

Section A: Grammar Multiple Choice (10 X 1 mark)

For each question from 1 to 10, write your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

1. "I shall sign you up for Ballet lessons next year, God _____!" Mrs Aishah told her daughter.

- (1) will
- (2) wills
- (3) willed
- (4) willing ()

2. Kim Ho was halfway _____ his meal when the phone rang.

- (1) up
- (2) down
- (3) around
- (4) through ()

3. Auntie Anne decided to bring my brother and _____ to the library yesterday to borrow some books.

- (1) I
- (2) me
- (3) mine
- (4) myself ()

4. Children taking this high-altitude ride _____ be accompanied and supervised by an adult.

- (1) can
- (2) must
- (3) ought
- (4) should ()

5. _____ of today, Maya is twelve years old.

- (1) As
- (2) Due
- (3) When
- (4) Since ()

6. My cousin Misha, _____ I had been teaching for the last 8 months, did extremely well for her History exam.

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

7. Nian Tze balked _____ the prospect of spending the December holidays working at her uncle's farm in Malaysia.

- (1) in
- (2) at
- (3) out
- (4) over

()

8. Watching my sister _____ hard made me realise the value of perseverance and diligence.

- (1) study
- (2) studied
- (3) studies
- (4) studying

()

9. Ashok is not feeling well. He has _____ in bed all day.

- (1) lay
- (2) lied
- (3) lain
- (4) laid

()

10. Rueben is such a _____ person. Nobody trusts him.

- (1) manipulated
- (2) manipulation
- (3) manipulative
- (4) manipulating

()

Section B: Vocabulary Multiple Choice (5 X 1 mark)

For each question from 11 to 15, write your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

11. The manager _____ his employee because of his abrasive and uncooperative attitude.

- (1) sacked
- (2) expelled
- (3) dismissed
- (4) retrenched ()

12. Mrs Kumar took a painkiller to _____ her headache.

- (1) pacify
- (2) alleviate
- (3) escalate
- (4) exacerbate ()

13. Behind that friendly _____, Dion is extremely vindictive and unpleasant.

- (1) imagery
- (2) charade
- (3) mirage
- (4) facade ()

14. Charles does not like durians because he finds the smell _____.

- (1) tantalising
- (2) nauseating
- (3) traumatising
- (4) mesmerising ()

15. The couple decided that their wedding would be _____ as they did not want to spend so much money on a one-time affair.

- (1) frugal
- (2) modest
- (3) abundant
- (4) extravagant ()

Section C: Vocabulary Cloze Multiple Choice (5 X 1 mark)

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). Write your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

In Japan, it is **(16) customary** to gift exotic fruits to business partners and clients. If you step into a fruit store in Japan, you will get the impression that you have entered a very high-end boutique. Fruits are **(17) displayed** in glass.

Take the musk melon for example. Grown in Tokyo, they are systematically cultivated in greenhouses that keep temperatures precise for the **(18) best** quality. The number of melons on each vine is limited to three in order for the melons to receive a **(19) sufficient** amount of nutrients . As if this selection process is not **(20) stringent** enough, only one of the three melons will be chosen to be sold to 'fruit boutiques. It comes as no surprise that these fruits are sold at exorbitant prices.

16. (1) usual
(2) normal
(3) habitual
(4) commonplace ()
17. (1) flaunted
(2) exhibited
(3) publicised
(4) demonstrated ()
18. (1) perfect
(2) optimal
(3) supreme
(4) maximum ()
19. (1) adequate
(2) advisable
(3) acceptable
(4) appropriate ()
20. (1) strict
(2) tough
(3) harsh
(4) extreme ()

Section D: Visual Text Comprehension (8 X 1 mark)
Study this advertisement and then answer questions 21 to 28.



TREEHOUSE COMMUNITY CLUB

Monthly Special Event for December: Movie Night!

Grab your family and friends and join us on Dec 5th for a fun evening! Watch a movie (title to be decided later) with us at the outdoor area beside the community club. Mats and light refreshments will be provided. This event is free-of-charge but limited to the first 30 families who sign up.

Vote for the Best T-Shirt Design!

To celebrate THCC's 10th anniversary, the team organised a t-shirt design competition. Vote for one of the five shortlisted designs below at www.thcc.sg To order any of the designs, simply drop us an email at hereforyou@thcc.sg with the design number and your size!



★ 1 Georgia, 16



★ 2 Dave, 14



★ 3 Xin Min, 13



★ 4 Yun Xuan, 12



★ 5 Smrithi, 12

Vote and stand
to win a prize* for
yourself!

3 random
winners will be
selected from the
voters.

Announcements

* Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, the club gym will remain closed for the foreseeable future. We apologise for the inconvenience and promise to inform you as soon as the situation changes.

* Photos of last month's events are up on our Facebook page and Instagram channel!

* Volunteers for last month's anniversary dinner, please collect your tokens of appreciation from the front office.

* **CALLING FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS!** Those interested in joining the THCC Planning and Organising Committee, please email Katrina at kat@thcc.sg

ACTIVITIES & COURSES OFFERED @ TREEHOUSE

Learn a new skill. Make new friends. Enrich your life with our activities and courses! At Treehouse, we aim to always bring you interesting ones so that our community can come together to learn and become a close-knit one.

Coco's Cooking Class

Conducted by popular YouTube chef Coco, this series of cooking classes aims to impart basic cooking skills to beginners. A perfect family-bonding activity that is child-friendly, Coco promises to fun-filled memories with great food to bring home!

*** Every Sunday beginning 6 Dec, 3-5 PM. \$80 for 4 classes ***

Zoomba Fitness

This high-energy programme is fun, exciting and aims to provide you with a fantastic workout! Move your body to the rhythm and music and let the fun begin! Ladies only! Sorry, guys!

*** Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 7-9 PM. \$60 for 6 sessions ***

Coding 101

Want to improve your IT skills? Learn basic computer programming skills with our qualified IT trainers!

*** Every Wednesday, 7.30-8.45 PM. \$60 per 4 lessons ***

Treehouse Children's Art Competition

Does your child love drawing or painting? Looking to provide him or her with an avenue to express himself or herself? Showcase your child's talents at our very own art competition! Winners get to have their masterpieces exhibited at our Community Hall for the entire year once results are announced. All art materials will be provided!

*** Sunday, 13 December, 10 AM. For children under 12 only.
Registration is FREE! ***

Tai Chi Together

Follow Master Shu's moves and feel yourself relaxed and rejuvenated after every session!

*** Every Friday, 8 PM. FREE! ***

For each question from 21 to 28, write your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided.

21. Which of the following is **not** what Treehouse Community Club does?

- (1) Organise bonding activities for families.
- (2) Coordinate and publicise the free activities available.
- (3) Come up with activities and courses for its members.
- (4) Encourage members to stay healthy by frequenting the gym. ()

22. Why should one join the committee for Treehouse Community Club?

- (1) To stand a chance to win a prize.
- (2) To gain free membership to the gym.
- (3) To be involved in the effort to bond the community.
- (4) To get tokens of appreciation for volunteering in events. ()

23. According to the advertisement, which of the following courses or activities is **not** currently available?

- (1) Gym sessions
- (2) Art Competition
- (3) Zoomba classes
- (4) Tai Chi sessions ()

24. Which is the least likely reason for the organisation of the T-shirt competition?

- (1) To celebrate Treehouse's 10th anniversary.
- (2) To earn profits through the sales of the T-shirts.
- (3) To give younger members a chance to express their creativity.
- (4) To allow members to be involved in the T-shirt designing process. ()

25. What should Kaydee take note of if she is interested in the Zoomba workout lessons?

- (1) It costs \$120 for 12 sessions.
- (2) Both her weekends will be taken up.
- (3) Lessons are conducted in the afternoons.
- (4) There will be men attending the lessons too. ()

26. Which of the following statements is **false**?

- (1) Tai Chi is taught by Master Shu.
- (2) Coco is the host of a cooking programme.
- (3) The winner of the art competition gets a prize.
- (4) Everyone who registers will be able to attend Movie Night. ()

27. Why are so many activities offered by the community club?

- (1) To appear exciting and engaging.
- (2) To cater to the different interests of its members.
- (3) The committee members each prefer different activities.
- (4) To encourage more people to sign up for club memberships. ()

28. Which word best replaces the word “rejuvenated” to describe Tai Chi?

- (1) alive
- (2) refreshed
- (3) energised
- (4) invigorated ()

Section E: Grammar Cloze (10 X 1 mark)

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.

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE

(A) as	(D) beneath	(G) on	(K) while	(N) along
(B) although	(E) but	(H) off	(L) from	(P) that
(C) away	(F) against	(J) down	(M) up	(Q) under

At the front end of the gunboat, I found a hatch where a ladder lowered into a dark compartment below. "Let's put the explosives here and blow the bottom out!" I signalled, _____ I pointed my torch at the hull's steel plating below the waterline. **(29)**

With little time to waste, we quickly unwrapped the explosives, pressed it like plasticine _____ the steel and inserted the detonator. My squad mates grabbed the helicopter ropes _____ I set the timer for the fuse. **(30)**
(31)
Then I swam quickly to the hook dangling _____ the helicopter and was lifted off. **(32)**

Swinging _____ the rope, I kept my eye on the barge. I counted _____ the seconds in my head _____ sensed something was amiss. **(33)**
(34) **(35)**

Just at _____ moment, a flash lit the sky, followed by a loud explosion. The entire front of the enemy boat was blown _____. The gunboat sank _____ the water and disappeared. On our chopper, we **(37)**
(38)
looked at one another and heaved a sigh of relief.

Section F: Editing (12 X 1 mark)

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

(39)

Do you snore in your sleep? Well, snoring is a kawmen problem that can

(40)

affect anyone regarding of age. Snoring happens when a person is unable to

(41)

breathe freely with his or her nose and mouth when asleep.

The irritating sound is caused when certain parts in the mouth and throat

(42)

such as the tongue and the upper throat vaibrat and knock against each other.

(43)

There are a number of causes that led to snoring. Allergies can result in a

(44)

blocked nose but prevent a person from breathing normally while sleeping.

(45)

Wreesurch states that being overweight can cause the narrowing of airways,

(46)

orphan resulting in snoring. Snoring is also linked to sleep apnea – a serious

(47)

sleep disorder in which the payshent actually stops breathing for short amounts

of time. This can be life-threatening.

(48)

Sometimes, sleep can be disrupted because the tissue that sehperaytes

(49)

the two nostrils in the nose be crooked. Surgery is recommended in this case

(50)

as it will not only stop the snoring, but also assist for breathing more easily.

Section G: Comprehension Cloze (15 X 1 mark)

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

When the fighting had subsided, Omar and Adam took refuge (51)_____ a wall. Omar could not take his eyes (52)_____ the suitcase Adam was carrying. What was in it? The thought was driving him (53)_____. Whatever it was, it had to be important for three armed soldiers to be guarding it before.

Adam ran his finger (54)_____ the lining of the suitcase. As if he could read what was on Omar's (55)_____, he turned the suitcase (56)_____ down and everything poured out. It was a false bottom! There were rolls of gold coins and bags of jewellery.

Without any hesitation, Adam pulled out a leather pouch. Both men looked at (57)_____ other. It was clear to them now that they had (58)_____ upon a treasure trove.

With shaky hands, Adam opened the pouch and began spilling its contents into Omar's (59)_____ hands. There were 30 huge stones. Omar could not believe his eyes. Without a (60)_____, he knew they were diamonds and he was holding a (61)_____. Their worth was beyond anything he could ever imagine!

For a brief moment, both men stared at the diamonds, (62)_____ beyond belief. Neither man spoke. Then, Omar (63)_____ the diamonds up equally and handed them out to Adam. Tearing (64)_____ a strip of material from his shirt, Omar bundled the diamonds in it and tucked it (65)_____ his pocket. Adam promptly did the same and the two men continued their journey.

Section H: Synthesis and Transformation (5 X 2 marks)

For each question 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 meaning of the given sentence(s).

66. The child is rude but his parents will not scold him.

_____no matter
_____.

67. "Boys, where did you go and why did you not seek permission?" Mr Fadly asked.

Mr Fadly _____
_____.

68. Rohan explained why he was late. His mother was not convinced.

Rohan's _____
_____.

69. Daniel could not find his book. He looked everywhere for it.

Despite _____
_____.

70. The players fell on their knees in joy. The final whistle blew.

Barely _____
_____.

Section I: Comprehension Open-ended (20 marks)

Read this passage and answer questions 71 to 80.

<p>Billy was having the time of his life. He was exploring the vast Gobi Desert together with a group of fellow travellers. The trip had been planned for two years. Billy had chosen the Gobi Desert to travel to as he had heard many exciting stories of the place.</p>	
<p>Billy was travelling as part of a convoy, exploring the Mongolian part of the desert. As was traditional in those areas, Billy was riding on a camel. As he rode deeper into the desert, Billy looked around curiously. He had heard stories about sand dunes reaching two metres in height; about cacti that could cut you; and also scorpions with barbed tails containing enough in their sting to kill if they ganged up on you.</p>	5 10
<p>Suddenly, a strong wind flared up. A sandstorm was brewing. As the winds raged, the sand on the ground flew into the air, obscuring Billy's vision and smarting his eyes. Coughing and sputtering, he struggled to find a piece of cloth to protect himself. Reaching behind him, Billy rummaged through his bag.</p>	15
<p>The gusty winds suddenly grew more intense. Grit flew into his eye, and sand entered his nose. With his senses being assaulted, Billy lost his balance on top of the camel he was riding. The world spun. Fa-thump! Billy fell face first on the sandy ground.</p>	
<p>When Billy regained his senses, he realised that he was alone. The convoy had moved ahead him. They had probably not noticed that he was missing due to the dust cloud formed by the sandstorm. He was also at the tail end of the convoy. Even the tracks made by the convoy had been covered by the sand and were not visible. Panicking, Billy squalled at the top of his voice. "Help! Help!" he hollered. Nothing. No reaction and no one was forthcoming. Calming down, Billy realised he was too far from any human habitation to walk there directly. Besides, his compass was on the camel he had fallen off, so he would not know which direction to head towards. He realised he would have to wait for a rescue.</p>	20 25 30
<p>After several hours, Billy eventually heard the sound of his convoy approaching. They must have realised he was missing! He was saved! Mustering all the energy he had, Billy screamed at the top of his lungs to catch their attention. As he boarded his camel, Billy heaved a huge sigh of relief. Pulling himself together, he vowed to be more careful in future.</p>	35

71. Give two reasons why Billy was having “the time of his life”? [2m]

(i) _____

(ii) _____

72. Which word, from lines 3 to 7, tells us that Billy was not travelling alone? [1m]

--

73. In paragraph 2, the passage mentions various features of the Gobi Desert. Write one adjective to describe these features. [3m]

Desert feature	Word to describe them
sand dunes	
cacti	
scorpions	

74. Explain in your own words what the author meant when he wrote about the sands “obscuring Billy’s vision and smarting his eyes” (lines 12 to 13). [2m]

75. Which sentence in paragraph 4 suggests that Billy was not adequately dressed for his trip through the desert? [1m]

--

76. 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
Billy enjoyed the trip initially.		
Billy fell off his camel because he was clumsy.		
The convoy did not take long to rescue Billy.		

77. From lines 13 to 33, choose a word that has the same meaning as the following word or phrases. [3m]

(a) experienced difficulty	
(b) about to happen or appear	
(c) gathering	

78. When Billy regained his senses, some obstacles made it difficult for him to chase after the convoy, which had moved ahead of him. Write down the difficulties that you think he faced. [3m]

Obstacle	Difficulty Billy faced
dust cloud	
distance from human habitation	
lost compass	

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

_____ Billy was lost in the desert.

_____ Billy fell off his camel.

_____ Billy was rescued by the convoy.

80. Based on Billy's experience in the desert, provide an adjective to describe him. [1m]

End of Paper