Name	Class	Index Number

ANG MO KIO SECONDARY SCHOOL
FINAL EXAM 2009
SECONDARY 2 EXPRESS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 1

Total Mark: 60

5 October 2009 (Monday)

1 hour 45 mins

Setter: Mrs N Nair

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Instructions to candidates :

1. This paper is made up of **two** sections, and each is worth 30 marks.
2. You must answer all sections.
3. Choose ONE question from Section One.
4. The question for Section Two is compulsory.
5. Hand in your answers for Section One and Section Two **separately.**
6. The intended marks are given in brackets [ ].

This document consists of 3 printed pages, including the cover page.

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Section One [30 Marks]

You are advised to write between 300 and 400 words on one of the following topics.

At the head of your composition write the number of the topic you have chosen.

1. Describe your experience on an MRT train ride.

2. Write about an occasion when you caused your teacher to be very upset.

3. Write an original story entitled 'A Broken Promise'

4. A Helpful Neighbour.

5. Reunion.

Section Two [30 marks]

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You are advised to write between 250 and 350 words. Begin your answer on a fresh page.

You should read the information carefully and plan your answer before beginning to write.

Recently your family celebrated your grandfather's 80th birthday with a buffet dinner at your home. The food for 30 guests was catered by Delicious Kitchen. Unfortunately your family was most unhappy with the food and the service provided. You decided to write a letter of complaint to the manager of Delicious Kitchen on behalf of your family.

Below are some notes to help you. You **must** also include any information which you think would be useful.

Punctuality	• Food was delivered at 7.30pm (1 hr late)
Food	• Chilly crab – too salty • Most of the dishes were cold
Waiters	• Spilt gravy on the floor • Handled the food with their bare hands • Slow in their service
Others	• Insufficient cutlery

Address your letter to:

The Manager
Delicious Kitchen
80 Paya Lebar Road
Singapore 460081

Remember to include all the features of a letter of complaint in your writing.
Set your letter out correctly in clear, accurate English, describing what had happened in a **formal** and **polite** tone.

End of Paper

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Name	Class	Index Number

ANG MO KIO SECONDARY SCHOOL
END OF YEAR EXAMINATION 2009
SECONDARY TWO EXPRESS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 2
1127/2

Total Mark: 50

6 Oct 2009 / Tuesday

Setter: Miss Tan Chui Ling

1 hour 40 min

Additional Materials: Writing paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Name, Class and Index Number in the spaces at the top of this paper.

1. Answer **ALL** questions.
2. Number your answers correctly in the left–hand margin, eg. 1(a), 3(b).
3. Leave a space of **one line** between each part of a question, eg. Between 1(a) and 1(b).
4. Leave a space of at least **three lines** after your completed answer to each **whole** question, eg. Between question 1 and 2.
5. Answer the **summary question** on a fresh sheet of paper and submit it **separately.**
6. The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

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Read Passages A and B and then answer the questions which follow.

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.

Passage A

1	Six-year-old Ryan Hreljac sat in shock as he listened to his teacher, Nancy Prest. Launching a school-wide campaign, she spoke that day of the **plight** of children living in impoverished, disease-stricken parts of Africa, where there was little access to medicine, food or clean water. Ryan, a sensitive child, winced when he heard that thousands of African children die each year just from drinking contaminated water.	5
2	"Every cent helps," Prest told her class. She explained that one cent would buy a pencil; twenty-five cents, 175 vitamins; sixty cents, two months supply of medicine for one child; "and seventy dollars pays for a well."	
3	When Ryan's mother and father got home later that day, Ryan rushed past his babysitter to greet them. "Mum, Dad, I need $70 for a well in Africa!" he said excitedly. "That's nice, Ryan," his mother nodded distractedly.	10
4	Over dinner, Ryan tried again. "Ryan, $70 is a lot of money," his mother said. "We can't afford that." "You don't understand," Ryan protested, tears filling his eyes, "Children are dying because they don't have clean water!"	15
5	Mrs Hreljac exchanged a glance with her husband and sat Ryan down. "If you're really serious about raising $70, you can do extra chores around the house," she said, assuming he would quickly forget his project.	
6	Ryan's face lit up. His first job was to vacuum the house. While his brothers played outside, Ryan cleaned for two hours. He got $2. A few days later, instead of watching a movie with the family, he washed windows. Another $2. Hearing about his goals, Ryan's grandfather hired the three brothers to pick up pinecones for craft projects, earning $10 for each rubbish bag they filled. When Ryan brought his term report card home, his parents gave him $5 for good grades. That, too, went into the donation bin.	20 25
7	While Ryan **amassed** his donation chore by chore, Mrs Hreljac decided to find out more about the organization, WaterCan, a small, nonprofit agency that funds and monitors the building of wells in developing countries. She found out that while $70 would buy a hand pump, it actually cost close to $2000 to drill a well. Too young to appreciate such a large sum, Ryan replied, "I'll just do more chores then."	30
8	The Canadian International Development Agency matches WaterCan's funds two for one so Ryan would have to find almost $700 to build his well.	

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Yet how could a six-year-old raise $700 just by doing household chores?

9 Summer came and Ryan, now seven, turned his attention from school to fun. Yet throughout the holidays, he kept doing extra chores. Periodically, Mrs Hrelijec forwarded his donations to WaterCan. A family friend, touched by Ryan's effort, published his story in the local newspaper and sent in a donation matching Ryan's. The story inspired other readers to make a donation for Ryan's well.

10 In August, WaterCan called to say that donations for Ryan's well had passed $700. Ryan and Mrs Hreljec were invited to a September Board meeting to meet Gizaw Shibru, director for Uganda for Aid and Relief. When Shibru arrived, he gave Ryan a warm hug. "I understand you got us a well. Thank you."

Adapted from *Reader's Digest August 2001*

Passage B

1 They were about sixteen women, scattered on half of the road on the highway not far from the town of Wassa, 276 km south of Addis Abeba; when cars passed by, they tried to stop drivers with loud chanting and waving of their long sticks. They were not beggars; these married women were raising money to perform a **ritual** known in the Oromo culture as "Atette Sera", a spiritual communications with God so that rain could come to their village.

2 They said that they had walked all the way from Toga Woraresa. This area had not experienced rain for the past two months. Thus, they made this long journey throughout the week, hoping that they could collect $40 to $50 each day from drivers passing by, in order to buy goats to sacrifice to God, until such time that they would see clouds hovering in their village's sky.

3 "God will hear our prayers," said Kalele Edao, a group leader.

4 In the past few months, they had watched their cattle become weaker and weaker by the day. They had witnessed the deaths of their neighbours' cattle. Their stocks of grain and cereal had become almost empty. They **foresee** the worst, should it fail to rain in the next few weeks and water their dried up land. They are not alone in their gloomy forecast.

5 Reports are emerging from international organizations alarmed by the combined effects of a strong La Nina weather condition and the cooling of Western Indian Ocean waters; both developments lead to a forecast that there will be below normal rainfall during the March to May rainy season in countries along the Horn of Africa, including Ethiopia. These environmental developments have consequences such as unusual livestock migration as well as significant deterioration of livestock body conditions,

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	negatively impacting both on livestock production and their market value in these countries.	
6	The March to May rains not only have the widest land coverage of any other seasonal rainfall in the region, most importantly, they are very crucial for both livestock and crop production in regions where they contribute 50% or more of the annual rains received.	30
7	In Ethiopia, reports reveal that the food security situation in Oromia, Somali, Gambella and Southern regional states has worsened in the past two months. Kalele's village is one of the most affected areas in the southern parts of the country.	35
8	They attribute this to the poor rains recorded in the past two rainy seasons. As a result, grazing lands have turned to reddish dust and water ponds and wells have dried up. Lack of pasture and insufficient water has caused the death of a significant number of cattle, almost daily.	
9	The poor condition of livestock and their subsequent deaths also led to the malnourishment of children and the elderly. Shortages in food availability, combined with unhealthy water sources, also caused outbreaks of diseases in some of these areas. There are reports of people dying from epidemics of meningitis and measles.	40
10	There is perhaps no other place than Borena Zone to demonstrate the most visible but ghastly effects of the drought. It covers 48.75skm, with a vast area of semi-arid lands. Decades ago, drought used to occur in every eight to 10 year cycle. Then it was narrowed to five-years; in recent years, the gap declined to two years. Some reports claim that Borena Zone has lost 75% of its herds of livestock during the 2001 drought. After four years, another disastrous drought hit the area, leading to considerable livestock deaths, incidences of human diseases, malnutrition, migration, and wearing down the traditional coping mechanism of the people there.	45 50
11	Experts fear that the gap between the **recurrent** droughts is increasingly narrowing every year. They also see the scale and extent of drought this year as different from the one in 2006.	55
12	"The drought has seriously affected the pastoral farmers in these districts," Geda Robe, vice administrator of Borena Zone, told Fortune. "In a significant way, it had affected six districts a few months back, but now it has spread to ten districts."	60
	Adapted from *allAfrica.com:Ethiopia:The grim face of Drought*	

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Passage A

Paragraph 1

1. What shows that some people in Africa lack the basic necessities? [1]

2. Pick out a word from this paragraph that has the same meaning as the word 'tainted'. [1]

Paragraph 2

3. Explain fully how Nancy Prest encouraged her students to donate their money. [2]

Paragraph 3 and 4

4. How can we tell that Ryan was very serious about helping the children in Africa? [2]

Paragraph 6

5. What were two of the extra chores that Ryan had to do to earn money for donation? [2]

Paragraph 7

6. Why do you think Mrs Hrelijac decided to find out more about WaterCan? [1]

Paragraph 9

7. **In your own words**, explain how the publication of Ryan's story helped to raise funds. [1]

Passage B

Paragraph 1

8. What did the women do to try to stop the drivers? [1]

Paragraph 2

9. How did the women show their determination to raise money to perform the ritual? [2]

10. Pick out an expression that revealed that the weather had been very dry. [1]

Paragraph 4

11. 'They foresee the worst should it fail to rain...' (line 16)
What do you think would be the worst that could happen? [1]

Paragraph 6

12. **In your own words**, explain why the March to May rains is so important. [2]

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Paragraph 10

13. Pick a word from the same paragraph that has the same meaning as the word 'ghastly' in line 45. [1]

Paragraph 13

14. Explain what the experts mean when the say the gap between the droughts is 'increasingly narrowing'. [2]

From Passage A and B

15. Explain the meaning of the words below with **one** word or a phrase of **not more than seven words.**

Passage A

a. plight (line 2)
b. amassed (line 26)

Passage B

c. ritual (line 5)
d. foresee (line 17)
e. recurrent (line 54)

From Passage B

16. **Using your own words as far as possible,** explain fully what are the causes of the drought in Africa and its consequences on the people, the animals and the land.

USE ONLY THE MATERIAL FROM LINES 19 to 44.

Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form) and in a single paragraph. It must not be more than **150 words** (not counting the words given to help you begin).

Begin your summary as follows:

Reports from international organizations found that.....

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Answers

1. They have little access to food, medicine and clean water. [1]
   'living in impoverished, disease-stricken part of Africa' X
   'thousands die from drinking contaminated water' X

2. 'contaminated' [1]

3. She told them that donating a very small amount of money [1] can help the children in Africa buy stationery and medicine. [1]

4. Ryan asked his parents for donation twice [1] and even cried when his parents turned him down. [1]

5. i) vacuum the house/cleaned for two hours [1]
   ii) washed the windows [1]
   iii) filled rubbish bags with pinecones [1]
   *any two of the three above.

6. She wanted to help Ryan. [1]
   She wanted to find out if the company is a legitimate one. [1]
   *Either one of the answer above.

7. It encouraged people to give money to build the well. [1]
   *taboo: inspired and donation

8. They chanted loudly and waved their long sticks. [1]

9. They walked a long distance from Toga Woraresa [1] everyday for the week [1].

10. 'Had not experienced rain for the past two months'.

11. i) all their cattle will die
    ii) empty their stock of grain and cereal
    ii) they will starve

12. It is the rain that falls on the most areas [1] and is essential for animal farming and agriculture. [1]
    *Taboo: widest land coverage, crucial, livestock, crop production

13. 'disastrous'

14. The number of years between each drought that occurred [1] gets fewer and fewer. [1]

15a) sad situation
   b) collected
   c) rite, ceremony
   d) predict
   e) happening time after time

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16. Summary points

From the passage	In your own words
1. combined effects of the	
2. strong La Nina weather condition	
3. cooling of Western Indian waters	
4. cause below normal rainfall	
5. unusual livestock migration	
6. Significant deterioration of livestock body conditions	
7. impacting livestock production	
8. their market value	
9. Food security has deteriorated	
10. grazing lands turned to reddish dust	
11. Ponds and wells dried up	
12. death of significant number of cattle daily	
13.malnourishment of children and elderly	
14. shortage of food	
15. unhealthy water sources	
16. caused outbreaks of diseases	
17. people dying of epidemics of meningitis and measles	

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