began at the spot where he was found. His tools and clothes were almost as interesting as the body. A researcher was struck by where everything lay. The body was face down, and his cap lay beside him as if it had fallen off.
- ④ Among his tools were a copper axe, a flint knife and a quiver holding arrows. The axe mattered most: its blade stuck out past the binding, with clear marks of cutting. Such an axe was valuable, both as a tool and as a sign of standing. The knife's handle was ash wood, still used for handles because it does not split easily. His unfinished bow was cut from yew, chosen for its spring.
- ⑤ His shoes were wide and waterproof, made for walking on snow. The soles used bear and deer hide, and dried grass inside padded the foot like a warm sock. They were so well made that some people later suggested copying them. He also wore a coat of animal skin, leggings, a fur hat and a loincloth.
- ⑥ He carried berries and two kinds of fungus. One, a shelf fungus, fights bacteria and was probably medicine. The other was a tinder fungus, part of a fire-lighting kit that held flint and a stone for striking sparks, plus a tool for sharpening the flint.

- ⑦ Tests found traces of blood from four other people on his gear: one on his knife, two on an arrowhead and one on his coat. A scan showed an arrowhead lodged in his shoulder, matching a small tear in the coat. The shaft had been pulled out, probably by a companion. He also had bruises on his hands and chest. From this, one scientist thinks he and a companion were hunters who clashed with a rival group. Weakened by blood loss, he set his equipment down neatly against a rock, collapsed and died.

- 64 What does "one of the climbers who go missing up there every year" tell us about climbing in that region?

[1]

ANSWER _____

- 65 Put these in order from earliest to latest: (a) the royal desert burials, (b) the frozen man, (c) the Iron Age people of the marshes.

[1]

ANSWER _____

- 66 Give one quality of each material that made it right for the tool.

[2]

Material	Quality
Yew	
Ash wood	

- 67 Pick one feature of his shoes and explain how it helped him in the snow.

[2]

ANSWER _____

- 68 Quote the sentence that shows his shoes might have influenced later footwear.

[1]

ANSWER _____

- 69** Match the paragraphs to these headings: Survival Tools, Snow Gear, Telling Clues. [3]
The tools paragraph, the shoes paragraph and the blood-tests paragraph are in that order.

ANSWER _____

- 70** Find a word in the passage that means (a) stuck firmly inside, (b) made weak. [2]

ANSWER _____

- 71** Quote the three-word phrase that shows the essay title suited Arun. [1]

ANSWER _____

- 72** Give two reasons Arun stopped writing with his left hand. [2]

ANSWER _____

- 73** Which word best describes Mr Devan: indifferent, encouraging or critical? Support your answer. [2]

ANSWER _____

- 74** How did Arun's mother respond differently from his father to his entering the competition? Explain her response. [2]

ANSWER _____

75 What did Arun realise once he had finished writing? [1]

ANSWER _____

76 What does the idea of asking Farid refer to? [1]

ANSWER _____

77 What finally persuaded Farid to agree? [2]

ANSWER _____

78 Show how Arun and the town responded after Farid was announced the winner. [2]

	Response	Reason
Arun		
The town		

END OF PAPER