

FUKIEN SECONDARY SCHOOL

S1 First Term Uniform Test (2020-2021)

English Paper 2: Reading Comprehension & Usage

Question Paper

(1 hour 15 minutes)

Date: 20th October 2020

Name: _____

Time: 9:45a.m. – 11:00a.m.

Class: S1_____ No.: _____

Total score: 100

Instructions to candidates:

1. Write your Name, Class and Class Number in the spaces provided on this cover **AND** on the cover of the Answer Sheets.
2. This paper consists of three parts: **Part I (Reading Comprehension)**, **Part II (Usage)** and **Part III (Bonus)**. Answer **ALL** questions.
3. Mark **ALL** answers on the Answer Sheets given.
4. For **Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ)**, write the correct letter in the space provided.
5. Each question carries 1 mark unless otherwise specified.

Part I: Reading Comprehension (40 marks + 5 bonus marks)

Read the two passages below and answer the questions that follow.

Passage A (23 marks + 3 bonus marks)**Sam's first day**

- [1] Sam walked into the covered playground of his new school and got a bit nervous. He wasn't used to being in a huge crowd at school, since his last school only had 100 students. On the other hand, Sun Garden Secondary School was as busy as a beehive. The school had six floors. Sam was now
- 5 looking helplessly at his timetable and wondered where to go for the lesson.
- [2] Just then, a girl with big eyes and wavy, purple hair stopped in front of him and smiled at him.
- [3] 'You look lost,' she said. Sam nodded and said timidly, 'I'm sorry but I have no idea how to get to the science laboratory.' He felt a bit like a rat in a
- 10 maze.
- [4] 'I'm Jackie. I can bring you to your first class,' she said reassuringly. 'I promise to give you a tour of the entire school later. The school environment might seem unfamiliar at first, but you'll feel at home in no time.'
- [5] At lunch, Jackie skipped around happily and told jokes as she led him
- 15 around the gymnasium, canteen and tuck shop. She knew everyone, and everyone knew her too. Sam felt like Jackie was his exact opposite. She was energetic, extroverted and funny, while his friends at home always said he was serious and introverted. Jackie showed Sam the school's theatre.
- [6] 'This is where the Drama Club gathers each Monday, Wednesday and
- 20 Friday. We're preparing our songs for our performance of *Wicked* in a few weeks. Maybe you want to join?' she asked. Sam looked at the group of singing and dancing students. They all looked confident and radiant. He frowned.
- [7] 'What's the matter?' she asked.
- 25 [8] 'I'm afraid I don't quite fit in at this school,' he said.
- [9] A grin gradually grew over Jackie's face. 'I know where to bring you next.'
- [10] She brought him to a small classroom. There, a group of quiet students were playing chess.
- 30 [11] 'Let me introduce the Chess Club,' Jackie exclaimed loudly.
- [12] All at once, the students shushed Jackie. 'Oops!' Jackie said. Sam smiled genuinely for the first time that day. Maybe this school wasn't so bad after all.

1. What is the name of Sam's new school?
2. What is the biggest difference between his primary and secondary schools?
3. The school was 'as busy as a beehive' (line 4). This means that the school _____.
 - A) had a lot of students moving around quickly
 - B) was filled with bees
 - C) was not very suitable for Sam
 - D) was a fun and exciting place to be for students
4. Why do you think Jackie decided to talk to Sam in the covered playground?
5. What was Jackie's tone when she said, 'You look lost' (line 8)?
 - A) annoyed
 - B) confused
 - C) shocked
 - D) sympathetic
6. What was Sam's most likely first class?
7. Decide whether the following sentences are **True (T)**, **False (F)**, or the information is **Not Given (NG)**. Write the letters **T**, **F** or **NG** on the Answer Sheets. (3 marks)
 - a) Jackie got lost on the first day of school, too.
 - b) Jackie's tour with Sam took place during lunchtime.
 - c) Sam thinks that he and Jackie have similar personalities.
8. In Paragraph 5, Jackie 'skipped' and 'told jokes' during the tour, and she 'knew everyone'. Match her personality traits with the three actions. (3 marks)

i) energetic	A skipped around
ii) extroverted	B told jokes
iii) funny	C knew everyone

9. Match the following descriptions of introverts and extroverts. Write the letter in the space provided. (2 marks)

A avoids large groups

C prefers to be alone or small groups

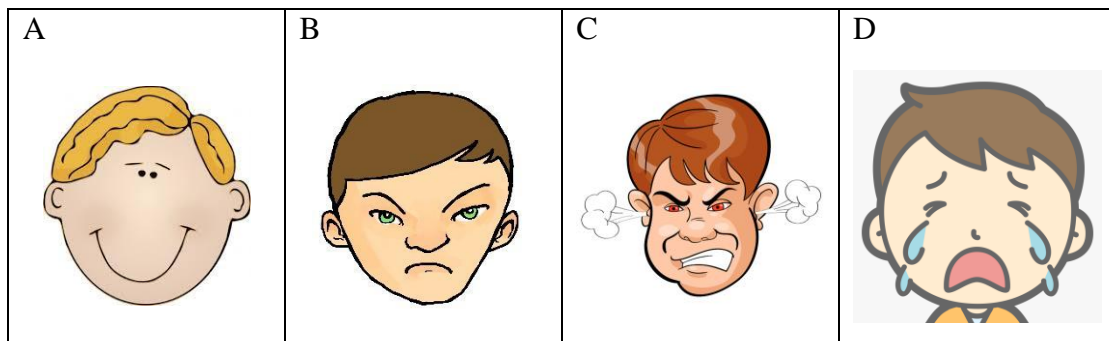
B loves being the centre of attention

D outgoing, enthusiastic, positive

10. How often do Drama Club meetings take place?
11. What type of performance is *Wicked*?
- A) a comedy act
 - B) a school concert
 - C) a musical
 - D) a dramatic play
12. Find words in paragraphs 6 and 7 that have the same meaning as the following words. (3 marks)
- a) meets
 - b) cheerful
 - c) problem
13. The students in the Chess Club “shushed Jackie” (line 31). What is the meaning of “shushed” and why did they do this to Jackie? (2 marks)
14. Did Sam like the school in the end? Explain your answer. (2 marks)

Bonus (3 marks)

15. How does Sam feel when he sees the Drama Club?



16. Why do you think Sam felt that way? (2 marks)

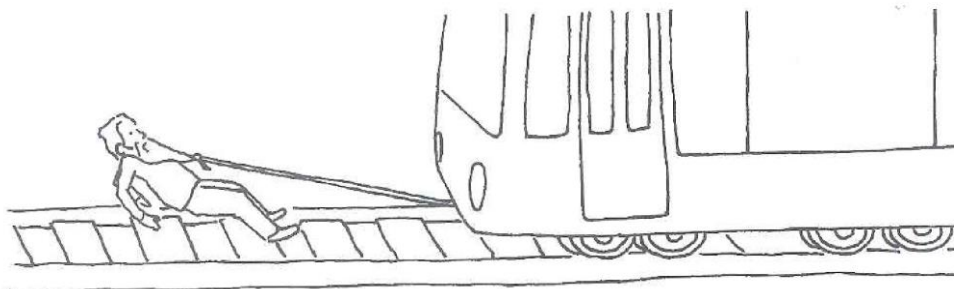
Passage B (17 marks + 2 bonus marks)

[1] If you think records like joining paper clips, stacking dominoes, blowing the biggest bubblegum bubble and balancing a football are not weird or strange enough, you may find the following a bit more interesting.

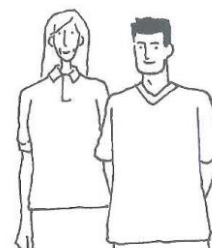
- 5 [2] In 1990, Steve Woodmore from the UK became the fastest talker in the world. He spoke 595 words in only 56.01 seconds. Steve can speak more than 10 words clearly in a second, which is much faster than most people. How many words can you say in a minute?



- 10 [3] Ismael Falcon from Spain can pull heavy objects with his beard. He is not the strongest man in the world, but he has the strongest beard. In 2001, Ismael broke the record for the heaviest train pulled with a beard when he pulled a train weighing 2,759 kg. That is heavier than all your classmates put together!



- 15 [4] By the time Sandy Allen of the USA was ten years old, she stood 1.905 m tall. Today, with a height of 2.31 m, she is the tallest woman in the world. Sandy is 5 cm taller than basketball player Yao Ming, but she has never considered becoming a basketball player.



- 20 [5] Schoolboy Tim Johnston from the USA was only twelve years old when he set the world record for the most spoons balanced on a face. He balanced fifteen spoons on his face for thirty seconds. He had one on each ear, two on each cheek, three on his chin, two on his lips, one on his nose and three on his forehead!

- 25 [6] John Evans has the strongest head in the world. He can balance 101 bricks weighing a whopping 188.7 kg on his head. The bricks are heavier than two adults. Anyone with an older brother knows how painful it can be when your sibling decides to use your head as a chair, so John's record is definitely one for the books.

[7] These are just the tip of the iceberg. You can find more of the strangest feats ever performed by human beings in *Guinness World Records*.

1. Choose the best title for this article.
 - A) Amazing records from the USA
 - B) Man pulls train with beard
 - C) Don't try this at home, kids!
 - D) The weirdest world records
2. Find two words that have the same meaning in paragraph 1.
3. In what year did Ismael Falcon break the world record?
4. How tall is Sandy Allen?
5. In line 29, the word 'feats' means _____.
 - A) ideas
 - B) jobs
 - C) special achievements, skills or strengths
 - D) something used for walking
6. Complete the table with information from the text. (6 marks)

Name	Nationality	World record
Steve Woodmore	British	(a)
Ismael Falcon	Spanish	(b)
(c)	American	the tallest woman
Tim Johnston	(d)	(e)
(f)	X	the most bricks balanced on a head

7. Decide whether the following sentences are **True (T)**, **False (F)**, or the information is **Not Given (NG)**. Write the letters **T**, **F** or **NG** on the Answer Sheets. (4 marks)

- A) Steve Woodmore was born in 1990.
- B) Basketball player Yao Ming is the tallest man in the world.
- C) Sandy Allen is taller than Yao Ming.
- D) Tim Johnston has a big face.

8. Why do you think the writer compares Sandy Allen with Yao Ming?
9. There is one part of his face that Tim Johnston did not use to balance a spoon. Why do you think that is?



Bonus (2 marks)

10. Which of these world records would you like to try and break? Why?
11. In paragraph 7, the writer says that these records are 'just the tip of the iceberg.' Have a look at the picture of an iceberg in your Answer Sheets. In your own words, explain when something is 'the tip of the iceberg'.

Part II: Usage (60 marks)**Section A (12 marks)**

Complete the following story with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. You may need to add the word “not” to complete the meaning.

The two frogs and the well

It was hot as the sun ____ (1) ____ (blaze) high in the summer sky. It was so terribly hot that the trees were sweating. The ponds were empty. The wells were dry. The ducks were thirsty. Now there were two frogs beside the dried-up pond who ____ (2) ____ (be) so weak and thirsty that the younger one said, “If there is any more of this heat, then we ____ (3) ____ (shrivel) up so small that we’ll be tadpoles again.”

The old frog croaked back, “If we ____ (4) ____ (find) a well with some water in it, we’re going to die!”

And so they both decided that their only chance was to search far and wide until they found a better place to live. And so they ____ (5) ____ (hop) off over the fields and far away. At last, just as their legs had the final bit of energy left in them, they found a well.

“Fingers crossed that there ____ (6) ____ (be) a few drops left in it or that’s it for us,” said the older frog. They both peered over the edge and to their amazement, there was lovely water that was deep, deep, deep. They both tumbled in, head over heels, and ____ (7) ____ (drink) as much as they wanted.

The young frog exclaimed, “Oh my, this is the life. Let’s stay here in this well forever!” But the older one ____ (8) ____ (shake) his head and said, “No, dear boy, it is wiser to climb out of this well right away. For if the hot weather ____ (9) ____ (continue), the water here will sink down, and we shall go lower down too, and what do you think will happen eventually?”

The young frog ____ (10) ____ (think) for a while and suggested, “Er, it will all dry up?”

The old frog then ____ (11) ____ (reply), “Yes, and then what shall we do? For we shall be right at the bottom of a very deep dry well, and it ____ (12) ____ (be) impossible for us to jump out!”

And so the moral of this story is - ‘Look before you leap’.

Section B (12 marks)

Natalie is interviewing Charles, the head chef of a restaurant. Complete the conversation by using the words provided in the brackets to form questions. One has been done for you as an example. (2 marks each)

Natalie: Thanks for the opportunity to interview you, Charles. I know you were already quite a good chef at a young age. ____ (e.g.) ____ (mind, tell us, childhood)?

Charles: No, I don't.

Natalie: Thanks. When you were young, ____ (1) ____ (teach, you, how to cook)?

Charles: My mother. She was strict in the kitchen. She would yell, "Make the meat sauce carefully! Do not waste any ingredients!" She could be really bossy at times.

Natalie: ____ (2) ____ (cook, for the first time)?

Charles: I was six or seven when I cooked for the first time. Mum said one day, "Come and learn how to cook perfect pasta, will you?" Of course, Mum was there guiding me.

Natalie: ____ (3) ____ (fond of, cooking, when you were young)?

Charles: Yes, I was already very interested in cooking when I was young. I really enjoyed preparing food, for myself and for my family, so after secondary school, I went to cookery school...

Natalie: Sorry to interrupt. ____ (4) ____ (school, located)?

Charles: Actually, it's an institute on Hong Kong Island. It's not a big school but it does offer some useful courses. After graduation, I joined an Italian restaurant in Wan Chai.

Natalie: ____ (5) ____ (join, an Italian restaurant, not a Chinese restaurant)?

Charles: To tell you the truth, I didn't have a lot of options. I applied for many different restaurants after graduation, but none of them wanted me except the Italian restaurant. But I do love Italian cuisine, especially pasta.

Natalie: I see. ____ (6) ____ (have/ any advice/ for new chefs)?

Charles: Yes. First, always check your ingredients. Make sure they are fresh and good for serving. Second, make your dish with love and care – preparation is the key to success!

Natalie: Thank you!

Section C (12 marks)

Decide which of the choices below would best complete the article. Write the letter only.

Dear Diary,

Mum __(1)__ a friend who asks me to take care of her plants when she goes on vacation. She said I am the best person for the job since I am __(2)__. But the fact is I __(3)__ green thumbs. I'm a terrible gardener as I __(4)__ look after anyone's plants.

Most people think this is easy to do, but it is not that simple. __(5)__, my mom's friend gives me many things to do for each plant. Because she has some plants in each room of her house, it can be difficult.

For example, __(6)__ need to be watered every day. In fact, some plants will die if you give __(7)__ too much water. Mum's friend has some desert plants in her garden. Those plants get watered only once a week. __(8)__, some plants need a lot of water. For example, her flowers must have water every day. If the flowers' dirt is not always wet, they __(9)__ die.

Another thing is that each plant needs different amounts of sunlight. Often it is not easy to tell which plants need more sun than others. For example, the desert plants need a lot of sun. But this __(10)__ sense because these plants do not get much water. Desert plants are weird! The flowers, on the other hand, need to be out of the sun. Too much sunlight can burn the flowers and leaves of these plants. They can die so easily!

I really don't want Mum's friend to see all the plants dead when she __(11)__ from her vacation. __(12)__ Mum's friend know this job is too difficult for me?

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1 A. have | 2 A. confident | 3 A. have | 4 A. usually |
| B. used to have | B. respectful | B. had | B. always |
| C. has | C. caring | C. didn't have | C. seldom |
| D. had | D. creative | D. don't have | D. often |
| 5 A. In fact | 6 A. not all plants | 7 A. them | 8 A. Firstly |
| B. However | B. all the plants | B. themselves | B. For example |
| C. Moreover | C. no plants | C. it | C. Similarly |
| D. Lastly | D. the plant | D. itself | D. However |
| 9 A. should | 10 A. makes | 11 A. return | 12 A. Is |
| B. have to | B. make | B. returns | B. Do |
| C. can | C. do not make | C. returned | C. Has |
| D. may | D. does not make | D. will return | D. Does |

Section D (12 marks)

Read the blog entry. Fill in each blank with ONE suitable word from the vocabulary list for Units 1 and 2. You may need to change the word form.

My role model

Uncle Joe is a professional racing cyclist who won the gold medal in the men's Madison track cycling race in Jakarta in 2018, adding to his already sizeable trophy collection. He has also been my coach since I __(1)__ up track cycling 6 years ago. Thanks to his guidance along the way, I am now a cycling __(2)__ considering turning pro. Yes, I want to follow in my uncle's __(3)__ and be as successful as him.

I still remember him teaching me how to ride a bike when I was small. One afternoon in the summer of 2008, Uncle Joe casually asked, "Fancy learning how to ride a bike?" And then half an hour later, we were in a park. All I can still remember now is that I kept falling and then groaning in __(4)__. I didn't learn how to ride a bike immediately and the falls really __(5)__ me off. When I almost gave up, uncle Joe's encouraging words always got me back on track.

Track cycling is not popular with the people I know but this sport has grown on me since day one. I think Uncle Joe's __(6)__ story motivated me to try this sport. Last year, I took __(7)__ in an indoor cycling competition in the __(8)__ velodrome in Tseung Kwan O. To my __(9)__, I saw my uncle and my family members among the __(10)__. I didn't get any medal in the end but their support meant everything to me. My __(11)__ for the new year is to win a medal in the same competition this year and I will not let any difficulties __(12)__ in my way.

Section E (12 marks)

Refer to pages 5 and 6 of the Answer Sheets.

Part III: Bonus (10 marks)

Fill in each blank with **ONE** suitable word from Vocabooster. Pay attention to the word form.

Dear Jacky,

I am stressed. The uniform test is coming and I'm so __(1)___ of one test. Guess what? It's the Maths test. You know, I am bad __(2)___ Maths. Mum is going to be angry __(3)___ me again this time. Actually, I am now __(4)___ a course every Friday evening to improve my Maths. I hope it helps.

But I have good news to share. I will take __(5)___ in a study tour to New Zealand this summer. I am so excited __(6)___ it. Mum said it would be a great opportunity for me to learn to take care of myself. For example, I will then need to learn to follow schedules and timetables closely and __(7)___ my own bed. There won't be anyone reminding me to __(8)___ on a coat (hey, it'll be winter in the southern hemisphere by then!). Also, if I __(9)___ a mistake, I'll then need to face it by myself. Nobody is gonna be around to give me help at once.

What is New Zealand __(10)___ for? I know its national rugby team is well-known. Do you want any souvenirs? Do let me know please!

Regards,

Timothy

End of Paper