

NORTHBROOKS SECONDARY SCHOOL
Mid-Year Examination 2022
Secondary 4 Express / 5 Normal Academic



CANDIDATE NAME			
CLASS		INDEX NUMBER	

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1128/01

Paper 1 Writing

5 May 2022

INSERT

1 hour 50 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, class and index number in the spaces provided above.

This Insert contains the text for **Section B**.

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.
This document consists of 2 printed pages including the cover page.

Setter: Ms Lim Wan Yee

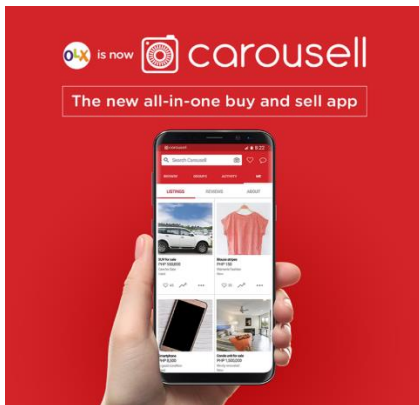
Section B

Read the printout of a webpage below and use the information to answer the question on page 3 of the Question Paper.

InternSG: Internship Programmes for Students!

Want to gain experience and enhance your skills? InternSG welcomes students to participate in our internship programmes. Spend a month working alongside professionals and future-proof yourselves!

Carousell Group



Position: Marketing Intern

This work involves:

- carrying out research on Internet trends to share with the team weekly
- planning and producing weekly branded content for Carousell's SG TikTok
- pitching creative ideas for marketing campaigns to clients.

If you are looking to learn about brand building and project management, this is the adventure for you!

Singapore Press Holdings

Position: Digital Journalist

This work involves:

- designing visual stories such as infographics
- carrying out investigative journalism or research including verifying data sources
- crafting online content.

If you are passionate about journalism and devising original and imaginative ways to tell visual stories, this could be the right fit for you!



OCBC Bank



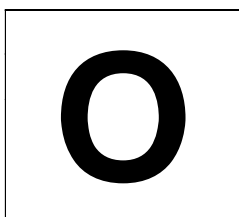
Position: Software Development and Application Intern

This work involves:

- building the digital bank's OCBC application
- attending to application technical issues
- compiling reports to analyse customer experience.

If making the banking world better gets you excited and fires you up, this internship is made for you!

If you are interested in one of these opportunities, please write in to the Human Resource Manager, InternSG at 100 Stamford Road, Singapore 312100.



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CANDIDATE NAME			
CLASS		REGISTER NUMBER	

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1128/01

Paper 1 Writing

5 May 2022

1 hour 50 minutes

Candidates answer in the Question Paper.

Additional Materials: INSERT

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, class and register number on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid/tape.

Answer **Section A**, **Section B**, and one question from **Section C**.
Write your answer in the spaces provided in the Question Paper.
Indicate your chosen question number for **Section C** on this page.
The Insert contains the text for **Section B**.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the head of each section.

FOR EXAMINER'S USE	
1. Section A	10
2. Section B	30
3. Section C Q. No.: _____	30
TOTAL MARK	70

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.
This document consists of 12 printed pages.

Section A [10 marks]

Carefully read the text below, consisting of 12 lines, about tourism in Antarctica. 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 travel to school (on) bus.

.....

My father always wears sensible shoes.

.....
✓
.....

Antarctica: A great trip or a guilt trip? Every year, around seventy vessels and
forty thousand tourists made the journey to Antarctica to see the glaciers and 1.
witness the natives penguin species. Tourist numbers look set to rise, and 2.
along with it, fossil fuel-spewing tourist ships. Are this fuel-guzzling trips 3.
ultimately harmful to the region or can they also be a force of good? Experts 4.
argue that the benefits of taking the public to this pristine environment should 5.
not be underestimated. Ecotourism raises climate change awareness but 6.
creates advocates, while tourist dollars fund scientific expeditions. Tourists 7.
travelling to Antarctica is required to wear biosecure suits and carefully disinfect 8.
all clothing and boots to ensure that they do not introduce any invade species to 9.
the environment. Tourists are also instruct to take nothing away 10.
except photographs and leave nothing behind.

Adapted from: Antarctica: A great trip or a guilt trip? | CNN

<https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/antarctica-responsible-tourism/index.html>

Section B [30 marks]

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

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

You recently came across a website called InternSG, which provides a range of internship options for secondary school students during the December holidays. Since you are graduating this year, you have decided to sign up for one of the internship programmes to gain some experience and skills in preparation for your future.

Write a letter to InternSG to apply for the internship programme. In it you should explain:

- the internship programme that you want to apply for and why
- reasons why you should be selected for this internship programme
- how you can benefit from this internship opportunity
- how you will share your learning with others.

You may add any other details you think will be helpful.

Write your letter in clear, accurate English and in an enthusiastic and persuasive tone to convince InternSG that you are a suitable candidate for the internship programme.

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

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This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dotted lines, typical of primary school writing paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

[illegible]

This image shows a full page of primary-ruled paper. It features approximately 20 horizontal dotted lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice. The paper is otherwise blank, with no margins, text, or other markings.

Section C [30 marks]

You are advised to write between 350 and 500 words on one of the following topics.

Questions 3-6

3. Describe a person that you regard as your hero. Why does this person mean so much to you?
4. 'I finally understood the truth.' Write about a time when you encountered such a situation.
5. Discuss reasons why competitiveness can be both desirable and undesirable.
6. To what extent do you agree that printed books serve little purpose in education as technology advances? Give reasons for your view.

Please write your chosen question number (3, 4, 5 or 6) here:

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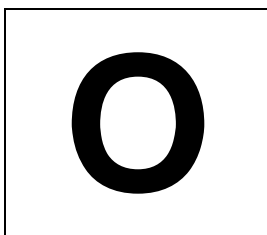
This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dotted lines, typical of primary school writing paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

[illegible]

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dotted lines, typical of primary school writing paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

[illegible]

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Secondary 4 Express / 5 Normal Academic



CANDIDATE NAME			
CLASS		REGISTER NUMBER	

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1128/02

Paper 2 Comprehension
INSERT

9 May 2022

1 hour 50 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, class and register number in the spaces provided above.

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

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

This document consists of 6 printed pages.

Section A

Text 1

Study the webpage below and answer Questions 1-4 in the Question Paper.

Want to make A BIG DIFFERENCE to the
FUTURE OF SINGAPORE'S ENVIRONMENT?
Say YES!

About the Programme

The Youth For Environmental Sustainability (YES) Leaders Programme is a structured programme organised by the National Environment Agency, in partnership with Youth Corps Singapore, the nation's official institution for grooming youth volunteers. The programme is for aspiring Singapore youth between 17 to 25 years old who want to build environmental knowledge, skillsets, and experience. Aspiring Youth Leaders will be tasked to initiate and lead projects to tackle pressing environmental issues and contribute to a more Sustainable Singapore. They will be given opportunities to:

- Lead bold changes in the community
- Connect with like-minded people
- Grow community leadership knowledge and skills
- Deepen insight to national issues and challenges

Participants will be trained and mentored by Youth Corps Singapore and NEA to implement a sustainable service-learning project tackling pressing environmental needs in Singapore's community.

9-12 months

Selection	Induction	Training	Exposure	Project	Conferment	Leaders Pathways
1 Day Selection exercise	3 Day Induction camp	3 Day Training Sessions (4 Days for START Pathway)	Serve for one Youth Corps community service event + Attend a Red Box Programme	Project planning and implementation with community partner and/or National Agency + Midpoint project sharing at YES Leaders Forum	Commencement ceremony for Youth Corps Leaders and NEA YES Ambassadors	

Mandatory online info session on 2nd September 2022

Registration closes 22 Aug
Sign up now!

Scan the QR Code or go to
<http://go.gov.sg/yes-nea-22>

"I'm passionate about saving the environment but this programme has taught me to lead others and in turn create more positive impact!"
Siti Nadia Bte Hamran, 18, Republic Polytechnic

Part Of: NYC
In Support Of: SG Youth Cares
In Support of: SG GREEN PLAN
In Collaboration With: YES Youth For Environmental Sustainability, National Environment Agency

Section B

Text 2

The text below describes what happened to two men who were pursued by wolves while travelling through a mountain trail. Read it carefully and answer Questions 5 – 15 in the Question Paper.

- 1 It was the end of winter. Gates and I were travelling by horse carriage from Montana to Gulch City, 80 kilometres away, with a load of camp supplies - a barrel of flour, food essentials; a blanket or two, and some dynamite - or giant powder, as the miners call it - for blasting. We had started at daybreak. By five o'clock in the evening, with some 16 kilometres more to travel, the worst of the trail had passed. Snow had almost entirely disappeared, leaving only ragged patches of white under overhanging boughs, and a thin coating of ice in the hard, frost-bound trail, making a treacherous footing for the horses' hoofs. 5
- 2 Suddenly, both horses shied violently to the left. A moment later, they plunged back to the right which almost threw me onto the ground. Then, out of the earth and the shadow of the bushes, grim figures rose on all sides of us. There was not a sound - not a snap nor a snarl but in the gathering twilight, we saw gray timber wolves move over the thin coat of snow which covered the ground. In the uncertain light, and moving as rapidly as we did, it was impossible to guess how many they were. An animal which was one moment in plain sight, running abreast of the horses, would, the next moment, be lost in the shadow of the bushes, while two more silent forms would edge up to take its place. So, on both sides of us, they kept appearing and disappearing. Behind those again, others, less clearly visible, crossed and recrossed the roadway from side to side. They might be twenty in all, or thirty, or forty. It was impossible to tell. 10 15
- 3 At the first sight of the wolves, I drew my revolver from my belt. The horses plunged wildly along the narrow trail, while the ghostlike forms glided patiently alongside — appearing, disappearing, and reappearing. The silent single-mindedness with which they kept pace beside the flying horses was horrible. Even a howl or a yelp or a growl would have been a relief. But not so much as the sound of their footfalls on the snow was to be heard. Gates, handling the reins, was entirely occupied with the horses; but I knew, without need of words, that he saw our pursuers and understood the peril as well as I. 20 25
- 4 Suddenly I became aware that a wolf was almost at my elbow: its head was on a level with my waist as I sat in the low sleigh. In the darkness I could plainly see the white teeth, and the dim circle of the eyes. I fired a shot and I saw the black form roll over and over in the snow as we went by. Simultaneously, two other shadowy shapes that had been running abreast of the horses, dropped back; and looking over my shoulder I could see the wolves throw themselves upon their wounded fellow. 30
- 5 The horses appeared to know that in some way a gleam of hope had come. They ceased plunging and seemed to throw all their energies into putting as wide a space as possible between them and the yelping pack behind. How long would the respite be? Have we finally got rid of them? When will the horrible race finally be over... 35
- 6 But even as hope was forming itself in my mind, I became aware of a dim, gray thing moving beside me and a moment later the trail was again full of the jostling pack surrounding us. Their tactics, however, had changed. Either they had grown bolder, or the wolf they had eaten among them had put a keener edge upon their appetites. There were now four or five of the ghostlike forms moving abreast of the horses on my side of the carriage alone. They were now closing in upon us, with determination. 40

- 7 For the first time Gates turned to look at me. "Jack! The giant powder!" I scrambled over to the carriage's rear. Hastily fumbling among the various supplies, I found the old sack in which the sticks of dynamite were wrapped and lighted a match. An eternity seemed to pass before the red glow had almost reached the end of the cap. A few seconds more and it would explode. 45
- 8 Thrusting the bundle hastily into another sack, forgetting even the wolves in my terror lest it should explode in my hands, I threw it with all my force into the midst of the moving forms abreast of the horses. A moment later and the air and earth shook around us. What had been the effect of it? Would those grim, gray, ruthless forms finally disappear? The seconds passed as the horses, breathing painfully, laboured on over the level trail. Hope grew stronger by the minute. Then suddenly there came a twinkle of light in the distance. Gulch City was finally before us. 50

Adapted from 'On A Mountain Trail' by Harry Perry Robinson

Section C

Text 3

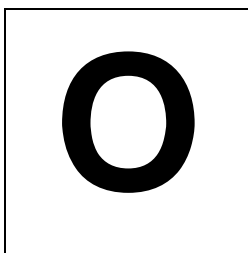
The article below is about a form of social media activism called slacktivism. Read it carefully and answer Questions 16 – 22 in the Question Paper.

- 1 Slacktivism – a seemingly oxymoronic term coined by contracting two opposite words ‘slacking’ and ‘activism’ together, has become such a widespread phenomenon today that it has urged us to reflect on the nature of activism and participation.
- 2 The United Nations defines slacktivism as when people “support a cause by performing simple measures” but are not necessarily “engaged or devoted to making a change”. Other frequently used terms are ‘clicktivism’ or ‘arm-chair activism’. In other words, slacktivism is a way to voice your opinion about a certain cause without taking to the streets or risking your neck. It’s the viral hashtag you’re retweeting, the ‘Save The Turtles’ petition you signed last week. We may do those things with the best intentions. But is this a valid type of activism? Or is it just a way to appease our conscience without truly having to engage? 5 10
- 3 With the current Covid-19 pandemic crisis, slacktivism has gained renewed - and not always positive - attention. Merely six days into lockdown, 25 well-known celebrities, led by actress Gal Gadot, released a video montage of themselves covering John Lennon’s ‘Imagine’, which had been used in the past as an anthem for unity. “Imagine no possessions”, they sang from the comfort of their luxurious homes. In a pandemic that hits poor and vulnerable communities disproportionately hard, this video was considered a tone-deaf message from people in a situation of extreme privilege. What was intended as a message of solidarity and compassion rapidly became a symbol of slacktivism at its worst. 15 20
- 4 Critics of slacktivism, therefore, argue that it doesn’t lead to actual, foot-on-the-ground change, and that it oversimplifies complex global problems. Sharing a link or signing a petition is easy, and so is disengaging from the cause 10 seconds later.
- 5 But it isn’t all bad. During these times of crisis, communities across the globe have shown exceptional resilience and solidarity via social media platforms. Across the world, people are offering each other help with daily activities such as doing groceries, babysitting, picking up medication or walking the dog. Meanwhile, volunteers in Brussels rallied together to donate and distribute meals to health care workers and volunteers in Germany have set up a platform that facilitates person-to-person assistance. While these initiatives are more activism than slacktivism, they do show that social media has played its part in getting people to help in person. 25 30
- 6 Over the course of the pandemic, pure slacktivism has shown its value as well in educating the public. Instagram has launched #StayHome and #StayHomeFor stickers that people can use in their stories. This new feature has helped to highlight the importance of respecting the lockdown guidelines, especially for younger audiences. If a simple sticker on a social platform can make younger audiences realise the dangers of a deadly virus and simultaneously send a positive message to a family or friend they care about, that is slacktivism at its best. 35
- 7 Similarly, slacktivism has also encouraged discussions on pertinent societal issues. For example, the #BlackLivesMatter movement was born as a viral hashtag, but the uproar quickly catalysed into offline reality. People took to the streets for protests, and the topic soon dominated the national conversation in the US. After the death of 40

George Floyd, the #BLM movement is more topical than ever and saw a spike in slacktivist initiatives of varying impact. 45

- 8 Social media also played a vital role in carrying out petitions and fundraising for various charitable causes. In 2021, it seems that this blend of the online realm with everyday reality is the most important precondition for slacktivism to make an impact.
- 9 In order to inspire true change, we'll have to drop the 'slack' eventually. As the 'Imagine' disaster has shown, it also serves us well to acknowledge our privileges when addressing a certain topic. But that doesn't mean that slacktivism in itself has no value. Instead of viewing it as a replacement for more straightforward types of action, we should see it as a first step. 50

Adapted from: <https://www.citizenlab.co/blog/civic-engagement/slacktivism/>



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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1128/02

Paper 2 Comprehension

9 May 2022

1 hour 50 minutes

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

Additional Materials: Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, class and index number in the spaces provided above.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

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

Answer **all** questions.

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	/ 25
Total	/ 50

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

This document consists of 8 printed pages.

Section A [5 marks]

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

- 1** Look at the section **About the Programme**. In what way will programme participants be able to make a big difference to Singapore's environment?

.....
.....

[1]

- 2** In the section **About the Programme**, it is mentioned that the YES Leaders Programme is a structured one. In what way does the webpage reinforce this idea?

.....
.....

[1]

- 3** Look at the illustration at the bottom of the webpage. Identify **one phrase** in the webpage that supports the illustration.

.....
.....

[1]

- 4** Provide **two** details found in the webpage that might make the reader trust the programme and explain why.

(i)

.....

[1]

(ii)

.....

[1]

Section B [20 marks]

Refer to Text 2 on page 3 of the Insert for Questions 5 - 15.

- 5 (a) In Paragraph 1, why was the trail treacherous for the horses?

.....
..... [1]

- (b) Identify **one** phrase used in Paragraph 1 which suggests that they had survived the difficult part of travelling.

.....
..... [1]

- 6 In Paragraph 2, there is a description of the wolves and setting. Explain how the language used in Paragraph 2 emphasises why it was difficult to tell how many wolves were following the men.

Support your answers with **three** details from Paragraph 2.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
..... [3]

- 7 Explain what the following phrases suggest about the contrasting emotions displayed by the behaviours of the horses and wolves.

- (i) 'the horses plunged along the narrow trail' (lines 20-21)

..... [1]
.....

- (ii) 'the silent single-mindedness with which (the wolves) kept pace' (line 22-23)

..... [1]
.....

- 8 The writer says that 'he saw our pursuers and understood the peril as well as I' (lines 26-27). What does this suggest about the men's assessment of their situation?
-
- [1]
- 9 In Paragraph 4, why do you think the two shadowy shapes dropped back?
-
- [1]
- 10 Why does the writer say that there was a 'gleam of hope' in line 34?
-
- [1]
- 11 Give **one** word from Paragraph 5 that has the same meaning as 'rest'.
- [1]
- 12 Explain **in your own words** how the writer emphasises the uncertainty he felt after the two shadowy shapes had dropped back in Paragraph 5.
-
-
-
- [2]
- 13 What does the word 'tactics' in line 40 suggest about the way the wolves pursued the men and horses?
-
- [1]
- 14 (a) Suggest **one** word that describes the writer's feelings found in the phrase 'an eternity seemed to pass before the red glow had almost reached the end of the cap' (lines 47-48).
- [1]

(b) Why would the writer be feeling this way?

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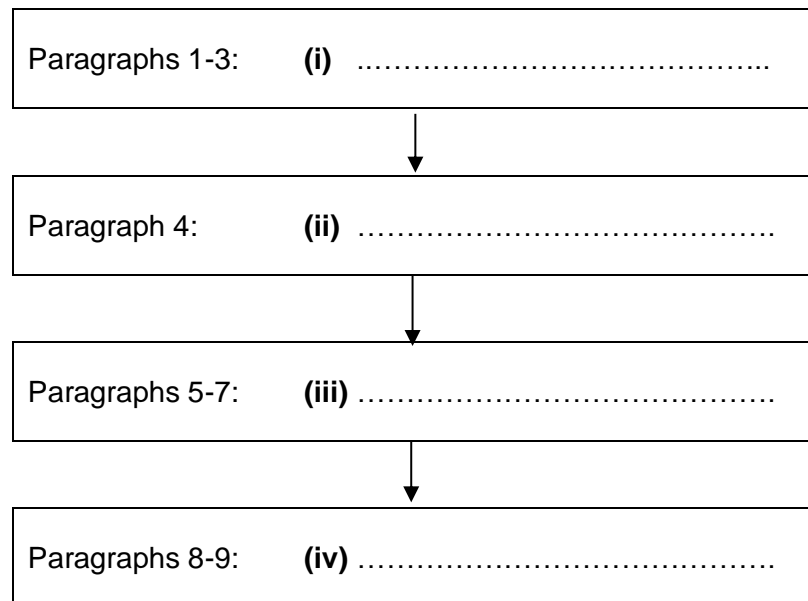
[1]

- 15 The structure of the text reflects Jack and Gates' experiences with the wolves at different stages of their journey. Complete the flow chart by choosing one phrase from the box to summarise their experience in each part of the text. There are some extra phrases in the box that you do not need to use.

Stages in Jack and Gates' experiences with the wolves

a dangerous chase	a brief distraction	a way out	a dogged pursuit
a strange moment	a sudden attack	a new beginning	

Flow Chart



[4]

Section C [25 marks]

Refer to Text 3 on page 5 to 6 of the Insert for Questions 16 – 22.

16 Why is slacktivism considered an oxymoron?

.....

.....

.....

[2]

17 With reference to Paragraph 2, explain how the ‘Save The Turtles’ petition is considered slacktivism.

.....

.....

[1]

18 Identify **another** word in Paragraph 3 that has the same meaning as ‘unequally’.

.....

[1]

19 With reference to Paragraph 3, why was the video created by celebrities considered ‘tone-deaf’?

.....

.....

.....

[2]

20 **In your own words**, explain what ‘disengaging from the cause’ (line 23) means.

.....

.....

[1]

21 Here is part of a conversation between two students, Taylor and Swift, who have read the article.

Taylor
Slacktivism is not helpful at all.



Taylor

Swift
I disagree. Slacktivism has helped people.



Swift

(a) Give **one** piece of evidence from Paragraph 4 to support Taylor's claim.

.....
.....

[1]

(b) With reference to Paragraphs 6 and 7, give **two** pieces of evidence which can support Swift's view.

(i)
(ii)

[2]

22 **Using your own words as far as possible**, summarise the overall benefits slacktivism has brought to people.

Use information only from Paragraphs 5 – 8.

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).

One of the overall benefits of slacktivism has brought to people is.....
.....
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