Unit 1

Reading – Short Texts (3-option Multiple Choice)

Paper 1 – Reading and Use of English

Part 1 (8 marks)

Questions 1 to 8

Practice 1

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

World of Scents

It takes a few seconds for a scent to enter your nose and travel to your brain that controls memory and emotions. Scents are used in many ways to capture your attention. Vanilla and lavender are widely used in spas or soaps to promote calmness and reduce stress. Airlines use lavender to help people relax during flights. Some companies are known to use lemon scents to increase productivity.

1 This passage is mainly about
- **A** how to sell a scented product
- **B** how people react to scents
- **C** how to produce scents

Recently, we visited a snake farm. There we saw the keepers milking a cobra. To milk a snake means to extract the poison from it. This is done by first catching a cobra. Then the snake's head is squeezed until poison starts to drip from its fangs. The poison is collected into a bottle. The extracted poison is used as a serum to heal snake bites.

2 Snake serum is derived from
- **A** snake bites
- **B** snake's head
- **C** snake poison

Jim: Why are you late? I've been waiting over an hour for you.
Dave: I'm so sorry, Jim. I couldn't get out as planned. It was like a circus out there. I had to be careful not to be seen. Have you brought the tools?
Jim: Yes, I have. Now we have to wait till ***the coast is clear*** before we proceed.

3 From the conversation, the phrase ***the coast is clear*** most probably means that the boys
- **A** should clear the room
- **B** must leave as soon as possible
- **C** can only continue after everyone leaves

YEAR END SALE

ATTENTION ALL SHOPPERS!

UP TO **70% DISCOUNT** on all ELECTRICAL, FURNITURE and BEDDING ITEMS!

For a limited time only!

Vouchers for up to **RM50** given away daily!

Don't miss this great opportunity!

Head down to **AXNW HYPERMARKET** NOW!

While stocks last!

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4 If you wanted to purchase a pillow, a shirt and a pair of shoes, which of these items would you get a discount for?

A Shirt
B Shoes
C Pillow

DELISH CEREALS

DELISH CEREALS have been made for you with high quality ingredients. Our wholegrain oats and wheat are loaded with B2 and B5 vitamins to nourish you. Proteins, fats and carbohydrates are added to release energy throughout your day. Enjoy the delicious taste of wholesome goodness!

DELISH CEREALS WILL DELIGHT YOUR FAMILY.

5 Which of the following is **true** about Delish Cereals?

A It is affordable and delicious.
B It is packed with nutrition.
C It is a popular brand.

Hi Ali,

I am delighted to accept you as my cyberfriend. I enjoy sharing emails with you and I have sent you a friend request on Facebook. I have restricted time on social media as I have my schoolwork and other activities to concentrate on. Even then, we can be good friends and hopefully meet up one day. You can visit me in Kuala Lumpur soon. My parents have always advised me that ***with freedom comes great responsibility***. I always keep that in mind when I interact on social media.

6 What does the writer mean with the phrase ***with freedom comes great responsibility***?

A The writer needs to be careful and responsible for his actions when he goes online.
B The writer's parents do not want to be responsible for his actions.
C The writer's parents have given him full freedom to do whatever he wants.

CRISP CHICKEN BITES

4 boneless chicken fillets
6 tablespoons red pesto sauce
3 handful of breadcrumbs
Oil

METHOD

1. Cut up the fillets to smaller cubes.
2. Add the pesto sauce and chicken together in a bowl.
3. Add in the breadcrumbs and mix well. Add salt to taste.
4. Place chicken on a baking tray. Drizzle with oil but not too much.
5. Bake at 220°C for 15 minutes.

7 If you were asked to make this dish, how much salt would you have added into the recipe?

A None at all
B A cup of salt
C About a pinch of salt

READY TO QUIT SMOKING?
Come join us this Saturday, 23 November!

Venue: Dewan Serbaguna Taman KK
Time: 9 am to 11 am
Talks by Dr Rajen and Dr Lim from KPNS Hospital

Blood Drive at the same venue for those interested to donate blood.
Light breakfast and refreshments will be served.

Don't miss this great opportunity to do the right thing. Think of your health and your loved ones.

8 This flyer is **mainly** targeted for those

A whose loved ones are smokers
B who are smoking and want to stop
C who are non-smokers but want to donate blood

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Part 2

Questions 9 to 18

Read the text below and choose the **best** *word for each space. For each question, mark the correct letter* **A, B, C** *or* **D** *on your answer sheet.*



Foodborne illnesses are common in both developed and developing countries. However, many cases of foodborne illnesses **(0)** _____in_____ developing countries are simply accepted as part of life. Fortunately, there are steps that we can take at home to **(9)** _____ foodborne diseases.

Buy your fruits and vegetables from trusted suppliers with good reputations. There is a good **(10)** _____ for you to do this. These suppliers will ensure the products they sell are fresh and of good quality. Still, check the condition of the fruits and vegetables before buying them. Buy meat and fish last. They cannot be left **(11)** _____ room temperature for long. Leaving meat and fish in warmer temperatures for more than two hours may **(12)** _____ food spoilage from the bacteria that cause foodborne diseases.

A dirty kitchen is another **(13)** _____ of foodborne diseases. Check your knife racks, dishwashing sponges and the cloths used for wiping surfaces. How often are they cleaned? If you don't **(14)** _____ the last time you cleaned them, there is likely a hygiene or cleanliness issue in your kitchen. Food can become **(15)** _____ when the utensils used to handle the food are not clean.

Wash your fruits and vegetables thoroughly, especially if you are going to eat them raw. Vegetables used for decorations should be washed before being cut and placed **(16)** _____ any dish containing cooked food. Placing raw food and cooked food together is a **(17)** _____ practice and should be avoided completely. Of course, wash your hands often and properly when handling food, especially raw meat.

While these steps may seem inconvenient and unnecessary, it isn't hard to **(18)** _____ good food safety practices in the kitchen. Be safe now rather than suffer and be sorry later!

0	**A** in	**B** of	**C** at	**D** from
9	**A** protect	**B** pretend	**C** predict	**D** prevent
10	**A** fact	**B** news	**C** reason	**D** information
11	**A** on	**B** at	**C** from	**D** within
12	**A** make up	**B** bring up	**C** result in	**D** consist of
13	**A** sign	**B** cause	**C** proof	**D** condition
14	**A** remember	**B** memorise	**C** discover	**D** find
15	**A** infected	**B** polluted	**C** corrupted	**D** contaminated
16	**A** on	**B** over	**C** among	**D** between
17	**A** dirty	**B** negative	**C** dangerous	**D** threatening
18	**A** give	**B** make	**C** follow	**D** replace

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Part 3

You are going to read an extract from an article. For **questions 19 to 26**, *choose the correct answer* **(A, B, C** *or* **D)** *and mark the correct letter* **A, B, C** *or* **D** *on your answer sheet.*

Looking back on the start of my career, I remember sitting in the staff room wondering if I could do this. Reality had finally hit me. Becoming a teacher was definitely **not a bed of roses**. It was all a far cry from my fondest childhood memory of instructing my cousins to write down words which I had written on a portable whiteboard. Yet I had dreamed of being a teacher since I was six years old.

I guess that teaching was in my blood. My grandfather had been a school principal before he retired. My parents were both good English Language teachers, who had met at a teaching course in Singapore, married and then had me. They had raised me to be both patient and inquisitive, so I thought I had everything it took to be the best teacher in the world especially since I had graduated top of my class that year. I didn't know yet what was in store for me.

On my first day as a teacher, only two students were in class. The other thirteen were nowhere to be found. Later I discovered that they were actually working the fields or tapping rubber with their parents. I felt depressed. How was I to teach them English if they didn't even show up in school? The two students who had turned up could barely read and write at primary school level. How would they cope with the secondary school syllabus? It felt as if my hopes of breaking school and even the district record had come crashing down. I had dreamt of making such a difference to the lives of my students! I had wanted to help them achieve their best potential. And here the students did not even bother coming to school.

I remember sitting in the staff room, lost in thought. Should I throw in the towel and quit teaching in this government school in this rural area where the children did not think it was important to attend school? I wondered if I should apply for a job in a city school where I could put everything I had learnt into practice.

Then I heard a soft voice calling.

'Cikgu. Cikgu Loh.'

One of my two students stood there, eyes shining with excitement, holding a worn-out novel in her hand. A fairy tale of some sort. I asked her how I could help her. She said she had been trying to read the book but while she could make out the sounds of the words in English, she did not know what they meant. She wondered if I could teach her.

I felt ashamed. Only a minute ago I had thought of giving up and running back to the city. Meanwhile, this young student was reaching out to ask for a little help from me. There and then I vowed to make a difference to her life and all the children who had not come to school. I would find some way to get them to come to school because they needed to learn now, instead of working in the fields beyond the school gate.

I tried many tricks from that day on to get the students interested in learning. Soon, more and more of the thirteen absent students started showing up in school. First, I offered stationery. A shiny new pen or a small eraser was already exciting for them. Then I noticed that they stayed in class during recess, and I realised they had nothing to eat and no money to buy food. So I started a collection from friends and family to provide healthy snacks for them. What really made them light up with excitement was when I used laptops and other electronic gadgets as my teaching tools. Their excitement every time I let them listen to a song or watch a video in English or do an online quiz using electronic gadgets during lessons or after school touched my heart. Their language proficiency started improving slowly. I felt they were on the right track at last.

Twenty years on, I am still in a rural school. I think my grandpa would be proud as I now have an office just like his.

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19 In paragraph 1, why does the writer use the phrase **not a bed of roses**?
A He realised that a teacher's job is not easy.
B He felt that a teacher's job was not challenging enough.
C He thought that being a teacher would be more relaxing.
D He was afraid that his teaching job would take up a lot of time.

20 In paragraph 2, what does the writer say about his family?
A They all had careers in the same field.
B They were all educated in local universities.
C They were very strict in raising their only son.
D They were top students in their classes just like him.

21 In paragraph 3, what had the writer hoped to achieve?
A He wanted to teach the students life skills such as farming.
B He wanted to find out where the students had disappeared to.
C He wanted to make a name for himself as a successful teacher.
D He wanted to assess all the students' reading and writing levels.

22 In paragraph 4, what was the proof that the writer wanted to give up?
A He thought that the students did not like him.
B He thought of leaving the school and moving back to the city.
C He thought the other students in the class would never return to school.
D He thought that his dreams of breaking school records would never happen.

23 What did the writer feel when his student came to see him?
A He was curious about her reason for seeing him.
B He felt angry with the student for interrupting his thoughts.
C He was discouraged that her reading and writing skills were so weak.
D He felt ashamed of himself for wanting to run away from his problems.

24 What effect did his student's request have on him?
A It made him upset that she wanted him to teach her.
B It motivated him to find a way to help children like her.
C It encouraged him to buy more books for the school library.
D It made the writer want to force the children to do better in school.

25 How does the writer feel about his students in the second last paragraph?
A He is worried that they have no stationery.
B He feels they cannot learn without any videos.
C He thinks they are finally accepting his lessons.
D He is happy that they are progressing in their studies.

26 What is the purpose of the writer writing this article?
A To share precious memories of his family
B To recall how he almost gave up his career at first
C To advise teachers on strategies that keep students in school
D To show why the children eventually succeeded in learning English

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Part 4 (Question 27 to 32)

You are going to read an article about the effects of social media platforms on teens. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A to H** *the one which fits each gap (***27 to 32***). There are two extra sentences which you do not need to use.*

How Social Media Affects Teens

Teens these days are glued to their phones if they are not busy with their schoolwork. Most of the time they will be on social media platforms. Is this good for them?

27 [ ] They asked 14 – 24-year-olds in the UK how social media platforms impacted their health and well-being. It was discovered that social media platforms such as Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter and Facebook all have at one point or another made them feel depressed, anxious, have poor body image and lonely.

Before the existence and popularity of social media platforms, teens would occupy their time by chatting on the phone, or hanging out at the mall with friends. These face-to-face social interactions actually helped teens to experiment and try out new skills with their friends. **28** [ ]

When teens communicate mostly through a screen, they will not be able to learn about body language, facial expressions and vocal reactions. **29** [ ] This might lead them to having problems making and keeping friends.

Another problem that modern teens face is cyberbullying. It is easier for teens to be cruel to others on social media platforms because they cannot see how it makes the other person feel. A majority of teens would never be cruel to their peers in real life.

Teens too want to be accepted by their peers. Therefore, many of them care about their image. They post cool or pretty photos of themselves so that they can get as many likes as possible. **30** [ ] Furthermore, when teens scroll through their feeds and see how great everyone seems, it only adds to the pressure of looking good. This may lead them to feeling inadequate.

31 [ ] If they are waiting for a response from their online friend and it does not come, they know their friend is ignoring them or is no longer interested in being friends. This may end up making them feel lonely.

In the past, if a teen no longer wanted to be friends with someone, they would tell them face-to-face. Nowadays the friend might just disappear from their screen, and the teen would be wondering what he or she had done. **32** [ ] This too will affect one's self-esteem.

In conclusion, teens should limit their use of social media platforms. They should also try to have friends in real life. It will teach them how to communicate properly.

A	Recently, a survey was conducted by the Royal Society for Public Health.
B	Most teens like to know where their friends are all the time.
C	Modern teens, however, learn communication skills while looking at a screen, instead of with other people.
D	Teens like to post their pictures on social media platforms.
E	Therefore, when they do have to communicate with someone face to face, they may have trouble getting their message across.
F	He or she might imagine the worst about themselves.
G	If a teen does not get many likes or comments, this can lead to them feeling depressed.
H	Since it is so easy to be connected these days, teens know when they're being ignored.

[6 *marks*]

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Part 5

Question 33 to 44

We interviewed six teenagers about what family means to them. Read the opinions below andanswer the questions that follow.

Teens about Family

A - KUMAR, 16 years old Family to me means a unity among the people living under one roof.
B - FARIDA, 14 years old Family to me means my parents and my siblings. We live happily.
C - JIA YI, 15 years old Family to me is someone who is there or was there when you need them most. It could be myimmediate family members or my friends. They are those who are close to my heart.
D - WING, 13 years old Family to me means my own mother. My mother is a single parent and my dad died whenI was a year old. So, my family and my everything is my mother.
E - MATTHEW, 19 years old I don't know much about family because I came from a broken family and I grew up in an orphanage. For me the care caretakers at the orphanage are my family. I really miss my biological parents.
F - ESMERELDA, 17 years old Family to me means someone who cares for you and accepts you just as you are. Even myroommate is a family member for me.

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Questions 33 to 36

Which paragraph (A-F) describe the following opinions of teens about family?

Write your answers in the space given.

Statements	Paragraph
33. To me family resembles a strong unity bond.	_____
34. Pet ownership comes with commitments. To me my family are members from my care centre.	_____
35. Family is those who love me for myself.	_____
36. My nuclear family is my family.	_____

Questions 37 to 40

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

What We Know About Family

- ✓ Even a mother can take care of her children and she is named as **(37)**_____ parent.
- ✓ For teenagers a **(38)**_____ family can lead to emotional breakdown.
- ✓ People who help someone during the time when they **(39)** _____ them most are considered family.
- ✓ Those who **(40)** _____ a teenager for who they are can also be referred to as family.

[8 *marks*]

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