

Class	Index Number	Name
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BUKIT MERAH SECONDARY SCHOOL



PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2021 SECONDARY 4 EXPRESS / 5 NORMAL (ACADEMIC)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 2 Comprehension
2021

1128/02

26 August

1 hour 50 minutes

Candidates answer in the Question Booklet.

Additional Materials: Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, class and index number in the spaces provided on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue, correction fluid or correction tape.

Answer **all** questions.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in the Question Booklet.

The Insert contains the texts for all the sections.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

For Examiner's Use	
Section A	/5
Section B	/20
Section C	/10
Summary	/15
Total	/50

Section A [5 marks]

Text 1

Refer to the webpage (Text 1) on page 2 of the Insert for Questions 1-4.

- 1** Refer to the section **Our Location**. Identify **one** feature of the location that will appeal to potential participants in the art courses or workshops and explain why.

.....
 [1]

- 2** Look at the four photographs below the section **ART COURSES**. What do they tell us about the art courses that are available at the Visual Arts Centre?

.....
 [1]

- 3 (a)** Refer to the section **ART WORKSHOPS**. What does the word 'signature' tell us about the art workshops offered at the Visual Arts Centre?

..... [1]

- (b)** Pick out **two words** in this section that tells us that workshops can be specially designed for participants at their request.

..... [1]

- 4** Besides attending art courses and workshops, give **one** other reason why people might also want to visit the Visual Arts Centre?

.....
 [1]

Section B [20 marks]**Text 2**

Refer to Text 2 on pages 3-4 of the Insert for Questions 5-13.

- 5** At the beginning of the text, the writer lands in Bombay amidst poor weather. Explain how the language used in Paragraph 1 emphasises the wet weather conditions.

Support your ideas with **three** details from Paragraph 1.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [3]

- 6 (a)** What does the 'inevitable task' (line 13) refer to?

..... [1]

- (b)** What was the passengers' response to this task?

..... [1]

[Turn Over

- 7 With reference to the italicised words, explain what is unusual about the writer's description of the taxi-driver and the taxi in Paragraph 3.

(i) 'These *courtesies* were not as astonishing as the car's interior.' (line 20)

.....
 [1]

(ii) 'a tiny world of *order and tranquility*' (line 21)

.....
 [1]

- 8 In Paragraph 4, what **two** conditions of the car might have caused the writer to be uncomfortable?

.....

 [2]

- 9 'Cautiously he joined the traffic hurtling into town, the vehicles all semi-obsured by spray and travelling like powerboats.' (lines 36-37)

Identify the word(s) or phrase in the given sentence that suggests

(i) reckless driving [1]

(ii) poor visibility [1]

- 10 'Desperate to regain control of the vehicle, the driver, his thin shoulders hunched, jaw muscles working, gripped the wheel like the reins of a runaway horse.' (lines 41-42)

How does the writer emphasise the desperation of driver in the given sentence?

.....
 [1]

- 11 (a) In Paragraph 6, what reason does the writer give for their successful crossing of the first puddle (lines 45-46)?

.....
 [1]

- (b) What happened to the car during the crossing of the next puddle? Answer **in your own words**.

.....
 [2]

- 12 'I had never felt so wet or exposed.' (line 55). Besides standing in a puddle, what had made the writer say this?

.....
 [1]

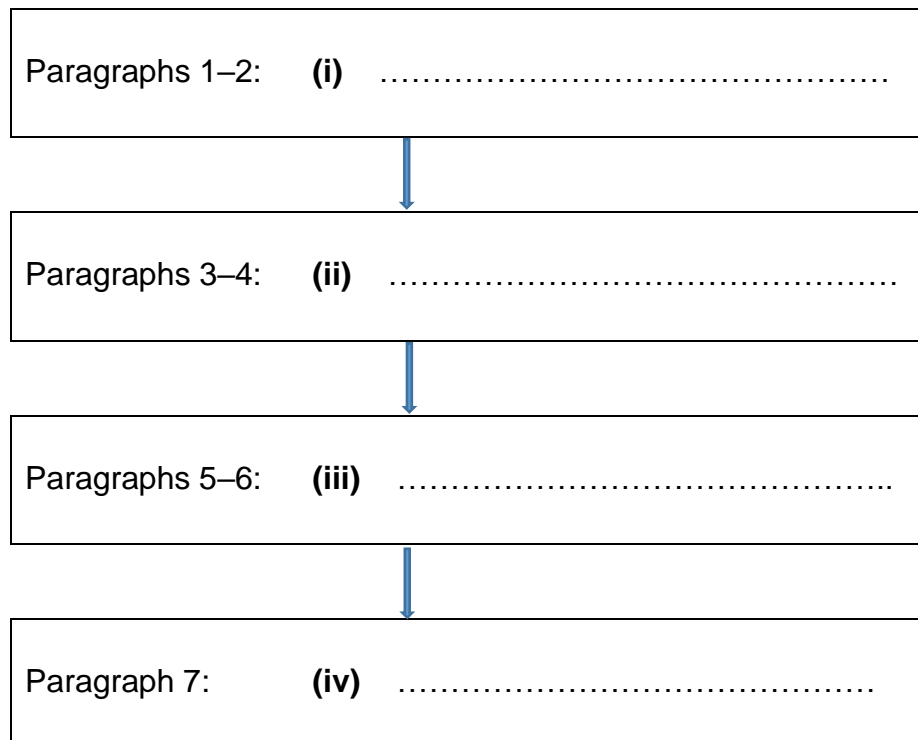
[Turn over

- 13** The structure of the text reflects the writer's feelings as he arrives in Bombay and starts his journey in a taxi. Complete the flowchart by choosing one word from the box to summarise the main feelings at each stage of the text. There are some extra phrases in the box you do not need to use.

The writer's responses

helplessness relief surprise resignation distress excitement apprehension

Flow chart



[4]

Section C [25 marks]

Text 3

Refer to Text 3 on page 5 of the Insert for Questions 14-19.

- 14 Why were bicycles not popular in the 1870s?

..... [1]

- 15 What does the writer mean by when he calls Starley's Rover safety bicycle 'a curiosity' (line 8)?

..... [1]

- 16 (a) 'The result was magic.' (line 10)

What **two** enhancements did Starley make to his earlier design that led to this result? Answer **in your own words**.

.....

 [2]

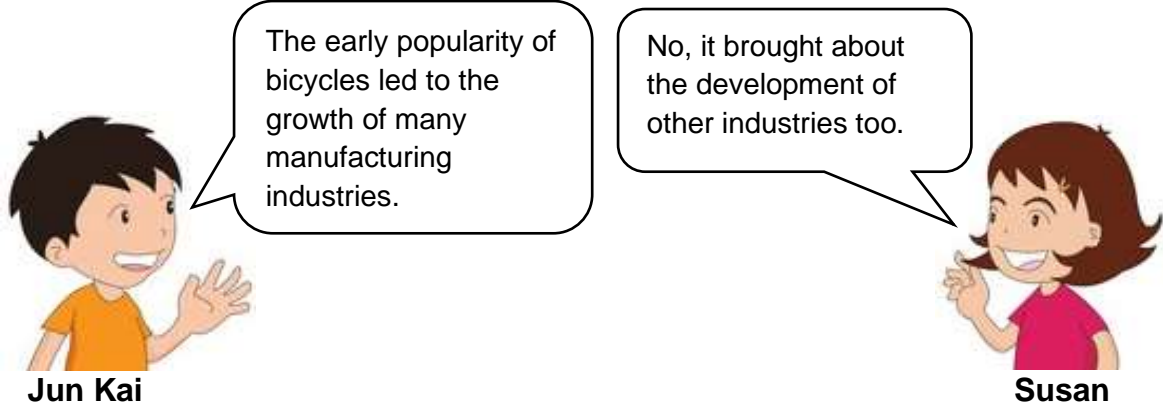
- (b) Identify **two** words or phrases in Paragraph 2 that emphasise the quick response of manufacturers to Starley's new invention?

(i)

(ii) [1]

[Turn over

- 17 Here is part of a conversation between two students, Jun Kai and Susan, who have read the article.



- (a) Identify **two** examples from Paragraph 2 that Jun Kai can give to support his view.

(i)

(ii) [1]

- (b) With reference to Paragraph 2, how would Susan **fully** explain her position?

.....

..... [2]

- 18 (a) In Paragraph 4, the writer says '...some people are so convinced that cycling is good for them that they bypass the bicycle as a means of transport and spend time every day at home cycling nowhere – on an exercise bike!'

What does this tell us about the writer's attitude towards these people?

..... [1]

- (b) Name **one** way the writer uses to emphasise this attitude.

..... [1]

Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form). It must not be longer than 80 words (not counting the words given to help you begin.)

[illegible]

■