

Name: _____

Index Number: _____

Class: _____

Clementi Town Secondary School
Preliminary Examination 2023
Secondary 4 Express



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 2 Comprehension

ANSWER SCHEME – DO NOT PRINT

1184/02

24 August 2023

1 hour 50 minutes

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This Marking Scheme is for school's internal use.

MAXIMUM MARK: 50

This Answer Scheme consists of **14** printed pages.

[Turn over

Section A [5 marks]

Refer to the online poster (**Text 1**) and the social media post (**Text 2**) on page 2 of the Insert for Questions 1–4.

- 1 Look at Text 1. Tick (✓) the most effective title for the image in this poster.

☐

Work hard to save Earth

☐

Together, we can save Earth

☐

Plant more trees to save Earth

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
1	Together, we can save Earth	1	
	Marker's Comments		

- 2 The poster states that 'We are the indispensable key to saving our environment.'

What does the word 'indispensable' suggest about humans' role in saving the environment?

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
2	'Indispensable' suggests that human beings are essential / necessary to save the earth. OR To save the earth, we cannot do without human beings.	1	(X) vital / important
	Marker's Comments		

- 3 Identify the expression in Text 2 which reflects the idea of man being the 'indispensable key to saving our environment' in Text 1.

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
3	'we are (the only ones) who can do it'	1	
	Marker's Comments		

4 Look at Texts 1 and 2 and statements (a) and (b) below.

Decide whether the statements refer to Text 1, Text 2, both texts, or neither text.

Circle the answer you have chosen for each statement.

(a) The readers are asked to take action.

Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
4(a)	Text 1	1	
	Marker's Comments		

(b) The tone is introspective.

Text 1 / Text 2 / Both / Neither

[2]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
4(b)	Text 2	1	
	Marker's Comments		

Section B [20 marks]

Refer to **Text 3** on pages 3 and 4 of the Insert for Questions 5–16.

- 5 At the beginning of the text, the writer describes the market Vijay and his wife were visiting. Explain how the language used in Paragraph 1 shows that Vijay was overwhelmed. Support your ideas with **three** details from Paragraph 1.

[3]

Question	Answer		Marks	Remarks
5	'(cacophony of cars blaring, carts rattling, motorbikes revving and people's loud voices caused him to) wince sharply in agony'	The combination of sounds from vehicles and people were so harsh / jarring that Vijay cringed involuntarily in pain / discomfort.	1	Candidates need to identify Vijay's reactions to his surrounding and explain how he was overwhelmed by his surrounding.
	'scowled scathingly (at buyers weaving and shoving their way)'	The crowd of buyers who pushed around annoyed Vijay so much so that he frowned / glowered at them fiercely / in a hostile manner.	1	
	'(a potent blend that) pricked his nose'	The mixture of fragrances and odours was so unpleasant to Vijay that it stung / irritate his nose.	1	
	Marker's Comments			

- 6 In Paragraph 1, what does the word 'weaving' (line 4) suggest about the state of the market?

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
6	The market was crowded / packed / cluttered.	1	
	Marker's Comments		

7 What **two** things did Vijay do in Paragraph 1 to show his disdain at the idea of buying flowers?

- (i) _____
- (ii) _____ [1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
7	(i) His chin twisted with a frown. / He frowned. AND (ii) He grumbled.	1	
	Marker's Comments		

8 According to Rani in Paragraph 2, how do flowers affect human experience? **Answer in your own words.**

_____ [1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
8	From passage: transpose you to another world Own words: transfer / transport / move	1	
	Marker's Comments		

9 From Paragraph 5, what does the expression 'lost in thought' (line 23) tell us about Vijay's reaction to the images of the flowers?

_____ [1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
9	He became pensive / contemplative / meditative / reflective.	1	
	Marker's Comments		

10 With reference to Paragraph 5, Vijay realised the flowers can 'uplift a wilting soul' (line 25). Explain **in your own words** what this means.

_____ [2]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
10	From passage: magical powers to uplift a wilting soul Own words: To <u>cheer</u> [1] <u>sad / depressed</u> [1] people up OR To make <u>sad / depressed</u> [1] people <u>feel better</u> [1]	2 OR 2	
	Marker's Comments		

- 11 Vijay believed that humans 'abuse flowers' (line 26).
 Explain how this belief is supported with reference to **two** details from Paragraph 5.

[2]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks						
11	Any two; 1 mark each: <table><tr><td>‘pull each one ruthlessly (from the stem)’</td><td>we pluck the flowers without any compassion for them</td></tr><tr><td>‘tie them brusquely (into a knot like a bunch of criminals)’</td><td>we bind the flowers up in a rough manner</td></tr><tr><td>‘twist them viciously (into a garland)’</td><td>we bend the flowers with intended / deliberate violence / cruelty</td></tr></table>	‘pull each one ruthlessly (from the stem)’	we pluck the flowers without any compassion for them	‘tie them brusquely (into a knot like a bunch of criminals)’	we bind the flowers up in a rough manner	‘twist them viciously (into a garland)’	we bend the flowers with intended / deliberate violence / cruelty	2	
‘pull each one ruthlessly (from the stem)’	we pluck the flowers without any compassion for them								
‘tie them brusquely (into a knot like a bunch of criminals)’	we bind the flowers up in a rough manner								
‘twist them viciously (into a garland)’	we bend the flowers with intended / deliberate violence / cruelty								
	Marker's Comments								

- 12 Vijay felt that the flowers are being 'throttled with a tight noose' (line 35).

(a) What is this expression being compared to?

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
12(a)	It is being compared to criminals being executed / slaughtered / imprisoned / given the death sentence.	1	
	Marker's Comments		

(b) What does this comparison show about Vijay's feelings towards flowers?

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
12(b)	It shows his sympathy / pity / feels sorry for the flowers.	1	
	Marker's Comments		

- 13 Vijay had 'the power to do something about this' (lines 39-40).
With reference to Paragraph 7, explain why he felt this way.

_____ [1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
13	Vijay's act of removing the rubber band from around the roses represents / symbolises the freeing of the people from their suffering.	1	
	Marker's Comments		

- 14 In Paragraph 7, Vijay said, 'I am still searching for mine' (line 45).
What was Vijay still searching for?

_____ [1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
14	Vijay was still searching for his purpose in life.	1	
	Marker's Comments		

- 15 In Paragraph 8, Vijay cut, tidied and organised the flowers in the vase. How does this contradict his earlier actions on the flowers?

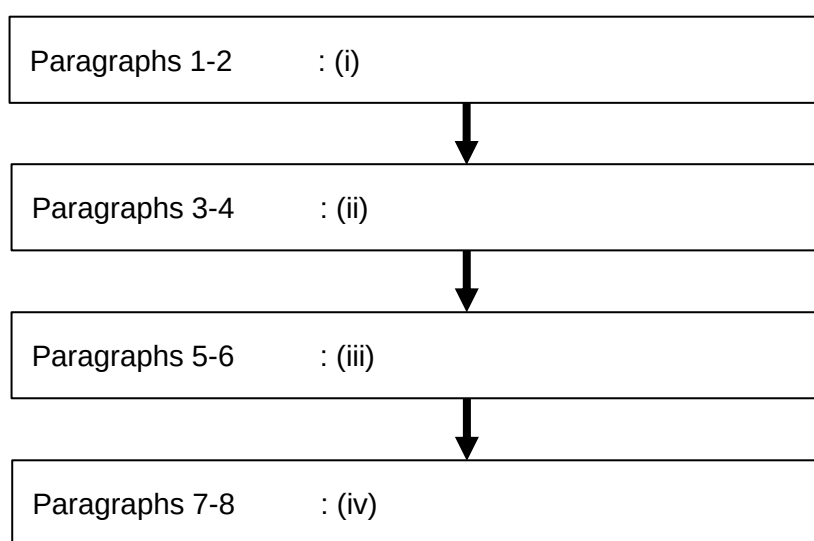
_____ [1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
15	Previously he <u>untied / freed</u> them but now he <u>confined / put them in</u> a vase again.	1	Answer must consist of earlier action AND current action.
	Marker's Comments		

- 16 The structure of the text reflects Vijay's thoughts and feelings towards flowers at different stages. Complete the flowchart by choosing one phrase from the box to summarise his thoughts and feelings at each stage. There are some extra phrases in the box you do not need to use.

Vijay's thoughts and feelings

utter displeasure	curious fascination	mild contempt
noble aspirations	pensive preoccupation	intense motivation
overwhelming empathy		



[4]

Question	Answer	Marks	Evidence from text
16	(i) utter displeasure	1	- Vijay pulled his car to the pavement with a grumble. (line 1) - Vijay scowled scathingly (line 4) - His chin twisted with a frown as he grumbled with disdain at the idea of buying flowers. (lines 7-8)
	(ii) curious fascination	1	- was piqued by the images (line 15) - The first one intrigued him. (line 16) - He was mesmerised by its beauty. (lines 17-18) - astonished (line 20)
	(iii) pensive preoccupation	1	- lost in thought (line 23) - He realised... (line 23) - As his lips stretched wide with a sense of bliss, he could not help but think about how humans abuse flowers. (lines 25-26) - his concerns for flowers were battling in his mind (line 30) - A deep sigh came out of his lips as he shook his head. (lines 33-34)
	(iv) intense motivation	1	- Springing into action, he quickly loosened the noose by snapping the rubber band. (line 36) - If he had the power, he would do everything to free them. (line 38) - He trimmed and tidied the stem and placed it in the vase. Then he trimmed the rest of the bouquet to perfect symmetry and positioned them into the vase. (lines 46-47)

Section C [25 marks]

Refer to **Text 4** on pages 5 and 6 of the Insert for Questions 17–23.

17 According to Paragraph 1, what is responsible for the red tides?

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
17	Red tides are caused by several different microorganisms (that use light energy to grow).	1	
	Marker's Comments		

18 The writer says that not all red tides are red. With reference to Paragraph 1, what **two** factors can account for this phenomenon?

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
18	1. Pigment of the cells AND 2. Local atmospheric conditions cause the algae colour to range from rusty orange to green to bioluminescent	1	
	Marker's Comments		

19 Which word in Paragraph 2 suggests the idea of drastic accelerated growth?

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
19	'explodes'	1	
	Marker's Comments		

20 In Paragraph 3, the writer claims that there is no definite single source that prolongs algae blooms.

(i) Identify a word that conveys the idea of 'definite'.

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
20(i)	'conclusively'	1	
	Marker's Comments		

(ii) State the reasons for the writer's claim.

[2]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
20(ii)	1. There are likely multiple factors. 2. The mechanisms of a cause-and-effect relationship of these factors have yet to be fully demonstrated.	1 1	
	Marker's Comments		

21 The writer calls the algae blooms 'lovely little devils' (line 12).
What is the writer's tone here?

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
21	humorous / ironic / sarcastic	1	
	Marker's Comments		

22 Here is part of a conversation between two students, Monica and Norman, who have read the article.



(a) With reference to Paragraph 7, how would Monica justify her position?

[2]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
22(a)	• Wind and temperature are expected to increase with a warming planet.	1	
	• With more wind stirring up nutrients, algae species can get food more easily and multiply.	1	
	Marker's Comments		

(b) Identify the evidence in Paragraph 7 that Norman can use to support his view.

[1]

Question	Answer	Marks	Remarks
22(b)	The diatom species prefer calmer conditions.	1	
	Marker's Comments		

- 23 **Using your own words as far as possible**, summarise how algae blooms in red tides can adversely affect marine animals and humans.

Use only information from Paragraphs 4 to 6.

Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form). It must not be longer than 80 words (not counting the words given to help you begin).

Algae blooms in red tides can cause great harm by

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

(_____ words) [15]

For Marker's Use	
Content	/ 8
Language	/ 7
Total	/ 15

QUESTION 23 (summary): 15 marks (8 + 7)

AWARD A MAXIMUM OF 8 FOR CONTENT POINTS.

AWARD A MAXIMUM OF 7 MARKS FOR STYLE.

CONTENT ASSESSMENT (8 marks)

Line/s	Answer (from passage)	Own Words
	Helping words:	<i>Algae blooms in red tides can cause great harm by...</i>
	How algae blooms adversely affect marine animals	
17-18	1. The neurotoxins produced by harmful algae blooms can cause massive fish kills	1. producing neurotoxins that can cause massive fish kills.
18-19	2. toxin works its way through the food web, with other species preying on the sick fish	2. The toxins affect other animals through the food web.
20-22	3. The toxins can even produce a foam that causes seabirds to lose the waterproofing on their feathers, resulting in their death	3. Seabirds lose the waterproofing on their feathers and die.
22-23	4. ... toxin released... can lead to respiratory problems or even death	4. The toxins cause respiratory problems and death in animals.
23-25	5. nutrients released from carcasses are a significant nutrient source for blooms, allowing the red tide to grow, and more fish to die (vicious cycle)	5. Nutrients from animal carcasses increase algae blooms and more animals' deaths.
	How algae blooms adversely affect humans	
26-27	6. Most people become ill from exposure to the toxins in harmful algae after eating contaminated seafood, particularly shellfish.	6. Humans fall sick after consuming seafood contaminated by red tide toxins.
27-28	7. toxins from some harmful algae can also infect people by spreading through the air.	7. Humans fall sick after breathing air contaminated by red tide toxins.
29-30	8. illnesses, most of which develop rapidly after exposure occurs and are characterised by severe symptoms	8. Most illnesses develop quickly into severe symptoms.
31-32	9. Majority of the infected recover within a few days, though some illnesses linked to harmful algae blooms can be fatal.	9. Most people are sick for a few days while some may die.
33-34	10. The algae blooms can lead to loss of recreational and commercial opportunities,	10. Algae blooms may cause recreational and commercial losses,
34-35	11. and social stress in affected families and communities.	11. and unhappiness / conflicts / disputes in affected communities.
	Marker's Comments	

STYLE ASSESSMENT (7 marks)

Mark	Summary Style Descriptors
7	• Sustained and successful use of own words and structures • Consistently well organised ideas which convey the meaning of the text clearly and precisely
5-6	• Frequent and usually appropriate use of own words and structures • Mostly well organised ideas which convey the meaning of the text clearly
3-4	• Some use of own words and structures • Some attempts at organising ideas to convey the meaning of the text
1-2	• Occasional attempts at use of own words and/or structures • Attempts at conveying the meaning of the text
0	• No creditable response.
	Marker's Comments

Sample Summary in continuous writing:***Algae blooms in red tides can cause great harm by...***

producing neurotoxins that can cause massive fish kills. The toxins affect other animals through the food web. Seabirds lose the waterproofing on their feathers and die. The toxins **also** cause respiratory problems and death in animals. Nutrients from animal carcasses increase algae blooms and more animals' deaths. Humans fall sick after consuming seafood **or** breathing air contaminated by red tide toxins. Most illnesses develop quickly into severe symptoms. While most people are sick for a few days, some may die.

80 words (Points 1-9)