

**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION (2021)**  
**PRIMARY SIX**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

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

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

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

18 August 2021

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.

Write your answers in this booklet.

Components		Marks Awarded	Max Marks
Situational Writing			15
Continuous Writing			40
Language Use & Comprehension	A	28	95
	B	67	
Listening Comprehension			20
Oral	Reading	10	30
	SBC	20	
TOTAL			200
			100

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

This booklet consists of 8 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. "Why \_\_\_\_\_ the boy run into the cave when he saw the bears?" asked little Kenny when he watched the news.
  - (1) did
  - (2) has
  - (3) had
  - (4) does
  
2. All the furniture, with the covers and cushions, \_\_\_\_\_ wrapped carefully by the movers this morning.
  - (1) is
  - (2) are
  - (3) was
  - (4) were
  
3. It takes any time \_\_\_\_\_ two and three hours for the coach to reach the next rest stop on the highway to Malacca.
  - (1) in
  - (2) until
  - (3) from
  - (4) between
  
4. "Let's invite the famous writer to our Book Festival, \_\_\_\_\_? He could share some great writing tips with us," the manager suggested.
  - (1) do we
  - (2) shall we
  - (3) don't we
  - (4) shan't we
  
5. He did not have \_\_\_\_\_ snacks to offer the stray dog as there was nothing left in the pantry.
  - (1) any
  - (2) few
  - (3) some
  - (4) several

6. Devi and \_\_\_\_\_ prepared a birthday card for Mrs Lim, our form teacher.
- (1) I
  - (2) me
  - (3) my
  - (4) mine
7. The game cards were a gift from Rezia. \_\_\_\_\_ large collection was featured in social media two days ago.
- (1) who
  - (2) which
  - (3) whom
  - (4) whose
8. The teacher was firm when he refused to let his students \_\_\_\_\_ symbols with negative messages.
- (1) draw
  - (2) drew
  - (3) drawn
  - (4) drawing
9. \_\_\_\_\_ a busy work schedule, Marcus finds it difficult to volunteer at the home for the aged.
- (1) Due to
  - (2) Though
  - (3) Despite
  - (4) Besides
10. Bungee jumping is one of the \_\_\_\_\_ activities offered by the Outdoor Camp as compared to abseiling.
- (1) exciting
  - (2) very exciting
  - (3) more exciting
  - (4) most exciting

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 huge pillar in the sports hall \_\_\_\_\_ my view of the basketball match.
- (1) barred
  - (2) curbed
  - (3) prevented
  - (4) obstructed
12. The Talent Show is held \_\_\_\_\_, once in March of 2021 and the other in September of 2021.
- (1) annually
  - (2) biennially
  - (3) biannually
  - (4) perennially
13. Technology is always changing and it has become hard to \_\_\_\_\_ with it.
- (1) keep on
  - (2) keep up
  - (3) keep away
  - (4) keep around
14. Ten years ago, people thought that drinking bubble tea was just a \_\_\_\_\_ but the beverage is still an all-time favourite today.
- (1) fad
  - (2) style
  - (3) habit
  - (4) fashion
15. Jack had no \_\_\_\_\_ of the accident after he had suffered a serious bump on his head.
- (1) retention
  - (2) recollection
  - (3) reminiscence
  - (4) remembrance

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)

The bowls never needed washing. The hungry homeless boys would devour the watery cereal, licking their fingers (16) assiduously, not wanting to waste any stray splashes that might have been cast thereon. They had excellent appetites after suffering from starvation for three months. Wild with hunger, (17) coupled with a voracious appetite, one boy hinted to his companions that he might even eat the frail boy sitting beside him. (18) Without a doubt, everyone believed him. Desperately hungry and overcome with a sense of (19) despair, he rose from the table and advanced cautiously towards the ruthless Master, somewhat alarmed at his own courage and (20) implored him for more food. He hoped that the Master would feed the boys and him with some leftovers.

16. (1) speedily  
(2) vigorously  
(3) thoroughly  
(4) consistently
17. (1) connected  
(2) combined  
(3) blended  
(4) rooted
18. (1) Easily  
(2) Possibly  
(3) Certainly  
(4) Doubtfully
19. (1) weakness  
(2) uneasiness  
(3) restlessness  
(4) hopelessness
20. (1) urged  
(2) begged  
(3) ordered  
(4) requested

Study this information on the Gems Island website and then answer questions 21 to 28.

## Welcome to GEMS ISLAND!

If you are looking for a holiday or weekend retreat, take a short ferry ride, and you'll be here in no time. The delicate balance of nature on the island is conscientiously maintained, allowing it to remain a haven for wildlife as well as the home of popular attractions and the country's only beach resort.

### Getting Around...



**The Islander Bus** is the only form of transport for passengers moving around the island as no private vehicles are allowed. It travels only in one direction. It arrives at each bus stop to pick up and drop off passengers every 20 minutes or so. The ride between stops is about five minutes. Please note that the bus is not disabled friendly.

### BONUS

A local guide will be on board to provide an interesting and educational running commentary about the island. You will also receive coupons that entitle you to special deals on admission tickets and purchases at all attractions!

### Bus Ticket

Buy the bus ticket from the guide or get it at a discount online.

**Be rewarded for planning ahead!**

Enjoy a further discount if you reserve your bus ticket at least a month in advance.

### Main Attractions:

#### Ruby Village

Visit the heart of the island to indulge in some shopping and a leisurely afternoon tea. The quaint shops and cafes are a delight to explore!

#### Zipaline Adventures

Take zipline rides amidst some of the tallest trees on the island. Walk-ins are welcome. Reservations are required one day in advance for groups of four or more. Zipaline is most easily accessed from Emerald Bay as compared to Topaz Beach via a pedestrian path. Alternatively, a free shuttle bus service between Zipaline and Bus Stop 4 can be arranged in advance.

#### Diamonds Restaurant

Plan to spend a few hours here and savour a sumptuous three-course meal prepared by an award-winning chef. Reservations are required.

#### Sapphire Estate

Stop here for a quick meal! Kiosks offering mouth-watering local delights are located right behind the bus stop. You can rent bicycles to ride around the island.

#### Emerald Bay

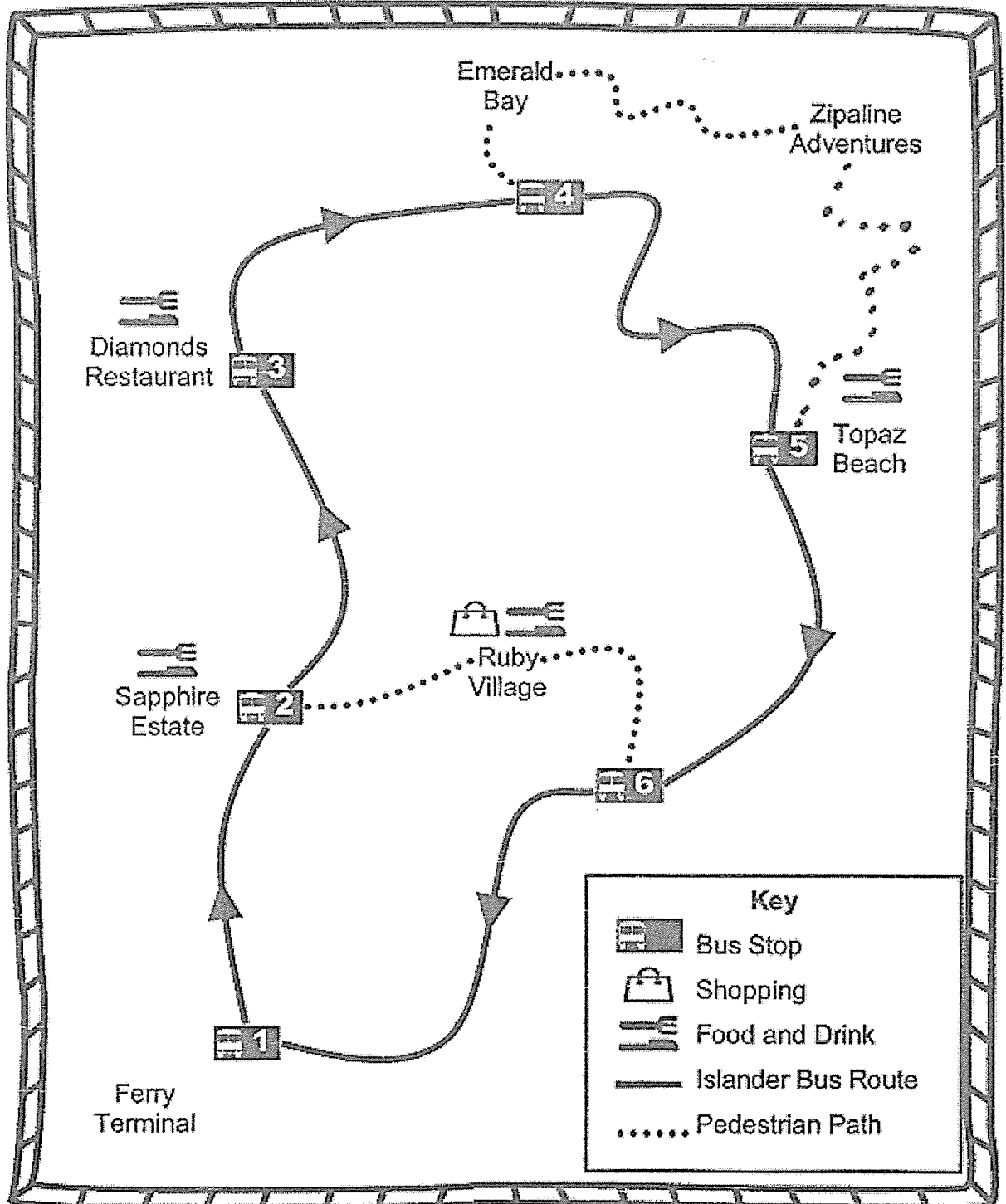
Head north and enjoy breathtaking views of the sea! The cliff walk can be done in an hour or two and takes you past fascinating rock formations.

#### Topaz Beach

Relax on the beach and take a dip in the sea! Get the best view of the unobstructed horizon at sunrise or sunset. If you are craving for grilled seafood, stop by at Sea Gourmet Bar.

*Buy the Islander bus ticket now!*

# ISLANDER BUS ROUTE MAP

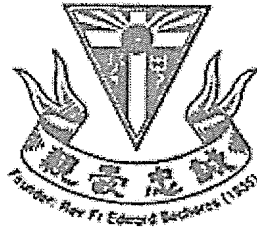


For each question from 21 to 28, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4) and shade your answer on the Optical Answer Sheet. (8 marks)

21. Why do you think italics are used in "*The Islander Bus*"?
- (1) It is to draw the attention of the readers.
  - (2) It is to create a contrast to excite the readers.
  - (3) It is to provide clarity of information to the readers.
  - (4) It is to make the words more visually pleasing for the readers.
22. Which of the following statements about Gems Island is correct?
- (1) Visitors can stay in a number of places on the island.
  - (2) It is a great habitat for wildlife and a popular tourist attraction.
  - (3) It is a destination suitable for people of all ages and wheelchair-bound visitors.
  - (4) Visitors can be educated about the island by listening to the recorded commentary on the Islander Bus.
23. Why do you think the "Islander Bus Route Map" is provided?
- (1) to help visitors navigate their way around the island
  - (2) to inform visitors of the route taken by the Islander Bus
  - (3) to encourage visitors to visit every attraction on the island
  - (4) to show visitors the activities available at various locations
24. The quote "Be rewarded for planning ahead!" in the Bus Ticket section is telling visitors that they will \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) pay less for Islander Bus tickets if they purchase from the guide
  - (2) be given special deals and discounts when they take the Islander Bus
  - (3) pay more for the Islander Bus tickets on the day of travel if they purchase online
  - (4) pay much less for the Islander Bus tickets if they are purchased a month in advance before arrival

25. Ashton, an outdoor enthusiast, wants to go to the Zipalene Adventures with three friends. They can \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) just walk in to get their tickets
  - (2) make a reservation one day in advance
  - (3) hop on to a shuttle bus at Bus Stop 4 at any time to get there
  - (4) walk there from Topaz Beach which is more convenient than Emerald Bay
26. Mr and Mrs Tan plan to have their meal before catching the ferry home. Where should they have their meal so that they can catch the nearest bus back to the Ferry Terminal?
- (1) Ruby Village
  - (2) Emerald Bay
  - (3) Sapphire Estate
  - (4) Diamonds Restaurant
27. What is the main purpose of the information given on this website?
- (1) to promote the island as a holiday destination
  - (2) to boost the economy for the businesses on the island
  - (3) to attract wildlife enthusiasts and outdoor lovers to visit the island
  - (4) to spread the message of conservation of nature to visitors of the island.
28. Which of the following is true about getting around the island?
- (1) There is no free transport around the island.
  - (2) One can only get around the island in rented bicycles.
  - (3) The Islander Bus takes visitors to all the places on the island.
  - (4) Visitors can travel around the island in the Islander Bus or shuttle bus.

**GO ON TO BOOKLET B**



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PRIMARY SIX  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (    )

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

18 August 2021

52 Questions  
(67 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.

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) are	(G) have	(K) of	(N) through
(B) all	(E) for	(H) however	(L) on	(P) to
(C) among	(F) from	(J) in	(M) or	(Q) who

As the saying goes, you are what you eat. One's health has always been closely linked to one's diet. There (29) \_\_\_\_\_ foods which are nutritional powerhouses that can make us healthier with every bite. Proceed (30) \_\_\_\_\_ the nearest market and you will find foods that have the power to fight diabetes or heart disease. (31) \_\_\_\_\_ other words, they can literally save your life.

A large study found that people of any age (32) \_\_\_\_\_ started including healthy foods in their diets improved their chances of living longer. Replacing one serving of red or processed meat (33) \_\_\_\_\_ day with one serving of nuts and peas, (34) \_\_\_\_\_ instance, was linked to significant reduction of risk of health problems later in life.

Experts (35) \_\_\_\_\_ also chosen kale, a green leafy vegetable, as one (36) \_\_\_\_\_ the healthiest foods around as it is packed with nutrients that are particularly beneficial for our eyes, heart and bones. For seafood lovers, salmon, whether farmed, wild-caught, fresh, frozen (37) \_\_\_\_\_ canned, is rich in protein, fatty acids and vitamins – (38) \_\_\_\_\_ of which are critical for good health. Hence, the next time your kitchen needs a new haul of groceries, be sure to pick up some of these superfoods!

Adapted from Reader's Digest Feb 2020 Issue Asia <18 Foods Proven to Heal by Dawn Yanek>



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

Hello Grandma,

How are you? It has been a long time since I last spoke to you! I just wanted to

39.

let you know a little bit about what has been happened in school recently.

40.

I was given the oportunesty to take part in a Creative Writing Workshop, open

41.

only to pupils who have been exclusive chosen by their English Language teachers. I was

42.

both shocked and flattering to have been chosen by my teacher. However, when I found

43.

44.

out about the entry rekwirements that must be satisfied, I was extremely dawnted.

45.

My teacher said that I had to come up with a collect of at least five original

46.

creative writing pieces. These pieces had to be vet by my teacher before they were

47.

uploaded to the online submition portal.

48.

Throughout the duration of the next few days, I burnt the midnight oil on order

49.

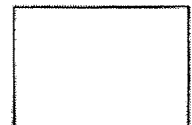
50.

to put my pawtfoleo together. Thankfully, my entry was sukcesfull!

I hope to hear from you soon, Grandma! I miss you!

Love,

Isabel



Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

We have cared for our sick and injured for thousands of years, though not always by trained personnel until recent years. Have you ever wondered how the profession of nursing came (51) \_\_\_\_\_?

Florence Nightingale, the founder of nursing, was only a young woman when she (52) \_\_\_\_\_ a need for proper healthcare as her country, Britain, was in the midst of a raging war. She was from a wealthy family but did not conform (53) \_\_\_\_\_ society's expectations of her. She learned how to provide healthcare at an institution overseas. Armed with the knowledge she had (54) \_\_\_\_\_ from her studies, she worked her way up and became a supervisor at a woman's hospital.

Upon hearing that (55) \_\_\_\_\_ was needed at the war front, Nightingale volunteered to go. The moment she arrived at the barracks hospital, she found sick and injured soldiers lying around in filth. There was a lack of basic (56) \_\_\_\_\_ such as food and clean water. Thus, the (57) \_\_\_\_\_ could not maintain personal hygiene and resorted to eating rotten food in order to survive. Poor sanitation and malnutrition caused the high death rate and over time, even the doctors and nurses tragically (58) \_\_\_\_\_ to the diseases.

(59) \_\_\_\_\_ the risks that they faced, Nightingale and the other nurses worked hard to clean up the hospital and provide patients with the (60) \_\_\_\_\_ care they could. In order to convince the government officials to support her (61) \_\_\_\_\_, Nightingale informed them that most of the soldiers' deaths were caused by diseases and poor hygiene – a sad reality that could have been (62) \_\_\_\_\_ with proper healthcare. As a result of her intelligence and determination, adequate resources were sent to the hospital. This in turn saw the death rate (63) \_\_\_\_\_ dramatically.

(64) \_\_\_\_\_ 1860, Nightingale opened the very first nursing school in London, which was known (65) \_\_\_\_\_ the Florence Nightingale School for Nurses. People started to understand the importance of proper healthcare and nursing became a respectable profession as more nursing schools sprang up worldwide.

*Adapted from Inspire Magazine 2018 'A History of Nursing' by Hwa Shi-Hsia*



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. The farmer ploughed the field. Then, he sowed the grains.

Having \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

67. The problem sum is complex. Mr Ahmad needs more time to solve it.

Due to the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

68. "Where was the laptop placed yesterday?" Raj asked Nelson.

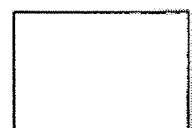
Raj asked Nelson \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

69. If the toddler watches his favourite videos, he will calm down.

\_\_\_\_\_ unless  
\_\_\_\_\_

70. The singer was surrounded by the eager fans the moment she stepped out of the building.

The eager fans \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80.

(20 marks)

Shielding himself as best he could from the downpour, Martin dashed across the street towards a row of conservation shophouses in Singapore's historical neighbourhood. By the time he reached shelter, his shoes and bag were drenched. Yet, he refused to let the dampness hinder him during his day of self-exploration.

Martin had been living in London since his early twenties. The busyness of life took over and the last time he set foot in Singapore was eight years ago, when his sister, Marion, had given birth to Anne. He was back this time, indefinitely, for he had been fired from his company in London. Immediately, Martin was chauffeured around by Marion who sensed his woe and persisted in forcing him to visit relatives and see the latest sights. Martin was grateful for the distraction as being surrounded by family and a new environment eased the gloom that he was feeling. However, he longed to walk the city streets alone and reconnect with Singapore face-to-face, instead of looking through the windows of his sister's car.

An opportunity came knocking when Marion suddenly had urgent errands to run so Martin jumped at the chance to spend the day out by himself. He deliberately made his way to the older parts of town to see if he could still recognise the streets that he used to roam as a child with his father. He was rather taken aback as many shophouses had been refurbished into boutique offices or restaurants. Some of the transformations made rendered the shophouses unrecognisable. There was little left of the old-world charm that he remembered.

Continuing his exploration when the rain finally stopped, Martin came upon a traditional *kopitiam*, dialect for coffeehouse, seemingly forgotten by time. Dim bulbs hung from the ceiling while dusty fans swivelled from side to side, doing their best to shift the humid air. The walls and furniture were chipped and the floors were grimy. In spite of the squalor, Martin felt drawn to this old-style coffeehouse. It was unpretentious and casual, welcoming all who wanted to have a meal or simply take a break, much unlike the unnecessary rigidity and coldness of some modern food courts that served generic fare prepared by disinterested cooks.

Martin sat at one of the tables, relishing the aroma emanating from the simmering soup pot in the only functioning food stall there. This hinted at the expertise with which the soup was prepared, sure evidence that he was in the presence of a master chef who had honed his skills through years of preparing his one dish.

To pay homage to such craft, Martin ordered a large Hokkien prawn noodles soup. The old man got up and shuffled in his slippers towards his stall. With mindless familiarity,

the hawker blanched yellow noodles and green *kangkong* before laying them at the bottom of a bowl. Over them, he placed a generous layer of prawns and meat chunks. At last, he ladled in the promising broth and served the steaming bowl to his sole customer.

35

Martin tucked into the much anticipated meal before him. The prawns and meat were succulent. the vegetables had a satisfying crunch, and the noodles were consistently chewy. Not oily, the broth was packed with a dense flavour that he delighted in above everything else. The old man's creation was more than just food – it was soul food.

With each mouthful, a sense of warmth permeated through Martin's body, awakening forgotten memories of his father lifting him onto stools at roadside hawker stalls. He was starting to remember his roots. Finishing the noodle soup to the last drop, Martin sat back with wave after wave of fond recollections of Singapore. He was truly home.

45

*Adapted from 'Taste' by Verena Tay*

71. How can you tell from the first paragraph that Martin wanted to explore Singapore very much? [1m]

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72. Fill in the following table by identifying the correct word(s) from the passage. [3m]

Question	Word(s) from the passage
a) Which word from the second paragraph tells us that Martin did not know how long his stay in Singapore was going to be?	
b) Which two words from the third paragraph tells us that some of the shophouses were redeveloped? Each word is found in a separate sentence.	

73. "... eased the gloom that he was feeling." (lines 10-11)

a) What was the cause of the gloom that Martin was feeling? [1m]

---

b) Why was the gloom that Martin was feeling beginning to ease? [1m]

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74. Based on lines 5-20, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [3m]

	True/False	Reason
Martin came back to Singapore frequently even though he was working in London.		
Marion was determined to cheer Martin up.		
Martin was eager to explore Singapore with his family.		

75. Fill in the following table to show the differences between a modern food court and the traditional coffeehouse. Refer to paragraph four for your answer. [2m]

	Traditional coffeehouse	Modern food court
Ambience	a)	rigid and cold
Food served	signature dish cooked by a master chef	b)

76. 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]

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
evidence (line 31)	
such craft (line 33)	
them (line 36)	

77. What does the phrase "mindless familiarity" in line 34 tell us about the old man? [2m]

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78. What did Martin like most about the dish he ordered? [1m]

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Martin's shoes and bag were drenched.

\_\_\_\_\_ Martin chanced upon an old *kopitiam*.

\_\_\_\_\_ Martin ate with his father at roadside hawker stalls.

80. How did the bowl of noodles help Martin realise that he was "truly home" (line 45)? Support your answer with evidence from the passage. [2m]

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**END OF PAPER**