

TAO NAN SCHOOL

PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH LANGUAGE MID-YEAR EXAMINATION – 2006

PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)

Name: _____ ()

Date: 8 May 2006

Class: Primary 6 _____

Time: 7.45 - 9.35 a.m.

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.

BOOKLET A

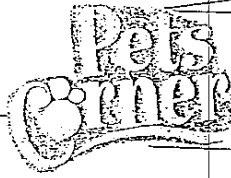
	SCORE	MARKS
BOOKLET A		30
BOOKLET B		65
TOTAL		95

Parent's Signature: _____

Section A (5 x 1m)

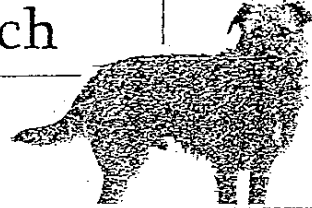
Graphic Stimulus

Study the following text below and then answer the questions that follow it.



CATS CLASSIFIED

Party by the Beach



Celebrate the year of the dog with your pet!

Join us for a fun-filled party at the beach. Check out the largest dog biscuit in town, fun contests, cool freebies, and booths with a wide variety of products and services for pets.

Date: Sunday 12 Mar 2006

Time: 10.00am to 5.00pm

Venue: East Coast Park E2
(Next to East Coast Lagoon Hawker Centre)

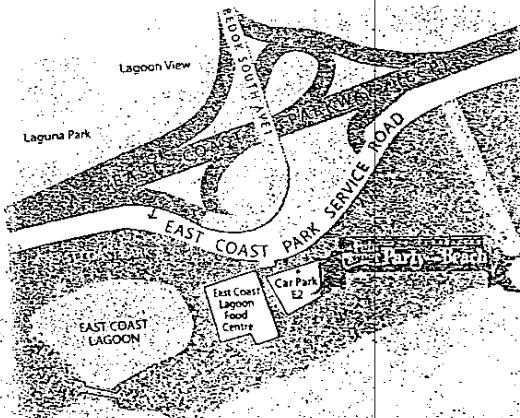
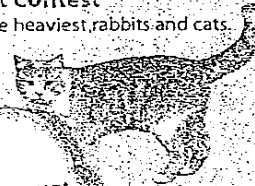
Freebies

Cut out the coupons in CATS Classified in The Sunday Times on 12 Mar 2006 to get your free party pack, yummy mini cake for dogs, popcorn and candy floss.



Programme

- 11.30am Champion Wagger Contest**
Spot the dog that wags its tail for the longest time!
- 12.30pm Obedience Contest**
Check out well-trained dogs that can sit still in the face of temptations.
- 1.30pm Best Catcher Contest**
A catching contest that tests the chemistry between owner and dog.
- 2.30pm Official Cookie Cutting Session**
The 1st 30 pet owners will get to cut up the largest dog cookie in town.
- 3.00pm Hamster Race**
See pet hamsters race down a mini-race track in running balls! The fastest hamster wins.
- 4.00pm Heavy Weight Contest**
Be amazed by the heaviest rabbits and cats.



Gift with Purchase

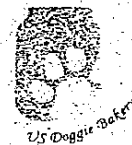
Spend \$10 in a single receipt at the event and get an exclusive handphone strap*.
*While stocks last

Free Admission!

Organiser:



Sponsor:



Venue Sponsor:



Please be reminded that pets are required by law to be leashed in public. We also appreciate your co-operation in keeping your pets away from small children and members of the public who may be offended or frightened by them. Be a responsible pet owner - give your pet water to drink throughout the day, and clean up after your pet.

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 Mark Reader (OMR).

1. This public event is organised by _____.
 - (1) Pets Corner
 - (2) National Parks
 - (3) CATS Classified
 - (4) US Doggie Bakery

2. Rachel wants to treat her dog to a mini cake. She can obtain one by _____.
 - (1) spending \$10 in a single receipt at the event
 - (2) presenting the coupons found in CATS Classified
 - (3) being one of the first 30 for the cookie cutting session
 - (4) visiting some of the booths which have a variety of products

3. Gregory should participate in the _____ Contest to see if his pet understands him well.
 - (1) Obedience
 - (2) Best Catcher
 - (3) Heavy Weight
 - (4) Champion Wagger

4. The main aim of the party is to _____.
 - (1) usher in the year of the dog
 - (2) launch the sale of the biggest dog cookie
 - (3) promote the keeping of pets in Singapore
 - (4) encourage pets owners to spend more time with their pets

5. Which of the following statements is **true** of the party?
 - (1) CATS Classified is involved in the search for lost cats.
 - (2) Owners can take their pets to the public toilets if necessary.
 - (3) Owners who leave their dogs on their own to roam about may be fined.
 - (4) The first 30 dog owners will be invited to participate in the cookie cutting session.

Section B (7 x 1 m)

Grammar

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 Mark Reader (OMR).

6. Henry witnessed the illegal immigrant _____ across the causeway.

- (1) swim
- (2) swam
- (3) swum
- (4) swims

7. John is looking forward to _____ his long-lost friend from Australia.

- (1) see
- (2) seeing
- (3) be seen
- (4) having seen

8. He speaks with an accent, _____ he?

- (1) does
- (2) doesn't
- (3) can
- (4) can't

9. If I _____ her earlier, she would not have bought that car.

- (1) inform
- (2) informed
- (3) have informed
- (4) had informed

10. By this time next week, I _____ to London.

- (1) will fly
- (2) would fly
- (3) will be flying
- (4) would have flown

11. He was so surprised he just could not _____ what I was trying to tell him.

- (1) take in
- (2) take on
- (3) take up
- (4) take over

12. "I'm sorry I _____ at you. I didn't know you were on the phone," apologised Mark.

- (1) shout
- (2) shouted
- (3) am shouting
- (4) was shouting

Section C (3x1m)

Punctuation

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 OMR.

Uncle Andrew rubbed his hands and cracked his knuckles. He had very long beautifully white fingers that belied his actual age.

"I am delighted to see you," he said (13) "Two children are just what I've wanted."

"Please, Uncle Andrew, it's nearly time for dinner and I've got to go home (14) Polly cried.

"Not just yet. I'm in the middle of a great experiment and the two of you will be able to play a part in it," Uncle Andrew said.

"Look here, Uncle Andrew," said Digory, "it really is dinner time and you must let us out."

"Must I (15) said Uncle Andrew.

13. (1) (:) colon
(2) (.) full stop
(3) (,) comma
(4) (;) semi-colon
14. (1) (,) comma
(2) (,") comma and inverted commas
(3) (.)" full stop and inverted commas
(4) (!)" exclamation mark and inverted commas
15. (1) (,) comma
(2) (!) exclamation mark
(3) (, ") comma and inverted commas
(4) (? ") question mark and inverted commas

Section D (5x1m)

Vocabulary

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 OMR.

16. Mother Theresa worked with the desolate and those _____ with terrible diseases.
- (1) infected
 - (2) polluted
 - (3) inundated
 - (4) contaminated
17. The unfortunate soldier _____ towards the battalion commander after being shot in the thigh.
- (1) strode
 - (2) trooped
 - (3) hobbled
 - (4) sauntered
18. Some of the common _____ of an intellectual genius are dedication and perseverance.
- (1) traits
 - (2) features
 - (3) highlights
 - (4) peculiarities - weird
19. Siti mentioned that she _____ her success to her caring teachers.
- (1) attributed
 - (2) conveyed
 - (3) associated
 - (4) contributed
20. Little Jamal has _____ spilt water on the new carpet because he wanted to get his mother's attention.
- (1) incidentally
 - (2) involuntarily
 - (3) inadvertently
 - (4) intentionally

Section E (5x1m)

Vocabulary Cloze

For each question from 21 to 25, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined words. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the OMR.

In ancient China, a woman was considered beautiful if she had bound feet. Women with great wealth spent an (21) immense amount of money on shoes with (22) elaborate beaded patterns. However, bound feet would be quite (23) impractical for today's women. In those days, bound feet were regarded as a (24) symbol of a man's ability to provide for his wife. In modern society, women would (25) shudder at the thought of having bound feet.

- 21. (1) enormous
(2) impressive
(3) incalculable
(4) immeasurable

- 22. (1) intense
(2) intricate
(3) beautiful
(4) expensive

- 23. (1) unusable
(2) unfeasible
(3) unrealistic
(4) unreasonable

- 24. (1) sign
(2) token
(3) figure
(4) emblem

- 25. (1) shake
(2) quaver
(3) vibrate
(4) tremble

Section F (5x1m)

Comprehension MCQ

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

My name is James. Eight days ago, I received a terrible shock. I was reading the newspapers while I was at my friend's house. On page three of the papers, I noticed a picture. It was taken with the security camera and it was really sharp. I could see everything clearly. It was a picture of a man holding up the bank with a gun. He had a strange thing on his face, a type of scar. He had used a scarf to hide his facial features. However, I did not need to see his face. I knew straightaway that it was my father. Upon taking a closer look, I even recognised the gun by the scratches on the wooden handle. I started to shake. I knew I was going to be sick too. 5

"Hey, what's wrong with you?" Sam, my best friend, asked. "You've gone all white!" 10

"Yes," I said. "I feel ..." I did not say anything else. I could not. I ran to the bathroom and I remembered to take the newspapers with me. I held on to it tightly as I ran. However, I was not sick. I just needed to sit down. I took the whole page out of the papers, the page with the picture on it, and the page it was joined to, so Sam would not notice anything missing unless he looked at the page numbers. I was truly ashamed of my father. Then I folded the page until it was really small and pushed it down the back of my jeans. I walked out of the toilet. "Must have been the meatballs and spaghetti I had for lunch," I mumbled. I said a hasty farewell to Sam and went home. 15 20

Mum, dad and my brother Billy were home. Everyone was in the kitchen, where we usually eat. I noticed that dinner was almost ready as mum was about to put it on the table. I could not bring myself to look at my father. Suddenly, I started shaking again. "I've got to go to the bathroom," I gasped and practically ran out of the room. I was not sick but I just had to look at the picture again. I took it out of my jeans and straightened it out. I stared at it. The picture had not changed. Stuffing it back into my jeans, I trudged out. The situation was serious and I felt grave. 25

As I was having dinner, I was deep in thought. Dad must have had a reason for doing what he did. He used to work in a factory as a production operator. When the factory went semi-automated, new machines were bought. Manpower was understandably reduced. As a result, dad and forty others were retrenched. Desperation set in as dad looked for another job. 30

A whole week passed and I did not utter a word about the picture. However, I could not keep quiet any longer. I took the picture of the bank robbery and put it on the bulletin board, just beside my bed, in my room. This bulletin board was for people I considered 'My Heroes'. It had photographs of film stars and footballers on it. That evening, when dad came in to say goodnight, I pretended that I was reading. I did not look at him. I could not. When dad bent down to kiss me goodnight as usual, he saw the picture. 35 40

26. James first recognised the bank robber from the _____.
- (1) scar on his face
 - (2) gun that the robber used
 - (3) facial features of the robber
 - (4) scarf that he used to cover his face
27. James removed the whole page of the newspaper because he _____.
- (1) wanted to look at the picture again
 - (2) did not have any newspapers at home
 - (3) did not want his friend to see the picture
 - (4) wanted to show the picture to his family
28. In line ~~24-25~~²⁷⁻²⁸, James was _____ when he left the toilet.
- (1) angry
 - (2) solemn
 - (3) anxious
 - (4) miserable
29. Why did James' father lose his job?
- (1) He was retrenched.
 - (2) The factory hired other people.
 - (3) He was not productive enough.
 - (4) His services were no longer required.
30. Why did James pin the picture on the bulletin board?
- (1) His father was one of his heroes.
 - (2) He wanted the picture beside his bed.
 - (3) He wanted the picture to catch his father's attention.
 - (4) He wanted to be reminded of the incident every day.

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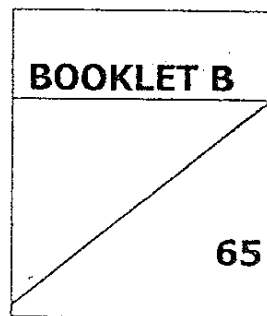
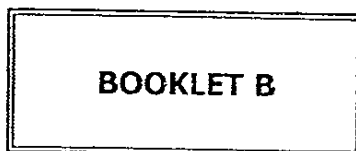
INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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.



Section G (10x1m)

Grammar Cloze

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 blanks provided. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted in order to avoid confusion during marking.

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) of	(D) into	(G) where	(K) who	(N) up
(B) about	(E) out	(H) by	(L) over	(P) which
(C) whom	(F) for	(J) on	(M) under	(Q) in

It was late at night. The streets of Singapore were teeming with teens – most of (31) _____ were out without their parents' knowledge. A Straits Times team visited six neighbourhoods (32) _____ five late nights last week and found at least thirty groups hanging (33) _____ at void decks, playgrounds and outside closed shopping malls.

All fell (34) _____ the police's definition of "loitering" – and if spotted (35) _____ them, their parents could soon be hearing about it. The police had recently announced that youngsters under 17 might be reported to their parents by officers (36) _____ patrol if they were found loitering in public places after 11 p.m.

Police will send parents letters stating when and (37) _____ their children are spotted as well as the contact number of the nearest police post (38) _____ parents can call (39) _____ more information. Most of the teenagers The Straits Times team approached said they were aware (40) _____ the new police initiative. However, they felt that it was "within our rights" to stay out.

Section H (10x1m)

Editing for Spelling and Grammar

Correct each word in **bold** for spelling and each underlined word for grammar.

Write the correct word in the relevant box.

(41)

Ching was made the head of the labourers. Wang Lung had **thorrahly** tested

(42)

him and found the man honest and faithful. He pay him well - two pieces of silver a

(43)

(44)

month, apart by his food. Although Wang Lung kept **errging** Ching to eat well, the

(45)

latter still did not put on weight, remaining always a small, spare and **leen** man of great

(46)

(47)

gravity. Nevvathetes, he laboured gladly, pottering about silnet from dawn until dark,

(48)

speaking wiith his feeble voice if there was anything to be said. Hour after hour, he

(49)

lifted his hoe and let it fallen and at dawn and sunset he would carry to the fields the

(50)

buckets of water and **fertalaisir** to put upon the vegetable rows. At the end of each

year, Ching would report to his master the yields of the harvest.

Adapted from The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck

Section I (15x1m)

Comprehension Cloze

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

Hardly any human can survive a fall of more than six storeys onto hard concrete. Cats have a better (51) _____ of balance than we do. This is because the nerve messages from their eyes (52) _____ their muscles and joints work extremely fast. Also cats use their tails for balance. When they fall, they immediately twist and turn (53) _____ space so that all four (54) _____ are pointing downwards. A cat has a single carpal pad that lies behind and above on the feet. This pad does not come into contact (55) _____ the ground nor does it play a (56) _____ in normal locomotion. However, it is thought to have a role when the cat (57) _____ after a jump.

Cats that fall from tall buildings do not (58) _____ injuries in exactly the way you might expect. As you would predict, the higher the distance from which the animal falls – up to seven storeys in height, the rate of cat injuries steadily (59) _____. However, above that (60) _____, the rate of fractures inflicted actually decreases. It (61) _____ out that a cat reaches its terminal speed after about seven storeys. (62) _____ this point, the cat's inner ear system is no longer stimulated (63) _____ acceleration and the speed is constant. The cat therefore relaxes and spreads its legs so that its body and limbs (64) _____ advantage of maximum air resistance – much in the same way that a (65) _____ parachutist stabilises his descent.

This probably explains why there's the saying that cats have nine lives.

Adapted from Singapore Scientist

Section J (5x2m)

Synthesis

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).

66. Mary cut the birthday cake yesterday.

The birthday cake _____

67. The athletes were eager to win the race. They trained very hard.

_____ because of

68. Mother asked Jack, "Whom were you with yesterday?"

Mother asked Jack _____

69. If it rains tomorrow, the Swimming Carnival will be postponed.

_____ should

70. Ben was very pleased to receive the letter from Alice.

It was with great _____

Section K (10x2m)

Comprehension Open

Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

One night, my father came home from work carrying a tortoise under his arm. With great difficulty, he placed it on the kitchen table and the six of us watched as it pushed out its head and surveyed its surroundings. My sister, Anthea, leant forward and stroked its shell. A stream of yellow liquid trickled out from its rear end and she jumped back.

5

“Get that thing out of this house and into the backyard where it belongs!” said my mother sharply when she finally strode into the kitchen. “Where did you find such a big tortoise?”

My father said sheepishly. “This man, Oki, from Angola was stopped as he was coming through today. His whole family too, seven kids, dogs, hens, the lot. He didn’t have any papers so they all ended up at the Camp to get sorted out. The dogs had to go into the kennel and the chickens are in a cage there too. Then, when I was parking his truck, I found this big rock sitting in a corner at the back. I thought, he’ll probably not last out here. They’ll be at this camp for months.”

10

“Why didn’t you let him go?”

15

“I thought the children might welcome a new addition to the family. He’s a heavyweight.”

My father was a policeman. At that time, he was posted to the border post at Oshikango where there was heavy human traffic every day. He could spot a moving shadow in the bush without his binoculars and soon got a reputation for being a good man to have on a border crossing. However, it was a depressing post as many of the people came over on one leg, the other a bloody stump wrapped in filthy bandages.

20

My house which stood near the general dealers, was a standard government box with a red roof. It was too small for five children. There was no place for pets in our house. My brothers were allergic to cats and according to my mother, all dogs shed their hair and were flea carriers. We just could not afford to feed a dog.

25

“A pet at last!” I was enchanted. “Let’s call him Alonso.”

Mr Alonso owned the fruit and vegetable shop opposite the general dealer. He sold wilted turnips and soft, dusty oranges from their cartons. He made most of his money from the pinball machine that stood on the verandah outside his shop.

30

“He’s illegal,” said my mother. “He’s livestock. We could get into trouble.”

We knew about illegal immigrants. Every day, Angolans in old trucks tried to cross the border to escape the civil war. They were stopped at the customs post, their papers studied. The lucky ones were allowed through, to a life full of peaceful possibilities in the Republic. Many others were rejected.

35

ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES

71. How many members were there in the narrator's family?

72. Why did the narrator's mother want to put the tortoise in the yard?

73. Where did the narrator's father find the tortoise?

74. Give two reasons why the narrator's father decided to bring the tortoise home.

75. How do you know that the narrator's father had good eyesight?

76. Explain clearly how people ended up with 'a bloody stump wrapped in filthy bandages' (line 22 - 23).

77. From the narrator's point of view, state two reasons why the family did not keep pets at home.

78. What was Mr Alonso's major source of income?

79. Why was the narrator's mother worried about keeping the tortoise?

80. Describe clearly the two-step immigration process that the Angolans had to go through at the Oshikango border post.

END OF PAPER

Tao Nan Primary School

Primary 6 English Preliminary Exam (2006)

Answer Sheets

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
3	2	2	4	3	1	2	2	4	4
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
1	2	2	4	4	1	3	1	1	4
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30
1	2	2	1	4	1	3	2	1	3
Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
whom	over	out	under	by	on	where	which	for	of

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|------------|----|--------------|----|-------|----|-----------|----|---------|
| 41 | thoroughly | 46 | Nevertheless | 51 | sense | 56 | part | 61 | turns |
| 42 | paid | 47 | silently | 52 | to | 57 | lands | 62 | At |
| 43 | from | 48 | in | 53 | In | 58 | suffer | 63 | by |
| 44 | urging | 49 | fall | 54 | feat | 59 | increases | 64 | take |
| 45 | lean | 50 | fertilizer | 55 | with | 60 | height | 65 | falling |

66. The birthday cake was cut by Mary yesterday.
67. The athletes trained very hard because of their eagerness to win the race.
68. Mother asked Jack who he had been with the previous day.
69. The swimming carnival will be postponed should it rain.
70. It was with great pleasure that Ben received the letter from Alice.
71. There were seven members.
72. It had dirtied the kitchen table by urinating on it.
73. He found it at the back of a man's truck when he was parking it.
74. He knew that the tortoise might not survive there at the camp. He thought that his children would welcome a new addition to the family.
75. He could spot a moving shadow in the bush without his binoculars.
76. They were probably injured in the civil war going on in Angolans, where they came from.
77. His brothers were allergic to cats. His house was too small to keep pets.
78. It was earnings from the pinball machine.
79. Keeping a tortoise was illegal and it was livestock. They could get into trouble.
80. They would be stopped at the custom post and their papers would be studied.