THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW THE GRADE 6 PLACEMENT EXAMINATION WILL LOOK

ST. MAARTEN ACADEMY

PLACEMENT EXAM

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

GRADE 6 (ENTRANCE)

TIME: 1 hour 30 mins

INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Read ALL instructions carefully.**
2. **This exam is divided into TWO sections.**
3. **Answer ALL questions in Section One, and ONE from Section Two. Write your answer for Section Two on the ruled paper provided.**

NAME: _____

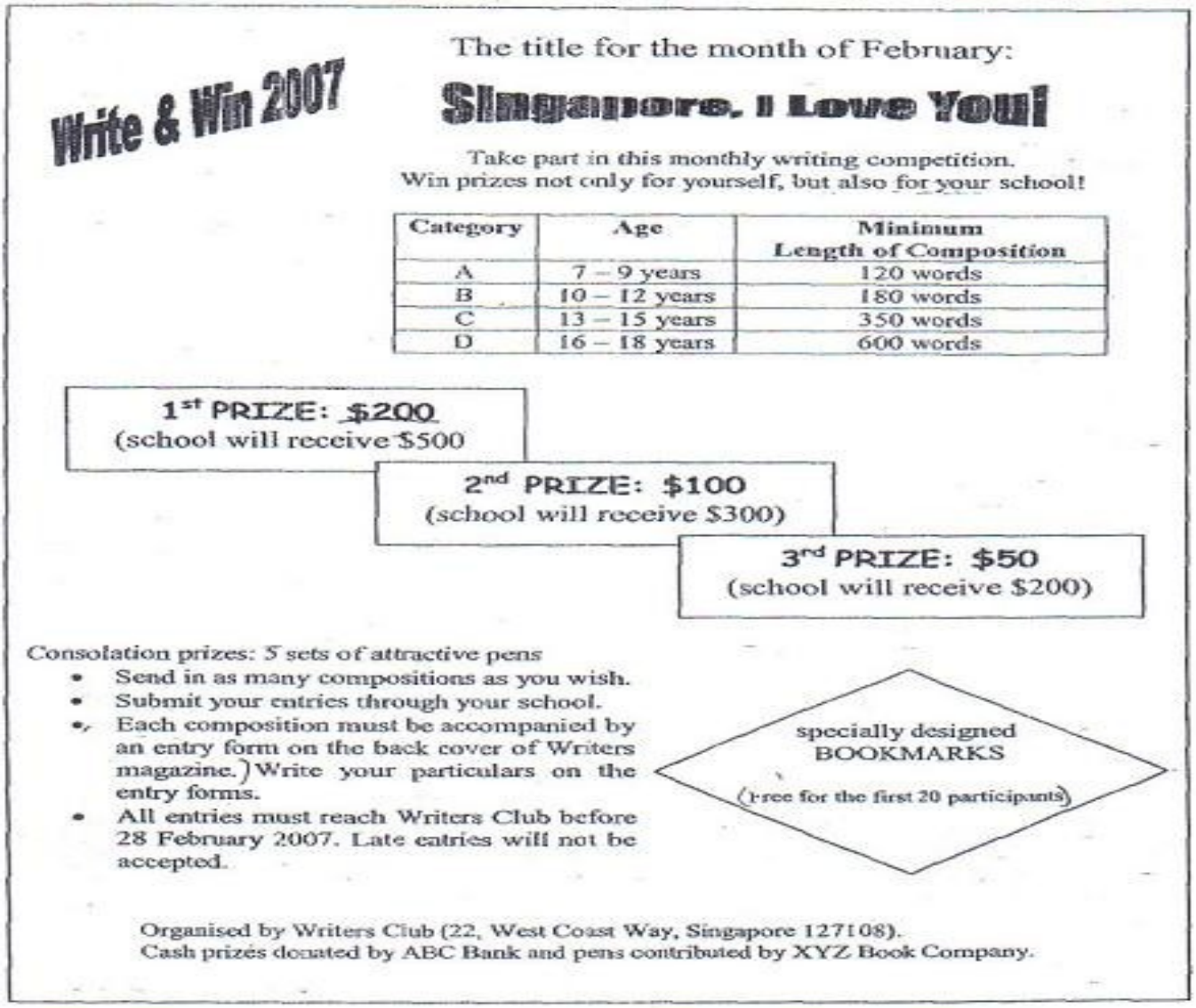
DATE: _____

SCHOOL: _____

SCORE: _____

DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO

Study the following text carefully and then answer the questions below. Circle the CAPITAL LETTER beside the word or phrase which gives the best answer to each question.



Write & Win 2007

The title for the month of February:

Singapore, I Love You!

Take part in this monthly writing competition.
Win prizes not only for yourself, but also for your school!

Category	Age	Minimum Length of Composition
A	7 – 9 years	120 words
B	10 – 12 years	180 words
C	13 – 15 years	350 words
D	16 – 18 years	600 words

1st PRIZE: $200
(school will receive $500

2nd PRIZE: $100
(school will receive $300)

3rd PRIZE: $50
(school will receive $200)

Consolation prizes: 5 sets of attractive pens

- Send in as many compositions as you wish.
- Submit your entries through your school.
- Each composition must be accompanied by an entry form on the back cover of Writers magazine. Write your particulars on the entry forms.
- All entries must reach Writers Club before 28 February 2007. Late entries will not be accepted.

specially designed BOOKMARKS
(free for the first 20 participants)

Organised by Writers Club (22, West Coast Way, Singapore 127108).
Cash prizes donated by ABC Bank and pens contributed by XYZ Book Company.

1. The main aim of the 'Write & Win 20Q7' competition is to
   A. promote writing in schools
   B. encourage young people to write
   C. instill in young people the love for Singapore
   D. encourage young people to join the Writers Club

2. If John, who is fourteen years old, wants to take part in the competition, his composition must be at least _____ long.
   A. 120 words
   B. 180 words
   C. 350 words
   D. 600 words

3. Entry forms are available _____ .
   A. from schools
   C. XYZ Book Company

B. at Writers Club
D. In the Writers magazine

4. If Mary is the third participant to send in her composition, she will definitely be able to receive __.
A. $50 for herself
B. $200 for her school
C. a set of attractive pens
D. a specially designed bookmark

5. Participant who wins $500 for his school will receive _____ for himself.
A. $100
B. $200
C. $300
D. $500 (5 marks)

In each of the following sentences, identify the part of speech of the word which is underlined. Circle the capital letter beside the word which gives the BEST answer.

6. This year's Easter vacation <u>ended</u> too quickly.
A. Adjective
B. Adverb
C. Noun
D. Verb

7. Most of the substances that cause pollution are <u>waste</u> products from factories.
A. Noun
B. Adjective
C. Conjunction
D. Verb

8. These <u>wastes</u> are of such quantity and of such impurity that they are doing great damage to natural resources.
A. Pronoun
B. Noun
C. Adjective
D. Preposition

9. Spiders can be found in all parts of the world except where it is <u>extremely</u> cold.
A. Adjective
B. Interjection
C. Adverb
D. Preposition

10. *The young girl brought me a big bag of cookies* **from her mother**, *<u>and</u> then she quickly disappeared*.
A. Adjective
B. Adverb
C. Conjunction
D. Verb (5 marks)

<u>Underline</u> the correct word in the brackets to complete each sentence.

11. The oil spill always (rise / rises) to the top of the water.
12. Many stores in our country (is / are) not doing profitable business.
13. Our teacher, Mrs. Flowers, (does / do) not allow us to talk in class.
14. My mother (feels / feel) that I have been neglecting my school work.
15. One of my friends (have / has) a new computer game.
16. (Don't / Doesn't) one of your brothers work for Windward Islands Bank? (6 marks)

Here are some prefixes. Put in the correct prefix before each of the underlined words to give the <u>OPPOSITE</u> meaning of the word.

dis ___, im___, in___, il___, ir___, mis___, un___

17. The doctors were concerned about the patient's ____<u>regular</u> heartbeat.

18. The ____<u>complete</u> assignments were returned to the students.

19. The _____<u>honest</u> boy was severely reprimanded by the police officer.

20. It is _____<u>possible</u> to get to the pharmacy before closing time.

21. Mom was upset with me because I arranged the items in an order which was _____<u>logical</u>.

22. The bully was punished for his _____<u>acceptable</u> behaviour. (6 marks)

For each question from 23 to 27, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined words. Circle the capital letter beside the word which gives the BEST answer.

Although the soldiers were (23) <u>not afraid of their own safety</u> during the battle, they were outnumbered by their enemies. As a result, they (24) <u>brandished</u> a piece of white cloth to signal that they wanted to surrender. They were (25) <u>held in captivity</u> for months in the enemy camp. They were (26) <u>badly treated</u> and some of them were suffering from (27) <u>deprivation of food</u>.

23. **not afraid for their own safety**
A. fearful B. harmful C. fearless D. harmless

24. **brandished**
A. dismissed B. flickered C. waved D. furnished

25. **held in captivity**
A. vanquished B. interned C. unrestrained D. interrogated

26. **badly treated**
A. spoiled B. infected C. injured D. tortured

27. **deprivation of food**

A. drought B. overfeeding C. starvation D. death (5 marks)

For each of the sentences below, select the word which is <u>OPPOSITE</u> in meaning to the one in capitals.

28. The newest game is fun, but it has many <u>COMPLICATED</u> steps that are hard to remember.
    A. short C. easy
    B. slow D. difficult

29. The Robinson family recently moved into a house that had been <u>OCCUPIED</u> for over a year.
    A. destroyed C. haunted
    B. empty D. vacant

30. The guest speaker <u>COMMENCED</u> his speech with a joke.
    A. began C. ended
    B. entertained D. succeeded

31. While driving on a wet road, one must exercise <u>CAUTION</u>.
    A. recklessness C. difficulty
    B. danger D. cheerfulness

32. The smoking of marijuana is still <u>ILLEGAL</u> in many countries.
    A. right C. unacceptable
    B. lawful D. unlawful (5 marks)

Complete each of the sentences below using the word or set of words for each blank that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole. Circle the capital letter of your choice.

33. Despite his growing wealth and power, Jonathan remains _____ man.
    A. a humble B. an irritable
    C. a greedy D. an intelligent

34. Isabella cannot _____ the price of a ticket, so she cannot see the movie.
    A. buy B. save C. donate D. afford

35. Beethoven cannot play the piano very well, since he _____ practices.
    A. sometimes C. usually
    B. always D. never

36. Because Ann-Marie is so _____, she is _____.
    A. friendly … despised C. generous … wealthy
    B. unpleasant … unpopular D. strange … fortunate

37. Nicolette is full of _____ and believes she can achieve almost any goal she sets for herself.

A. confidence
B. courage
C. concern
D. comfort

38. At first his parents did not allow him to ever play video games after school, but now they _____ it sometimes.
A. encourage
B. ban
C. permit
D. expect

39. The netball coach just wanted Sara to _____ the new technique, so she was upset when Sara refused to _____ it.
A. explain … learn
B. perform … enjoy
C. try … attempt
D. examine … understand

In the space provided, write down the correct homophone from the brackets to correctly complete each sentence below.

40. To receive the honour _____ award, students must pass all subjects. **(roll, role)**

41. My parents expressed _____ pleasure when I passed my test. **(there, their)**

42. It is a _____ of time to idle in the street corners. **(waste, waist)**

43. Will you _____for me at church Wednesday evening? **(prey, pray)**

44. Courtney is a friend of mine whom I _____ from Curacao. **(knew, new)**

Each of the following sentences has one punctuation mark missing. Choose the one from the set below and write in the space provided the CAPITAL LETTER which is below the punctuation mark you selected. There is only one answer for each number.

A. comma
B. semicolon
C. colon
D. exclamation mark
E. question mark
F. quotation marks
G. period (full stop)
H. apostrophe

EXAMPLE: Take the medicine you'll feel better soon. **(B)**

45. Food clothing and shelter are basic necessities of life. (____)

46. "Have you heard the news" asked Adrienne. (____)

47. "The building is on fire" shouted Larnelle. (____)

48. School begins at 8 00 a.m. and ends at 1 30 p.m. (____)

49. Jonathans parents bought him an Iphone for his birthday. (____)

50. Blue is my favourite colour it is the colour of the sky and the sea. (____)

51. What are you having for lunch today? the waiter asked. (____)

(7 marks)

Which is the correct spelling for the word which is needed to complete each sentence? Circle the letter of your choice.

52. Yesterday we watched a video which showed different types of _____ pollution.
    A. enviromental
    B. environmental
    C. enviormental
    D. envioronmental

53. _____ is my favourite day of the week.
    A. Wensday
    B. Wesnesday
    C. Wednesday
    D. Wenesday

54. The incident _____ during the early hours of the morning.
    A. occured
    B. ocurred
    C. occurred
    D. ocured

55. The _____ of my school is very strict.
    A. principle
    B. princeiple
    C. principal
    D. principel

56. On Sundays, Grandma likes to cook oatmeal _____ for breakfast.
    A. parrage
    B. pawridge
    C. pouridge
    D. porridge

(5 marks)

Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions set on it. Circle the letter of each correct answer.

(1) Many people who are looking to get a pet dog get a puppy. There are many reasons why people get puppies. After all, puppies are cute, friendly, and playful. But even though puppies make good pets, there are good reasons why you should consider getting an adult dog instead.

(2) When you get a puppy, you have to teach it how to behave. You have to make sure that the puppy is housebroken so that it does not go to the bathroom inside the house. You have to teach the puppy not to jump up on your guests or chew on your shoes. You have to train the puppy to walk on a leash. This is a lot of work.

(3) On the other hand, when you get an adult dog, there is a good chance that it will already know how to do all of the previously mentioned things. Many adult dogs have already been housebroken. Many adult dogs will not jump on or chew things that you do not want them to jump on or chew. Many adult dogs will be able to walk on a leash without pulling you to the other side of the street.

(4) Puppies also have a lot of energy and want to play all of the time. This can be fun, but you might not want to play as much as your puppy does. Puppies will not always sleep through the night or let you **relax** as you watch television.

(5) On the other hand, most adult dogs will wait on you to play. What is more, they will sleep when you are sleeping and are happy to watch television on the couch right beside you.

(6) There is one last reason why you should get an adult dog instead of a puppy. When most people go to the pound to get a dog, they get a puppy. This means that many adult dogs spend a lot of time in the pound, and some never find good homes. So if you are looking to get a dog for a pet, you should think about getting an adult dog. They are good pets who need good homes.

57. The author apparently thinks that puppies are
    A. bad pets because they take too much work to own
    B. friendly, playful, and a lot of work
    C. not as cute as adult dogs
    D. not as playful as adult dogs

58. The main purpose of paragraph 2 is to explain how puppies
    A. are very immature
    B. do not make good pets
    C. can be very destructive
    D. are a lot of work

59. As used in paragraph 2, which is the best example of a dog that is housebroken?
    A. Spot goes outside to use the bathroom.
    B. Rex always breaks things inside of the house.
    C. Rover never jumps on guests.
    D. Muffin chews on people's shoes.

60. According to the passage, why are adult dogs easier to take care of than puppies?

    I. Puppies need to learn how to walk nicely on a leash.
    II. Adult dogs have less energy than puppies do.
    III. It is harder for adult dogs to find a home than it is for puppies.

    A. I only
    B. I and II only
    C. II and III only
    D. I, II, and III

61. As used in paragraph 2, which is the best synonym for **behave**?
    A. listen
    B. understand
    C. train
    D. act

62. Based on information in the passage, which of the following statements is false?
    A. Puppies have a lot of energy.

B. Puppies need a lot of attention.
C. Adult dogs do not like to play.
D. Adult dogs do not need eat very much.

63. As used in paragraph 4, which is the best synonym for relax?
A. work C. play
B. leave D. rest

64. The author begins paragraphs 3 and 5 with the phrase, "On the other hand." This phrase is used to
A. highlight an example
B. contrast previous information
C. contradict a later statement
D. support the upcoming paragraph

65. In the final paragraph, the author says, "many adult dogs spend a lot of time in the pound, and some never find good homes." Based on what you have read in the passage, why is this most likely the case?

A. People see adult dogs as unhappy and dangerous, while they see puppies as cute and friendly.
B. People understand that most adult dogs still need to a lot of training before they understand how to behave properly.
C. People think that puppies are cute and playful and do not always think about how much work it will take to train them.
D. People do not want to get a dog that does not have much time left to live.

66. Based on information in the passage, it can be understood that someone who owns a puppy must be
A. strict C. careful
B. serious D. responsible

(10 marks)

Fill in each blank with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

67. The Minister of Education _____ the trophy to the winning school.
(**Past** tense of present)

68. I _____ on my Social Studies project next week.
(**Future** tense of work)

69. Robert _____ an interesting email to his grandmother.
(**Past** tense of send)

70. My parents _____ shopping for new furniture.
(**Present perfect** tense of go)

71. Every morning the students in my class _____ the national anthem.
(**Present** tense of sing)

72. Five of them _____ to death on shore and another five were lost at sea.
(**Past** tense of freeze)

(6 marks)

Find the grammatical error, if any, in the following sentences. If there is an error show this by circling the letters A, B, or C. If there is no error in the sentence, circle D.

73. Does this pencil case belong to you or to her? No error
A B C D

74. Let's find out whose going to the park. No error
A B C D

75. Why don't you leave your's in Samantha's locker. No error
A B C D

76. The signs on this road confuse many drivers. No error
A B C D

77. A little courtesy would of prevented this accident. No error
A B C D

78. Did the rainy weather during the last season effect your crop? No error
A B C D

79. None of his friends would have enjoy Christmas if Tom had not returned home. No error
A B C D

80. Measles is spreading again because children are not being vaccinated. No error
A B C D

SECTION TWO

Answer ONE question from this section. Your story should be approximately 250-300 words in length.
Pay careful attention to paragraphing, spelling, grammar and punctuation.

(20 marks)

1. Write a story **beginning** "I waited silently, not daring to move, not even to breathe."

2. Write a story entitled 'An Annoying Classmate'.

4. Write a story based on the picture below.

Your answer to the question you have chosen in Section Two should be written here. Remember to write your question number in the box provided below.

Question No. ☐

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

END OF TEST