



**REGENT SECONDARY SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2023
SECONDARY FOUR (EXPRESS)**

NAME: _____

INDEX NUMBER: _____

CLASS: _____

SETTER: MS MELISSA LIM

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1184/01

Paper 1 Writing

21 August 2023

1 hour 50 minutes

Section A

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, index number and class in the spaces at the top of this page.
Write in dark blue or black ink on both sides of the paper.
Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **Section A**.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in the Question Booklet.
At the end of the examination, hand in all sections separately.

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

<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div> 10	TARGET
PARENT'S SIGNATURE	

Section A [10 marks]**Question 1**

Carefully read the text below, consisting of 12 lines about the benefits and misconceptions of Yoga. 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 2pm.

at

My mother always wears sensible clothes.

✓

Yoga has been popular for decades, and participation in this mind-body

practice just keep growing. When people think of yoga, what comes to

1. _____

mind are thin, agility bodies contorting in impossible ways. However,

2. _____

“anybody can do yoga,” says physical therapist Lori Rubenstein Fazzio

3. _____

at Loyola Marymount University at Los Angeles. You do not even have to

4. _____

move your body much, if at all. Even if you focused primarily on the

5. _____

breathing, you can still get much benefits, such as stress relief, better sleep,

6. _____

improved cognition and reduced back pain. One key reason for yoga’s

7. _____

many benefits is that it is a intentional practice that requires focus from

8. _____

both the mind and the body. Due to these emphasis on connecting the

9. _____

mind and the body, yoga can lead to great mental health benefits than

10. _____

other forms of exercise.



**REGENT SECONDARY SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2023
SECONDARY FOUR (EXPRESS)**

NAME: _____

INDEX NUMBER: _____

CLASS: _____

SETTER: MS MELISSA LIM

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1184/01

Paper 1 Writing

21 August 2023

1 hour 50 minutes

Section B

Additional Materials: Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, index number and class in the spaces at the top of this page.

Write in dark blue or black ink.

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

Refer to the Insert for Section B and answer the question for **Section B**.

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

At the end of the examination, hand in all sections separately.

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

<div style="text-align: center; width: 100px; height: 100px; position: relative;"><div style="position: absolute; top: 0; right: 0; width: 50%; height: 50%; border-left: 1px solid black; border-top: 1px solid black;"></div><div style="position: absolute; bottom: 0; left: 0; width: 50%; height: 50%; border-left: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black;"></div><div style="position: absolute; top: 50%; left: 50%; transform: translate(-50%, -50%); font-size: 40px; font-weight: bold;">30</div></div>	TARGET
PARENT'S SIGNATURE	

[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]



**REGENT SECONDARY SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2023
SECONDARY FOUR (EXPRESS)**

NAME: _____

INDEX NUMBER: _____

CLASS: _____

SETTER: MS MELISSA LIM

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1184/01

Paper 1 Writing

21 August 2023

1 hour 50 minutes

Section C

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, index number and class in the spaces at the top of this page.

Write in dark blue or black ink.

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

Answer **one** question from **Section C**.

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

At the end of the examination, hand in all sections separately.

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

<div style="text-align: center; width: 100px; height: 100px; position: relative;"><div style="position: absolute; top: 0; right: 0; width: 50%; height: 50%; border-left: 1px solid black; border-top: 1px solid black;"></div><div style="position: absolute; bottom: 0; left: 0; width: 50%; height: 50%; border-left: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black;"></div><div style="position: absolute; top: 50%; left: 50%; transform: translate(-50%, -50%); font-size: 40px; font-weight: bold;">30</div></div>	TARGET
PARENT'S SIGNATURE	

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal dashed 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.



**REGENT SECONDARY SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2023
SECONDARY FOUR (EXPRESS)**

NAME: _____

INDEX NUMBER: _____

CLASS: _____

SETTER: MS RACHEL LAU

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1184/02

Paper 2 Comprehension

INSERT

**21 August 2023
1 hour 50 minutes**

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This Insert contains Text 1, Text 2, Text 3, and Text 4.

Section A

Study the poster (**Text 1**) and the extract from an online article (**Text 2**) and answer Questions 1-4 in the Question Booklet.

Text 1 is taken from a poster by an environmental non-governmental organisation.



Text 2 is taken from an online article by an environmental research group.

Climate change is altering the intensity of rainfall, and our ancient sewage infrastructure cannot always cope. To prevent sewage from spilling back into businesses and homes that generated it, the excess flow is released into rivers and coastal areas, degrading critical habitats. Add to that a growing population, and you have the perfect storm! While steps have been taken in the right direction to address this issue, we do not see a “pain-free” way out of this situation.

Section B

Text 3

The text below is about a young man who wanders about the streets of New York City.

Read the text carefully and answer Questions 5-13 in the Question Booklet.

- 1 It was late at night, and a fine rain was swirling softly down. A young man was trudging slowly toward the downtown places where beds can be hired for cheap. He was clothed in an old and tattered suit. By the time he had reached City Hall Park he was so completely plastered with yells of 'bum' and 'hobo' that he was in a state of great dejection. The sifting rain saturated the collar of his overcoat, and as the wet cloth pressed against his neck, he felt that there could no longer be pleasure in life. He looked about him, searching for an outcast that they two might share miseries, but the lights threw a quivering glare over rows of deserted park benches that glistened damply. It seemed that their usual occupants had fled on this night to better things. There were only squads of well-dressed people about town. 5 10
- 2 Through the mists of the night, cable cars went in silent procession – great hulking machines moving with formidable power, dangerous and gloomy, breaking silence only by the loud fierce cry of a gong. Two rivers of people swarmed along the sidewalks, a blend of black figures, changing, yet frieze-like. Trains with a shrill grinding of the wheels stopped at the station overhead, which, upon its leg-like pillars, seemed to resemble some monstrous kind of crab squatting over the street. Down an alley, away from the sternly high buildings, there were sombre curtains of purple and blue, on which street lamps dully glittered like embroidered flowers. 15
- 3 A restaurant stood with a voracious air on a corner. A sign leaning against the front of the doorpost announced 'Free hot soup tonight!' The swing doors, snapping to and fro like ravenous lips, made gratified smacks as the restaurant gorged itself with visitors. 20
- 4 Caught by the delectable sign, the young man was himself stepping up to be swallowed when there approached a man in strange garments, singing a little melody for charity. 'Can't you give a poor fellow some money? I've got four cents, and another three gets me a bed. You know how a respectable gentleman feels when he's down on his luck and I...' 25
- 5 The young man spoke to the strange man in tones of astonishment and inquiry. 'You must be crazy! Why don't you strike somebody who looks as if they had money?' 30
- 6 The strange man launched into a long explanation of the situation. It was so profound that it was unintelligible.
- 7 'Four cents,' said the young man thoughtfully. 'If you'll steer me to your cheap joint I'll find the other three.'
- 8 The strange man's face became instantly radiant with joy. Gesticulating gratitude, he led the young man along a winding street. Finally, he stopped before a dusty little door. He raised his hand impressively. 'Look-a-here,' he said, and there was an expression of deep and ancient wisdom upon his face, 'I've brought you here – that's my part, isn't it? If the place doesn't suit you, you won't get mad at me?' 35
- 9 'No,' said the young man.
- 10 The strange man waved his arm tragically, and led the march up a gloom-shrouded stairway. 40

- 11 Shortly after the beginning of this journey the young man felt his liver turn white, for from the dark and secret places of the building there came to his nostrils unspeakable odours that rushed toward him like malignant diseases with wings. Forms of men thickly littered the floor, lying in death-like silence or snoring with tremendous effort like stabbed fish.
- 12 A bed lay tranquilly by the window – that was his spot. A tall locker for clothes stood near its head with the air of a tombstone. Shadows like mighty black fingers curled around the sleeping men; but the young man did not sleep. 45
- 13 He watched from the window the people of the street hurrying about in their good clothes as upon important missions. They expressed to him his infinite distance from all he valued. He felt a sudden awe. Time had no meaning for him, the outcast. The roar of the city down below was to his ear a confusion of strange voices babbling heedlessly. Social position, comfort, and the pleasures of living – these were what the young man hoped for, but which remained unconquerable kingdoms for now. 50

Adapted from 'An Experiment in Misery', by Stephen Crane

Section C

Text 4

The text below is about the rising rates of allergies in our world today.

Read the text carefully and answer Questions 14-20 in the Question Booklet.

- 1 If you are one of the 81 million Americans with hay fever, spring is a mixed blessing. Yes, the days are longer, but they are accompanied by itchy eyes, runny noses, and an endless hunt for antihistamines. On days when the pollen count is highest, seasonal allergies are like an assault – from the outside world, but also from our own bodies' immune systems going into overdrive. 5
- 2 There are growing numbers of allergy sufferers too. Estimates are that 30 to 40 per cent of the world's population now have some form of allergy, including more unusual ones such as Alpha-gal Syndrome, where some people bitten by ticks develop strong reactions to red meat.
- 3 Looking at the rise in allergies, it's hard to shake the feeling that something is off-kilter. Either it's the outside world, our bodies, or the complex interaction between the two, but something is going wrong. The question is why – and what can we do about it? 10
- 4 A good place to start is by figuring out what allergies actually are. One theory is that allergic reactions evolved as a way for the body to expel toxins. In fact, an extreme immune response to a potentially fatal snake bite might have even been viewed in the past as a useful way for the body to respond. 15
- 5 As the world has changed, our overactive immune systems have arguably become out-of-step with the threats we face. It doesn't help that growing seasons for crops are getting longer, exposing people to pollen earlier each spring. At the same time, changing diets and lifestyles are putting our microbiomes out of whack, perhaps making children more likely to become sensitized to food allergens. Stress might also influence our susceptibility to allergies: we know that stress hormones provoke a similar kind of response in mice cells as allergic stressors. 20
- 6 If this is sounding a bit inconclusive, then you'd be right. It's hard to pin down exactly what is causing the rise in allergies – even doctors don't completely agree on what an allergy is. It doesn't help either that there persists a stigma against allergy sufferers, with people accusing them of "faking it" or rolling their eyes when plane attendants announce they won't be serving nuts on a flight. 25
- 7 Our own biases are also on display when we think about solutions to the rise in allergies. Until very recently, the world of allergy treatment has moved at a glacial pace. Antihistamines have been the main treatment for allergies since the 1940s, even though researchers acknowledge they have major shortcomings. Now, a new range of treatments is coming to the fore. In 2020, the US Food and Drug Administration approved the first oral immunotherapy allergy drug, Palforzia, which works by exposing people to a gradually increasing amount of peanut allergens over time. There are also new "vaccines" being developed to immunize people against bee stings, although these require 50 injections over a long period of time. 30 35
- 8 It's not just new anti-allergy drugs we need – we need to change the world in which they exist. Extended pollen seasons are the consequence of climate change and the introduction of plant species into places they never existed in before. Money matters, too. The EpiPen, which can help people survive severe allergic attacks, is so expensive (roughly \$600 for two injectors) that many people who should carry one simply can't afford to. Better food labelling and production can cut down the risk of children having 40

deadly reactions to pre-packaged foods – but only if companies are on board with the change.

45

- 9 “Allergy is ultimately about our human vulnerability, both biological and social,” writes anthropologist Theresa MacPhail in her book, *Allergic: Our Irritated Bodies in a Changing World*. It’s about problems of our own creation and spiralling risks that no one could have foreseen. How we choose to respond is entirely in our hands.

Adapted from ‘You’re Allergic to the Modern World’, WIRED UK May 2023



**REGENT SECONDARY SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2023
SECONDARY FOUR (EXPRESS)**

NAME: _____

INDEX NUMBER: _____

CLASS: _____

SETTER: MS RACHEL LAU

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1184/02

Paper 2 Comprehension

Candidates answer in the Question Booklet.

**21 August 2023
1 hour 50 minutes**

Additional Materials: Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

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

Write in dark blue or black ink.

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

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.

<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; position: relative;"><div style="position: absolute; top: 0; right: 0; width: 50%; height: 50%; border-left: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black;"></div><div style="position: absolute; top: 50%; left: 50%; transform: translate(-50%, -50%); font-size: 40px; font-weight: bold;">50</div></div>	TARGET
PARENT'S SIGNATURE	

Section A [5 marks]

Refer to the poster (Text 1) and the extract from an online article (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 poster.

☐ Keep our oceans clean

☐ Our actions cost lives

☐ Stop—before it's too late

[1]

- 2 Text 1 states that '95% of wastewater is not treated before being discharged.'

Explain why the use of statistics in the above sentence is effective.

.....

.....

[1]

- 3 Identify a phrase in Text 2 which reflects the idea that 'Humanity has treated our oceans as a dumping ground' in Text 1.

.....

.....

[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) The information in the text is a call to action.

Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither

[1]

- (b) The tone suggests the writer and reader are of the same status.

Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither

[1]

Section B [20 marks]

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

- 5 In Paragraph 1, the writer says 'It seemed that their usual occupants had fled on this night to better things.' (lines 8-9)

Explain what you think is meant by 'better things'.

.....
 [1]

- 6 In Paragraph 2, the writer describes the sights and sounds of the city.

Explain how the language used in Paragraph 2 makes the city seem disturbing. Support your ideas with **three** details from the paragraph.

.....

 [3]

- 7 'The swing doors, snapping to and fro like ravenous lips, made gratified smacks as the restaurant gorged itself with visitors.' (lines 20-21)

What is unusual and effective about the phrase 'gorged itself with visitors'?

.....

 [2]

- 8 From Paragraph 4, pick out **two** expressions of **not more than five words each** which show that the young man felt captivated.

(i) [1]

(ii) [1]

- 9 In Paragraph 5, the young man said that the strange man was ‘crazy’ to approach him.

Suggest a reason why the strange man might have hesitated to ‘strike somebody who looks as if they had money’ (line 28).

.....

.....

[1]

- 10 (a) In Paragraph 8, we are told that the strange man ‘stopped before a dusty little door. He raised his hand impressively. ‘Look-a-here,’ he said, and there was an expression of deep and ancient wisdom upon his face, ‘I’ve brought you here – that’s my part, isn’t it?’

What does this description suggest about the feelings of the strange man?

Description	How the strange man felt
(i) ‘raised his hand impressively’	
(ii) ‘an expression of deep and ancient wisdom upon his face’	

[2]

- (b) Why do you think the strange man then ‘waved his arm tragically’ in Paragraph 10?

.....

.....

[1]

- 11 (a) In Paragraph 11, why did the young man feel his liver ‘turn white’?

.....

.....

[1]

- (b) The writer states that ‘Forms of men thickly littered the floor’ of the lodging-house (lines 43-44). **In your own words**, explain what this means.

.....

.....

[2]

- 12 ‘Time had no meaning for him, the outcast.’ (line 50)

Explain why the young man felt this way.

.....

.....

[1]

- 13** The structure of the text reflects the young man's feelings at different stages of the narrative. Complete the flow chart by choosing one word from the box to summarise the main feeling described in each part of the text. There are some extra words in the box you do not need to use. You can only use each word **once**.

The young man's feelings

Resigned	Forlorn	Wary	Intrigued	Delighted	Fearful
----------	---------	------	-----------	-----------	---------

Flow chart

Paragraphs 1-2:	(i)
↓	
Paragraphs 3-9:	(ii)
↓	
Paragraphs 10-12:	(iii)
↓	
Paragraph 13:	(iv)

[4]

Section C [25 marks]

Refer to Text 4 on pages 5 and 6 of the Insert for Questions 14-20.

- 14 With reference to Paragraph 1, explain why spring is a 'mixed blessing' for people with hay fever.

.....
 [2]

- 15 In Paragraph 6, the writer says the theories outlined earlier in Paragraph 5 about what is causing the rise in allergies sound 'inconclusive'.

Which **two** separate words in Paragraph 5 convey this idea?

(i)

(ii) [1]

- 16 In Paragraph 6, we are told that 'even doctors don't completely agree on what an allergy is'.

Explain why the writer uses the word underlined in the expression above.

.....
 [1]

- 17 'Our own biases are also on display when we think about solutions to the rise in allergies. Until very recently, the world of allergy treatment has moved at a glacial pace.' (lines 29-30)

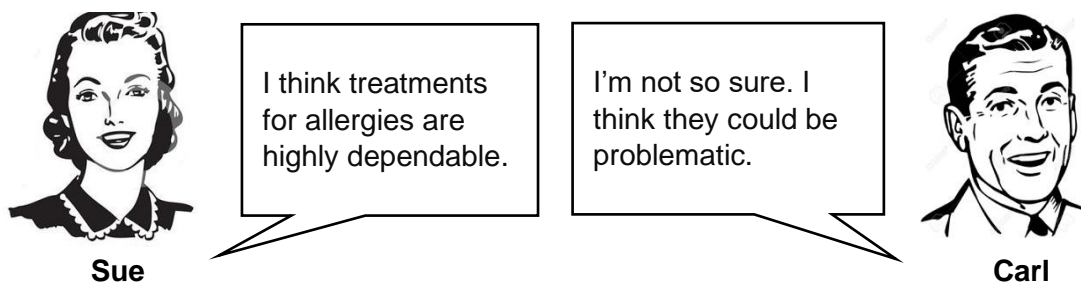
(i) What does the writer mean by the phrase 'at a glacial pace'?

.....
 [1]

(ii) How does this reinforce the writer's argument that there is a bias when it comes to solving the problem of a rise in allergies?

.....
 [1]

- 18 Here is a part of a conversation between two people, Sue and Carl, who have read the article.



- (a) Identify **two** examples from Paragraph 7 that Sue can use to support her argument.

(i)

.....

(ii)

.....

[2]

- (b) What is **one** detail from Paragraph 7 that Carl can give to explain why he feels as he does?

.....

.....

[1]

- 19 Paragraph 9 ends with the sentence, 'How we choose to respond is entirely in our hands.'

What tone is the writer creating here?

.....

.....

[1]

- 20** Using your own words as far as possible, summarise the reasons why allergies are on the rise, and what needs to be changed in order to solve the problem.

Use only information from Paragraphs 5 to 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.

The rise in allergies worldwide today may be attributed to

[illegible]

