

## PSLE English · Practice Paper 2 · Gold

### 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)

1. Not until the bell rang at the end of the lesson \_\_\_\_\_ the students realise that they had run out of time.

- (1) had
- (2) did
- (3) were
- (4) would

2. \_\_\_\_\_ his grandfather not insisted on bringing him to Pulau Ubin, Daniel would never have learned the truth about his family's past.

- (1) If
- (2) Had
- (3) Was
- (4) Were

3. Mei Hui watched the bumboat \_\_\_\_\_ slowly away from the jetty as the morning sun rose over the water.

- (1) glide
- (2) to glide
- (3) glided
- (4) glides

4. By the time the council finally decided to preserve the area, most of the original kampung houses \_\_\_\_\_ for high-rise developments.

- (1) were demolished
- (2) had been demolished
- (3) have been demolished
- (4) are being demolished

5. Mr Tan's elderly neighbour wished she \_\_\_\_\_ the courage to visit him one last time before he had passed away.
- (1) has
  - (2) had
  - (3) had had
  - (4) has had
6. Mei Hui's grandfather would hardly speak of his childhood in the kampung, \_\_\_\_\_?
- (1) would he
  - (2) wouldn't he
  - (3) did he
  - (4) didn't he
7. By the time my brother completes his national service next year, he \_\_\_\_\_ in Tekong for almost two years.
- (1) lives
  - (2) has lived
  - (3) will live
  - (4) will have lived
8. If the path through the old plantation had been clearer, the children \_\_\_\_\_ the disused well much sooner.
- (1) would find
  - (2) would have found
  - (3) had found
  - (4) will find
9. My grandmother kept a wooden box, the contents \_\_\_\_\_ she never showed to anyone in the family.
- (1) of whom
  - (2) of which
  - (3) of that
  - (4) of whose
10. So convincing was Mr Tan's account of his childhood in the kampung \_\_\_\_\_ the children believed they had walked through the village themselves.
- (1) that
  - (2) so
  - (3) which
  - (4) when

## 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. Mei Hui's grandmother gazed at the faded photograph with a \_\_\_\_\_ smile, as though she could still hear the voices of her childhood friends.

- (1) amused
- (2) wistful
- (3) mocking
- (4) puzzled

12. The conservator restored the wooden carving \_\_\_\_\_, layer by layer, over the course of several months.

- (1) hastily
- (2) carelessly
- (3) meticulously
- (4) sparingly

13. The grandfather's last words to his grandson were short but \_\_\_\_\_, leaving everyone in the room with tears in their eyes.

- (1) awkward
- (2) lengthy
- (3) poignant
- (4) dramatic

14. The number of residents who still remember the old kampung has \_\_\_\_\_ to fewer than twenty over the past decade.

- (1) multiplied
- (2) shifted
- (3) dwindled
- (4) converted

15. The beauty of the cherry blossom is \_\_\_\_\_ — it lasts only a few days before the petals fall and the branches are bare once more.

- (1) permanent
- (2) cyclical
- (3) ephemeral
- (4) habitual

## 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 Sunday afternoon, my mother and I would drive over to my grandmother's flat in Toa Payoh for tea. Por Por was eighty-three, and her left hand had begun to tremble in the past year. She would lift her teacup very gingerly<sup>(16)</sup> now, two hands cradling the porcelain as if it were a small bird.

We would sit by the window of her tiny living room. Por Por would stare out at the void deck below, where the children chased pigeons, and seem to contemplate<sup>(17)</sup> something at length. My mother and I had learned not to fill her silences. There was nothing she enjoyed less than being asked, 'What are you thinking about, Por Por?'

She was a frail<sup>(18)</sup> woman now — much smaller than I remembered from my childhood, when she had carried me on her back through the wet market. Yet there was nothing weak about the way she held herself. Even her silences seemed sombre<sup>(19)</sup> and deliberate, as though she had decided, long ago, the kind of grief that was worth speaking of and the kind that was not.

When the streetlights came on outside, my mother would discreetly<sup>(20)</sup> take the teapot to the kitchen and begin to wash up. I would stay by Por Por's side a little longer, listening to the slow rhythm of her breathing, and try to keep, in my own memory, the things she could no longer find the words to say.

16.

- (1) clumsily
- (2) cautiously
- (3) eagerly
- (4) heavily

17.

- (1) explain
- (2) describe
- (3) consider
- (4) ignore

18.

- (1) fragile
- (2) elderly
- (3) friendly
- (4) lonely

19.

- (1) angry
- (2) shy
- (3) solemn
- (4) playful

**20.**

- (1) quietly
- (2) loudly
- (3) eagerly
- (4) bravely

## 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 notice below carefully. Then answer questions 21 to 25.

**SINGAPORE HERITAGE SOCIETY**  
*Public Notice - October 2026*

# PULAU UBIN

## Heritage Walk

Saturday - 17 October 2026 - Bumboat departs 8.30 a.m.



**WHO CAN JOIN?**  
 The walk is open to all members of the public aged 10 and above.  
 Walkers under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

**WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE COST**

- A 3-hour guided walk by Mr Lim Ah Kow, who grew up on Pulau Ubin
- Bumboat tickets, both ways, from Changi Point Ferry Terminal
- A printed heritage map of the trail
- A traditional kampung lunch at the wayang stall

**STOPS ON THE WALK**

- The Sensory Trail, site of a former kampung village
- The old Tua Pek Kong temple, in continuous use since 1869
- Chek Jawa wetland, home to seagrass and mudskippers
- The disused granite quarry at the western end of the island

**COST**

\$15 per adult.  
 \$8 per student (under 18).

Sun hats, water bottles and sturdy walking shoes recommended.

**REGISTRATION**

Register online at [heritage.org.sg](http://heritage.org.sg) by 10 October 2026.

Limit: 30 walkers per session  
(first come, first served)

**ENQUIRIES**  
 Ms Tan Mei Ling - Singapore Heritage Society

21. What is the main purpose of the notice?

- (1) To advertise a new ferry service to Pulau Ubin.
- (2) To recruit volunteer guides for the Singapore Heritage Society.
- (3) To invite members of the public to a guided heritage walk.
- (4) To announce the closure of an old kampung trail on Pulau Ubin.

22. Which of the following is not mentioned in the notice?
- (1) What is included in the cost of the walk.
  - (2) The names of past participants on the walk.
  - (3) The list of places that the group will visit.
  - (4) Who the walk is suitable for.
23. From the notice, what can we infer about Mr Lim Ah Kow?
- (1) He is a professional tour guide with a degree in history.
  - (2) He grew up on Pulau Ubin and remembers it from before development.
  - (3) He volunteers with the Singapore Heritage Society on weekends only.
  - (4) He has run the bumboat service from Changi for many years.
24. Why is it advisable to register early for the walk?
- (1) Because the bumboat tickets become more expensive nearer the date.
  - (2) Because the walk may be cancelled if too few people sign up.
  - (3) Because younger children will be given priority over adults.
  - (4) Because places are limited and offered on a first-come-first-served basis.
25. By when must participants register if they wish to take part?
- (1) 17 October 2026.
  - (2) 10 October 2026.
  - (3) On the morning of the walk at the ferry terminal.
  - (4) There is no fixed deadline.

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 Old Kampung

- 1 On the morning of her grandfather's seventy-eighth birthday, Mei Hui found herself on a bumboat heading toward Pulau Ubin. The sea, the colour of weak tea, slapped against the hull in a steady, unhurried rhythm. Her grandfather sat beside her in silence, one hand resting on the railing, his eyes fixed on a stretch of island that, from this distance, looked like little more than a smudge of green against the morning sky. 5
- 2 “Ah Gong, are you sure you can walk so far?” Mei Hui asked, glancing at the wooden cane resting between his knees. Three months ago, he had slipped at the void deck and broken his hip. Since then, he had stopped going downstairs altogether. 10
- 3 “I am sure,” he said, and the way he said it left no room for further questions. Mei Hui understood, in that small and quiet moment, that this trip was not really about her grandfather wanting to see the kampung again. He wanted her to see it.
- 4 When they stepped onto the wooden jetty at Ubin, Ah Gong did not hurry. He pointed at things as they walked — a wooden shutter on a shophouse, a hand-painted Chinese sign for a bicycle rental shop, a coconut tree leaning into the wind as if listening for something far away. “When I was a boy,” he said, “all of this was kampung. Attap houses. Goats wandering between the houses. Roosters that crowed before the sun was up.” 15 20
- 5 Mei Hui tried to picture it. She had only seen kampungs in the dioramas at the National Museum, where everything was small and clean and lit from behind. The kampung Ah Gong was describing felt heavier — sweat and chicken feed and woodsmoke, layered over each other like the pages of an old book.
- 6 They walked along a narrow road shaded by a long row of rain trees. After perhaps ten minutes, Ah Gong stopped at a clearing where there was nothing in particular to see: a few overgrown patches of grass, the cracked foundations of what might once have been houses, and a single rusting bicycle frame half-swallowed by the lalang. 25
- 7 “This was where my house stood,” Ah Gong said. His voice did not waver, but he placed a hand on the cane as if to steady himself. “There were three rooms. My mother slept in one, my brothers and I in another, and my father — when he was home from his work at the kelong — in the third.” 30

- 8 Mei Hui stood very still. She had imagined that Ah Gong would point at a particular tree and say, 'I climbed that one as a boy.' She had not imagined that there would be nothing left at all to climb. 35
- 9 "Do you mind that it is gone?" she asked, more softly than she had meant to.
- 10 He did not answer at once. After a long moment, he said, "Things go. People go. What stays is whether you remember them properly." He looked at her then, and the look was a kind of inheritance. "I brought you here so that, after I am gone, you may come back. You can stand on this patch of grass and know that someone was here. That is enough." 40
- 11 On the bumboat back, Ah Gong fell asleep with his head against the railing. Mei Hui took out her phone and, careful not to wake him, took a single photograph of the smudge of green that had been a whole world. She did not post it. She did not show it to anyone. She saved it in a folder which she labelled, simply, 'Ubin'. 45
- 12 That night, she could not stop thinking about what Ah Gong had said. She had always imagined inheritance as something that could be touched — a watch, a name on a deed, a small jade pendant on a chain. She was beginning to suspect, in the way a child first suspects something difficult, that the things her grandfather most wanted to give her were the things she would never be able to hold in her hands at all. 50

## END OF BOOKLET A