METHODIST GIRLS' SCHOOL (PRIMARY)
Founded in 1887

WEIGHTED ASSESSMENT (2) 2024
PRIMARY 4

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER

Total Time for Booklet: 45 min

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
2. Follow all instructions carefully.
3. Answer all questions.

Name: _____ (  )

Class: Primary 4._____

Date : 3 May 2024

| | |
|---|---|
| Total | 25 |
| Parent's signature | |

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Section A: Comprehension Cloze (10 marks)

Read the passage carefully. WRITE the correct words in the blanks in the passage.

Dolphins are extremely smart. Some may say they are almost as clever as humans. They can do amazing things, 1) _____ as using tools and helping other dolphins. Dolphin mothers communicate with their young, just like how human mothers 2) _____ to their children.

Each dolphin 3) _____ its own special whistle, like a name, so they can tell one another apart. 4) _____ dolphin mothers are with their offsprings, they change their whistle sounds.

A scientist 5) _____ Laela Sayigh noticed this back in 2009 but did not get to study it until recently. She and her team listened to recordings of dolphins 6) _____ 1984 to 2018. They found that when the mothers are in the presence of 7) _____ babies, the tone of their whistles go up or down more than 8) _____.

Why do they do this? No one is exactly sure. However, some scientists 9) _____ that it is to help baby dolphins know when their mothers are talking to them. This special way of talking could 10) _____ their bond and improve their relationship. Studying this could help us understand how languages evolve in animals, like dolphins, and humans.

*Adapted from https://www.dogonews.com/2024/1/18/female-bottlenose-dolphins-use-baby-talk-with-their-calves*

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Section B: Comprehension (Open-Ended) (15 marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Alex was a compassionate boy who was always ready to lend a helping hand to those in need. He lived next door to Mr Tan, who was an elderly man confined to a wheelchair due to a disability resulting from a car accident. Despite his challenges, Mr Tan was patient and pleasant, and he found much joy in tending to his garden.

One sunny afternoon, Alex was doing his Science revision by the balcony when he noticed that Mr Tan was struggling to water his plants. He was at a loss as the hose seemed to be tangled and he was having trouble reaching some of the flower beds. Seeing his neighbour in need, Alex put aside his work and did not hesitate to offer assistance.

"Hey, Mr Tan! Need a hand?" Alex asked, flashing a warm smile.

Upon hearing that, Mr Tan beamed and nodded gratefully. Together, they worked to untangle the hose and water the flowers, sharing stories and laughter along the way. Alex discovered that gardening had been Mr Tan's passion even before his disability.

After completing the task, Alex noticed that the scattered garden tools were out of reach for Mr Tan. Determined to help further, he decided to postpone his revision and spent the afternoon organising them to create an accessible gardening area.

6 Despite his busy schedule of juggling school, homework and other commitments, Alex continued to check on Mr Tan after that day, assisting him with gardening chores and providing companionship. **These** became a weekly routine. They grew closer with each passing day, and Alex treasured the moments spent with his neighbour.

Not only did Alex's actions bring happiness to Mr Tan, but it also had a ripple effect on the neighbourhood. Witnessing a 9-year-old boy taking time out amidst his busy schedule to perform simple acts of empathy inspired others in the neighborhood to extend kindness to those in need despite their many other commitments. As the flowers blossomed in Mr Tan's garden, so did the friendship between Alex and his cherished neighbour, proving that a little empathy can make a big difference in someone's life.

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1. State one word in **paragraph 1** that describes the kind of person Alex was. [1m]

2. Which **three-word phrase** in paragraph 2 tells us that Alex was very willing to help Mr Tan. [1m]

**For Q3 and Q4, write your answers in complete sentences.**

3. Why was Mr Tan struggling to water his plants? [2m]

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4. Based on the story, state whether each sentence below is **True or False.** Give a reason for your answer. [2m]

| Sentence | True/False | Reason |
|---|---|---|
| i) Mr Tan started enjoying gardening after he was confined to his wheelchair. | | |
| ii) Spending time with Mr Tan regularly was important to Alex. | | |

5. Look at the table below. What do the bold and underlined words in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. [2m]

| Word from the passage | What the word refers to |
|---|---|
| Determined to help further, he decided to postpone his Science revision and spent the afternoon organising **them** to create an accessible gardening area.<br><br>(lines 15-16) | |
| These became a weekly routine.<br><br>(line 19) | |

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6. Write **1, 2** and **3** in the blanks below to indicate the order of the actions in paragraph 4. [1m]

_____ Alex organised the scattered garden tools.

_____ Mr Tan was involved in a car accident.

_____ Mr Tan struggled to water his plants.

7. Fill in the following table with the supporting action from paragraphs 4 and 5. [2m]

| Description of Alex's personality | Alex's action |
|---|---|
| Friendly | |
| Considerate | |

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**For Q8ii and Q9, write your answers in complete sentences.**

8. (i) What is a word that best describes the relationship between Alex and Mr Tan at the end of the story? [1m]

(ii) Give an example from the passage to support your answer. [1m]

9. Explain clearly how Alex's actions impact the neighbourhood? [2m]

END OF PAPER

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# ANSWER KEY

YEAR : 2024
LEVEL : PRIMARY 4
SCHOOL : MGS
SUBJECT : ENGLISH
TERM : WA 2

| | |
|---|---|
| Q1 | Such |
| Q2 | Talk |
| Q3 | Has |
| Q4 | When |
| Q5 | Named |
| Q6 | From |
| Q7 | their |
| Q8 | Usual |
| Q9 | Think |
| Q10 | Strengthen |
| Q11 | Compassionate |
| Q12 | Did not hesitate |
| Q13 | Mr Tan's hose was tangled and he had some trouble reaching some of the flower beds. |
| Q14 | i. False. Gardening had been Mr Tan's passion even before his disability.<br>ii. True. Alex treasured the weekly moments spent with Mr Tan. |
| Q15 | (line 15-16) : It refers to the scattered gardening tools.<br>(line 19) : it refers to continue to check on Mr Tan after that day, assisting him with gardening chores and providing companionship. |
| Q16 | 3 , 1 , 2 |
| Q17 | a) Alex was sharing stories and laughter with Mr Tan as the worked.<br>b) He spent an afternoon organising the scattered gardening tools so that the area is accessible for Mr Tan. |
| Q18 | i. Friendship<br>ii. As the flower blossomed in Mr Tan's garden, so did the friendship between Alex and his cherished neighbour, proving that a little empathy can make a big difference in someone's life. |
| Q19 | Witnessing Alex taking time out amidst his busy schedule to perform simple acts of empathy inspired others in the neighbourhood to extend kindness to those in need despite their many other commitments. |
| ~~Q20~~ | ~~The bridge was damaged as such an ambulance was not able to cross the stream.~~ |
| ~~Q21~~ | ~~Quick-thinking~~ |

END

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