Anglo-Chinese School (Barker Road)

END-OF-YEAR EXAMINATION 2008

SECONDARY TWO

EXPRESS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 1

TIME: 1 hour 45 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the Answer Paper.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Write your Index Number in the spaces provided on the Answer Paper.
Answer both Section One and Section Two.

Write your answer for each section on a fresh sheet of paper.
At the end of the examination, fasten and submit Section One and Section Two SEPARATELY.

This paper consists of 3 printed pages.

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Section One [30 marks]

You are advised to write **between 350 and 500 words** on <u>one</u> of the following topics.
At the start of the composition, write down the number of the topic that you have chosen.

1. Describe a cultural event which you have attended.

2. Write about an occasion when your good intentions were misunderstood.

3. Should age be the yardstick for wisdom?

4. The obsession to win has tainted the spirit of competition in professional sports. Do you agree?

5. Animal Abuse

Section Two [30 marks]

Begin your answer on a fresh sheet of paper.

You are advised to write **between 250 and 350 words** for this section.
You should read the information carefully and plan your answer before beginning to write.

You are the President of the school newsletter editorial team. You are writing a letter to the school chief librarian, Mrs Joy Tan, who is deciding whether a new comics section in the library should be introduced.

You are aware that pupils are for it, but opinions are divided among the teaching staff whose support is essential in order for Mrs Joy Tan to implement her plan.

The details below reflect the opinions of the following teachers:

- English Language teachers – against the use of non-standard English, fragmented speech style.
- Mathematics and Science teachers – against the spending of precious funds on non-academic reading materials.
- Civics and Moral Education teachers – against the occasional undesirable moral values conveyed, or the moral values that are contrary to Asian culture.

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In your letter, you should **make your stand for the inclusion of comics in the library clearly while allaying some of the concerns raised by the teachers.**

Set out your letter correctly, in clear, accurate English and in an appropriate tone.

THE END

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Anglo-Chinese School (Barker Road)

END-OF-YEAR EXAMINATION 2008

SECONDARY TWO
EXPRESS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 1127/2

INSERT

TIME : 1 hour 40 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This insert contains the comprehension passages.

This question paper consists of 5 printed pages.

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Read Passage A and Passage B and then answer the questions which are printed on the Question Paper.

Passage A

1 It was midday. Voldyrev, a tall, thick-set country gentleman with a cropped head and prominent eyes, took off his overcoat, mopped his brow with his silk handkerchief, and somewhat diffidently went into the government office. There they were scribbling away.

2 "Where can I make an inquiry here?" he said, addressing a porter who was bringing a trayful of glasses from the furthest recesses of the office. "I have to make an inquiry here and to take a copy of the resolution of the Council."

3 "That way please! To that one sitting near the window!" said the porter, indicating with the tray the furthest window. Voldyrev coughed and went towards the window; there, at a green table spotted like typhus, was sitting a young man with his hair standing up in four tufts on his head, with a long pimply nose, and a long faded uniform.

4 "May I make an inquiry about my case here . . . of you? My name is Voldyrev, and, by the way, I have to take a copy of the resolution of the Council of the second of March."

5 The clerk dipped his pen in the ink and looked to see if he had got too much on it. Having satisfied himself that the pen would not make a blot, he began scribbling away.

6 "Can I make an inquiry here?" Voldyrev repeated a minute later, "My name is Voldyrev, I am a landowner. . . "

7 "Ivan Alexeitch!" the clerk shouted into the air as though he had not observed Voldyrev, "Will you tell the merchant Yalikov when he comes, to sign the copy of the complaint lodged with the police! I've told him a thousand times!"

8 "I have come in reference to my lawsuit with the heirs of Princess Gugulin," muttered Voldyrev. "The case is well known."

9 Still failing to observe Voldyrev, the clerk caught the fly on his lip with his hand, looked at it attentively and flung it away. Voldyrev coughed and blew his nose loudly on his checked pocket handkerchief. But this was no use either. He was still unheard. Voldyrev took a rouble note from his pocket and laid it on an open book before the clerk. The clerk wrinkled up his forehead, drew the book towards him with an anxious air and closed it.

10 "A little inquiry. . . I want only to find out on what grounds the heirs of Princess Gugulin . . . May I trouble you?"

11 The clerk, absorbed in his own thoughts, got up and, scratching his elbow, went to a cupboard for something. Returning a minute later to his table, he became

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absorbed in the book again: another rouble note was lying upon it.

12 "I will trouble you for one minute only. . . I have only to make an inquiry."

13 The clerk did not hear, he had begun copying something.

14 Voldyrev frowned and looked hopelessly at the whole scribbling brotherhood. He then walked away from the table and stopped in the middle of the room, his hands hanging hopelessly at his sides. The porter, passing again with glasses, probably noticed the helpless expression of his face, for he went close up to him and asked him in a low voice:

15 "Well? Have you inquired?"

16 "I've inquired, but he wouldn't speak to me."

17 "You give him three roubles," whispered the porter.

18 "I've given him two already."

19 "Give him another."

20 Voldyrev went back to the table and laid a green note on the open book.

21 The clerk drew the book towards him again and began turning over the leaves, and all at once, as though by chance, lifted his eyes to Voldyrev. His nose began to shine, turned red, and wrinkled up in a grin.

22 "Ah . . . what do you want?" he asked.

23 "I want to make an inquiry in reference to my case. . . My name is Voldyrev."

24 "With pleasure! The Gugulin case, isn't it? Very good. What is it then exactly?"

25 Voldyrev explained his business.

26 The clerk became as lively as though he were whirled round by a hurricane. He gave the necessary information, arranged for a copy to be made, gave the petitioner a chair, and all in one instant. He even spoke about the weather and asked after the harvest. And when Voldyrev went away, he accompanied him down the stairs, smiling affably and respectfully, and looking as though he were ready any minute to fall on his face before the gentleman. Voldyrev for some reason felt uncomfortable, and in obedience to some inward impulse, he took a rouble out of his pocket and gave it to the clerk. And the latter kept bowing and smiling, and took the rouble like a conjurer, so that it seemed to flash through the air.

27 "Well, what people!" thought Voldyrev as he went out into the street.

(Adapted from 'An Inquiry' by Anton Chekhov)

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Passage B

1 Five decades ago, Le Hien Duc worked as a military decoder for the army of Ho Chi Minh in its battle against the French colonial forces. Now aged 75 and with eight grandchildren, she is leading the fight against corruption in Vietnam, a nation with a serious corruption problem but where few ordinary people are willing to stand up against it.

2 She has received warnings from her friends and death threats from anonymous strangers, yet nothing can persuade her to end the struggle. "People have told me not to spend my money on phone calls and to start saving for a coffin instead," said the former primary school teacher.

3 On 15 December 2007, her role as a fighter against bribery and a crusader against corruption was further cemented when the watchdog group Transparency International (TI) chose her as winner of its annual integrity award. Le Hien Duc has shown "personal strength and courage to break the corruption cycle", said Transparency's Chair Huguette Labelle at a ceremony in the German capital.

4 The Berlin-based group said Ms Duc had displayed remarkable fortitude as she set about tackling corruption at all levels of Vietnamese life. "Her respect for authority ends where corruption begins. Duc has tracked down high and low-level officials at home or in the office, to ensure that they cannot ignore the victims of corruption claiming their rights," it said. "In spite of many threats, she provides hope and encouragement for stopping acceptance of corruption."

5 Since she retired from teaching in 1984, Ms Duc has worked from her Hanoi home writing countless letters and emails and making endless telephone calls in pursuit of government officials and others. Her home is piled with letters from ordinary members of the public seeking her help. She sends petitions to the authorities in the search for justice, sometimes harrying officials with repeated phone calls in a one-woman campaign financed by her monthly pension of about 70 dollars.

6 Those she has targeted range from school officials who have short-changed school children on their meals to a water company that charged residents for purported improvements that it never made.

7 In one case she telephoned a minister 30 times to force the issue. In another she pursued a Hanoi traffic policeman she had witnessed demanding a bribe, chasing him with her digital camera to record his badge number. Eventually she was able to lodge a formal complaint with the police chief that resulted in the errant officer being demoted. "Many police now carry my photo in their wallets so they can recognise me on the street," she told the Agence France-Presse.

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8 "This award is a great honour for me and for those affected by corruption, many of whom have contacted me for sympathy and help," Duc said after accepting the Integrity Award, given to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the fight against graft.

9 Her stance has made her many enemies, but Duc brushes off the numerous death threats she has received. She will not allow either her grandchildren or her four children to visit her at home for fear they could become victims of an attack on her.

10 Ms Duc said she is convinced her fight against corruption will be successful. "During the war against the French, I fought against injustice. Now that I'm retired, I have more time to fight injustice," she said. "Vietnam has won every war it has fought ... There is no reason it cannot win the war against corruption."

(Adapted from http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/)

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Anglo-Chinese School (Barker Road)

END-OF-YEAR EXAMINATION 2008

SECONDARY TWO EXPRESS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 1127/2

TIME : 1 hour 40 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write only your index number in the space provided on the Answer Paper. Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **all** questions.

Leave a space of **one** line between your answer to **each part** of a question, e.g. between 1(a) and 1(b). Leave a space of at least **three** lines after your completed answer to each **whole** question.
Write your answers on the separate answer paper provided.

If you use more than one sheet of paper, fasten the sheets together.

Your answer to **Question 15 (Summary)** is to be handed in **separately.**

The number of marks is given in [ ] at the end of each question or part of a question.

The insert contains the passages for comprehension.

Mistakes in spelling, punctuation and grammar may be penalised in any part of the paper.

This paper consists of 3 printed pages.

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Read Passage A and B in the Insert and then answer all the questions which follow below. You are recommended to answer the questions in the order set.

Mistakes in spelling, punctuation and grammar may be penalised in any part of the paper.

NOTE: When a question asks you to answer in your own words, YOU MUST NOT COPY THE WORDS IN THE PASSAGE IN YOUR ANSWER.

FROM PASSAGE A:

From Paragraph 1

1. 'There they were scribbling away'. [2]
In your own words, explain who the writer was referring to and what they were doing.

From Paragraphs 7 and 8

2. Quote a phrase which shows that the clerk was intentionally ignoring Voldyrev. [1]

3. What do you think Voldyrev hoped to achieve by telling the clerk that 'the case is well known'? [2]

From Paragraph 9

4. What did Voldyrev do to try to gain the clerk's attention? [2]

5. 'The clerk ... drew the book towards him with an anxious air and closed it'. [2]
Suggest <u>two</u> reasons to explain what the clerk could be anxious about.

From Paragraphs 15 to 17

6. What evidence is there to show that corruption was commonly practised in the government office? [1]

From Paragraph 26

7. What does the phrase, 'as though he were whirled round by a hurricane' convey about the manner with which the clerk attended to Voldyrev? [1]

8. Explain why the clerk was considered very much 'like a conjurer' in this story. [2]

FROM PASSAGE B:

From Paragraph 2

9. Give two reasons to explain why some people have advised Duc to stop her fight against corruption in Vietnam. [2]

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From Paragraph 4

10. 'The Berlin-based group said Ms Duc had displayed remarkable fortitude ...'. In your own words, state what personal quality Duc was recognised for by the Berlin-based group. [1]

From Paragraph 7

11. 'In one case she telephoned a minister 30 times to force the issue'. Identify one aspect of Duc's character which is evident from the sentence quoted above. [1]

From Paragraph 8

12. Quote another word which has the same meaning as corruption. [1]

From Paragraph 9

13. **In your own words,** describe what Duc has to put up with as a result of her struggle against corruption. [2]

14. For each of the following words, **give one word or short phrase (of not more than seven words)** which has the same meaning that the word has in the passage. [5]

From Passage A:
a) muttered (line 25)
b) grin (line 52)
c) affably (line 61)

From Passage B:
d) cemented (line 11)
e) harrying (line 26)

FROM PASSAGE B:

15. **Using your own words** as far as possible, summarise Duc's personal beliefs regarding her fight against corruption, and the various actions she has taken to tackle corruption in Vietnam. [25]

USE ONLY MATERIAL FROM LINE 16 TO THE END OF PASSAGE B.

Your summary, which must be in continuous writing (not in note form), **must not exceed 160 words, including the 10 words given below to help you begin.**

Begin your summary as follows:

Duc has fought corruption at all levels of Vietnamese life ...

END OF PAPER

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Anglo-Chinese School (Barker Road)
End-of-Year Examination 2008
Secondary Two Express
English Paper 2

Passage A

1. The writer was referring to the clerks and they were busy with the overwhelming paperwork that is typical of a government office.

2. The phrase is "as though he has not observed Volderev".

3. Volderev was hoping that it would capture his attention and arouse his interest in the issue and hence attend to him.

4. Volderev tried to cough and blow his nose and then offered a rouble note to him.

5. The clerk was afraid that he would be caught for accepting bribes either by his superiors or his colleagues and the sight of money thrilled him.

6. The porter was able to advise Volderev to give the clerk another rouble. This showed that this was not the first time that this has happened as the clerk knew exactly what would move the heart of the clerk.

7. The attitude of the clerk was totally different after receiving his bribe.

8. A conjurer is able to make things appear and disappear at an instant. The clerk was just like a conjurer when he instantly received his last rouble from Voldyrev, cautious to not let his acceptance of the bribe be caught by anyone.

Passage B

9. It was a dangerous job, as the people she was against may try to harm her as corruption was wide-spread. Furthermore, her friends are also concerned for her safety with the death threats that were coming her way.

10. Duc's strong sense of justice and righteousness was recognized by the Berlin-based group.

11. She has determination.

12. The word is 'graft'

13. Her life is at stake and has made many enemies. Furthermore, she cannot afford to implicate her family, thus she has to live without the company of her loved ones for fear of bringing harm to them when they are in her presence.

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14

Passage A

a) muttered (line 25) - mumbled
b) grin (line 52) - smile
c) affably (line 61) - politely
d) cemented (line 11) - affirmed, secured
e) harrying (line 26) - harassing

15

Summary

Personal beliefs regarding her fight against corruption

- Corruption ends authority, and the respect for it
- Feels that she shares the honour to be awarded the Integrity Award with the victims of corruption
- Feels that she had fought for justice during the war in her younger days and now that she is retired, she has even more time to fight against corruption and to uphold justice
- Believes that she her fight against corruption will be successful, as Vietnam had overcome all wars and will definitely win this war on corruption

Actions taken to tackle corruption in Vietnam

- Tracks down officials to ensure that they hear the voices of corruption victims
- Seeks grievances for victims by contacting government officials
- Sends petitions to the authorities and insists that they uphold justice
- Targets at a wide range of offenders
- Reported about a bribe-accepting officer to the authorities and was successful in bringing the law on him
-Though she has made enemies and has received many death threats, she is not deterred
- Lives away from the company of her loved ones as she fears that she may bring harm to them

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