PSLE Index No. | | | | | | | - | |

MARIS STELLA HIGH SCHOOL (PRIMARY)
2014 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET A

19 August 2014 (Tuesday)

30 questions
30 marks

Total Time for Booklets A & B: 1 hour 50 minutes

NAME : _____ .( )

CLASS : PRIMARY 6 _____

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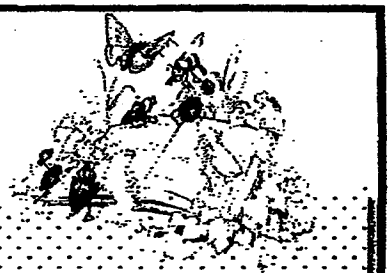
FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS.

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Read the advertisement carefully and then answer questions 1 to 5.

Read!Fest 2014



6 September – 14 September

Come and be part of Read!Fest 2014!

Read!Fest2014 is part of Read!Singapore which is into its 10th year.

Don't miss the exciting events. Read the #IGHLIGHTS * below.

MERLION LIBRARY

BOOK BUFFET
Stories that Make Us Hungry
6 September, 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm, Exhibition Area

Calling all young adults to join publisher Kenny Leck, food consultant Christopher Tan and novelist Josephine Lim as we explore the wonderful relationship between food and writing.

CITY LIBRARY

COMIC ARTIST FACE-OFF
6 September, 2.00 pm – 4.30 pm, Exhibition Area

Watch local comic artists James and Miel pit their skills! Pre-school children aged 3 to 6 are encouraged to form groups of 3 to create their own comics. Drawing materials will be sponsored by The Art Pal. Don't miss this opportunity to get up close with these comic artists as they guide you through a creative journey.

TAKING PLACE AT SINGA LIBRARY

MILK & COOKIES BOOK PARTY
13 September, 9.00 am – 12.00 pm,
Programme Zone

Local children's authors, Gwen Lee and Verena Tay, will be reading their stories *Little Cloud wants Snow!* and *The Weaving Maid and the Cowherd.* Learn about their stories and take part in related hands-on activities at the game booths.
Limited to 30 children aged 7 to 12.

COMIC PODCASTS
14 September, 9.00 am – 6.00 pm, Programme Zone

Join writer and musician Marc Nair in this workshop where participants will learn how to script and record individual and group comic podcasts.
Limited to first 60 sign-ups. For participants aged 14 and above.

REGISTRATION DETAILS
To register for any of the activities, visit us at
www.clb.org.sg

A community initiative brought to you by

Central Library Board
CLB

**Address:* For the full list of Read!Fest 2014 programmes in other libraries, do visit our website.*
For other enquiries, please call 6332 3255.

Address: 20, Victory Street Singapore 654321

(Go on to the next page)

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For each question from 1 to 5, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). **Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS).** (5 marks)

1. Read!Fest 2014 is organised by_____.

   1) The Art Pal
   2) Merlion Library
   3) Read!Singapore
   4) Central Library Board

2. Registration for any of the activities needs to be done _____.

   1) at Victory Street
   2) through the phone
   3) through the CLB website
   4) at the Central Library Board

3. One similarity between the Book Buffet and Comic Artist Face-Off workshop is that _____.

   1) both are held at the same venue
   2) they will be held on the same day
   3) participants are required to work in groups
   4) only young children can participate in the activities

4. Which one of the following statements is true?

   1) The Comic Podcasts workshop is limited to sixty children.
   2) Read!Fest 2014 is part of the Read!Singapore movement.
   3) The Milk & Cookies Book Party caters to adults and children.
   4) There are only three libraries which are participating in this event.

5. The main aim of the advertisement is to _____.

   (1) promote the highlights of Read!Fest 2014
   (2) get people to attend parties and workshops
   (3) encourage people to start a reading campaign
   (4) provide more information about the Central Library Board

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For each question from 6 to 12, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). **Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS).** (7 marks)

6. "Please let both of _____ join the school band," Jack and Jill chorused with great enthusiasm.

(1) us
(2) we
(3) they
(4) those

7. Mrs Lim _____ in the school since 1993. The school _____ her a Long Service award next week.

1) taught ... gave
2) teaches ... gives
3) had taught ... was giving
4) has been teaching ... will give

8. The gang of thieves managed to get _____ with the loot.

(1) off
(2) out
(3) away
(4) down

9. Mei Ling liked _____ of the shoes on display so she ended up buying a few pairs.

1) any
2) one
3) none
4) some

10. A number of teachers, together with their pupils, _____ already in the hall.

1) is
2) are
3) has
4) have

(Go on to the next page)

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11. Ben _____ his head on the pillow and dozes off immediately.

(1) lies
(2) laid
(3) lied
(4) lays

12. Too often, we underestimate the power of _____ honest compliment and _____ kind word.

1) an ... a
2) a ... an
3) the ... a
4) an ... the

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For each question from 13 to 15, choose the correct punctuation to complete the passage. **Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3, or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.** (3 marks)

A fox fell into a well. After a few hours **(13)** a goat came by. The goat thought the fox had gone down to drink, so he asked if the water was good.

"The finest in the whole country," said the crafty fox **(14)** jump in and try it. There is more than enough for both of us."

The thirsty goat immediately jumped in and began to drink. As he drank, the fox told him of the difficulty they were in and suggested a plan for their escape. The goat readily agreed. The fox jumped on the goat's back and leapt from the tip of its horns out of the well.

The foolish goat finally realised the plight he had got into. He cried out, "Please help me **(15)** However, it was too late. The fox had run away.

13. (1) [,] comma
(2) [.] full stop
(3) [?] question mark
(4) [!] exclamation mark

14. (1) [,] comma
(2) [!] exclamation mark
(3) [,"] comma and inverted commas
(4) [."] full stop and inverted commas

15. (1) [,"] comma and inverted commas
(2) [."] full stop and inverted commas
(3) [?"] question mark and inverted commas
(4) [!"] exclamation mark and inverted commas

(Go on to the next page)

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For each question from 16 to 20, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). **Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS).** (5 marks)

16. I thought I heard noises in the basement but it turned out to be just a figment of my _____.

(1) creation
(2) devotion
(3) invention
(4) imagination

17. She was too _____ with her worries to enjoy her meal.

(1) involved
(2) engaged
(3) connected
(4) preoccupied

18. After the snowstorm, motorists were urged to drive carefully as the roads were _____ icy and accidents could happen.

(1) hardly
(2) marginally
(3) consistently
(4) treacherously

19. The drunken man's licence was _____ due to his reckless driving.

1) expired
2) revoked
3) reversed
4) exchanged

20. You have to _____ on your plot so that your storyline is more developed.

1) insist
2) press
3) elaborate
4) emphasise

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For each question from 21 to 25, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined words. **Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.** (5 marks)

Pat's brother, Alex, had fallen sick. Now, he had to follow his father out to the sea. Pat **(21)shuddered** at the thought. His father would start off by complaining that Alex was the only responsible son he had and that Pat should follow in his footsteps. Becoming a fisherman was the last thing on Pat's mind. His love for books had **(22)kindled** in him the desire to become a poet. This **(23)infuriated** Pat's father, who felt that a fisherman's son could never be a poet. He held the **(24)conservative** view that poetry writing was a "rich man's activity".

That day, even though the weather forecast had warned about possible thunderstorms, Pat's father ventured out to sea **(25)with great persistence**. He knew that a day's catch would bring in the much-needed cash for his family. As for Pat, he knew that he would achieve his dream one day.

21. (1) cringed
(2) crawled
(3) crumbled
(4) collapsed

22. (1) ignited
(2) activated
(3) motivated
(4) discovered

23. (1) insulted
(2) angered
(3) troubled
(4) humiliated

24. (1) habitual
(2) ordinary
(3) traditional
(4) customary

25. (1) eagerly
(2) willingly
(3) determinedly
(4) encouragingly

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Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

Robby jogged on the spot and shook his arms. He glanced along the line of runners. The muscular boy who had won at the community race was here for the cross-country race, and the tall boy with blond hair too. Both sported the same pale blue singlets as Robby. Overwhelmed, Robby's chest tightened.

"Don't think about them, just concentrate on the run," he encouraged himself silently.

The starter called them up and instructed, "On your mark!"

Robby crouched and **settled himself**.

"Set!"

Robby's muscles tightened.

Bang! The gun fired him from the start. Robby bolted down the straight stretch that led out of the stadium and into the main road. He was among the leaders. He soon found his rhythm. As he made his way into the treks and started up the long climb, he felt his thigh muscles tighten. He was strong.

The course turned sharply but Robby's ankles took his weight well. He balanced again and accelerated. He took the turns among the trees well, changing his pace accordingly. His body adjusted **like a car changing gears**.

Robby went down the rocks towards the creek. This was the difficult part that caused many runners to stumble. Before he knew it, he heard a thump. Someone behind Robby had tripped, caught Robby's foot, and brought him to his hands and knees. Robby brought himself up, **ignoring the grazes on his palms and legs**, and took off again.

The rocks were slippery under his feet. He stumbled but managed to save himself from falling. The grazes slowed him down perhaps, or was it the fatigue? Robby realised suddenly that runners were running past him. He saw their backs. "No time to steady myself. No time to think. I must catch up," he urged himself. He tried but was still behind some. He felt shattered.

Finally, they were on level ground, sprinting. Runners raced ahead of him. His legs would go no faster. His muscles burnt. His soles burnt. "I am tired but I will keep going," he said as he gathered his muscles and will-power. Hanging on, he regained his rhythm.

Soon, the runners reached the steep hill. With renewed power, Robby ate up the climb. More and more runners slipped behind and were gone from him. The blond-haired boy was gone. He recognised the big boy ahead. He kept his pace, hard, fast, though the hill rose steeper. He got nearer to the big boy, ran with him, and overtook him.

Down the hill in bold strides and onto a grassy flat. Now he was alone and running free. Oh, the wonder at what his body could do. The bubbling celebration inside him. He shouted, "Hurray!"

(Go on to the next page)

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For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). **Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS).** (5 marks)

26. The words "settled himself" (line 8) suggest that Robby was trying to _____.

(1) calm his nerves
(2) control his power
(3) regain his balance
(4) distract the other runners

27. From the words "like a car changing gears" (line 17), we can conclude that Robby was _____.

(1) an experienced runner
(2) a very aggressive person
(3) light enough for his ankles
(4) enthusiastic about the race

28. Robby was "ignoring the grazes on his palms and legs" (lines 21) because he _____.

(1) was staying focused on the race
(2) realised that his injuries would slow him down
(3) knew he could not continue running for much longer
(4) was concerned about the safety of the other runners

29. Which word best describes Robby at the end of the race?

(1) bold
(2) jovial
(3) elated
(4) exhausted

30. Of the following, the most suitable title of the passage will be "_____".

1) Renewed Power
2) Giving Up Is Not Easy
3) Up and Down the Hills
4) The Cross-country Race

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MARIS STELLA HIGH SCHOOL (PRIMARY)
2014 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 2 (LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION)
BOOKLET B

19 August 2014 (Tuesday)

50 questions
65 marks

Total Time for Booklets A & B: 1 hour 50 minutes

NAME : _____

CLASS : PRIMARY **6** _____

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FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS.

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There are 10 blanks, numbered 31 to 40, 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 in order to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE

(A) and	(D) besides	(G) on	(K) should	(N) were
(B) are	(E) has	(H) or	(L) to	(P) when
(C) beside	(F) it	(J) ought	(M) up	(Q) where

Environmental pollution has always been a cause for concern. The haze which hit Singapore and other ASEAN countries in the past few years **(31)**_____ exposed the pollution issue in the region.

The haze threatened the environment and the health of millions of people in the affected areas. First, **(32)**_____ saw the air quality index of many areas reaching hazardous levels. Second, visibility levels were affected. There were days **(33)**_____ the visibility dipped to less than 500 metres, making it difficult for search and rescue operations. **(34)**_____ these, the haze was responsible for other disastrous effects.

However disastrous the consequences of the haze **(35)**_____, it had one positive outcome. It prompted the government of the affected countries to address the problem together. Realising the urgency for effective **(36)**_____ immediate measures to tackle the problem, the authorities came **(37)**_____ with a number of strategies. For instance, there was an immediate ban on open burning.

When the haze hit Singapore in 2013, the authorities took full control of the situation. Co-curricular activities in schools were put **(38)**_____ a stop. Flights were either rescheduled **(39)**_____ cancelled. There was a public education campaign on the precautions that **(40)**_____ to be taken. The authorities acted with a sense of urgency in addressing the haze problem.

Score:	/ 10

(Go on to the next page)

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Correct each word in **bold** for spelling and each underlined word for grammar. Write the correct word in the relevant box. (10 marks)

Have you ever tried telling someone about the smell and taste of a durian? From a

(41) [ ]

durian lover's perspective, I have heard them described the fruit as "sweet, rich, heavenly

(42) [ ]

custard". There are some who cannot ***tallerate*** *the smell of the fruit. Some have even*

(43) [ ]

drawn a compare between durians and rotten onions.

(44) [ ]

Every year, between June till August, street vendors will be piling their stalls with this

fruit. The air in the area will be filled with the distinctive smell of durians. While you are

(45) [ ] *(46)* [ ]

slurping your ***faverite*** *beef noodles in a coffee shop, you may spot lorries laden in numerous*

(47) [ ]

baskets. The vendors then scramble to get his hands on them. In no time, these durians are

(48) [ ]

skrutiniced*, cleaned and placed neatly on the wooden display racks.*

(49) [ ]

At night, these stalls are swarmed with people who have come to ***sasteefy*** *their*

(50) [ ]

cravings. They ***innduldge*** *as they tuck into each fruit, savouring the flesh of each seed.*

Indeed, nothing beats its smell and the empowering taste!

Score: / 10

(Go on to the next page)

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Fill in each blank with a suitable word. (15 marks)

I am not a mountaineer. However, when I found **(51)**_____ travelling around the island of Borneo earlier this year, I took **(52)**_____ the challenge of conquering Mount Kinabalu, the highest mountain in the Malay Archipelago.

We started at eight in the morning and made slow progress, stopping **(53)**_____ few minutes to look at the **(54)**_____ and fauna. About an hour into the hike, I heard rustling in the trees and **(55)**_____ face to face with the elusive red leaf monkeys. I also caught glimpses of exotic birds, **(56)**_____ from scarlet red trogons to sunbirds. Higher up the mountains, we came out of the dense jungle. At this height and with the clouds as background, the peak of Mount Kinabalu **(57)**_____ out prominently.

From that point, unlike the morning, we made quick **(58)**_____ and managed to arrive at the base camp at around three in the afternoon. I was expecting hard, cold sleeping beds and some fried rice. **(59)**_____ my surprise, I was greeted with a warm dining hall filled with weary hikers and a buffet spread. **(60)**_____ a mug of hot chocolate in my hand, I watched the sunset from the lodge's porch. When darkness **(61)**_____, all of us went to bed as we had to prepare for the hike to the peak in the early hours of the morning.

Shivering and with bleary eyes, I started the climb, wearing a woollen cap with a **(62)**_____ attached to it. We eventually reached the staircase which led us to the summit. The headlamps on the woollen caps of the other hikers twinkled in the distance, reminding us **(63)**_____ far we still had to go. After some climbing, the summit flattened out and I began to race towards it. Perched on a huge rock, I stared in awe at the magnificent sunrise as the clouds **(64)**_____ from grey to purple, blue and gold. The other hikers whooped **(65)**_____ sheer delight. The Kinabalu summit trail was one of the best hikes I have ever embarked on.

Score: / 15

(Go on to the next page)

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For each of the questions 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 the given one(s). (10 marks)

Example : This is the book. I borrowed it.
Answer : This is the book which I borrowed.

66. Upon hearing the bad news, Mrs Tan fainted immediately.

_____ as soon as

_____

67. If Mary had attended the party, she would have met her idol.

Had _____

_____

68. The acrobats were brave. The audience was impressed.

The acrobats' _____

_____

69. In spite of the fact that his health was poor, he pursued his dreams.

_____ did not stop

_____

70. John is being taught how to swim by the instructor.

The instructor _____

_____

Score: / 10

(Go on to the next page)

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Read the passage below and answer questions 71 to 80. (20 marks)

This was the twentieth time that the off-pitch screeches in the apartment above mine drove me to distraction. At one in the morning, my attempt to revise for my examination failed miserably amid my neighbour's horrible singing. "Great!" I snarled to myself.

For the past month, my grades had not been ideal. Nonetheless, my parents never gave up hope of my grades taking a turn for the better. This kept my nose to the grindstone, night after night, working towards an A. However, my revision was often interrupted by a neighbour who thought he was the karaoke king. Uncle Pete, a retiree, who lived in a unit upstairs all by himself was crooning away. He entertained himself with his daily karaoke sessions into the wee hours of the morning. All my relentless pleas to my parents to silence his mouthful wails of oldies fell to the ground.

Desperate, I stuck my head out of the window and gave a **loud yell**. The singing ceased almost immediately. I began to worry although I had achieved my aim.

Would Uncle Pete complain to my parents about my outburst? Would he be angry? Wild thoughts raced through my head. I was filled with fear and soon, I fell asleep.

The next morning, there was a gentle knock at my door. **This** was a stark contrast to the loud singing sessions that took place every day. I walked hesitantly to the front door, opened it and found myself staring into Uncle Pete's face.

"Did I disturb you last night, young lad?" There was a guilty tone to his apology.

"Um, yes, Uncle Pete," I replied meekly.

"Revising for your examination?"

"Well, yes, essay writing isn't exactly my strength," I admitted sheepishly, "and the examination is nearing."

Uncle Pete's eyes lit up almost immediately. Only then did he share that he used to be an English teacher. I nodded my head in agreement when he asked if he could coach me for the upcoming examination. In the days that followed, Uncle Pete coached me tirelessly. The pressure I felt previously was lifted with his words of encouragement and detailed explanation. At the end of the stressful period, I found myself becoming interested in essay writing, something I detested in the past.

"Bobby Teo!" the teacher's loud voice reverberated round the classroom. She was returning our essays. My heart sank.

"I must have failed my essay," I said silently.

Things were different this time round. She came over, patted me on my shoulder and said, "Congratulations!" I could not believe my ears. My parents and Uncle Pete would be glad to know this. I had performed very well in essay writing.

The next few nights of Uncle Pete's energised screeches no longer bothered me anymore. Thanks, Uncle Pete.

Since then, I have aspired to become a teacher like him one day.

(Go on to the next page)

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For each question from 71 to 80, write your answer in the space provided.
ALL ANSWERS MUST BE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. Which four-word phrase from paragraph one suggests that the writer was not able to focus on his task?

_____

_____

72. At the beginning of the story, what was the writer busy with?

_____

_____

73. Give **two** reasons to explain why the writer kept his nose to the grindstone (lines 6-7).

_____

_____

74. Which word in paragraph two suggests that it was not the first time the writer had spoken to his parents about Uncle Pete's singing?

_____

_____

75. Give **two** reasons for the writer's "loud yell" (line 12).

_____

_____

Score:	**/ 10**

(Go on to the next page)

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76. What did the writer fear as he fell asleep (lines 15-16)?

_____

_____

77. What does "This" in line 17 refer to?

_____

_____

78. Based on lines 26-31, give **two** actions that showed Uncle Pete was a dedicated teacher.

_____

_____

79. Why did the writer's heart sink (line 33)?

_____

_____

80. Give **two** pieces of information which suggest that Uncle Pete's teaching had an impact on the writer.

_____

_____

Score:	7 10

End of Paper

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Exam Paper 2014 Answer Sheet

School: MARIS STELLA HIGH SCHOOL
Subject: PRIMARY 6 ENGLISH
Term: PRELIM

1) 4	6) 1	11) 4	16) 4	21) 1	26) 1
2) 3	7) 4	12) 1	17) 4	22) 1	27) 1
3) 2	8) 3	13) 1	18) 4	23) 2	28) 1
4) 2	9) 4	14) 3	19) 2	24) 3	29) 3
5) 1	10) 2	15) 4	20) 3	25) 3	30) 4

31) E	33) P	35) N	37) M	39) H
32) F	34) D	36) A	38) L	40) J

41. describe

42. tolerate

43. comparison

44. and

45. favourite

46. with

47. their

48. scrutinized

49. satisfy

50. indulge

51. myself

52. on

53. every

54. flora

55. come

56. ranging

57. stood

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58. progress

59. To

60. Holding

61. came

62. headlamp

63. how

64. turned

65. in

66. Mrs Tan fainted as soon as she heard the bad news.

67. Had Mary attended the party, she would have met her idol.

68. The acrobats' bravery impressed the audience.

69. His poor health did not stop him from pursuing his dreams.

70. The instructor is teaching John how to swim.

71. It is "drove me to distraction".

72. The writer was busy revising for his examination.

73. For the past month, his grades had not been ideal. His parents never gave up hope on his grades taking a turn of the better.

74. It is 'relentless'.

75. He was annoyed by Uncle Pete's singing. He wanted him to stop singing.

76. He feared that Uncle Pete would be angry and complain to his parents about his outburst.

77. It refers to the gentle knock on the door which was a stark contrast to the loud singing sessions that took place every day.

78. He coached the writer tirelessly, will encourage the writer and will explain to him in detailed.

79. When his teacher called out his name, he thought that he had failed his essay.

80. He became interested in essay writing. He improved in his essay writing.

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