HENRY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
2020 SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PRIMARY FOUR

Part I	/16
Part II	/34
TOTAL	/50

NAME: _____ ( )

CLASS: Primary 4 _____

Duration of Paper: 1 h 15 min

PARENT'S SIGNATURE:

_____

PART I
SECTION A: Vocabulary (6 x 1 mark)
Choose the most suitable answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets.
Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet provided.

1. Alan found the hike up Bukit Timah Hill easy but his friends found it _____.

   (1) forceful
   (2) complex
   (3) strenuous
   (4) inconvenient

   ( )

2. The injured footballer _____ off the field after he was heavily tackled by his opponent.

   (1) limped
   (2) ambled
   (3) marched
   (4) sauntered

   ( )

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3. Mrs Bala proudly hung the wooden _____ that she had received for having served thirty years in her company.

(1) trophy
(2) medal
(3) plaque
(4) certificate ( )

4. The once clear water in the stream is now cloudy and _____ because of the pollution caused by the nearby construction.

(1) hazy
(2) foggy
(3) blurry
(4) murky ( )

5. Rescue workers were immediately _____ to the accident area to assist in the 'Save and Rescue' mission.

(1) issued
(2) gathered
(3) forwarded
(4) dispatched ( )

6. The tsunami of 2004 was a _____ that the people of Phuket had not expected.

(1) fatality
(2) calamity
(3) accident
(4) hardship ( )

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SECTION B: Grammar (10 x 1 mark)

Choose the correct answer and write its number (1, 2, 3 or 4) in the brackets provided. Then shade your answers on the OAS provided.

7. My cousin, Jane, often comes to stay with my family _____ the school holidays.

(1) in
(2) at
(3) for
(4) during ( )

8. A group of fans _____ seen outside the ticketing office last weekend buying their favourite singer's concert tickets.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were ( )

9. "Are you reaching soon? We _____ in front of the shop now," Mother asked John.

(1) wait
(2) waited
(3) are waiting
(4) have waited ( )

10. Last April, Joseph _____ swimming in the pool due to the Circuit Breaker.

(1) misses
(2) missed
(3) has missed
(4) was missing ( )

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11. The woman _____ very relieved when someone returned her handphone.

(1) is
(2) are
(3) was
(4) were

( )

12. The twins _____ an episode from their favourite cartoon programme when the doorbell suddenly rang.

(1) is watching
(2) are watching
(3) was watching
(4) were watching

( )

13. "Please help me get _____ bunch of keys on the table over there, Nora," my grandmother called out impatiently to me.

(1) this
(2) that
(3) these
(4) those

( )

14. Martin volunteered to deliver the speech _____ he was the class monitor.

(1) or
(2) but
(3) then
(4) since

( )

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15. I still have a lot of chores to complete but there is not _____ time left.

(1) any
(2) much
(3) many
(4) some ( )

16. Desmond can make _____ delicious tuna sandwiches in a short time.

(1) any
(2) many
(3) much
(4) a little ( )

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PART II
SECTION C: Grammar Cloze (8 x 1 mark)

Part 1

Read the passage carefully. Choose the correct word from the words given in the box and write its letter (A to F) in each blank. USE A WORD ONCE ONLY.

(A) him	(B) himself	(C) herself
(D) it	(E) she	(F) they

Ali wanted to explore the mysterious forest. However, his sisters, Siti and Sarah, refused to join him because (17) _____ were afraid. Ali decided that he would go by (18) _____. His sisters stood outside the forest, hoping that nothing bad would happen to (19) _____. Sarah was especially afraid because she had heard scary stories about the forest and did not want to be near (20) _____. After an hour, there was still no sign of Ali.

Part 2

Read the passage carefully. Underline the correct word from the words given in the brackets.

Every week, Tom borrows books about animals from the library. One of the books, "Animal Tales", (21) [contain / contains] many interesting stories about animals. Tom (22) [read / reads] the book with his younger brother every night. They (23) [enjoy / enjoys] looking at the beautiful pictures in the book together. Their favourite story in the book is about how a brave mouse (24) [help / helps] a proud lion. Tom wants to borrow another book on animals again.

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SECTION D: Comprehension Cloze (4 x 1 mark)

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

Last week, Sally and her sister baked a cheesecake for their grandfather. Before they started baking, they visited the supermarket to buy all the necessary (25) _____ such as butter, cream cheese and sugar. As Sally had never baked a cheesecake before, she read the (26) _____ for baking a cheesecake several times. She followed it closely. Sally was very careful as she (27) _____ not want to make any mistakes. After the cheesecake had been baked, Sally's sister decorated it with some fresh strawberries. Finally, the cheesecake (28) _____ ready. They felt certain that their grandfather would enjoy eating it.

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SECTION E: Synthesis (4 x 1 mark)

Rewrite the given sentences using the word provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentences.

29. Henry was playing with his toys. I was doing my homework.

_____ while

_____

30. The boys continue to be late for school. The boys will be punished.

If _____

_____

31. Ben ran as fast as he could. Ben did not win the race.

Although _____

_____

32. The old house was not dark. The old house was not scary.

_____ neither

_____

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SECTION F: Comprehension

Comprehension 1 (8 marks)

Read the following passage carefully and answer questions 33 to 39.

Robert Bruce was the king of Scotland hundreds of years ago. He was a courageous and majestic king who fought hard to keep his country safe. At that time, England was at war with Scotland. Six times, Robert Bruce and his army were beaten. In the end, the king was forced to hide in the woods.

One rainy day, Robert Bruce took shelter in a cave. He was tired and about to give up hope. He did not think he could ever win the war.

As he lay thinking about what he should do next, he noticed a spider getting ready to spin her web. He watched her as she tried to throw her thread from one edge of the cave wall to another. Each time, she fell off but without fail, she climbed back up. It happened six times and he thought that the spider would give up. To his surprise, she tried again for the seventh time.

Instead of throwing her thread to the other edge of the cave wall, the spider swung herself out. Her fine, silky thread was carried safely to the cave wall. The spider had finally succeeded. Robert Bruce learnt an important lesson that day. He gathered his army and they fought bravely against the enemy. They had a great victory.

Adapted from www.storiestogrowby.com

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33. Which word in the sentence has the same meaning as 'brave'?
Circle either (A) or (B). [1m]

(A) (B)
He was a **courageous** and **majestic** king who fought very hard to keep his country safe.

34. Tick (✓) your chosen answer.

Robert Bruce went into the cave because he _____. [1m]

	needed a place to plan his next move
	wanted to watch the spider spin her web
	needed to stay dry as it was raining outside

35. Tick (✓) your chosen answer.

Why did Robert Bruce feel like giving up? [1m]

	He could not do much as it was raining.
	He did not think he could ever win the war.
	He was being pursued by the Scottish army.

For Q36 and 37, read each statement and tick (✓) "True" or "False".
The first example has been done for you. [2m]

	Statement	True	False
Example	Robert Bruce was the king of Scotland.	✓	
36.	Robert Bruce and his army were fighting against England.		
37.	The spider failed to spin the web in the cave.		

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38. Write the number (1, 2 or 3) in the boxes beside the events below to show the order in which they happened in the passage. [1m]

The king watched the spider spinning a web in a cave.	
The army fought hard but they still lost the war to England.	
Robert Bruce fled to the woods after his army was scattered.	

39. List the two ways in which the spider spun her web.

i. _____ [1m]

ii. _____ [1m]

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Comprehension 2 (10 marks)
Read the following passage carefully and answer questions 40 to 47.

Once, there lived a farmer and his wife. For a long time, they could not have a child no matter how hard they prayed. After some time, the farmer found a mongoose. The couple raised and looked after it like it was their own child. Soon after, the couple was blessed with a son. As the little boy grew up, he and the mongoose were like brothers. They always played together and never failed to make up even on the rare occasions when they fought. The mongoose also looked after the little boy.

One day, the farmer was busy at his fields. The farmer's wife had left for the market. The little boy was fast asleep in his cradle and the mongoose was lying below it. A cobra got into the house and slithered towards the little boy. The mongoose realised this and jumped in defence. It fought hard against the cobra as soon as the cobra began its attack. The mongoose finally bit and killed the cobra.

A few minutes later, the relieved mongoose saw the farmer's wife returning from the market. It scampered happily towards the door to greet her. However, the farmer's wife saw the blood around its mouth and paws and was horrified. She immediately came to the conclusion that the mongoose must have attacked her son.

Without pausing to think, the farmer's wife took a long stick and hit the mongoose repeatedly on its head. She then ran into the house. She was stunned to see a dead cobra lying on the floor near her son who was still sound asleep in his cradle. Having realised her mistake, she ran out and found the mongoose dead. She wailed in sorrow and wished that she had thought before she acted. Unfortunately, it was too late.

*mongoose - small carnivorous mammal with a pointed face and a bushy tail

Adapted from 'http://www.english-for-students.com/The-Mongoose-and-The-Child.html'

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40. Tick (✓) your chosen answer.

The couple was finally blessed with a son after _____. [1m]

	praying very hard
	finding the mongoose
	raising the mongoose as their own child

41. The mongoose and the little boy were like brothers because they always _____. [1m]

	played together
	fought with each other
	looked after each other

42. Write the number (1, 2 or 3) in the boxes beside the events below to show the order in which they happened in the passage. [1m]

The mongoose bit the cobra.	
The farmer and his wife went out.	
The farmer's wife hit the mongoose on the head, causing its death.	

43. What does the word "**it**" in line 9 refer to? [1m]

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44. Which **four-word phrase** in paragraph 4 tells us that the farmer's wife acted too rashly? [1m]

45. Why was the farmer's wife horrified to see blood around the mouth and paws of the mongoose? [1m]

46. State whether each statement below is true or false. Give a reason for your answer. [2m]

	Statement	True/False	Evidence
(a)	The mongoose defended the little boy from the cobra.		
(b)	The little boy woke up during the fight between the mongoose and the cobra.		

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47. Which adjectives best describe the farmer's wife's feelings towards the mongoose? Circle one adjective from each of the columns below. [2m]

At the beginning of the story	Towards the end of the story
caring	jealous
understanding	suspicious

End-of-Paper

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ANSWER KEY

YEAR: 2020
LEVEL: PRIMARY 4
SCHOOL: HENRY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
SUBJECT: ENGLISH
TERM: SA1

BOOKLET A

Q1	3	Q2	1	Q3	3	Q4	4	Q5	4
Q6	2	Q7	4	Q8	3	Q9	3	Q10	2
Q11	3	Q12	4	Q13	2	Q14	4	Q15	2
Q16	2								

BOOKLET B

Q17	F
Q18	B
Q19	A
Q20	D
Q21	contains
Q22	reads
Q23	enjoy
Q24	helps
Q25	ingredients
Q26	recipe
Q27	did
Q28	was
Q29	Henry was playing with his toys while I was doing my homework.
Q30	If the boys continue to be late for school, they will be punished.
Q31	Although Ben ran as fast as he could, he did not win the race.
Q32	The old house was neither dark nor scary.
Q33	A
Q34	Robert Bruce went into the cave because he needed to sat dry as it was raining outside.

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Q35	Robert felt like giving up because he did not think he could ever win the war.
Q36	True
Q37	False
Q38	3 , 1 , 2
Q39	i) Throw her thread to the other edge of the cave wall. ii) swung herself out.
Q40	The couple was finally blessed with a son after raising the mongoose as their own child.
Q41	The mongoose and the little boy were like brothers because they always played together.
Q42	2 , 1 , 3
Q43	the cradle
Q44	Without pausing to think
Q45	The farmer's wife thought that the mongoose had attacked her son.
Q46	a) True, the mongoose jumped in defense to save the little boy from the cobra. b) False, the little boy was sound asleep in his cradle.
Q47	At the beginning of the story the farmer's wife felt caring towards the mongoose while at the end of the story the famer's wife felt suspicious of the mongoose.

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