

# METHODIST GIRLS' SCHOOL (PRIMARY)

Founded in 1887



## PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2020 PRIMARY 6

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE

#### PAPER 1 (WRITING)

Additional Materials: Writing Paper

Total Time : 1 hour 10 minutes

Total Marks : 55 marks

#### 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. Write your answers in the writing paper provided.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (    )

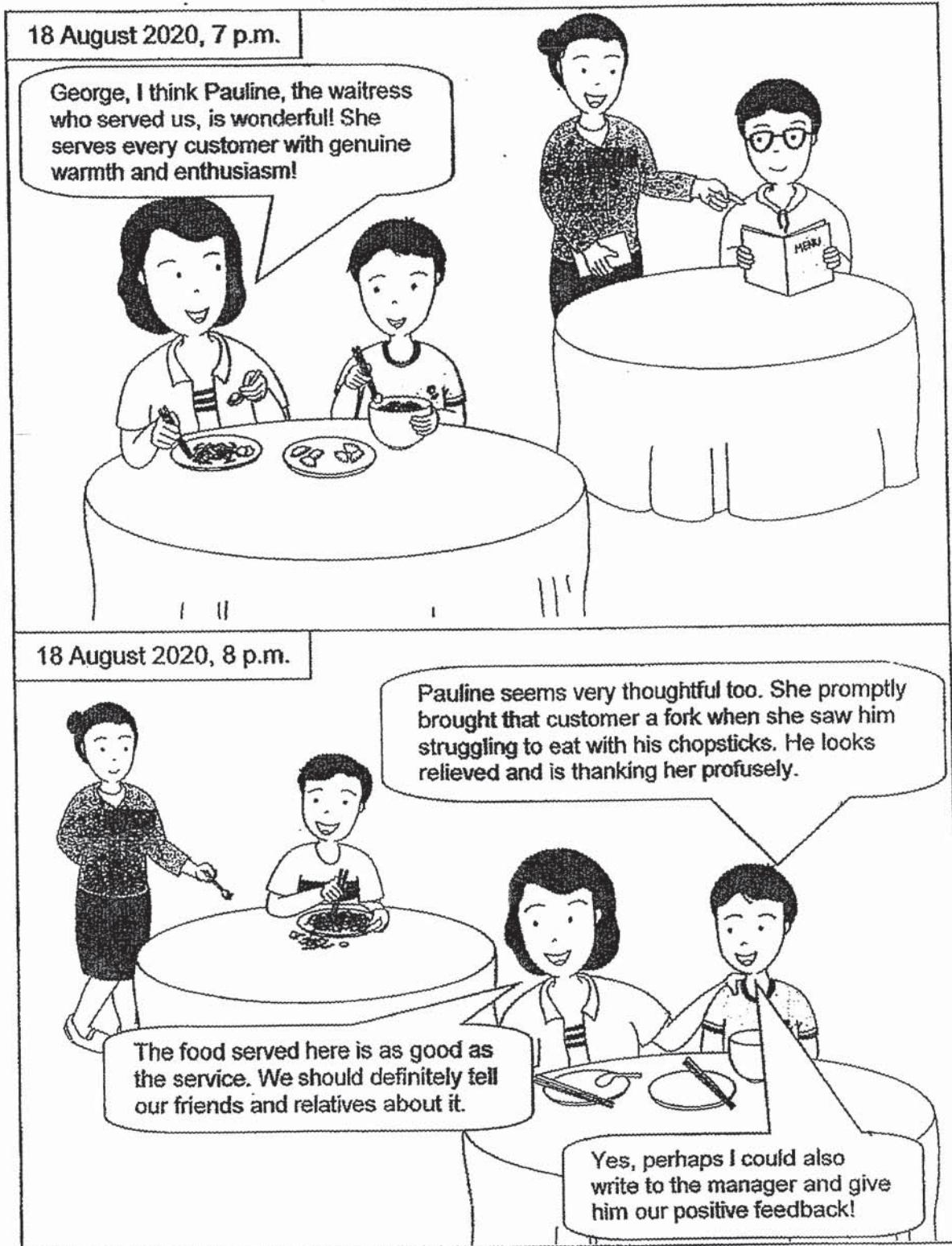
Class: Primary 6. \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 20 August 2020

This booklet consists of 4 printed pages including this page.

### Part 1: Situational Writing (15 marks)

- 1 The pictures below show a conversation between George and his mother. The conversation took place at Orchid Restaurant. Study the pictures carefully.



(Go on to the next page)

**Your Task**

Imagine you are George.

**Write an email to the Manager of Orchid Restaurant, Mr Tan, to give him some positive feedback about the restaurant.**

You are to refer to the pictures and information on page 2 for your email.

In your email, include the following key information:

- the date you were at the restaurant
- the name of the waitress who provided good service
- two examples of good service provided by the waitress
- how a customer responded to the waitress' help
- reasons why you would recommend the restaurant to others

You may reorder the points. Remember to write in complete sentences.



## Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

- 2 Write a composition of at least 150 words about **patience**.

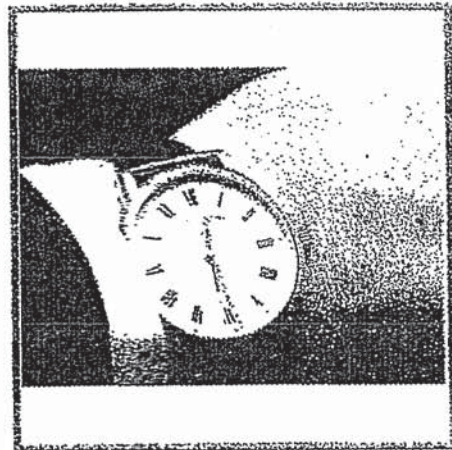
The pictures are provided to help you think about this topic.

Your composition should be based on one or more of these pictures.

Consider the following points when you plan your composition:

- Who was / were patient?
- How did the person(s) show patience?

You may use the points in any order and include other relevant points as well.



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PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2020  
PRIMARY 6

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2  
(BOOKLET A)

Total Time for Booklets A, B and C: 1 h 50 min

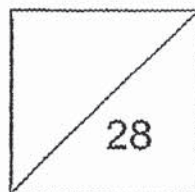
**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
2. Follow all instructions carefully.
3. Answer all questions.
4. Shade your answers on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (   )

Class: Primary 6. \_\_\_\_\_

Date : 20 August 2020



This booklet consists of 9 printed pages including this page.

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 When I was shown the wallet, I knew at once \_\_\_\_\_ it belonged to.

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

2 There was a fight at the supermarket when one woman accused another \_\_\_\_\_ trying to hoard toilet rolls.

- (1) of
- (2) for
- (3) with
- (4) against

3 Mother suggested \_\_\_\_\_ the dog for a walk.

- (1) take
- (2) taking
- (3) to take
- (4) to taking

4 I \_\_\_\_\_ the old lady if I knew she needed help.

- (1) help
- (2) helped
- (3) would help
- (4) would have helped

5 " \_\_\_\_\_ I be given a pay rise, I will give you a treat," Siti promised.

- (1) Might
- (2) Could
- (3) Would
- (4) Should

- 6 The jewellery in these jewellery boxes \_\_\_\_\_ all given to me by my grandmother before she passed away.
- (1) is
  - (2) are
  - (3) was
  - (4) were
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ he was given a chance to confess to the crime, he failed to come clean.
- (1) Since
  - (2) Unless
  - (3) Despite
  - (4) Although
- 8 "You'll help to carry the chairs to the hall, \_\_\_\_\_ you?" the teacher asked the boys.
- (1) will
  - (2) won't
  - (3) would
  - (4) wouldn't
- 9 Raju witnessed the burglar \_\_\_\_\_ into the bungalow.
- (1) broke
  - (2) break
  - (3) breaks
  - (4) was breaking
- 10 Jack approached several people with his proposal, but \_\_\_\_\_ were interested.
- (1) few
  - (2) most
  - (3) many
  - (4) some



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 "Ali's interest in rugby has begun to \_\_\_\_\_ ever since his friends introduced him to soccer. He has a stronger passion for soccer now," said the coach.
- (1) dim
  - (2) wane
  - (3) vanish
  - (4) recede
- 12 Emily signed up for too many enrichment classes and had difficulty managing her time. She \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) had the best of both worlds
  - (2) struck while the iron was hot
  - (3) bit off more than she could chew
  - (4) made a mountain out of a molehill
- 13 Su Ling resigned because she could no longer tolerate her manager's domineering ways and his \_\_\_\_\_ behaviour.
- (1) overriding
  - (2) overacting
  - (3) overbearing
  - (4) overwhelming
- 14 We could not believe how Gopal had \_\_\_\_\_ Zack's tricks again.
- (1) fallen on
  - (2) fallen for
  - (3) fallen into
  - (4) fallen over
- 15 The judges were impressed by Aminah's \_\_\_\_\_ and awarded her first prize in the speech competition.
- (1) elegance
  - (2) diligence
  - (3) eloquence
  - (4) dramatisation



For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

My heart was palpitating. I was on tenterhooks even before the race began. My  
(16)  
nervousness was obvious to those around me. My heart was pounding so quickly that I was  
sure it was audible from a distance. The doctor had reminded me that taking part in the  
competition would mean a worsening of my condition but I was adamant to represent my  
(17)  
school in the race as it was my only chance.

When I heard the starter gun, I took off like a deer pursued by its hound. Then what  
the doctor feared most happened. My kneecap succumbed to pressure. "No, please, no!" I  
(18)  
cried to myself. The gnawing pain grew. My legs weakened and I collapsed. When I came to,  
(19)  
I was unable to walk and my movement was restricted. However, I was undaunted and  
(20)  
determined to finish the race despite my injury. I was proud of myself for persevering to the  
end.

- 16 (1) anxious  
(2) doubtful  
(3) confused  
(4) terrorised
- 17 (1) depletion  
(2) deterioration  
(3) degeneration  
(4) disintegration
- 18 (1) bowed  
(2) yielded  
(3) subjected  
(4) surrendered
- 19 (1) became sensible  
(2) became conscious  
(3) became determined  
(4) became courageous
- 20 (1) unresolved  
(2) unalarmed  
(3) uncertain  
(4) unfazed

(Go on to the next page)

Study this article from a magazine, Earth Hour, and then answer questions 21 to 28.

## Lead A Lifestyle of 3Rs!

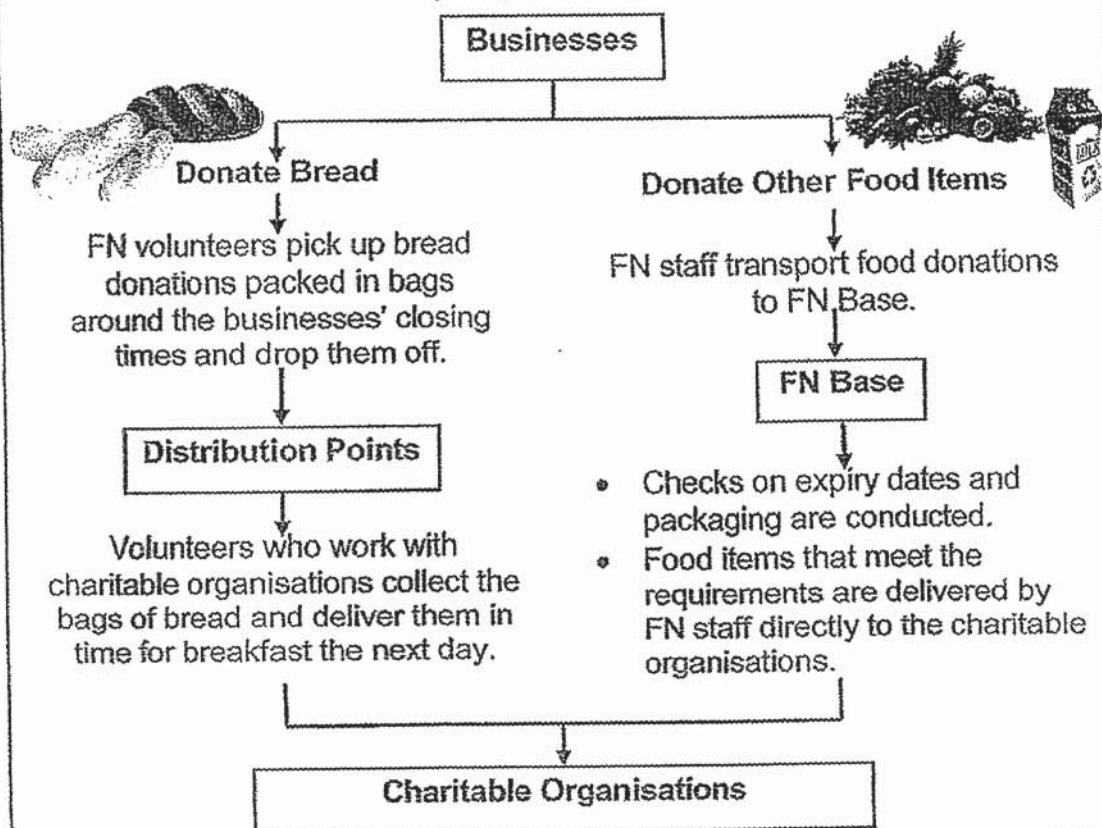
The 3Rs – reduce, reuse and recycle – play a crucial role in protecting the environment. Cutting down on the amount of waste helps to conserve natural resources, landfill space and energy. Minimising waste is everyone's responsibility. You can play a part too.

### Killing Two Birds with One Stone

Food is among the five largest sources of waste in Singapore and currently accounts for close to a quarter of the total waste. That is equivalent to the weight of more than 54 000 double-decker buses! There is a pressing need to minimise food wastage, and it starts with avoiding food wastage and excess food production. Excess food can then be redistributed to the needy whenever possible.

Food Network (FN) was therefore set up with that objective to redistribute excess food. It has been saving as much as 50 000 kg of bread and other food items from the bins monthly! More than 100 businesses, mostly bakeries and supermarkets, donate excess food, such as bread, milk, fruits and vegetables that is safe to consume. The donations are picked up daily and handed over to charitable organisations that work with the needy.

### How Food Network (FN) Redistributes Excess Food



(Go on to the next page)



### How to Minimise Waste at Home



Avoidable food waste, which refers to food that could have been consumed but was not, makes up a significant part of the daily total waste of each household in Singapore. For instance, leftovers from a meal, blemished fruits and vegetables, and food that has turned bad or been kept past its expiry date are often dumped carelessly. Such waste can be prevented if some good habits are formed. These can include preparing lists before shopping for groceries, adopting good food storage and preparation practices, and making use of leftovers to cook.

### How to Minimise Waste at School



A lot of stationery is used at school. To minimise waste, cultivate the following good habits: ensure that both sides of a piece of paper are used, use refillable pens and markers. Post notices in classrooms instead of making multiple copies for distribution. Donations of uniforms and textbooks that are no longer needed but still in good condition should also be encouraged.

As you can see, there are many practical ways you can protect the environment without having to make dramatic lifestyle changes. Now, it doesn't seem that difficult to make reducing, reusing and recycling a way of life, does it?



### Annual Year-End Donation Drive



- ✓ Instead of leaving festive goodies to turn bad, donate them! They must be unopened, in good condition and have at least two weeks of shelf life left.
- ✓ If there are textbooks you will not be using anymore, donate them! They must be in good condition and notes or scribbles should preferably be erased.

Collection dates : 1 to 30 December 2020  
 Collection point : Community Service Centre  
 14 Egmont Road, Singapore 700100  
 Opening hours : 6.30 a.m. to 10.30 p.m. daily

For each question from 21 to 28, 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.

(8 marks)

- 21 In "The 3Rs – reduce, reuse and recycle – play a crucial role in protecting the environment", dashes are used to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) present additional information
  - (2) show that the information is factual
  - (3) emphasize why the 3Rs are important
  - (4) indicate that the information is the main idea
- 22 Why is "Killing Two Birds with One Stone" an appropriate sub-heading for that section?
- (1) Food Network picks up donations and distributes them.
  - (2) Food Network reduces food wastage and helps the needy.
  - (3) Food Network saves businesses and charitable organisations.
  - (4) Food Network prevents excess food production and donations.
- 23 According to the article, there is a pressing need to minimise food wastage because \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) food is the largest source of waste in Singapore
  - (2) annual food wastage in Singapore weighs about 54 000 kg
  - (3) people living in Singapore have started avoiding food wastage
  - (4) almost a quarter of the total waste dumped in Singapore is food
- 24 Where is the inspection of food items carried out?
- (1) distribution points
  - (2) business premises
  - (3) Food Network Base
  - (4) charitable organisations
- 25 According to the section "How to Minimise Waste at Home", what does "such waste" refer to?
- (1) recyclable waste
  - (2) avoidable food waste
  - (3) total waste in Singapore
  - (4) total waste of each household in Singapore

(Go on to the next page)



- 26 Which of the following is **not** a step towards minimising waste at school?
- (1) using refillable writing instruments
  - (2) handing out notices to individual students
  - (3) putting up information sheets on noticeboards
  - (4) using every available space on a piece of paper
- 27 Joan cleared out her cupboard and found some textbooks she wanted to donate. What should she do before heading to the collection point?
- (1) Remove the doodles on some pages
  - (2) Wrap the textbooks carefully in plastic
  - (3) Tear out the pages containing written notes
  - (4) Check whether the textbooks can be used the following year
- 28 What is the **main** purpose of the article?
- (1) to describe how the 3Rs should be practised
  - (2) to explain how to help the needy through the 3Rs
  - (3) to inform readers that the 3Rs are being practised everywhere
  - (4) to convince readers that they can do their part to practise the 3Rs

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PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2020  
PRIMARY 6

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2  
(BOOKLET B)

Total Time for Booklets A, B and C: 1 h 50 min

**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. Write all your answers in the booklet.

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

Class: Primary 6. \_\_\_\_\_

Date : 20 August 2020

Booklet A	28
Booklet B	47
Booklet C	20
Total	95
Parent's Signature	

This booklet consists of 5 printed pages including this page.

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) at	(G) each	(K) more	(N) the
(B) about	(E) before	(H) however	(L) one	(P) them
(C) after	(F) by	(J) in	(M) that	(Q) where

The silkworm moth goes through the same development as other moths.

\_\_\_\_\_, unlike other moths, it has been domesticated. Raised and cared for  
(29)

\_\_\_\_\_ people, silkworm moths live on farms. These farms can be found  
(30)

\_\_\_\_\_ Japan, China and other countries \_\_\_\_\_ silk is produced.  
(31) (32)

In the first stage, the female moth lays \_\_\_\_\_ 500 yellow eggs,  
(33)

\_\_\_\_\_ no bigger than the head of a pin. The eggs have a glue-like  
(34)

covering \_\_\_\_\_ makes them stick to anything they touch. This covering  
(35)

acts as a protective shell.

\_\_\_\_\_ the eggs are laid, silk farmers store them in refrigerators to  
(36)

simulate winter before they hatch. When the farmers want the eggs to hatch, they move

\_\_\_\_\_ to incubators, which are machines that warm them to \_\_\_\_\_  
(37) (38)

correct temperature for hatching. After about twenty days, tiny worm-like larvae emerge from the eggs.

Score:

(Go on to the next page)



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

The polar bear in North America is under threat while in Borneo and

Sumatra, the orang-utan is considered critically endangered.

(39)

It is a disturbing fact that many difrent kinds of wild animals throughout

(40)

(41)

the world are in danger of extinksion. The reasons for this is many and varied.

(42)

The three main threats to wild animals' survival are pollution, the disturbing of animals'

(43)

natural envairoment and man's greed and thoughtlessness.

(44)

Firstly, industry has grown enomusly, and it has become common practice for

(45)

(46)

factories to dispose away factory waste in streams and rivers, causing great lost

(47)

of river life. Secondly, an increase of human population has also led to more land

(48)

development - and with it, the distrucktion of habitat for wild animals.

(49)

Fortunately, the problem is receiving world-wide rekonition and some action is

(50)

being took. Organisations like Friends of the Earth do valuable work for this deserving cause.

Score:

(Go on to the next page)



Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

My father was a supervisor of a sugar-cane plantation in Puerto Rico. Like other children from poor families, I too worked at the plantation. My first \_\_\_\_\_ (51)

was to drive the oxen that ploughed the cane fields to prepare the land for planting. For

a dollar a day, I \_\_\_\_\_ (52) eight hours straight, with no food breaks. I would

walk behind an ox, \_\_\_\_\_ (53) him with a stick to make him move forward.

It was tedious work, but it prepared me for life and \_\_\_\_\_ (54) me many

lasting lessons. As the plantation owners were \_\_\_\_\_ (55) watching us, I had to be

\_\_\_\_\_ (56) time every day and work as \_\_\_\_\_ (57) as I could. The habit of

being punctual became ingrained in me. I have never been \_\_\_\_\_ (58) for any job

since. I also learnt about \_\_\_\_\_ (59) respectful and loyal to the people I work for.

\_\_\_\_\_ (60) importantly, I earned my pay; it never occurred to me to say I was sick because I did not want to work.

I was \_\_\_\_\_ (61) six years old, but I was doing a man's job. Our family

needed \_\_\_\_\_ (62) dollar we could make because my father never \_\_\_\_\_ (63)

more than \$18 a-week. Our \_\_\_\_\_ (64) was a wood shack with a dirt floor and no

toilet. Nothing made me prouder than bringing home \_\_\_\_\_ (65) to help my parents,

two brothers and three sisters. This gave me self-esteem, one of the most important things a person can have.

Adapted from *Reader's Digest: 'The Plowboy'*

Score: \_\_\_\_\_

(Go on to the next page)

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 Both Raj and Simon have gone to the carnival.

\_\_\_\_\_ together with

\_\_\_\_\_

67 The team was loyal to their coach. It inspired the spectators.

\_\_\_\_\_ the team's

\_\_\_\_\_

68 "Will you help water my plants when I am overseas next week?" Mr Lim asked Siti.

Mr Lim asked Siti if \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

69 A police officer appeared suddenly on the crowded street. The pickpocket was nervous.

\_\_\_\_\_ nervous about the

\_\_\_\_\_

70 The tailor-bird weaved a nest. Mei Ling was intrigued by the nest.

Mei Ling found the nest \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Score:

(Go on to Booklet C)

METHODIST GIRLS' SCHOOL (PRIMARY)

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PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2020

PRIMARY 6

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2**

(BOOKLET C)

Total Time for Booklets A, B and C: 1 h 50 min

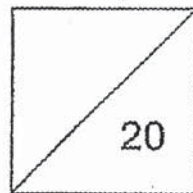
**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (    )

Class: Primary 6. \_\_\_\_\_

Date : 20 August 2020



This booklet consists of 5 printed pages including this page.



Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

My mother suggested the sweetest name: Mercy. We soon learnt it was just what the new Boxer pup my parents had adopted would need. My parents' rambunctious dog would bolt out of bed and go-go-go all day long. Whenever they went out and left her alone for a while, they would not be surprised to come back and see the house in a mess. This led my parents to expect chaos when they brought home a Christmas tree. To their astonishment, Mercy paid no attention to the tree that suddenly appeared in the living room. Nor did she react to the fancy presents under it, including a wrapped box of dog treats, *Milk Bones*, which were just for her. 5

Yet, my mother and father were wary. They never had a dog that did not force them to move everything to higher ground as if they were expecting a flood; but Mercy seemed oblivious to the tree and presents. 10

On Christmas day, my mother awoke early, as usual. She passed the dimly-lit living room and then stopped suddenly. Glancing back into the room, she confirmed what she thought she had first seen. Every present under the tree was gone. Only the tree was still there. Had they been robbed? Why hadn't Mercy barked? Where was she? Had the burglars taken her? My mother's thoughts went wild as she noticed a scrap of ribbon on the floor. Then, a bit of torn wrapping paper a few metres away, some glitter beyond that. The clues all made a trail leading toward the back door. 15

My mother flipped the switch, bathing the backyard in light. The perpetrator's head lifted and froze. Alarm and guilt made her eyes wide. Oh, yes, it was Mercy. She lay under her favourite tree in the backyard in a fluffy nest of shredded wrapping paper, chewed-up boxes, and curling bits of ribbon. Presents, pawed from their packages, were strewn about among tattered bows. Beautifully-wrapped boxes had gaping holes and there were fragments of wrapping tissue mixed with the last remaining evidence of gifts. 20

Clearly, Mercy's self-control had failed. She had silently pillaged one package after another out the doggy door leading to the backyard. Anything edible was gone, including cookies, chocolates, candy canes, and two kilogrammes of the *Milk Bones*. 25

Trying to suppress a laugh, my father said, "Nature has really taken pity on Mercy. With everything eaten up, she is fortunate to have **survived her midnight snack**." My parents were so grateful they did not need to take a trip to the veterinarian that they laughed off the ruined presents. To them, **this** was not a problem. The real problem was with all the gift tags attached to each gift destroyed, how could my parents know who had sent them each of the gifts and send out thank-you cards to them? Mercy had presented the problem, yet Mercy was soon able to provide the answer. A few days after the incident, my mother returned to her rocking chair to find Mercy guiltily licking a plate where a doughnut had just been. She snapped a picture of the shamefaced pooch and used it to make thank-you cards to the family and friends who usually gave them Christmas gifts every year. The caption read, "Thank you for the ??". Inside each card, the whole story was explained. We all had to laugh. Everyone shared the sweet reminder that amid all the gift-giving, it was really a season for 'mercy'. 30 35

Adapted from *A Season of Mercy* by Teresa Anderson

(Go on to the next page)



- 71 Why did the writer's parents expect to find the house in a mess whenever they came back home? [1m]

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Do not  
write in  
this  
space.

- 72 Based on lines to 5 - 18 fill in the boxes below. [4m]

	What the writer's parents thought would happen	What actually happened
When the writer's parents brought home the tree	a)	b)
	What the writer's mother thought had happened	What actually happened
When the presents went missing	c)	d)

- 73 How did the writer's mother feel when she saw the presents missing from under the tree? How do you know? [2m]

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(Go on to the next page)

- 74 Fill in the following table by identifying the correct word(s) from the passage. [2m]

Question	Word(s) from the passage
a) Which <b>word</b> from paragraph two tells us that the parents did not trust Mercy to stay away from the tree?	
b) Which <sup>two words</sup> <del>two words</del> in paragraph four tell us that the presents were found scattered around in the backyard?	

75

Based on lines 9 - 18, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [2m]

	True / False	Reason
a) It was the first time the writer's parents owned a dog.		
b) Mercy was only interested in the presents but not the tree.		

- 76 Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the story. [1m]

- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer's mother followed the trail of evidence.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer's mother sensed something was wrong.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The writer's mother found the presents destroyed.

Do not  
write in  
this  
space.

Do not  
write in  
this  
space.

- 77 Why was Mercy considered to be fortunate to have "survived the midnight snack" (line 29)? [2m]

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☐

- 78 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. [2m]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
this (line 31)	
it (line 36)	

☐

- 79 Why did the caption in the thank-you cards have "???" (line 38) in it? [2m]

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☐

- 80 Based on the story, how was the name "Mercy" appropriate for the dog? [2m]

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☐

END OF PAPER