

ANSWERS (Edited)



海星天主教中学
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SEMESTRAL EXAMINATIONS 1 (2021)

Secondary Four Express/Five Academic

1128/2

English Language

Paper 2 Comprehension

30 April 2021

1 hour 50 minutes

Candidates answer in the Question Booklet

0800 – 0950

Additional Materials: Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write in dark blue or black pen.

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 the brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of 8 printed pages, including the cover page.



HAI SING CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Section A [5 marks]

Text 1

Refer to the webpage (Text 1) on page 2 of the Insert for Questions 1 – 3.

- 1 Look at the photograph in the website banner. How does the photograph support the slogan EVERY STEP YOU TAKE IS ONE SHE WON'T HAVE TO?

The photograph shows a girl walking with a big bucket of water, thus supporting the text in the slogan that participation in the event will help save children from the struggle of walking to collect water. [1]

[1]

- 2 (i) Look at the section under **Reflection**.

What effect is the information presented in this section intended to have on the reader?

After reading the reflection on how some people have to walk 6K to get clean water, readers will empathise with them/ sympathise/ feel sorry [1] and want to participate in the walk to help them. [1]

Or:

The reflection is included to highlight to prospective participants that the event has the ability to enable them to gain new perspectives [1], thus encouraging them to take part in the run. [1]

[2]

(Rejected: To show readers how fortunate they are. /To tell readers not to take water for granted.)

- (ii) With reference to the section **Registration**, write in what other way does the webpage encourage participation from the reader?

[1]

The text in this section informs participants that they will receive a unique race bib with the picture of a child receiving clean water from World Vision's water projects, a T-shirt, and a medal./ ...receive gifts

- 3 Which sentence gives the main purpose of the webpage?

"Join the world's largest 6K for water – from wherever you are!"

[1]

(Rejected: "Join the world's largest 6K for water – from wherever you are! Family fun. Global impact." - This is not one sentence.)

Section B [20 marks]

Text 2

Refer to Text 2 on pages 3 and 4 of the Insert for Questions 4 – 13

- 4 Which word from Paragraph 1 indicates that the teacher was skeptical about ancient people's understanding of earthquakes?

'fanciful'

[1]

Reject: 'maybe' –refers to 'you' not 'ancient people'

Maybe you wouldn't, but your ancestors did. Ancient people had many fanciful explanations for earthquakes...

- 5 Which **two** actions from Paragraphs 2 and 3 show that Rena was eager for the lesson to end?

(i) Rena **'looked longingly out of the classroom'**.

[2]

(ii) She **'impatiently watched the second hand on the clock tick-tock its way towards the final bell of the day'**.

(must include the underlined parts to show 'eager')

- 6 According to Paragraph 4, which sign of the earthquake first startled Rena?

The sound of dishes rattling loudly in the kitchen first startled her.

[1]

- 7 Why might Rena's mother's smiling expression in the photograph be described as 'inappropriate'?

It is inappropriate as a disaster /an earthquake is happening.

[1]

- 8 In Paragraph 5, Rena is caught in an earthquake. Explain how the language used in this paragraph emphasises the violence of the earthquake. Support your ideas with **three** details from the text.

The "cups, plates and glasses trembled as they inched forward" suggests atmosphere of fear as crockery fell off shelves and broke because of the force of the earthquake.

The chest of drawers also "shot out like bullets" suggests the strength of the earthquake that pushed out chest of drawers with the potential to harm/ cause injury.

Other pieces of furniture "seemed to also have come alive as the house became a rattlebox for a giant". This shows that the strong force of the earthquake was shaking all the furniture at home. [3]

Must quote the details, and explain one detail at a time.

Must have the underlined parts to get one mark.

Some students gave a general explanation for the three details X

- 9 (a) From paragraph 7, In which **two** ways does the writer show that the 'feigned calmness' of Rena's mother's instructions were not effective in hiding her anxiety?

(i) **The use of the exclamation marks shows that she was in a state of panic.**

(ii) The direct command show that she has realised the urgency for them to act quickly.

[2]

(iii) The use of the word 'Quickly' indicates urgency.

(b) Suggest why Rena's mother feigned calmness?

**She didn't want to alarm/scare Rena.
She did not want Rena to panic.**

[1]

10 Apart from the fact that the queues were very long, what else made the task of filling the barrel 'time-consuming' (line 37)?

A lot of water was needed for the large barrel but Rena could only collect a little each time[1] with the small containers so she had to make multiple trips.[1]

[2]

11 In Paragraph 10, what is the difference between Rena's reactions to the sirens in normal times and during the earthquake? Answer **in your own words**.

Rena's reaction to sirens and fire engines:

(i) Normal times	anxious/ fearful/ worried/ I [1] TABOO "shivers of apprehension " (rejected: frightened, scared, afraid, relieved, uneasy)
(ii) During the earthquake	Reassured/ safe/ sense of security [1] TABOO "comfort" (rejected: calm, relaxed, peaceful)

[2]

12 With reference to Paragraph 11, explain what Rena learnt from her experience.

**Man is vulnerable/frail when faced with the destructive forces of nature. /
Man is weaker than the power of nature.**

[1]

Answer must relate to her experience with the earthquake. reject: learn to listen to her teachers; take her geography lessons more seriously

Answer must compare the weakness of Man and power of nature.

(Rena went back to school more willing to listen to her teachers, particularly in geography lessons showing the contrast between the power of nature and the frailty of Man.)

13 The structure of the text reflects Rena's responses to her situation at different stages of the narrative. Complete the flow chart by choosing one word/phrase from the box to summarise the stage in each part of the text. There are some extra words in the box you do not need to use.

Rena's responses

changed perspectives	curiosity	acceptance
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awestruck

frightful realisation

confusion

growing fear

Paragraph 1-3 : disinterest

Paragraph 4 : **confusion**

Paragraph 5 : **growing fear** (the intensity of the earthquake seemed to grow- sound of broken crockery- chest of drawers shooting out like bullets- whole house like a rattlebox with furniture being shaken)

Paragraph 6-8 : **frightful realisation** (...she realised that this was the earthquake of her geography lessons

[4]

Paragraph 9 : misplaced optimism

Paragraph 10-11 : **changed perspectives**

Section C [25 marks]

Refer to Text 3 on pages 3 and 4 of the Insert for Questions 14 – 21.

- 14 Which **one** word in Paragraph 1 tells us that a generous portion of chilli oil has been served?
‘swimming’.

[1]

- 15 Explain what the writer means when he describes Chengdu as the ‘cradle’ of the region’s famously fiery cuisine?

It means that Chengdu is the place where it originated / where this fiery cuisine was created/started. [1]

- 16 What does ‘curious’ mean in the phrase ‘curious effect’ (line 10)?

It means ‘unusual / strange’. [1]

Do not accept: unique / interesting/special/interesting/

- 17 Here is part of a conversation between two students, Nicholas and Yi Ling, who have read the article.

Nicholas: Eating a dish spiced with the Sichuan peppercorn is an unpleasant experience.

Yi Ling: No. I disagree. I think eating such a dish can be enjoyable.

- (a) With reference to Paragraph 1, explain why Nicholas feels that eating a dish spiced with the Sichuan peppercorn is an unpleasant experience.

The writer mentions that the spice can set one’s “tongue ablaze” [a] and “forehead glistening” [b]/ cause one to perspire.

[1]

Note: both parts to get 1 mark

- (b) Give **two** reasons from Paragraph 2 which Yi Ling can use to support her opinion.

(i) **Eating the dish can be enjoyable because the spice made it fragrant. (1)**

(ii) **Eating the dish can be enjoyable as it makes one less lethargic and uncomfortable.[1]**

[2]

Note: Any mention of what the spice can do = 0. The question is not about what the spice can do or what the chefs do with the spice. The answer must be about the dish being enjoyable.

- 18 (a) From Paragraph 4, identify a word and an expression which tell us that the process of picking the freshest peppers is very difficult.

(i) Word: **“arduous”**

(ii) Expression: **“threading the eye of a needle”**

[2]

- (b) What makes it difficult to pick the freshest peppers?

Since gloves cannot be used [a] and the peppers are surrounded by prickly sharp thorns [b], picking them is difficult.

[1]

- 19 How does the writer support the idea that ‘The world is a global village now’ (line 45)?

The writer cited examples in countries outside China such as Singapore and Washington in which Sichuan peppercorn has been used.

[1]

Note: The detail that the spice is used 'outside of China' merit no mark because the idea of 'global' is not strong enough. The examples – Washington and Singapore – east and west is

- 20 **Using your own words as far as possible**, summarise the ways in which the Sichuan peppercorn is being used in the present and how it was used in the past.

Use only information from Paragraphs 2 and 3.

Your summary which 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).

The Sichuan peppercorn, a much sought-after spice, is used to...

[15]

This curious effect and many more factors make this tiny-but-mighty Sichuan peppercorn, a spice indigenous to China, one of the most integral ingredients in the province's distinctive cuisine. Chefs often use the peppercorn to heighten other seasonings because of its unique fragrance (1). Simmering fresh Sichuan peppercorn in oil, for example, produces a vaguely numbing oil that can enhance noodles, salads and sauces.(2) Grinding it into a powder makes an ideal addition to a dry rub for roasted meat. (3) The spice's ability to complement many different flavours partly explains how it became so ubiquitous in the region. The level of humidity in Sichuan can make one feel lethargic and uncomfortable. Hence, the Sichuan peppercorn is a much welcomed spice as it not only adds fragrance but also helps combat dampness which is an outcome of the highly humid weather (4) experienced by Chengdu all year round.

Chongqing is a port city, and back in the day, a lot of workers did hard labour by the docks. The wealthy people in Sichuan ate a lot of beef, but they saw the offal as unrefined, something to throw away. So, the labourers would take the offal for a source of protein. For those workers in Chongqing, Sichuan peppercorn was a cheap way to mask the gamey taste of otherwise pungent meats. (5) Today, famous dishes such as fūqī fèi piàn – thinly sliced beef offal tossed with chilli oil, Sichuan peppercorn and garlic – make star ingredients of those cuts once considered lower-class. (6) Though Sichuan peppercorns are among the oldest spices used by Chinese people, in the beginning they weren't used in cooking. During the Zhou Dynasty, Sichuan peppercorns were mostly used in rituals and worship ceremonies (7) as well as for preserving corpses (8) in ancient times alongside other spices and herbs, as they could help with pest control. However, the earliest record of Sichuan peppercorns was in "Shijing," dating from the 11th to 7th centuries BC, during which time they were used as a token of affection (9) and only the freshest peppercorns were used for this.

	From the text	Suggested Paraphrasing
	Present use	
1	to heighten other seasonings	
2	its powder makes an ideal dry rub for roasted meat	
3	complement many different flavours	
4	adds fragrance	
5	helps combat dampness	counter Do not accept: overcome/fight
6	star ingredients of those cuts once considered lower-class	
	Past use	
7	peppercorn was a cheap way to mask the gamey taste of otherwise pungent meats/ offal.	hide Do not accept: block/cover/disguise
8	used in rituals and worship ceremonies	
9	preserving corpses	
10	a token of affection	

*The Sichuan peppercorn, a much sought-after spice, is used to **heighten other seasonings which can enhance noodles, salads and sauces. In powder form, it is an ideal rub for roast meat. It complements many flavours, adds fragrance and counter dampness. However, in the past it was used in rituals and worship ceremonies, to preserve corpses and also as tokens of affection. Poor labourers used it to hide the gamey taste of pungent offal, but now it is used to turn these meats into star ingredients.***

75 words