Name: _____ (   )   Class: _____   Date: _____

Practice 1

SMSS MYE 2022

The cluster of paddy fields round his hut seemed to stretch forever. Old Uncle Chui himself had never been beyond to find out. At any rate, there were no houses within a two kilometre walk in any direction. The paddy was cool to the eye in the time of rain. At other times, the land was parched and the paddy appeared baked brown. The earth cracked while the hut that stood on it faced south towards the road. Occasionally, there were cars, but the cars played so small a part in his consciousness. If he needed anything, which was rarely, he went only as far as the house of the village headman, the Pu Yai Ban, at the eastern edge of the paddy on the canal. Just across the way was the market, but he never went to market. He needed nothing. He planted rice and at harvest time, could pick up as many fallen grains as he liked. When the rains came, he was ready for any pale movement in the water. He did not wonder where the fish came from. They were there, from early morning, big fresh fish, asking to be caught. Once he had stocked up his larder with fish, vegetables were a minor matter. Some grew all by themselves in the flooded paddy.

(a) At the beginning of the text, the writer describes the effect of the heat on the land. Explain how the language used in Paragraph 1 emphasises the impact of the intense heat. Support your ideas with **three** details from Paragraph 1.

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(b) In Paragraph 1, why did the cars play 'so small a part in his consciousness'?

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Practice 2

CGSS Prelims 2022

Rafaela Cortes spent the morning barefoot, sweeping both dead and living things from over and under beds, from behind doors and shutters, through archways, along the veranda, sweeping them all across the deep shadows and luminous sunlight carpeting the cool tile floors. Her slender arms worked the broom industriously through the air which was already thick with suffocating heat. Along the floor, her feet followed, printing their moisture in dark footprints that the tiles ate up. Every morning, a small pile of assorted insects and tiny animals — moths and spiders, lizards and beetles — collected, their brittle bodies tossed in waves along the floor, a cloudy hush of sandy soil, cobwebs, and human hair.

(a) At the beginning of the text, Rafaela was cleaning the house in the morning. Explain how the language used in Paragraph 1 indicates the morning's weather. Support your ideas with **two** details from Paragraph 1.

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Practice 3

CGSS MYE 2022

Nathan Rand was on his way back to the village after an early morning of gathering medicinal plants when he heard her screams. He dropped his specimen bag and ran to her aid. As he sprinted, he shrugged his short-barrelled shotgun from his shoulder. When alone in the jungle, one always carried a weapon. Before him, a boundless sea of green spread to the horizon in all directions. It was as if the entire world were just forest. The only breaks in the featureless expanse of the continuous canopy were the occasional giant trees that poked their leafy crowns above their brethren, great monsters of the forest that served as nesting sites for birds.

(a) At the beginning of the text, Nathan observes the jungle he was in. Explain what the language tells the reader about the characteristics of the forest. Support your ideas with **three** details from Paragraph 1.as in. Explain what the language tells the reader about the characteristics of the forest. Support your ideas with **three** details from Paragraph 1.

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Practice 4

When I was here all those years ago, the Cedars was a summer house, for rent by the fortnight or the month. During all of June each year a rich doctor and his large, raucous family infested it, laughing at us and throwing stones from behind the unbreachable barrier of the gate, and after them, a mysterious middle-aged couple came, who spoke to no one, and grimly walked their hairless dog in silence at the same time every morning down Station Road to the town.

In Paragraph 3, the writer describes the tenants at the Cedars. Explain how the language used in the paragraph shows how unlikeable the tenants were. Support your answer with **three** details from Paragraph 3.

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[3]