

For each question from 1 to 10, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (10 marks)

1. All together with his cousins, _____ at the old folks' home weekly.
- (1) volunteer
 - (2) volunteers
 - (3) is volunteering
 - (4) have volunteered ()
2. "The salesgirl said she was giving a discount for this bag, _____?" Devi asked.
- (1) was she
 - (2) did she
 - (3) wasn't she
 - (4) didn't she ()
3. "Are we watching this movie? I've heard _____ contradicting reviews about it," he asked his friends.
- (1) few
 - (2) little
 - (3) many
 - (4) much ()
4. Mrs Lim made some healthy sandwiches for her nephews and a cup of coffee for _____.
- (1) herself
 - (2) himself
 - (3) yourselves
 - (4) themselves ()
5. _____ the time she won the award, Kim has been receiving numerous job offers.
- (1) At
 - (2) By
 - (3) From
 - (4) Upon ()

6. These days, the routine of washing our hands and taking our temperature _____ an integral part of our daily lives.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were

()

7. "You _____ melt the butter before adding it to the rest of the ingredients," Mother instructed.

- (1) might
- (2) ought
- (3) would
- (4) should

()

8. "It was a horrible accident! I don't know _____ it happened but when I got there, there were debris everywhere!" Tom shrieked to his friends.

- (1) what
- (2) when
- (3) which
- (4) where

()

9. Neither ~~Miss Tan~~ nor her brothers _____ part in a marathon before.

- (1) is taken
- (2) are taken
- (3) has taken
- (4) have taken

()

10. _____ his illness, Sebastian could not attend his friend's birthday party.

- (1) Owing to
- (2) Despite of
- (3) Giving rise to
- (4) Resulting from

()

For each question from 11 to 15, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

11. The burglar refused to admit his crime and showed no _____ for his wrongdoing.
- (1) trauma
 - (2) remorse
 - (3) awareness
 - (4) discernment
- ()
12. Susan _____ her grandfather who has sacrificed much to take care of the family.
- (1) berates
 - (2) reveres
 - (3) ostracises
 - (4) empowers
- ()
13. Exercising regularly will not only boost your metabolism but it also allows you to gain _____ benefits like gaining confidence and relieving anxiety.
- (1) intangible
 - (2) inaccurate
 - (3) incoherent
 - (4) insufficient
- ()
14. The student leaders are running a campaign to _____ a reduction in the use of plastic bags.
- (1) bring in
 - (2) bring up
 - (3) bring out
 - (4) bring about
- ()
15. Dad and I had to take a different route to Grandma's house as there was a traffic _____ along our usual way.
- (1) diversion
 - (2) distraction
 - (3) digression
 - (4) disturbance
- ()

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined words. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.
(5 marks)

With the rise of managed health care, which emphasises cost-efficiency and brevity, mental health professionals have had to confront this burning question: How can they help clients (16) derive the greatest possible benefit for a better mental health from treatment in the shortest amount of time?

Recent evidence suggests that a promising approach is to complement psychological counselling with additional activities that are not too taxing for clients yet (17) give significant results. One such activity is the practice of gratitude. Indeed, many studies over the past (18) decade have found that people who consciously count their blessings tend to be happier and less depressed.

However, most research studies on gratitude have been conducted with well-functioning people. Hence, three hundred participants who were seeking counselling for issues related to depression and anxiety were (19) recruited.

Among the participants, those who wrote gratitude letters reported (20) significantly better mental health between four and twelve weeks after their writing exercise ended as compared to those who wrote about negative experiences or only received counselling. This suggests that practising gratitude on top of receiving psychological counselling carries greater benefits than counselling alone, even when that gratitude practice is brief.

*Adapted from How Gratitude Changes You and Your Brain
(Joshua Brown and Joel Wong, 8 June 2017)
Greater Good Magazine*

16. (1) take
(2) reap
(3) extract
(4) procure

()

17. (1) yield
(2) cause
(3) return
(4) submit

()

18. (1) one year
(2) ten years
(3) twenty years
(4) one hundred years

()

19. (1) signed in
(2) signed on
(3) signed up
(4) signed off

()

20. (1) entirely
(2) crucially
(3) naturally
(4) remarkably

()

Study this flyer carefully and answer questions 21 to 28.

STAGE 'R' US

Drama School

Our Motto: A World Full of Possibilities!

Do you need help to improve your acting skills?

Stage 'R' Us has two interesting programmes lined up this September break.

SCHOOL'S OUT SPEECH & DRAMA CAMP

Build your confidence in English through activities conducted during the camp.

6 - 10 September 2021

Monday - Friday

*** 8am - 10am / 12pm - 2pm / 4pm - 6pm**

Fees: \$400 per child (inclusive of materials)

EXCLUSIVE OFFER!
First 10 successful online registrations per programme will receive:
10% discount on course fees.
Additional 5% discount if you sign up with a friend.

*Please arrive 30 min before the start of the class.

- Syllabus has been adapted from the Australian GUILD Speech & Drama Exam Board (www.guildexam.com)
- Teachers are native speakers from Australia, UK, USA & Canada
- Categories:
 - Level 1: Young Learners (4 to 6 years old)
 - Level 2: Lower Primary (7 to 10 years old)

Using themes from storybooks that are written by our very own teachers, participants will have a fun learning experience to express themselves confidently. They will also get to enrich their vocabulary through words and phrases found in the books.

Theme: Rosie and the Three Little Pigs (Level 1)

Participants will be able to appreciate the story, learn to make requests and make use of relevant vocabulary words found in the story during the final drama production.

Theme: Up and About with Rosie (Level 2)

Participants will be able to appreciate the story, explore different ways to keep fit and stay healthy and make use of powerful phrases found in the story during the final drama production.

Join our
#instagiveaway

2 winners will be sponsored a programme of their choice.

HOW TO JOIN?

STEP 1: Register your entry through bit.ly/STAGERUSGIVEAWAY

STEP 2: Like our GIVEAWAY post on Instagram and share it in your IG story

STEP 3: Comment on our post and tell us why you would like to join our programme

STEP 4: Tag 5 other drama-loving friends

THEATRE ACTING WORKSHOP

with **DIANA MILLES, A HIGHLY ACCLAIMED PERFORMER**

Improve your acting skills in this online workshop that will be held via Zoom.

6 September 2021

11am - 5pm

***Fees: \$200 per participant (11 to 16 years old)**

***Additional \$100 if you would like to participate in the masterclass session after the workshop**

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Improve your acting skills in this online workshop that will be held via Zoom. Other than the full-day workshop, participants can also look forward to a Question & Answer session and a masterclass opportunity. The 45-minute masterclass session at the end of the workshop will give only the first 5 participants the opportunity to perform to Ms Diana Milles and receive one-to-one advice from her on their performance and technique.

Other participants attending the workshop who do not wish to perform are encouraged to stay for this session as much can be learned from watching others perform.

This exciting full-day online workshop is a fantastic opportunity for any budding young musical theatre performer who may not be a student at Stage 'R' Us Drama School.

To avoid disappointment, book a slot today!



**"This highly sought after workshop that will be delivered by Ms Diana Milles is awesome! It is a fantastic experience for any budding young performers to work with an industry professional who always sets high expectations for herself."
- Amelia Chee, 14 years old**

**"Although I am not very good at dancing, I love the variety of art forms that I was exposed to since Ms Milles led an intensive session of acting and dancing through songs (using Les Miserables theme songs) in her workshops. I was quite sceptical to join this workshop at first. I really did not think that I would be able to learn so much. I underestimated what this online workshop could offer. I had so much fun. Thanks, Ms Milles."
- Hanisah Kassim, 16 years old**

For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.stagerus.com>. You may also email us at stagerus@gmail.com.sg or call us at (+65) 6400 5678 for other enquiries. However, registration for all courses is strictly via online. Last date of registration is 1 September 2021.

For each question from 21 to 28, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (8 marks)

21. The main purpose of the sentence "Do you need help to improve your acting skills?" is to _____.
- (1) question the participants' acting skills
 - (2) draw attention to what Stage 'R' Us can offer
 - (3) emphasise that Stage 'R' Us can showcase participants' talents
 - (4) create awareness that readers need help to better their acting skills
- ()
22. Stage 'R' Us Drama School's motto is befitting as it believes that everything stated below is possible to achieve when one enrolls in their programmes except _____.
- (1) building one's confidence
 - (2) exercising to keep in shape
 - (3) appreciating authentic stories
 - (4) working together with an actress
- ()
23. To participate in the #instagiveaway, participants should do the following except _____.
- (1) sharing the post in their IG story
 - (2) stating why they would want to join the programme
 - (3) tagging five friends who share their passion in visual arts
 - (4) registering their entry through bit.ly/STAGERUSGIVEAWAY
- ()
24. The exclamation mark used in "To avoid disappointment, book a slot today!" under the Workshop Summary section for the Theatre Acting Workshop is to _____.
- (1) draw attention to the registration deadline
 - (2) encourage participants to enrol in the workshop immediately
 - (3) announce that participants will be disappointed if they do not register for the workshop
 - (4) convey excitement about the fantastic opportunity for budding young performers
- ()

25. Participants must pay the full course fee of _____ to experience the masterclass opportunity during the Theatre Acting Workshop with Diana Milles.
- (1) \$100
 - (2) \$200
 - (3) \$300
 - (4) \$400 ()
26. Mrs Tan wants to enrol her two children – an eight year-old son and a thirteen year-old daughter - in the programmes organised by Stage 'R' Us Drama School. Which timing is the most suitable for Mrs Tan to enrol her eight-year-old son in if she prefers to be present for both her children's sessions?
- (1) 8^aam – 10am
 - (2) 11am – 5pm
 - (3) 12pm – 2pm
 - (4) 4pm - 6pm ()
27. Based on the information provided in the brochure, which of the following statements is **true**?
- (1) Email Stage 'R' Us to register for any of the courses.
 - (2) The Theatre Acting Workshop is open to students of all ages.
 - (3) Participants for the masterclass session is on a first-come-first-served basis.
 - (4) Course content for the Drama Camp is taken entirely from the Australian GUILD Speech & Drama Exam Board ()
28. The flyer quotes that Hanisah Kassim was initially "quite sceptical" to take part in the Theatre Acting Workshop. She felt that way as she thought that _____.
- (1) she was not a good dancer
 - (2) it would be too intensive for her to cope
 - (3) she could not meet Ms Milles' expectations
 - (4) the workshop was not going to be beneficial ()

End-of-Booklet A

There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

(A) a	(D) as	(G) is	(K) them	(N) were
(B) about	(E) but	(H) it	(L) to	(P) where
(C) an	(F) from	(J) out	(M) was	(Q) which

When I heard the rumble, I knew something was very wrong. A group of people and I had hiked _____ the top of Pacaya volcano, an active volcano, just outside Guatemala City. (29)

_____ our vantage point, we could see small red jets of lava shooting _____ of the volcano's cone. However, the guides said there was nothing to worry _____. (30) (31) (32)

We could see the spectacular eruptions but not hear _____. (33)
All of a sudden, there was a slow deep rumble that sounded like _____ avalanche. Then we started hearing the lava jets _____ they exploded into the air. Next, a large sulphuric cloud, smelling like rotten eggs, enveloped us. It was only three in the afternoon _____ the sky was dark. We could feel the heat of the explosion and it was like we _____ standing right next to a raging campfire. (34) (35) (36) (37)

Our guides started running as fast as they could and they were shouting at us to do the same. It was fortunate that we ran away immediately. When I looked back, there was a river of lava _____ we had been standing. Except for a few minor injuries in our group, there were no fatalities as we narrowly escaped to safety.

(38)

Adapted from The Guardian – Towns at risk as lava flows from Guatemala's Pacaya



Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in each of the boxes. (12 marks)

The potato was brought to Europe by explorers in the 1500s.

(39)

Although the potato is consumed extansively in Europe today, it struggled for

(40)

acceptence when it was first introduced by the royal family of France.

King Louis XVI of France saw the potential of the potato as a

(41)

(42)

substitut for wheat. A series of publicity stunts is staged to encourage French citizens

(43)

(44)

to look on the humble tuber from a new perspective. The King hosted dinners feature

many potato dishes and invited only the nobles to these feasts. These made the potato

(45)

seem like food that was exclusive with the rich and it soon became a topic of

(46)

conversation all over France. Next, he stationed the impireal guards at the patch where

(47)

the potatoes were grown but he also instructed them to recieve bribes from civilians

that wanted to enter the area that had restrictions imposed on them. The security was

(48)

(49)

also dilliberately relaxed at night so that civilians could stole the potatoes more easily.

(50)

This news spread quickly between the people and more people started to consume the

potato. All these efforts paid off and the potato has become an important part of

French cuisine.

Adapted from Nobility and Analogous – Traditional Elites in the Allocutions of Pius XII



Fill in each blank with the most suitable word.

(15 marks)

Koalas in the wild may be placed on the danger list after a plunge in their population in Australia. Some studies estimate that there are (51) _____ than 80,000 koalas left. It was reported there is a drop in their fertility rate as they have been stricken (52) _____ a disease. In addition, they are suffering from the impact of the destruction of their habitat and changes in the climate.

According (53) _____ the local media, the Australian Minister for the Environment is expected to list koalas in Queensland as 'endangered' and (54) _____ in New South Wales as 'vulnerable'. This means restrictions would be (55) _____ on mining projects, logging operations and housing developments in their habitats in these areas. However, environmental groups say such restrictions are not impactful enough. These restrictions ought to cover a wider area in Australia (56) _____ order to have a greater impact to manage the decline.

Research done in a koala habitat near Sydney (57) _____ shown that the population of koalas have (58) _____ by 75% since 1993. David Paul, an ecological expert who did the study, related the dwindling koala (59) _____ in that area to the drought and hot weather recorded in the last decade.

"A lot of koalas were suffering (60)_____ to the lack of water sources and I think perhaps it might be an early sign of climate change," said Paul. Paul also added that koalas in other parts of Australia suffer from habitat (61)_____, which is caused mainly by the conversion of wildlife habitat to new housing developments. Environmentalists have recommended that the koala should be considered as a vulnerable animal in those states where (62) _____ is a significant decline in the koala population.

"The Environment Minister should not (63)_____ the decision any further. He should list the koala as 'vulnerable' and (64)_____ actions at once to strengthen national environmental law by listing the koalas as 'endangered'," a Senator said in an interview. The Environment Minister who has considered the decision twice before, is scheduled to make the decision based (65)_____ advice from the National Threatened Species Scientific Committee soon. Environmentalists are keeping their fingers crossed that the minister would make a prompt decision soon.

Adapted from: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2136443/Koalas2012>



For each of the questions from 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s). (10 marks)

66. Jane likes classical music. She likes pop music more.

Jane prefers _____

67. He was anxious. He stuttered during his presentation.

Due to _____

68. Father asked May, "What did you buy for Mother for her birthday?"

Father asked May _____

69. Only Jane and John do not like swimming.

Everyone, with the exception _____

70. John knows who stole the wallet. He does not want to reveal anything.

Despite _____



Read this passage and answer questions 71 to 80.

<p>When I was young, my family lived in a dilapidated wooden house on the outskirts of Limbang, a small town in Northern Sarawak, Malaysia. It stood on wooden stilts and had a steep sloping roof of corrugated zinc sheets which made the ramshackle house very hot in the day. The tiny collection of rooms inside could barely contain all my family - Father, Mother and eleven children.</p>	5
<p>I was the second eldest. My siblings and I often ran about and when we got too boisterous, the whole house shook. "The house is going to collapse!" my mother would yell at us.</p>	
<p>We seemed to live in perpetual darkness. The nearby trees formed a dense canopy. They blocked out much of the sunlight during the day. The nights were always a brooding, foreboding time. That was the 1950s and early 1960s, and we used kerosene lamps which gave only dim light. The gloom was made worse by the superstitious fears Mother passed on to us. Raised in a traditional Chinese family where ancestor worship was practised, we believed in ghosts and malevolent wandering spirits.</p>	10 15
<p>As little children, we were sometimes just afraid of the dark and Mother would ask in a voice tinged with fear, "Why are you so afraid? What do you see?" Although we saw nothing, her questions made us even more frightened. They aroused in us feelings of apprehension and phobia. To me, there was nothing more terrifying than the prospect of meeting a ghost.</p>	20
<p>Our friends, probably afraid of the dark, creepy appearance of the house, rarely came over to play. I once overheard one of my relatives telling her children that our house was haunted. This did not affect us one bit. We had fun playing Hide-And-Seek around the house. The walls were splendid for climbing – the overlapping horizontal planks provided excellent footholds. We scaled the walls to our 'hideouts' to get away from the seeker.</p>	25
<p>By the time I was a teenager, my superstitious fears had been replaced by feelings of discontent and anger. I envied all my friends. They had nicer homes with proper plumbing. We did not even have a toilet! Instead, we used chamber pots. If friends dropped by unexpectedly before the chamber pots had been emptied, I would be overcome with shame. Although most of the time they were hidden away in the bedrooms, I was sure my friends could smell them. After school, I would walk home in a different direction, giving my friends the impression that I lived near their street where the houses were nicer.</p>	30
<p>When I was thirteen, I sprained my ankle at school and my principal, a Canadian named Mr Spark, drove me home. We arrived just in time to see my younger sister, Siok Kiat, at the stream. She was emptying a chamber pot. This last scene unfolded in painfully slow motion. I wished I was somewhere else at that</p>	35

moment. I felt ashamed. Although he did not say anything, I imagined him thinking, "What an unhygienic and uncivilised family!"

40

I admit that life was not always terrible. My sisters, brothers and I enjoyed playing *Rounders and football in the big grass field in the centre of the town. At dusk, we would reluctantly return home. We also spent many exciting hours challenging one another when we played *Five Stones. When I was in my mid-teens, we had electricity. A fluorescent tube lit the living room and the bedrooms and the kitchen each had a light bulb. Still, I could see nothing much to cherish about my home. To me, it was ugly and rotten - an eyesore.

45

Then, when I was sixteen, some teachers from my school came to visit. We were celebrating Chinese New Year, and as was the custom of many Sarawakians, we had an open house. By this time most of my teachers, especially my Art teacher, Mr Ho, knew that I was extremely embarrassed to tell people where I lived. He devised a plan to change my perspective.

50

As Mr Ho entered the house, he said, "Siok Hong, your home is situated in such a beautiful setting. I had to stop and admire it from the road. All those trees forming the backdrop make it look picturesque."

55

Suddenly, I saw my house in a different light. From Mr Ho's artistic point of view, it was as though my house had magically transformed itself into this majestic and magnificent abode in the midst of an enchanting woodland. It was something I had not thought of before.

*traditional games played in the past

Adapted from 'In a Different Light' Readers' Digest, March 2006

71. Pick out two words from the first paragraph which describe the condition of the writer's house. (2m)

and

72. What caused the writer's house to be 'very hot in the day'? (1m)

73. Which two-word phrase in paragraph 3 tells you that the writer's mother was religious? (1m)

--

74. Give two reasons why the writer's house was in 'perpetual darkness'. (2m)

i)
ii)

75. The writer encountered many experiences and emotions as a result of living in his childhood house. Complete the table below using information from paragraphs 5 and 6. (2m)

Action(s)	Reason(s) from the passage
	The writer's friends were afraid of the dark, creepy appearance of the house.
The writer would use a different route to go home after school.	

--

76. Look at the table below. What do the words in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. (3m)

Words from the passage	What the word(s) refer(s) to
They (line 18)	
This last scene (line 37-38)	
it (line 47)	

77. Based on the story, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. (3m)

	True/False	Reason
When the writer was a child, he was afraid of ghosts and malevolent wandering spirits.		
When they were young, the writer and his siblings were bothered by comments from their relatives that their house was haunted.		
Mr Spark felt that Siok Hong's family was unhygienic and uncivilised.		



78. Based on lines 48 - 55, state one quality that best describes Mr Ho. Support your answer with information from the passage. (2m)

Quality	Information from the passage

79. Which **two** of the following words best describe the writer in his younger days? Put a tick (✓) in the box beside each of your answers. DO NOT TICK MORE THAN TWO BOXES. (2m)

immature

self-reliant

self-conscious

rebellious

arrogant

unappreciative

80. Explain how the writer's view of his house changed after Mr Ho's visit? (2m)

END - OF- PAPER

Booklet A

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
2	4	3	1	3	1	4	2	4	1
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
2	2	1	4	1	2	1	2	3	4
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28		
2	2	3	2	3	1	3	4		

Booklet B

Q29	Q30	Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38
L	F	J	B	K	C	D	E	N	P
Q39	Extensively		Q43	At		Q47	Receive		
Q40	acceptance		Q44	Featuring		Q48	Deliberately		
Q41	Substitute		Q45	For		Q49	Steal		
Q42	Was		Q46	imperial		Q50	among		

Q51	Less	Q56	In	Q61	Loss
Q52	By	Q57	Has	Q62	There
Q53	To	Q58	Dropped	Q63	Delay
Q54	Koalas	Q59	Population	Q64	Take
Q55	Placed	Q60	due	Q65	On

Q66	Jane prefers pop music to classical music.
Q67	Due to his anxiety, he stuttered during his presentation.
Q68	Father asked May what she bought for mother for her birthday.
Q69	Everyone, with the exception of Jane and John, likes swimming.

Q70	Despite knowing who stole the wallet, he does want to reveal anything.
Q71	Dilapidated and ramshackle
Q72	The writer's house stood on wooden stilts and had a steep sloping roof of corrugated zinc sheets.
Q73	Ancestor worship
Q74	i) The nearby trees formed a dense canopy which blocked out much of the sunlight during the day. ii) The kerosene lamps gave of only dim lights
Q75	Actions : The writer's friends would rarely go to writer's house to play. Reasons : The writer wanted to give his friends the impression that he lived near their streets where the houses were nicer.
Q76	Mother's questions The sight of Siok Kiat emptying a chamber pot at the stream The writer's home
Q77	True : When the writer was a child to him, there was nothing more terrifying than the prospect of meeting a ghost and malevolent wandering spirit. False : The writer and his siblings were not affected by the comments and still had fun playing in the house. False : The writer felt that, that was what Mr Spark must have been thinking when he saw the writer's sister cleaning the chamber pot.
Q78	Caring : He devised a plan to help Siok Hong appreciate his house.
Q79	Immature Self-conscious
Q80	At first, he thought it was not good and out-dated, and was embarrassed by the fact he lived there. After Mr Ho's visit, he thought his house was a majestic and magnificent abode in midst of an enchanting woodlands.