

Name _____ ()

Class 4 _____



ANGLICAN HIGH SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2022
SECONDARY FOUR

S4

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1128/02

Paper 2 Comprehension INSERT

Monday 22 August 2022
1 hour 50 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This Insert contains Text 1, Text 2 and Text 3.

This INSERT consists of 4 printed pages.

Section A

Text 1


Study the webpage below and answer Questions 1 – 4 in the Question Booklet.

EDUCATION

New and Hot

SINGAPORE
POLYTECHNIC

Check out the newest and most popular diploma course offered by polytechnics



Switzerland is just one of many locations DHLFM students can go to for overseas learning. The list of locales also includes the United States and the ocean (while on a Star Cruises voyage)!

Diploma in Hotel and Leisure Facilities Management

IN A NUTSHELL

Outgoing, sociable, organised, clear-headed - if these qualities describe you, the Diploma in Hotel and Leisure Facilities Management (DHLFM) may be your ticket to an exciting and stimulating career. But even if these are not your strong suits, the course will help you develop these traits as well.

COLLABORATION

DHLFM collaborates with hotels like Marina Bay Sands, Hilton and the Grand Copthorne, just to name a few. Also, a new overseas internship programme will soon begin, where students will work in the hotel industry in Dubai for six months.

COURSE CURRICULUM

DHLFM offers a unique blend of soft skills and technical skills related to facilities management of hotels, airports, hospitals and other commercial or residential properties.

You'll get to work with people from all walks of life in the exciting, fast-expanding hotel industry and develop organisational skills to oversee the day-to-day operations of various facilities.

RIGHT: Susan Teo relaxing in a cosy bedroom within Singapore Poly's Hotel Learning Centre that has well-furnished facilities to create an authentic learning environment.



**What are you waiting for?
Discover a whole new world of opportunities!**

Section B

Text 2

The text below describes events leading up to an encounter with a baby whale during a routine swim practice. Read it carefully and answer Questions 5 – 14 in the Question Booklet.

- 1 There was something splendid and magical about being on the ocean, moving between the heavens and the earth, knowing that you could encounter anything on your journey. The stars had set. The sky and sea were inky black, so black I could not see my hands pulling water in front of my face, so black there was no separation between the sea and the sky. They melted together. The water was chilly and as frigid as ice. And I was swimming on pace, moving at about sixty strokes per minute, etching a small silvery groove across the magnificent wide ocean. There were vast and silent forces swirling around me: these currents were wrapping around me like long braids of soft black liquorice¹, and I was pulling arduously with my arms, trying to slice through them. 5
- 2 As I swam, all I heard were the waves, the typical rhythm of my hands splashing into the water, the breaths that I drew into my mouth and lungs, and the long gurgling of silvery bubbles rolling slowly into the sea. I slid into my usual pace but this time I felt the water below me shudder. It was not a rogue wave or a current. It felt like something else. It was moving closer. The water was shaking harder and buckling below me. All at once, for the very first time I felt very small and very alone in the deep dark sea. Then I heard a sound. I thought it was coming from the ocean's depths. At first it seemed to be a whisper, then it grew louder, steadily, like someone trying to shout for help but unable to get the words out. I kept swimming and trying to figure out what was happening. 10 15
- 3 The sound changed. It became stranger, like the end of an eerie shrill. In my mind, I silently screamed a list of the ocean sounds I knew and compared them with what I was hearing. There were no matches. The hairs on my arms were standing straight out. Whatever it was, was moving closer. I checked the sky above and the distant horizon. Both were dull and as black as ink and there was not a cloud in the sky. I lifted my head to see the height of the wave. The shore break was not increasing and there were not any wind waves. Not even dimples on the ocean's surface. There was no sign of a storm. However, the energy in the water was so intense that it was buzzing like angry bumblebees. It did not make any sense! 20 25
- 4 Then it happened. A big tuna weighing maybe ten kilograms rocketed out of the water. He smacked into my back and startled me. Then another bounced off my shoulders. I had to roll on my side and catch my breath. It was raining tuna! What a weird, wild, and wonderful thing. It occurred to me that these tuna would probably attract larger fish and the only larger fish I could think of were sharks. Hence, I decided to move closer to shore, away from the feeding throngs. It was my last kilometre back to the pier when I became aware that something was swimming with me. The ocean was charged with energy as if a squall was moving in; thousands of baby anchovy darted through the water like lit sparklers, trying to evade something larger. Whatever it was, it felt large enough to be a white shark coursing beneath my body. Imagine my relief when it became clear after a while that it was a baby gray whale – following alongside me for quite some time. 30 35
- 5 I had been swimming for more than an hour; I needed to get out of the water to rest, but I realised that if I did, the young calf would follow me onto shore and die from collapsed lungs. The baby whale – five metres long – was migrating on a three-month trek to its feeding grounds in the Bering Sea, a 13,000km-journey. Normally, it would have to be carried on its mother's back for much of that distance, and was dependent on its mother's milk for food so as not to starve to death – baby whales drink almost 200 litres of milk a day. I needed to find the mother whale. Something so majestic and enormous – the mother whale was fifteen metres long – suddenly seemed very small and insignificant in the vast Pacific Ocean. How could I possibly find her? 40 45

liquorice¹ - the dried root of a Mediterranean plant, used in medicines and to give flavour to food, especially sweets

Section C

Text 3

The text below is about the history of paper. Read it carefully and answer Questions 15 – 21 in the Question Booklet.

- 1 The history of paper is inextricably linked with that of culture and science. The spark that set off the invention of paper was simple but extremely significant. Humans had an urgent need: to communicate certain information to each other in written form. The information had to be set on a lightweight and durable medium that was easily transportable. The invention of paper allowed papyrus and parchment to be replaced with a material that was easier and, with the advent of new production techniques, cheaper to make. 5
- 2 The arrival of digital media has perhaps obscured the fundamental role that paper has played in spreading knowledge: it should not be forgotten that, until a few decades ago, the dissemination of any idea required a sheet of paper. The history of paper has mirrored the evolution of human society over the centuries: from the dissemination of scientific and philosophical knowledge to the spread of education right up to the creation of the kind of political and historical consciousness which gave birth to the modern nation state. 10
- 3 Historical sources credit the invention of paper to Cai Lun, a dignitary serving the imperial Chinese court who, in AD 105, began producing sheets of paper from scraps of old rags, tree bark and fishing nets. The Chinese guarded the secret of paper-making jealously for many centuries until, in the 6th century, their invention was brought to Japan by a Buddhist monk, Dam Jing. The Japanese immediately learnt papermaking techniques and began using pulp derived from mulberry bark to produce this precious material themselves. The Arab world discovered the secrets of papermaking in AD 751, when the governor-general of the Caliphate of Bagdad founded a paper mill in the Uzbek city. From here, aided by an abundance of hemp and linen, two high-quality raw materials perfect for making paper, production spread to other cities in Asia. The process for making paper employed by the Arabs involved soaking rags in water to obtain a homogenous pulp, which was then sifted to separate the fibres from the water. The sheets thus obtained were subsequently pressed, dried and finally covered with a layer of rice starch to make them more receptive to ink. In the same period, people in Egypt and North Africa also started to make paper using the same techniques employed in the Arab world. 15 20 25
- 4 It was not until the 11th century that paper arrived in Europe, with the Arab conquest of Sicily and Spain. However, paper was quickly considered an inferior-quality material compared to parchment, so much so that, in 1221, Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II prohibited its use for public documents. Rice starch, in fact, was an attractive food source for insects, which meant sheets of paper did not last long. The history of paper owes much to Italy, which started producing paper using linen and hemp in the 12th century. These papermakers introduced important innovations by mechanising rag grinding, significantly reducing the time it took to produce pulp. 30 35
- 5 ☆ The industrial manufacture of paper began in the 19th century with the expansion of mass-circulation newspapers and the first best-selling novels, which required enormous quantities of cheap paper. As demand for papermaking rags outstripped supply, alternative materials were sought, like wood pulp. Once again, the history of paper and the history of humankind were closely intertwined: with the spread of cheap paper, books and newspapers became accessible to all, leading to an explosion of literacy among the middle classes. But it was not until the turn of the century that paper would be dramatically employed for other uses, like toilet and wrapping paper, toys and interior decoration. The history of paper is far from over, and this fascinating and useful material will remain with us for years to come. 40 45