

Primary

5

English

Practice Papers

in Listening Comprehension
and Oral Communication

Answer Guide and Listening
Comprehension Scripts

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Practice 1

Listening Texts

In this listening test, you will listen to a total of seven texts. Each text will be read twice. Listen carefully to the text that is read to you and answer the questions that follow. Write 1, 2 or 3 in the brackets provided. You may attempt the questions at any time during the test.

The test is about to begin.

Text 1

You will hear Susan and Ali talking about a school Open House.

Before you listen to Text 1, read questions 1 and 2 now.

Listen to Text 1 and answer questions 1 and 2.

Susan: Let's see, these are the goodie bags for the visitors, right?

Ali: Yes, there is a problem though. See, some bags are empty when they shouldn't be.

Susan: I think we should check them again. Look, this bag has two water bottles, but there should be only one.

Ali: Yes, and one stationery set and a name tag in each bag.

Susan: That bag has two stationery sets! No wonder there are not enough items and so many empty bags.

Ali: Oh dear, we need time to repack everything!

Susan: Don't worry, it's still early. I'll get all the prefects to help us. We must remind them not to pack extra items in each bag.

Ali: Most of them are in the hall waiting for instructions after reporting for duty. Some have gone to the canteen for their breakfast.

Susan: Thanks, Ali, I'll go to the car park as well because some might have headed there for their ushering duty.

Listen to Text 1 again.

Text 2

You will hear Siew Lee and her cousin Hock Hup talking about their holiday plans.

Before you listen to Text 2, read questions 3 and 4 now.

Listen to Text 2 and answer questions 3 and 4.

Siew Lee: Hock Hup, are you interested in going to the zoo during the holidays?

Hock Hup: Yes, I am.

Siew Lee: Good, let's tell our parents about it. Besides the zoo, are there other places you would like to go?

Hock Hup: Well, I told my parents that I wanted to see the newly opened aquarium, but then, we could not get any tickets when we went online! They were all sold out!

Siew Lee: Maybe we can go there next year when you come to Singapore again. We will remind ourselves to book the tickets early so as not to be disappointed.

Hock Hup: Hmm... I think the Orchid Garden would be a great place to visit after the zoo. What do you think?

Siew Lee: Sure! I was going to suggest Gardens by the Bay too. There's a fantastic food court there with local hawker fare. Since you love food and nature, we could go to Gardens by the Bay and then the Orchid Garden.

Hock Hup: Yes, that's a great idea. I've heard so much about the Supertrees at Gardens by the Bay, but can we go to the Orchid Garden first? I would like to take lots of photos of the Supertrees at night, rather than in the day.

Siew Lee: Yes, they look lovely lit up at night. Wow! Looks like your holiday in Singapore is jam-packed! There's so much to see and so little time!

Listen to Text 2 again.

Text 3

You will hear a conversation between two students.

Before you listen to Text 3, read questions 5 to 7 now.

Listen to Text 3 and answer questions 5 to 7.

Li Boon: What happened to you, Agnes? We missed you at the concert rehearsal in the theatre. Were you unwell?

Agnes: Hi, Li Boon! I had a dental check-up yesterday morning. It was so scary that I almost wanted to leave halfway through. But I survived it and the dentist gave me an apple as a reward for brushing my teeth regularly. I couldn't attend the prefects' meeting too, which I was happy to skip for once. So, what happened during the rehearsal?

Li Boon: Well, the teacher said we need more practice but there is not enough time if we just rehearse together. We have to do extra practice at home, so she let us bring the pom poms we need home to use when doing the cheers.

Agnes: Oh, what about the music? Do we sing the song ourselves? Or use some musical instruments?

Li Boon: I think Mrs Wang said we could go online to download her video to play during our home rehearsals.

Agnes: But I don't have a computer or smartphone...

Li Boon: Shall I ask Mrs Wang to give your parents a call? Maybe they will let you use their smartphone or help you borrow a computer.

Agnes: Can I come over to your house to rehearse with you, Li Boon?

Li Boon: That's a great idea! It will be less boring than doing the cheers alone! Oh, I almost forgot, the next rehearsal is at the same time next week but in a new venue. We couldn't book the theatre again because another school has booked it. At first, we wanted to hold it at the botanic gardens, where the actual performance will be held, but the performance area is undergoing maintenance, so it is closed for two weeks. We have no choice but to rehearse in the basketball court in school.

Agnes: What? In the open? What if it rains? ...

Listen to Text 3 again.

Text 4

You will hear two friends talking about a special day.

Before you listen to Text 4, read questions 8 to 10 now.

Listen to Text 4 and answer questions 8 to 10.

Benny: Hi Linda. Do you know that today is Endangered Species Day?

Linda: Endangered Species Day ... what's that, Benny?

Benny: It's a special day to raise awareness of endangered animals in the world, so that we can do something to save them before they become extinct.

Linda: So, what is the most endangered species? I've heard that there are many endangered animals but I'm not sure we can save them all.

Benny: Well, we know about the endangered polar bear and Javan rhinoceros all too well. But did you know about the ivory-billed woodpecker? It is the most critically endangered species out there!

Linda: Oh, I didn't know that. Now that I know about these poor creatures, I want to help them. I will tell all my friends about Endangered Species Day!

Benny: Thanks, Linda.

Listen to Text 4 again.

Text 5

This is an extract from a radio programme.

Before you listen to Text 5, read questions 11 to 13 now.

Listen to Text 5 and answer questions 11 to 13.

Welcome back to Homes Around the World. Last week, we travelled to see the boat people of Vietnam. This week, we speak to the cave people in Coober Pedy, an underground town in Australia.

In the past, miners dug caves to look for opal, which they sold to people who turned them into beautiful pieces of jewellery. A pair of opal earrings may cost more than \$10,000 a carat! Now, this unique cave town has about 2,000 residents. Tourists that come to visit the unique underground homes every year are in the thousands too.

Besides individual homes, there are churches, a museum and even a casino in the underground town. It is so cool that air conditioning is not required. No wonder the people love their underground homes, especially in summer when the temperature outside soars above 40 degrees.

Listen to Text 5 again.

Text 6

In this story, a kangaroo gets an award.

Before you listen to Text 6, read questions 14 to 17 now.

Listen to Text 6 and answer questions 14 to 17.

Lulu is a kangaroo. She lives on a farm, with the farmer Richard and his wife. Richard found her abandoned by the roadside one day when he was walking home. She was a joey or baby kangaroo then, and blind in one eye. For adopting her, Lulu was ever grateful to Richard.

Now, five years later, Lulu is hailed a heroine. She saved Richard's life by alerting his wife that he was unconscious.

That afternoon, the plucky kangaroo banged on the door of the farmhouse until the farmer's wife came out to see what was wrong. Lulu led her to find her husband lying on the ground. He had been knocked out by a huge fallen branch.

Richard could have died if he had not been found in time and rushed to the hospital for emergency treatment. That is why Lulu deserved the RSPCA award for bravery. Richard's 19-year-old son Luke said: "Dad could have been there for hours if it wasn't for her. She saved his life."

Listen to Text 6 again.

Text 7

This is an extract from a radio advertisement.

Before you listen to Text 7, read questions 18 to 20 now.

Listen to Text 7 and answer questions 18 to 20.

It is day 3 at my new job. It is a simple job. I just have to taste some food – not just any kind of food, but dog food.

A dog is a man's best friend, so we have to make sure that the canines in our homes eat delicious and nutritious meals. Yes, you can call me a dog food tester!

Like many of my co-workers, I taste dog food to evaluate the flavours and check if it's up to quality standards. Nobody deserves bad food, especially not the favourite member of the family.

A dog food tester has the responsibility of ensuring that dog food sold in the shops are good for them. That means, safety in the use of ingredients – there should not be too many preservatives added. The dog may shed its fur if it consumes food with too many added chemicals.

What an unusual job! Would you like to be a dog food tester when you grow up?

Listen to Text 7 again.

Answers to Paper 3

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. 3 | 2. 2 | 3. 3 | 4. 1 | 5. 2 |
| 6. 1 | 7. 3 | 8. 2 | 9. 3 | 10. 1 |
| 11. 2 | 12. 1 | 13. 2 | 14. 3 | 15. 1 |
| 16. 1 | 17. 3 | 18. 3 | 19. 2 | 20. 2 |

Paper 4 – Answers to pronunciation, word stress, intonation and expression for Reading Aloud and suggested responses for prompts

Reading Aloud

Pronunciation

1. eat, breakfast, that – say the ending t sound
2. evening – say in 2 syllables eve + ning
3. failed, placed – say the ending d sound
4. set it – link the words and say se – tit
5. flustered – say the beginning fl sounds
6. stomach – say the ending k sound
7. that, this – say the th sound
8. looked – say the ending kt sound
9. I'll – say the contracted form of I and will

Word stress

1. evening – put stress on the first syllable **EV**ening
2. throughout – put stress on the second syllable through**OUT**

Intonation and expression

1. Eat your breakfast – use a falling tone for this command
2. Why are you so flustered this morning? – use a rising tone for this question
3. ... if I don't hurry! – use a rising tone to express urgency

Conversation

(a) I would be interested to buy the box of cereal. I think it is a healthy kind of food for breakfast because it is nutritious and contains fibre. Besides, it is not oily, unlike other breakfast food such as fried noodles. I can eat the cereal with milk which is chilled. It will taste delicious as the milk is cold and the cereal is crunchy. Also, I can get a cartoon figurine for my younger sister. She loves cartoons and will be very happy to get a cute cartoon to play with. My mother will also be pleased to know that there is a free apple for every two boxes of cereal. This means I will get to eat a fruit as well. This is why I would be interested to buy the box of cereal.

OR

I would not like to buy the box of cereal because I do not usually eat cereal for breakfast. My mother makes porridge for us in the morning so we eat this for breakfast. It is very nutritious because she also fries eggs and vegetables as well. Fried egg is my favourite dish and I enjoy it very much as it is very tasty when eaten hot. Cereal is eaten with chilled milk which is too cold for me early in the morning. I can get nutrition from other food like eggs and vegetables, so I do not need to buy the box of cereal to get the nutrition I need.

(b) I usually eat breakfast before I leave for school because breakfast is an important meal. It is the first meal of the day and it will give me energy for doing work at school. My parents tell me to finish my breakfast so that I will not be hungry when lessons start. Recess is a few hours later, so if I skip breakfast, I will have to wait for a long time to get food to eat. Also, my breakfast is delicious and I do not like to miss it. Sometimes, I have egg and toast, peanut butter sandwiches, cereal with milk and fried noodles with fruit juice. My grandmother makes porridge during the weekends and it is very tasty with lots of ingredients like peanuts and chicken.

OR

I do not have the habit of eating breakfast before I leave for school every morning. This is because I have to catch the school bus at six o'clock, which means I have to get up very early to get ready and there is not enough time to eat breakfast. At most, I drink a cup of hot chocolate, which my mother makes for me. Also, since recess is at nine o'clock, I can eat something then and will have energy for the rest of the day before lunch. If I eat too early in the morning, I may feel unwell during the bus trip to school and may throw up in the bus. That is why I don't eat before I get on the bus.

- (c) I eat some snacks during recess in school. It is usually noodle soup and a cup of chocolate milk because noodles are my favourite and the chocolate milk tastes great when chilled. For lunch I have rice with vegetables and meat. This is because I want to be healthy. The meat and vegetables are nutritious and the rice gives me energy for the day. For dinner, I have soup, vegetables and meat with rice, as well as fruit for dessert. This is because one serving of vegetables is not enough so my parents give us fruit at dinner time as well! I think this is good as it makes the meal balanced. Still, I wish we could have ice cream or cake for dessert sometimes.

OR

I eat a sandwich during recess. I also have a drink like soya bean milk or iced Milo. At lunch, I am home and eat home-cooked food like porridge, steamed fish and vegetables. Sometimes, my mother gives me fried chicken but that's not every day. Usually, there is a snack for tea because my mother makes red bean soup or green bean soup for us. If she is busy, she will steam some buns that she gets from the supermarket. At dinner, we have a big feast because my father is home and he loves food. So my mother makes a huge pot of stew, fish, vegetables and prawns. I love fried prawn fritters and will eat a lot of them, unless my mother stops me. After the main meal, we have lots of fruit like apples and oranges. Sometimes, depending on the fruit season, we have rambutans or durians.

Practice 2

Listening Texts

In this listening test, you will listen to a total of seven texts. Each text will be read twice. Listen carefully to the text that is read to you and answer the questions that follow. Write 1, 2 or 3 in the brackets provided. You may attempt the questions at any time during the test.

The test is about to begin.

Text 1

You will hear a teacher giving instructions to some students.

Before you listen to Text 1, read questions 1 and 2 now.

Listen to Text 1 and answer questions 1 and 2.

Class, you will now learn to make a simple sandwich that you will need to make on the actual day of the school picnic. Before we start, check that there are two slices of bread on your plate, not one. Otherwise, you can't make your sandwich. Raise your hands if you have only one or more than two slices.

Now, we can begin. Do be careful with the butter knife that you are going to use. Open the jar of jam and use the butter knife to scrape out some jam, then spread the jam neatly on one slice of bread. Put the other slice over it. Ta-da! Your simple sandwich is ready. Of course, when you make your sandwich at home, you'd probably add other ingredients like lettuce, a slice of cheese or even tomato slices and bacon if you like them in your sandwich. However, for the purpose of the contest during the school picnic, the criteria for winning is speed rather than ingredients. The class representative that makes the most number of sandwiches in five minutes wins. There will be a prize for the entire class if that representative wins the contest.

We will meet at the canteen for attendance taking before we proceed to the picnic grounds at the Youth Park, where the contest will take place. It is next to the famous Botanic Gardens, so if it rains, we can take shelter at the pavilions there. Oh yes, please bring an umbrella or raincoat tomorrow.

Listen to Text 1 again.

Text 2

You will hear two children discussing their plans.

Before you listen to Text 2, read questions 3 and 4 now.

Listen to Text 2 and answer questions 3 and 4.

Peter: Yati, are we going to the toy museum to take pictures for our project?

Yati: Yes, of course. The pictures are the most important part of our project.

Peter: I have to go to the Lido cinema to pick up some tickets that my cousins booked online. Can I do that before meeting you at the toy museum?

Yati: Would you like to come to my house and have lunch together, before we go anywhere? It is a stone's throw from the Lido cinema. I'll go with you to collect the tickets after lunch.

Peter: I would love to. Thanks for the lunch invitation! Once we finish our research in the toy museum, do you want to go to the park and watch some people skate?

Yati: That would be great! But shall we buy some ice cream or ice kacang at the food centre first? We should reward ourselves for working hard on the project. Besides, the food centre near the swimming complex is famous for its desserts!

Peter: Oh yes, I've heard about it. Let's do that!

Listen to Text 2 again.

Text 3

You will hear a conversation between two students.

Before you listen to Text 3, read questions 5 to 7 now.

Listen to Text 3 and answer questions 5 to 7.

Li Boon: Hi Agnes, have you finished collecting the questionnaires from all our classmates?

Agnes: Yes! I think everyone in our class has answered the questions, except Charles. He had to go for a medical check-up so I was not able to give him a copy of the questionnaire. I wanted to give it to him today but he is absent.

Li Boon: Oh dear, I hope he is not ill.

Agnes: No, he is not ill. He has to collect an award from the community club.

Li Boon: What a relief to hear that. Well, I think we can't wait for him because we have to write our report today. It will take some time to count the responses from the questionnaires.

Agnes: Don't worry. I did that already. The most popular stall is the chicken rice stall, followed by the fried noodle stall and then the sushi stall.

Li Boon: Wow! Shall we use a graph or bar chart to show the results? I think a table is quite boring. Don't you agree?

Agnes: Well, it is easy to have a table but yes, it is not as impressive as a bar chart. We should include a table to show the actual numbers but we can also show it on something else like a bar chart. Do you know how to do that on the computer? I'm afraid I don't.

Li Boon: Neither do I, but I can ask my brother to teach me.

Agnes: Okay, I'll leave that part of the report to you and your brother.

Li Boon: No problem, I'll wait for him to come back from work. He's still at the airport waiting to fetch some VIPs to their hotel, so he'll be home later than usual. I'll just wait up for him.

Agnes: Thanks.

Listen to Text 3 again.

Text 4

You will hear a story about Kermit the Frog.

Before you listen to Text 4, read questions 8 to 10 now.

Listen to Text 4 and answer questions 8 to 10.

Kermit the Frog was feeling bored. He was used to being the star of the show whenever school children came to visit the frog farm. However, due to the spread of the virus COVID-19, such visits were stopped. There were no visitors to the farm and no shows.

The other frogs were playing hide-and-seek, but Kermit did not want to join in. Instead, he hopped to a house nearby. He looked around and noticed an open window. Excitedly, Kermit jumped into the room and landed on the kitchen table! When the children saw him, they squealed in delight! That frightened Kermit and he hopped all around the long table. When he felt tired, he stopped to take a break. The children laughed.

The adults in the house came into the kitchen, drawn by the squeals of the children. A man chuckled when he saw what was happening. Gently, he picked Kermit up and let him sit on his palm. Kermit croaked and croaked like he did during his usual frog shows on the farm.

Listen to Text 4 again.

Text 5

This is an extract from a radio programme.

Before you listen to Text 5, read questions 11 to 13 now.

Listen to Text 5 and answer questions 11 to 13.

Hello, boys and girls, welcome to our programme Exercise Every Day. Today, we are featuring the benefits of cycling. Yes, cycling is good for all of us, male and female, young and old. We cycle to exercise because it is a convenient way to do so. We do not have to sign up for an exercise class or pay for a physical fitness instructor. Cycling is free! All we need is a bicycle!

Furthermore, we do not have to depend on good weather to exercise. On a wet day, we can cycle in sheltered parts on the ground level of blocks of flats. But we should be careful not to knock into residents walking to the lift lobby. I hope the authorities will consider building a cycling park where enthusiasts can cycle sheltered from the rain and without having to dodge passers-by.

In addition, cycling allows us to explore new places. When we travel by bus or train, we go by a fixed route but when we travel on our bikes, we can take different paths and see scenery that's different from what's on the usual route. Isn't that interesting?

Listen to Text 5 again.

Text 6

You will hear a story about David.

Before you listen to Text 6, read questions 14 to 17 now.

Listen to Text 6 and answer questions 14 to 17.

David came home as usual. However, he did not have an appetite and looked rather sad at the dining table. His worried mother asked him if anything bad had happened in school that morning.

"Someone called me names," said David.

"Cheer up, son," said his mother before telling him a story about two boys.

John and Peter were classmates and good friends. One day, John gave Peter a present for his birthday. Peter was surprised and thanked John.

"You are my best friend," Peter told John. John was the only person in class who remembered Peter's birthday. Peter wrote in his diary that John gave him a football. For the next few days, Peter read and read this diary entry, smiling happily each time he did so.

However, the two boys quarrelled over something unimportant one day. John was angry with Peter and shouted at him for being late for their football game. He even told Peter that he was a 'forgetful and troublesome member of the team'. In his fury, he shouted at Peter, "You don't have to come anymore! We will replace you!"

However, Peter was not upset. He picked up a stick and wrote on the sand at the edge of the football field: "Today, my best friend said something hurtful to me." After staring at it for a while, he brushed the sand with his shoes and the words disappeared.

"Do you know that Peter was not upset because he decided not to be upset? You can decide that too. Do not let your day be ruined by others. Try to stay happy and do not let others take your happiness away," David's mother advised.

"May I borrow your pencil, Mum?" asked David. He intended to write down his feelings and then erase them, so that he wouldn't feel hurt by the one who called him names that morning.

Listen to Text 6 again.

Text 7

This is an extract from a talk show.

Before you listen to Text 7, read questions 18 to 20 now.

Listen to Text 7 and answer questions 18 to 20.

Hello, boys and girls, I am Susie Lam, a professional photographer for children. Yes, I take pictures of children during birthdays, kindergarten graduations and other important occasions.

Well, I'm here to give you a few simple tips since you are interested in photography. These are not tips about handling the camera. You can find such tips from many sources – in books and online. My tips come from my experience in working with children.

First, you have to be patient. A child does not smile when you tell him or her to. So what do you do? Sometimes, you do silly things like make faces, jump like a frog or even flapping your arms like a chicken! Look funny if you want a natural smile from a nervous or uncooperative child. It works all the time. Tip number two – it is still be patient. Do not rush if the child is not ready. Sometimes, the hair gets dishevelled or tangled up, or the shirt gets wrinkled because the child is actively running about. If you shoot right away, you will have to reshoot again because the parents will not be happy with the photos. It is better to wait patiently to get that perfect shot!

Listen to Text 7 again.

Answers to Paper 3

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. 1 | 2. 2 | 3. 2 | 4. 3 | 5. 1 |
| 6. 3 | 7. 2 | 8. 1 | 9. 1 | 10. 3 |
| 11. 2 | 12. 3 | 13. 2 | 14. 3 | 15. 1 |
| 16. 2 | 17. 3 | 18. 3 | 19. 2 | 20. 1 |

Paper 4 – Answers to pronunciation, word stress, intonation and expression for Reading Aloud and suggested responses for prompts

Reading Aloud

Pronunciation

1. old, told, said – say the ending d sound
2. barefooted, shouted, seated – say the ending ted sound
3. the, they, that – say the th sound
4. about, but, get, cut – say the ending t sound
5. don't – say the contracted form of do and not
6. children – say chil + dren, not chew + ren

Word stress

1. shabbily – put stress on the first syllable **SH**abbily
2. barefooted – put stress on the first syllable **BARE**footed
3. obedient – put stress on the second syllable o**BE**dient

Intonation and expression

1. Come over here! – use a falling tone for this command
2. Actually... no harm – use a falling tone for this response

Conversation

- (a) Yes, I have seen such litter bins in several places such as the park and the beach. They are placed there because many people frequent the park and the beach. They often bring food to eat and need to dispose of their food wrappers or leftovers. These picnickers need litter bins otherwise they would not be able to throw away their rubbish properly and may end up leaving rubbish on the benches in the park or on the beach.

OR

Yes, I see such litter bins in my school canteen and car park. They are placed there so that students will find it convenient to throw their rubbish after recess. After eating in the canteen, they can throw their empty food containers or sweet wrappers or even leftovers into the litter bins. If there are no litter bins there, students will leave their litter behind when they return to class. Birds and ants will come and make a mess of the canteen or car park. It is not good to have leftovers exposed on the benches or ground as they will attract pests.

- (b) To prevent littering in public places, we can have a fine system, like what is shown in the poster that says \$500 fine for littering. This way, people will think twice before they throw their litter on the ground. Because \$500 is a lot of money, it will prevent litterbugs from indiscriminately disposing their rubbish. Besides this, we can also have posters and advertisements to show that littering makes Singapore look messy and dirty and that Singapore is our home, so we should not do this to our home if we are proud to be Singaporeans.

OR

To prevent littering in public places, we can have surveillance cameras that record littering acts. We can then punish the litterbugs but hopefully, they will see the cameras and stop themselves from littering. The cameras must be big and visible to draw the attention of people and the bins must be available in many places such as bus stops, MRT stations and markets so that it is very easy and convenient for people to use them. We can punish them to teach them a lesson, for example, by making them pick up litter and this will shame them so they will be humiliated and not litter again in the future.

- (c) Besides making litterbugs pay fines, we can also make them do Corrective Work Order. The offenders have to wear a vest that states they are being punished for being litterbugs. They have to sweep the floor in the public, making them embarrassed so that they will not repeat their littering behaviour again. We can make them wipe the staircase railings of HDB flats and common areas. We can make them empty the bins of car parks and beaches. The offenders could also be made to attend courses about keeping the environment clean and give out pamphlets to the public to advertise the courses.

OR

Besides making litterbugs pay fines, we can counsel them so that they will change their attitude towards the environment. Punishing them may not solve the problem because they may forget the lesson after the punishment is done and over with. After cleaning the road during Corrective Work Order, the litterbug may think it is not a big deal to be punished lightly in this way and may repeat the offence. The counsellor can talk to the litterbug and will be able to persuade the litterbug to have a different attitude towards the environment. If the litterbug values or loves the environment, he or she will not spoil it by littering indiscriminately.

Practice 3

Listening Texts

In this listening test, you will listen to a total of seven texts. Each text will be read twice. Listen carefully to the text that is read to you and answer the questions that follow. Write 1, 2 or 3 in the brackets provided. You may attempt the questions at any time during the test.

The test is about to begin.

Text 1

You will hear a parent giving instructions to her children.

Before you listen to Text 1, read questions 1 and 2 now.

Listen to Text 1 and answer questions 1 and 2.

Children, tomorrow I have to work early, so you will need to go to your art class on your own. You should leave the house by nine o'clock to reach the art shop in time. It's on the second level of Friendly Art Shop, not the third level of the building where the Picasso Art School is located. We went to the wrong level last week and mistook the art school for the venue of the art class, so I hope you will get to the right level tomorrow. When you get out of the lift, you should see Art Supplies on your left – go past it and just continue walking until you reach the art shop.

Oh yes, your art teacher called to remind you to bring some additional items – besides your pencil box, remember to pack a long ruler, glue and scissors. Oh sorry, there's no need to bring scissors because your art teacher says he has an ample supply for all the students to use, and since these are sharp objects, he probably thinks it is safer for you not to carry them in your bags. Please put the tube of glue in a clear plastic bag, so that if the glue leaks, it won't get stuck to the artwork you will be bringing home. Hmm, I think I'd better help you pack your bag now.

Listen to Text 1 again.

Text 2

You will hear about Mrs Raja and her children's trip to the book fair.

Before you listen to Text 2, read questions 3 and 4 now.

Listen to Text 2 and answer questions 3 and 4.

Mrs Raja took her children, Vijay and Anu to a book fair. At the entrance of the fair, Mrs Raja picked up a programme sheet. It contained a map of the various booths and stations in the fair.

"Look, Vijay, there's a Comics and Graphic Novels booth. Shall we go there?" Mrs Raja knew that her son enjoyed reading graphic novels and wouldn't miss it for the world.

"But the programme sheet says it won't be open until the afternoon," Anu told her mother.

"Hmm, then should we check out the books on offer at the Deep Discounts booth?"

"But then, we'll have to carry the heavy books everywhere we go – I think we should leave that station till the very end," advised Mrs Raja.

The trio decided to have an early lunch at Quick Bites. By the time they finished eating, the Comics and Graphic Novels booth was open. Vijay rushed there while Anu and her mother strolled leisurely over. Vijay would take a fair bit of time browsing the novels, so they decided to meet later at the resting area near the booth called New Arrivals. Anu was eager to meet her favourite author Maria Chan, so her mother accompanied her over to the booth where the author was signing autographs. Anu posed for a picture with Maria Chan! It really made her day.

Mrs Raja managed to get some books that were recently released. She sat down to read while waiting for Anu and Vijay to meet her there later. The plan was to get them to carry the books she was going to buy at the Deep Discounts booth. Mrs Raja was glad her children were willing porters that day.

Listen to Text 2 again.

Text 3

You will hear a conversation between two students.

Before you listen to Text 3, read questions 5 to 7 now.

Listen to Text 3 and answer questions 5 to 7.

- Sonia: Isn't that Kim Teck from Primary 6A? What is he doing standing next to the trolleys at the exit of the supermarket?
- Jack: Yes, it is Kim Teck. Well, he told me previously that he has to wait for an elderly woman every afternoon to help her cross the road to the taxi stand. He is doing voluntary work for the elderly who need help getting around.
- Sonia: Wow! He is such a compassionate person. I think he deserves some kind of award like the Helpful Person or Kindness Movement Award or something!
- Jack: You are right, Sonia. Why don't we nominate him for the Caring Young Person Award? He qualifies for it.
- Sonia: How do we nominate him? Is there a form to fill in?
- Jack: Yes, let's go to the community club to ask for the form and then get our parents to sign it for us. Only adults can nominate, not children.
- Sonia: Oh great, after we fill in the particulars, I can get my mother to sign the form. She is helping out at the library next to the police post. It is just behind the CC, so we can just walk over there later.
- Jack: Yes, let's do that before the library closes. If we can't get the form signed, we will bring it home for one of our parents to sign then.
- Sonia: Let's hurry!

Listen to Text 3 again.

Text 4

You will hear a story about a kind king.

Before you listen to Text 4, read questions 8 to 10 now.

Listen to Text 4 and answer questions 8 to 10.

John was a kind king. He was always generous and considerate to his subjects. One day, he heard some students complaining about their teacher. The students said that the teacher hit them with a cane when they were not paying attention during her lesson. They were not sorry as they felt angry at the corporal punishment. King John summoned the teacher to the palace and advised the teacher to think of better ways to make the students interested in her lessons. "Caning is not going to work all the time. Besides, it will make the students hate going to class," King John explained.

The students who were caned were also summoned to the palace. King John gave them presents and food. "Paying attention is important if you want to do well in school. Besides, it will make the teacher more motivated to teach you more things if you are interested," said King John.

When King John visited the school the next day, the students were paying attention in class. The teacher did not cane them. However, he noticed that one of his bodyguards was absent. The advisers told King John that the bodyguard was on duty the night before but now was asleep at home. They wanted to get the soldiers to bring him before King John to be punished. But King John said, "My goodness, he must be exhausted from his duties the night before. Do not disturb him and let him sleep uninterrupted. He needs to be alert for tonight's duty!"

Listen to Text 4 again.

Text 5

This is an extract from a radio programme.

Before you listen to Text 5, read questions 11 to 13 now.

Listen to Text 5 and answer questions 11 to 13.

Hello, boys and girls. My name is Karthi and I am ten years old. I won second place in the superpower contest. No, I don't have any superpower. What I mean is that I entered a writing contest about superpowers.

The judges liked my entry because I wrote that if I could have any superpower, I would like the power to understand every language in the world. With that power, I hope to start a special organisation called International Language Answers for Kids. I want to help children to get answers to any burning questions they may have; regardless of what language they speak. All they would have to do is go to my website and use the search box to type their question. For example, a child might ask, "How is Santa able to go to every house in one night? Does he have any superpowers?"

I will translate the question into many languages and send it to many people. Hopefully, they will give me their answers. I will then combine all the answers and then reply to the child who posted the question. I will also translate the final answer into many languages and post it on my website so that anyone can read it.

Do you have a question to ask? Don't hesitate. Ask me today. Since I don't have any superpowers yet, I can't speak all the languages in the world but I think I can get my foreign friends to help me do some simple translations. They are really my superpowers for now!

Listen to Text 5 again.

Text 6

In this eyewitness account, James reports a theft in the canteen.

Before you listen to Text 6, read questions 14 to 17 now.

Listen to Text 6 and answer questions 14 to 17.

I was actually afraid when I confronted the man. He was emptying some coins from the faulty drink dispenser machine. He shook the machine and even kicked it a few times when no coins rattled out.

“Stop that!” I said to the man.

“It’s none of your business,” the man told me.

“I will report you to the office,” I warned him. This time my voice was not as shaky as before.

Then the man approached me. He began to circle around me, like an eagle circling its prey. My heart was beating very fast when I spotted some prefects passing by. I waved to them and shouted out loudly to get their attention. Fortunately, they heard me and walked over. I told them about the man shaking the drink dispenser machine.

The prefects demanded that the man go with them to the office, but he ignored them. They surrounded him, so he could not escape. Shortly after, the discipline master Mr Liu arrived. He called the security guard and together they apprehended the thief. Everything happened so quickly. It was like in the movies.

Listen to Text 6 again.

Text 7

You will hear a speaker from Book World talking about what is happening in a library.

Before you listen to Text 7, read questions 18 to 20 now.

Listen to Text 7 and answer questions 18 to 20.

Good morning, welcome to Book World. Today, I am at Bishan Library. It has just hosted some interesting activities like the Meet-the-Author session yesterday. This morning the same author, Regina Chan, gave a book talk in a hall packed with avid readers.

Well, now I am honoured to be here to tell you about another of its interesting activities – the movie marathon! I am not introducing movies or the cinema to you, but I am telling you that you don’t have to go to the cinema this weekend to watch movies. Instead, come to Bishan Library. The movies you’ll get to watch are adapted from bestsellers, so if you like, you can also borrow the books to read, before or after you have seen the movies based on them. Best of all, no tickets are required. Just remember to register at our website. Popcorn and hot chocolate will be served too, so what are you waiting for?

Listen to Text 7 again.

Answers to Paper 3

1. 2 2. 3 3. 2 4. 3 5. 1
6. 2 7. 3 8. 3 9. 3 10. 1
11. 1 12. 2 13. 2 14. 2 15. 2
16. 1 17. 1 18. 2 19. 1 20. 3

Paper 4 – Answers to pronunciation, word stress, intonation and expression for Reading Aloud and suggested responses for prompts

Reading Aloud

Pronunciation

1. pet, cat, that, put, get – say the ending t sound
2. that, then, death – say the th sound
3. their – say there
4. sharp – say the ending p sound
5. listened – say listened with the silent t
6. it'll – say the contracted form of it and will
7. don't – say the contracted form of do and not

Word stress

1. already – put the stress on the second syllable a**REA**dy
2. ferocious – put the stress on the second syllable fe**RO**cious
3. earnestness – put the stress on the second syllable **EARN**estness

Intonation and expression

1. That way... – use a rising tone to begin this explanation
2. Why don't we... very much? – use a rising tone for this suggestion

Conversation

(a) I would like to adopt the bunny because it is very cute. It does not look fierce like a dog would or bark loudly so my neighbours would not complain if I kept a bunny for a pet. It will be easier to look after as I do not have to take it out for walks. We can play in the garden instead. A bunny can jump about in the garden and it will be quite safe, being away from cars on the road, so I need not worry about its safety. Also food for the bunny is easier to prepare since my mother can buy carrots and lettuce when she is at the market. Besides, it is less expensive compared to dog food.

OR

I would like to adopt the kitten because it looks very adorable. It has soft fur and would be nice to stroke. I have always wanted a kitten for a pet but my parents do not allow it because my father is allergic to cat fur due to his asthma. A cat is also a good pet because it is not smelly or noisy. It is easy to keep it clean. It does not need a lot of space to run about, unlike a dog that needs to go for walks in the park. All it needs is a basket to sleep in, unlike a dog that needs a kennel or doghouse. A cat looks cute when it has a ribbon on it, like those in the Cat Café.

(b) I think it is easy to look after a pet because I only need to give it food and water, play with it and keep it clean. It is easier than looking after children who can be naughty and messy or disobedient. A pet is obedient and can keep me company after I come home from school. I have to give the pet some attention like stroke it if it is a cat or take it for a walk if it is a dog. So if I have the time and make the effort, it should not be a great difficulty to own a pet and keep it happy and healthy.

OR

I think it is difficult to look after a pet well. Besides cleaning and feeding the pet, the owner also has to spend time with the pet. This may include playing with it, talking to it or taking it for check-ups. If the pet is not cleaned properly, it may get infected and need medical attention. It may cost a lot of money to see the vet or go for grooming, like trimming the nails and long fur. While it is fun to have a pet as a companion, it is not easy to take good care of it. The pet owner may have to attend lessons on responsible pet care. Some pets are sociable beings and need companions of their own kind. That means looking after two pets instead of one. This may be a problem if there is not enough space in the house for two animals.

(c) Animals are useful to man. As pets, they keep us company. We can talk to them and confide in them when we feel upset. A dog especially is a faithful companion that is loyal to its owner. When the owner is in danger, the dog will come to its rescue. Other animals may not be suitable as pets but they help man do a lot of work. On the farms, we have buffaloes and cows. We also have elephants that carry heavy logs from the forest to the factory. Cows give us milk and meat. Farm animals like the pig, goat and hens are reared by man for pork, mutton and chicken meat.

OR

Besides keeping us company, animals also give us food. Hens lay eggs and we can eat chicken meat. Cows and goats give us beef and mutton respectively. Pigs give us pork. Some animals such as guide dogs help the blind. Dogs also make great pets; as the saying goes 'a dog is a man's best friend'. Horses and elephants are beasts of burden, meaning they carry heavy loads for men. Horses carry hunters and passengers on their backs while elephants transport logs from forests to paper mills. Although they are useful to man, they sometimes get abused by their owners. It is wrong and inhumane to abuse these animals that are helping us in so many ways.

Practice 4

Listening Texts

In this listening test, you will listen to a total of seven texts. Each text will be read twice. Listen carefully to the text that is read to you and answer the questions that follow. Write 1, 2 or 3 in the brackets provided. You may attempt the questions at any time during the test.

The test is about to begin.

Text 1

You will hear a teacher giving instructions to some students.

Before you listen to Text 1, read questions 1 and 2 now.

Listen to Text 1 and answer questions 1 and 2.

Class,

We are going for a class outing tomorrow. We will walk to the park next to Spring Primary School and have a mini class picnic there. Don't bring any food from home for this activity as the school will provide a goodie bag containing a light snack for each of you. The snack will be a packet drink and a couple of buns.

In addition, you will receive a party mask which you will use for a game during the activity. All the masks are identical, and you will have to guess the identity of the masked classmate you are paired with. You are allowed to ask five questions and the masked classmate can nod or shake his or her head in response. After five questions are asked, you must make a guess. If you guess correctly, you will win a prize.

Listen to Text 1 again.

Text 2

You will hear a boy discussing plans for a holiday with his mother.

Before you listen to Text 2, read questions 3 and 4 now.

Listen to Text 2 and answer questions 3 and 4.

Mother: We'd better start planning our holidays with Grandpa and Grandma. They are waiting for us to confirm our flight and itinerary.

Peter: When we arrive at Changi Airport, will Grandpa and Grandma be there to meet us?

Mother: Of course, Peter, they can't wait to take us around. Grandpa wants to have a leisurely stroll along the beach with us. He even got Grandma to buy some sandcastle-making kits for you and your sister.

Peter: Wow! Angie will be thrilled to hear this when she gets home from school. That means we are not going to Chinatown first, right? I thought Grandma wanted to take us to her friend's restaurant in Chinatown once we touched down.

Mother: Yes, that was the original plan but the restaurant is hosting a wedding feast and it is fully booked on the day of our arrival. However, we managed to get reservations for a few days later. Grandma has an alternative place where we can taste local cuisine at a low cost – the Geylang Night Market. We'll be hungry after the beach outing, so it will be our next stop.

Peter: When do we go to Sentosa for rides and to see the famous Merlion? Is it the next day?

Mother: Yes, we will spend a whole day on Sentosa island, and you can have all the rides you want in the theme park! We will probably have lunch and dinner there too.

Peter: Yippee!

Listen to Text 2 again.

Text 3

You will hear a conversation between a girl and her father.

Before you listen to Text 3, read questions 5 to 7 now.

Listen to Text 3 and answer questions 5 to 7.

Father: What are you doing so early in the morning in the kitchen, Lily?

Lily: Shh, not so loud, Dad. I'm making a surprise breakfast for Mum, so I don't want her to wake up and spoil my surprise.

Father: Oh, I see. Do you want my help? I can help you crack the eggs or beat them?

Lily: Thanks Dad, but I've already done that. I am going to fry the pancakes now. Can you help me watch the fire so I do not burn them?

Father: Sure, I'll tell you when to turn your pancakes over before they get too hard.

Lily: Can you also get me a serving tray from the top of the kitchen cabinet? I can't reach it. I want to put the pancakes and syrup on the serving tray to bring to Mum.

Father: Oh, we are not having breakfast here? Or the dining room?

Lily: No, Dad. Mum is a queen today, so she can have breakfast in bed. We will join her there.

Father: In that case, I'd better get an extra stool for you to sit on, while I eat with your Mum on our bed.

Listen to Text 3 again.

Text 4

You will hear a story about a girl and chicken rice.

Before you listen to Text 4, read questions 8 to 10 now.

Listen to Text 4 and answer questions 8 to 10.

Grandma told me that if we could learn to laugh at ourselves, we would be happier each day. I learnt this today.

It was recess, so my classmates and I were standing in line in the canteen. When it came to my turn, I thought the chicken rice stallholder, Madam Wu, asked me what I would like to have, so I pointed at the chicken rice. Everyone in the line burst into laughter. I felt slightly embarrassed, wondering why.

Madam Wu chuckled before handing me a plate of chicken rice. She said, "I hope your sister is fine today. I was asking you what medicine the doctor gave her to help her recover from chicken pox, when you pointed at the plate of chicken rice."

I understood why my classmates were laughing. I laughed loudly at myself before saying, "The doctor says she must eat well to get well, and that even if you have chicken pox, it doesn't mean you can't eat chicken porridge or chicken rice. In fact, chicken rice is good because chicken has protein to strengthen our body!"

Listen to Text 4 again.

Text 5

This is an extract from a talk by a writer.

Before you listen to Text 5, read questions 11 to 13 now.

Listen to Text 5 and answer questions 11 to 13.

Hello, boys and girls. My name is Marianna Chan and I am here to tell you about my books. They are the Super 999 Series of detective stories, written just for you!

In my book, the characters are children your age, so they do things that you do – they play with their friends, they quarrel sometimes, and they enjoy snooping around the neighbourhood. That is how they learn about the happenings in the neighbourhood and end up investigating several mysteries.

The first mystery revolves around missing slippers. Some children found that their slippers disappeared overnight. They wondered who the thief was. What was most intriguing was that the slippers were old and worn out, of no value if a pedlar tried to sell them. They were also small, so adult feet would not fit into them. Why did anyone steal the slippers?

Well, Stacy and Rodney are like the Hardy Boys and Nancy Drew who found the culprit after lying in hiding for many nights. It was Humphrey the dog! Humphrey's owner, Mr Tan, had gone overseas. So, feeling bored and lonely, Humphrey developed the habit of taking slippers to its kennel and biting them to keep itself occupied!

Listen to Text 5 again.

Text 6

You will hear a story about a man and a promise.

Before you listen to Text 6, read questions 14 to 17 now.

Listen to Text 6 and answer questions 14 to 17.

One day, Ali looked at his friend Kamal and said, "One day, you will become rich and famous."

"Ha! Stop making fun of me," Kamal laughed at the joke.

"It's true, and I'm not joking," said Ali.

"If it is true then I will give you a thousand dollars," chuckled Kamal as he wrote a note to promise to give Ali money if he became rich and famous.

Years passed and Kamal went to the city while Ali found work on a farm in the village. Kamal worked hard and became a rich businessman. He donated his profits to build a shelter for the poor and homeless. Kamal soon became famous for his good deeds.

Ali, on the other hand, remained poor because droughts destroyed his crops. He fell seriously ill. Gathering his sons and wife at his bedside one day, he said, "Before I leave this earth, I must tell you something important. Take a box under this bed and look for Kamal, my good friend." With that, Ali passed away. His grieving family forgot all about the box until one day, Ali's wife found it while packing their things. They were forced to leave their house because they could not pay the rent. Quite unexpectedly, they were given shelter in a temporary home for the homeless. Then they met Kamal, the man who built the home.

When Ali's wife showed Kamal the note in the box, he recognised his handwriting immediately.

"Yes, I remember this promise I made to my good friend Ali," Kamal exclaimed. "Thanks to him, I

became rich and famous! Every time I failed in a business, I did not give up because he told me I would be successful, and I did become successful.”

Kamal gave Ali’s family one thousand dollars but he did not stop there. He also employed Ali’s wife as a housekeeper for his house, and gave Ali’s three sons jobs as well.

Listen to Text 6 again.

Text 7

You will hear a speaker promote something called Impossible Meat.

Before you listen to Text 7, read questions 18 to 20 now.

Listen to Text 7 and answer questions 18 to 20.

Let me explain what I mean by Impossible Meat. Because of global warming, the weather has become unpredictable. We hear of flowers blooming in winter in China. We learn that ice caps are melting faster than usual in the Arctic. The solution to all these problems?

If we eat less meat, we will need fewer farms. With less cattle grazing, we will reduce the emission of fumes that add to global warming. For some consumers, it sounds terrible because they are afraid that they will have to give up eating meat. For cattle farmers, it seems to be saying stop rearing cattle. No, all of this is not true. We do not have to give up eating meat totally, though we can eat less of it by turning to meat-alternatives. Impossible Meat is one such alternative. It is great tasting – like steak but it is made from fruit and vegetables! The best thing about it is that it is not made in a factory that adds chemicals to products causing them to be unhealthy for the human body!

Now, are you convinced that we should go the Impossible Meat way?

Listen to Text 7 again.

Answers to Paper 3

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. 1 | 2. 3 | 3. 3 | 4. 1 | 5. 3 |
| 6. 2 | 7. 1 | 8. 2 | 9. 2 | 10. 3 |
| 11. 3 | 12. 1 | 13. 1 | 14. 2 | 15. 3 |
| 16. 2 | 17. 2 | 18. 3 | 19. 2 | 20. 3 |

Paper 4 – Answers to pronunciation, word stress, intonation and expression for Reading Aloud and suggested responses for prompts

Reading Aloud

Pronunciation

1. youth, they, there – say the th sound
2. went, not, part, different – say the ending t sound
3. children – say chil – dren, not chew – ren
4. don’t – say the contracted form for do and not
5. there’s – say the contracted form for there and is
6. let’s – say the contracted form for let and us

Word stress

1. different – put the stress on the first syllable **DIF**ferent
2. badminton – put the stress on the first syllable **BAD**minton
3. decision – put the stress on the second syllable de**CI**sion

Intonation and expression

1. Why don't...club? – use a rising tone for this suggestion
2. Yes! Let's! – use a falling tone to express excitement
3. ...if there's one! – use a falling tone to express excitement

Conversation

(a) I would like to play badminton because it is an easy game. It is also fun when you get to hit the shuttlecock such that your opponent cannot hit it back. Badminton is an interesting game that I can win easily because I can hold the racket firmly and use my strength to hit the shuttlecock. My opponent has to run to different corners of the court depending on where I aim the shuttlecock. It is thrilling each time I do this because my opponent has no idea where he has to run to. I love this game very much.

OR

I would like to play table tennis because it is an exciting game. My opponent and I have to make sure that the table tennis ball or ping pong ball touches the table and bounces off, so that either one of us can hit it. Sometimes the ball does not touch the table because I use too much force to hit it. When this happens, I lose to my opponent. Sometimes I hit the ball towards the opponent and he does not have enough time to anticipate where the ball will fall or bounce off, so he is caught unawares and cannot return the ball. He loses to me in this case.

(b) My school has many CCAs like athletics, football, netball, volleyball, hockey, track-and-field and swimming. Track-and-field is very interesting because it is not just running on the track but also includes throwing a javelin and high jump. Most students who join athletics are very fit and strong. They are good runners and look tanned because they have to train and run in the sun on some hot days. Swimming is a water sport that is held in the swimming complex nearby as there is no swimming pool in my school. It is compulsory for all students, not just a CCA. Every Wednesday, for one term, we have to go swimming after school. This happens every year, so if we can swim we are encouraged to go for swimming tests and get certificates after we pass the tests.

OR

My school has many CCAs such as track-and-field, athletics, swimming and volleyball. Besides these, we have Chinese martial arts or Wushu and Malay martial arts or Silat. There's also Karate and Judo. They are very demanding CCAs because you have to be strong to join as a member. So, for people who are not physically strong, they will need to join other CCAs such as the Art Club, Drama Club, Debating Club or even the Choir, provided they have an interest in art, acting or singing. I don't think every student should have a sport CCA because some students are not interested in sports and they are not athletic. If they are forced to take up this CCA, they will feel miserable. The CCA that each student chooses should be one that he or she is interested in. Then they will try their best for the activities organised. Non-sport CCAs are just as interesting and students can learn many things by joining them too.

- (c) Besides sport CCAs, other CCAs that are interesting to me include drama and debating. The CCA teaches the members to be confident when acting or speaking in front of an audience. I used to get nervous when giving presentations but after joining the CCA, I have become more confident. My experience in presentations has helped me a lot. I do not have butterflies in my stomach or have sweaty hands so I am able to breathe normally and even stand up and ask questions. Other people's eyes are on me but that does not rattle me anymore. I am more conscious of how I speak now, so I take time to pronounce the words clearly and not rush through them due to nervousness. I think the training that the CCA gives me has helped me a lot.

OR

Besides sport CCAs, other CCAs that are interesting to me include board games such as Wei Qi and Chess. The CCA is new to me but the teacher-in-charge is very patient. Miss Lam teaches the newcomers how to play the board games. She explains the rules and lets us practise competing against one another. She also rewards us with praises and sometimes a little snack or biscuit. I think my interest grew because of Miss Lam. Once, we went for a competition and Miss Lam said it was for our experience, not to win the competition, so we did not have high expectations. My friends were excited about it and could not sleep the night before. At the competition, we saw other competitors from well-known schools all raring to win. My school came in first but it was the team of Primary Sixes, who were very experienced. We were proud of them although we did not win. I think it is important to support other members of the CCA during competition time because we are all members of the same CCA.

Practice 5

Listening Texts

In this listening test, you will listen to a total of seven texts. Each text will be read twice. Listen carefully to the text that is read to you and answer the questions that follow. Write 1, 2 or 3 in the brackets provided. You may attempt the questions at any time during the test.

The test is about to begin.

Text 1

You will hear a teacher giving instructions to some students.

Before you listen to Text 1, read questions 1 and 2 now.

Listen to Text 1 and answer questions 1 and 2.

Class,

I know you are very excited about the frog farm visit. We will leave as soon as the bus arrives to pick us up, but please check that you have the following items. You should have a clipboard and a pencil. There is a worksheet for you to complete during the learning journey. It should be on your clipboard. Raise your hands if your worksheet is missing.

Oh yes, once you alight from the bus at the entrance, do wait at the ticketing booth while I collect our group tickets. After a briefing, we can go to the touch pond, but please complete the worksheet and put your clipboard away before that, so that the worksheet does not get wet. You may play with the baby frogs at the touch pond or take photos with your mobile phones but you are not allowed to splash the water or make yourselves or your classmates wet. Once the bus comes to fetch us back to school, I will blow my whistle for you to know that you should leave the touch pond and gather at the café. It is next to the parking area for buses. Make sure you collect your belongings before you leave the touch pond.

Listen to Text 1 again.

Text 2

You will hear a student leader talking to his group of students.

Before you listen to Text 2, read questions 3 and 4 now.

Listen to Text 2 and answer questions 3 and 4.

Hanna has just joined her group for a tour of the new school. She meets Peter the student leader in the school hall.

"Please follow me so that you do not get lost during the tour of our school. We will proceed to the Science eco-garden soon, where you can find local fruits and vegetables grown by our own students. Do not pick any flowers or fruits from the trees and plants, please. However, you may take photos if you like."

Hanna interrupted Peter in his speech with a question, "Can we visit the pre-school section of the school? I heard there is a wonderful play area near the canteen there."

Peter cleared his throat and said, "I'm sorry but students from the primary section are not allowed into the pre-school section. The playground there is meant for children attending nursery and kindergarten. If we go there, the little ones will not get a chance to use the limited number of swings and slides. We will turn right, rather than left, to get to the canteen in the primary section after passing the classroom blocks. Actually, on other days, if you want to go to the canteen, there is a shortcut from here. You walk past the indoor sports hall and get to the canteen faster. Most of us use this route when we are hungry!" Peter laughed and the group laughed along with him.

Listen to Text 2 again.

Text 3

You will hear a conversation between two students.

Before you listen to Text 3, read questions 5 to 7 now.

Listen to Text 3 and answer questions 5 to 7.

Sue: Is everything ready for the launch of the eco-garden, Charles?

Charles: Well, the chairs are still being arranged. We do not have enough of them, so we need to bring some down from the hall. Other than that, the refreshments are ready to be served once the Guest of Honour arrives. The fans are also working well in the tent. It is so hot without air-conditioning – I hope the parents do not complain.

Sue: I will tell Mrs Shanti that the parents have to wait in the canteen, instead of going to the tent straight away since we are still arranging the chairs for them.

Charles: Oh, yes, please tell her that the microphones for the two emcees are working well. I tested both of them just now. But I have a spare one just in case.

Sue: Thanks, Charles. I don't know what I would do without you. The launch of the eco-garden is mostly your effort. Even the creeper plants there are the result of your green fingers!

Charles: It's my pleasure since I love plants. Just don't ask me to make a speech in public! I'm so glad that you volunteered to be one of the emcees for the launch!

Listen to Text 3 again.

Text 4

You will hear a story about a strange happening.

Before you listen to Text 4, read questions 8 to 10 now.

Listen to Text 4 and answer questions 8 to 10.

Edison was upset. He could not find the key to his car. His wife was upset too. She could not wear her favourite earrings because one of the pair was missing. Something mysterious was happening to the little things in the house.

Edison and his wife decided to search the whole house for their missing items. They searched high and low in every nook and cranny but to no avail. In exhaustion from their fruitless search, both of them decided to take a stroll in the park behind their house. Some children were flying kites when one of them shouted for help. The string of his kite was entangled among some branches of a tree. Edison was tall but he could not reach the kite or its string. He had to climb up the tree slowly. When he had almost reached the kite, his hand accidentally knocked against a nest.

The nest and its contents fell to the ground with a loud thud! A huge bird flew off. There were no eggs or baby birds in the nest, only car keys, earrings, cookies and all kinds of little things!

Listen to Text 4 again.

Text 5

This is an extract from an announcement.

Before you listen to Text 5, read questions 11 to 13 now.

Listen to Text 5 and answer questions 11 to 13.

Good morning, boys and girls. Pay attention to this important announcement. There will be some changes for morning assembly from next Monday onwards. Due to the spread of the infectious virus, we are not allowed to gather in large groups, so instead of morning assembly in the parade square, you will be going straight to your classroom for morning assembly. Your form teacher will be using PowerPoint slides to project the national flag and play the national anthem and school song. Please listen to any announcements that are given.

There are also some changes to recess. Your form teacher will tell you more about the staggered timing for each level. When you go for recess, please observe social distancing and keep a distance from others. Queue in an orderly manner. Do not crowd around any stalls. There are markings on the floor to show where you should stand when you are queuing. There are also markings on the tables and benches to indicate which spaces you can use and which spaces should be left unoccupied. Teachers and prefects will be on duty to supervise and guide you if you are confused.

Dismissal time will be affected too. Primary 5 and 6 students will finish their lessons 15 minutes earlier than other levels, to prevent masses of students mingling after dismissal. Do leave as soon as you are dismissed, unless you are waiting for transport. If possible, do inform your parents who are fetching you home to come earlier if they can.

Listen to Text 5 again.

Text 6

You will hear the head prefect addressing students in the hall.

Before you listen to Text 6, read questions 14 to 17 now.

Listen to Text 6 and answer questions 14 to 17.

Good morning, I am Simon Ho, your head prefect. I am here to introduce our special guest and speaker, Madam Heng. She will give us a talk about why it is never too late to learn.

Madam Heng was once dubbed a technology dinosaur but today, she's unfazed by it. In fact, she's the key contributor of the neighbourhood blog Changi Villagers. She even started a new blog recently called Help and Resources Nearby for residents who need help moving heavy furniture or just need a listening ear for their problems. Those who want to offer help can do so by following the blog. Everyone welcomed the blog, so you can imagine how many followers it garnered. She will be launching a new website just for students soon, to help you learn more about topics such as the history of your neighbourhood, famous scientists and their inventions. It is an educational blog.

Last month, she bought a computer for her young kindergarten-going grandchildren and taught them how to use it. She enjoyed playing computer games with them. Much to her own children's astonishment, she is also on Facebook.

Madam Heng has a great passion for learning. She says that age is just a number. Learning does not stop when you get old. What a role model she is! Without much ado, please put your hands together to welcome our speaker!

Listen to Text 6 again.

Text 7

You will hear a speaker introduce a radio programme.

Before you listen to Text 7, read questions 18 to 20 now.

Listen to Text 7 and answer questions 18 to 20.

Hello, are you an avid reader? Do you love books and can't get enough of them? Well, you will be pleased to know that we have a new programme just for listeners like you. Starting next Saturday, you can listen to stories that you like, during a bus or train ride, or while waiting for friends at a meeting place. Listen as You Go is the name of this programme.

If you have a great voice and would like to be one of our readers on radio, do come for an audition at Media Corp Station. Auditions start today and will continue until Friday.

To kick off the programme, we are inviting you to tell us what books you enjoy. We will dramatise an exciting part of a featured book and read the rest aloud. Do contact us with your list of favourite books, at www.listenasyougo.com.sg. If one of your selections gets aired, you will receive an autographed copy of the book from the author. Isn't that great? Hope to hear from you soon!

Listen to Text 7 again.

Answers to Paper 3

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. 3 | 2. 2 | 3. 1 | 4. 1 | 5. 2 |
| 6. 2 | 7. 3 | 8. 1 | 9. 3 | 10. 2 |
| 11. 3 | 12. 3 | 13. 2 | 14. 2 | 15. 1 |
| 16. 2 | 17. 2 | 18. 3 | 19. 3 | 20. 2 |

Paper 4 – Answers to pronunciation, word stress, intonation and expression for Reading Aloud and suggested responses for prompts

Reading Aloud

Pronunciation

1. It, delight – say the ending t sound
2. forward, heard, and, squealed – say the ending d sound
3. I'm – say the contracted form of I and am
4. I'll – say the contracted form of I and will
5. take, pack – say the ending k sound
6. their – say it like there
7. children – say chil – dren, not chew – ren

Word stress

1. beginning – put the stress on the second syllable be**GIN**ning
2. behaviour – put the stress on the second syllable be**HAV**iour

Intonation and expression

1. ...photos of the pandas when I'm there! – use a rising tone to express delight
2. Yes, Mr Lim! – use a rising tone to express excitement

Conversation

(a) Yes, I would like to see the giraffe in the zoo. It is a very tall animal and has to reach the branches of a tree to get at the leaves. It is well known for its long neck and legs. Some male giraffes have legs that are six feet long! It is also a beautiful animal with a unique pattern on its skin. It stands quietly and does not make loud noises that may give young visitors a scare. It is a friendly animal and what is most amazing to me is that a giraffe sleeps for only 20 minutes a day. It stands all day and does not need to sit down. Unlike us, we will feel tired after standing for an hour or so and want to sit down to rest our legs. It also stretches its neck to get the leaves of trees and does so daily without neck aches or pain. I am sure we will suffer a lot of pain and discomfort if we have to stretch our neck to get food!

OR

Yes, I would like to see the bear in the zoo. It is a huge animal with lots of fur. It reminds me of my teddy bear that I used to hug when I was very young. Of course, I cannot hug an actual bear because it would not like to be hugged by humans. It may growl angrily if disturbed and that would be scary. The bear has a huge body but very small legs, which make it look quite cute. Its face is also very adorable with eyes that seem to look at us knowingly. It has a sharp sense of smell and can detect if someone is nearby or approaching. The best thing about the bear is its soft fur. It looks beautiful.

(b) Yes, I have visited the zoo. It was our class learning journey. We saw many animals in the Singapore Zoo. There were elephants, tigers, lions, giraffes and bears. The lions were in a special enclosure. It was huge and separated by a moat of water so that visitors could not get too near the lions. The elephants in the zoo were quite used to visitors. We could get a ride on the elephant's back. We also watched an elephant show where the elephants lifted heavy logs in the show Elephants at Work, and where the elephants sprayed water at each other in the show Elephants at Play. It was fun to watch these huge animals working and playing.

OR

Yes, I have visited the zoo. My parents brought me there on my birthday. We also had breakfast with Ah Meng, an orangutan. She was very funny when she started to eat his bananas because she began peeling the skin, just like human beings do when eating bananas. I thought she would just bite through the fruit but she was very civilised and even held a spoon and a fork to eat the other pieces of cut fruit on her plate. I enjoyed this breakfast very much, so I took lots of photographs with Ah Meng. I think she is a very intelligent animal. I also saw other wild animals in different enclosures – the leopards, the cheetahs, the foxes and even the famous pandas on loan from the China Zoo – Jia Jia and Kai Kai. They looked very cute eating bamboo leaves.

(c) Besides visiting the zoo, we can learn about animals from videos and books. We can read about their habitat, diet and behavior from many books in the library and schools. Some books have lots of pictures of these animals but videos are the best learning resource because we get to see these animals in action! We can view how they move and how they catch their prey and then devour them. Videos also allow us to hear the animals – whether it is the growl of the bear, the roar of a lion or the chatter of the monkey. The BBC series of videos is very interesting and shows us many rare scenes that we may not come across during our visit to the zoo or safari. I like this series very much and watch the videos again and again.

OR

I think we can learn more about animals from the internet. There is a lot of information in books but the internet is a richer resource because it has links to audio and video productions. We can hear animal sounds, watch animal behavior if we use these links but the books about animals cannot give us this opportunity to hear and see the animal moving. The pictures in the books may be colourful but they are still, not moving. They are also not 3-D. A book about animals may describe the diet and habitat in detail. As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words. Books will also contain many photographs. However, watching a video makes it seem so real and close as if we are standing near the animal. I like videos because of this effect, which is not found in reading books.

Practice 6

Listening Texts

In this listening test, you will listen to a total of seven texts. Each text will be read twice. Listen carefully to the text that is read to you and answer the questions that follow. Write 1, 2 or 3 in the brackets provided. You may attempt the questions at any time during the test.

The test is about to begin.

Text 1

You will hear a prefect giving a briefing to some students.

Before you listen to Text 1, read questions 1 and 2 now.

Listen to Text 1 and answer questions 1 and 2.

Good morning,

Welcome to our orientation. I hope you have marked your attendance. If you haven't done so, please come forward and mark it now. As you know, we have a packed programme today, so I would appreciate it very much if you pay attention to my briefing.

We have a number of activities lined up for you, but before that, you will gather in the canteen to meet your group leader. He or she will take you to the picnic area where all of us will have an orientation breakfast. There are several pavilions which we will use, should it drizzle later. If not, we will eat on our picnic mats under shady trees or in the open. Your light snack is complimentary, consisting of milk, a sandwich and a banana. Believe me, even if you have already taken your breakfast at home, you are going to need the energy from the snack for the various activities coming up.

Listen to Text 1 again.

Text 2

You will hear a family discussing their travel plans.

Before you listen to Text 2, read questions 3 and 4 now.

Listen to Text 2 and answer questions 3 and 4.

"Look! Plane tickets!" Mum said.

Benny and his sister Joyce could not contain their excitement and rushed to see the tickets. Mum sat them down and gave more details. Their grandparents had invited them over for a short holiday in Malaysia.

"Your grandpa and grandma want you to let them know if you like what they have planned for you," Dad said.

When they arrive in Malaysia, it will be Monday. After their flight and drive to their grandparents' home, they will need a good night's rest. On Tuesday, they will go to a durian farm before heading out to the ice cream factory. In the evening, they will enjoy a seafood dinner at the beach. On Wednesday, they will visit their uncle and aunt who live on Penang island. They will go to the zoo with their cousins. They will stay in Penang until the end of the week. It will be more sightseeing and some shopping there as well. They could buy gifts and souvenirs like T-shirts, fridge magnets and keychains.

"Do we have to go to the durian farm? I would rather spend more time in the ice cream factory watching how ice cream is made," said Benny who could not stand the stench of the pungent fruit.

"Well, the durian farm belongs to a good friend of your grandpa's, so he wants to introduce his grandchildren to his friend. Don't worry because it is not durian season yet, we will not be eating any durian," explained Mum.

"Mum, can we go to the ice cream factory first?" asked Joyce. She said that if they ate lots of ice cream right before dinner, they could be too full to enjoy the seafood delicacies. It made good sense, so her mother agreed.

Listen to Text 2 again.

Text 3

You will hear a conversation between two parents.

Before you listen to Text 3, read questions 5 to 7 now.

Listen to Text 3 and answer questions 5 to 7.

Mrs Tan: Yes, I know. I have just returned from the supermarket with lots of groceries. Later, I will make John's favourite dish of fresh chye sim fried with ikan bilis. I am exhausted from the shopping and am taking a break now.

Mr Tan: I can get the cake on the way back from work, so you can rest and watch your favourite programme, dear.

Mrs Tan: Oh, don't forget the candles and check the spelling of the words on the birthday cake. Sometimes, the shop makes mistakes.

Mr Tan: How about Peter? Is he coming home late after his CCA?

Mrs Tan: Yes, he is, which gives us more time to prepare for his birthday surprise. His grandma and grandpa say they will drive over to his school to fetch their precious ten-year-old grandson as soon as his CCA is over.

Listen to Text 3 again.

Text 4

You will hear a speaker asking for volunteers.

Before you listen to Text 4, read questions 8 to 10 now.

Listen to Text 4 and answer questions 8 to 10.

Calling all students aged ten and above! Come and do something meaningful during your weekends. Partner an elderly person who is learning to use a computer. All you have to do is sit beside a participant and help him or her when they are stuck. They may not be able to remember all the steps I am teaching them during the course and feel anxious. In fact, many of them usually forget their IDs and passwords so they cannot even get started. Your presence will help them overcome their anxiety. They are most afraid that they may press the wrong key and something terrible will happen to the computer. That is why it will be reassuring to have someone by their side during the course.

Do not hesitate to come forward to volunteer your time and effort. Even if you can't speak a word of dialect or communicate effectively with them, you will still be an immense help because of your computer knowledge and skills. Be patient with your partner and you will enjoy great satisfaction when your partner successfully masters some computer skills at the end of the course. Just think of them as your own aged grandparents and give them your support!

Listen to Text 4 again.

Text 5

This is an extract from a radio programme.

Before you listen to Text 5, read questions 11 to 13 now.

Listen to Text 5 and answer questions 11 to 13.

Hello, boys and girls. My name is Henry Lee and I am sixteen years old. I am here to talk about my shoe shop. Yes, most people are surprised when I say I own a shop. I started this shoe business last year when I was fifteen years old. I had seen some shoes I wanted on a shopping website but they were very expensive, so I did not buy them.

Later that evening, I met my father's friends when they came for dinner at my house. They talked about how they became successful in their business and I sat at the dinner table, enthralled. After listening to their conversation, I had an idea and wanted to try it out. I went to some shoe shops and asked for prices of shoes on offer. They were discounted by 10 to 40 per cent. I did not buy any shoes but the sales assistant allowed me to take pictures of them. I uploaded the pictures on my father's friend's website. In two days, he received some orders for the shoes! I was thrilled and rushed to the shoe shops to buy the discounted shoes. I checked that they were the correct size and design before packing them and delivering them to the buyers! It was my first sale and I made more than one hundred dollars. I sold the shoes that I bought on 40 per cent discount at a 10 per cent discount from the original price. My father and his friend were astonished!

Now, I still take orders online but I have my own website. If you have a good idea, try it out. Just like me, your idea might succeed!

Listen to Text 5 again.

Text 6

You will hear a story about kindness.

Before you listen to Text 6, read questions 14 to 17 now.

Listen to Text 6 and answer questions 14 to 17.

Once upon a time, there lived a poor man by the name of Dan. He worked for a rich landlord, tending to his farm. Dan had to fetch water from a well every day to water the plants on the farm. One day, Dan was punished because some crops withered and died. It was not his fault that there was a dry spell for a few weeks, but the cruel master was angry and had the poor man lashed and later caged up like an animal.

By chance, the cage door was opened to confine another worker who was being punished too. Dan dashed out and fled as fast as his heels could take him. He ran off to a forest where he hid in a cave. Laying there, he heard the groaning of a lion. It was hurt, and Dan was very frightened. Should he run away?

When the lion approached him with his swollen and bleeding paws, pity overwhelmed Dan's fear. Gently, he pulled out the thorns from the paws, and retreated into the shadows. The lion left the cave, limping slowly out.

The next day, soldiers discovered Dan in the cave. He was brought back to his master who ordered him to be put before a lion. The powerful master also ordered many slaves to gather in the stadium to watch the feeding of disobedient slaves to lions. Dan was brought into the huge stadium. A lion stood in the middle of the stadium. Instead of charging towards the prey, the lion walked slowly with a limp. Dan recognised the lion. The spectators cheered when Dan patted the lion which roared majestically. It was a wonderful sight for them.

Listen to Text 6 again.

Text 7

You will hear an announcement on the PA system in a shopping mall.

Before you listen to Text 7, read questions 18 to 20 now.

Listen to Text 7 and answer questions 18 to 20.

Dear shoppers, this is a gentle reminder for you to look after your personal belongings well. Do not leave them unattended. Due to the recent cases of pickpocketing, our security guards will be patrolling the mall more frequently. Should you need their assistance, please do not hesitate to ask for their help. They are in uniform and carry name badges which identify them.

Please cooperate with our security personnel during bag checks. Open your handbags, grocery bags and briefcases when told to do so. Resisting bag checks will only arouse suspicion and make things worse for everyone. Our security personnel are authorised to search your belongings if you refuse to cooperate.

If everyone passes the security screening, all shoppers can be assured of a safe and secure environment. Thank you and happy shopping.

Listen to Text 7 again.

Answers to Paper 3

1. 3 2. 2 3. 3 4. 2 5. 3
 6. 1 7. 3 8. 2 9. 1 10. 1
 11. 3 12. 2 13. 2 14. 2 15. 1
 16. 2 17. 3 18. 2 19. 1 20. 3

Paper 4 – Answers to pronunciation, word stress, intonation and expression for Reading Aloud and suggested responses for prompts

Reading Aloud

Pronunciation

1. caught, cat, hurt – say the ending t sound
2. can't – say the contracted form of can and not
3. it's – say the contracted form of it and is
4. won't – say the contracted form of will and not
5. stroked – say the ending kt sound
6. hoped – say the ending ped sound
7. clinic – say the ending k sound

Word stress

1. attention – put the stress on the second syllable a**TT**ENTION
2. photograph – put the stress on the first syllable **PHO**tograph
3. veterinarian – put the stress on the fourth syllable veteri**NA**rian

Intonation and expression

1. What are you doing? – use a rising tone for this question
2. Can't you see? – use a rising tone for this question

Conversation

(a) Yes, I would like to watch the animal show because it would be interesting. The trainers can make the animals entertain us with various acts. They are not afraid of the wild animals. For example, they can hold the snake and curl it around their neck and other parts of their body. The snake will not bite them or constrict them. It is very obedient and harmless. Other animals that I like in the show such as the tiger can hop through a ring of fire when the trainer gives the command. It is simply amazing to see such acts. The tiger is very skilled and does not get singed by the flames. It lands carefully without falling over and the audience applauds loudly, obviously impressed by the act. It seems dangerous and difficult but the tiger safely completes it calmly.

OR

No, I would not like to watch the animal show because it is a kind of abuse to make animals entertain us. Animals should behave like animals, and not be trained to do unnatural things like hopping through a ring of fire. Snakes should be slithering on the ground and not circling around someone's neck to be photographed. The strong light from the camera flash should not be allowed as it may damage the snake's eyesight. Animals have rights and they should be respected. Making animals entertain human beings is not the right thing to do as it is against animals' rights. I am sure animal lovers will object to the things that trainers do to make animals obey them, for example, withholding food from the animals because they are not obedient or unable to get the act right according to the instructions of the trainer.

(b) I have watched some animal shows in a circus. They include horses riding in circles with a human rider or acrobat on its back. The human being is an acrobat from the circus and he or she will stand for a brief second when the horse stops. The audience is impressed because she does not lose her balance and applauds the act cheerfully. Some of the horses kneel down as she jumps off one of the horses and lands gracefully to do a curtsy. The horses are well trained and seem to move along with the rhythm of the music – moving slowly, jerking suddenly and then trotting along. It is a truly amazing spectacle.

OR

I have watched an animal show in the zoo. It is called the Animal Friends Show. It made me laugh a lot. The animals who are the stars in the show were abandoned by their owners. The trainers took a long time to train them for the show. First they had to treat them well because the animals were once abandoned pets and may not like human beings since they did not treat the animals well previously. The mice, dogs and cats do very funny things on the show like hug each other, run away from one another and in the end they all get along together. The show tells us that animals can be friends even if they are from different species. It inspires us to love and care for animals who share the forest and home with us. I am sure their previous owners would regret abandoning them if they saw how talented these animals actually are.

(c) To ensure that trainers take care of their animals' welfare when training them for shows, there should be guidelines such as the amount of time an animal needs for rest and sleep, and so on. If the trainers are aware of these guidelines, they will treat these animals well, with respect and consideration. Trainers should be people with love for animals and have the ability to communicate with them. The cane or whip should not be used as it would cause much hurt and pain if the animal is cut by the sharp tip of the cane or whip. Trainers should be patient and caring people. If they are impatient, they may want results quickly and may punish their animals that are too slow in achieving the results. When their animals need to rest because of exhaustion, the trainers may feel impatient and shorten the rest period, depriving the animals of much needed rest.

OR

To ensure that trainers take care of their animals' welfare when training them for shows, circus owners or zookeepers should check on their trainers' attitude and ability to work with animals. They cannot just leave them to train the animals without supervision. The acts that are planned should be within the animals' ability, not something unnatural and challenging. Animal lovers will protest if the acts may endanger the animals performing them. Trainers should be aware of the rights of animals and treat them well. Trainers should be trained. They should learn from good trainers so that they can communicate more effectively with their animals. They should be aware of the types of punishment for animal abuse. If trainers abuse their animals, they should be reported and punished accordingly. However, as animals cannot speak, many cases of abuse may be unreported. That is why circus owners or zookeepers need to be vigilant and be able to detect signs of abuse.

Practice 7

Listening Texts

In this listening test, you will listen to a total of seven texts. Each text will be read twice. Listen carefully to the text that is read to you and answer the questions that follow. Write 1, 2 or 3 in the brackets provided. You may attempt the questions at any time during the test.

The test is about to begin.

Text 1

You will hear a teacher giving instructions to some students.

Before you listen to Text 1, read questions 1 and 2 now.

Listen to Text 1 and answer questions 1 and 2.

I am sure you must be very excited about the novelty race tomorrow. Well, there's no time to lose, so we should start our preparations. Let me explain the race.

You will be given an egg and a spoon to put the egg on. Then you must balance the egg until you reach the pail. Place the plastic egg in the pail and scoop a spoonful of water to bring back to your basin. The team with the most water in the basin wins.

The equipment is kept in the drink stall in the canteen. Please take only one pail and one basin for your team. You will also need a spoon and an egg for each member of your team. After the race is over, you must return the equipment. Do not leave it lying around the spectator stand because some children may trip over the pail or basin. Remember to bring everything to the office to Mdm Leong who will call the stallholder over to collect the basins, spoons and pails. Is everyone clear about this?

Listen to Text 1 again.

Text 2

You will hear family members discussing plans for a cruise.

Before you listen to Text 2, read questions 3 and 4 now.

Listen to Text 2 and answer questions 3 and 4.

“Look! It says here that kids sail free!” Mary said excitedly.

Her mother peered at the advertisement and smiled. Mary and her brother Jim could not believe that their parents were going to take them on a short cruise during the holidays. Their mother gave more details since they could not contain their excitement and bombarded her with countless questions.

“The cruise ship will sail from Singapore to various places. The first stop is Malacca, which is in Malaysia. There is a tour of Malacca town once we reach land. The second stop is Penang, also in Malaysia, and we can spend a whole day exploring parts of the state like the famous Snake Temple and the new shopping mall,” said mother.

“Sounds interesting!” said Jim as he imagined himself posing for photos with a snake draped around his shoulders. “Can I not go to the mall? Shopping is not fun for me,” said Jim hoping to have more time with the snakes – his favourite reptile.

“Can I not go to the Snake Temple, Mum?” asked Mary, alarmed at the thought of squirming snakes all over the place. She definitely preferred to shop for gifts and souvenirs in the newly opened mall.

“How about this – we split up so that you kids can do what you enjoy. Mary and I will meet you and your Dad on board the ship after our shopping,” she told Jim.

However, in Thailand, they will travel as a group, visiting a crocodile farm and the famous floating market. They will have a durian feast on land because the ship rules do not allow tourists to bring any durians back to the ship.

Listen to Text 2 again.

Text 3

You will hear a conversation between a teacher and some students.

Before you listen to Text 3, read questions 5 to 7 now.

Listen to Text 3 and answer questions 5 to 7.

Teacher: Class, our temperature taking exercise starts tomorrow. Listen carefully to what I have to say. Before lessons begin, we will assemble in the hall but we will take our temperature in the classroom. So after assembly, please make your way to the classroom. Do make sure that you bring your thermometer to school every day. If you forget to bring it, let me know. You are not allowed to use your friend’s thermometer. There should be no sharing of pencils or writing materials as well. Write your temperature reading on the daily record notebook. Place your notebooks on the right-hand corner of your desk for inspection. Do not keep it in your bag. Are there any questions?

Student A: Miss Wong, I don’t have a daily record notebook. Where can I get one?

Teacher: You may use this extra notebook on my table first. I will order more from the school bookstore tomorrow.

Listen to Text 3 again.

Text 4

This is part of an extract from a principal's address at morning assembly.

Before you listen to Text 4, read questions 8 to 10 now.

Listen to Text 4 and answer questions 8 to 10.

Good morning boys and girls, I will be reading a special message from the Minister for Education this morning.

Dear students, Happy Children's Day. You will probably be celebrating this special day in your school today and resting at home tomorrow when the school is closed.

As you know, we celebrate Children's Day in Singapore every year on the last day of the first week of September. However, the world celebrates Children's Day on the 20th of November. This is because the United Nations wanted the whole world to remember that children have rights, and held a meeting on this day in 1959 to decide on the rights of children. Yet, other countries like India, Thailand and Russia have chosen different dates to remember this group of important people. India celebrates Children's Day on the 14th of November, Thailand on the 9th of January and Russia on the 1st of June. The dates of celebration may be different but the message is the same. Children are important people and they have a right to education and happiness. Remember why you are celebrating this important day. I wish all of you a joyful Children's Day.

Listen to Text 4 again.

Text 5

A boy attends an orientation tour of his new school.

Before you listen to Text 5, read questions 11 to 13 now.

Listen to Text 5 and answer questions 11 to 13.

Seetho has just joined a new school. As part of his orientation, the prefects in his class, Lucy and Charles, are showing him around. Their first stop was the canteen as Seetho wanted to know if they sold Japanese food during recess. After a quick tour of the canteen, they went to the indoor sports hall.

"Are there many changing rooms here?" asked Seetho.

"Yes, but they may be crowded sometimes. To save time, you may also use the changing rooms in the indoor swimming complex which is nearby," said Lucy.

"Swimming complex?" Seetho's eyes widened.

"Yes, our school is a sports school, so we have our own Olympic-sized swimming pool. We also have many other facilities. Let us take you to the dance studio and gym later," said Charles.

Seetho was impressed. His new school had as many facilities as the private school he attended in Tokyo. He was going to like studying in Singapore.

Listen to Text 5 again.

Text 6

In this story, a rich man looks for workers to run his new factory.

Before you listen to Text 6, read questions 14 to 17 now.

Listen to Text 6 and answer questions 14 to 17.

Raju was a rich businessman who returned to his hometown to build a factory. He needed workers to run his factory, so he organised a feast and invited some villagers for dinner. Among them was Kumar, a poor young man who had been unemployed for many months. Thrilled to receive the dinner invitation, he told his wife and his son that he would bring back some food for them if he could. During the dinner, Kumar drank lemonade and ate a lot of rice but he did not touch the fried chicken wing or the piece of cake. When no one was looking, he quickly stuffed them into his pockets.

Back home, his hungry son was happy to see a fried chicken wing and a piece of cake. Kumar's wife took a knife to cut the food into three portions so each of them could have something to eat. The knife struck something hard as she tried to cut the cake. When she removed the hard metal object, she stared at it in disbelief.

"It's a gold coin!" Kumar exclaimed.

"It does not belong to us. The cook must have dropped it while making the dough for the cake," said his wife. Kumar agreed and so, early next morning, Kumar rushed to the factory. He saw Raju busy supervising some workers, and gave him the coin. After a brief explanation that his cook could have lost it, Kumar turned to leave.

"Mr Kumar, please report for work tomorrow at this time. You are the supervisor of my workers," Raju said. Kumar had passed the test that Raju set. Filled with joy, Kumar ran home to tell his family the good news. As for Raju, he was pleased that he had found a trustworthy man to be the supervisor of his new factory.

Listen to Text 6 again.

Text 7

You will hear a speaker giving a talk to some students.

Before you listen to Text 7, read questions 18 to 20 now.

Listen to Text 7 and answer questions 18 to 20.

Good morning, boys and girls. Thank you, Mdm Kaur, the Head of Department for English, for inviting me to give this health talk. Let me introduce myself. I'm Miss Sofia and this is my assistant, Mr Matthews. We are from the children's education section of the Health Promotion Board.

As you all know, sleep is very important. It is a basic human need, like eating, drinking and breathing. Without sleep, our bodies cannot function well.

Studies have shown that sleep plays a big role in weight control. Sufficient sleep is needed to keep our calorie intake in check. When we do not have enough sleep, the chemicals in our brain tell us to eat more. At the same time, the signals which are sent by chemicals to tell us that we are full after we have eaten a good meal, are not sent. The consequence is that we continue to eat although we are already full.

Listen to Text 7 again.

Answers to Paper 3

1. 2 2. 3 3. 3 4. 1 5. 3
 6. 1 7. 3 8. 1 9. 3 10. 3
 11. 2 12. 1 13. 2 14. 3 15. 2
 16. 1 17. 1 18. 1 19. 1 20. 3

Paper 4 – Answers to pronunciation, word stress, intonation and expression for Reading Aloud and suggested responses for prompts

Reading Aloud

Pronunciation

1. I'm – say the contracted form of I and am
2. said, world – say the ending d sound
3. troupe – say it with the silent e
4. their – say it like there
5. they, there, the – say the th sound
6. diet, but, not, fit – say the ending t sound
7. often – say it with the silent t

Word stress

1. vegetables – put the stress on the third syllable vege**T**ables
2. criteria – put the stress on the second syllable cri**T**eria
3. acceptance – put the stress on the second syllable ac**C**eptance

Intonation and expression

1. Are there any criteria for acceptance into the troupe? – use a rising tone for this question
2. You have to be fifty-five or older – use a falling tone for this statement

Conversation

(a) Yes, I would like to watch these people perform. They are old women who are probably grandmothers and yet they have the passion to dance and perform for others to watch. It is inspiring to see such people who are old doing energetic moves on the dance floor. They must have spent lots of time rehearsing to put up a public performance. They look healthy and fit. They must be very happy to be able to dance like young people on stage. They also look great in their dance costumes. I think we should show our support by watching their performance.

OR

No, I would not like to watch them perform. They are not real cheerleaders but retired old people. Real cheerleaders are trained professionally and can do difficult stunts like headstands and somersaults. I am not sure if these people are fit enough to attempt these acrobatics. It may be dangerous for them and they could hurt themselves trying to attempt such difficult stunts. If they fracture their bones, it will be terrible as they are old and healing will take longer than usual. I cannot imagine my grandmother doing any of these stunts at her age. I can only see her doing very gentle movements like those in a tai-chi class. I think people should be encouraged to do what is suitable for their age.

- (b) Besides dancing and cheerleading, the elderly can take part in many activities. Some of them include cooking demonstrations. Since they are old, they would have a lot of experience cooking in the past when they prepared meals for their families. They can show us how to cook dishes that are well liked by their families. These dishes could be traditional dishes that we cannot easily find in fast food outlets nowadays. Another activity is folk dancing. The music used for folk dance is traditional music and not fast or noisy metal music that is used for cheerleading. Folk dance is graceful and more suitable for them. Folk dance also has a history as it tells about life in the past. It is quite educational to participate in or teach others to do folk dancing.

OR

Besides dancing and cheerleading, the elderly can take part in other activities that do not require them to dance. Some elderly people are lonely when they are alone so it is good for them to go out with other elderly people. They can play chess with others in the community club or play cards with friends in their friends' houses. These activities are good for their minds as they involve mental activities. They can also join computer classes to learn about the internet and basic computer skills. They can learn to email or read blogs written by others. This will make their lives less boring. They can also try to get closer to the younger members of their family when they are computer savvy or computer literate. As they are old, they may need knowledge about how to look after themselves in old age. They can sign up for talks or courses about health and cooking. By keeping themselves busy, they will not feel lonely or bored.

- (c) The elderly can keep fit and healthy by exercising regularly. They can go for brisk walks or jogs with their friends or family members. If they can swim, they can do a few laps each evening. So long as they keep active and do not sit all day, they will not suffer from stiff backs or stiff necks. Going for a leisurely stroll after dinner is also good for them. It is healthier to take a walk than to sit on the sofa to watch television after dinner. My grandmother walks to the market every morning instead of taking the bus since the market is a stone's throw away from her flat. She gets to exercise and also saves time and money. She is hale and healthy because she goes out every day for fresh air and exercise. She does not stay at home all day.

OR

Besides physical activities like dance and mental games like chess, the elderly can keep fit and healthy in many other ways. One way is to ensure that they have proper nutrition. They can cook healthy meals that are not too oily. Instead of eating out, they should cook their own meals. That way, they can control how much salt or seasoning to put in their dishes. Eating out at fast food outlets may be convenient but the food is often deep fried or cooked with lots of artificial flavouring. Also some of the food may be hard and difficult for the elderly to bite, especially if they have dentures. Cooked food centres or hawker food centres may sell soup dishes which seem healthier than fried chicken and burgers at fast food outlets but the soup dishes often have too much salt and seasoning. Even the drinks have too much sugar and are not good for the elderly.

Practice 8

Listening Texts

In this listening test, you will listen to a total of seven texts. Each text will be read twice. Listen carefully to the text that is read to you and answer the questions that follow. Write 1, 2 or 3 in the brackets provided. You may attempt the questions at any time during the test.

The test is about to begin.

Text 1

You will hear a teacher giving a briefing to some students.

Before you listen to Text 1, read questions 1 and 2 now.

Listen to Text 1 and answer questions 1 and 2.

Class, listen carefully to this briefing.

Our school organises a fire drill every year. Here are some important instructions about what you should do during a fire. When you hear the fire alarm, do not panic. Leave your classrooms in an orderly manner. Go past the parade square to the school field. Avoid using the lift near the hall. Instead, use the staircase nearest to our class. Assemble in the field at the places marked out for our class. Class chairperson, please take the attendance quickly and hand in the attendance sheet to me. Take note, you are not to dilly-dally or carry any books, school bags or water bottles to the field. Just bring your wallet since it contains important identification documents like your student pass.

Listen to Text 1 again.

Text 2

You will hear two children talking about what to do during an amazing race.

Before you listen to Text 2, read questions 3 and 4 now.

Listen to Text 2 and answer questions 3 and 4.

- Peter: Gowri, can you help me check the clues? Mr Tan says we must start at the place which helps us tell the time before going to the fence full of plants, right?
- Gowri: Yes, Peter. I think Mr Tan also said we have to take a picture at the first stop before we proceed to the second one.
- Peter: Oh, here we are, at the first stop – The Clock Tower! Quick, take a picture of it!
- Gowri: Done. Where do we go from here?
- Peter: Look! The fence of curly creepers! That's our second stop, right? We have to get a pail from this stop and bring it to our next destination, which is some way after the low bushes. Then, we fill it with water to carry to the fruit orchard. Where is the water?
- Gowri: At the waterfall of course! Let's go there right away! We'd better not waste time stopping at the fruit orchard on the way there, since our pail is empty now.

Listen to Text 2 again.

Text 3

You will hear a conversation between two parents.

Before you listen to Text 3, read questions 5 to 7 now.

Listen to Text 3 and answer questions 5 to 7.

Mr Lee: I hope John will be all right today. He makes careless mistakes when he gets nervous.

Mrs Lee: He looked fine, dear. He even waved at us with a big smile before he went in. He told me he is confident of winning. His English is good, so he can understand the problem sums in order to solve them.

Mr Lee: You are right, he will do well and perhaps win some prizes. What shall we do now, since we have a long wait before the Math Olympiad ends?

Mrs Lee: We could read in the canteen, I suppose. The library is closed, so there's no point heading there. Besides, the representative from the Ministry of Education says that parents are not allowed to watch the contest in progress or take videos and pictures of the contestants.

Mr Lee: Yes, let's go to the canteen. By the way, if John wins, we will need to accompany him to the finals at the secondary section of the school, right?

Mrs Lee: Oh, that is just behind the canteen block of the primary section, so we should have no problems looking for it when the time comes.

Listen to Text 3 again.

Text 4

You will hear a radio host interview a special guest.

Before you listen to Text 4, read questions 8 to 10 now.

Listen to Text 4 and answer questions 8 to 10.

Host: Good morning Miss Jean Chan, and welcome to our show.

Guest: Thank you, David, for inviting me to be on your show about active seniors. Good morning, listeners, I am Jean Chan and I am eighty-three years old this year.

Host: Wow, eighty-three and still teaching dance four times a week at the girls' school. How do you do it?

Guest: Well, I've taught more girls than I can count since I started in 1950. It's my passion, you know – dancing. It makes me happy to dance and I want to share that happiness with the girls who want to learn ballet. Back then, only rich girls could have lessons in ballet, because they did cost quite a bit in the past. Poor children did not get a chance to enjoy this beautiful art form.

Host: I also heard that your passion impressed the school principal so much that she created a new post called dance consultant so that you would not have to leave the school even after you retired from your teaching job.

Guest: I teach dance, even though the name of my position suggests something else. I don't sit in an office. I work with girls in a dance studio.

Host: In the early days, people did not hold dance in high regard. Parents did not let their daughters learn dance and said only dizzy girls did it. How did you make them change their mind?

Guest: Simple. When the ballerinas had tests and examinations, we made sure they were studying hard and achieving good scores, which they did, so their parents could not object anymore. Your daughter is smart, and a smart girl does dance, I tell their parents.

Listen to Text 4 again.

Text 5

You will hear two students having a telephone conversation.

Before you listen to Text 5, read questions 11 to 13 now.

Listen to Text 5 and answer questions 11 to 13.

Alex: Hello Susan, are you going for the class gathering this Sunday?

Susan: Yes, of course, I wouldn't miss it for the world. It's the end of the term and we finally get to unwind. Most important of all, it's the last time we're going to see Mr Davis before he migrates to Hong Kong. I have prepared a present for him. How about you, Alex?

Alex: Yes, I am attending the party and I have prepared a special present for Mr Davis too. But, I forgot where the party will be held. Is it in school or elsewhere?

Susan: You've called the right person. I booked the function room in the community hall. It is right across our school, past the library building. The room is bare, so we need to go early to decorate it. Can you come to help?

Alex: Sure, see you there at three o'clock?

Susan: That's a bit too late. Can you come earlier? There's lots to prepare before everyone arrives.

Listen to Text 5 again.

Text 6

In this story, two strangers become friends in a hospital room.

Before you listen to Text 6, read questions 14 to 17 now.

Listen to Text 6 and answer questions 14 to 17.

"Could you describe what you see today, Mark?" asked Johnny who occupied the bed next to Mark in the ward.

"Well, it's a sunny day and some patients are sitting on wheelchairs around the koi fish pond. They are chit-chatting with their relatives and admiring the colourful fish," said Mark.

Johnny had been alone in the ward for a few days until Mark joined him. They became friends in the two-bed hospital room. The friendly and kind-hearted Mark would talk to Johnny every morning as soon as they both woke up. Johnny was grateful to Mark for his company. Mark also gave vivid descriptions of varying scenes, sometimes of children chasing after dogs that were playful, sometimes of birds flying over the trees and hills in the distance. Johnny felt positive because he could imagine how beautiful the world was and looked forward to his operation to replace the cornea in his eyes.

When the day of the operation arrived, Mark wished Johnny a speedy recovery after his eye surgery. Mark's eyesight had recovered but he had suffered a mild heart attack the night before and would be moved to a different ward that day. The two men bade each other farewell.

After few days after his surgery, Johnny asked the nurse to let him switch beds. The puzzled nurse wondered why he wanted to take the bed away from the door but she obliged anyway. As soon as Johnny opened his eyes, he looked around his bed and the wall. Where was the window from which Mark saw the various scenes? Johnny was surprised to see that there was only a blank wall next to Mark's old bed!

Listen to Text 6 again.

Text 7

You will hear an extract from a news broadcast.

Before you listen to Text 7, read questions 18 to 20 now.

Listen to Text 7 and answer questions 18 to 20.

Good morning, welcome to Fast Food World. We bring you the latest developments in the field of fast food. I hope you are happy to hear that fast food is fast becoming healthy.

First, there are salads and greens in every meal, whether it is a burger or a pizza. Second, there is the option of a meatless burger. Yes, you heard me correctly. The fast food outlet MacHarry's is launching its meatless patty this week. It is called the MacPlant Burger. What's more, the meal comes with a fruit salad and juice. Its competitor outlet, Burger Prince, is following suit with an all vegeburger made with whole grain soon! How much healthier can you get?

Listen to Text 7 again.

Answers to Paper 3

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. 1 | 2. 2 | 3. 2 | 4. 2 | 5. 2 |
| 6. 3 | 7. 2 | 8. 1 | 9. 3 | 10. 2 |
| 11. 2 | 12. 3 | 13. 1 | 14. 1 | 15. 3 |
| 16. 2 | 17. 3 | 18. 2 | 19. 3 | 20. 1 |

Paper 4 – Answers to pronunciation, word stress, intonation and expression for Reading Aloud and suggested responses for prompts

Reading Aloud

Pronunciation

1. student, at, art, let, without – say the ending t sound
2. work, Bedok – say the ending k sound
3. the, they, there, thanks, these, them, toothless, that – say the th sound
4. their – say it like there
5. forward, tread, world – say the ending d sound
6. miss it – link the words by saying mis – sit

Word stress

1. university – put the stress on the third syllable uni**VER**sity
2. voluntary – put the stress on the first syllable **VO**luntary
3. experiment – put the stress on the second syllable ex**PER**iment

Intonation and expression

1. Thanks for these – use a falling tone to express appreciation
2. Now she would not miss it for the world! – use a falling tone to express enthusiasm

Conversation

- (a) Yes, I would like to have painted nails like these. They are beautiful and attractive. They make my hands look great. The designs look very cute and unique with patterns or flowers. It must be difficult to draw a pattern or flower on a nail, so the person who paints the nail must be very skilled. She must have steady hands to be able to draw the pattern or flower well. The nail is not a flat piece of paper and the brush is not a pencil, so it is not easy to paint the nail so well. I think the person who paints the nail is an artist.

OR

No, I would not like to have painted nails like these. I am a boy and boys do not paint their nails. They are not suitable for us. They may suit girls who want to look beautiful but if girls have painted nails, they cannot do some household chores properly. If they wash cups or plates, the dirt may get stuck under the long nails or as part of the design of the nail. Bacteria can grow there and will make the nail unclean. It is better not to paint the nails to prevent these problems. Nails should be kept short and clean so that they do not affect what we do.

- (b) Some people like to paint their nails to look beautiful. Some paint their nails because their nails are too soft and need to be stronger with a coat of nail paint or nail polish. However, children should not paint their nails because they are young and do not need to be concerned about looking beautiful or attractive. They should be playing freely instead of worrying that their pretty nails will get damaged in a game. They should not be vain and obsessed with beauty. Besides, nail polish is not cheap and school children should not be wasting their pocket money to buy it. Nail polish is made of chemicals and these are not healthy to be put on the nails for a long time.

OR

Some people like to paint their nails because it is fashionable. The Japanese girls enjoy nail art and even know how to buy nail polish and accessories from shops to paint their own nails. Some are so talented that they even draw designs on their nails. Nail art is also popular in other countries like Korea. It is popular among ladies as well as school children. Of course, during the school term, the school children do not paint their nails. They do that during the school holidays when they have the time to do so. Some schools have rules that do not allow girls to paint their nails or wear make-up when in school, so these children have no choice but to wait until the school holidays to do their pedicure and manicure.

- (c) No, children should not go to school with coloured hair and jewellery. Imagine a classroom with students with hair of different colours. The students will comment on one another's hair and be distracted from the lessons because they are paying attention to the colours of the hair of their classmates. If girls wear jewellery like necklaces, earring or bracelets, they may lose them or their jewellery may get stolen. This means a lot of problems looking for the lost or stolen items and time will be taken away from lessons to solve these problems. It is better to leave valuables at home where they are safe from thieves. Going to school is about learning, not about parading hair colour or beautiful accessories.

OR

Yes, children can go to school with coloured hair and jewellery. There is nothing wrong with coloured hair or jewellery. It can express a student's personality or creativity. It makes the student stand out from others instead of looking like any Tom, Dick or Harry in school. However, children who colour their hair may be vain and pay too much attention to their hair and looks and do not pay attention to their studies. Those who go to school wearing jewellery may be vain and want to show off their items like necklaces, earrings or bracelets. They think doing so will make them popular. This will make others jealous of them though some students may like them because of their jewellery. They may befriend these people because of their beautiful jewellery. These friends may be attracted to their wealth and not be true friends at all.

Practice 9

Listening Texts

In this listening test, you will listen to a total of seven texts. Each text will be read twice. Listen carefully to the text that is read to you and answer the questions that follow. Write 1, 2 or 3 in the brackets provided. You may attempt the questions at any time during the test.

The test is about to begin.

Text 1

You will hear a teacher giving instructions to some students.

Before you listen to Text 1, read questions 1 and 2 now.

Listen to Text 1 and answer questions 1 and 2.

Since we have a large number of prize-winners in our class, I will brief all of you now. The class representative I have selected is John Tay. He will attend the ceremony, representing our class. You will receive a form to fill in some details. This is the same form that prize-winners will get. However, prize-winners are entitled to bring their parents to the ceremony. Please tick the correct box in the form to indicate if both your parents will be present or if only one of them will be coming. Dorothy, for example, has told me that both her father and mother can attend the ceremony, so she will tick the second box below. For John, accompanying guests are not applicable to you, so please make sure you do not tick the boxes for parents, just tick the Not Applicable box. Is that clear to everyone? Feel free to check with me later after you have asked your parents about their availability.

Class representatives will report to the canteen on that day, where they will later be briefed again by the teacher in charge about their role. Prize-winners from the various classes will be ushered to the hall as soon as they arrive, to be briefed separately about their line-up. Do not be late that day or the flow will be messed up and the ceremony will not run smoothly.

Listen to Text 1 again.

Text 2

You will hear a prefect brief some students about an orientation tour.

Before you listen to Text 2, read questions 3 and 4 now.

Listen to Text 2 and answer questions 3 and 4.

The Primary 1 orientation will start in a while. Remember your group number because you have to stand in front of your group and lead the members on the tour of our school.

Groups 1 and 2 will proceed to the computer room where the students will log in and wait for their cards to be printed. Tell them that this is an important card and that they must not lose it. It is their cashless payment card. They can use it to pay library fines and to buy food from our canteen. Once every member has received the card, go to the library to test it and give a quick tour of the different sections in the library. Go to the staff room to show them where they should look for their teachers if they need to. Then, take them to the canteen again to test their card at a drink stall or the snack stall.

Groups 3 and 4 will take a slightly different route to avoid congestion in some stops. Please go straight to the library, then the staff room and the canteen before going to the computer room where your members will also log in and receive their cashless payment cards.

The route for groups 5 and 6 starts at the canteen, before the second stop which is the computer room where again the cards will be issued after they log in. After that, go to the library and the staff room.

Although all the groups have different starting points, the final destination is the same – we will all meet in the hall where the students will participate in a mass dance.

Listen to Text 2 again.

Text 3

You will hear an announcement about a lost child.

Before you listen to Text 3, read questions 5 to 7 now.

Listen to Text 3 and answer questions 5 to 7.

Will the grandparents or parents of a lost child report to the customer information counter, please? The lost child is crying inconsolably and asking for his Grandma. The boy looks like he could be three to four years old. He has short hair with curls on the forehead. He is wearing a collared shirt with a huge print of a sailboat on the front. He was found in tears at one section of the supermarket where he must have been separated from his family. He is hugging a shopping bag containing some stuffed toys. We found a similar shopping bag at one of the toilets on the same floor as the supermarket, so we think his family could still be in the mall. Please come to the customer information counter if you are the parents or grandparents of this boy.

Listen to Text 3 again.

Text 4

You will hear a speaker introduce an unusual concert.

Before you listen to Text 4, read questions 8 to 10 now.

Listen to Text 4 and answer questions 8 to 10.

Welcome to our concert. In this rare performance, we will be entertained by a special group of people. They are disabled but musically talented. They do not let their disability define who they can be. That is why the concert is called Undefeatable. You cannot let any disability defeat you. Whether it is blindness or immobility, you can strive to be successful.

Our first performance is a dazzling violin piece performed by Su Ann, a visually impaired violinist. Up next is David Lai, who needs no introduction because his vocals earned him first place in last year's Talent Time, where he competed against many strong singers and emerged victorious, despite his visual impairment.

Listen to Text 4 again.

Text 5

You will hear a story about a boy who loves cartoons.

Before you listen to Text 5, read questions 11 to 13 now.

Listen to Text 5 and answer questions 11 to 13.

Jack was very fond of cartoons. He loved to watch Tom and Jerry on television. He even got his parents to buy collectible merchandise like cups and T-shirts that had pictures of Tom the cat chasing Jerry the mouse. One day, Jack persuaded his parents to buy him a pet mouse, thinking it would be as cute as the Jerry character in his favourite cartoon.

His father, Mr Davies, patiently explained that Jack already owned a cat. He was concerned that the fierce and territorial Furry would not accept the newcomer. They might not get along and cause problems for Jack. If Furry ate up the mouse, Jack would be devastated and cry for days, particularly since he likes the new pet very much, Mr Davies concluded.

Jack thought over what his father said and asked, "Why don't we get a mouse that I don't like very much?"

Listen to Text 5 again.

Text 6

In this story, a lady takes her aged father out for dinner.

Before you listen to Text 6, read questions 14 to 17 now.

Listen to Text 6 and answer questions 14 to 17.

"My name is Rhoda. Stop calling me Ah Heng," said the lady clad in a neatly pressed business suit. She had told her father that countless times but the old man loved to call her Ah Heng endearingly.

The lady gripped the steering wheel before her feet pressed on the accelerator pedal. She took a quick look at her passenger and was happy that he had put on his seatbelt, something she also had to remind him of many times.

Halfway through the journey to a fanciful restaurant for their monthly dinner, the phone rang. Rhoda picked it up after pulling up at the side of a small road. "Yes, this is Rhoda speaking..."

The old man beamed with pride, hearing his only child speak so confidently in a foreign tongue. He just never understood why she wanted everyone to call her Rhoda, when her real name was Ah Heng. This happened after she returned from her studies in England. She was successful, driving a prestigious car model and living in her luxurious apartment. It was a far cry from the little bare room they had in their dilapidated hut when she was growing up.

She never failed to take him out for a good meal every month, despite her busy schedule. The old man smiled toothlessly as she continued her conversation on the phone. In his old age, he was happy to have her company, even if it was once every thirty days. He knew that should he be terminally ill, she would have a heavy burden on her shoulders, so he took great care of his health. He avoided alcohol and did not smoke.

Listen to Text 6 again.

Text 7

You will hear an extract from a news broadcast.

Before you listen to Text 7, read questions 18 to 20 now.

Listen to Text 7 and answer questions 18 to 20.

Do you like sweet drinks? Well, you will have to pay more for your sweet thirst quencher soon. In some countries like England and Germany, the more sugar a drink contains, the costlier it will be. Other countries like Singapore and Hong Kong are closely watching what happens in England and Germany and will probably follow suit.

Because sugar is unhealthy when taken in large amounts, the English and German government officials have decided to make factories that produce sweet drinks rethink the amount of sugar they add to their products. The factories now have to pay the government tax or money when they add more sugar in their drinks. The results? According to a report, some people are not getting any healthier because they are not changing their habits. They still buy sweetened drinks. Their poorer cousins who can only afford cheaper ones, with a reduced content, are reaping the health benefits instead.

The next time you reach out to grab a carton of drinks from the supermarket shelf, think again. Is the sugar content reduced or increased? And remember to check the prices too!

Listen to Text 7 again.

Answers to Paper 3

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. 2 | 2. 1 | 3. 2 | 4. 1 | 5. 2 |
| 6. 3 | 7. 1 | 8. 3 | 9. 1 | 10. 2 |
| 11. 2 | 12. 3 | 13. 1 | 14. 2 | 15. 1 |
| 16. 2 | 17. 1 | 18. 1 | 19. 3 | 20. 2 |

Paper 4 – Answers to pronunciation, word stress, intonation and expression for Reading Aloud and suggested responses for prompts

Reading Aloud

Pronunciation

- the, thought, birthday, they, this – say the th sound
- must, test, quiet, late, night, what – say the ending t sound
- exchanged, hard, held, heard, tried, turned – say the ending d sound
- often – say it with the silent t
- told, would – say the ending d sound
- frowned – say the fr sound

Word stress

- repetitive – put the stress on the second syllable re**PE**titive
- concentrate – put the stress on the first syllable **CON**centrate
- apologise – put the stress on the second syllable a**PO**logise

Intonation and expression

1. Must be the Lims again – use a falling tone for this statement
2. Happy birthday to you! – use a rising tone to express excitement
3. ...we can do what we like! – use a falling tone to express rudeness

Conversation

(a) Yes, I watch television sometimes. I enjoy the programmes on Sunday morning. My parents allow me to watch the kids' channel which has suitable television shows for children of my age. We do not subscribe to cable TV because my parents do not approve of watching too much television. There are enough interesting shows on the children's channel. I love the local series of detective shows where children find clues to solve mysteries that baffle even the adults. Each episode ends with a kind of cliffhanger, making you want to watch the next episode. I guess I must be hooked!

OR

Yes, I listen to the radio sometimes. When my mother picks me up from school, the car radio is switched on. She listens to the traffic report so that she can avoid congested roads. I get to listen to the programmes that are aired after the traffic report. They include Body and Soul which my mother loves to listen to because the programme gives a lot of advice about good health and tips for keeping fit and healthy. Sometimes there are songs and music on the radio too. The songs are popular songs that other listeners requested the radio DJ to play for them. There are also messages of well wishes or birthday greetings that come with the song requests.

(b) When someone turns on the television at a high volume, it can be annoying because the noise level becomes too high. It disturbs me when I am doing my homework. This happens when my brother watches his favourite cartoons in the living room. I can hear parts of the show, especially the loud music and sound effects from my room. It distracts me from my studying and I have to come out of my room to remind him to keep it down. However, he says if it is too soft, it is not exciting to watch. We end up quarrelling because of it. I wish he could have earphones when watching television. Someone should invent television sets that come with earphones.

OR

When someone at home turns on the television loudly, I would tell him or her that it is too noisy and that I want to study for my test or exam. Usually, it is my brother who is watching a football match. He will pretend that he is engrossed in the match and not pay attention to what I say, so I will walk up to him and scream. Then he will tone it down a little. I think it is difficult to concentrate when there is a lot of cheering or noise from spectators. Even the commentary can be distracting for me. I have to report it to my mother or father when it happens repetitively because I have to stop my revision to get my brother to turn the volume down. I think we should be more considerate and not annoy others when we are enjoying a programme on television.

(c) Family members can show consideration to one another by making sure that the computer or television is not blaring at a high volume that will distract them from what they are doing. For example, if my brother is studying for a test, I would use my earphones when I watch a video or listen to my favourite song. When I have a test, he will not watch television at all, which means he is very considerate and thoughtful. My parents say the television is for everyone's viewing pleasure but we have to make sure it does not become someone's displeasure. I think this makes sense because the television is right in the middle of the living room where all of us sit usually after dinner to do our homework. My father has a spare television set in his study so he watches the news there in order not to distract us from our revision or homework. When the tutor comes, we switch off the television. The tutor remarked that it was very peaceful in our house. This is because we show consideration towards one another in our house.

OR

Family members can be more considerate by not switching on their devices at a high volume – such as the television, radio and mobile phone. They can also be annoying to someone who is trying to do something that requires a lot of concentration, like homework or revision for a test. The environment belongs to everyone so we should try our best to keep the peace and quiet in the neighbourhood. After ten o'clock at night, we should not have sing-along sessions or karaoke using the microphone as it will be noisy and annoying to our neighbours. If they have a baby who is sleeping, such noise may wake the baby up and the baby may cry due to disrupted sleep. The neighbours will have to try to rock the baby to sleep again, which might not be easy as the baby has been roused from sleep. I guess we can have birthday celebrations provided the music and party games do not upset the peace and quiet in the neighbourhood too much.

Practice 10

Listening Texts

In this listening test, you will listen to a total of seven texts. Each text will be read twice. Listen carefully to the text that is read to you and answer the questions that follow. Write 1, 2 or 3 in the brackets provided. You may attempt the questions at any time during the test.

The test is about to begin.

Text 1

You will hear a new student talking to some prefects.

Before you listen to Text 1, read questions 1 and 2 now.

Listen to Text 1 and answer questions 1 and 2.

Kusu has just joined a new school. As part of his orientation, the prefects in his class, Lucy and Charles, were showing him around. Their first stop was the canteen as Kusu wanted to know if they sell Japanese food during recess. After a quick tour of the canteen, they went to the indoor sports hall.

"Do we have P. E. lessons in this hall when it rains?" asked Kusu.

"Yes, but we also use this hall for games and sports during wet weather. We use the indoor swimming pool during wet weather too. On fine days, we use the one outdoors," said Lucy.

"There are two swimming pools?" Kusu's eyes widened.

"Yes, our school is a sports school, so we have our own Olympic-sized swimming pools. We also have many other facilities. Let us take you to the dance studio and gym later. We have the latest fitness and training equipment in the gym. You will love it!" said Charles.

Listen to Text 1 again.

Text 2

You will hear two children discussing their trip to the supermarket.

Before you listen to Text 2, read questions 3 and 4 now.

Listen to Text 2 and answer questions 3 and 4.

Mary: Let's go. We have quite a lot of things to buy at the supermarket and we do not have the luxury of time, Peter.

Peter: Yes, sis. But did you bring the shopping list?

Mary: Here it is. We have to get chicken wings to fry, two loaves of bread, some cheddar cheese, a packet of milk and two punnets of strawberries.

Peter: Shall we get the chicken wings last? We don't have ice to keep it chilled until we get home.

Mary: You're right, Peter, we will get the cheese first, then choose the wholemeal bread that Mum and Dad love, before getting the strawberries.

Peter: Don't forget the milk.

Mary: Oh no, I forget to write down the brand of milk in my shopping list. Looks like we'll have to give the milk a miss this time, and come back later, since I can't remember the brand of milk they prefer.

Listen to Text 2 again.

Text 3

You will hear a conversation between two students.

Before you listen to Text 3, read questions 5 to 7 now.

Listen to Text 3 and answer questions 5 to 7.

Ollie: What are we supposed to do tomorrow, Chee?

Chee: Well, we have to brief the student volunteers about their roles for various activities, like the learning journey to the zoo and the parents' support group meeting.

Ollie: There are many volunteers this time. Even Jenny, my best friend, is helping out. She told me she wants to be the usher for the parents' support group meeting.

Chee: Good, we need lots of ushers because many parents are coming too. There are coupons to give out as well, because our principal has asked the canteen vendors to cook on that day. Parents involved will receive food and drink coupons!

Ollie: Wow, Jenny can pick up two then, since both her Mum and Dad are coming.

Chee: Ollie, are you in charge of the learning journeys? Besides the zoo trip this week, what other places have you arranged for future learning journeys? You need to confirm that and announce it during the briefing.

Ollie: Oh dear, I've contacted the bird park as well as the Science Centre, but I've not received any confirmation yet.

Chee: The Science Centre? Isn't it closed for renovation until next year? My parents wanted to take me there last week but when we checked for tickets on the website, there was a notice about its closure.

Ollie: Oh, that means I don't have to bother calling the Science Centre again. Thanks for letting me know, Chee.

Listen to Text 3 again.

Text 4

You will hear about a new service in the neighbourhood.

Before you listen to Text 4, read questions 8 to 10 now.

Listen to Text 4 and answer questions 8 to 10.

Welcome to Neighbourhood Watch. Today, we are happy to tell you about the latest developments in the supermarket business. Seng Tat Supermarket is starting its mobile supermarket in Jurong this weekend. The Supermarket on Wheels is not a new idea, since the library started its Books on Wheels programme last week. Before that, Jurong residents enjoyed a special Bento Lunch on Wheels. Seems that mobile businesses are sprouting everywhere, so people do not have to go far to get what they need. What they need comes to them, like in the supermarket example.

Nora is very happy to learn about it. As a senior, she cannot buy much when she goes to the supermarket, which is a distance away. With the mobile truck parked at the foot of her block, she can get her heavy groceries like oil and rice up to her flat in minutes. She is looking forward to this new service when it commences.

Five Seng Tat Supermarket trucks can hold 200 products each and serve five customers at a time. There may be a queue but the nearness to home makes it a draw, for sure!

Listen to Text 4 again.

Text 5

This is an extract from a radio advertisement.

Before you listen to Text 5, read questions 11 to 13 now.

Listen to Text 5 and answer questions 11 to 13.

Calling all boys and girls who are going to be on holiday soon. Fancy working in a television studio? You will get the chance to watch your idols as they rehearse and film scenes.

To apply, just pick up a form from the television station or go online to the official website for a printable form. All applications must reach the television station by the 15th of November. No auditions are needed, just a willingness to take instructions from the director. You may be an extra on a film set such as a passenger on a bus, a pedestrian on the road, or a customer in a restaurant. It's fun, and what's more, you get an allowance for your work. What are you waiting for? Apply now!

Listen to Text 5 again.

Text 6

This story may sound incredible but it is true.

Before you listen to Text 6, read questions 14 to 17 now.

Listen to Text 6 and answer questions 14 to 17.

Kevin lived in a block of flats near a factory. One day, when he was walking home, he heard someone scream. It was an old woman who had tripped and fallen over some loose bricks on the pavement. Seeing that she could not stand up, Kevin called for an ambulance. At the hospital, Kevin found out that she had seriously injured her hip and needed surgery. Kevin assured her that she would get well since she repeatedly said that she wanted to go home rather than undergo the hip surgery. It turned out that Madam Song had three orphaned grandchildren to look after. If she was not home with them, they would starve. Compassionate Kevin promised to get food for her children until she was discharged. That evening, Kevin bought three packets of chicken rice to take to the children. He found the place in total darkness when he knocked on the front door. A little girl opened it to reveal that it was a one-room flat.

"Are the light switches working properly? Please switch on the light so you can see while you eat," Kevin said. He found out that the electricity had been cut off since the utility bill was not paid. Explaining what had happened to their grandmother, Kevin told the children that he would be ordering food for them, which would be delivered at breakfast, lunch and dinner time.

"Thank you, Uncle Kevin," the children said.

The next morning, Kevin took leave from work to make payment for their outstanding utility bill so that power could be restored. When he visited them a few days later, they were happily watching television while eating their dinner. Kevin joined them and told them the good news. Their grandmother's surgery went well. She should be discharged after a few weeks of therapy.

Listen to Text 6 again.

Text 7

You will hear an announcement before a contest.

Before you listen to Text 7, read questions 18 to 20 now.

Listen to Text 7 and answer questions 18 to 20.

Good morning, contestants. Please make sure that you are seated in the correct place. Check the seating plan if you are not sure.

There are some important things you need to take note of. First, you cannot have notes with you during the contest. Do remove any notes you may have left behind in your pencil box now and put them in your bag. Also remove any leftover writing paper from your desks if you see any. They could have been left by students doing their compositions yesterday.

You may use a calculator, provided that the model is a model in the approved list of calculators. No dictionaries, electronic or otherwise, may be used. You may put your bags in front or at the back of the hall.

Please switch on your own computer now. Wait for further instructions on how to start the contest. It will last for thirty minutes and automatically switch itself off. If you finish before that, please wait for the rest of the contestants as you are not allowed to leave.

The results of the contest will be shown on your screen ten minutes after you have finished the contest, so you should wait for instructions after you have finished. Do not shut down the computer prematurely. While waiting, you may not talk with other contestants.

Listen to Text 7 again.

Answers to Paper 3

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. 2 | 2. 3 | 3. 1 | 4. 1 | 5. 1 |
| 6. 1 | 7. 3 | 8. 2 | 9. 1 | 10. 2 |
| 11. 1 | 12. 2 | 13. 1 | 14. 2 | 15. 2 |
| 16. 1 | 17. 3 | 18. 1 | 19. 3 | 20. 3 |

Paper 4 – Answers to pronunciation, word stress, intonation and expression for Reading Aloud and suggested responses for prompts

Reading Aloud

Pronunciation

1. Last, amusement, lot, eat, not – say the ending t sound
2. park – say the ending k sound
3. father, there, the, although, throw – say the th sound
4. disliked, parked, asked – say the kt sound
5. congested – say the ted sound
6. found, ride, food, served – say the ending d sound
7. I'm – say the contracted form of I and am
8. gobbled it – link the words by saying gobble – dit

Word stress

1. amusement – put the stress on the second syllable a**MUSE**ment
2. reluctantly – put the stress on the second syllable re**LUC**tantly
3. restaurant – put the stress on the first syllable **RES**taurant
4. souvenirs – put the stress on the third syllable souve**NIRS**

Intonation and expression

1. I'm so hungry! – use a rising tone to express hunger
2. Can we eat first? – use a rising tone for this question

Conversation

(a) I would like to go cycling with my family because I enjoy the fresh air outdoors. I think my family members will also enjoy cycling because it is a fun activity. I can cycle on my own, and so can my parents. My younger sister may need a bicycle with training wheels as she is not able to cycle independently. She cannot balance very well and gets very nervous when she turns a corner. I usually accompany her and do not let her feel scared. When she sees me at her side on my own bicycle, she feels more assured and does not panic unnecessarily.

OR

I would like to go kite-flying with my family because I love kites. I think it will be fun to fly a kite in the sky. My father taught me to fly a kite when I was young. I miss those days when we went kite-flying near the beach. Nowadays, I have lots of homework and even the weekends are full of activities like enrichment and piano practice, so we hardly get to go to the beach. My kite is now in cold storage and is too dusty to use. I doubt it can still fly, so I probably will ask my father to get me a new kite with a new design like a Pokemon character.

(b) Yes, my family and I have gone on a family outing before. We usually go out to shop and eat together. This outing is usually during the weekends, on a Saturday or Sunday. If it is on Saturday, it is after my ballet class. My parents will take my brother and I out for lunch. My mother does not cook on Saturdays, as she wants to take a break. After lunch, we get to go to the bookstore together. Here, I will look for books that I like and ask my parents to buy them. Once, I picked a basket of books and brought the basket to the cashier's counter but my parents decided that there were too many for me to read, so they returned half the number of the books in my shopping basket. I was a little disappointed but I told myself to quickly finish reading those that I bought, so that I could buy more books the next week.

OR

Yes, my family and I have gone on outings before. We went to the bird park on my birthday. I chose this place because I wanted to watch the famous bird show that was held in the bird park. My parents bought tickets for us. As it was my birthday, admission was free for me. I was also given a special badge to wear that identified me as a birthday girl. The tourists on the tram also sang a birthday song for me. I was given a VIP seat in the first tram. I felt very special during this outing. When it was time for the bird show, my family and I were given front row seats. We enjoyed ourselves very much. My parents said I made a great choice when I told them we should go to the bird park on my birthday. My brother planned to go to the night safari when it was his turn to celebrate his birthday.

- (c) Besides, going on outings, family members can do things together to grow closer to one another. They can attend lessons on the use of computers or pick up a new hobby like pottery or kite-flying. Some friends I know sign up for language lessons like Korean or Japanese lessons because their families plan to go for a holiday in Korea or Japan. I think it is a great idea because attending lessons together will allow families to spend time together. It is good for bonding and getting to know each other better. Doing house projects like painting a room or starting a garden are other examples of suitable activities that family members can engage in. For example, when we moved into our new flat, my parents bought paint and we had to paint all the walls of our bedrooms. First, all of us helped to paint my parents' bedroom. The next day, they helped us to paint our own bedrooms. It was fun!

OR

Besides going for outings, family members can do things together at home, for example, they can decorate a room together, cook together, do spring cleaning together. They can plan a special meal and cook it together. For example, for Mother's Day, my father, brother and I prepared a special feast for my mother. She was very curious and kept barging into the kitchen to see what was brewing in there. My father made sure that we did not handle the knife as it would be dangerous. Being novice chefs, we watched him chop the onions and garlic. We also could not do much frying as the hot oil would splatter and burn our exposed skins. Our father made us put on aprons so as not to soil our clothes. We were busy in the kitchen and told our mother to wait for her Mother's Day treat. It was fun being secretive and creating a meal for her to show our appreciation. She was touched, to say the least, and ate every morsel that we dished on her plate. We were not excellent cooks but with our father's guidance, we managed to prepare a decent meal.