

The City School

Unified Midyear Examinations 2018-19



SCHOOL
NAME

INDEX
NUMBER

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ENGLISH
CLASS 7

December 2018
2 hours

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

- ❖ Write your index number and branch/ campus clearly in the space provided.
- ❖ You have ten minutes reading time –use it to look carefully through the paper.
- ❖ Read and follow the instructions of the questions given.
- ❖ Answer all question in the spaces provided.
- ❖ Check your answer paper before you hand it in.
- ❖ Marks for each section are shown below.

----- For Examiner's use only -----

Sections	Sec A Part 1	Sec A Part 2	Sec B Part 1	Sec B Part 2	Total
Max. Marks	20	30	25	25	100
Marks Obtained					

Percentage		Grade	
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Invigilated by: _____ Marked by: _____ Rechecked by: _____

Section A	Writing: Part 1 (Directed Writing)	Total Marks 20
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Q.1 Choose any ONE of the following topics. (120-150 words) []/20]

i. Write a letter to the editor of a daily newspaper, about the need of a neighbourhood park in your area. Include details:

- Benefits of parks in general
- Mention any two reasons for constructing a park in your vicinity
- Share possible ways to maintain the park by the community itself

OR

ii. You recently enjoyed a day out with your family. It was a very enjoyable occasion but there was one aspect of the day that disappointed you very much. Your teacher asks you to write an account for your class about your day out. You must include the following:

- Exactly when and where did the outing take place
- The main purpose of the day
- Who went with you
- What did you enjoy the most and what disappointed you

You should add further details if you wish and make your account lively and interesting.

OR

iii. You organized a bake sale at your school to raise charity for an orphanage. Your teacher made you in charge of the whole event. Now she/he has told you to write a report on the event for your school principal.

- How did you organize the event
- What were your preparations
- How was the event and who was invited

Lined writing area with 25 horizontal lines.

A series of 20 horizontal lines for writing, slightly wavy in appearance, spanning the width of the page.

Section A	Writing: Part 2 (Creative Writing)	Total Marks 30
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Q.2 Choose ONE of the following topics. (150-180 words) []/30

i. You go to a new restaurant in your town but by the woodwork you can tell it has been there for ages. The food is unique and you sip the very clear looking tea. You feel a jolt. When you walk out of restaurant you find yourself in the time of early days of civilization. Write a story on what happened next and what did you do.

OR

ii. Write a personal narrative about a time when you experienced intolerance. Explain how you felt and reacted to it. Did you handle it yourself or did somebody help you out?

OR

iii. Describe the most frightening experience of your life. Did you learn something new about yourself?

OR

iv. Describe the people and the happenings at a shopping mall.

Lined writing area with 25 horizontal lines.

Lined writing area with 20 horizontal lines.

Section B	Reading: Part 1 (Comprehension Passage)	Total Marks 25
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Anthony Lim, an engineer, has a five-year-old daughter whom he adores dearly. His wife works in the hotel industry where they have working shifts. Sometimes, she has to work on weekends where Anthony would be left with the care of Jean, their daughter. On weekdays, Jean is taken care of by Anthony's mother.

One weekend during a festive season, Anthony decided to bring Jean to a new bookstore at Orchard Road while his wife was working. Jean gleamed with joy and anticipation when she was told of the plan while his wife warned him over the phone, "Make sure you keep a close watch over her."

Anthony and Jean stopped by the town Centre for lunch before taking the MRT to Orchard Road. Anthony, a tall bespectacled man looked very much the typical unfashionable Singaporean engineer in his short sleeve, striped business shirt. The only difference from his usual workday attire was his sandals. It was a treat to let his toes breathe in the fresh weekend air. If his wife was with him, she would insist on him wearing shoes in order to look presentable. He was quite happy with his casual appearance walking towards Wheelock Place on that particular Saturday afternoon. The Orchard crowd was all elegance and style along the pedestrian mall. The young ones were 'all dressed to kill' in all kinds of apparel and manner. Looking at some of them, Anthony could not help wondering what happened to sweet modesty. Like a proud father, he clutched Jean's hand tightly. She was his pride.

"Can I choose my own book, daddy?" Jean asked. She was a picture of sweet innocence in her simple blue dress. She had her hair tied behind her with a bright yellow pin. She half walked and half hopped in her excitement. "Of course, dear, you can choose any book you want," the father replied. If he did not like the book, he would just coax her later. They soon reached the bookstore which had just opened recently.

They were greeted by the sight of shelves, books, words and alphabets enticing the eyes and mind to words of knowledge and learning. Anthony led Jean forward and they explored the space ahead of them. There were the books and the people who were totally absorbed in them. The bookstore seemed to expand as they walked further in. There were all kinds and categories of books set in various arrays.

Anthony brought Jean to the children's section and after spending some time with her, he decided to leave her there for a while. He wanted to browse around in the bookstore and select a few books for himself and his wife. He told Jean about his plan and persuaded Jean to agree to his proposal in return for a special ice-cream treat. Happily, Anthony went ahead to look for his books, promising to be back very soon.

The time slipped by and Anthony lost track of it. Instead of the twenty minutes he targeted, the watch showed forty-five minutes when he next looked at it. Jean! His mind shrieked. He darted across the bookroom to the children's section. Jean was not there. With his heart pending, he scanned the bookstore for Jean. "Don't panic! She must be somewhere around," Anthony told himself. He felt anger toward himself while trying to push back the fears that spooked him.

Finally, he caught sight of Jean together with one of the counter staff. The tension within him dissipated. Jean's eyes were red and his relief was soon replaced by sheepish embarrassment as he claimed her back.

Q.3 Read the aforesaid passage and answer questions carefully. [25]

3.1 Encircles the correct option. [/5]

i. Who look after Jean during the weekends?

- A. Anthony Lin
- B. Anthony's mother
- C. Anthony's wife
- D. Baby sitter

ii. How did Jean feel about going to Orchard Road?

- A. Bored
- B. Excited and jubilant
- C. Least interested
- D. Scared

iii. How were the young ones at Orchard Road dressed?

- A. Formally dressed up
- B. In a casual way
- C. In a glamorous way to create a striking impression
- D. In rags and tatters

iv. What does it mean, to be "totally absorbed in the books?"

- A. To be unfocussed while reading
- B. To skim and scan the books
- C. To be fascinated by the books
- D. To be fully engrossed in the books

v. Suggest a suitable title for this passage.

- A. Joy of books
- B. School reading
- C. Trip to a shopping Mall
- D. Trip to gallery

3.2 Answer the following questions. [20]

i. Did Anthony really intend to buy Jean any book of her choice? Explain your answer.

[/2]

ii. What was the proposal that Jean agreed to? [/2]

iii. Describe Anthony's reaction when he suddenly realized that he had left Jean alone for forty five minutes? [/3]

iv. What was the change in Anthony's feelings when he finally found Jean? [/2]

v. Explain in word or short phrase the meaning of the following words as they are in the passage: [/4]

a. Gleaned _____

b. Apparel _____

c. Scanned _____

d. Dissipated _____

vi. Change from direct to indirect speech. [/4]

a. His wife said, "Make sure you keep a class watch over her."

b. Jean asked "Can I choose my own book, daddy?"

c. Her father replied "Of course dear you can choose any book you want."

d. "Do not panic! She must be somewhere around," Anthony told himself.

vii. Identify three phrasal verbs in the passage and use them in sentences of your own.

[/3]

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

Section B	Reading: Part 2 (Extract: The Phantom Tollbooth)	Total Marks 25
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Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below. [25]

When the old king finally died, the kingdom was divided between his two sons, with the provision that they would be equally responsible for the **welfare** of the young princesses. One son went south and became Azaz, the unabridged king of Dictionopolis, and the other went north and became the Mathemagician, ruler of Digitopolis; and, true to their words, they provided well for the little girls, who continued to live in Wisdom.

"Everyone loved the princesses because of their great beauty, their gentle ways, and their ability to settle all controversies fairly and reasonably. People with problems or grievances or arguments came from all over the land to seek advice, and even the two brothers, who by this time were fighting continuously, often called upon them to help decide matters of State. It was said by everyone that 'Rhyme and Reason answer all problems.'

As the years passed, the two brothers grew further apart and their separate kingdoms became richer and **grander**. Their disputes, however, became more and more difficult to reconcile. But always, with patience and love, the princesses set things right.

"Then one day they had the most terrible quarrel of all. King Azaz insisted that words were far more **significant** than numbers and hence his kingdom was truly the greater and the Mathemagician claimed that numbers were much more important than words and hence his kingdom was supreme. They discussed and debated and raved and ranted until they were on the verge of blows, when it was decided to submit the question to arbitration by the princesses.

After days of careful consideration, in which all the evidence was weighed and all the witnesses heard, they made their decision.

Words and numbers are of equal value, for, in the cloak of Knowledge one is warp and the other weft. It is no more important to count the sands than it is to name the star. Therefore, let both kingdoms live in peace.'

Everyone was pleased with the **verdict**. Everyone, that is, but the brothers, who were beside themselves with anger.

"What good are these girls if they cannot settle an argument in someone's favour?' they growled, since both were more interested in their own advantage than in the truth. 'We'll banish them from the kingdom forever.'

"And so they were taken from the palace and sent far away to the Castle in the Air, and they have not been seen since. That is why today, in all this land, there is neither Rhyme nor Reason!"

"And what happened to the two rulers?" asked Milo.

"Banishing the two princesses was the last thing they ever agreed upon, and they soon fell to warring with each other. Despite this, their own kingdoms have continued to prosper, but the old city of Wisdom has fallen into great disrepair, and there is no one to set things right. So, you see, until the princesses return, I shall have to stay here."

Q.4 Answer the following questions. [19]

i. What was decided between the two brothers after the death of King? [/2]

ii. Explain in your own words why were the princesses loved by everyone? [/2]

iii. The brothers were not happy with the verdict given by the princesses. Explain? [/2]

iv. What was the reason of quarrel between King Azaz and Mathemagician? [/3]

v. What happened, in the state, after the princesses were expelled? [/2]

vi. Mention the two occasions when the brothers did not have any argument between them. [/2]

vii. What does phrase 'rhyme and reason' mean? [/1]

viii. Use the following words in your sentences. [/5]

a. welfare:

b. grander:

c. significant:

d. verdict:

e. prosper:
