

SINGAPORE CHINESE GIRLS' SCHOOL  
FIRST SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2008  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRIMARY 6

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: Primary 6 (SY/C/G/SE/P)

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

	Marks Obtained	Highest Possible Marks
Part One		15
Part Two		40
Sub-total		55

Paper 1 (Writing)

1 hour 10 minutes

55 marks

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

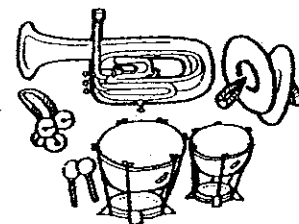
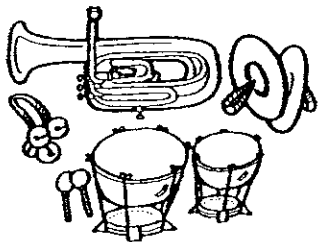
There are two parts to this paper: Part 1 and Part 2.  
Answer the question in Part 1 and one question from Part 2.

Part 1 : Situational Writing (15 marks)

Read the programme below.

**ISLAND SCHOOL PRESENTS: THE MUSICAL**

on



**28 July 2008**

at

**The Esplanade**

- 7.00pm - Doors open
- 7.45pm - All guests to be seated
- 8.00pm - Arrival of Guest-of-Honour
- The Musical begins...

- 
- Scene 1 - Classroom scene
  - Scene 2 - Ricky and friends
  - Intermission - 15 minutes
  - Scene 3 - The Confrontation
  - Grand Finale - Audience participation required!! ☺

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Guests who are meeting performers or members of staff after the performance, are reminded to wait at the Foyer of the theatre. Guests will not be allowed backstage.

Thank you for your cooperation.

**Your Task**

Your school is holding a musical performance to celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Write an invitation to your friend, Mei, inviting her to your school function.**

Refer to the programme when writing your invitation.

In your invitation, include the following information:

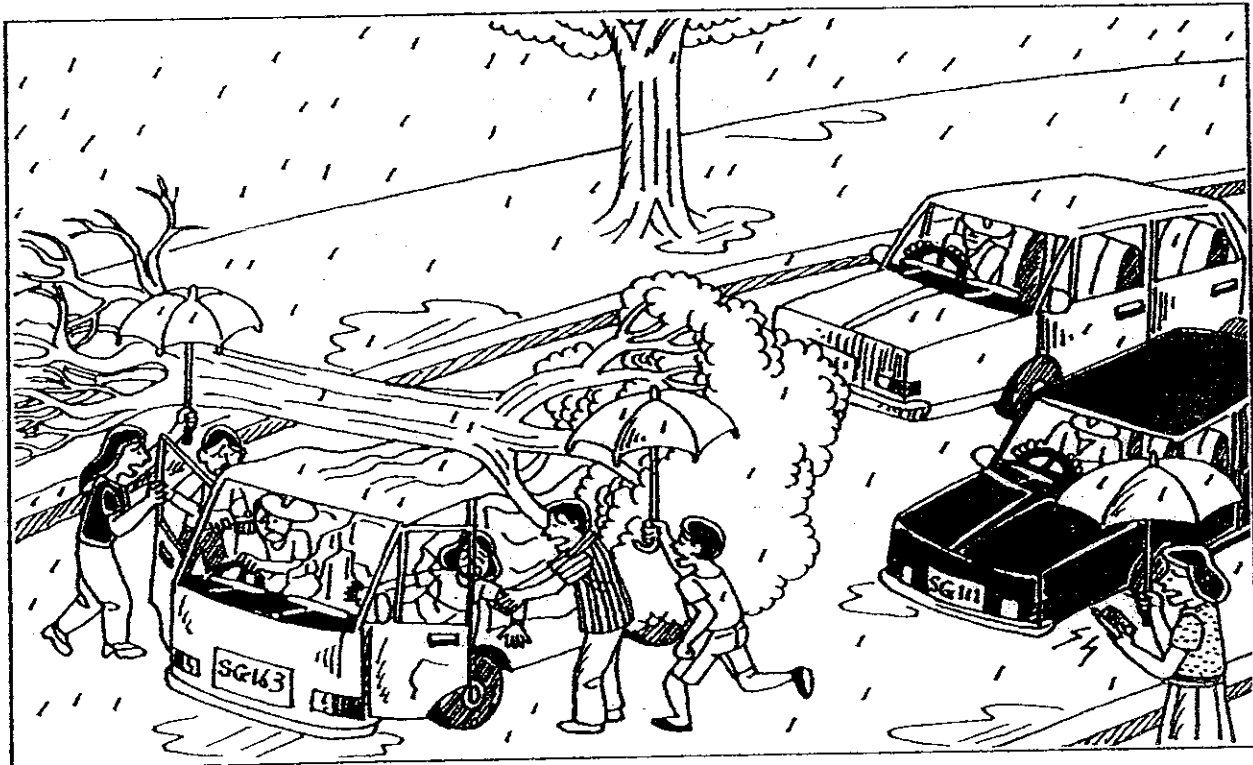
- why 'The Musical' is being held
- date and venue of the performance
- what time to be seated by
- when 'The Musical' will begin
- what is expected during the Finale

You may reorder the points. You should write in complete sentences.

**Part 2 : Continuous Writing**

**Question 2**

Write a story based on the picture below. Your story should be at least 150 words long.



For your story, make use of the points below. You may reorder the points. You may include other relevant points.

- where and when the incident took place
- who the people in the vehicle were and what happened to them
- what the other people at the scene did
- what happened in the end

### Question 3

You were having an English lesson in school when the alarm bell suddenly rang. The Principal then announced over the Public Announcement system, "There is a fire in the canteen. Please avoid going near the canteen. Proceed to the assembly area now using the staircase nearest to you".

Based on the above situation, write a composition of at least 150 words:

In your composition, make use of the points below:

- what had happened in the canteen
- who or what caused the fire
- what you did
- what happened in the end

You may reorder the points. You may also include other relevant points.

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Paper 2 (Language Use and Comprehension)

Booklet A

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.

Read the advertisement carefully and then answer questions 1 to 5.



## **Come celebrate Wet Wet Wet's 10th Anniversary and enjoy great deals!**

From Sunday 3 August – Sunday 31 August 2008

Visit Wet Wet Wet on weekdays in August and  
get 30% discount off your Admission ticket!  
(Valid from Monday to Friday)

Discounted Ticket Prices :  
Adult - \$ 9.00 (usual: \$12.90)  
Child (3-12 years old) - \$ 6.00 (usual: \$8.80)

What's more, visit **Wet Wet Wet AND Wonderworld Theme Park** with 3  
friends and get this great deal!

4Pax Combo\*: \$69.00  
*\* Any adult & child combination.*

This Combo package includes:  
4 Wet Wet Wet Tickets  
4 Wonderworld Theme Park Tickets  
Free 2 Days 1 Night weekday resort room stay

### **Terms & Conditions:**

1. Wet Wet Wet Tickets will be valid till 31 August 2008.
2. Wonderworld Theme Park tickets purchased under Combo package are open dated tickets and will be valid till 30 October 2008.
3. Resort room stay vouchers will be valid till 27 October 2008.

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. What is the purpose of this advertisement? It is to advertise \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1) free resort rooms
  - 2) Wet Wet Wet's weekday offers
  - 3) Wet Wet Wet's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary offers
  - 4) Wonderworld Theme Park's special offers
  
2. The 30% discount on admission prices will not apply on \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1) Friday
  - 2) Monday
  - 3) Saturday
  - 4) Wednesday
  
3. The 4Pax Combo package does not include \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1) Wet Wet Wet tickets
  - 2) weekday resort room stay
  - 3) weekend resort room stay
  - 4) Wonderworld Theme Park tickets
  
4. Gary and his family <sup>purchased</sup> ~~purchase~~ a 4Pax Combo package. He must visit Wet Wet Wet by \_\_\_\_\_ in order to enjoy all the benefits.
  - 1) 31 August 2008
  - 2) 27 October 2008
  - 3) 30 October 2008
  - 4) 31 December 2008
  
5. Mrs Tan is planning to visit Wet Wet Wet on Tuesday 19 August 2008. How much would she have to pay for admission?
  - 1) \$9.00
  - 2) \$12.90
  - 3) \$21.90
  - 4) \$69.00

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 branches of the angsana tree were \_\_\_\_\_ to prevent them from falling on passers-by.
- 1) to be trimmed
  - 2) trim
  - 3) trimmed
  - 4) trimming
7. The bank robbers wore black stockings \_\_\_\_\_ their faces.
- 1) against
  - 2) of
  - 3) on
  - 4) over
8. You will still need to queue up to enter the concert hall \_\_\_\_\_ you have a ticket.
- 1) as
  - 2) even if
  - 3) since
  - 4) while
9. Sindy told Aaron, "Let's \_\_\_\_\_ for a dinner this Friday since we have not met in months."
- 1) get in
  - 2) get on
  - 3) get together
  - 4) get up
10. April felt guilty and afraid upon seeing the policeman \_\_\_\_\_ in the Principal's office.
- 1) waited
  - 2) waiting
  - 3) waits
  - 4) was waiting

11. Sherry offered to help John carry his books but he said that he would carry them \_\_\_\_\_ .

- 1) herself
- 2) himself
- 3) themselves
- 4) ourselves

12. The Government of Singapore \_\_\_\_\_ trying to encourage smokers to quit by setting up telephone helplines to help them.

- 1) be
- 2) is
- 3) was
- 4) were

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)

The school netball team was ecstatic upon winning the finals of the National competition (13) The coach explained that the team's success stemmed from two factors (14) hard work and team spirit.

"It's fantastic! We worked hard and finally reaped the fruits of our labour (15) Team captain Jodie Tan screamed. "I can't believe that we are really the National Champions!"

13. 1) [ . ] full stop  
2) [ , ] comma  
3) [ " ] inverted comma  
4) [ : ] colon
14. 1) [ . ] full stop  
2) [ , ] comma  
3) [ " ] inverted comma  
4) [ : ] colon
15. 1) [ , " ] comma and inverted comma  
2) [ . " ] full stop and inverted comma  
3) [ ? " ] question mark and inverted comma  
4) [ " , ] inverted comma and comma

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. After a long period of deliberation, the jury \_\_\_\_\_ the innocent man.
- 1) accepted
  - 2) customised
  - 3) executed
  - 4) exonerated
17. The young soldier was \_\_\_\_\_ wounded by the bullet that pierced his heart.
- 1) completely
  - 2) fairly
  - 3) mortally
  - 4) slightly
18. The generous students donated a / an \_\_\_\_\_ amount of money to the children's home.
- 1) adequate
  - 2) insufficient
  - 3) substantial
  - 4) sufficient
19. The fisherman was overjoyed to see a \_\_\_\_\_ of hungry fish nibbling at the bait on ~~their~~ <sup>his</sup> rods.
- 1) collection
  - 2) group
  - 3) school
  - 4) tank
20. The corridors of ~~building~~ <sup>buildings</sup> should be cleared of rubbish as they pose a fire \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1) danger
  - 2) hazard
  - 3) sign
  - 4) threat

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

I had suffered with chills and fever ever since Mr. Reid bought me. He, therefore, (21) concluded to sell me, and, in November, 1844, he took me back to Richmond, placing me in the Exchange building, or auction rooms, for the sale of slaves. The bidding (22) commenced, and I remember well when the auctioneer said, "Three hundred eighty dollars—once, twice and sold to Mr. Edward McGee."

He was a / an (23) affluent cotton planter of Pontotoc, Mississippi. As far as I can (24) recollect, I was not more than twelve years of age, so did not sell for very much. Mr. McGee, or "Boss," as I soon learned to (25) address him, bought sixty other slaves before he bought me.

*Adapted from "Thirty Years a Slave" by Louis Hughes*

21. 1) decided  
2) hesitated  
2) refused  
3) wavered
22. 1) began  
2) ended  
3) inaugurated  
4) offered
23. 1) affluent  
2) famous  
3) miserly  
4) prosperous
24. 1) gather  
2) refine  
3) recall  
4) simplify
25. 1) access  
2) converse  
3) greet  
4) speak

Read the passage carefully and answer questions 26 to 30.

The word 'mummy' is generally believed to derive from a Persian word, *mummiya*, meaning 'bitumen', used to describe the blackened state of ancient Egyptian bodies. The term is now generally applied to all human remains which retain their soft tissue, either by natural means or artificial preservation.

Mummification can be found on every continent of the world. But the process itself is inextricably linked with the culture of ancient Egypt and for many, the word 'mummy' is synonymous with Egypt itself. 5

In popular fiction, mummies were reduced to little more than bandaged corpses with arms outstretched as they staggered towards some helpless victim. 10  
Actually, these totally fascinating, wonderful 'artefacts' were once living people, and preserving them in as lifelike a way as possible was actually regarded as a way of providing a permanent home for the soul whilst cheating death itself. 10

In ancient Egypt, mummification was very much in vogue and hairdressers and beauticians were even called in to restore a groomed, lifelike appearance! 15  
Covered in a range of protective amulets and placed in its coffin, elaborate funeral ceremonies designed to reactivate the soul within the mummy were accompanied by the words 'You will live again for ever. Behold, you are young again for ever', before the mummy was buried with generous supplies of food, drink and everything the soul of the deceased would need for a comfortable afterlife. 20

The Egyptians buried their dead in the great expanses of desert away from the cultivation on the banks of the River Nile, but whereas the wealthy were artificially mummified and placed in specially built tombs, the majority were simply buried in hollows in the sand. 25

*Adapted from a National Geographic article*

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. What nationality were the first mummies?
- 1) Chinese
  - 2) Egyptian
  - 3) Indian
  - 4) Persian
27. Why did the Egyptians mummify the bodies of the dead?
- 1) They wanted to preserve the body.
  - 2) They wanted the dead person to live forever.
  - 3) They wanted the dead person to be reincarnated.
  - 4) They wanted to provide the dead person's soul with a final resting place.
28. Which of the following has a similar meaning to the word "synonymous" (Line 7)?
- 1) anonymous
  - 2) differentiated
  - 3) identified
  - 4) separated
29. Which phrase in the passage tells you that it was common for Egyptians to mummify their dead? The phrase is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1) "all human remains"
  - 2) "very much in vogue"
  - 3) "ancient Egyptian bodies"
  - 4) "elaborate funeral ceremonies"
30. Most Egyptian mummies were \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1) placed in the River Nile
  - 2) buried in hollows in the sand
  - 3) buried on the banks of the River Nile
  - 4) placed in specially-constructed tombs

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FIRST SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT 2008  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
PRIMARY 6

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (      )

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: Primary 6 (SY) / C / G / SE / P

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

	Marks Obtained	Highest Possible Marks
Booklet A		30
Booklet B		65
Sub-total		95

Paper 2 (Language Use and Comprehension)

Booklet B

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.

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) across	(D) by	(G) had	(K) of	(N) where
(B) also	(E) despite	(H) however	(L) so	(P) which
(C) are	(F) from	(J) in	(M) to	(Q) would

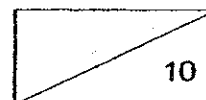
Horses are not native to Australia. They were taken there by European settlers and have lived for many years in the wild. Horses are regarded \_\_\_\_\_ many people as a nuisance. They are blamed for damaging soil (31) and watercourses. Sometimes, they trample \_\_\_\_\_ special sites belonging (32) to the Aboriginal people. They also take food \_\_\_\_\_ native animals need. (33)

As a result, the government of Queensland wants to cull – or kill – 10,000 horses. They intend \_\_\_\_\_ do this by shooting the animals from (34) helicopters. For example, 4,000 horses have been shot \_\_\_\_\_ the air in (35) the Canarvon National Park in recent years. When the shooting takes place in remote areas the bodies are left \_\_\_\_\_ they are to rot. (36)

The shot animals do not always die immediately but suffer in agony. There are \_\_\_\_\_ problems when a mare with foals is killed because the (37) orphaned foal then dies slowly of starvation. Animal charity groups \_\_\_\_\_ (38) prefer mares to be injected with drugs to stop them from breeding.

The Queensland government, \_\_\_\_\_, claims that shooting the (39) horses is the quickest and kindest way of dealing with them. But newspapers have been made public which show that the authorities \_\_\_\_\_ trying to (40) carry out the big-scale cull in secret because they knew that some people would object.

Adapted from Newsacademic.com, British English edition, 22 Nov 2007



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

(41)

Epilepsy is a disorder of the **nurvs** in which abnormal electrical activity

in the brain causes seizures.

(42)

It can hit anyone at any time, regarding of age, sex, race or ability.

(43)

Many people still think that epileptics cannot be employ or are, in some way,

(44)

odd. There were about 16,000 people here who suffer from the condition.

(45)

To rose awareness of it, a talk for epileptics, their caregivers and

(46)

volunteers will be held. A **pannel** of doctors and social workers will identify

issues and challenges faced by sufferers at the talk.

Epilepsy is commonly caused by brain damage from birth injuries, head

(47)

injuries, strokes, brain tumours and alcoholism. The condition is **diegnosd**

following at least two seizures not caused by any known medical condition.

(48)

(49)

Neurologists say a seizure is not, at itself, a disease. It is but a **simtom**

of a number of brain disorders. There are two types of seizures. Partial ones

begin in one part of the brain and spread to affect other parts. Generalised

seizures start in both sides of the brain at once and cause the victim to lose

(50)

**conciusness**.

Adapted from The Straits Times, 27 June 2007

10
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/21

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

The construction of a paper mill factory caused a major dispute between Uruguay \_\_\_\_\_ Argentina. It is being built next to the River Uruguay, between Uruguay and Argentina. Many Argentinians, \_\_\_\_\_ those living close to the river, say the factory will pollute the water.

Uruguayans are \_\_\_\_\_ with the new factory. Building and operating it has created a lot of jobs. Before this project, many local people were unemployed. The paper mill will \_\_\_\_\_ attract many more companies to the area. The factory uses eucalyptus trees grown on plantations. The paper will be \_\_\_\_\_ to China, Europe and North America.

Two companies that built the factory insist that the latest \_\_\_\_\_ has been used. They claim this means the factory will not produce any \_\_\_\_\_. But many in Argentina do not \_\_\_\_\_ them.

During the last two years, people from Argentina have \_\_\_\_\_ several large demonstrations. At first they marched across a bridge \_\_\_\_\_ to Argentina and Uruguay. Once on the \_\_\_\_\_ side, they tried to stop the construction work.

Two days after the \_\_\_\_\_ that the factory would open, 10,000 odd Argentinians marched towards the river border crossing. Many more \_\_\_\_\_ in boats up the river. They fired flares into the sky, \_\_\_\_\_ slogans and waved banners.

Because they were \_\_\_\_\_ the demonstration, Uruguayan officials closed the bridge. They also ordered hundreds of police to surround the factory.

Adapted from Newsacademic.com, British English edition, 22 Nov 2007

For each of the items 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 "I did not eat the cake yesterday," Yasmin said.

Yasmin said \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

67 We must leave our belongings and evacuate from the building when the fire alarm rings.

In the event \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

68 All the children fishing are female.

Not one of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

69 Jerry was late for school. Jerry is my cousin.

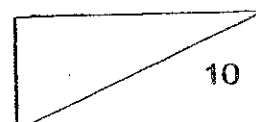
\_\_\_\_\_ who

\_\_\_\_\_

70 She did not dare to cross the road rashly after the accident.

Following \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

Small groups of children stood about like strangers in the playground. There was little of the charging about and booting of balls that went on during most playtimes and before school. On the first day of the school year, everyone was slightly apprehensive. The new fourth-years, now the senior group, showed the most activity, greeting one another with loud shouts and over-enthusiastic thumps on the back. The rest were very quiet, adjusting to being back in school at all, and taking care of new trousers and frocks. But the quietest clusters of all, here and there attended by older brothers, sisters and the occasional mum, were the new first-years, last year's top infants who were now very much at the bottom of the pile. They **resembled young deer on the edge of the herd, unsure and frightened** but with heads held high.

5

10

Every so often a teacher walked through the playground, to be greeted in varying fashions by the different groups. The new fourth-year children rarely spoke to other than fourth-year teachers, whom they greeted with loud and polite explosions of welcome and wide smiles. There were two or three new young teachers, ignored by all but the few children who rushed to talk to any adult, and both popular and unpopular teachers who walked through to clamorous attention or to total disregard. Mr Bryan was mobbed from gate to steps by all but the fourth-years, while Mr Henry might as well have been walking across a beach at midnight. Mr Roper was already in the building, having been welcomed shortly after eight o'clock by a few shivering individuals whose parents had gone to work early and turned them out at the same time.

15

20

Class members greeted each other after the six-week break in different ways. Some had seen a lot of their particular friends in the holiday, and there was not much new to say. Others, not living so close together, welcomed their classmates with restrained delight, everyone talking and no one listening. Nobody spoke to Shemem Parveen, the brightly-clad Pakistani girl, nobody ever did. Paul Wicks, the football captain who held a place in the District Side even in his third year, was met on all sides by warm **disciples**. Groups of friends, who played together for different reasons, were reunited. The older children who often went out for dinner together, formed a **tight band**, allowing in a few of the sandwich-bringers as hangers on. Children who went home to dinner made up their own gangs, and those who lived near to one another, or who crossed the road together with the lollipop man, somehow stuck together in the playground. All sorts of reasons brought different children together.

25

30

35

Little notice was taken of anyone's colour; a good brain, a talented right foot or netball arm were what seemed to matter. The exceptions were the few Asian children who spoke poor English. They talked together in a fast foreign language by the school steps. The middle of the playground was not for them.

Adapted from *The Trouble with Donovan Croft* by Bernard Ashley

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

71 Why were most of the students very quiet?

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72 Which word in the first paragraph was used to indicate how immature and young the first-year students were?

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73 Explain why the first-years 'resembled young deer on the edge of the herd, unsure and frightened'. (line 10-11).

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74 How did students <sup>react</sup> react to popular teachers?

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75 Explain fully how Mr Henry was treated by the students when he walked through the playground.

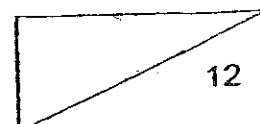
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76 Why did class members greet each other in different ways after the six-week break?

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77 Paul Wicks was greeted by many 'disciples' (line 29). Referring to lines 28-29, explain clearly why he has disciples.

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78 Why were the older children, who often went out for dinner together, described as a 'tight band'? (line 31)

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79 Explain clearly why the few Asian children who spoke poor English were by the school steps.

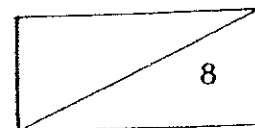
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80 Based on your reading of the last paragraph, what is a characteristic that contributes to a student's popularity?

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## SCGS Primary School

### Primary 6 English SA1 Exam (2008)

### *Answer Keys*

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
3	3	3	1	1	3	4	2	3	2
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
2	2	1	4	1	4	3	3	3	2
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30
1	1	4	3	3	2	4	3	2	2
Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
D	A	P	M	E	N	B	Q	H	C

- |                |                |              |               |                   |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 41. nerves     | 42. regardless | 43. employed | 44. are       | 45. raise         |
| 46. panel      | 47. diagnosed  | 48. of       | 49. symptom   | 50. consciousness |
| 51. and        | 52. especially | 53. happy    | 54. also      | 55. transported   |
| 56. technology | 57. pollution  | 58. believe  | 59. conducted | 60. close         |
| 61. other      | 62. news       | 63. arrived  | 64. chanted   | 65. expecting     |

66. Yasmin said that she had not eaten the cake the day before.
67. In the event that the fire alarm rings, we must leave our belongings and evacuate from the building.
68. Not one of the children fishing is a male.
69. Jerry who is my cousin was late for school.
70. Following the accident, she did not dare to cross the road rashly.
71. It was the first day of the school year and everyone was slightly apprehensive.
72. It is "infants".
73. They were unsure and frightened on the inside as they were last year's top infant and at the bottom of the pile this year.
74. They greeted them with loud and polite explosions of welcome and wide smiles.
75. The students ignored him and there was nobody near Mr Henry.
76. Some of them had seen a lot of each other during the holidays and had nothing much to say while others who were not living so close, welcomed their classmates with restrained delight.
77. Paul Wicks was the football captain who held a place in the District even in his third year.
78. They were close friends.
79. They spoke a foreign language and could not communicate well in English.
80. A characteristic is good at playing football.