

FUKIEN SECONDARY SCHOOL
S2 First Term Uniform Test (2020-2021)
English Language Paper 2: Reading Comprehension & Usage
Question Paper
(1 hour 15 minutes)

Date: 21st October 2020

Name: _____

Time: 9:45a.m. – 11:00a.m.

Class: S2_____ No.: _____

Total score: 100

Instructions to candidates:

1. Write your Name, Class and Class Number in the spaces provided on this cover **AND** on the cover of the Answer Sheets.
2. This paper consists of **three parts**: Part I (Reading Comprehension), Part II (Usage), and Part III (Bonus). Answer **ALL** questions.
3. Mark **ALL** answers on the Answer Sheets given.
4. For **Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ)**, write the correct letter in the space provided on the Answer Sheets.
5. Each question carries 1 mark unless otherwise specified.

Part I Reading Comprehension (40 marks + 5 bonus marks)**Passage A** (22 marks + 2 bonus marks)

Read the article below and answer the questions.

Ryan Reynolds**Brings Acting Powers to Screen**

5 [1] Ryan Reynolds is an A-list actor that has starred in some wildly diverse films. He played a popular college student who likes to party in 2002's *Van Wilder*, the romantic lead in 2009's *The Proposal*, and an American in Iraq who gets kidnapped and buried alive in 2010's *Buried*. Reynolds is also known for acting in superhero films, playing both the Green Lantern and Deadpool.

10 [2] Reynolds was born in Vancouver, Canada, in 1976. He stated in interviews that he was an anxious and sensitive kid, who found peace by acting in school plays. He got an early start to his professional acting career when he landed his first television role at the age of 12 on a TV drama called *Hillside*.

15 [3] When that show ended in 1993, Reynolds struggled to get his career off the ground. He took odd jobs to make ends meet, including working a late-night shift at a supermarket. In the late 1990s, he decided to move to Los Angeles with a friend. There, he landed a job playing a medical student on the hit sitcom *Two Guys, a Girl and a Pizza Place*. Soon he made the leap to feature films, yet those early movies did poorly at the box office and got slammed by film critics.

20 [4] Reynolds's earlier films were far from hits, but he still got a lot of media attention. He appeared on *People* magazine's Sexist Man Alive list several times, and his love life often made headlines. It wasn't until 2009 that the media finally focused on his acting. This was the year when his career took off with two hit films: *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*, in which he plays Deadpool, and *The Proposal*. Since then, he has acted in several hits, including *The Change-Up*, *Ted*, and *Safe House*. This year, Reynolds again picks up the role of Deadpool in a spin-off, in which his character hunts for the man who nearly destroyed his life.

30 [5] When he's not on-screen chasing bad guys, falling in love, or being buried alive inside a coffin, Reynolds is a committed environmentalist and is involved in many charities. He spoke out against hunting seals in Canada, and he frequently visits children's hospitals with his wife, Blake Lively. In 2008, he ran the New York Marathon to raise money for Parkinson's disease, which his father was diagnosed with in 1994.

35 [6] Ryan Reynolds is one of those rare actors who can play comedy, drama, and action. He is a superhero both in film and in real life, and there is seemingly no limit to what he can do.

1. The adjective 'A-list' (line 3) is used to describe people who are....
 - A. the oldest.
 - B. the most famous.
 - C. the most unpopular.
 - D. the richest.
2. Why did the writer mention the characters and titles of the movies Reynolds has starred in?
3. What are the names of the superheroes Reynolds played?
4. Decide whether the following statements are **True (T)**, **False (F)** or **Not Given (NG)** according to paragraphs 2–3. (3 marks)
 - (a) Reynolds got poor academic results when he was at school.
 - (b) Reynolds appeared on TV when he was young.
 - (c) Reynolds's on-screen career was smooth throughout the whole 1990s.
5. Before Reynolds landed a job playing a medical student on the hit sitcom *Two Guys, a Girl and a Pizza Place*, what did he do to earn a living in the 1990s?
6. According to paragraph 3, were the feature films starred in by Reynolds well-received? Find **TWO** pieces of evidence to support your answer. (2 marks)
7. Read paragraph 4 and fill in each blank with **ONE** word from the paragraph. (4 marks)

Rather than focusing on the (a) _____ skills, people were interested in Reynolds's appearance and (b) _____ life. The

turning point in his (c) _____ came when he played the role of Deadpool. This (d) _____ is popular so he picks up the role again this year.

8. Were Reynolds's earlier films popular? Quote a phrase to support your answer.
9. What does 'This' (line 22) refer to?
10. Find phrases from paragraphs 3 to 4 which can replace the following descriptions. (3 marks)
- (a) got an acting role
 - (b) earn enough money to pay for the daily expenses
 - (c) started to be successful
11. Name **THREE** good deeds Reynolds did and does to help the needy and protect the environment. (3 marks)
12. In paragraph 6, according to the writer, what Reynolds can do seems _____.

Bonus (2 marks)

13. The writer thinks that Reynolds is a superhero in both films and real life. What did he do that makes him a superhero?

Passage B (18 marks + 3 marks)

Read the article below and answer the questions.

Brewing New Uses for Coffee Grounds

- [1] We probably don't think _____ about throwing away the coffee grounds that are left over from our morning cups of coffee. However, do you know that coffee grounds can be recycled in many ways? Consider these examples, and
- 5 maybe you can start putting those grounds to good use.

10 [2] Just as they're effective in boosting energy, coffee grounds work well as a cleaner. Mix the grounds with some soap and water and scrub away stuck-on foods from kitchen counters, pots, and stove tops. Coffee grounds also absorb food odors in the refrigerator. Fill an open container with the grounds and put it in the back of the fridge. Replace it with new grounds every two weeks.

[3] In the garden, used coffee grounds can do wonders. Mix them with dried grass and leaves, and spread them over plants to make the plants grow. They're also effective in protecting flowers and vegetables from insects and other pests.

15 [4] Lastly, let's not forget our bodies. Combine grounds with water to make a gentle scrub that will eliminate dead skin cells. For shiny, healthy hair, take a handful of grounds and work them into wet hair before shampooing it.

20 [5] If you want nice hair but don't want to rub coffee grounds into it, there's a solution. A company called O'right has put the cleaning and conditioning power of grounds into its hair-care products. For example, each litre of its RECOFFEE shampoo is made from the grounds of sixteen cups of coffee. The company gets the grounds from Starbucks, Mr. Brown, and other major coffee shop chains.

25 [6] Another company, Singtex, makes yarn using coffee grounds that it, too, gets from coffee shop chains. Its yarn has been bought by big brands such as Nike, Puma, and Timberland. The company uses around five hundred kilograms of coffee grounds daily. It has also developed other products, such as foam and household goods, which are made from coffee oil.

30 [7] Over the last few years, Taiwan has imported coffee beans worth over US \$100 million annually, and daily coffee ground production is about thirty tons. Companies such as O'right and Singtex have found ways to turn the grounds into profit, reducing waste in the process. By recycling coffee grounds for use around the house, we can give a boost of energy to green living as well.

1. Fill in the blank in line 2 with an adverb.

2. Complete the following sentence in your own words.

The purpose of the article is to inform the readers of _____.

3. What are the two uses of coffee grounds in the kitchen?
4. Find a phrase in paragraph 3 which suggests that the writer thinks the use of coffee grounds is amazingly effective.
5. Decide whether the following statements are **True (T)**, **False (F)** or **Not Given (NG)** according to paragraphs 3-6. (3 marks)
 - (a) Coffee grounds can make plants grow healthier.
 - (b) Coffee grounds can be used to make skin care products.
 - (c) Coffee grounds cannot be used on hair directly.
6. What does 'its' (line 20) refer to?
7. Complete the table about the two companies, O'right and Singtex. (5 marks)
8. Apart from coffee grounds, what is the other by-product of coffee? What can be made out of it? (2 marks)
9. Write down the paragraph number(s) which match the following subtitles. (3 marks)

Coffee grounds as ...

 - (a) body cleanser and shampoo
 - (b) fertilizer and pest repeller
 - (c) household cleaner

Bonus (3 marks)

10. The statistics in the last paragraph can p_____ that recycling coffee grounds is a good business because it is p_____ and e_____ - _____.

Part II Usage (60 marks)**Section A (10 marks)**

Below is an article about parenting. Complete it using the correct form of the verbs given in brackets. You may need to use the **PASSIVE VOICE** or **NEGATIVE** form of the verbs.

Continued competition makes “positive” parenting difficult

A task force under the Education Commission _(1)_ (submit) a report in 2019 on home-school co-operation and parent education, proposing the launch of a Positive Parents Campaign to reduce parents’ negative thinking and change the culture of excessive competition. However, in creating a happy and healthy learning environment for students, parent education is but one factor. It _(2)_ (require) coordination with the education system. But if the current culture of competition remains unchanged, the campaign _(3)_ (work).

According to the report, some parents ‘tend to link their own worth with the school grades of their children’. In general, the stronger this mindset, the more manipulative they _(4)_ (become) in raising their children. They are prone to display negative emotions when children _(5)_ (perform) academically as they expect. Many people have seen “monster parents” or “tiger parents” who _(6)_ (be) overly anxious about their children. They blindly _(7)_ (force) their children to pursue academically. Some students _(8)_ (say) that parental expectations were an important cause of pressure.

Eighteen recommendations _(9)_ (make) in the report of the Task Force on Home-School Co-operation and Parent Education. They mainly included increasing resources and stepping up publicity along the original track in the short term including the launch of a Positive Parents Campaign. For the middle and long term, it _(10)_ (suggest) commissioning tertiary institutes or NGOs run parent education courses while seeking collaboration with businesses.

Section B (12 marks, 2 marks each)

Rewrite the underlined sentences and questions in the passive voice in the debate transcript below.

Corporal punishment

Chairperson: Corporal punishment is a very controversial topic. (1) Educators, students and their parents always discuss it. Many psychologists have pointed out the disadvantages while (2) some parents strongly support it. Therefore, we need to talk openly about it. Now let's go around the table and hear everyone's opinion.

Affirmative: Corporal punishment is necessary to a certain degree. (3) Parents always spoil children these days. They do not listen to their teachers anymore. It seems that nothing can stop them from misbehaving. (4) What else can we do to stop their misbehaviour?

Negative: I see things rather differently. Actually, (5) many people regard corporal punishment as an ineffective way to teach. (6) Some people accuse teachers of hitting their students. Who do you blame for the accusations? The teachers or the students?

Section C (8 marks)

It will be the Sports Team Selection Day soon and below is information about three athletes. Fill in each blank using **a comparative, a superlative, or '(not) as ... as'**.

	Peter	Paul	Po
Basketball team's interest in the player	✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓
Wrestling team's interest in the player	✓✓	✓✓✓	✓
Height	165 cm	180 cm	165 cm
Weight	60 kg	70 kg	50 kg
Birthday	1/1/2003	23/2/2003	12/12/2003

- In the basketball tryout, _(1)_ people expect Paul to get a place in the team because he is really advantaged in height as he is the _(2)_ among the three athletes.
- Since weight is the key to victory in wrestling, Peter can probably defeat Po easily in a wrestling match as he is definitely _(3)_ than Po. However, he is not ____ _(4)_ ____ Paul. Therefore, it is believed that Paul will be the final winner because he is _(5)_ and _(6)_ than Peter.
- Although Po seems to be the weakest athlete, he shouldn't be too worried. After all, he is the _(7)_. He may be as good when he's as old as Paul and Peter.
- In short, Paul is likely to be the _(8)_ athlete of the year.

Section D (10 marks)

Complete each blank with **the words and phrases** from the word list given earlier. Change the word form if necessary.

Film Corner

In early 2021, there will be many new films. A _(1)_ called “The Unspoken” will be released. The _(2)_ is about a man whose whole family is abducted in a foreign country. After they’re abducted, he starts to use desperate measures to get his family back. With all the fighting, shooting, torturing and car chasing, the film is definitely going to be very _(3)_. After some build-up, I guarantee you that the _(4)_ is very unpredictable! Just wait until the end! You may not be able to tell who is the actual _(5)_ – the abductors or the man himself. I’m really looking forward to watching the short _(6)_ which will be out at the end of December, 2020. I sincerely hope that we can get more information about the film from it.

In late 2021, there will be a documentary about pollution called “The Environmentalist”. It talks about all kinds of pollution and its adverse effects. One finding is that it reveals that the shocking amount of disposable _(7)_ we have produced as a result of the sharp increase in food deliveries this year. It also points out that although many countries have launched different _(8)_, like imposing all sorts of _(9)_, for example, two dollars for each piece of cutlery, our efforts seem too late. The purpose of the film is to _(10)_ the detrimental effects of pollution and change the public’s inappropriate behaviour.

Section E (10 marks)

Choose the correct answer and write down the correct **LETTER**.

Environment and us

Why are some animals on the move?

Animals sense when the climate changes and, (1), some are moving to cooler regions. In North America, the red fox is moving into the Arctic and (2) the Arctic fox, which cannot compete with its bigger cousin.

Who needs a place to call home?

Elephants (3) the grasslands of Africa and Asia. Much of this land (4) into farmland, so the elephants are losing their habitat. This means that elephants could become (5).

Who is a tiger's worst enemy?

(6) a long time, people have hunted tigers for their skins and for their body parts, which (7) in medicines. Hunting tigers is now against the law in most countries, but some people still kill them illegally.

How can the Sun light up our nights?

Solar cells use the Sun's rays to make electricity. It (8) for lights in the garden, or in roof panels to power whole houses. Solar collectors use the Sun's heat to warm water. They can be installed out at the sea to save our precious land.

How (9)?

People have used wind power for many years. The first wind-powered machines were windmills. Now, long blades spin at giant wind farms around the world. This type of farm (10) out at sea, too.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. A. but
B. however
C. as a result
D. on the contrary | 2. A. befriending
B. threatening
C. socializing
D. helping | 3. A. trot
B. roam
C. slither
D. gallop |
| 4. A. is turned
B. was turned
C. is being turned
D. had been turned | 5. A. disappearance
B. disappear
C. extinction
D. extinct | 6. A. Before
B. Since
C. Until
D. For |
| 7. A. use
B. used
C. is used
D. are used | 8. A. should be used
B. must be used
C. will be used
D. can be used | 9. A. is wind farmed
B. wind is farmed
C. wind farm
D. farm wind |
| 10. A. should be built
B. must be built
C. will be build
D. can be built | | |

Section F (10 marks)

Refer to the Answer Sheets.

Part III: Bonus (10 marks)**Section A (6 marks)**

Fill each blank with **ONE** suitable word from Vocabooster 2. Change the form of the words if necessary.

- In order to _(1)_ the problem of excessive packaging, different parties should _(2)_ different suggestions so that we can work out the best way.
- The salary was very attractive. Therefore, many people _(3)_ for the job. Around one hundred applicants _(4)_ turns to attend an interview to get the chance to impress the employer.
- When we are _(5)_ with our work, we feel drained, frustrated and even furious. So, we should _(6)_ down and take a rest. Relax and do something we like.

Section B (4 marks)

Replace the underlined words with a phrasal verb or an adjective + preposition from Vocabooster 2. Do **NOT** change the meaning of the sentence.

1. Because of the pandemic, the face-to-face meeting was cancelled. It was replaced by a ZOOM meeting.
2. Susan loves the band. She can skip a meal a day for a month to save money for the band's concert.
3. A riot occurred in the prison yesterday. The police are now investigating the cause.
4. I'm not at all interested in action films. Can we watch something else?

End of Paper