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RED SWASTIKA SCHOOL
2023 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
ENGLISH LANGUAGE – PAPER 1
SITUATIONAL/CONTINUOUS WRITING
PRIMARY 6

Name : _____ ()

Class : Primary 6 / _____

Date : 17 August 2023

Duration of Paper: 1 h 10 min

Note:

1. Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.
2. Read carefully the instructions given at the beginning of each question.
3. In this booklet, you should have the following:
 - a. Page 1 to Page 3
 - b. Questions 1 and 2

QUESTION	OBTAINED	POSSIBLE
SITUATIONAL WRITING		15
CONTINUOUS WRITING		40
TOTAL		55

Parent's Signature : _____

Instructions to candidates:

There are TWO parts to this paper: Part 1 and Part 2. Answer both questions.

Part 1: Situational Writing (15 marks)

1 The picture below shows Kelly and her sister, Tammy, discussing a notice that they saw in the newspaper on 10 August 2023. Study the picture carefully.

The notice is titled "Jolly Animal Shelter Adoption Drive" and is dated "Saturday, 11 November 2023" from "9 a.m. to 12 p.m.". It features illustrations of a dog and a cat. The cartoon below shows two girls, Kelly and Tammy, reading a newspaper. Kelly suggests asking their teacher and friends to reschedule a meeting to 1 p.m. Tammy explains she has a school project discussion with her teacher and teammates at 10 a.m. Kelly agrees to email her teacher to change the meeting to the afternoon and bring snacks.

Dogs

Jolly Animal Shelter

Cats

Adoption Drive

Saturday, 11 November 2023
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

We strongly recommend that every member of your household be present at the adoption as we want to ensure that we match up the right pet with the right owners.

We need volunteers too!

If you love animals and have first-hand experience of looking after them, approach our manager, Ms Abigail, for a face-to-face interview!

Let's tell Mum and Dad about this event, Kelly! We were just talking about adopting another cat!

Why don't you ask your teacher and friends if you could have your meeting rescheduled to 1 p.m. instead? We should all be there, and I know you wouldn't want to miss this opportunity to become a volunteer.

I've a school project work discussion with my teacher and my teammates, Tony and Sally, at 10 a.m. that morning.

You're right. I'll email my teacher to ask if we could meet in the afternoon instead. For the inconvenience caused, I'll apologise and bring along some snacks to thank them when I meet them. I do hope that they can accommodate to the change in timing.

Your Task

Imagine you are Kelly.

Write an email to the teacher in charge of your project work, Mr Tan, asking him if you could reschedule the project work meeting to the afternoon.

You are to refer to the picture and information on page 1 for your email.

In your email, include the following key information:

- when you wish to reschedule the meeting to
- the event you wish to attend and the time it will be held
- two reasons you should attend the event
- what you will do to thank your teacher and teammates

You may reorder the points. Remember to write in complete sentences.

Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

- 2 Write a composition of at least 150 words about an important event.

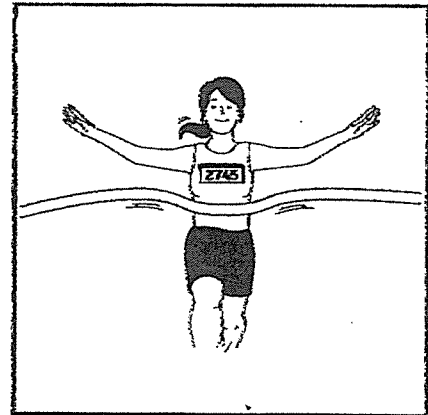
The pictures are provided to help you think about this topic.

Your composition should be based on one or more of these pictures.

Consider the following points when you plan your composition:

- What was the important event?
- Why was it important?

You may use the points in any order and include other relevant points as well.





RED SWASTIKA SCHOOL
2023 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
ENGLISH LANGUAGE – PAPER 2
LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION
PRIMARY 6

Name : _____ ()

Class : Primary 6 / _____

Date : 17 August 2023

BOOKLET A

28 Questions

28 Marks

Duration of Paper: 1 h 50 min

Note:

- 1. Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.**
- 2. Read carefully the instructions given at the beginning of each part of the booklet.**
- 3. Do not waste time. If a question is difficult for you, go on to the next one.**
- 4. Check your answers thoroughly and make sure you attempt every question.**
- 5. In this booklet, you should have the following:**
 - a. Page 1 to Page 9**
 - b. Questions 1 to 28**

For each question from 1 to 10, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

(10 marks)

1 The heavy downpour ruined our plans[†] for a picnic in the park, _____?

- (1) isn't it
- (2) didn't it
- (3) hasn't it
- (4) hadn't it

2 "The number of plastic bags collected for recycling _____ increased greatly since the start of the campaign!" said Nurul excitedly.

- (1) has
- (2) had
- (3) have
- (4) having

3 Only a brave _____ would be willingly to risk losing their lives for the country.

- (1) all
- (2) few
- (3) some
- (4) several

4 "Where _____ the track pants that I need for the camp? It is an essential item on the packing list," Peter asked worriedly.

- (1) is
- (2) are
- (3) was
- (4) were

5 Which superhero have you _____ to dress up as for the costume party?

- (1) chose
- (2) choose
- (3) chosen
- (4) choosing

6 Chef Daniel is known for his expertise _____ preparing unusual dishes from Asia.

- (1) at
- (2) in
- (3) on
- (4) for

7 The puzzle was difficult to solve, _____ Alex persisted and completed it.

- (1) for
- (2) but
- (3) and
- (4) while

8 Kingsley saw his mother _____ in the kitchen and offered to help her prepare the ingredients.

- (1) cook
- (2) cooks
- (3) cooked
- (4) cooking

9 You can easily spot the eatery as it is located _____ the opposite side of the street.

- (1) in
- (2) on
- (3) by
- (4) across

10 "_____ you have any questions about the text we're reading, I'll be glad to explain," Mr Raj reassured his students.

- (1) Should
- (2) Would
- (3) Shall
- (4) Will

For each question from 11 to 15, shade your answer (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.
(5 marks)

11 His poor health was _____ by a poor diet and excessive smoking.

- (1) brought in
- (2) brought on
- (3) brought forward
- (4) brought together

12 After the disaster, the streets were _____, and not a soul could be seen in the shopping malls.

- (1) isolated
- (2) forsaken
- (3) deserted
- (4) neglected

13 Unable to curb his _____, he bought the expensive video game without a thought.

- (1) willfulness
- (2) enthusiasm
- (3) recklessness
- (4) impulsiveness

14 Detectives are still trying to _____ the mystery of the missing aeroplane that disappeared nine years ago.

- (1) reveal
- (2) divulge
- (3) expose
- (4) unravel

15 The _____ priced meals at this café attract many people to dine here.

- (1) modestly
- (2) minimally
- (3) miserably
- (4) marginally

For each question from 16 to 20, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined word(s). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet. (5 marks)

Tom stared at his report card. Having scored rather poorly for his Science project, he began to cry loudly. As his best friend, Jack, had accurately predicted, Tom did not take the news of his difficult and unpleasant situation well. It was apparent that Tom thought his project was the best. He had always thought highly of his ability and he could not have anticipated this outcome.

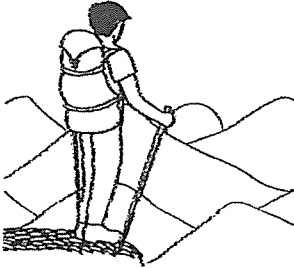
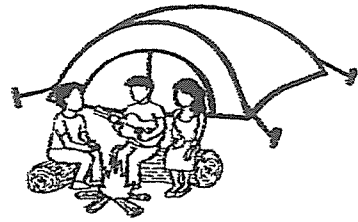
However, amid the devastation he was feeling, Tom was still hopeful that he would be selected to represent the class in the upcoming Science Quiz. He prayed that he would be given a second chance.

Adapted from 'Before the Coffee Gets Cold' by Toshikazu Kawaguchi

- 16 (1) sob.
(2) bawl
(3) weep
(4) whimper
- 17 (1) exactly
(2) correctly
(3) specifically
(4) appropriately
- 18 (1) calamity
(2) dilemma
(3) experience
(4) predicament
- 19 (1) logical
(2) obvious
(3) plausible
(4) reasonable
- 20 (1) encouraged
(2) reassured
(3) optimistic
(4) inspired

Outdoor Adventures: Good Safety Tips

by James Liew
22 July 2023



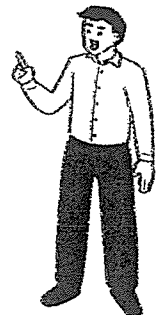
*Do you have plans for the school holidays?
How about going for a hike in a forest?
What about a camping trip with your family or friends?*

Such activities allow you to have fun and get close to nature, but safety needs to be your *number one priority*. Whatever you do, make sure you pick up essential survival skills and pack wisely before setting off.

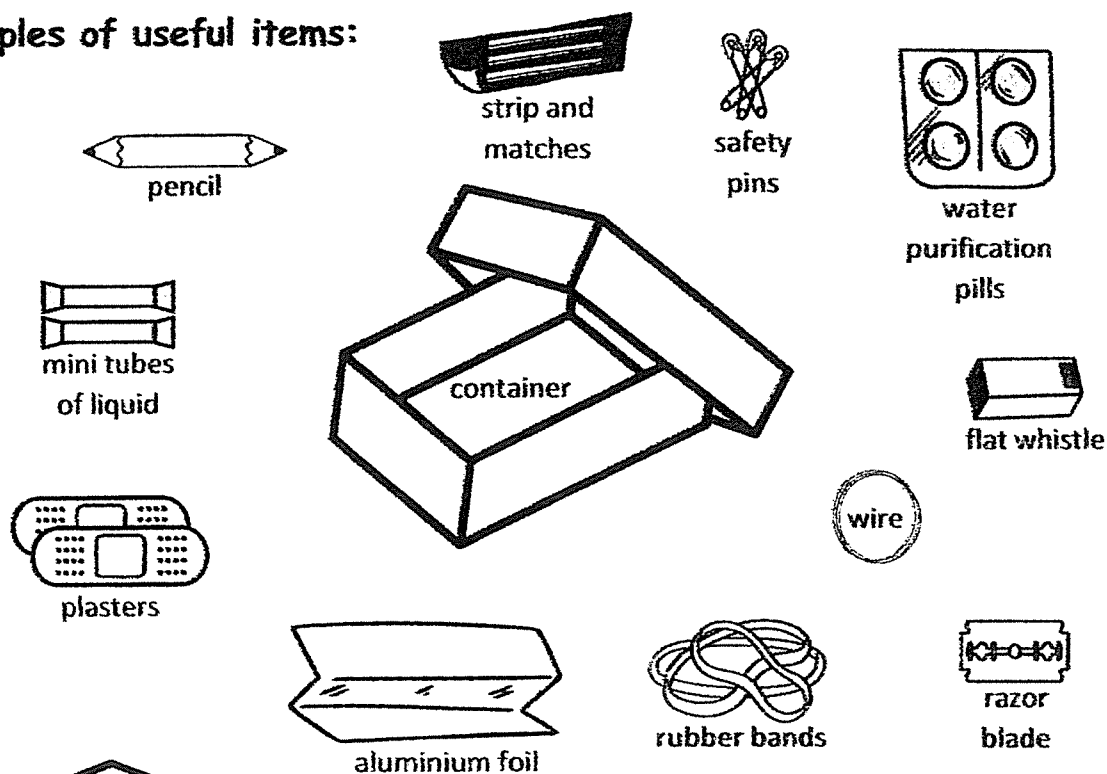
Unexpected things can sometimes happen in the great outdoors. Since you can never anticipate exactly what might go wrong, carrying a survival kit in your pocket is always worthwhile. Let's look at how we can find ways to utilise every tiny bit of space inside a small, lightweight and waterproof container. Include as many useful everyday items as possible!

How to assemble a personal survival kit:

1. Get a small plastic or metal container that fits in your pocket.
2. Remove the rough strip from the side of a matchbox.
3. Wrap the strip and a few matches in plastic wrap to keep them dry.
4. Break a pencil in half and keep one piece within the container.
5. Sharpen both ends of the pencil piece.
6. Cut plastic straws into segments that fit inside your container. Seal one end of each segment with tape. Fill each mini tube with small amounts of liquids like hand sanitizer and antiseptic cream. Then seal the other end.
7. Collect plasters of various sizes.
8. Fold several large sheets of aluminium foil as compactly as possible.
9. Begin by placing the essential items inside the container. Estimate the remaining space and consider other useful items that can fit in your personal survival kit. Maximise the use of space to include as many additional items as possible.



Examples of useful items:



Check this out!

Camp Leap

Dates: 4 to 7 December 2023
Venue: Sunny Forest Campsite
Fee: \$120 per participant

For participants
aged between
13 and 16

Early Bird Offer

Register by
31 October 2023

Camp Leap is back by popular demand! Organised by Team Leap, this outdoor adventure camp will cater for up to 100 participants this year – the largest number thus far! Visit www.teamleap.sg from now until 15 November 2023 to register and pay the fee online. Registration will close early if all places are filled. Leap into action to avoid disappointment!

Important Points to Note

- ✓ First aid kits will be readily available, and instructors are trained to deal with emergencies. However, take note that they are not allowed to administer medication.
- ✓ Participants must declare all medical conditions during registration. Those with medical conditions will be asked to sit out strenuous camp activities.

- 21 The purpose of the questions in the first paragraph is to _____.
- (1) encourage readers to go for a hike
 - (2) tell readers about hiking and camping
 - (3) make readers consider outdoor activities
 - (4) ask readers about their plans for the school holidays
- 22 If you are considering embarking on an outdoor adventure, the phrase "number one priority" in the first paragraph tells you that safety is _____.
- (1) something that requires attention soon
 - (2) the only important thing that deserves attention
 - (3) at the top of the list of things that need attention
 - (4) one of the things you may want to pay attention to
- 23 According to the article, it is important to carry survival kits in the great outdoors because we _____.
- (1) can bring along useful everyday items
 - (2) can foresee problems and prepare for them
 - (3) must make full use of the space in the containers
 - (4) must prepare ourselves for unexpected situations
- 24 According to the instructions on assembling a personal survival kit, which of the following items should be placed inside such a kit?
- (1) a box of matches
 - (2) a metal container
 - (3) some rubber bands
 - (4) some antiseptic cream
- 25 When assembling a personal survival kit, we should _____.
- (1) pack the basic items into the container last
 - (2) try to make use of all the space inside the container
 - (3) measure how much space is available in the container
 - (4) choose a container that can hold all the items we want to include

26. Which statement is **not** true about Camp Leap?
- (1) Not all teenagers will be able to participate in it.
 - (2) Registration may close before the stated deadline.
 - (3) Up to 100 participants can participate in it every year.
 - (4) Participants can enjoy a discounted registration fee up till October.
27. The organiser will take all the following safety precautions during Camp Leap **except** _____.
- (1) ensuring that first aid kits are always on hand
 - (2) authorising instructors to administer medication
 - (3) requesting that participants declare all their medical conditions
 - (4) excluding participants with medical conditions from strenuous camp activities
28. What is the **main** purpose of the article?
- (1) to inform readers of an outdoor adventure camp
 - (2) to offer readers advice on having outdoor adventures safely
 - (3) to share the benefits of engaging in regular outdoor activities
 - (4) to share tips on how to select items for a personal survival kit

Please note that the passage for Comprehension questions 71 to 80 in Booklet B is on the next page. You may now go on to Booklet B.

I met Lina at my summer job when we were working for a trading company in Taipei. As a teenager, I frequently quarrelled with my parents, so I was in low spirits all the time. At the age when one tended to exaggerate one's unhappiness, I constantly showed up at work with an expression that suggested the universe would soon come to an end. Lina, on the other hand, always wore a smile on her face, which, with her two dimples, made her look like a carefree angel.

5

She always listened to my complaints. I harped on how unfair my parents were and what a wonderful life I would have led had I not been born into such a terrible family. Whenever she tried to offer advice, I would say, "You won't understand."

One Wednesday, after yet another squabble with my parents, I decided to teach them a lesson for shouting at me. I decided to 'run away'. I asked Lina if I could stay with her for a while. She smiled, "Sure, but we have a small place which we share, if you don't mind that." I assured her that I would not.

10

After work that evening, I got on the bus with Lina. We rode the bus to the Taipei train station, then walked approximately fifteen minutes to catch another bus. Finally, we hiked along mountain trails for fifteen minutes. When we got to Lina's home, it was after 8pm. Nevertheless, I looked forward to basking in the warmth of Lina's family, something that I never got at home.

15

Lina and her grandmother lived in a converted dormitory for miners together with eight families under the same roof. They even shared a common kitchen and bathroom. In the dormitory, Lina and her grandmother resided in a tiny room, smaller than the bathroom at my home. Orphaned from birth, Lina was raised by her grandmother who used to wash clothes for the miners living there. When the workers moved away, she was out of work. Since then, Lina attended school in the evening and worked during the day.

20

Lina showed no signs of unhappiness while telling me about her life. Her home was small but clean. The old wooden door was scrubbed so white that it shone. Her plan was to work as an accountant after she graduated from school. With a steady income, they would move out of the hills and share an apartment with another family. They would have a flush toilet, sparing her grandmother the pain of using a squat toilet.

25

Lina's grandmother listened to my complaints and was concerned about me. "They may not be perfect, but they are still your kin," she said. "Don't be mad at them for too long, or you'll end up not having a family at all." I was left deep in thought.

30

That night, I was given their small bed. Lina and her grandmother willingly slept on the hard ground. I tossed and turned all night. My 'sorrow' and 'worries' suddenly seemed so insignificant. When I got up at dawn, Lina was preparing porridge in the common kitchen. Seeing me, she turned to the rising sun and said, "Beautiful, isn't it? I like to watch the sunrise from here. I feel life is full of hope when I see the sunlight slowly get brighter and brighter."

35

After work that day, I meekly went home. My four-room flat felt so much more comfortable compared to Lina's humble abode. The next day, my father prepared a plate of scrambled eggs and pancakes for my breakfast. I started speaking more politely to my parents, and subsequently, we stopped squabbling. Soon, my 'depression' evaporated.

40

When the summer job ended, both Lina and I went back to school, and we soon lost touch. Now twenty years later, I have two children of my own, but the image of Lina remains with me - the girl with angelic dimples who had so little, yet taught me so much.



RED SWASTIKA SCHOOL
2023 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
ENGLISH LANGUAGE – PAPER 2
LANGUAGE USE AND COMPREHENSION
PRIMARY 6

Name : _____ ()

Class : Primary 6 / _____

Date : 17 August 2023

BOOKLET B

52 Questions
67 Marks

In this booklet, you should have the following:

- a. Page 10 to Page 16
- b. Questions 29 to 80

BOOKLET	OBTAINED	POSSIBLE
BOOKLET A		28
BOOKLET B		67
TOTAL		95

Parent's Signature : _____

There are 10 blanks, numbered 29 to 38, 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) a | (D) do | (G) from | (K) less | (N) on |
| (B) as | (E) does | (H) however | (L) more | (P) the |
| (C) and | (F) for | (J) in | (M) moreover | (Q) when |

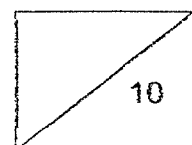
Have you ever wondered why we blink? Blinking is an essential _____ (29)

involuntary action that helps protect and keep our eyes healthy.

Blinking acts _____ a natural shield for our eyes. It helps to keep foreign (30)
objects, like dust, dirt, or even insects, from entering our eyes. When we blink, our eyelids close quickly, acting like _____ protective barrier, preventing anything harmful (31)
_____ reaching our sensitive eye tissues. (32)

Not only _____ blinking protect our eyes physically, it also refreshes our (33)
vision. _____ we stare at something for a long time, our eyes can become tired or (34)
strained. Blinking provides a brief moment of rest _____ our eyes, allowing them (35)
to relax and refocus. It is like a mini break for our visual system, helping to maintain clear and comfortable vision.

_____ average, a person blinks about 15 to 20 times per minute. (36)
_____, certain activities, such as reading or using digital devices, can reduce our (37)
blinking rate. When we concentrate on something, we tend to blink _____ (38)
frequently, which can cause our eyes to become dry and strained. It is therefore important to blink regularly, especially during prolonged periods of focused tasks. Start blinking to reduce eye fatigue!



Adapted from <https://myvision.org/eye-health/why-do-we-blink/>

Each of the underlined words contains either a spelling or grammatical error. Write the correct word in each of the box. (12 marks)

One of the scariest memories I had as a child was watching the Bukit

(39)

Ho Swee fire from my balcony. Despite been miles away, I could see smoke

(40)

(41)

beelowing from the village. With strong winds, the spontaynious fire spread

(42)

around the village, deevowering everything in its path. Hours later, the

(43)

incehcent wailing of sirens could be heard as the firefighters arrived at

the scene.

(44)

The trejerdi left about 16,000 people homeless with four fatalities and

(45)

property damage estimated in \$2 million. The great fire changed the face

(46)

of the village, which had previous housed many squatters.

(47)

The fire resulted in an accelerated of the public housing programme.

(48)

Some, if not all, of the homeless individuals were moved to flats

(49)

constructed around the vesinity. The government responded very swiftly,

(50)

provided shelter and support to those affected. The community also came

together to rebuild and overcome adversity, demonstrating the strength of

human spirit in the face of challenges.

Fill in each blank with a suitable word.

(15 marks)

Have you ever noticed that when you're running around, playing sports, or feeling very hot, your body starts to perspire? Perspiring, as a process, is _____ for our body's well-being. Let us _____ at one important way it benefits us.

(51)

(52)

Our bodies are like well-oiled machines, constantly working in order to keep everything balanced. _____ of the most crucial things our amazing body does is regulating its _____ temperature. When we exercise, the muscles generate _____

(53)

(54)

(55)

(56)

(57)

Our bodies perspire to _____ us from getting too overheated. Perspiration is a clear, salty liquid produced by tiny sweat glands scattered all over our skin. When our body detects rising temperatures, these miraculous glands _____ perspiration onto the skin's surface. As the perspiration evaporates, it takes _____ some of the excess heat with it, cooling us down like a natural air conditioner!

(58)

(59)

(60)

Remember, perspiring is your body's awesome way of maintaining the _____ temperature, so do not feel embarrassed when you are all sweaty _____ a fun game or exercise. It means your body is _____ perfectly! Just make sure to stay _____ by drinking a lot of water, especially on hot days.

(61)

(62)

(63)

(64)

The next time you see those tiny droplets _____ on your forehead or running down your back, appreciate the incredible mechanism your body has to keep you comfortable and healthy. Embrace perspiration as a vital and fascinating aspect of being human!

(65)

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite the 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 Only Yoana and Jayson have not submitted their homework.

Everybody, except Yoana and Jayson, _____

67 Jane stared at the decorated room. She found it awesome.

_____ in

68 "Who fell during the game this morning?" the teacher asked the class.

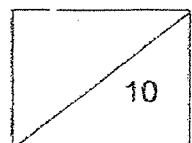
The teacher asked the class who _____

69 Hazy conditions persisted and classes were cancelled.

_____ because of

70 My sister is brewing coffee for breakfast.

Coffee for breakfast _____



71 Which five-word phrase in paragraph 1 suggests that the writer was not as unhappy as she looked? (1m)

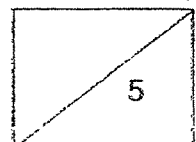
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72 Both Lina and the writer went to work with different attitudes. Fill in the boxes with evidence from the first paragraph. (2m)

	How she felt when she went to work	Evidence from the passage
The writer	She was always sad and moody.	
Lina		She always wore a smile on her face, which, with her two dimples, made her look like a carefree angel.

73 *'Whenever she tried to offer advice, I would say, "You won't understand."* (lines 8 - 9)
 What assumption did the writer make about Lina which made her feel that Lina would not understand? Quote a sentence from the text which suggests this. (2m)

Assumption	Sentence from the text
The writer assumed that _____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



74 List two things about Lina's living conditions which suggested that she was not well-off. (2m)

1. _____

2. _____

75 Which one of the following words best describes how the writer felt in lines 32 – 34? Put a tick in the box beside your answer. (1m)
DO NOT TICK MORE THAN ONE BOX.

anxious

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

tired

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

ashamed

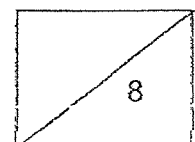
shocked

frustrated

76 Although Lina did not come from a well-to-do family, she was very proud of her home. What are some things she had done to suggest this? (2m)

77 Look at the table below. What do the words/phrases in the left column refer to in the passage? Write your answers in the column on the right. (3m)

Word(s) from the passage	What the word(s) refer to
a) we (line 12)	
b) there (line 22)	
c) They (line 29)	



78 Based on the story, state whether each statement in the table below is true or false, then give one reason why you think so. (3m)

Statement	True/False	Reason
a) The writer did not always complain to Lina about her parents.		
b) The writer did not go back home after work that Wednesday to get back at her parents.		
c) The writer was unconcerned after Lina's grandmother advised her to forgive her parents.		

79 The writer felt that her "sorrow" and "worries" suddenly seemed so insignificant' (lines 33 – 34) in comparison to Lina's. Explain why she felt this way. (2m)

80 To the writer, Lina was 'the girl with angelic dimples who had so little, yet taught me so much' (line 43). What did Lina teach the writer? (2m)

END OF PAPER

