

PSLE English · Practice Paper 2 · Silver 2

Booklet A

25 MARKS

TOTAL TIME FOR BOOKLETS A & B: 1 hour 50 minutes

CANDIDATE PARTICULARS

Name: _____

Class: _____

Register No.: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
2. Follow all instructions carefully.
3. Answer all questions.
4. Use a 2B pencil to shade your answers on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS).

PAPER 2 · BOOKLET A · 25 MARKS

Multiple-choice questions

Section	Marks
Section 1 · Grammar (Questions 1–10)	10
Section 2 · Vocabulary (Questions 11–15)	5
Section 3 · Vocabulary Cloze (Questions 16–20)	5
Section 4 · Visual Text Comprehension (Questions 21–25)	5
TOTAL	25

Section 1 · Grammar

For each question from 1 to 10, choose the answer that best fits the sentence(s). Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (10 marks)

- By six o'clock every morning, Ravi _____ for over an hour, his bicycle basket already half empty.
 - cycles
 - has cycled
 - had been cycling
 - was cycling
- Each of the newspapers in the canvas bag _____ to be slipped carefully under the iron gate of a flat.
 - have
 - has
 - are
 - were
- "You _____ stay out late tonight," Mr Krishnan reminded his son before leaving for his second job.
 - could not
 - would not
 - must not
 - may not
- The bag of newspapers, along with two thermos flasks of coffee, _____ tied to the back of the bicycle.
 - are
 - have
 - is
 - were
- Aunty Devi, _____ flat is on the seventh floor, always leaves a small biscuit for Ravi on her shoe rack.
 - who
 - whose
 - who's
 - which

6. _____ the steady drizzle, the two cyclists pressed on without complaint.
- (1) Although
 - (2) Despite
 - (3) Because of
 - (4) However
7. If Ravi _____ his father better, he would understand why the old man kept working two jobs.
- (1) does not know
 - (2) did not know
 - (3) knew
 - (4) would know
8. Of all the boys in his class, Ravi is _____ — he wakes at four every weekday without an alarm.
- (1) a more disciplined one
 - (2) the more disciplined
 - (3) the most disciplined
 - (4) most disciplined of
9. The Tamil newspaper _____ Ravi delivers to Block 28 is read aloud by Mr Subramaniam to his elderly mother every morning.
- (1) who
 - (2) whose
 - (3) which
 - (4) where
10. The narrow lane behind Tekka Centre _____ by tropical downpours long before the boys reached it.
- (1) was flooded
 - (2) had been flooded
 - (3) has been flooded
 - (4) is flooded

Section 2 - Vocabulary

For each question from 11 to 15, choose the answer that best fits the sentence(s). Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

11. Mr Krishnan worked two jobs to make _____ meet for his small family.
- (1) ends
 - (2) edges
 - (3) sides
 - (4) lines
12. The sudden downpour caught the cyclists _____ guard halfway through their round.
- (1) over
 - (2) off
 - (3) out
 - (4) without
13. Despite his weariness, Mr Krishnan never _____ a single delivery in twenty years.
- (1) missed
 - (2) lost
 - (3) dropped
 - (4) skipped
14. The aroma of freshly brewed coffee from the kopitiam below was so _____ that Ravi's stomach grumbled in protest.
- (1) delicious
 - (2) inviting
 - (3) tasty
 - (4) loud
15. Ravi looked at his father with a _____ respect he had never felt before.
- (1) new-found
 - (2) newly-finding
 - (3) new-finding
 - (4) newly-found

Section 3 - Vocabulary Cloze

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

Every Deepavali, our family travels back to my grandmother's home in Little India for a big reunion. The trip always begins with a long list of things to prepare, and my mother grows increasingly flustered⁽¹⁶⁾ as the day draws near.

When we finally arrive, my grandmother greets us at the gate with a radiant⁽¹⁷⁾ smile that erases the tiredness of the journey. She presses small parcels of murukku into our palms and ushers us into the warm, spice-scented kitchen.

Inside, my cousins are already arguing playfully over who will light the first oil lamp. My uncle intervenes⁽¹⁸⁾ with a gentle joke, and the noise dissolves into laughter. By dusk, the entire flat is glowing with the soft amber of lit wicks.

After dinner, my grandmother brings out a battered tin box and recounts⁽¹⁹⁾ the story of how she came to Singapore in 1968, with nothing but a single suitcase and a small photograph of her own mother.

I listen quietly. For the first time, I understand that the festival is not only about lights and sweets, but about the enduring⁽²⁰⁾ bond between generations that no distance can break.

16.

- (1) agitated
- (2) delighted
- (3) exhausted
- (4) puzzled

17.

- (1) worried
- (2) shy
- (3) beaming
- (4) puzzled

18.

- (1) disappears
- (2) steps in
- (3) stays silent
- (4) shouts

19.

- (1) argues
- (2) denies
- (3) writes
- (4) narrates

20.

- (1) lasting
- (2) fragile
- (3) newly formed
- (4) uncertain

Section 4 - Visual Text Comprehension

For each question from 21 to 25, choose the best answer based on the notice below. Shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

Study the poster below carefully. Then answer questions 21 to 25.

WHEELS OF KINDNESS

Charity Bicycle Ride 2026

Pedal for a purpose.

Date: Sunday, 9 August 2026
Time: 6.30 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.
Venue: Start and end: Tekka Centre Plaza, Little India

ROUTES

- Family Loop - 5 km (open to all ages; children below 12 must ride with an adult guardian)
- Heritage Route - 15 km (12 years and above)
- Endurance Loop - 30 km (16 years and above; helmets compulsory)

REGISTRATION FEE

- S\$15 per rider
- S\$40 family bundle (up to 4)
- All proceeds go towards meal programmes for migrant workers in Singapore.

WHAT TO BRING

- Your own reusable water bottle - we are going single-use-plastic-free.
- Helmet (compulsory for the Endurance Loop).
- Sun hat and sunscreen.

REGISTRATION

- Register by 26 July 2026 at brainbuzz.sg/wheelsofkindness

ENQUIRIES
Organised by Little India Community Trust. Enquiries: trust@littleindia.org.sg

21. What is the main purpose of the poster?

- (1) To promote a new bicycle shop in Little India.
- (2) To advertise a charity bicycle ride raising funds for migrant workers.
- (3) To recruit professional cyclists for a national competition.
- (4) To announce road closures around Tekka Centre.

22. Which of the following is not mentioned in the poster?
- (1) The route the cyclists will take.
 - (2) The registration fee for participants.
 - (3) The minimum age of participants.
 - (4) The maximum number of cyclists allowed to join.
23. A family with a nine-year-old child wishes to take part. According to the poster, what must they do?
- (1) Sign up only for the 5 km Family Loop and bring an adult guardian.
 - (2) Sign up for any route — children are welcome on all of them.
 - (3) Pay a higher fee because the child is below twelve.
 - (4) Apply for a separate permit at the registration counter.
24. Why does the poster ask participants to bring a reusable water bottle?
- (1) Because no drinks will be sold on the route.
 - (2) Because the organisers want to reduce single-use plastic waste.
 - (3) Because the event will be held in the afternoon heat.
 - (4) Because bottled water is too expensive at the venue.
25. How will the proceeds from the ride be used?
- (1) To buy new bicycles for the participants.
 - (2) To support meal programmes for migrant workers in Singapore.
 - (3) To fund road repairs around Little India.
 - (4) To pay for the next year's event.

Please note that the passage for Comprehension Questions 66 to 75 in Booklet B is printed below and on the following page. Read it carefully. You may now go on to Booklet B.

Comprehension passage for Booklet B (Questions 66 to 75)

Read this passage carefully. The questions in Booklet B (Section 9, Questions 66 to 75) refer to it.

The Newspaper Boy

- 1 Ravi Krishnan was twelve years old, and for the last three years he had risen before the city did. At four in the morning, while the corridor lights of Block 28 still hummed alone in the dark, he would lace his canvas shoes, pull on a thin windbreaker, and meet his father at the foot of the void deck. There, the bundles of Tamil newspapers waited for them, tied with red plastic string, their headlines damp with the early dew. 5
- 2 His father, Mr Krishnan, had come to Singapore from a small village in Tamil Nadu twenty years ago. He worked two jobs: the newspaper round before sunrise, and a security shift at a warehouse near the docks from eight in the morning until evening. He spoke little, and when he did, his English was careful and slow, as though he was choosing each word out of a tin. 10
- 3 They knew the route by heart. Block 28, Block 30, Block 34. The kopitiam at the corner of Buffalo Road that opened at five. The narrow back lane behind Tekka Centre where the gutters sometimes overflowed. Mr Subramaniam on the seventh floor of Block 34, who read the paper aloud to his elderly mother every morning. Aunty Devi in Block 30, who always left a single Marie biscuit on her shoe rack for Ravi. The round took two and a half hours if all went well. 15
- 4 That particular Tuesday in June, the sky had been heavy from the start. Ravi had glanced up at the clouds while loading the bicycle basket and felt something tighten in his chest. His father had simply nodded, as though to say, "We have done this in worse," and pushed off into the dark. 20
- 5 By half past five, they had finished Block 28. By six, they were halfway up Block 30. And then, without warning, the rain came down like silver pins — sharp, fast, and very cold. Within seconds, the canvas bag was soaked through. Ravi's windbreaker turned heavy on his shoulders. The newspapers, wrapped only in thin plastic, would be ruined if they were not sheltered at once. 25
- 6 "Quick — under there," said his father, pointing. They wheeled the bicycle into the void deck of Block 30 and pressed themselves against the cool wall. Mr Krishnan untied the bundles and inspected each one with quick, practised fingers, sliding the damp papers into a fresh plastic sheath he had pulled from inside his shirt. He always carried a spare. Ravi had never noticed before. 30
- 7 The rain showed no sign of slowing. Mr Krishnan sat down on the low concrete

- bench, and for a moment, in the grey light, Ravi saw him with new eyes. The lines around his father's mouth were deeper than he remembered. His shoulders carried a tiredness that had been stitched into him by years, not by a single morning. He looked, suddenly, like an old man. 35
- 8 "Sit, sit," his father said gently. They sat together, listening to the rain hiss against the carpark. After a long silence, Mr Krishnan began to speak — not in his usual short sentences, but in a slow, steady voice that Ravi had never quite heard before. 40
- 9 "When I was your age," he began, "I also had a father. In Tamil Nadu. He worked in the rice fields. One season the fever came to our village. Many people fell sick. My father — he was thirty-six — he caught it also." Mr Krishnan paused, looking at his hands. "He died in eight days. I was thirteen." 45
- 10 Ravi did not speak. He had never heard this story. He had not even known his grandfather's name.
- 11 "After that, my mother had no one," his father continued. "I left school at fourteen. I worked in a workshop, fixing bicycles. I sent money home every month. When I was twenty, I came here, to Singapore, to send more. That is why," he said, looking at Ravi for the first time, "when I do this round with you, I am not tired. I am lucky. My father did not see me grow up. I see you grow up. Every morning." 50 55
- 12 The rain was still falling, but Ravi no longer noticed it. He understood, in a way words could not hold, that his father had not been quiet all these years because he had nothing to say. He had been quiet because he had been carrying something heavy and kind. When the rain finally eased, they wheeled the bicycle back into the wet street and finished the round in silence — but it was a different silence now, and Ravi rode home that morning sitting a little taller in his seat. 60

END OF BOOKLET A

PSLE English · Practice Paper 2 · Silver 2

Booklet B

65 MARKS

TOTAL TIME FOR BOOKLETS A & B: 1 hour 50 minutes

CANDIDATE PARTICULARS

Name: _____

Class: _____

Register No.: _____ Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
2. Follow all instructions carefully.
3. Answer all questions.
4. Use a dark blue or black ballpoint pen to write your answers in the spaces provided.
5. Do not use correction fluid, correction tape or highlighters.
6. Please do not write in the margin.

PAPER 2 · BOOKLET B · 65 MARKS

Written response

Section	Marks
Section 5 · Grammar Cloze (Questions 26–35)	10
Section 6 · Editing for Spelling and Grammar (Questions 36–45)	10
Section 7 · Comprehension Cloze (Questions 46–60)	15
Section 8 · Synthesis and Transformation (Questions 61–65)	10
Section 9 · Comprehension Open-Ended (Questions 66–75)	20
TOTAL	65

Section 5 · Grammar Cloze

There are 10 blanks, numbered 26 to 35, 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. Each word may be used once only. The letters I and O have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

A in	F of	L although
B to	G who	M with
C when	H that	N whose
D as	J but	P were
E on	K which	Q how

Every December, my school takes the Primary 6 cohort on a heritage trail _____⁽²⁶⁾ Little India. We had been looking forward _____⁽²⁷⁾ the trip for weeks, and the morning _____⁽²⁸⁾ we finally set off was bright and cool. Our guide, Mr Naidu, was waiting for us _____⁽²⁹⁾ we stepped off the bus at Tekka Centre. He had been leading walking tours _____⁽³⁰⁾ these streets for almost thirty years.

Many _____⁽³¹⁾ us had never visited the back lanes before. Mr Naidu, _____⁽³²⁾ noticed our curious faces, smiled warmly and promised us a quiet surprise at the end. He told us _____⁽³³⁾ we should listen for the small sounds — the snip of a tailor's scissors, the chime of a temple bell. None of us spoke at first, _____⁽³⁴⁾ after a few minutes the whole group was pointing things out. The promised surprise turned out to be a free cup of masala chai at a tiny kopitiam, _____⁽³⁵⁾ made us all very happy.

Section 6 - Editing for Spelling and Grammar

Each of the underlined words in the passage below contains either a **spelling** error or a **grammatical** error. There are 5 spelling errors and 5 grammatical errors in total. Write the correct word in the box beside its question number. (10 marks)

Every weekday morning, my elder sister and I walks⁽³⁶⁾ to the

36

kopitiam at the corner of our block to buy breakfast for our grandfather. The owner, Uncle Boon, who has run the stall for over thirty years,

always greet⁽³⁷⁾ us by name. Last Tuesday, he recieved⁽³⁸⁾ a

37

delivery of fresh kaya that smelled so tempt⁽³⁹⁾ that we almost ordered

39

an extra slice for ourselves. While we were waiting, my sister accidentally

knock⁽⁴⁰⁾ over a small glass of warm milk on the counter.

40

Embarass⁽⁴¹⁾ by the noise, she quickly bent down to clean up.

41

Uncle Boon merely chuckled and said that even the most careful of customers has⁽⁴²⁾ clumsy moments. Before we left, he remind⁽⁴³⁾ us that

42

the stall would open later than usual the following day. My sister seperated⁽⁴⁴⁾ the warm toast from the soft-boiled eggs and tucked

44

everything carefully into our basket, determined that nothing would dissapear⁽⁴⁵⁾ on the short walk home.

45

Section 7 - Comprehension Cloze

Read the passage below carefully. Fill in each numbered blank with a suitable word. Use only ONE word per blank. (15 marks)

Lakshmi had always envied the cousins who lived in the village. Whenever the family gathered in Madurai for the summer holidays, she would _____⁽⁴⁶⁾ quietly by the well, watching them climb the tamarind tree and dash through the paddy fields. She had grown up in a small Singapore flat and felt, in her _____⁽⁴⁷⁾ heart, that the village was where the real living happened.

One afternoon, her grandmother called her into the kitchen. She _____⁽⁴⁸⁾ Lakshmi a small cloth bag and asked her to grind some cardamom for the evening payasam. Lakshmi tried to _____⁽⁴⁹⁾ that she did not know how, but her grandmother only smiled and patted the seat beside her. "A girl of eleven," her grandmother said softly, "must at least learn how to _____⁽⁵⁰⁾."

Her grandmother showed her how to crush the green pods with the side of a stone, explaining _____⁽⁵¹⁾ the seeds would release their oils more easily that way. Lakshmi tried, but the pods kept slipping away from _____⁽⁵²⁾. She huffed and almost gave up.

To her surprise, her grandmother did not scold her. Instead, the old woman wrapped her warm hand over Lakshmi's and guided it. Lakshmi practised every afternoon, _____⁽⁵³⁾ handful after handful of pods on a wooden board. By the third day, she could crush a small heap _____⁽⁵⁴⁾ a time. By the fifth, the kitchen carried a faint, sweet aroma whenever she _____⁽⁵⁵⁾ the room.

On the last evening of the visit, her grandmother asked her to prepare the cardamom for the whole family's payasam alone. Lakshmi's heart hammered, but she settled at the low stool and began to _____⁽⁵⁶⁾. Her wrists ached and her fingers turned a faint green, _____⁽⁵⁷⁾ she kept working. When the small brass bowl was finally _____⁽⁵⁸⁾, the cousins clapped in mock ceremony. She felt a _____⁽⁵⁹⁾ of pride she had never felt at home.

That night, she wrote in her diary: 'The village is not magical because of the trees or the fields. _____⁽⁶⁰⁾ is magical because grandmother is here, and she has time to teach me.'

Section 8 - Synthesis and Transformation

For each question from 61 to 65, 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). Each question carries 2 marks. (10 marks)

61. Ravi was too tired to finish his homework after the long round. [2]

Ravi was not _____

.....

62. Mr Krishnan said to his son, "I will tell you the rest of the story tomorrow." [2]

Mr Krishnan told his son that

.....

63. The boys delivered every newspaper in the rain. They were drenched from head to toe. [2]

Having _____

.....

64. Aunty Devi leaves a Marie biscuit on her shoe rack every morning. Ravi looks forward to picking it up. [2]

Ravi looks forward _____

.....

65. Mr Krishnan had worked very hard. He never complained about being tired. [2]

Despite _____

.....

Section 9 - Comprehension Open-Ended

Read the passage 'The Newspaper Boy' in Booklet A. Answer the questions below in the spaces provided. Marks for each question are shown in brackets. (20 marks)

66. At what time of day does Ravi begin his newspaper round, and how long has he been doing this with his father? [1]

.....

.....

67. In paragraph 2, the writer says that Mr Krishnan chose his English words "as though he was choosing each word out of a tin". What does this expression suggest about the way Mr Krishnan speaks? [2]

.....

.....

.....

68. Why did Ravi feel "something tighten in his chest" when he loaded the bicycle basket on that particular Tuesday? [2]

.....

.....

.....

69. Look at the table below. Complete it by writing what Ravi noticed about his father at two different moments under the void deck. [2]

Moment in the story	What Wei Jie did or felt
When his father slid the damp papers into a fresh plastic sheath	(a) _____
When his father sat down on the low concrete bench	(b) _____

70. In paragraph 7, the writer says that Mr Krishnan's tiredness had been “stitched into him by years, not by a single morning.” Explain what this means. [2]

.....

.....

.....

71. In your own words, explain why Mr Krishnan had to leave school at fourteen. [2]

.....

.....

.....

72. Mr Krishnan tells Ravi, “My father did not see me grow up. I see you grow up. Every morning.” What does this reveal about how Mr Krishnan feels about the newspaper round? Give TWO points. [3]

.....

.....

.....

.....

73. Which TWO of the following statements about Mr Krishnan are true? Put a tick (✓) in the box beside your TWO answers. (DO NOT TICK MORE THAN TWO BOXES.) [2]

- He came to Singapore from Tamil Nadu thirty years ago.
- He works two jobs - the newspaper round and a security shift.
- He learned English fluently within his first year in Singapore.
- He always carries a spare plastic sheath for the newspapers.
- He returns to India every December to visit his mother.

74. List TWO small details from the passage that show how well Ravi and his father know the regulars on their round. [2]

.....

.....

.....

75. At the end of the passage, the writer says that Ravi rode home “sitting a little taller in his seat”. What lesson has Ravi learnt by the end of the morning? Answer in your own words. [2]

END OF BOOKLET B - END OF PAPER

ANSWER KEY

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Sample answers and marking notes. For open-ended questions, accept any answer that is clearly supported by the passage and expressed correctly.

Booklet A - MCQ answers (Q1–Q25)

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

Section 5 - Grammar Cloze (Q26–Q35)

Q26	(A) in	Q31	(F) of
Q27	(B) to	Q32	(G) who
Q28	(C) when	Q33	(H) that
Q29	(D) as	Q34	(J) but
Q30	(E) on	Q35	(K) which

Section 6 - Editing for Spelling and Grammar (Q36–Q45)

Q36	walks → walk	(grammar)	Q41	Embarass → Embarrassed	(spelling)
Q37	greet → greets	(grammar)	Q42	has → have	(grammar)
Q38	recieved → received	(spelling)	Q43	remind → reminded	(grammar)
Q39	tempt → tempting	(spelling)	Q44	seperated → separated	(spelling)
Q40	knock → knocked	(grammar)	Q45	dissapear → disappear	(spelling)

Section 7 - Comprehension Cloze (Q46–Q60)

Q46	stand	Q51	that	Q56	work
Q47	small	Q52	her	Q57	but
Q48	handed	Q53	crushing	Q58	full
Q49	protest	Q54	at	Q59	surge
Q50	cook	Q55	entered	Q60	It

Section 8 - Synthesis & Transformation (Q61–Q65) — sample answers

Q61. Ravi was not energetic enough to finish his homework after the long round.

Q62. Mr Krishnan told his son that he would tell him the rest of the story the next day.

Q63. Having delivered every newspaper in the rain, the boys were drenched from head to toe.

Q64. Ravi looks forward to picking up the Marie biscuit that Auntie Devi leaves on her shoe rack every morning.

Q65. Despite having worked very hard, Mr Krishnan never complained about being tired.

Section 9 - Comprehension Open-Ended (Q66–Q75) — model answers

Q66. [1]

He begins at four in the morning, and he has been doing the round with his father for the last three years.

Q67. [2]

It suggests that Mr Krishnan speaks slowly and carefully, picking each word with effort, as if his English vocabulary is limited and stored away.

Q68. [2]

He felt worried because the sky was heavy with clouds and he sensed that it might rain heavily during the round, which would soak the newspapers and make the work much harder.

Q69. [2]

(a) Ravi noticed that his father always carried a spare plastic sheath inside his shirt - a small habit of preparation he had never noticed before. (b) Ravi saw that the lines around his father's mouth were deeper than he remembered and that his shoulders carried a tiredness stitched into him by years.

Q70. [2]

It means his exhaustion is not the result of one hard morning of rain. It is a deep, permanent tiredness built up over many years of working two jobs and supporting his family.

Q71. [2]

His father had died of a fever when Mr Krishnan was thirteen, leaving his mother with no one to support her. He had to stop his studies and start working so that he could send money home.

Q72. [3]

(i) He does not see the round as a burden but as a privilege - every dawn with Ravi is a chance to witness his son growing up, something his own father never had. (ii) The round is meaningful to him because it offers closeness and shared time he lost as a boy when his own father died young.

Q73. [2]

Correct: (2) and (4).

Q74. [2]

(i) They know Mr Subramaniam on the seventh floor of Block 34 reads the paper aloud to his elderly mother every morning. (ii) They know Aunty Devi in Block 30 always leaves a single Marie biscuit on her shoe rack for Ravi.

Q75. [2]

Ravi has learnt to see his father not as a quiet, ordinary man but as someone who has carried a heavy past with dignity and love. He understands his father's silence as patient strength rather than emptiness, and feels proud to share his work.

End of answer key. Find more free LearnUp resources at brainbuzz.sg.