

## PSLE English · Practice Paper 2 · Silver 3

### 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)

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

Every December, our neighbourhood holds a small festival \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(26)</sup> the void deck of Block 215. Preparations begin almost a month ahead, and the residents look forward \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(27)</sup> it with growing excitement. The afternoon \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(28)</sup> the stalls are finally set up always feels a little magical.

This year, our family arrived early. \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(29)</sup> soon as we stepped out of the lift, the smell of curry puffs and freshly fried kueh drifted up \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(30)</sup> the air to meet us.

Many \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(31)</sup> our neighbours were already there. Mr Subramaniam, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(32)</sup> has run the lucky-draw booth for as long as I can remember, waved us over cheerfully. He told my younger brother \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(33)</sup> every ticket would receive a small prize this year. My brother hesitated, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(34)</sup> finally decided to buy one. He drew a small wooden top, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(35)</sup> he spun happily for the rest of the evening.

## 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)

Last Sunday, my cousins and I decides<sup>(36)</sup> to visit our grandmother at her

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new flat in Tampines. She had moved in only a month earlier, and we wanted

to surprise<sup>(37)</sup> her with a small house-warming gift. Auntie Salmah,

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who lives in the unit next door, kindly offer<sup>(38)</sup> to bake a tray of pineapple

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tarts for the occasion. Grandmother was so delight<sup>(39)</sup> to see us that she

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nearly forgot to switch off the kettle. While we were chatting, my youngest

cousin accidentally spill<sup>(40)</sup> a glass of barley water on the new rug.

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Embaressed<sup>(41)</sup> by the puddle, he quickly fetched a cloth from the kitchen.

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Grandmother only smiled and said that even the most careful of guests

has<sup>(42)</sup> the occasional accident. Before we left, she remind<sup>(43)</sup> us to take

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a packet of kueh lapis home for our parents. My eldest cousin

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recieved<sup>(44)</sup> the packet with both hands, and we promised that we would

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visit again before the school holidays finaly<sup>(45)</sup> ended.

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## 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)

For most of her early childhood, Hui Min had been terrified of the dark. Whenever the lights in her bedroom went out, she would \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(46)</sup> her blanket tightly over her head, convinced that something was watching her from the cupboard. Her mother never scolded her for this fear; she believed that every child must overcome it at her \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(47)</sup> pace.

One Saturday, her elder brother arrived from his polytechnic hostel with an unusual gift. He had signed her \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(48)</sup> for a four-week stargazing course at the Science Centre. Hui Min felt her stomach tighten. She tried to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(49)</sup> that she had too much homework to spare the time, but her brother only smiled and patted her shoulder. "A girl of eleven," he said gently, "cannot keep hiding from the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(50)</sup> forever."

The first session was held on the rooftop of the Science Centre. The instructor, a gentle woman named Ms Chia, explained \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(51)</sup> the night sky was not empty at all, but full of patterns that people had been reading for thousands of years. Hui Min tried to listen, but the moment the floodlights were switched off, a familiar panic rose inside \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(52)</sup>. She gripped the railing tightly and kept her eyes on the city lights below.

Ms Chia noticed at once. She did not make Hui Min feel small. Instead, she handed her a small torch and a star chart, and showed her how to trace the shape of Orion. Hui Min practised every evening at home, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(53)</sup> the chart against the ceiling of her bedroom. By the second session, she could find three constellations at \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(54)</sup> glance. By the third, she could stand on the dark rooftop without flinching, feeling oddly \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(55)</sup>.

On the final evening, Ms Chia quietly asked whether Hui Min would like to point out a constellation to the rest of the class. Hui Min's heart hammered, but she stepped forward and began to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(56)</sup>. Her voice trembled at first, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(57)</sup> she kept going, naming each star she had practised. When she finally lowered her torch, her classmates clapped, and she felt a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(58)</sup> of pride she had never felt before.

That night, she wrote in her journal: 'The dark is still dark. I am not yet brave. \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(59)</sup> I have learnt that even a small torch is enough to take the first \_\_\_\_\_<sup>(60)</sup>.'

## 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. "I will visit Aisha tomorrow," Priya told us. [2]

Priya told us that \_\_\_\_\_

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62. Nadia copied out the worksheets carefully. She then cycled to Aisha's flat. [2]

Having \_\_\_\_\_

.....

63. The grandmother spoke very little English. The four of us still understood her. [2]

Although \_\_\_\_\_

.....

64. Mei Xuan was too tired to cycle any further. [2]

Mei Xuan was not \_\_\_\_\_

.....

65. Mrs Devi said to Priya, "Please bring the hardship form to the staff room tomorrow." [2]

Mrs Devi asked Priya \_\_\_\_\_

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## Section 9 - Comprehension Open-Ended

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

66. For how long had Aisha's seat been empty before the narrator finally spoke to Mrs Devi? [1]

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67. In paragraph 2, the writer says that Mrs Devi chose her words "from a small, careful pile". What does this expression suggest about how Mrs Devi felt about Aisha's situation? [2]

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68. Why did the four friends agree, before reaching Aisha's flat, that they would simply leave the kueh on the floor mat if her door was closed? What does this show about them? [2]

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.....

69. Look at the table below. Complete it by writing what each of Aisha's three friends decided to do for her after the visit, as described in paragraph 10. [2]

Moment in the story	What Wei Jie did or felt
Mei Xuan	(a) _____
Nadia	(b) _____

70. In paragraph 7, why had Aisha been the one looking after her two younger siblings during the day, rather than her father or her grandmother? [2]

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71. In paragraph 8, the writer says that Aisha's eyes “filled, though no tears fell”. In your own words, explain what this tells us about how Aisha was feeling. [2]

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72. How does the narrator's understanding of friendship change between the beginning and the end of the passage? Use details from the passage to support your answer. [3]

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

- They told the rest of the class where Aisha had been when she returned.
- They cycled to Aisha's flat in single file along the park connector.
- Mei Xuan's family ran a halal kitchen at the coffee shop near the school.
- Priya had never been to Aisha's flat before the day of the visit.
- They asked Aisha directly to explain why she had been absent.

74. List TWO things that suggested Aisha's life had returned to its usual rhythm when she came back to school on Monday, as described in paragraph 12. [2]

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75. At the end of the passage, the writer says that “the seat behind mine was no longer empty, and that, for the moment, was enough.” What does this final sentence suggest about the value the narrator places on small, quiet acts of friendship? Answer in your own words. [2]

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**END OF BOOKLET B · END OF PAPER**