



**PSLE Stimulated
Mock Test**

The Write Tribe



Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

Elwyn Brooks White loved animals long before he wrote his best-known book, *Charlotte's Web*. When he was a boy, his father once brought him home an incubator and fifty eggs. One day the chicks began to hatch, and the whole family came to watch. Elwyn was the most eager observer. At last the excitement was over – all but three of the eggs hatched. The White's coachman thought these eggs had no chicks and put them on the manure pile outside the stable. There in the dung and dark, the eggs hatched. Elwyn heard peeping and discovered the three forgotten chicks. He was ecstatic.

He loved to spend time in the stable with the turkey, ducks, pigeons and geese. He was also fascinated by the rats that resided underneath. Occasionally, a wild cat lived there, too. Like Wilbur, the pig, in *Charlotte's Web*, Elwyn felt lucky to live among all these different kinds of animals.

No doubt his love for animals inspired him to write *Charlotte's Web*. He had been observing a spider in the farm's backhouse and on the way to feed the pigs one day, the idea came to him to make that spider, whom he called Charlotte, the story's heroine.

As a young boy, Elwyn loved words and writing. He typed his manuscripts on an Oliver typewriter in his brother's room and later said, "It was the noisy excitement connected with borrowing and using this machine that encouraged me to be a writer."

Although E. B. White is probably best known as a children's author, he also wrote adult articles for the magazine, *The New Yorker*.

For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). (5 marks)

26. Elwyn could be _____ when he discovered the three peeping chicks.

- (1) feeding the pigs
- (2) visiting the stables
- (3) checking the incubator
- (4) watching over the pigs

☐

27. _____ caused the most excitement in the White's household.

- (1) Father bringing home the eggs
- (2) The eggs hatching in the incubator
- (3) Father bringing home the incubator
- (4) The eggs hatching on the manure pile

☐

28. The main characters in *Charlotte's Web* are a _____ and a spider.

- (1) pig
- (2) duck
- (3) chick
- (4) turkey

☐

29. Elwyn was inspired to write *Charlotte's Web* while he was _____.

- (1) talking to Wilbur
- (2) observing the rats
- (3) typing his manuscripts
- (4) carrying out his farm chores

☐

30. Elwyn enjoyed _____.

- (1) being with Wilbur
- (2) reading *The New Yorker*
- (3) working on the noisy machine
- (4) watching the three eggs on the manure pile

☐

There are 10 blanks, numbered 31 to 40, 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. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking. (10 marks)

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

- | | | | | |
|---------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| (A) off | (D) then | (G) at | (K) until | (N) of |
| (B) on | (E) than | (H) it | (L) the | (P) about |
| (C) by | (F) but | (J) them | (M) over | (Q) their |

More (31) 24 hours after an oil tanker exploded (32) Marina Bay, Singapore, killing all (33) three of the eleven crew on board, oil slicks threatened to spread (34) the island's southern beaches. Rescue workers, hampered (35) the rising tide of sludge, found only six bodies but continued their search (36) after nightfall, when they were ordered to give (37) up for the day.

Some may still be in the stricken vessel, but this will not be confirmed until the Navy's search and rescue team begins (38) grim task of recovering the dead (39) first light the next day.

Reports are still reaching the Ministry of Home Affairs about the bravery shown by ordinary members (40) the public at the time of the explosion.

Correct each word in **bold** for spelling and each underlined word for grammar. Write the correct word(s) in the relevant box. (10 marks)

41.

Biologist Carrie Hunt has set her heart on teaching Lacy, a 160 kg grizzly that

42.

she should not came back for the plums and sunflower seeds she had stolen the night

before. In fact, if she was to be spared by the forest rangers, she had to try to stop

43.

44.

skevang around the homes for food. This would not be an easy task for Lacy was big

enough to roll boulders and rip trees apart.

"Crack!"

Suddenly, out of the trees, a dark, powerful shape appeared, almost like a

45.

46.

shadow. **Lampeling**, Lacy approached our group at a slow pace. Having come out of the woods, Lacy stood on her hind legs to reach her full height of **over two** metres. She

47.

48.

gransed in our direction, put her nose to the air and **sneved** the air for danger. Not

49.

detected us, Lacy fell back on her four paws, her muscles rippling beneath shaggy fur.

50.

She stopped at a rubbish bin and **ramageed** through the contents within. Gunshots were fired to chase her away. Shocked, Lacy froze. We braced ourselves for an attack but she ran away instead, a streak of brown.

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

There is a natural rhythm to the lives of most people, (51) we might call the rhythm of work and play, of effort and relaxation, (52) chore and recreation. For most of us there is a clear dividing line (53) the work (54) have to do and our leisure time, the time that is our own exclusively. The division extends also to the (55) of activities that for us constitute work and play. (56) , there are those (57) us who seem always to be working, who are so absorbed in work that play can scarcely be said to exist for them. There are those too whose existence seems a perpetual holiday, who are derisively (58) to as having 'never worked a day in their lives'.

And there is (59) group of people who work in areas normally thought of as play, or whose work is the play, the recreation of others. Among (60) we find the professional sportsman or woman, the actor, the filmmaker, the musician, the writer, the comic, the juggler, the high-wire-walker, the lion tamer. These we think of (61) the lucky ones, the privileged few who turn play itself (62) work. We imagine them engaged in a kind of work which must always be enjoyable for them and a kind of play that even puts food on the tables of their families. Not for them, it seems, the daily grind (63) nine to five; not for them the ache of longing for life's all too brief holiday periods. In the (64) of the majority they indeed lead a charmed life, living as they seem to do for the sheer joy of performance!

It is not, however, a (65) of carefree play when the professional footballer is dismissed from the field or when the actress fluffs her lines.

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite 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). (10 marks)

66. "Don't forget to visit your grandmother this Sunday," said Mother.

Mother reminded me

67. Edmund studied very hard for his examination. His results were very disappointing.

No matter

68. Mr Tan surprised his family. He threw a party for them last Saturday.

by

69. My sister is not invited. I will not go to the party.

Unless

70. My brother played the violin beautifully at the concert. He had a high fever.

Despite