S1 English Practice Paper (Set 3): sports day notice, "The Lost Umbrella", tenses, prepositions, punctuation and email writing

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

---

Section A: Reading - School Sports Day Notice (16 marks)

Read the notice above and answer the questions.

1. (a) When does the first race start, when does the last event finish, and how long does the programme last?

The first race starts at 8:45 a.m. and the last event finishes at 3:30 p.m., so the programme lasts 6 hours 45 minutes (405 minutes).

2. (b) By what time must students arrive at the ground, and why?

Students must arrive by 8:20 a.m. because they need to collect a number tag.

3. (c) How many students and how many events are there this year, and how much money is collected from the sports shirts in total?

There are 240 students and 24 events. The shirts bring in 240 x $12 = $2,880.

4. (d) What happens if there is heavy rain, and by what time will the school tell students?

Sports Day will be moved to Friday, 13 March 2026, and the school will send a message through the school app before 6:30 a.m. on that day.

Section B: Reading - "The Lost Umbrella" (16 marks)

Read the story above and answer the questions.

5. (a) Why did Mei take her father's umbrella, and what time did she leave home?

It was a rainy Monday, so she took her father's old black umbrella. She left home at 7:40 a.m.

6. (b) Where and how did she lose the umbrella?

She put it down on the floor while queuing at the tuck shop; when she turned round it was gone. She looked under the benches and behind the door but could not find it.

7. (c) When and where did she find the umbrella, and what was inside it?

At lunchtime she found it in the lost property box in the school office, and inside was a small note.

8. (d) What did the note say, and why did Mei smile at the end?

The note, signed K., said the writer had borrowed the umbrella to walk a little sister to the clinic and was sorry. Mei smiled because the writer was honest and polite, and she left the umbrella in the box for the next rainy day.

Section C: Grammar - tenses, nouns, articles, agreement (16 marks)

Use the grammar box to fill in the four blanks in each part.

9. (a) Fill in the correct form of the verb in brackets: (4 marks) 1. My brother _____ (play) football every Saturday. 2. Look! The boys _____ (run) in the playground. 3. She usually _____ (walk) to school. 4. Today she _____ (take) the bus.

1. plays 2. are running 3. walks 4. is taking (1 and 3 are habits, so present simple; 2 and 4 are happening now, so present continuous)

10. (b) Fill in much / many / a few / a little. Use each once: (4 marks) 1. There isn't _____ milk in the fridge. 2. How _____ students are there in the hall? 3. I have _____ questions to ask you. 4. There is only _____ sugar left.

1. much 2. many 3. a few 4. a little (milk and sugar are uncountable, so much and a little; students and questions are plural countable, so many and a few)

11. (c) Fill in a / an / the / - (no article): (4 marks) 1. Mei has _____ old black umbrella. 2. _____ sun rises in the east. 3. We play _____ football after school. 4. Please close _____ door behind you.

1. an 2. The 3. - (no article) 4. the (an before a vowel sound; the sun is unique; no article before games)

12. (d) Fill in the correct form of the verb, paying attention to agreement: (4 marks) 1. My favourite subject _____ (be) English. 2. The news _____ (be) good today. 3. There _____ (be) two notices on the board. 4. Each student _____ (have) a number tag.

1. is 2. is 3. are 4. has (news takes a singular verb; two notices takes are; each takes a singular verb)

Section D: Prepositions and Question Words (16 marks)

Use the reminders to choose the correct preposition or question word.

13. (a) Fill in in / on / at: (4 marks) 1. Sports Day is _____ Friday, 6 March. 2. The race starts _____ 8:45 a.m. 3. My birthday is _____ December. 4. We have lunch _____ noon.

1. on 2. at 3. in 4. at (on for days and dates, at for clock times and noon, in for months)

14. (b) Fill in Who / How / How many / Why. Use each once: (4 marks) 1. _____ is your English teacher? - Mr Chan. 2. _____ do you go to school? - By bus. 3. _____ events are there this year? - 24. 4. _____ are you late? - Because the bus broke down.

1. Who 2. How 3. How many 4. Why (who for a person, how for a way, how many for a number, why for a reason)

15. (c) Fill in in / on / under / between: (4 marks) 1. The umbrella is _____ the box. 2. The notice is _____ the wall. 3. The cat is hiding _____ the table. 4. The tuck shop is _____ the hall and the library.

1. in 2. on 3. under 4. between

16. (d) Fill in before / after / until / during. Use each once: (4 marks) 1. Please arrive _____ 8:20 a.m. 2. _____ the race, we will do warm-up exercises. 3. Don't leave _____ the last event finishes. 4. He fell asleep _____ the film.

1. before 2. Before 3. until 4. during

Section E: Word Forms, Collocations, Punctuation and Capitals (16 marks)

Use the reminders to complete each part.

17. (a) Fill in the correct form of the word in brackets: (4 marks) 1. Mei walked _____ (quick) to the bus stop. 2. The story has a _____ (surprise) ending. 3. Thank you for your _____ (kind). 4. The notice gives clear _____ (inform).

1. quickly (adverb for the verb) 2. surprising (adjective for ending) 3. kindness (noun) 4. information (uncountable noun)

18. (b) Fill in make / do / take / have. Use each once: (4 marks) 1. _____ a photo 2. _____ your homework 3. _____ a decision 4. _____ a good time

1. take 2. do 3. make 4. have

19. (c) Add the correct punctuation (capital letters, commas, question marks, apostrophes, full stops): (4 marks) 1. where is my umbrella 2. mei borrowed her fathers old black umbrella 3. The events are running jumping and throwing 4. I cant find my number tag

1. Where is my umbrella? 2. Mei borrowed her father's old black umbrella. 3. The events are running, jumping and throwing. 4. I can't find my number tag.

20. (d) Correct the capital letters: (4 marks) 1. we play football every saturday in march 2. my teacher, mr chan, comes from canada 3. i read the lost umbrella on monday 4. the sports day is at victoria park

1. We play football every Saturday in March. 2. My teacher, Mr Chan, comes from Canada. 3. I read The Lost Umbrella on Monday. 4. The Sports Day is at Victoria Park.

Section F: Sentence Rewriting and Email Writing (20 marks)

Complete both the rewriting task and the writing task.

21. (a) Rewrite the sentences as instructed (2 marks each, 10 marks): 1. Mei is happy. She found her umbrella. (join with because) 2. She left home at 7:40. (ask a question about the time) 3. The umbrella is old. (make it negative) 4. There is a note in the box. (make it plural) 5. K said, "I am sorry." (report it: K said that ...)

1. Mei is happy because she found her umbrella. 2. What time did she leave home? 3. The umbrella is not old. 4. There are notes in the box. 5. K said that he was sorry.

22. (b) Write an email of about 60 words to your friend Sam. Give the date and place of Sports Day, one event you will join, and one thing Sam should bring. (10 marks)

Sample answer: Dear Sam, Our Sports Day is on Friday, 6 March at Victoria Park Sports Ground. It starts at 8:45 a.m. I will join the 200-metre race, so I am training every day. Please bring a water bottle and wear your sports shoes. I hope you can come and cheer for me. Yours, Chris. (Marking: 6 marks for the three points, 1 for about 60 words, 2 for grammar and spelling, 1 for format and tone)

TutorZoneOriginal material written for TutorZone, not from any school or publisher.