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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SINGAPORE
PRIMARY SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATION

0001/2 (A)

**PSLE
SPECIMEN PAPER**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 2**

(BOOKLET A)

Effective from 2025

Additional Materials: Optical Answer Sheet (OAS)

Total Time for Booklets A and B : 1 h 50 min

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Write your index number in the boxes at the top right-hand corner.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.
5. Use a 2B pencil to shade your answers on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS).

This booklet consists of **9** printed pages and **3** blank pages.



Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board

For each question from 1 to 10, choose the answer that best fits in the sentence(s). Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (10 marks)

- 1 This is by far _____ hobby I have picked up.
- (1) an enjoyable
 - (2) a very enjoyable
 - (3) the most enjoyable
 - (4) the more enjoyable
- 2 Trixie was tickled when she caught Mr Loh looking at his reflection in the mirror, smiling at _____.
- (1) her
 - (2) him
 - (3) herself
 - (4) himself
- 3 “You’ve conducted this kind of experiment before, _____?” the teacher asked the class.
- (1) don’t you
 - (2) didn’t you
 - (3) hadn’t you
 - (4) haven’t you
- 4 _____ did the clown expect such warm applause from the audience for his first performance.
- (1) Much
 - (2) None
 - (3) Little
 - (4) Any
- 5 He is highly sought after, having helped several singers like Damien Fong _____ a successful career in music.
- (1) launch
 - (2) launches
 - (3) launched
 - (4) launching

6 “Won’t Dad be pleased when he _____ that we were both selected to act in the school play?” Nurul asked her brother.

- (1) hears
- (2) heard
- (3) has heard
- (4) had heard

7 Mr Lee decided to call off the hike _____ the thunderstorm.

- (1) owing to
- (2) in spite of
- (3) regardless of
- (4) resulting from

8 If you don’t have a good grasp _____ the skills taught, you won’t be able to do the job well.

- (1) in
- (2) of
- (3) on
- (4) over

9 By the end of next year, my brother _____ a trained instructor.

- (1) becomes
- (2) has become
- (3) is becoming
- (4) will have become

10 “Where _____ the scissors that I left on the table just now?” asked the art teacher.

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

(Go on to the next page)

For each question from 11 to 15, choose the answer that best fits in the sentence(s). Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

11 Granny Wong's top _____ is to look after her grandchildren well because she loves them dearly.

- (1) priority
- (2) urgency
- (3) importance
- (4) requirement

12 No one knew who donated the huge amount of money as the donor chose to be _____.

- (1) obscure
- (2) indistinct
- (3) ambiguous
- (4) anonymous

13 Usha had to _____ more responsibilities when she became the leader of the debate team.

- (1) take in
- (2) take to
- (3) take on
- (4) take after

14 The renovation _____ the old hotel to its former glory.

- (1) renewed
- (2) restored
- (3) reclaimed
- (4) recharged

15 After _____ gluing together the broken pieces of the toy, Ghazaar was tired out.

- (1) warily
- (2) vigilantly
- (3) consciously
- (4) painstakingly

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

Mrs Li stared at the gift from her grandson. She could not figure out what it was. It was the size of her thumb, black and rectangular. Handling it gingerly, Mrs Li tried to no avail to open it. She placed the device back on the table, sceptical that it was of any use.

(16)

Mrs Li was once daunted by technology, but ever since she found out how she could use her mobile phone to take photos, she had been snapping away. A few days ago, Mrs Li told her grandson that she was facing trouble storing her many photos which added up to at least a few thousands.

(17)

(18)

(19)

“Grandma, let me show you what this is!” Peter plugged the device into his laptop, and with a few clicks, Mrs Li’s photos appeared on the screen. Mrs Li’s eyes widened.

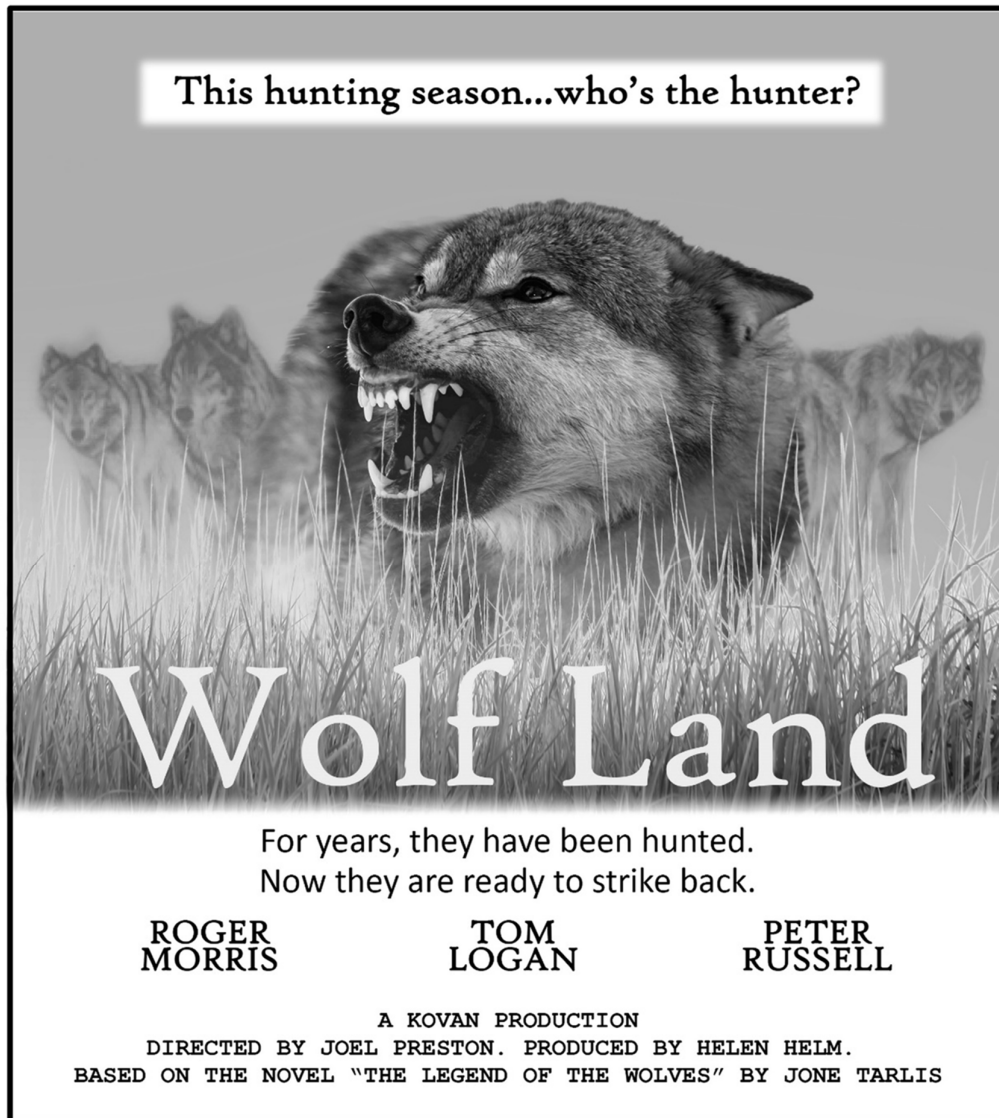
- 16** (1) reveal
(2) unravel
(3) interpret
(4) recognise
- 17** (1) hesitant
(2) doubtful
(3) suspicious
(4) incredulous
- 18** (1) baffled
(2) defeated
(3) distressed
(4) intimidated
- 19** (1) tackling
(2) addressing
(3) approaching
(4) encountering
- 20** (1) slightly
(2) closely
(3) scarcely
(4) minimally

(Go on to the next page)

Study the poster (Text 1) and the extract from a school project (Text 2) and answer questions 21 to 25.

Text 1

The text below shows a poster for a film.



Text 2

The extract below is taken from a school project on wolves.

Fairy tales usually present wolves as ferocious beasts. Think “Big Bad Wolf” – the wolf is often shown with fangs and a snarl. In reality, wolves may shy away from people. In a study of wolf behaviour, researchers approached a prey animal that some wolves had just caught. They observed the wolves running away instead of staying to fend off the humans.

In another study, wolves have been found to be intelligent animals that live together in a pack. Older wolves pass down knowledge and strategies to younger members. When humans hunt wolves and break up the pack, it upsets this natural learning. Lone surviving wolves behave more unpredictably and kill a greater number of prey animals, such as livestock, than wolves living in stable packs.

(Go on to the next page)

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For each question from 21 to 25, choose the best answer. Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

- 21** According to the poster in Text 1, which of the following is true of the film?
- (1) Joel Preston acts in it.
 - (2) Helen Helm is the director.
 - (3) The film is inspired by a book.
 - (4) The film features only wolves.
- 22** “This hunting season... who’s the hunter?” Why did the writer ask the question in Text 1?
- (1) to spark people’s interest in wolves
 - (2) to draw people to want to watch the film
 - (3) to give people a quick glimpse of the film
 - (4) to make people think about the meaning of “hunter”
- 23** Based on the poster in Text 1, which of the following best fits the film you expect to see?
- (1) Thriller
 - (2) Animation
 - (3) Documentary
 - (4) Action-comedy
- 24** “Now they are ready to strike back.” The picture supports this by giving the impression that the wolves are _____.
- (1) alert and energetic
 - (2) angry and disunited
 - (3) hungry and frightened
 - (4) dangerous and fearsome
- 25** We cannot trust the way Text 1 portrays wolves because Text 2 says _____.
- (1) [wolves]...live together in a pack
 - (2) wolves may shy away from people
 - (3) lone surviving wolves behave more unpredictably
 - (4) older wolves pass down knowledge...to younger members

Please note that the passage for Comprehension questions 66 to 75 in Booklet B is on the next page. You may now go on to Booklet B.

Refer to the passage below when you answer questions 66 to 75 in Booklet B.

On Friday morning, there was a ruckus in the dance room of Singa Primary School. The backdrop* that the Star Dance Club members had spent an entire week painting had strangely disappeared. After a frantic hour of searching, the dejected dancers returned to the room. Mr Tay, the instructor, asked who the last person was to leave the dance room the day before.

"It's probably Dan. Aida and I saw him walking back to the dance room when we left," said Limei almost accusingly, as if he should know what had happened. 5

Dan quickly replied, "I forgot my water bottle and went back to get it, but...but I didn't notice anything amiss."

Mr Tay reminded the dancers that it was not the time for **finger-pointing**. He said, "Where's your Star spirit? We should be working together on the problem. The performance is taking place tonight!" 10

As usual, Bryan, nicknamed The Brain, spoke up. "We won't be able to paint another Angsana tree in time. How about projecting its image onto a white screen instead? It will take just a few minutes to find a suitable picture."

"But won't the light be shining on our faces when we dance?" asked Shanthi. 15

Bryan pondered a while before replying, "What if we place the projector behind the screen? This way, the dancers who are in front of the screen will not be affected."

"**That** might just work," Mr Tay smiled. "Of course, we may need to dim the lights in the hall so the projection will appear more clearly."

That night, the hall was in darkness, drawing the audience to the projection of a majestic Angsana tree onstage. After the show, the performance received many positive comments, so did the stunning projection. The dancers beamed with joy. Some thought that the backdrop incident had turned out to be a **blessing in disguise**. 20

At practice the following week, the dancers were still chatting excitedly about their success. It was therefore a great **surprise** when Mr Tay walked into the dance room looking solemn. He said, "We should celebrate Friday's wonderful performance, but there's **something** I thought you should know." Mr Tay stepped aside to reveal Dan behind him. 25

"I'm...so, so sorry," Dan croaked emotionally. "I spilled water on the canvas cloth when I wanted to drink from my water bottle. But when I was reaching out for the rag nearby, I accidentally toppled a tin of paint and made an even greater mess. I could wipe the spilled water but not the paint. I knew you'd all be furious, so I hid the canvas cloth away." 30

Everyone looked at Dan, not knowing what to say nor how to react. A gentle voice finally broke the tension when Aida spoke, "It's over and fortunately we managed to turn the situation around with the grand projection on the screen. But having spent such a long time painting the backdrop, I feel attached to it. Where is it?" 35

Dan led the dancers to the storeroom where the rolled-up canvas cloth was tucked behind some dusty old props. The canvas cloth was unfurled on the floor, displaying an ugly blotch of paint near the bottom of the cloth. Gasps of dismay echoed in the room as the dancers looked at the disastrous end to their hard labour.

"Hmm, can anyone see in that blotch the shape of someone jumping?" Bryan wondered aloud. Shanthi grinned. She found a paint brush and with a few strokes painted over the blotch to draw a boy leaping into mid-air. True to the club spirit, the others chipped in and added a few more dancing figures. 40

To this day, the backdrop showing the Angsana tree with dancing figures still hangs in the dance room, reminding all of the sparkling Star spirit. 45

* A backdrop is a painted canvas cloth hung at the back of a stage as a background.

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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SINGAPORE
PRIMARY SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATION

0001/2 (B)
ANSWER BOOKLET

PSLE
SPECIMEN PAPER

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 2
(BOOKLET B)
Effective from 2025

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

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Please check that your name, school and index number are printed **CORRECTLY** on the barcode label before pasting it within the box provided.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.
5. Use a dark blue or black ballpoint pen to write your answers in the space provided for each question.
6. Do not use correction fluid/tape.
7. Do not use highlighters on any part of your answers.
8. If you use an Additional Booklet to write your answers, paste another of your barcode labels on the cover page of the Additional Booklet. At the end of the examination, you must:
 - a. insert the Additional Booklet(s) between the pages of the main Answer Booklet
 - b. write the number of Additional Booklet(s) that you have used in this box

This booklet consists of **8** printed pages.



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There are 10 blanks, numbered 26 to 35, 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 to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) as	(D) for	(G) must	(K) towards	(N) where
(B) at	(E) having	(H) onto	(L) was	(P) which
(C) being	(F) into	(J) since	(M) were	(Q) yet

Located on the continent of Antarctica, the South Pole is one of the coldest places on Earth. Many have attempted to reach the South Pole ever _____ the first man, Roald Amundsen, did so in 1911. **(26)**

In Singapore, some adventurers had a grand plan to go on an Antarctica quest after _____ scaled Mount Everest in 1998. The quest comprised two groups who **(27)** aimed to reach two different destinations in Antarctica on 1 January 2000 _____ **(28)** part of the nation's millennium celebrations. One group would trek to the South Pole while the other would ascend the highest point over there.

The groups' preparations included a trip to Greenland in _____ they received intensive training. To prepare _____ the long period of physical exertion, every member in both groups _____ expected to follow a special diet to gain weight. **(29)** **(30)** **(31)**

On 4 November 1999, the first group arrived _____ the base camp in Antarctica. For such a quest, each member _____ lug supplies weighing nearly 90 kilogrammes. Their perseverance was rewarded when they reached the South Pole one day before the year turned 2000. The second group was delayed due to bad weather, _____ they managed to reach the highest peak in Antarctica on 7 January. **(32)** **(33)** **(34)**

Both groups returned to Singapore a week later. At the airport, well-wishers erupted _____ cheers the moment both groups appeared at the arrival hall. Their loved ones were visibly relieved and definitely proud of their success. **(35)**

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in each of the boxes. (10 marks)

I believe my love for photography started when I was a child. I recall with

(36)

great fond the many afternoons I spent poring over my father's old photos.

(37)

On my twelfth birthday, Dad finally satisfied my curious regarding the

magic of photography by giving me a camera. At first, I took photos at random,

(38)

(39)

but I ended up delete many of them as they were out of focus and appeared blur.

(40)

(41)

Then, I became more acompleashed with practice. Once, we went on a vaicaition

to Hong Kong and Dad said that my well-taken photos were the best souvenirs

of the trip.

(42)

With the encouragement of my parents and friends, my enthooziasim for

(43)

photography grew. While I have received comliemants from people that my

(44)

(45)

photos are artist, I continue to take lessons to improve my tecknick.

It is my dream to be a professional photographer one day.

(Go on to the next page)

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Do you brush your teeth regularly? How much time do you _____
 _____ (46)
 on it? As easy as tooth brushing may seem to be, doing it poorly is _____
 _____ (47)
 from uncommon. Fortunately, it can be easily fixed if you perform this simple daily task in a
 conscientious _____.

_____ (48)
 First, ensure you have a good toothbrush. _____ it is an electric
 _____ (49)
 toothbrush or a manual one, there is one thing to _____ out for – the
 _____ (50)
 toothbrush should have soft bristles that can bend and get right under the gum. Some people
 think the harder the bristles are, the better they will clean, but that is not true. Soft bristles can
 clean just as effectively, _____ not even more, whereas hard bristles may
 _____ (51)
 actually wear down the tooth structure. No matter _____ good a toothbrush
 _____ (52)
 is, you still have to change it every three to four months for it will lose its effectiveness when
 its bristles become frayed.

After you have _____ a good toothbrush, the next step is to ensure
 _____ (53)
 that you use the right method to brush your teeth. People often think that we should brush our
 teeth hard. However, plaque (a sticky deposit on teeth where bacteria can breed) is soft and
 loose, so _____ than “scrubbing” our teeth clean, we should think of
 _____ (54)
 “massaging” our teeth. Also, instead of brushing left to right, brush in little circular,
 up-and-down motions.

When you are sleepy at night, it may be hard to resist the _____
 _____ (55)
 to skip tooth brushing or cut it short. However, you should _____ from
 _____ (56)
 doing so. Dentists advise us to _____ to a routine of brushing at least
 _____ (57)
 twice a day for two minutes each time. If food gets _____ between the
 _____ (58)
 teeth for ages, bacteria in the plaque deposits can weaken your teeth over time. One tip is to
 put on a song when you are brushing your teeth. Since the average pop song
 _____ two to three minutes, you can be sure to have done a good job if
 _____ (59)
 you _____ this tip. What's more, tooth brushing can be enjoyable too!
 _____ (60)

For each of the questions 61 to 65, 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 meaning of the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

61 Jack's friends respected him for helping the old lady.

Jack was _____
_____.

62 Mr Hamid invited the author to give a talk. Her book won an award.

_____ whose
_____.

63 The teacher spoke very fast. The students could not follow her instructions.

The teacher spoke too _____
_____ the students to follow her instructions.

64 Paul asked Amy, "Why did you sing this song?"

Paul wanted to know _____
_____.

65 Robin learnt that his cousin would not be coming. He was greatly disappointed.

It was with _____
_____.

(Go on to the next page)

Read the passage on page 10 of Booklet A and answer questions 66 to 75. (20 marks)

- 66** Pick out a word from the first paragraph which tells us that the dancers failed to find the backdrop. [1m]

- 67** What was the act of “finger-pointing” that Mr Tay mentioned in line 9? [1m]

- 68** What does the nickname “The Brain” tell you about Bryan? Based on lines 12-19, explain why this nickname was appropriate for him. [2m]

- 69** Based on lines 5-19, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. [2m]

	True/False	Reason
a) Dan denied being the last person to leave the dance room.		
b) Shanthy agreed with Bryan’s first suggestion.		

- 70** Explain clearly why some dancers thought that the backdrop incident was “a blessing in disguise” (line 23). [2m]

- 71** Look at the table below. What do the words in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. [3m]

Word from the passage	What the word refers to
That (line 18)	
surprise (line 25)	
something (line 26)	

- 72** Write 1, 2 and 3 in the blanks below to indicate the order in which the events occurred in the story. [1m]

_____ Dan knocked over a tin of paint.

_____ Dan got hold of a rag.

_____ Dan made a watery mess on the canvas.

- 73** Pick out **two** words from lines 24-35 which signal how the mood in the dance room had changed after Dan’s confession. Each word is found in a separate sentence. [2m]

Before Dan’s confession

After Dan’s confession

(Go on to the next page)

- 74** Fill in the following table to show the differences between the painted backdrop and the projection on the screen. [4m]

	Painted backdrop	Projection on the screen
How long it took to prepare	a)	b)
What Aida thought of it	c)	d)

- 75** What was the “Star spirit” about? Support your answer with evidence from lines 36-46. [2m]

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