S1 English Language Practice Paper (Set 3): notice and story reading, collocation, tenses, comparison and quantifiers, summary and diary writing

S1 English Language | Time: 60 minutes | Total: 100 marks | 22 questions

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Section A: Notice Reading (16 marks)

Read the notice below and answer the questions in complete sentences.

1. (a) According to the notice, when does the park open and close each day, and how many hours is it open every day? (4 marks)

The park opens at 10:00 a.m. and closes at 5:00 p.m., that is, from 10:00 to 17:00. It is open for seven hours every day (five o'clock in the afternoon minus ten o'clock in the morning equals seven hours).

2. (b) How much would a family of four (two adults and two children) pay if they bought separate tickets, and how much does the family ticket save? (4 marks)

Separate tickets: two adults pay 2 x $30 = $60 and two children pay 2 x $15 = $30, so the total is $90. The family ticket costs $80, so the family saves $10.

3. (c) Which four things must students bring, and which three kinds of behaviour are not allowed inside the park? (4 marks)

Students must bring their own lunch, drinking water, a hat and a raincoat. Not allowed: feeding animals, climbing over the fences and making a lot of noise. All rubbish must also be taken away.

4. (d) When and where must students meet? Which sentence in the notice warns students not to be late, and what effect does it have? (4 marks)

Students must meet at Exit B of Hong Kong Station at 9:45 a.m. The notice warns them with the sentence "The coach will not wait for latecomers". It is short and firm: it makes clear that latecomers must bear the result themselves, so it reminds students to be punctual and leaves no room for argument on the day.

Section B: Story Reading (16 marks)

Read the story below and answer the questions.

5. (a) Where did Chi-ming lose his Octopus card and why was he worried? (4 marks)

He lost it on the school bus on the way to school (Ka-chun found it in the gap between the seats). He was worried because there was still $120.5 on the card, which was the money his mother had given him for reference books, and he could not find it even after searching his bag and pencil case.

6. (b) How did Ka-chun return the card? What does the sentence about Chi-ming being unable to speak with hot ears show about his feelings? (4 marks)

At lunch time Ka-chun came over, put the card on Chi-ming's desk and said he had found it in the gap between the seats and that Chi-ming's name was on the back. The sentence shows that Chi-ming felt both grateful and ashamed: he did not expect the classmate he had laughed at to return it, so he did not know what to say, and hot ears are a sign of embarrassment and guilt.

7. (c) What two things did Chi-ming do after school, and why? (4 marks)

He caught up with Ka-chun, thanked him quietly and pushed a packet of biscuits into his hand. He did so because Ka-chun had returned good for ill, and Chi-ming felt sorry for having laughed at Ka-chun's old school bag the week before, so he wanted to show thanks and say sorry with words and a small gift.

8. (d) What does the last sentence of the diary, about not judging people by their school bags, mean? Give one example from daily life. (4 marks)

It means we should not judge a person's character by appearance or possessions: Ka-chun used an old school bag but was honest and generous. For example, a classmate who dresses plainly may lend his notes to others before every dictation, which shows that character has nothing to do with appearance.

Section C: Vocabulary and Collocation (16 marks)

Complete the following according to the meaning and hints.

9. (a) Fill in the blanks with the words in the box: (collect / notice / provide / behave) 1. The coach will _____ us with gloves and bags. 2. Please _____ all the rubbish and put it in the bin. 3. Read the _____ carefully before you go to the park. 4. The students _____ very well during the visit. (4 marks)

1. provide 2. collect 3. notice 4. behaved (provide somebody with something; collect rubbish; read the notice; behave well, with the past tense behaved)

10. (b) Match make, take, do or have with these nouns and write the full phrases: 1. _____ a photo 2. _____ a shower 3. _____ your homework 4. _____ a good time (4 marks)

1. take a photo 2. take a shower 3. do your homework 4. have a good time

11. (c) Write the opposites of these words: 1. noisy 2. dangerous 3. inside 4. arrive (4 marks)

1. quiet 2. safe 3. outside 4. leave (or depart)

12. (d) Give the other form of each word as shown: 1. safe (noun) _____ 2. careful (adverb) _____ 3. collect (noun) _____ 4. protect (noun) _____ (4 marks)

1. safety 2. carefully 3. collection 4. protection

Section D: Past Continuous and Past Simple (16 marks)

Complete the following as instructed in brackets.

13. (a) Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form: 1. When the coach arrived, we _____ (wait) at Exit B. 2. I _____ (see) a heron while I _____ (walk) along the path. 3. She _____ (not / listen) when the teacher called her name. 4. They _____ (take) photos when it started to rain. (4 marks)

1. were waiting 2. saw; was walking 3. was not listening (wasn't listening) 4. were taking

14. (b) Rewrite the sentences with used to, keeping the meaning: 1. My father walked to school every day when he was a boy. 2. There were no smart phones in 1995. 3. Did you play football after school last year? 4. She did not like vegetables when she was small. (4 marks)

1. My father used to walk to school every day when he was a boy. 2. There did not use to be smart phones in 1995. 3. Did you use to play football after school last year? 4. She did not use to like vegetables when she was small.

15. (c) Join each pair with when or while, keeping the tenses correct: 1. I was doing my homework. The lights went out. 2. The students were cleaning the beach. A teacher took photos. 3. He was running for the bus. He dropped his card. 4. We were having lunch. A heron landed near us. (4 marks)

1. I was doing my homework when the lights went out. 2. While the students were cleaning the beach, a teacher took photos. 3. He was running for the bus when he dropped his card. 4. We were having lunch when a heron landed near us. (While we were having lunch, a heron landed near us, is also correct.)

16. (d) Each sentence has one tense mistake. Find it and correct it: 1. While I walked to school, I was seeing an old friend. 2. She was cooking when the phone rings. 3. They were played football at four yesterday. 4. I didn't used to wear glasses. (4 marks)

1. was seeing becomes saw (While I was walking to school, I saw an old friend, is also correct). 2. rings becomes rang. 3. were played becomes were playing (or played). 4. didn't used to becomes didn't use to.

Section E: Comparatives, Superlatives and Quantifiers (16 marks)

Complete the following as instructed.

17. (a) Put the adjectives in brackets into the correct form: 1. This path is _____ (long) than that one. 2. The wetland park is the _____ (quiet) place in Tai Po. 3. Today is _____ (hot) than yesterday. 4. Of the three bags, the blue one is the _____ (good). (4 marks)

1. longer 2. quietest 3. hotter 4. best

18. (b) Fill in the blanks with much, many, a few or a little: 1. How _____ students joined the clean-up? 2. There is only _____ water left in my bottle. 3. _____ visitors came late because of the rain. 4. We need _____ more time to finish the poster. (4 marks)

1. many 2. a little 3. A few 4. a little (time is uncountable)

19. (c) Rewrite with as ... as or not as ... as: 1. The beach is cleaner than the park. (The park ...) 2. My bag is heavier than yours. (Your bag is not ...) 3. Ka-chun is as tall as Chi-ming. (Rewrite with not as ... as) 4. This notice is shorter than the last one. (The last notice ...) (4 marks)

1. The park is not as clean as the beach. 2. Your bag is not as heavy as mine. 3. Chi-ming is not as tall as Ka-chun. (Ka-chun is not as short as Chi-ming is acceptable too, but since they are the same height, not as tall as is safer.) 4. The last notice is not as short as this one.

20. (d) Choose the correct word and explain why: 1. There are (much / many) rubbish bins in the park. 2. I have (a few / a little) money, so I can buy a drink. 3. (How much / How many) time do we have? 4. Only (a few / a little) people came, so we finished early. (4 marks)

1. many (bins is a countable plural noun). 2. a little (money is uncountable). 3. How much (time is uncountable). 4. a few (people is a countable plural noun).

Section F: Summary and Diary Writing (20 marks)

Complete both tasks.

21. (a) Summarise the story in Section B in about 60 words. Include the cause, what happened and the result. (8 marks)

Model answer (about 62 words): Chi-ming lost his Octopus card with $120.5 on it on the school bus and searched his bag in vain. At lunch time his classmate Ka-chun returned the card, which he had found between the seats. Chi-ming felt grateful and ashamed because he had laughed at Ka-chun's old bag. After school he thanked him with biscuits, and wrote in his diary that we should not judge people by their bags. Marking: cause 2 marks, events 3 marks, result 2 marks, language 1 mark.

22. (b) Write a diary entry of about 100 words about the wetland park visit. Include the weather, one activity, one memorable moment and one thought. The date is 14 March. (12 marks)

Model answer (about 105 words): Saturday, 14 March Sunny Today our class visited Tai Po Wetland Park. The sun was bright and the air was cool. We walked along the boardwalk and saw egrets, herons and a family of ducks. In the afternoon we cleaned a small beach and filled six bags with plastic bottles. The moment I will not forget came when a heron stood still beside us for almost a minute, as if it were watching our work. I learnt that a clean place is not free: someone has to bend down and pick things up. Marking: four content points, 2 marks each (8 marks); language 3 marks; organisation and format (date and weather) 1 mark.

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