

Name:

SPM Practice 2: Reading – Part 1, Questions 1–8 [8 marks]

Read the text carefully in each question. Choose the best answer A, B or C. For each question, circle the correct answer A, B or C.

Dear Editor,

The other day I went to a waterfall for a picnic with a few friends. I had gone there a few years ago and found the place to be beautiful and peaceful. However, this time I was rather disappointed.

The forest area where the waterfall is located had lost part of its charm because of illegal logging. The forest had lost a lot of its trees. It was also very hot there. I was shocked to find the area surrounding the waterfall littered with rubbish.

Disappointed environment lover

1 Why was the writer disappointed?

- A The forest no longer existed.
- B People threw rubbish in the waterfall.
- C The waterfall area was no longer beautiful.

HAZE INDEX	
Below 50	Good Low pollution without any bad effect on health.
51 – 100	Moderate Moderate pollution that does not pose any bad effect on health.
101 – 200	Unhealthy People who have heart and lung diseases should avoid prolonged or strenuous outdoor physical exertion. Healthy people should reduce prolonged or strenuous outdoor physical exertion.
201 – 300	Very Unhealthy People who have heart and lung diseases should avoid outdoor activities. Healthy people should avoid prolonged or strenuous outdoor physical exertion.
More than 300	Hazardous People who have heart and lung diseases should avoid outdoor activities. Healthy people should minimise outdoor activities.

2 According to the table above, when the haze levels are unhealthy, healthy people should

- A minimise outdoor activities.
- B avoid prolonged or strenuous outdoor physical exertion.
- C reduce prolonged or strenuous outdoor physical exertion.

USE YOUR SMARTPHONE TO HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

Ecofriend is designed to spread news on ways to save the environment. This is done through a newsfeed of environmentally friendly activities and posts on eco-friendly tips and products that help you save energy and conserve water. The app also allows you to see how you rank among your friends on saving the environment with a leader board. This app was created by teens. The Ecofriend team plants a tree for each download of the app, which is available on Android and iOS platforms.

3 The advertisement says that the app

- A was invented by teens.
- B is only available on Android.
- C only gives you tips on saving the environment.

TIA REUSABLE SHOPPING BAGS (LARGE)

The bags are made from rPet material which is sourced from recycled plastic drink bottles. You will find our bags super strong. They are often capable of holding far more than you may be able to carry! Our lightweight bag is also incredibly compact. You can fold it up into a pouch the size of your fist, therefore it is super convenient to carry. It also features a sturdy carabiner clip so you can clip your shopping bag onto your handbag or belt. Furthermore, if you do not have enough hands, the built-in shoulder strap comes in very handy. The reusable shopping bag only costs RM15.40. You can purchase it online at www.reusable.com.

4 What is the advantage of Tia Reusable Shopping Bags?

- A They are easy to clean.
- B They are made from recycled glass bottles.
- C They are very strong and can hold a lot of things.

GERIK: Recently, the Belum Conservation Malaysia (BCM) celebrated its 10th anniversary by planting 300 *gaharu* trees in the Belum-Temenggor Rainforest Complex.

The ceremony which was held on 9 July at the Belum Rainforest Resort on Pulau Banding in Gerik, Perak was attended by a number of famous TV personalities.

All the celebrities planted a portion of the 300 *gaharu* trees which were sponsored by an anonymous donor. They also pledged their support for environmental conservation through the BCM's Belum Forest Friends (BFF) initiative. The BFF initiative was launched earlier this year as part of an overall drive to get more Malaysians actively involved in rainforest conservation.

5 From the newspaper extract above, we know that the celebrities

- A paid for the *gaharu* trees.
- B launched the BFF initiative.
- C planted some of the *gaharu* trees.

Every morning, you wake up and brush your teeth. However, while brushing your teeth, you should turn off the tap. Only turn the tap back on once it is time to rinse. You should also turn off the tap while washing your hands. First, wet your hands, then turn off the tap while you scrub your hands. Then, turn it back on when you are ready to rinse. It is also very important to fix leaky faucets. This can help to save a lot of water.

6 Which title **best** summarises the above text?

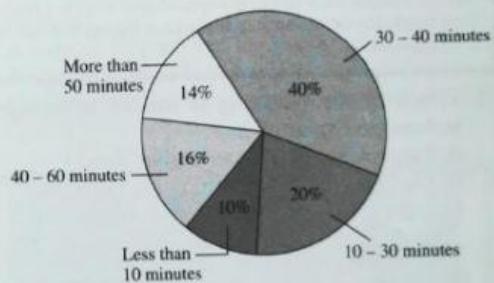
- A Ways to Save Water
- B Fixing Leaky Faucets
- C How to Brush Your Teeth

CELEBRATING EARTH HOUR

The purpose of Earth Hour is for people to show their support for strategies that will help solve the problem of global warming. It usually falls on the last Saturday of March. There are many ways you can celebrate this meaningful event. A few fuss-free ways are by hosting a candle-lit dinner, go stargazing or simply switching off your lights for an hour. If you want something bigger, you could put up a concert, screen a movie or host an Earth Hour party!

7 If you want to celebrate Earth Hour in a simple way, you could

- A go stargazing.
- B have a concert.
- C host an Earth Hour party.



Approximate reading time per page = 1 minute 15 seconds

Average Reading Time = 48 minutes

(Note: *Love Our Earth* magazine has 48 pages)

8 What can we conclude from the above statistics about *Love Our Earth* magazine?

- A The average reader finds it easy to read the magazine.
- B The minimum time spent reading it is 30 – 40 minutes.
- C The approximate reading time per page is more than 1 minute.

SPM Practice 2: Reading – Part 2, Questions 9–18 [10 marks]

Read the text below and choose the best word for each space. For each question, circle the correct letter A, B, C or D.

**Earthquake in Japan**

The March earthquake in Japan was a shocking event which took many lives and brought much grief to _____ (0) people. People all over the world _____ (1) the painful events unfold and felt much compassion for the troubles that the Japanese went through.

What was _____ (2) to note was the sense of calm that the people showed. There was not a single scene of chest-beating or wild grief. They bore their sorrow _____ (3) great dignity. Their pain would have been unbearable but the people stood calm in their sorrow. They showed great discipline _____ (4) they queued for water and groceries. There was never a rough word or a crude gesture. _____ (5), they showed grace when they bought only what they needed for the present so that everybody could get something.

There was no instance of looting. There was no rush to go home. Everyone waited for their turns. Restaurants _____ (6) prices and some gave food free to the needy. An unguarded ATM was left alone. The old and the young knew _____ (7) what to do. The strong cared for the weak. When the power _____ (8) off in a store, the people put the things back on the shelves and left quietly.

The road which was split into two was repaired in a week. The architects who put up the tall buildings must have been _____ (9) that the buildings swayed but did not fall in the disaster. During the nuclear disaster, workers stayed back to work despite the dangers _____ (10) were exposed to. How will they ever be repaid? Everyone played their part with great discipline and respect.



0 A a	B an	C –	D the
1 A watch	B watches	C watched	D watching
2 A remarkable	B creative	C difficult	D foolish
3 A of	B to	C from	D with
4 A when	B what	C whom	D why
5 A However	B Therefore	C Anyhow	D Furthermore
6 A cut	B cuts	C to cut	D cutting
7 A quickly	B exactly	C suddenly	D completely
8 A go	B goes	C went	D going
9 A sad	B sorry	C happy	D angry
10 A their	B they	C we	D you

SPM Practice 2: Reading – Part 3, Questions 19–26 [8 marks]

You are going to read an extract from a short story. For questions 1 to 8, choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) and circle the correct letter A, B, C and D.

In a far distant future, Earth is inhabited by robots. There are less than a thousand human beings. There are three main classes of robots – Construction, Transport and Repair robots. This is a story of a special repair robot. He was small, new, yellow and unusually curious.

'I want this car ready in the next half an hour,' said the blue transport robot called T-59 to the small yellow repair robot, R-62. 'As per your request,' replied R-62 while welding together two metal plates. In this big city there were a lot of vehicles and R-62 liked to look at the cars that passed by. Suddenly a special fancy car came by escorted by four special blue robots on motorbikes. R-62 looked at it and asked T-59, 'What is that?'

The car stopped and the four blue robots gathered to the opening of the vehicle. 'That is not a Construction Robot, not a Transport Robot, not a Repair Robot, it is a HUMAN,' said T-59. R-62 was very surprised as it had never seen a human. The human stepped out of the vehicle surrounded by the four escort robots. The human looked a bit small in comparison with the robots. 'What a wimp!' said R-62.

'Don't underestimate the humans; they are superior to us robots. They are able to perform any action they want to. They can give orders to robots, destroy them or construct new ones. They can even harm another human being or cause mass destruction, which they have been doing a lot. Also, they do not even have to follow orders if they don't want to,' said the T-59 quietly.

'What a dangerous thing! I can only repair cars,' said R-62. T-59 told R-62 that if robots tried to harm humans, they could order others to blow up their circuits. The human started to walk in the direction of the repair sector. 'Look at how it walks! It doesn't walk in a straight line like a robot,' said R-62.

The human called the robots to fall into lines. The sector I/C approached the human. The human asked for production statistics and got rapid accurate answers from the I/C robot. Then, the human asked if there had been any problems of any kind or accidents the last 10 years and he only got rapid 'No, sir' as answers.

Meanwhile T-59 whispered to R-62 that only humans had accidents, could not be repaired when broken and made fatal mistakes. Their construction broke after 100 years, they were only operational half of the day and their memory banks were very low. They had no radio communication and were not able to perform routine actions for a number of years. Then suddenly, immediately after the questions from the human were answered, R-62 said loudly: 'I have some questions for you, human.'

'Yes...' said the human, a bit annoyed for not getting the usual 'sir'.

'Every robot is constructed, programmed and exists for a specific basic purpose. For which purpose do you exist?' asked R-62.

Silence followed the only question asked to the human since ages ago and he then said: 'I don't need to answer questions from robots!' He then got in his car and left quickly.

'You see, it is stupid. They can't possibly be superior to us robots. I have just proved it. It even confessed that it does not even know why it exists. I think planet Earth would be much safer without them,' whispered the curious robot to T-59.

'Yes, but for which reason would you exist without the humans?' said T-59.
After being surprised by the question, R-62 answered, 'To repair cars ...'

'For whom?' said T-59.

'For the transport robots to drive them,' answered R-62 promptly.
'For what?'

'To transport the goods for the buildings,' said R-62.
'For what?' asked T-59.

'To deliver the goods to the ... humans,' replied R-62, surprised at what he had arrived at for an answer.
'Robots exist because humans created us and control us with their orders. We exist to support them.'

Name:

1 From paragraph 1, which word distinguishes this repair robot from others?

- A new
- B small
- C yellow
- D curious

2 From paragraph 3, which phrase tells you of the robot's impression of the human?

- A 'a bit small in comparison'
- B 'never seen a human'
- C 'was very surprised'
- D 'what a wimp'

3 From paragraph 4, we know that according to robots, humans

- A harm the world.
- B have to always follow orders.
- C are able to do what they want to.
- D can control the actions of other humans

4 From paragraph 7, what is a difference between a robot and a human?

- A Robots can have accidents.
- B Robots can live up to 100 years only.
- C Humans seldom make fatal mistakes.
- D Humans cannot be repaired or reconstructed.

5 From paragraph 8, what quality does the human reflect when he shows his annoyance at not being addressed as 'sir'?

- A Humility
- B Diffidence
- C Arrogance
- D Indifference

6 From paragraph 10, according to robots

- A the world will be safer without humans
- B they can check on human abilities.
- C humans are superior to robots.
- D humans know why they exist.

7 From the exchange between R-62 and T-59, we can conclude that robots exist mainly to

- A drive cars.
- B repair cars.
- C serve humans.
- D transport things.

8 The main message from this short story is

- A humans can think, so they will always be superior.
- B robots can be the creative force in the world.
- C robots can exist without human support.
- D robots can rule the world someday.

SPM Practice 2: Reading – Part 4, Questions 27–32 [6 marks]

You are going to read an article about how a disabled man faced unsurmountable challenges from birth. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A to H the one which fits each gap (1 to 6). There are two extra sentences which you do not need to use.

Overcoming Adversity

Nick Vujicic was born without limbs in 1982. As a child he struggled mentally and physically to come to terms with his disability. His doctors never thought he would walk but he has done skydiving, scuba diving, surfing and just about everything else.

He doesn't say that life was easy. He went through periods of depression and wanted to even kill himself.

1 He realised that he didn't want to leave his family with the burden. He also felt that he had to be thankful for what he could do and focus less on his disabilities.

When he was fifteen years old, he placed his faith in God and from then on, it was an amazing journey.

2 Thus, one day he found himself in front of three hundred sophomore (grade 10) students and he said he was very nervous. His knees were shaking. Within the first three minutes of his talk, half the girls were crying, and most of the boys were struggling to hold their emotions together.

He was inspired to go across 48 countries. He realised that everyone needs love and hope. 3 He has spoken in front of presidents, congresses, and appeared on live television broadcast to 270 million people.

While at a university, he also worked on developing his abilities as a speaker. He worked with a speaking coach who helped to train him as a presenter. 4 He also launched a non-profit ministry, Life without Limbs, to spread his messages of faith and hope around the world.

The love of his parents, loved ones and faith in God helped Nick survive the hard times. 5 Life must have a purpose, Nick believes.

Nick now lives in California with his wife, Kanae and son and feels blessed. 6 He hopes to inspire others along the way.

A	He loves his role of helping people to make changes that improve their lives.	E	He was interested in helping his parents.
B	He felt that he needed to work hard.	F	He strongly believes that it is important for us to love others and care for them.
C	He was in a unique position to share that with people around the world.	G	Later, Nick created the company, Attitude is Altitude.
D	But his better sense won.	H	Strangely, it was the janitor at his high school who inspired him to start speaking about overcoming adversity.

SPM Practice 2: Reading – Part 5, Questions 33–40 [8 marks]

Questions 1 to 8

Read the reviews below and answer the questions that follow.

Restaurant Reviews

A – Raju's Banana Leaf

A simple family restaurant that offers delicious Indian cooking. It is famous for its rich spicy chicken curry, crispy calamari, sour pickles and crunchy *appalam*. Order your food with a plate of steaming hot rice served on aromatic banana leaf.

B – Rasa Enak

Decorated in a Malay *kampong* house style, *Rasa Enak* serves authentic Malay cuisine. Enjoy a wide range of dishes such as grilled fish coated in *sambal*, chicken garnished with ginger, turmeric beef slices and stir-fried water spinach with salted fish. Customers are served with hot *pandan* fragrant rice.

C – Aunt Jenny's

Dimly lit and not very noisy, this restaurant has a cosy cottage vibe. The owner, Jenny Smith, is known for making golden crispy dory fillet served with hot chips and creamy tartar sauce. The famous dish also comes with lemon drizzled fresh cherry tomatoes, grated purple cabbage and lettuce.

D – Kawaii Sushi

As its name suggests, everything in this restaurant is cute. The freshly made sushi is shaped into cute cartoon characters and served on bright coloured plates. The taste of the sushi is just as good as how it looks, making customers come back for more.

E – Arabian Nights

This restaurant is dedicated to giving you a taste of delicious Middle Eastern cuisine. Be sure to order the soft creamy hummus, a dip made of mashed chickpeas blended with tahini, lemon juice and garlic. It is served with warm freshly baked pita bread.

F – Li's Nyonya Kitchen

Customers are transported to the past as they enter this restaurant that has a traditional Malacca ambience. As it is pleasing to the eye, the food served here is pleasing to the taste buds. Its award-winning *Nyonya* style fried noodles is mouthwatering. The *pongteh* chicken, a stew made with potatoes, soybean sauce and palm sugar, is savoury and homey.

Questions 1 to 4

Which restaurant (A – F) fits the needs of the following customers?

Statements	Paragraph
1 I love Japanese food and I enjoy watching cartoons. – Hanu	_____
2 My family and I want to try spicy chicken curry. – Alex	_____
3 My favourite food is fish and chips. – Iwan	_____
4 I want to eat delicious chicken stew. – Yu Chin	_____

Questions 5 to 8

Complete the notes below using information from the text. Choose no more than one word from the passage for each answer.

Restaurant Details

- _____ (5) leaves are used for cooking rice in this authentic Malay restaurant.
- Pita bread is served with a chickpeas _____ (6) called hummus.
- Customers can eat fried noodles in a restaurant decorated in a traditional _____ (7) style.
- A restaurant that is quiet and has a cosy _____ (8) ambience.