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Shining our Light, Loving Our Neighbours

Come, let's give back to our community!




Christmas Drive for Migrant Workers

At ItsRainingRaincoats, residents from all walks of life can donate wrapped Christmas presents to migrant workers.

Come together to:

- buy, wrap and donate presents
- help hand out the presents to the migrant workers in person
- celebrate at the worksites or dormitories, where volunteers bring Christmas cheer right to the migrant brothers' doorstep.




Living a Cruelty-Free Lifestyle Booth and Fundraising

At ACRES, student volunteers can help to raise awareness on how one person can make animal-friendly choices in their everyday life.

Come together to:

- design your own props and posters
- set up a booth and speak to as many people as possible
- do fundraising by selling merchandise which are animal-friendly and sustainable.



Preparation and Packing of Lunch Boxes

At Willing Hearts, the flurry of activities starts as soon as the doors to the kitchen are opened to cook for the needy.

Come together to:

- prepare ingredients by chopping vegetables and opening packets of seasoning and sauces
- line lunch boxes and scoop a portion of rice along with the dishes for the day
- clean and wash used trays, covers, baskets, cooking utensils, pots and pans.

Section A [10 marks]

Question 1

Carefully read the text below, consisting of 12 lines, about pasta. The first and last lines are correct. For eight of the lines, there is one grammatical error in each line. There are two more lines with no errors.

If there is no error in a line, put a tick (✓) in the space provided.

If the line is incorrect, circle the incorrect word and write the correct word in the space provided.

The correct word you provide must not change the original meaning of the sentence.

Examples:

I arrived (to) my destination at midnight.

at

My mother always wears sensible clothes.

✓

Pasta and noodles are culinary marvels that epitomise human ingenuity.		
The beauty of pasta is that even novice cook can transform the simplest	1	
of meals into a grand affair, when more experienced cooks conjure up	2	
delightful new shapes and recipes to give this centuries-old food a fresh	3	
appeal. Moreover, as a bonus, traditional dry pasta happens to be the	4	
only process food that can last forever without spoiling. Pasta is simple	5	
and comforting – ample reasons why pasta was globally recognised as	6	
a culinary staple by disparate nation that share very little common	7	
ancestry. Even as legends, myths or traditions surround this gastronomic	8	
delight, its simplicity hold broad modern appeal with potent implications	9	
for the future of human health and tradition. Pasta is so ubiquitous and	10	
popular that many nations around the world claim them as their own.		

Adapted from Kantha Shelke's *Pasta and Noodles*

Section B [30 marks]

You are advised to write between 250 and 350 words for this section.

Question 2

You should look at the printout of a webpage in the Insert, study the information carefully and plan your answer before beginning to write.

The Year Head has asked the graduating cohort for suggestions on participating in a cohort volunteer project after the national examinations which will benefit the community. As the Class Chairperson, you have seen a webpage about volunteer projects and discussed with your classmates the possibility of participating in one of the projects. The Year Head has asked you to give a speech to the graduating cohort about your recommended project.

In your speech you should:

- give a date and time for the volunteer project
- share about a volunteer project your class would like to recommend
- explain how this particular volunteer project would benefit the community
- say why you think this volunteer experience would bring both learning and fulfilment to the graduating cohort.

Write your speech in clear, accurate English and in a persuasive, enthusiastic tone to convince the graduating cohort of your classmates' choice.

You may add any other details that might be helpful.

You should **use your own words** as much as possible.

Section A

Study the online advertisement (Text 1) and the interview post (Text 2) and answer Questions 1 – 4 in the Question Booklet.

Text 1 is taken from an online advertisement for the Seniors Go Digital Programme.



We're here with you!

Seniors Go Digital is a specially designed programme where learners will be closely guided through 3 tiers of digital skills and empowered with digital literacy.

(Image is extracted from the Singapore Kindness Movement website)

Text 2 is taken from an interview post on Seniors Go Digital Programme.

The Seniors Go Digital programme is a great initiative. The one-on-one coaching helps me learn things at my own pace. Initially I was reluctant to pick up e-payments after a bad experience. With live demonstrations from the one-on-one coaching, I was surprised to see how easy e-payments could be. I can't wait to impress my children with the new 'tricks' I learnt on my mobile phone and motivate my friends to come on board too!

Section B

Text 3

The text below is the account of the narrator who recalled her mysterious neighbour, Boo Radley, and how she, her brother, Jem, and their friend, Dill, wanted to make Boo come out of his house. Read the text carefully and answer Questions 5-14 in the Question Booklet.

- 1 Dill was a curiosity. He wore blue linen shorts that buttoned to his shirt, his hair was snow-white and stuck to his head like duck-fluff; he was a year ~~my~~ senior but I towered over him. As he told us tales he had read, his blue eyes ~~would~~ lighten and darken and his laugh was sudden and happy. He was ~~from~~ Meridian, Mississippi and had moved to Maycomb to live with his aunt. When he first came, 5 Jem didn't think much of him.

- 2 He had never mentioned his father, so one day I ventured to ask ~~where~~ his father was.
 'I haven't got one.'
 'Is he dead?' 10
 'No...'
 'Then if he's not dead, you've got one, haven't you?'

- 3 Dill blushed and Jem told me to hush, a sure sign that Dill had been ~~studied~~ and found acceptable. Thereafter the summer passed in routine ~~contentment~~. We were busy improving our treehouse with much fuss and excitement. ~~We also ran~~ 15 through our list of dramas, based on the works of Oliver Optic, Victor Appleton and Edgar Rice Burroughs. In this matter we were lucky to have Dill. He played the character parts formerly thrust upon me – the ape in *Tarzan*, Mr Crabtree in the *Rover Boys* and Mr Damon in *Tom Swift*.

- 4 Dill was a chest of bizarre ideas which intrigued and impressed me ~~at~~ the same 20 time. He was like a hat that teemed with eccentric plans, filling our ~~tree~~house with creative gizmos and strategies for fascinating adventures. He was ~~like~~ a mythical figure from a tale which embodied strange longings and ~~quaint~~ fancies. Characters in our plays were made larger and more enthralling by his imagination. 25

- 5 But by the end of August our collection of ideas had been exhausted by the countless performances we had staged, and it was then that ~~Dill~~, in his restlessness, gave us the idea of making Boo Radley come out.

- 6 The Radley Place fascinated Dill. In spite of our warnings and explanations it drew him like a magnet, but drew him no nearer than the light-pole on the corner, 30 a safe distance from the Radley gate. There he would stand, his arm around the fat pole, staring and wondering.

- 7 The Radley Place jutted into a sharp curve beyond our house. Walking south, one faced its porch; the sidewalk turned and ran beside the lot. The house was low, was once white with a deep front porch and green shades, but ~~had~~ long ago 35 darkened to the colour of the grey yard around it.

- 8 My memory came alive to see Mrs Radley occasionally open the ~~front~~ door, walk to the edge of the porch, and pour water on her flowers. Every day Jem and I

would see Mr Radley walking to and from town. He struck us as being distanced and aloof. He was a thin leathery man with colourless eyes, so colourless they did not reflect light. His cheekbones were sharp and his mouth wide, with a thin upper lip and a full lower lip. He was so upright that he took the word of God as his only law. Indeed, Mr Radley's posture was ramrod straight. That was a few years before Mr Radley walked his final journey across the Radley ground, leaving his son Boo Radley alone in the house.

- 9 Now, inside the house lived a malevolent phantom. People said Boo existed but Jem and I had never seen him. People said he went out at night when the moon was high, and peeped in windows. When people's flowers froze in a cold snap, it was because he had breathed on them. Any stealthy crimes committed in Maycomb were his work. Once the town was terrorised by a series of morbid nocturnal events: people's chickens and household pets were found mutilated. Although the real culprit was found, people still looked at the Radley Place, unwilling to discard their initial suspicions. A solitary figure would not pass the Radley Place at night, he would cut across to the sidewalk opposite and whistle as he walked. The Maycomb school grounds adjoined the back of the Radley place; from the Radley chicken-yard tall pecan trees shook their fruit into the school yard, but the nuts lay untouched by the children: Radley pecans would kill you. A baseball hit into the Radley yard was a lost ball and no questions asked.

Adapted from 'To Kill A Mockingbird' by Harper Lee

Section C

Text 4

The text below is about veganism and its impacts on the environment. Read it carefully and answer Questions 15 – 20 in the Question Booklet.

- 1 The Vegan Society was founded in 1944, but there is evidence of people deciding not to consume animal products over 2,000 years ago. Once considered a niche diet, the popularity of veganism has skyrocketed — so much so that figures show there are now 600,000 vegans in the United Kingdom — a dizzying 300% increase since 2014. By definition, a vegan diet is one that is free from animals or animal products or byproducts — including eggs, cheese, milk, and honey. 5
- 2 The United Nations has reported that over a million animal and plant species face the threat of extinction that may happen within a few decades. Shockingly, this figure represents a dramatic increase compared to past records, with many vegans pointing their fingers squarely at the agricultural system we have in place today. Considering these statistics, the Vegan Society claims that going vegan will 'fix' many of the world's problems. However, research suggests that the situation may not be as black and white as it seems. 10
- 3 It is not uncommon to see the terms "vegan" and "vegetarian" used interchangeably, but there are key differences between the two. Even though they are both plant-based diets, vegans do not consume or use any animal products, while vegetarians avoid eating animals but not their byproducts. It is hardly surprising that people misunderstand these diets since they both strongly emphasize fruits and vegetables. In a sense, going vegan is more of a lifestyle change because of the compassion for animals, the environment, and everyone's health — it is not simply a diet change like going vegetarian. 15 20
- 4 Large dairy farms house thousands of cows to produce milk, and those cows create a staggering amount of manure that is jaw dropping to many people as it is a major cause to greenhouse gas emissions such as methane and nitrous oxide. To mitigate this challenge, diverse dairy alternatives give consumers options to help reduce the effects of conventional dairy production. Some of these alternatives include vegan milk options such as soy milk, almond milk, rice milk and oat milk which leave smaller environmental footprints than dairy. However, countries which lack the right climates to grow plant-based crops necessitate the need to depend heavily on imported foods. To facilitate the imports, transporting the goods for long distances is necessary but at the expense of harming our planet through emissions of large amounts of greenhouse gases from the vehicles. 25 30
- 5 Moreover, since vegans are motivated by compassion for animals, refusing to pay for animal products and embracing plant-based foods, cruelty-free clothing, and cosmetics lower demand. This leads to fewer animals being raised to suffer and die on farms and in slaughterhouses. In addition, vegans' diet being plant-based foods also reduces encroachment on natural habitats which are often ruined for ensuring vast land spaces to raise livestock in animal agriculture. At the same time, we cannot deny that cultivating plant-based crops in large quantities lead to unintended negative consequences such as taking over more land for the agriculture of crops instead which also leads to the disruption of biodiversity and their homes. 35 40
- 6 By 2025, two-thirds of the world's population may be facing water shortages and with water scarcity being a growing global concern, production of plant-based foods consume way less water than what is required in raising livestock. A vegan diet can cut water consumption by up to 50 percent as the excessive grazing of animals causes 45

land to lose water and large quantities of water is required for drinking when it comes to animal agriculture. On the other hand, the production of plant-based foods in large amounts require excessive amounts of water too. Did you know that about 2.82 million Olympic-sized swimming pools of water are used yearly in avocado production? Most vegans opt for avocados as protein alternatives and these crops, being water-intensive, ironically cause a further strain on the already existing water scarcity issue. While veganism is often praised as an environmentally conscious choice, it is crucial to recognise that it is not a foolproof way of protecting our Earth. 50

Adapted from *"Is a vegan diet better for the environment?"*
and *"Is veganism sustainable?"*

END OF INSERT

Section A [5 marks]

Refer to the online advertisement (Text 1) and the interview post (Text 2) on page 2 of the Insert for Questions 1 – 4.

- 1 Look at Text 1. Tick (✓) the most effective title for the image in this advertisement.

- ☐ Doing more for seniors in our community
- ☐ Helping seniors in their journey to digitalisation
- ☐ Singapore's quest to go digital

[1]

- 2 Text 1 states 'We're here with you!' How does it make the reader feel about joining the Seniors Go Digital Programme?

[1]

- 3 Identify a phrase in Text 2 which supports the claim in Text 1 to provide a programme where 'learners' will be closely guided'.

[1]

- 4 Look at Texts 1 and 2 and statements (a) and (b) below.

Decide whether the statements refer to Text 1, Text 2, both texts, or neither text.

Circle the answer you have chosen for each statement.

- (a) Readers are informed about the usefulness of the Seniors Go Digital Programme.

Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither

- (b) The tone suggests that it was written with the purpose of instructing readers to join the Seniors Go Digital Programme.

Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither

[2]

Section B [20 marks]

Refer to Text 3 on pages 3 and 4 of the Insert for Questions 5-14.

- 5 With reference to Paragraphs 2 and 3, how did the narrator know that Jem had started to like Dill? **Answer in your own words.**

[1]

- 6 Dill impressed the narrator and Jem with his unique personality. Explain how the language used in Paragraph 4 makes Dill seem like a magician. Support your answer with **two** details from Paragraph 4.

[2]

- 7 What does the 'routine contentment' in line 14 refer to?

[1]

- 8 Which phrase in Paragraph 3 suggests that the narrator had no choice but to take up the roles assigned to her?

[1]

- 9 Explain, **in your own words**, and with reference to Paragraph 5, why the children turned their attention from their activities to Boo Radley.

[2]

- 10 (a) '*...it drew him like a magnet, but drew him no nearer than the light-pole on the corner*' (lines 29-30).

What does the expression '*it drew him like a magnet*' suggest about Dill's feeling towards Boo Radley?

[1]

(b) Explain Dill's behaviour as suggested by the line '*but drew him no nearer than the light-pole on the corner*'.

[1]

- 11 The narrator claimed that Mr Radley 'struck us as being distanced and aloof (lines 39-40)'. Explain how the claim is supported with reference to **three** pieces of evidence from Paragraph 8.

[3]

- 12 (a) Why was Boo Radley regarded as 'a phantom' (line 46)?

[1]

- (b) From Paragraph 9, give one example that best shows that the townsfolk distrusted Boo Radley.

[1]

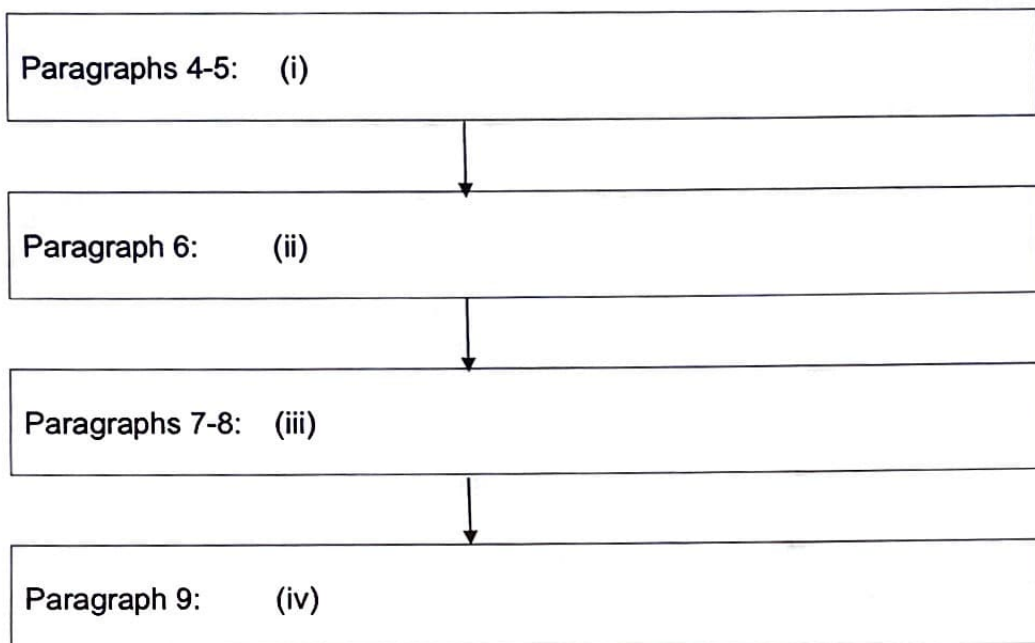
- 13 The thought of Boo Radley terrorised the townsfolk of Maycomb. Paragraph 9 cites instances when some of them suppressed their fear of him. Identify two expressions from Paragraph 9 which suggest that they were trying to do so. One example has been provided.

Who feared Boo Radley	Expressions suggesting suppression of fear
a solitary figure walking past the Radley Place	Example: whistle as he walked
children who saw the pecan nuts in the school yard	
children playing baseball behind the Radley Place	

[2]

- 14 The structure of the text reflects how the children developed fear towards the Radley house and Boo. Looking closely at Paragraph 4 to Paragraph 9, complete the flow chart below by choosing one phrase from the box to summarise how the curiosity and fear of the children grew over the years. There are some extra phrases you do not need to use.

going through the same routine	reservations above intrigue	lack of confidence in plan
boredom and seeking thrills	strategy to trespass	being unwelcoming
	sense of horror and mystery	



[4]

Section C [25 marks]

Text 4

Refer to Text 4 on pages 5 – 6 of the Insert for Questions 15 – 20.

- 15 With reference to Paragraph 1, give **two** pieces of evidence to show that there has been a steep increase in the number of vegans over the years.

- (i) _____
- (ii) _____ [2]

- 16 Paragraph 2 says, 'The United Nations has reported that over a million animal and plant species face the threat of extinction that may happen within a few decades. Shockingly, this figure represents a dramatic increase compared to past records, with many vegans pointing their fingers squarely at the agricultural system we have in place today.'

- (a) What does the word 'Shockingly' suggest about the United Nations' reported figure of the animal and plant species facing potential extinction within a few decades?

_____ [1]

- (b) What is the vegans' attitude towards 'the agricultural system we have in place today'?

_____ [1]

- 17 Paragraph 2 says, 'However, research suggests that the situation **may not be as black and white as it seems.**'

- (a) **Paying attention to the words in bold**, what does the writer suggest about 'the situation'?

_____ [1]

- (b) Why do you think the writer puts inverted commas in the text round the word 'fix' (line 11)?

[1]

- 18 Here is a part of a conversation between two students, Peter and Hannah, who have read the article.



Peter

A vegan diet and a vegetarian diet are the same.

I disagree. A vegan diet and a vegetarian diet are not the same.



Hannah

- (a) Give **one** piece of evidence from Paragraph 3 that Peter can use to support his view.

[1]

- (b) Give **two** pieces of evidence from Paragraph 3 to support Hannah's view.

(i)

[1]

(ii)

[1]

- 19 In Paragraph 4, the amount of manure produced by cows is 'jaw dropping' to many people. Why does the amount of manure produced leave people with a 'jaw dropping' reaction? **Answer in your own words.**

[1]

One positive impact that veganism has on the environment is _____

Content	8
Style	7
Total	15

() words [15]

END OF PAPER