



**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION (2019)
PRIMARY SIX
ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET A**

Name: _____ ()

Class: Primary Six _____

26 August 2019

28 Questions
(28 Marks)

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.

This booklet consists of 10 printed pages excluding the cover 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. "The left lens of my spectacles _____," said Su Ling.
 - (1) break
 - (2) breaks
 - (3) is broken
 - (4) are broken

2. All but Fatimah _____ a scolding by the teacher earlier this morning.
 - (1) is given
 - (2) are given
 - (3) was given
 - (4) were given

3. Worried that the bedroom door would slam shut on its own, Father wedged it firmly _____ a folded newspaper.
 - (1) in
 - (2) with
 - (3) under
 - (4) between

4. "She said she would attend the meeting, _____ she? Why was she not there yesterday?" the manager queried.
 - (1) didn't
 - (2) doesn't
 - (3) couldn't
 - (4) wouldn't

5. School canteen vendors are encouraged to provide healthier beverage options. Therefore, _____ beverages sold have the healthier choice symbol.
 - (1) any
 - (2) few
 - (3) most
 - (4) much

6. Neither Tommy nor his siblings _____ to the radio nowadays as they prefer listening to music on their ipods.
- (1) listen
 - (2) listens
 - (3) has listened
 - (4) have listened
7. The guest-of-honour, for _____ we have been waiting, is on the way.
- (1) that
 - (2) who
 - (3) which
 - (4) whom
8. _____ being counselled several times, John refuses to change and continues playing truant.
- (1) Even if
 - (2) Owing to
 - (3) In spite of
 - (4) Apart from
9. Devi plays tennis very well, _____ her favourite sport is netball.
- (1) as
 - (2) so
 - (3) yet
 - (4) since
10. A number of ardent Home United soccer fans _____ queueing up now at the counter to buy tickets for the final match.
- (1) is
 - (2) are
 - (3) was
 - (4) were

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. The residents of Pioneer Estate were relieved when power was _____ after a massive blackout.
- (1) restored
 - (2) replaced
 - (3) recovered
 - (4) reinstalled
12. Despite having stage fright, Jonas cast aside all his _____ about singing in public when he went up on stage. He gave a splendid rendition.
- (1) inhibitions
 - (2) restrictions
 - (3) prohibitions
 - (4) obstructions
13. Raju only _____ being a composer. He has not composed any song completely.
- (1) plays at
 - (2) plays on
 - (3) plays back
 - (4) plays down
14. Since the famine occurred, the villagers have been _____ of food.
- (1) devoid
 - (2) drained
 - (3) declined
 - (4) deprived
15. Siew Khim is suffering from indigestion. She had _____ herself on the wide array of desserts during the buffet.
- (1) fed
 - (2) dined
 - (3) gorged
 - (4) feasted

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)

It was the hottest day in the month and the heat was insufferable. The scorching sun blazed down (16) unsympathetically. Anna and Mei Ling stopped by the pool for a quick dip, just to (17) take the edge off the unbearable heat. Mei Ling positioned herself on the tip of the long, damp diving board. She somersaulted and twisted her body in the air gracefully. Knowing that it was her turn next, Anna felt a sudden discomfort in her chest that she was not (18) accustomed to. She tried to convince herself to get onto the diving board, but to no avail. Her legs refused to do her bidding.

"Come on Anna! Go on and try it! Fear got the better of you?" Mei Ling teased. It was not typical of Anna to experience such trepidation. She was normally raring to go and (19) demonstrated such fortitude and strength. However, asking her to jump from such a great height seemed to be (20) a tall order. Should she go for it or admit defeat?

16. (1) warmly
(2) ruthlessly
(3) resentfully
(4) compassionately

17. (1) pacify
(2) soothe
(3) alleviate
(4) overcome

18. (1) aware of
(2) hoping for
(3) familiar with
(4) informed about

19. (1) exposed
(2) declared
(3) indicated
(4) displayed

20. (1) perplexing
(2) exhausting
(3) demanding
(4) discouraging

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Study this flyer and then answer questions 21 to 28.

A Special Programme for the Children of Heartville Estate!

Every year, in celebration of Children's Day, the Heartville Estate Residents' Club (HERC) organises fun and educational activities for the children living in our estate. Through the activities, the HERC hopes to broaden the children's experience in an enjoyable way. This year, unlike other years, due to overwhelming response, the special programme of activities will run for a week. Head to Heartville Community Centre and participate in the activities!

If you have good organisational skills and wish to serve our estate's residents, become a member of the HERC by writing in to info@herc.org.sg.

Kind words from our residents:






"My family moved to Heartville Estate in September last year. Where we previously lived, Children's Day was only celebrated at school. So, when we received a flyer about the Games Day organised to celebrate Children's Day, we were intrigued and decided to check it out. The event exceeded my expectations! I thought it might attract a smattering of participants, but I was proven wrong. It looked like almost all the estate's residents, both young and old, had turned up! There was a festive atmosphere and snaking queues could be seen in front of every game station! We're definitely looking forward to this year's celebration!"

Mrs Janice Wee, a resident of Block 73

"I love living in Heartville Estate! Apart from the Children's Day activities, I also enjoy taking part in the other activities that are organised all year round! I don't think there is a livelier estate than this in Singapore!"

Syafiq, a 12-year-old resident of Block 85

Special Programme from 30 September to 6 October 2019

	11 a.m.	12 p.m.	1 p.m.	2 p.m.	3 p.m.	4 p.m.
MON			 Martial Arts Fair Sports Hall, Level 2 Free admission. Visit the booths to get a taste of different forms of martial arts. Sign up on the spot and get 20% off the fee for a 10-week class.			
TUE						
WED						
THU			 Dance Workout Serenity Studio, Level 1 Free admission. Only 20 walk-in participants allowed on a first come, first served basis.			
FRI			Pop Music Festival The Atrium, Level 1 Free admission. Catch live performances by popular local bands.			
SAT	 Dance Recital Zen Studio, Level 3 Tickets can be purchased online.	Singing Contest The Atrium, Level 1 Registration Fee: \$5 Sign up online by 15 September.				
SUN	 Family Carnival The Atrium, Level 1 Free Admission. Coupons can be purchased at \$20 per booklet during the carnival.					

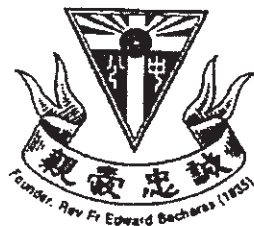
Visit www.herc.org.sg/childrensday for more information.

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. Why is the word HERC written entirely in capital letters?
- (1) It is to attract the attention of the readers.
 - (2) It is to show that the word is part of a name.
 - (3) It is formed from the first letters of other words.
 - (4) It is to show that it is not a proper English word.
22. Which of the following statements about the special Children's Day programme is correct?
- (1) The programme always runs for a week.
 - (2) It is organised by Heartville Community Centre.
 - (3) It is planned so that children can engage in enjoyable and meaningful activities.
 - (4) All children residing in Singapore can sign up and participate in this programme.
23. Why do you think the "Kind words from our residents" section has been included in this flyer?
- (1) To show that residents enjoy the activities organised for them
 - (2) To encourage families to move to the vibrant Heartville Estate
 - (3) To inform residents that Children's Day is not only celebrated in school
 - (4) To inform residents that activities are organised for them all year round
24. The flyer quotes Mrs Janice Wee as saying she "was proven wrong". According to the flyer, Mrs Wee was wrong to think that _____.
- (1) the event would not be up to her expectations
 - (2) only children would participate in the activities
 - (3) only a small number of residents would participate in the activities
 - (4) there would be long queues of participants in front of every game station

25. Toby, a resident, is wondering if he should become a member of the Heartville Estate Residents' Club. According to the flyer, he should become a member if he wants to _____.
- (1) hone his organisational skills
 - (2) be a resident of Heartville Estate
 - (3) organise activities for Heartville Estate's residents
 - (4) participate in the various activities organised for Heartville Estate's residents
26. Mei Mei, a resident, loves watching performances. However, she is only free in the weekends. Which activity should she go for?
- (1) Dance Recital
 - (2) Dance Workout
 - (3) Family Carnival
 - (4) Martial Arts Fair
27. What is the similarity between the activities 'Martial Arts Fair' and 'Dance Workout'?
- (1) Both accommodate an unlimited number of participants.
 - (2) Both require some form of active participation from the participants.
 - (3) Both are held at the same venue within Heartville Community Centre.
 - (4) Both offer discounts to participants for signing up for classes on the spot.
28. Which of the following is true of the special programme?
- (1) Activities are held only in the weekends.
 - (2) A registration fee is required for all activities.
 - (3) The activities are mostly held in the afternoons.
 - (4) Participants have to sign up for all the activities prior to participation.

GO ON TO BOOKLET B



**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION (2019)
PRIMARY SIX
ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)

BOOKLET B

Name: _____ ()

Class: Primary Six _____

26 August 2019

52 Questions
(67 Marks)

Components	Marks
Booklet A	28
Booklet B	67
TOTAL	95

Parent's
Signature: _____

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.

This booklet consists of 8 printed pages excluding the cover 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 in order to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) a	(D) as	(G) its	(K) of	(N) then
(B) although	(E) from	(H) it's	(L) on	(P) through
(C) among	(F) in	(J) nevertheless	(M) out	(Q) to

Saint John's Island is one of Singapore's better-known southern islands located southeast of Sentosa. (29) _____ popular destination for anglers and nature lovers, the island is acclaimed for (30) _____ white sandy beaches, azure waters and a myriad (31) _____ flora and fauna. Recently, the National Parks Board (NParks) launched the Saint John's Island trail which has 15 panels around the island marking (32) _____ its history, natural habitats and vast biodiversity.

It is often regarded (33) _____ the perfect getaway from the hustle and bustle of city life, without having to leave the country. Apart (34) _____ being touted as a holiday destination, the island has a historical significance connected to Singapore.

Saint John's Island was formerly a quarantine station for cholera cases detected (35) _____ immigrants in the late 19th century. (36) _____ 1901, victims of the disease, *beri-beri*, were also brought to the island. The quarantine station was eventually used (37) _____ house victims of other diseases, like leprosy.

Today, some of the buildings such as the old bungalows still remain but they no longer serve the same purpose as they used to. (38) _____, they serve as a reminder of the island's rich heritage. So, if you need a short getaway, you know where to head to!



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

Mobile phones have become a necessity for many people throughout the world.

39.

40.

With the develop of science and technology, mobile phones have become an indispensebel

41.

part of life. It is one of the most sucsesful inventions of the 20th century. Mobile

42.

43.

phone communication had made calling and messaging more konvinient. However,

44.

many have become so depondant and attached to mobile phones that they cannot even

imagine a world without them.

Some have come to realise that a major disadvantage of owning a mobile phone is

45.

46.

that the device is a distract. Many people become obliveous to their surroundings

47.

because their focus is on the phone. They unknowingly even risk their personal safe as

48.

well as the well-being of others where they use the phone while driving or performing

49.

other tasks that requiring more concentration. Another issue with obsessive mobile

50.

phone usage is that the kwalitiy of face-to-face communication is affected. It is a

common sight to see people being glued to their phones instead of engaging in a

conversation with one another.

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Everyone knows that reading is important, but have you ever asked yourself why it is so? Reading is how we discover and learn new things. People who (51) _____ how to read can educate themselves in any area of their lives that they are interested in. In the world today where information (52) _____ abundant, reading books is one of the best (53) _____ to remain informed as books hold all kinds of information.

Reading is important because it develops your thoughts and equips you with endless knowledge. Not only is reading fun (54) _____ it also has many benefits for your mental health. Concentration on words (55) _____ your brain. This particular stimulation can help sharpen your mind, especially the part of the brain that is responsible (56) _____ concentration and critical analysis. The sharpening of the (57) _____ will eventually increase your focus when concentrating on something important.

Research has (58) _____ that reading silently for just six minutes a day helps to reduce heart rate and soothe muscle tension. The act of reading and concentrating on the written word can help relieve your mind of anxiety. It sounds almost too (59) _____ to be true, but how does reading help to decrease stress?

While engaged in (60) _____, you tend to focus on the characters and the plot of the book. Being engrossed in a story distracts you (61) _____ the stress of everyday life, putting your mind and body at (62) _____. You are also transported to a different world with different people. As you progress further (63) _____ the story, you will start to focus, not on your stress, but on the words and storyline.

In the modern age, where the (64) _____ of life is so fast, and there are so many distractions at every turn, finding something to promote a level of calm is essential. With the numerous (65) _____ that can be gained from reading, everyone is highly encouraged to pick up a book. Don't forget to get your hands on a book today!



For each of the questions from 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. Aiman enjoys reading novels. So do his family members.

_____ as well as

67. He came in second place in the Art contest. He pumped his fists in the air.

Having _____

68. "What time will the movie end?" Michael asked Jane.

Michael asked Jane _____

69. Mother will send you a message if her flight is cancelled.

Should _____

70. Mike is stubborn. He refuses to listen to any advice.

_____ because of



Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

I woke up to the residual droplets from yesterday's unforgiving thunderstorm dripping from the roof of the cave. "Mama, five minutes more!" I would have mumbled drowsily on any other normal day and turned the other way. However, today, I rejoiced and embraced the glare of the morning sun because I would be embarking on my journey to adulthood. The tribe I hailed from had decided that the only way for a boy to become an adult was by throwing the boy into the sweltering African wilderness. He had to venture alone and eventually kill the most fearsome beast in Africa.

5

Stepping out from the darkness of the cave, I squinted and scanned my surroundings. Everything was a yellowish blur behind the layers of visible heat waves shimmering above the ground. I wondered how the boys before me, and the boys before them completed this seemingly insurmountable task. "You can only come home once you kill a lion!" were the words that sealed my fate -- with **the odds clearly against me**, a scrawny boy with only a poorly crafted spear in one hand.

10

The bright fireball was hanging high above the horizon. My lips were parched and started splitting into small cracks like the ones in the ground below me. As I struggled under the unbearable heat, a field of trees came into sight. It was as if **Lady Luck was smiling down upon me**. I took refuge under the shade of the trees and leaned back against the cool bark.

15

It was not long after my well-deserved break that I felt a tremor in the ground. Putting my ear to the ground, I heard the rumbling get louder. In the distance, a large dust cloud was rolling towards me and from within, emerged a wave of black and white stripes -- a herd of zebras was stampeding towards me. In a split second, **my instincts** took over. I ran away from the oncoming herd before diving into the tall grass which I chanced upon, narrowly missing the first line of zebras.

20

To think that I was clear from danger was a **grave misunderstanding**. Above my heavy breaths, I heard a loud roar in the vicinity. I peeked over the grass and saw a ferocious lion charging forward with powerful strides, chasing down an unlucky straggler. The lion pounced on the zebra before bringing it to the ground. I watched in awe as the lion devoured the zebra, almost missing out on the **opportune moment** that had been served to me on a silver platter.

25

I precariously crept behind a log, trying my best to stay as silent as possible. My hand was no longer wrapped around Mama's soft warm hand. Instead, it was gripping the cold shaft of the spear firmly.

30

With the lion still distracted by its **prized meat**, I leapt onto it and plunged the spear into the nape of its neck. The lion roared in anguish and flung me off its back. Without giving me enough time to recover from the fall, the lion retaliated and slashed my back with its massive claws. I cried out in pain but I knew that I had come too far to falter. I bided my time as the lion prepared to deliver its finishing blow. As it brought down its claws, I rolled to the side before deftly leaping onto its back. I screamed triumphantly, forcing the spear deeper in.

35

Retracing my steps, I lugged the lion's carcass all the way back home. Having slain the most fearsome beast in Africa, **I had finally become an adult.**

40

Adapted from Adriel's Nee 'A Lionhearted Man'

71. Why was it not like any other normal day for the author? [1m]

72. "...the odds clearly against me" (line 12). What were the odds against the author? [2m]

(i) _____

(ii) _____

73. Explain clearly what the author meant by "Lady Luck was smiling down upon me" (lines 16-17). [2m]

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

Statement	True / False	Reason
It was raining heavily when the author woke up.		
The author was almost run over by the stampede.		

75. 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. [3m]

Words from the passage	What the words refer to
my instincts (line 22)	
grave misunderstanding (line 25)	
prized meat (line 34)	

76. Why was the lion devouring the zebra considered an opportune moment (line 29) for the author? [2m]

77. Based on lines 25 to 40, fill in the blanks using one of the words from the box below to show the author's feelings or mental state. Each word can only be used once. [3m]

cautious	determined	amazed	shocked	triumphant
----------	------------	--------	---------	------------

When the lion was eating the zebra



the author was _____

When the author hid behind the log



the author was _____

When the author knew he had come too far to falter



the author was _____

78. Pick out a three-word phrase from lines 34 to 39 that tells us that the author was waiting patiently for the perfect moment to attack the lion. [1m]

79. Which **two** words from lines 35 to 40 have the same meaning as:
The two words are from separate sentences. [2m]

(i) large and heavy-looking

(ii) quickly and skilfully

80. "...I had finally become an adult" (line 41). How had the author become an adult? Support your answer with evidence from the passage. [2m]

END OF PAPER

ANSWER KEY

YEAR : 2019
LEVEL : PRIMARY 6
SCHOOL : CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
SUBJECT : ENGLISH
TERM : PRELIM

BOOKLET A

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
3	4	2	1	3	1	4	3	3	2
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
1	1	1	4	3	2	3	3	4	3
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28		
3	3	1	3	3	1	2	3		

BOOKLET B

Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38
A	G	K	M	D	E	C	F	Q	J

Q39	Q40	Q41	Q42	Q43	Q44
development	indispensable	successful	has	convenient	dependent
Q45	Q46	Q47	Q48	Q49	Q50
distraction	oblivious	safety	when	require	quality
Q51	Q52	Q53	Q54	Q55	Q56
know	is	ways	but	stimulates	for
Q57	Q58	Q59	Q60	Q61	Q62
mind	proven	good	reading	from	ease
Q63	Q64	Q65			
into	pace	benefits			

- Q66** Aiman as well as his family members, enjoys reading novels.
Q67 Having come in second place in the Art contest, he pumped his fists in the air.
Q68 Michael asked Jane what time the movie would end.
Q69 Should her flight be cancelled, mother will send you a message.
Q70 Mike refuses to listen to any advice because of his stubbornness.
Q71 On this day, the author would be embarking on his journey to adulthood by killing a lion.
Q72 (i) The author was a scrawny boy.
(ii) The author only had a poorly crafted spear.
Q73 The author felt very lucky to find shade in a huge field of trees to escape the unbearable heat.
Q74 (a) False → It was raining the previous day.
(b) True → He narrowly missed the first line of the stampede.

- Q75 my instincts (line 22) → running away from the oncoming herd of zebra.
grave misunderstanding (line 25) → The author thinking he was clear of danger.
prized meat (line 34) → The zebra the lion had killed.
- Q76 It was an opportune moment as it was the best time for the author to kill the lion as it was distracted with eating the zebra.
- Q77 When the lion was eating the zebra → the author was amazed
When the author hid behind the log → the author was cautious
When the author knew he had come too far to falter → the author was determined
- Q78 bided my time
- Q79 (i) massive
(ii) deftly
- Q80 The author became an adult by venturing alone into the African wilderness to kill a lion, the most fearsome beast in Africa.

2
2/10

