

**PRIMARY SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATION
FORMAT OF ASSESSMENT
ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**BRIEFING FOR PARENTS OF P5 PUPILS
MTP 20 JANUARY 2017**



- **Paper 1 - Writing**
- **Paper 2 - Language Use & Comprehension**
- **Paper 3 - Listening Comprehension**
- **Paper 4 - Oral Communication**



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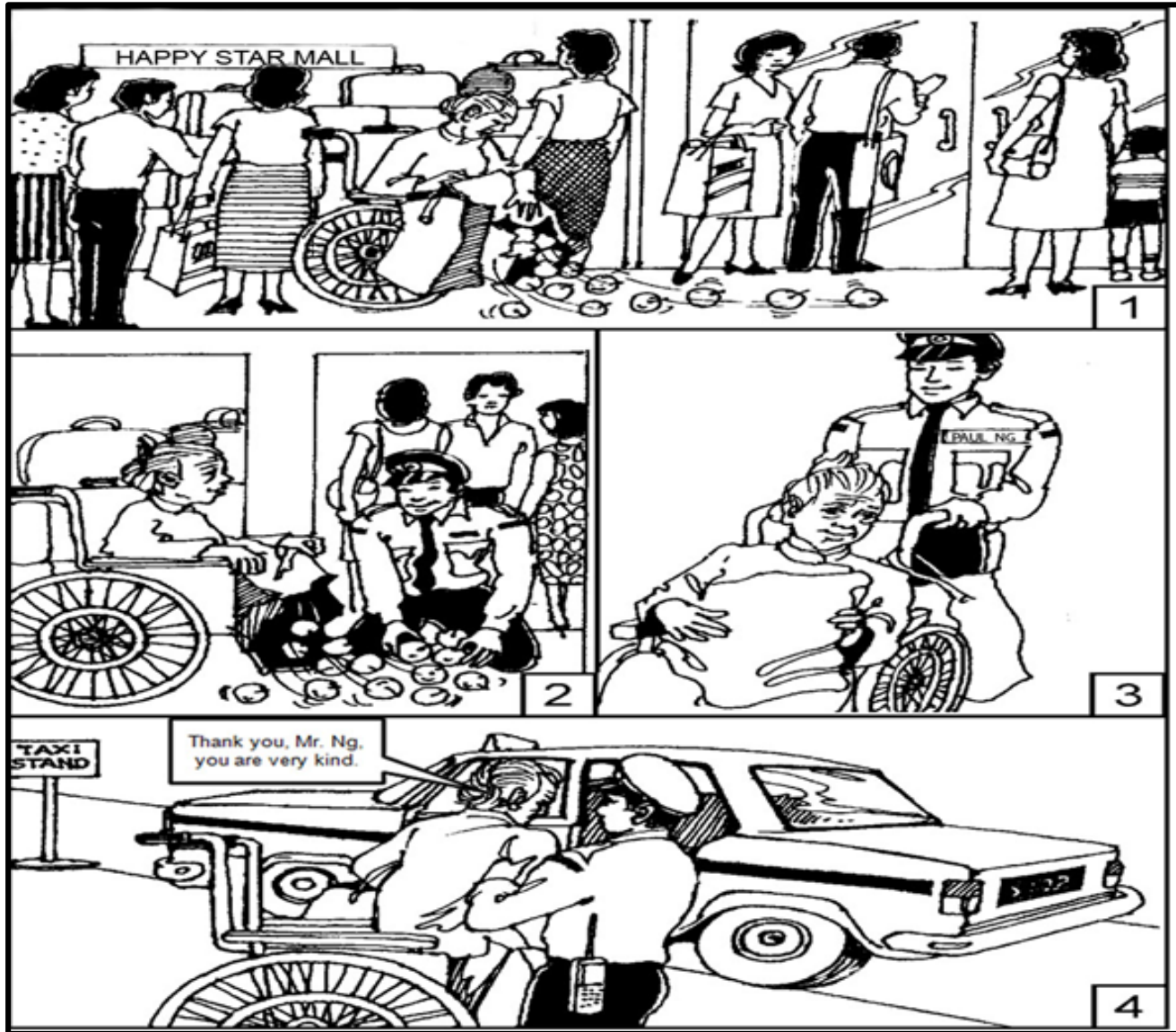
Paper 1: Writing

Duration	Component	Marks
1h 10 min	Part I: Situational Writing	15
	Part II: Continuous Writing	40



Paper 1 (Part I)

Situational Writing



Your Task

Imagine that you witnessed the incident shown in the pictures.

Write a letter to the manager of the mall, commending the security guard who had helped the old lady.



Orchard Swimming Complex

Swimming Course for Beginners



Qualified instructors certified by Singapore Swimming Council

Programme Details

- ✘ Course runs for 16 weeks
- ✘ Lessons conducted on Friday evenings from 8.00 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.
- ✘ Cost: \$70 per month

Lessons
commence on 9
March



Your Task

You have decided to sign up for the swimming lessons.

Write an email to your good friend, Ignatius, inviting him to join you for the swimming course.

You should refer to the brochure on page 2.



Paper 1 (Part I)

Band Descriptors

Situational Writing

Band	Task Fulfilment
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Response shows a very good understanding and clear awareness of the purpose, audience and context• All of the key information is provided
Middle	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Response shows some understanding and awareness of the purpose, audience and context• Most of the key information is provided
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Response shows poor understanding and awareness of the purpose, audience and context• Only some of the key information is provided

Band	Language and Organisation
High	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Language is accurate with hardly any errors in grammar, expression, spelling and punctuation• Ideas and facts are well-linked and sequenced such that the information presented is very clear
Middle	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Language is fairly accurate with several errors in grammar, expression, spelling and punctuation• Ideas and facts are linked and sequenced such that the information presented is fairly clear
Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Full of errors in grammar, expression, spelling and punctuation, affecting communication• Ideas and facts are not well-linked and sequenced resulting in the information being poorly presented



Paper 2:

Language Use & Comprehension

Duration	Component	Marks
1 h 50 min	Booklet A (MCQ):	
	Grammar	10
	Vocabulary	5
	Vocabulary Cloze	5
	Visual Text Comprehension	8
	Booklet B (OE):	
	Grammar Cloze	10
	Editing for Spelling & Grammar	12
	Comprehension Cloze	15
	Synthesis / Transformation	10
	Comprehension	20



Vocabulary Cloze

The pupils of Cranberry Primary School craned their necks to get a good view of the trophy on the stage. The annual Courtesy Award would be given out in a little while.

(16)

Due to the school's emphasis on character development, the award was regarded as the most prestigious prize a pupil could win.

(17)

- 17**
- (1) viewed
 - (2) favoured
 - (3) observed
 - (4) approved

Source: PSLE EL paper 2 (2015)



Comprehension Cloze

For thousands of years, human beings have enjoyed a close relationship with animals. _____ to
(51)
some animal experts, wolves were the first animals to be tamed by humans. Humans at that time _____
(52)
mainly on hunting to obtain food.

Source: PSLE EL paper 2 (2015)



Synthesis and Transformation

69 Upon seeing the cat chase the toy mouse, the child laughed.

The child laughed at the _____
_____.

Source: PSLE EL paper 2 (2015)



69 Upon seeing the cat chase the toy mouse, the child laughed.

The child laughed at the sight of the cat chasing the toy mouse.

Source: PSLE EL paper 2 (2015)



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Comprehension (Open-ended)

Green sea turtles remain a rare sight in many parts of the world, but one Indonesian island tasked with protecting them is being overrun by far too many. New research suggests that the **gentle creatures** are crowding into a marine reserve in numbers never seen anywhere, gobbling seagrass to the point that they risk destroying the food source vital to their survival.

Up to 20 turtles were spotted in an area covering about two football fields at Derawan Island, off Indonesia's part of Borneo in 2011. That means snorkelers are successful in seeing a turtle every moment they are in the water. The rate was four times higher than other non-protected areas, and also topped historic numbers reported before the reptile was hunted by humans.

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The graceful creatures with heart-shaped shells usually just munch on seagrass much like cows grazing in a field. But the increasing population has pushed them to desperation. With no top leaves left, they now claw at the plants with their flippers and use their mouths to violently rip the seagrass out by the roots, leaving patches of white sandy ocean floor. Such behaviour has not been seen elsewhere, according to findings published in the latest scientific journal of Animal Behavioural Science.

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"The turtles are creating sort of piles of mud in the seagrass bed where they have eaten the underlying root matter. It will take a long time for the sea grass to regenerate," said Professor Peter Mumby, a marine ecologist at the University of Queensland in Australia. "So essentially, they are going to eat themselves out of house and home."

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Studying the turtles' population patterns, a research team from Radboud University found that nearly all turtles would need to be removed from the area in order for the seagrass to recover. If they are not stopped, the beds could be destroyed within the next five to 10 years.

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Professor Mumby said a short-term solution may be to try to relocate the turtles to less populated reserves, but he added that larger conservation issues must be addressed by the local government. Pesticide, fertiliser and sediment runoff from nearby mining and agriculture operations, including rapidly expanded palm oil plantations, are smothering seagrass beds in areas outside the decade-old reserve.

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The turtles are also congregating in the protected area for safety because they are being poached outside. The heavy hunting of sharks, a major turtle predator, could be another factor contributing to the rising numbers.

Adapted from "Endangered turtles face new threat in Indonesia" in Today 16 January 2014



Statement	True / False	Reason
The chances of spotting green sea turtles in the oceans around the world are high.		
Snorkelers who want to observe turtles will prefer to visit marine reserves.		
Putting a stop to shark hunting will help to curb the overpopulation of turtles.		



80 Would you prefer to read a paper book or a computer book? **Support your answer with information from the passage.** [2m]

Source: PSLE EL Specimen paper 2

80 What do you think Mandy “instinctively understood” (line 44)? Support your answer with an example of how Mandy showed this understanding. [2m]

Source: PSLE EL paper 2 (2015)



THANK YOU

