

Section G: Comprehension (10 marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Mr Tan drives the taxi 12 hours every day. One day, Mr Tan drove to the school where his wife was working as a teacher. It was a long and tiring day of work and he was in a bad mood.

"The world is full of dishonest people!" he grumbled angrily. Concerned, his wife asked him what had happened. Mr Tan told her that he had received a fake ten-dollar note from one passenger earlier that day. The passenger had alighted at a crowded taxi stand of a shopping mall and walked off before Mr Tan could notice that the note was fake.

Mrs Tan then asked him to show her the note. "Oh, I just got rid of it! I used it when I bought noodles from the hawker at the coffee shop. He was too busy with his customers to notice it!" Mr Tan replied.

His wife frowned when she heard that and scolded him. "That was dishonest of you too!" she remarked.

Mr Tan thought for a moment and hung his head in shame. He realised that he was in the wrong. He should have gone to the police station to make a report instead of passing on the fake note to the hawker.

1. What was Mr Tan's occupation? He was a _____. [1m]

- (1) hawker
- (2) teacher
- (3) taxi driver
- (4) police officer

2. Why was Mr Tan angry when he returned home? [1m]

- (1) He had received a fake note.
- (2) He had lost a ten-dollar note.
- (3) He had worked for many hours.
- (4) He had been scolded by his wife.

3. Which word from paragraph 2 has the same meaning as 'complained'? [1m]

	Statement	True	False
Example	The passenger gave Mr Tan a fake note.	✓	
4	Everyone in the world is dishonest.		
5	Mr Tan kept the fake note to show his wife.		
6	Many people were waiting at the taxi stand.		

7. Why did the hawker not realise that the ten-dollar note was fake? [2m]

8. How do you know that Mr Tan's wife was not happy with him? [2m]

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Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

A maid named Maya was working in a rich man's home. One day, someone knocked on the door. Maya opened the door and saw an old monk who looked dirty and tired. He asked for some food as he was hungry. Maya gave him some buns. The old monk thanked Maya for her kindness and left.

The rich man's daughter, Juni saw what she had done. "How dare you give our food to a stranger?" she reprimanded Maya loudly. She ordered Maya to take the buns back from the monk immediately. Maya went to look for the monk reluctantly.

The old monk saw Maya crying. He gave Maya a handkerchief. He told her that it had the power to show the true colours of a person who used it. A kind person would look pretty while a person with an evil heart would look ugly.

Maya used her handkerchief to wipe her face daily. Everyone noticed that Maya was looking prettier every day. Juni saw Maya using the handkerchief and grabbed it. Juni wiped her face with it. When she looked into the mirror, she screamed in horror and fainted at the sight of her ugly face!

Adapted from Times Asian Folktales From Japan by Margerie Kaltenberg - Williams

9. Why did Maya give the buns to the old monk? [1m]

- (1) He was old.
- (2) He was dirty.
- (3) He was tired.
- (4) He was hungry.

10. The old monk felt _____ to Maya for her kindness. [1m]

- (1) upset
- (2) grateful
- (3) satisfied
- (4) remorseful

11. Which word from paragraph 2 has the same meaning as 'unwillingly'? [1m]

	Statement	True	False
Example	Maya cried after Juni scolded her.	✓	
12.	Juni wanted Maya to give more buns to the monk.		
13.	Juni scolded Maya for giving away the buns.		
14.	The old monk gave Juni a magic handkerchief.		

15. What would happen when a kind person used the handkerchief? [2m]

16. Why did Juni look ugly after wiping her face with the handkerchief? [2m]