

For each question from 1 to 10, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (10 marks)

1. The late Dr. Leo Wong was a compassionate doctor who \_\_\_\_\_ his life to helping the poor.
  - (1) dedicate
  - (2) dedicates
  - (3) is dedicating
  - (4) has dedicated
  
2. One of the players \_\_\_\_\_ absent during the soccer match this morning.
  - (1) is
  - (2) are
  - (3) was
  - (4) were
  
3. The tall man, \_\_\_\_\_ my mother was talking to just now, is my swimming instructor.
  - (1) who
  - (2) which
  - (3) whom
  - (4) whose
  
4. The Sumatran Tiger is \_\_\_\_\_ danger of extinction.
  - (1) in
  - (2) on
  - (3) under
  - (4) within
  
5. Mrs Chan hardly eats durians, \_\_\_\_\_?
  - (1) do she
  - (2) does she
  - (3) don't she
  - (4) doesn't she

(Go on to the next page)

6. "Has anyone here ever \_\_\_\_\_ on a waterbed?" Mrs. Chong asked the class.
- (1) lie
  - (2) lied
  - (3) laid
  - (4) lain
7. \_\_\_\_\_ her humble background, she was diligent in her studies and was awarded a scholarship.
- (1) But
  - (2) Since
  - (3) Despite
  - (4) However
8. Neither Bob nor his brothers \_\_\_\_\_ to be late for school.
- (1) want
  - (2) wants
  - (3) wanting
  - (4) has wanted
9. \_\_\_\_\_ of my classmates wants to go with me to the Art Exhibition.
- (1) All
  - (2) Few
  - (3) None
  - (4) Several
10. The rich woman, a victim \_\_\_\_\_ war, was reduced to poverty.
- (1) in
  - (2) of
  - (3) from
  - (4) upon

(Go on to the next page)

For each question from 11 to 15, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

11. As the floor was full of broken glass, Jasmine had to \_\_\_\_\_ carefully in order not to injure herself.

- (1) strut
- (2) tread
- (3) amble
- (4) lumber

12. The burglar snarled at the police officer, "You don't have a \_\_\_\_\_ of evidence against me."

- (1) strip
- (2) slice
- (3) scrap
- (4) shred

13. Feeling bored, Mr Ismail \_\_\_\_\_ a conversation with a lady sitting next to him in the train.

- (1) strum up
- (2) struck up
- (3) stirred up
- (4) strung up

14. Ants are considered by most of us as pests and are often killed when they \_\_\_\_\_ our living space.

- (1) raid
- (2) harass
- (3) trespass
- (4) protrude

15. These attractive window displays are put up to \_\_\_\_\_ shoppers into our store.

- (1) entice
- (2) engage
- (3) entertain
- (4) enhance

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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)

The scorching sun was high in the sky. Mike had been lost in the desert for almost two days and his water supply was (16) running low. This had been his (17) first mission. As a beginner, he had been tasked by his bosses to meet up with an informant to retrieve details on the (18) whereabouts of a terrorist. However, Mike's plane had suffered engine trouble when he flew over the desert, causing him to make a forced landing.

Sitting on a piece of rock, Mike removed his boots and massaged his ankles. The repeated circular movements (19) lessened the pain of his feet. (20) Looking into the distance, Mike strained his eyes to find some water that could quench his thirst. From the corner of his eyes, he watched as a thick cloud of dust was blowing towards him. A sand storm!

16. (1) wavering  
(2) depleting  
(3) subsiding  
(4) plummeting
17. (1) only  
(2) initial  
(3) original  
(4) elementary
18. (1) place  
(2) setting  
(3) location  
(4) situation
19. (1) eased  
(2) released  
(3) comforted  
(4) slackened
20. (1) Ogling  
(2) Gazing  
(3) Gawking  
(4) Scrutinising

(Go on to the next page)

Study this flyer carefully and answer questions 21 to 28.

# HORSE RIDING COURSE AT SUKAN HILL RIDING CLUB

**Spend a fun-filled day at the Sukan Hill Riding Club!**

Learn to ride ponies and horses by joining our popular Beginner's Course.

## Course Details

**Duration: 3 months**

*(Each lesson lasts 45 minutes and is conducted once a week)*

**Fee: \$200 for adults**

**\$150 for children (12 years and below)**

**Schedule:**

**Tuesday to Sunday (9.00am)**

*Monday and Public Holidays (No course)*

**Location: Sukan Hill Riding Club**



- The first 10 customers who sign up for the Beginner's Course will receive a complimentary \$20 Lyndon's dining voucher and a 15-minute warm-up ride during the first session.
- To sign up for our riding course, please visit or call our office at 67382039. You can also email us at [info@shrc.org](mailto:info@shrc.org).
- Free bus shuttle service is provided from Ang Mo Kio and Choa Chu Kang MRT stations on an hourly basis. Alternatively, you can also take Bus 87 from Ang Mo Kio Bus Interchange and alight at Bus Stop 12.

**Sukan Hill Riding Club**  
5, Farmway Drive, Singapore 648008

*Ten-year-old Jessica Chin is the youngest member of the Beginner's Course at the Sukan Hill Riding Club. She shares her experience in the hope that more participants will be drawn to take up the course.*

I was reading the newspapers one day when I came across an article about horse riding. There was a picture of a girl riding a horse in the article, and I thought, "Wow! The girl looks so carefree!" Ever since then, I have been pestering my parents to let me learn horse riding. At first, they did not agree as they thought that horse-riding was dangerous. However, my first lesson with Sukan Hill Riding Club changed their perception.

After days of scouring the Internet and newspapers for a horse-riding class, my parents and I finally found the advertisement by the Sukan Hill Riding Club. I was over the moon! Registration was easy enough. My mother simply sent them an e-mail that morning and by the afternoon, I was a member of the Course!

Because of school, I was only able to attend classes on the weekends. I was a bundle of nerves during my first lesson, I thought that I had to learn how to ride a horse first. It was only later that I found out that my first lesson was all about getting to overcome your fears and getting familiar with a horse. I learned to pet a horse, feed it and even brush its fur.

Over the next few lessons, I thought that time flew by too fast. My confidence grew as I got better at riding with the help of Coach Fei. I find myself enjoying my rides... and now I'm a member of the Intermediate Course! You won't regret joining this.

For each question from 21 to 28, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

21. Sukan Hill Riding Club conducts horse riding courses \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) once a week
  - (2) 4 times a week
  - (3) 6 times a week
  - (4) 7 times a week
22. To get to the Sukan Hill Riding Club from Ang Mo Kio MRT Station, Mrs Tan can take \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) a bus to Choa Chu Kang MRT station
  - (2) a bus from Ang Mo Kio Bus Interchange
  - (3) Bus 12 from Ang Mo Kio Bus Interchange
  - (4) a free shuttle bus from Ang Mo Kio Bus Interchange
23. If Mr Tan was the 9<sup>th</sup> customer to sign up for the Beginner's Course, he is entitled to a free \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) meal voucher
  - (2) tour of the Riding Club
  - (3) lesson for the second session
  - (4) shuttle service ride to Ang Mo Kio MRT Station
24. Which of the following is true about the Beginner's Course?
- (1) The course costs an adult \$150.
  - (2) The course lasts only one week.
  - (3) The course lasts one hour per session.
  - (4) The course costs a 6-year-old child \$150.
25. Based on Jessica Chin's write-up, she was first interested to learn horse-riding because she \_\_\_\_\_.
- (1) loved horses
  - (2) saw an article on horse-riding
  - (3) saw an advertisement on horse-riding
  - (4) wanted to overcome her fear of horses

(Go on to the next page)

26. How did Jessica feel during the first lesson?
- (1) She felt elated.
  - (2) She felt excited.
  - (3) She felt nervous.
  - (4) She felt frightened.
27. Which of these things did Jessica not do on her first lesson?
- (1) Ride a horse
  - (2) Feed a horse
  - (3) Groom a horse
  - (4) Get friendly with a horse
28. Why was Jessica Chin's write-up included in the flyer?
- (1) To encourage people to love horses
  - (2) To entice people to enroll in the course
  - (3) To assure parents that horse-riding is safe
  - (4) To assure people who are afraid of horses

**(End of Booklet A)**

(Go on to Booklet B)

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 blanks. The letter (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

**USE ANY WORD ONCE ONLY**

(A) in	(D) to	(G) with	(K) for	(N) into
(B) towards	(E) by	(H) over	(L) from	(P) up
(C) when	(F) off	(J) under	(M) through	(Q) because

Suzie lives with her family in a two-storey bungalow. It was ten o'clock when Suzie and her siblings went (29)\_\_\_\_\_ bed. Their parents had gone out. As soon as she switched (30)\_\_\_\_\_ the light and got into bed, Sayang, her cat snuggled (31)\_\_\_\_\_ against her body.

Suzie's nose twitched (32)\_\_\_\_\_ the smoky odour in the air. She thought that it was probably someone burning rubbish and closed her eyes. Minutes later, Salim, her younger brother, burst (33)\_\_\_\_\_ her room and pulled her out of bed. The smoky smell had become stronger.

Suzie ran into the hallway. Smoke was coming up (34)\_\_\_\_\_ swirls from the stairs. Orange flames crackled and leapt (35)\_\_\_\_\_ her. She covered her hot face and screamed (36)\_\_\_\_\_ her older brother, Hadi.

"Get out of here, Suzie!" she heard his voice (37)\_\_\_\_\_ the hot smoke.

Together, they ran into Suzie's room where Hadi struggled (38)\_\_\_\_\_ the latch of the window grille. The latch was hot and the metal grille had expanded because of the heat. Suzie grabbed a hammer and smashed it against the latch.

(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 bus-load of tourists was enjoying the morning breeze as the vehicle made its descent on the Jalapa slope. Everyone was in high spirits, taking in the beautiful (39)  (40)  **seennery** of the luscious hills. The young driver, who had obtain his driving licence (41)  recently, seemed impatient. Music was blaring from his headphones and she was driving (42)  like the police were at his tail. Just as he was making a sharp turn, he lost control of the (43)  bus. It skidded a distant before overturning. Passengers seated near the doorway of the (44)  bus were fling out of the vehicle while a few were trapped under it. Screams and cries for (45)  help could be heard from those **trept** in the bus. Passers-by who witnessed the (46)  (47)  **unforchunert** accident rushed to the victims' aid, calming them down and **asurering** them (48)  that help was on the way. Some passers-by, however, on saw the crushed victims under (49)  the bus, become **histarrycal** and had to be pulled aside by the stronger men. The (50)  **grusum** sight was just too much to bear. Before long, loud sirens could be heard, signalling the arrival of the fire brigade, ambulance and police.

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Fill in the blanks with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Jaguars have always been important to the American Indians. They watched jaguars in the forest and believe that these big cats have magical (51)\_\_\_\_\_. Jaguars can (52)\_\_\_\_\_ freely in the forest, climb (53)\_\_\_\_\_ and swim in rivers. That's why in the past, only the king (54)\_\_\_\_\_ a few lords in the Maya tribe were allowed to wear (55)\_\_\_\_\_ skins. They were a symbol of authority.

Jaguars move around easily at (56)\_\_\_\_\_. The pupils in their (57)\_\_\_\_\_ dilate in the dark so that they can see clearly. Hence, the Mayan God of the night and hunting always wore a jaguar skin over his shoulders. The spots on the jaguar's (58)\_\_\_\_\_ were like the stars in the (59)\_\_\_\_\_. Funnily enough, when there was an eclipse of the sun during the day, the terrified people imagined that a huge jaguar was (60)\_\_\_\_\_ up the sun.

Jaguars are still important today in village festivals among (61)\_\_\_\_\_ American Indians. Jaguars love water, so for farmers who often have to fear threats of drought, they are a strong symbol. They think that by idolizing the jaguar, the (62)\_\_\_\_\_ will come down and fertilize the soil that they (63)\_\_\_\_\_ the crops in. The men will cover their faces with jaguar masks and (64)\_\_\_\_\_ to be the big cats. They then act (65)\_\_\_\_\_ spectaculars fights, hoping to bring the rain and guarantee them a good harvest for the year. Whether or not this works, is really a food for thought.

(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** "I must pay the fees tomorrow," Sue told Kenny.

Sue told Kenny \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**67** The boys approached their teacher as they hoped to sort out their problem.

In the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**68** The lifeguard saved my sister from drowning. She thanked him profusely.

\_\_\_\_\_ whom  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**69** The dancers were agile. The judges were impressed

The dancers' \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**70** The actor wore a disguise. He did not want to be recognised.

\_\_\_\_\_ to avoid  
\_\_\_\_\_.

(Go on to the next page)

The sun had just risen. The annual marathon in my town is usually held during a heat wave. My job was to follow the runners in an ambulance to render medical attention. The driver and I were in an air-conditioned ambulance behind approximately one hundred athletes waiting for the race to start.

"We're supposed to stay behind the last runner, so drive slowly," I said to the driver, Jon, as we began to creep forward. 5

"Let's just hope the last runner is fast! I am sleep-deprived. Can't wait to head home to catch up on rest. Reporting for work in the wee hours of the morning is taking a toll on me!" he lamented.

As they began to pace themselves, the experienced runners were running way ahead. It was then that my eyes were drawn to a woman in blue running shorts and a baggy white T-shirt. Her fists, held up against her body, were tightly clenched. Her eyes were fixed on the path ahead of her and she had leaned forward, all set to begin the race. 10

"Jon, look!"

We knew we were already watching our "last runner." Her feet were turned in, yet her left leg was turned out. Her legs were so crippled and bent that it seemed impossible for her to be able to walk, let alone run a marathon. 15

Jon and I watched in silence as she slowly moved forward. We did not utter a word. We would move forward slightly, then stop and wait for her to gain some distance. Then we would slowly move a little more. As I watched her struggle to put one foot in front of the other, I found myself cheering for her and urging her forward. I wanted her to stop, and at the same time, I prayed that she would not. 20

Finally, she was the only runner left in sight. Tears trickled down my face as I sat on the edge of my seat and watched with awe, amazement and even reverence as she pushed forward with sheer determination through the final hundred metre. 25

When the finishing line came into sight, trash lay everywhere and the cheering crowds had long gone home. Yet, standing straight and ever so proud waited a lone man. He was holding one end of a ribbon of soft crepe paper tied to a post. She slowly crossed through, leaving both ends of the paper fluttering behind her. There was a look of triumph on her face before she collapsed and lay limp on the ground. 30

Hurray! She made it. Without a moment's delay, I dashed forward and rendered aid to my first, and for that matter, only casualty for the day.

I do not know this woman's name, but that day she became part of my life - a part I often depend on. For her, it was not about beating the other runners, or winning a trophy, it was about completing what she had set out to do, no matter what. When I think things are too difficult or time-consuming, or I get those *I-just-can't-do-it* feeling, I always think of the "last runner". Then I would realise how easy the task before me really is. 35

**71** From the first paragraph, which two-word phrase indicates clearly that the marathon was held on a very hot day? (1m)

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**72** What were the two reasons that Jon "hope(d) the last runner is fast"? (2m)

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**73** Based on lines 10 to 13, explain how did the "last runner" show her determination to run the marathon? (2m)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**74** Where were the writer and Jon as they were moving slowly behind the "last runner"? (2m)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**75** With reference to lines 16 and 17, which two words suggest that it was physically impossible for the "last runner" to finish the marathon? (2m)

(a)	(b)
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**76** In lines 21 to 22, the writer said that he wanted "the last runner" to stop, and at the same time, he prayed that she would not. Explain why the writer felt this way. (2m)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Go on to the next page)

77 Based on the story, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. (3m)

	True/False	Reason
The race had started very early in the day.		
The writer and Jon did not have many injured participants that day.		
The marathon had ended when the “last runner” completed the race.		

78 Which sentence from lines 26 to 30 tells you that the “last runner” managed to complete the race? (2m)

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79 In your own words, explain fully how the “last runner” felt when she completed the race. (2m)

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(Go on to the next page)

- 80 At the end of the passage, the “last runner” became an inspiration to the writer. What value did she teach the writer and in what way did she teach it? (2m)

<b>The value the “last runner” taught</b>	
<b>The way she taught it</b>	

**End of Paper**