

P6 CURRICULUM BRIEFING ENGLISH LANGUAGE

4 February 2022



Guiding Our Approach to Teaching and Learning

Our Vision:

Every Haig Girl a **confident, creative and effective** communicator.

OUR MISSION:

To develop learners who are able to **use the English Language effectively** as a means to explore and understand the world, and as a tool to express themselves, **thus contributing meaningfully to society.**

Examination Format (EL)

Paper	Component	Item Type	Marks	Weighting	Duration
1	Situational Writing Continuous Writing	OE OE	55	27.5%	1 h 10 min
2	Language Use and Comprehension	OE & MCQ	95	47.5%	1 h 50 min
3	Listening Comprehension	MCQ	20	10%	About 35 min
4	Oral Communication Reading Aloud + Stimulus-Based Conversation		30	15%	About 10 min (includes 5 min preparation time; about 5 min examination time)
Total			200	100%	

Examination Format (FEL)

Paper	Component	Item Type	Marks	Weighting	Duration
1	Situational Writing Continuous Writing	OE OE	40	26.7%	1 h 10 min
2	Language Use and Comprehension	OE & MCQ	60	40.0%	1 h 20 min
3	Listening Comprehension	MCQ	20	13.3%	About 35 min
4	Oral Communication Reading Aloud + Stimulus-Based Conversation		30	20%	About 10 min (includes 5 min preparation time; about 5 min examination time)
Total			150	100%	

Assessment of Learning

- Weighted and Non-weighted Assessments

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Term Test (Non-weighted)	SA1 (30%)	SA2 (70%)	PSLE
Oral Test	Papers 1, 2, 3 & 4	Papers 1, 2, 3 & 4	Papers 1, 2, 3 & 4



Oracy Skills

Oral Examinations (Term 1, 2 & 3):

Reading Aloud

- Reading a given text with good Pronunciation, Expression and Fluency

Stimulus-Based Conversation

- Converse with reflective and well-worded responses to a given stimulus
- Demonstrate the ability to think on her feet

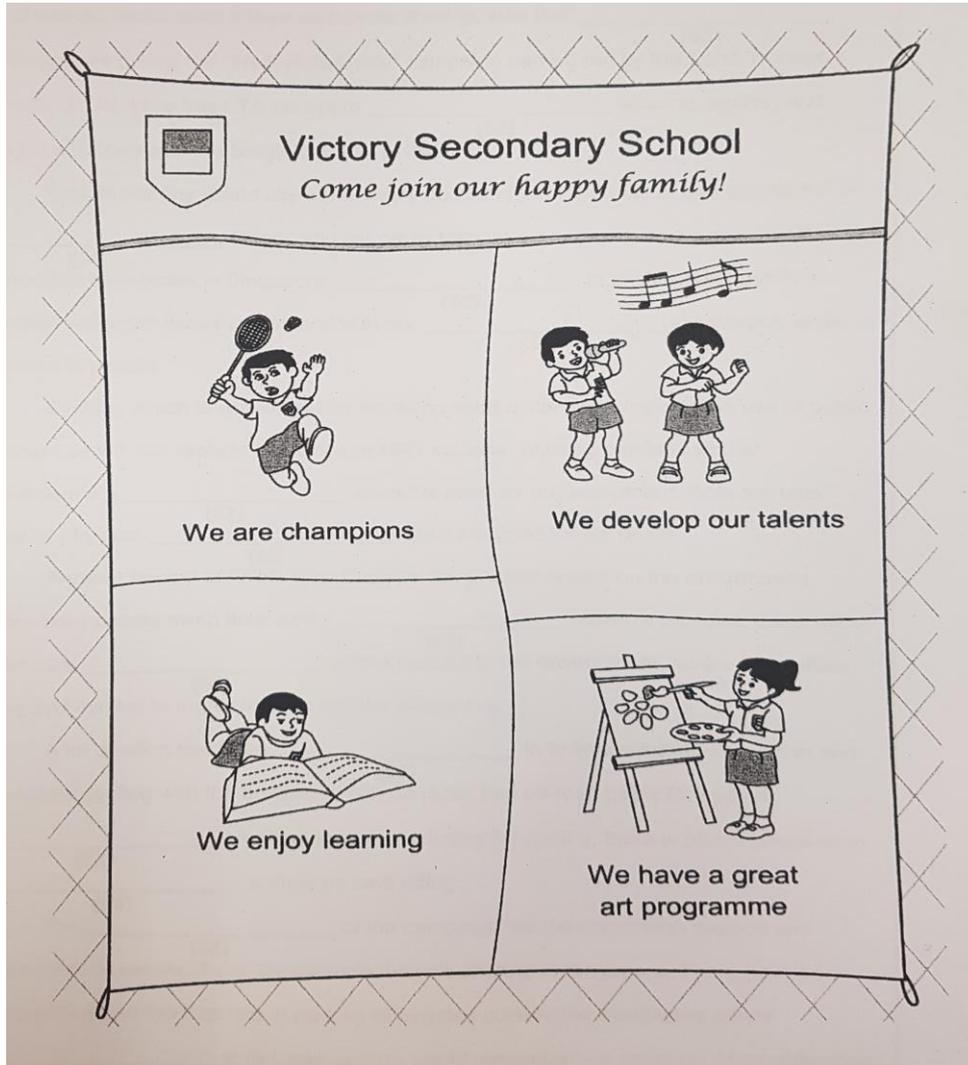
Frequent practices in class and via SLS

Specific feedback to help students target their areas for improvement



Assessment of Oracy Skills

- Stimulus-Based Conversation (2018 PSLE)



Questions:

- Does this banner make you want to join this school? Why/Why not?
- What would you consider when choosing a school?
- How would you try to make friends in a new school?

Assessment of Oracy Skills

- Stimulus-Based Conversation (2021 PSLE)

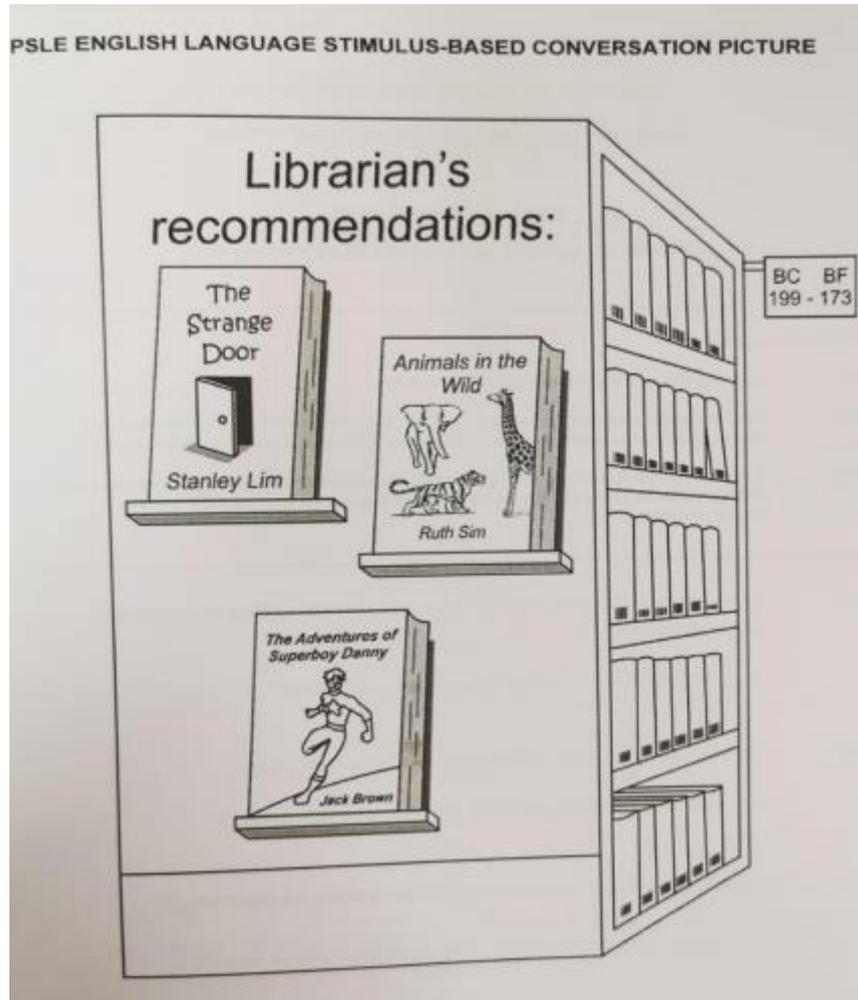


Questions:

- Are you like this girl in this picture? Why/Why not?
- If you could choose, what time would you like school to start and end?
- Do you have enough sleep every night? Why/Why not?

Assessment of Oracy Skills

- Stimulus-Based Conversation (2019 PSLE)

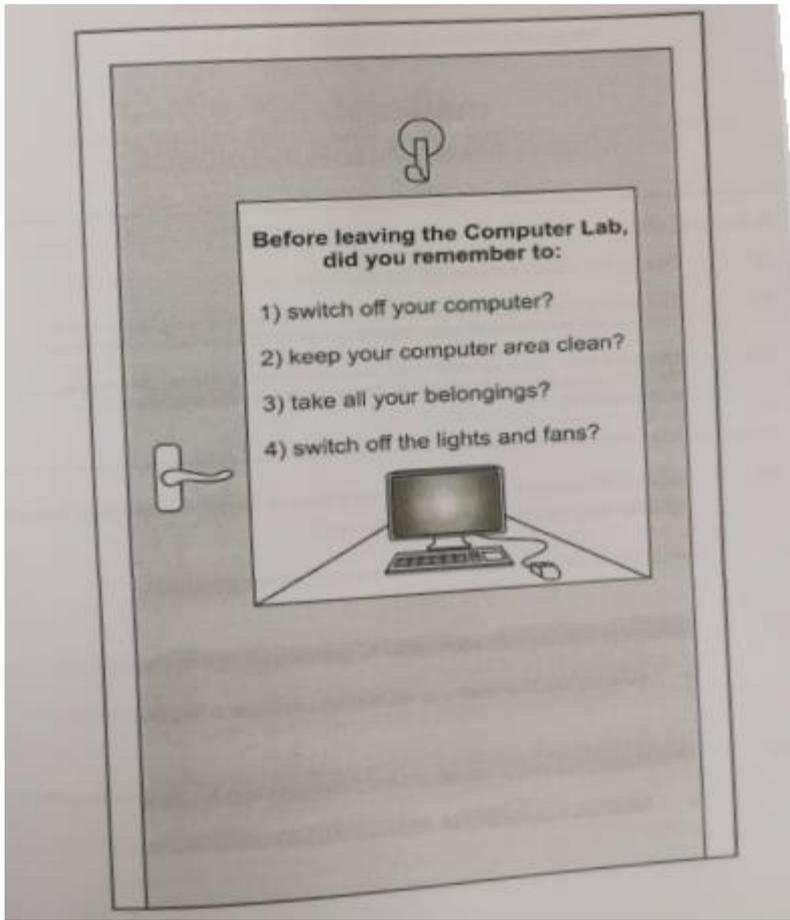


Questions:

- Would you be interested in reading these books? Why/Why not?
- Do you visit your school library often? Why/Why not?
- Would you prefer listening stories or reading stories? Why?

Assessment of Oracy Skills

- Stimulus-Based Conversation (2019 PSLE)



Questions:

- Do you think the poster is useful in reminding students of what they need to do? Why/Why not?
- Was there a time when you lost or forgot something? Tell us about it.
- How would you help a friend or family member who tends to be forgetful?

**What
students can
do at home
to develop
their oracy
skills**

Exposure to Good Spoken EL:

- Radio programmes
- TV programmes
- Good speakers – Oral Presentation on specific topics (e.g. TedTalks, YouTube)

Regular Practices & Reviews:

- Record and Review (Self, Peer & Knowledgeable Adults)
- ‘3-minute Babble’ – on any topic
- Good collection of ideas & useful vocabulary (**A4 sized Vocab Book***)
- **Suggested Topics List**

Suggested Topics List

What students can do at home to develop their oracy skills



Haig Girls' School
English Language
Primary 5 and 6

Possible Themes & Topics for Oral Examination

A good speaker impresses her audience with:

- ✓ **Good spoken English** (good pronunciation; appropriate tone & expression of emotions)
- ✓ **Substance** (ideas and opinions are well-supported with knowledge and findings)

To have the above mentioned attributes, we need to:

- practise (3-minute Babble) &
- have a good collection of ideas and vocabulary.

Let's brainstorm on some possible themes and topics!

1. Personal Wellness & Safety

- a. Healthy diets
- b. Fitness (Exercise, sports etc.)
- c. Spending time with family and friends
- d. Past-times
- e. Sufficient rest (sleep & time to unwind)
- f. Road safety
- g. General safety
- h. _____
- i. _____

2. Relationships (Family, Friends, Neighbours etc.)

- a. Different ways to show love, kindness and support (Filial piety, parent-child/sibling's relationship, friendship, good neighbourliness etc.)
- b. Celebrating special occasions/events together (e.g. New Year, Birthday, Christmas Gathering & other festivities)
- c. Contributing at home (e.g. by helping out with household chores)
- d. Doing activities together (gatherings, holidays, outings etc.)

Paper 1 (Writing)

Situational Writing

- Informal or Formal letter/email
- Show good understanding of Purpose, Audience and Context in a given situation

+

Continuous Writing (Composition)

- 3 pictures and a given theme
- Use at least one picture
- 2 guiding questions

= **1h 10min**

***Students are encouraged to spend not more than 15 min on Situational Writing.**

Paper 1 (Writing)

Foundation English

Situational Writing

- Informal letter/email
- Show good understanding of Purpose, Audience and Context in a situation

+

Continuous Writing (Composition)

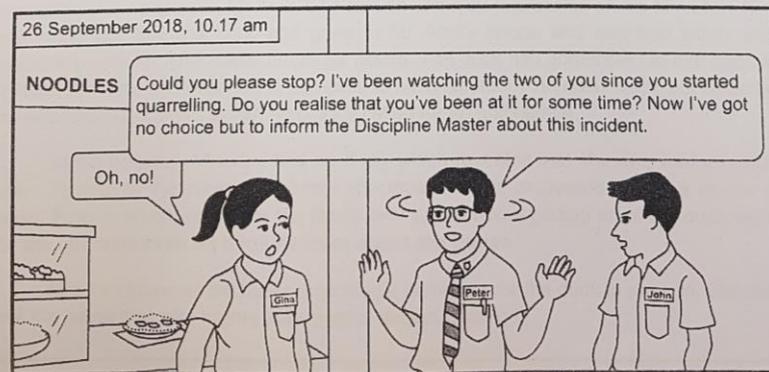
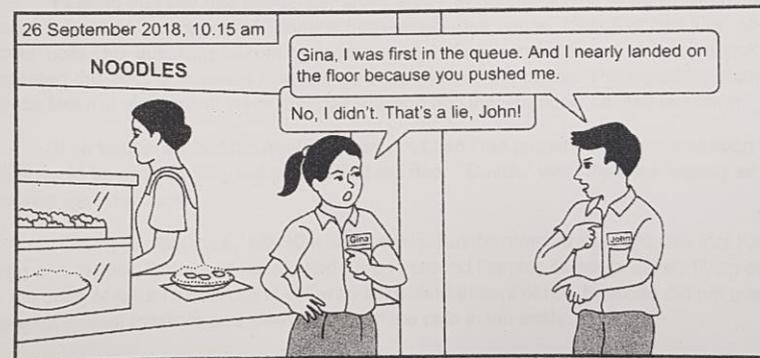
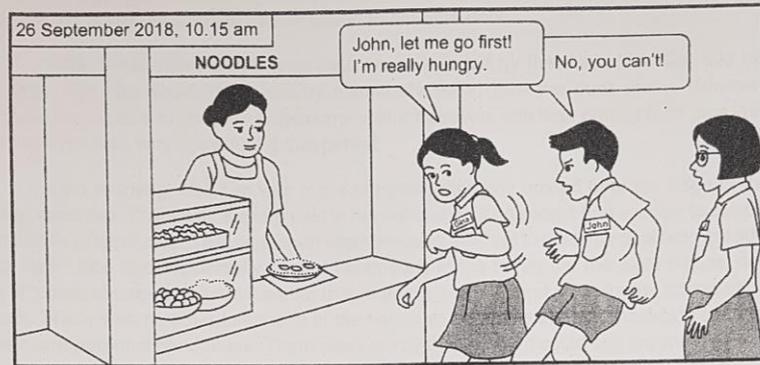
- 3 pictures in a series + a question mark ending
- Helping words provided

= **1h 10min**

***Students are encouraged to spend not more than 15 min on Situational Writing.**

Situational Writing

A Sample (2018 PSLE)



Task:

Imagine you are Peter, the prefect on duty.

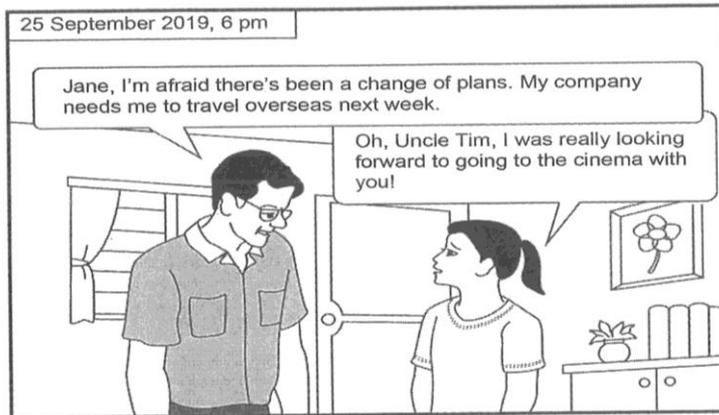
Write an email to the Discipline Master of your school, Mr Tan, to inform him about the incident.

Situational Writing

A Sample (2019 PSLE)

Part 1: Situational Writing (15 marks)

- 1 The pictures below show a conversation between Jane and her uncle. The conversation took place in Jane's house. Study the pictures carefully.



<p>◆ DIAMOND CINEMA</p> <p>DRAGON ISLAND</p> <p>Date: 4 October 2019</p> <p>Time: 5 pm</p> <p>Price: \$12.50</p> <p>H 15</p>	<p>◆ DIAMOND CINEMA</p> <p>DRAGON ISLAND</p> <p>Date: 4 October 2019</p> <p>Time: 5 pm</p> <p>Price: \$12.50</p> <p>H 16</p>
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Task:

Imagine you are Jane.

Write an email to your best friend, Linda, to invite her to watch the movie with you.

Continuous Writing

Write a composition of at least 150 words about a **celebration**.

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 reason for the celebration?
- How was the occasion celebrated?

A Sample (2019 PSLE)

Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

2 Write a composition of at least 150 words about a **celebration**.

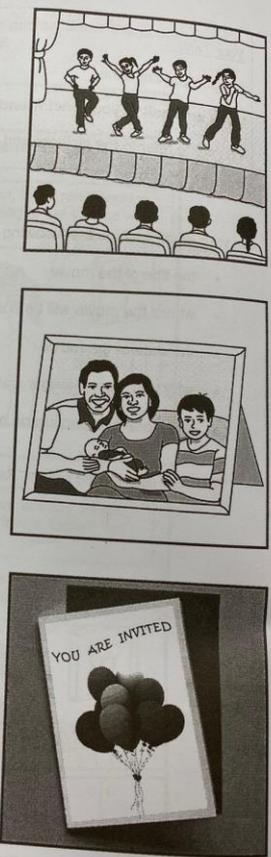
The pictures are provided to help you think about this topic.

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

Consider the following points when you plan your composition:

- What was the reason for the celebration?
- How was the occasion celebrated?

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



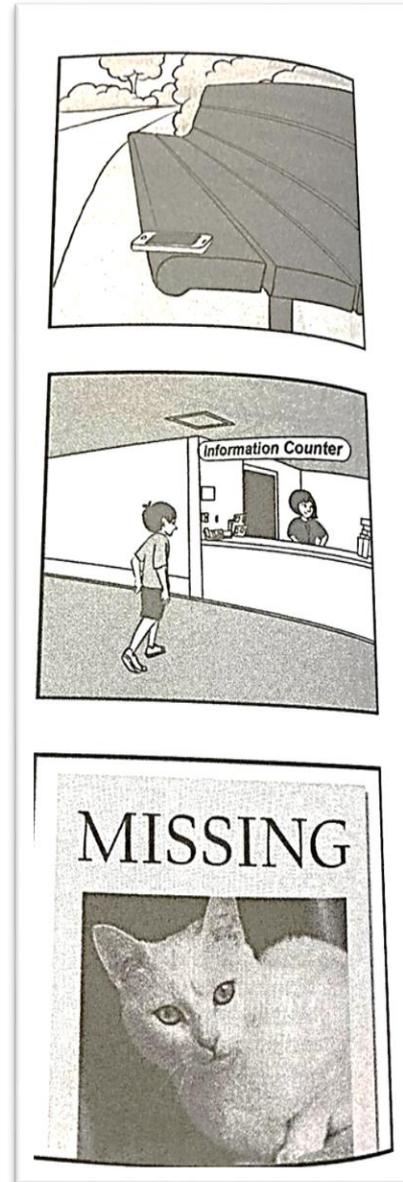
Continuous Writing

Write a composition of at least 150 words about **something that was lost**.

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:

- How did it get lost?
- Was it found?

A Sample (2020 PSLE)



How We Develop Our Students' Writing Skills

We teach them to achieve these Writing Goals:

- write a story that the reader find **believable and can relate to**
- use techniques to **sustain the reader's interest**
- use techniques that **allow the reader to imagine that they were at the scene**
- make the reader **feel for the characters**
- make the reader **embrace values such as honesty, courage, care and concern**

Use of Model Texts: Analyse and Apply

Dialogue intro
+ foreshadow

"Finally, check that you have your torch – you never know when you'll need it!"

This last one almost made me laugh out loud. A torch! A torch! Everyone's got a bit of crazy in them. Miss Jane obviously had a little more than others. Who needs a torch in broad daylight?

Use of humour

It was soon two hours into the gruelling hike. I was swooning with exhaustion as the hostile terrain took a toll on me. I should have attended the training sessions before the camp, I thought as I regretted my arrogance. It was too late.

Use of a backstory

"Hey, John! Hurry up, will you? I never knew you are so unfit!" my assigned buddy, Bob, taunted as his podgy face glistened with perspiration. It was an insult I found hard to swallow as I studied his big, round belly. But even he had no trouble scaling the slopes. I was ready to sacrifice myself for the team. I had already found a gossip

FORESHADOWING

WHAT IS IT?

An author's use of _____ to suggest
will occur _____ in the story.

WHY USE IT?

1) Builds _____ and rea

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE



Figurative language is a word / phrase that does not have its normal / everyday meaning. It is used by writer's for the sake of comparison or dramatic effect. There are many types of figurative language used to make stories more interesting. Below are 9 of such.



Add additional phrases to each type of figurative language as you discuss them in class.

IMAGERY

VIVID DESCRIPTIVE LANGUAGE
THAT APPEALS TO ONE OR MORE
OF THE SENSES



The tall chocolate birthday
cake was covered in fudge
icing and tasted delicious.

PERSONIFICATION

GIVING HUMAN TRAITS TO
NON-LIVING THINGS



My computer **stubbornly**
refused to start.

TYPES OF ENDINGS

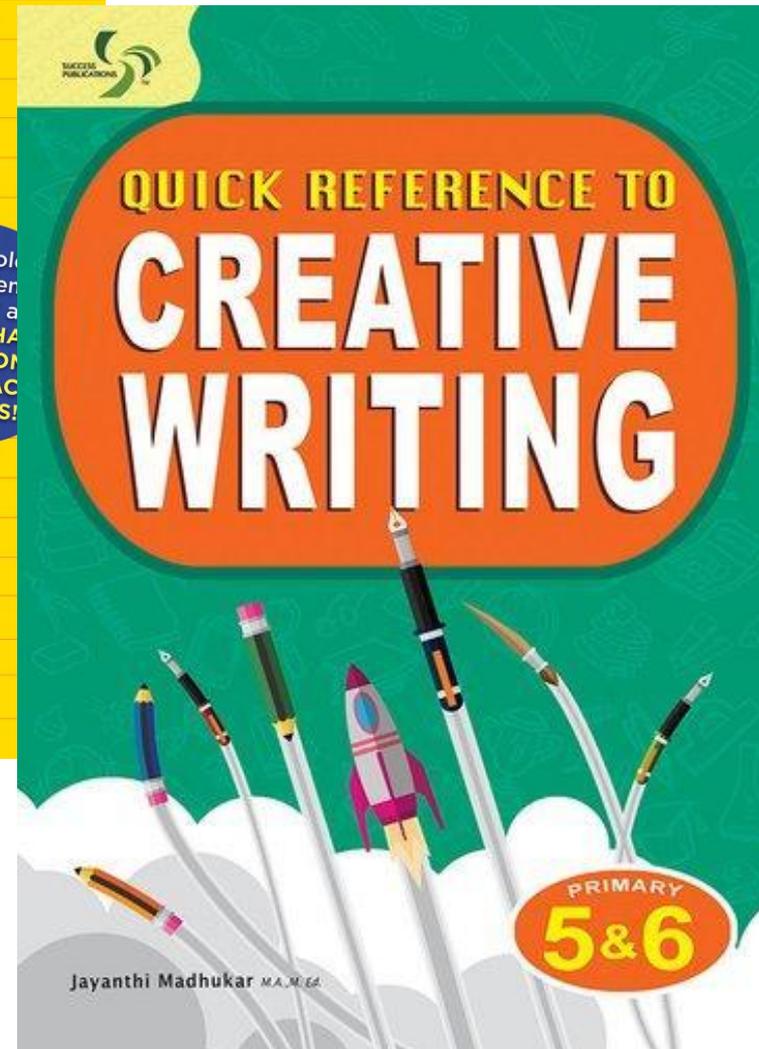
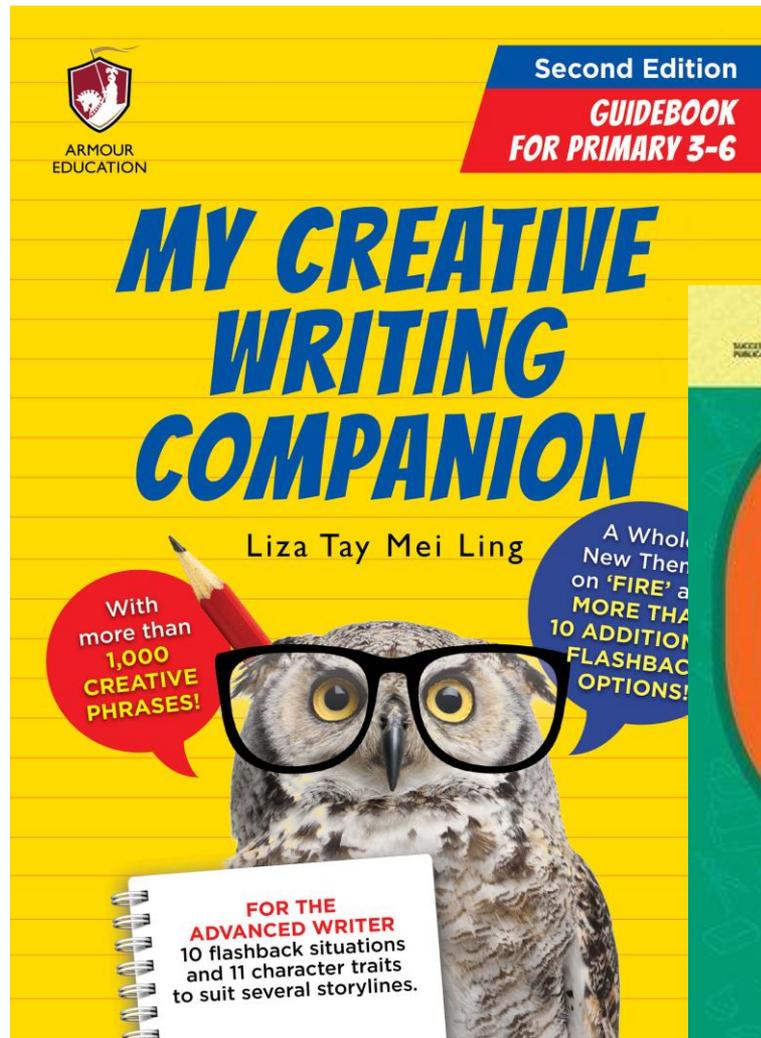
The ending of a story forms readers' final impression
An effective ending seals the readers' satisfact
dissatisfaction!) with your piece. It leaves them thi
maybe talking about it long after they have finished

of ending(s) do you usually use? Put a tick in the

loral
the
or

Warm Fuzzy/ Capturing
Emotion Ending

What students can do at home to develop their writing skills



**What
students
can do at
home to
develop
their
writing
skills**

DAY REFLECTION

doors of her home, Beverly stared
er what she could do, now that
n her plans. As she considered her
opened and heavy droplets of rain
signalling the end to any outdoor
g in disappointment, Beverly turned
for a snack. Filled with melancholy,
time it was raining cats and dogs.

t and stormy. Beverly was thrilled
e your story here, remembering to
in your story]

ev?" a familiar voice brought her
only to see her mother standing
g (pick one), Beverly cleared her
iastically. Maybe the day would

A SCHOOL MORNING ASSEMBLY



SUGGESTED CONTENT:

- An activity that had to be cancelled or was ruined because of the rain
- A change in plans that resulted in disappointment

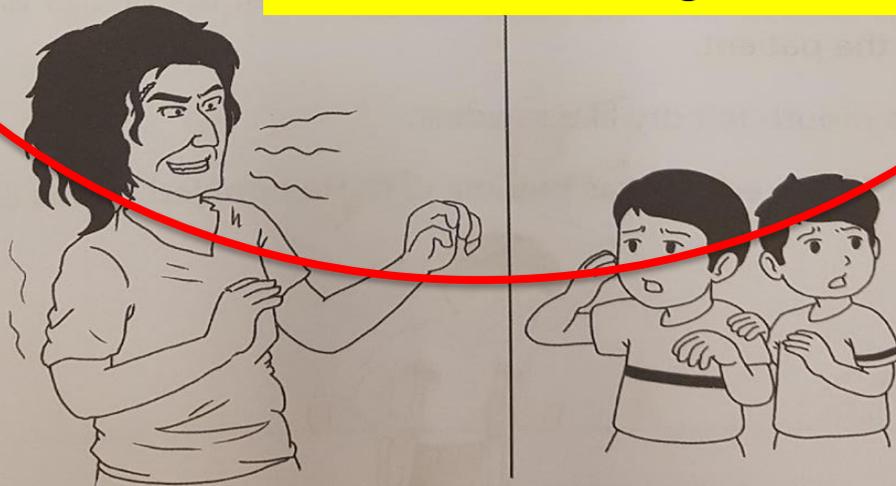
Parallel Writing Exercises

What
students
can do at
home to
develop
their
writing
skills

As they turned the corner, there he was – the sinister stranger. He glared at them through eyes as red as burning coals. The two boys shrank back in fright. He let out a demonic laugh and thrust his repulsive face with its long, hooked nose in front of them. He was so close that they could see a pulse beating behind the livid red scar on his right temple. His filthy, dishevelled hair fell over his face and he reeked of alcohol. His loose, ill-fitting clothes looked as though they had been slept in.

“Are you scared of me, little boys?” he asked, smiling repulsively at them.

Parallel Writing Exercises



Paper 2 (Language Use & Comprehension)

Booklet A (MCQ)

- Grammar (10m) + Vocab (10m)
- Visual Text Comprehension (8m)

Booklet B

- Grammar Cloze (10m)
- Editing (12m)
- Compre Cloze (15m)
- Synthesis & Transformation (10m)
- Comprehension Open-Ended (20m)

Examination Skills for Paper 2: Accurately interpret clues (semantic, syntactic & contextual) to answer questions.

FEL: Paper 2 (Language Use & Comprehension)

Paper 2 (Foundation English – 60m)

Booklet A (MCQ):

Grammar

Punctuation

Vocabulary

Visual Text Comprehension
(Multiple-choice Questions)

Booklet B (Written):

Form Filling

Editing for Grammar & Spelling

Comprehension Cloze

Synthesis & Transformation

Open-Ended Comprehension

Examination Skills for Paper 2: Accurately interpret clues (semantic, syntactic & contextual) to answer questions.

Examination Skills for Paper 2

Accurately interpret clues (semantic, syntactic & contextual) to answer questions.

5. The twin sisters' tolerance _____ tested when their little brother damaged their toy dolls.

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

- **Uncountable -> singular**
- **Past tense**

7. Please put aside all _____ books as we need to use this table for dinner.

- (1) this
- (2) that
- (3) these
- (4) those

- **Plural**
- **Proximity (near)**

8. The school will be giving each student a storybook in addition _____ the sponsored goodie bag for National Day.

- (1) to
- (2) of
- (3) for
- (4) with

- **Pairing of preposition with nouns**

Visual Text Comprehension (VTC)

Study this article from a magazine, CME Quarterly, and then answer questions 21 to 28.

Carnival of LIGHTS!

LIGHTS stands for
"Let It Guide our Hearts Towards Sustainability" – 10th year running!

Located in the central area of Singapore, the Carnival of LIGHTS is an annual festival not to be missed! It does not matter where you live - if you are someone who really looks out for picture-worthy moments, this is really for you! There will be 50 different light art installations that will be displayed from one end of the Singapore River to the other! Get your cameras ready to snap many Instagram-worthy backdrops! And be assured - whether you come alone or with someone, it will be an unforgettable experience for you!

Carnival of LIGHTS is a sustainability campaign organized by the Caring for Mother Earth (CME) team. Aimed at encouraging Singaporeans to be mindful about the amount of plastic they are using, the carnival was first initiated by Mr. Ma Ling Song from CME. He shared with us his inspiration for the carnival:

"When I was little, my mother, who loved the beach, would take my sister and me to East Coast Park, where we would enjoy listening to the waves and building sandcastles by the clean beaches. When I grew up, I was surprised to see that beaches were no longer beautiful as more people leave behind empty plastic bottles on the beaches. If I do not do something that can educate these people on the use of plastic, what will that mean for our future generations? That prompted me to want to do something about it."

Carnival of LIGHTS first began on a small scale in 2008 but every year, it just gets bigger and better! As part of the 10th year anniversary highlights, there's something in store for you at the carnival, whether you are a local or tourist! Not only can you expect to be amazed by the enthralling light installations, you can also expect to be wowed by a variety of local foods available at the Food Street and many other specials this year!

HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Free sampling of local food at Food Street
- ✓ Workshop on 'Recycle & Upcycle' (*Registration is needed!)
- ✓ Be entertained by pop group Rock every weekend night
- ✓ Lucky Draw (up to \$100 to be won!)

you light up the night sky

Date: 26 March – 26 April 2018
Time: 3p.m. – Midnight
Venue: Along the Singapore River

No registration is needed for Carnival of LIGHTS. All you need to do is rally your family and friends and make your way down to the Singapore River! *You will need to register for the workshop on 'Recycle & Upcycle' by heading down to 44 Selegie Rd in person. Registration fee applies here.

SPECIAL INSTALLATIONS TO LOOK OUT FOR:

◆ CRY ME A FUTURE by Tammy Levarado



See how Tammy put together used bottles to create an artwork that reminds us to be mindful of the waste that we are accumulating on a daily basis. We certainly do not want to have to cry for our future, do we? 129 000 plastic bottles were used in the making of this exhibit.

◆ THE GOOD 'OLE' DAYS

Which of the following statements about the 'Carnival of LIGHTS' is true?

- (1) It is open to the public for free.
- (2) It targets Singaporeans living in the central area.
- (3) There are only 2 special installations to look forward to.
- (4) You have to rally your family and friends in order to enjoy this carnival. ()

What is the main objective of 'Carnival of LIGHTS'?

- (1) to raise funds for the hungry children in Africa
- (2) to encourage Singaporeans and tourists to get together
- (3) to attract photographers to snap many Instagram-worthy pictures
- (4) to raise awareness of how the usage of plastic affects our environment ()

How We Develop Our Students' Reading Skills

Comprehension Cloze: Identifying Meaning, Grammar and Contextual Clues

Have you noticed brightly-coloured bicycles parked by the roads? They are probably bicycles that can be rented at affordable prices (51) using smartphones. This kind of bicycle rental, also known as bicycle sharing, was first introduced (52) into Singapore during the "Walk Ride Cycle" campaign carried out by the Land Transport Authority (LTA). Why has LTA set out to make (53) (walking, cycling and taking public transport) the Singapore way of life?

First, in our tiny island city-state, every pocket of land is precious and should not be wasted (54). Roads and car parks take up a lot of land, so we should control the number of vehicles in Singapore. Compared (55) to (private) cars, (public) transport will make better use of land with the ability (56) (to transport large numbers of people.)

How We Develop Our Students' Reading Skills

Comprehension: Annotation and Meaning-Making

entered the living room.

"Oh, hello, little duck," Mrs Kim said weakly. But the moment the duck saw Mrs Kim lying on the floor, it quacked rapidly and hopped around flapping its wings before flying out of the door. Mrs Kim's heart sank at the duck's abandonment of her. Now she did not even have an animal to talk to as a distraction from the pain in her ankle.

(in pain, suffering) → (panicked, concerned)

25

To Mrs Kim's immense surprise and relief, the duck returned several minutes later, followed by her neighbour, Mr Amir, who had an annoyed expression on his face. Mrs Kim later found out that the duck had gone to Mr Amir's house and quacked loudly and incessantly until Mr Amir came out of his house. The duck had somehow led him back to Mrs Kim. Mr Amir had intended to complain to Mrs Kim about the noisy duck, but when he saw what had happened to her, he quickly called for an ambulance.

(lost hope) (unexpected) (misunderstood, let down)

30

(persistent)

Unaware, (not there to help)

How We Develop Our Students' Reading Skills

Feedback to feed the learning forward (Comprehension)

	True/False	Reason
The writer got his inspiration to promote kindness when he turned forty.	False ✓	The writer got his inspiration to promote kindness when he was forteen fourteen. ✗
The writer lied to Mr Simon during the interview about having a bicycle at home.	False ✓	The writer thought of his dad's old bicycle lying in the shed. So? What happened? ↗

He only found out that his father had sold the bicycle when he got home.

How We Develop Our Students' Reading Skills

Feedback to feed the learning forward (Comprehension)

3. Besides being faster, why did Mr Simon think a bicycle was necessary for the job? [1m]

Mr Simon thought that (late deliveries) were no good for his company.

Why? How?

~~his~~

0

He thought the newspapers would be too heavy for the writer's small frame.

How We Develop Our Students' Reading Skills

Feedback to feed the learning forward (Comprehension)

9. Why was the bicycle the "most perfect gift" (line 34–35)? [2m]

Would he scold him?

The writer did not have to get scolded by Mr Simon if he ever found out that

the writer did not have a bicycle and it would have also been easier for the writer to deliver papers.

Why?

0

3

He would be able to deliver the newspaper more quickly and it would be less tiring too.

Paper 3 (Listening Comprehension)

To listen to texts and demonstrate the ability to comprehend information and make inferences

Sample questions

TEXT 2

3 Which line shows the route that John will take from the Mini Forest to the Garden?

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

- 18 Which of the following statements about sleep is true?
- (1) Our brain rests when we sleep.
 - (2) Quality sleep helps prevent diseases.
 - (3) Students will achieve good grades if they sleep well.
- 19 Why should we not use electronic devices before we sleep?
- (1) They give off light which is addictive.
 - (2) Our sleep routine will be disrupted.
 - (3) We will be dependent on them.
- 20 What is the talk mainly about?
- (1) why we should sleep well
 - (2) what can affect our sleep
 - (3) how we can sleep well

How You Can Help Your Child/Ward at Home

- By **reinforcing** the skills taught in school.
- By providing **a rich language environment** at home
- By monitoring your child's **reading habits** to ensure that she is reading widely
- By engaging her in **meaningful talk**

Thank you for joining us on this journey to develop your child/ward.

Please feel free to contact:

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6H: Ms Yeo Li Yen

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Thank You
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT

