

FUKIEN SECONDARY SCHOOL
S3 First Term Uniform Test (2021-2022)
English Language Paper 1: Reading Comprehension & Usage
Question Paper
(1 hour 15 minutes)

Date: 8th November 2021

Name: _____

Time: 9:45a.m. – 11:00a.m.

Class: S3 _____ No.: _____

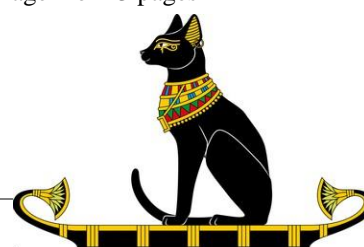
Total score: 100

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 two parts: **Part I (Reading Comprehension)**, and **Part II (Usage)**. Answer **ALL** questions.
3. Mark **ALL** answers on the Answer Sheets given.
4. Each question carries 1 mark unless otherwise specified.

Part I Reading (40 marks)

Read Text 1 and answer the questions that follow.

Text 1 (20 marks)**Cats as Pets: A History**

[1] As every cat owner knows, 'a dog is a man's best friend while a cat is a cat's best friend'. To some, cats are aloof and indifferent, while others find their independent behaviour adorable. Nowadays, it is undeniable that they are one of the most popular domestic pets. So, how did these interesting creatures become inseparable from human development?

5 [2] One can never talk about the history of cats without associating them with ancient Egypt. It is believed that cats were domesticated by Egyptians 4,000 years ago. Not only did households have cats as pets, but these animals were also attached with significant importance. Temples had all kinds of statues of cats that were believed to ward off bad luck and evil spirits. When cats died, they were mummified as a sign of respect for their sacredness. Egyptians were so
10 devoted to cats that they prioritised cats over their own safety and property. It was said that when a house was burning down, Egyptians would escape with their cats before considering taking any of their valuables and would make sure their pets were kept a safe distance from the flames. This shows how cats held a very special place among Ancient Egyptians.

[3] Away from the Egyptians, cats were also highly prized by the inhabitants of one of the most
15 famous human civilisations from which modern day humanity originated, Mesopotamia. Scientists generally agree that cats lived with humans 12,000 years ago on the fertile fields of the Middle East. As people began to farm, they started to store extra grain in small huts. This attracted mice that consumed and damaged the food. Wild cats were introduced to catch the mice and safeguard the grain. They were thrilled by the presence of mice while people were
20 relieved to have reliable pest control. This obviously became a situation with mutual benefits. As time went by, more cats were kept by people and these animals adapted to living with humans. From then onwards, humans secured an alliance with cats.

[4] However, cats have not always received such prestigious treatment over the course of history. During the Middle Ages in Europe, a period of time lasting from the fifth to the fifteenth
25 century, cats were met with cruelty because people associated them with witchcraft and the devil, especially black cats. Many Europeans believed they had to be killed in the pursuit of good fortune and prosperity. Ironically, their actions are believed to have added fuel to the fire when it came to the spread of rat-related diseases, including the devastating plague.

[5] No matter what you think about cats, they are a valued member of many households these
30 days. Being the second most popular pet option in the world, cats have succeeded in influencing humanity one purr at a time.

1 Find words in paragraph 1 with opposite meanings to the following: (2 marks)

A. friendly

B. caring

2 What is the tone of the writer in paragraph 1?

A. Bitter

B. Encouraging

C. Curious

D. Uninterested

3 Complete the chart below based on the information given in paragraph 3. You may use more than one word for each blank. (4 marks)

a) e.g. People started to _____ **farm** _____ when they settled in Mesopotamia.



b) They had to _____ in small huts.



c) This attracted _____.



d) Wild cats would _____ the mice and _____.

4 In paragraph 3, why do you think the writer claims that cats and humans were in a 'situation with mutual benefits' (line 20)?

5 Based on the information given in paragraph 4, what does the phrase 'added fuel to the fire' (line 27) mean? Choose the best answer.

A. made a bad situation better

B. solved an urgent problem

C. ignored something important

D. worsened a problem

- 6 Complete the following summary using suitable words from paragraphs 4 and 5.

Use ONE word for each blank. The answers may or may not be found in the text.

(4 marks)

Before cats became (a) _____ household pets like they are nowadays, they did not always enjoy a prestigious status. Religious beliefs in the Middle Ages were responsible for (b) _____ many Europeans' attitudes towards cats. For hundreds of years, large numbers of cats were (c) _____ in Europe, especially those that were black in colour. All in all, cats have influenced humanity one purr at a time (d) _____.

- 7 Decide if the following statements are **True**, **False**, or if the information is **Not Given** in the text and write 'T', 'F' or 'NG' in the spaces provided. (3 marks)

- A. People in Mesopotamia used cats to harvest crops.
- B. Cats might have helped slow down the spread of the plague.
- C. Dogs are a more popular household pet than cats.

- 8 Arrange the events from the text in the correct chronological order. Number the events 1-4, with '1' being the earliest. (3 marks)

- E.g. Cats were introduced to storehouses to keep pests _____ **1** _____ away.
- Cats gained a bad reputation. _____
- Cats were regarded as sacred. _____
- Cats came second highest in worldwide pet choices. _____

- 9 What would be an alternative title for the text?

- A Everyday behaviour of cats
- B The relationship between cats and mankind
- C The advantages of having a pet
- D Why you should keep a cat

Read Text 2 and answer the questions that follow.

Text 2 (20 marks)



A proper licensing scheme is what Hong Kong buskers need

5 [1] The closure of the Mong Kok pedestrian zone in 2018 has sparked heated debates over the regulation of busking in Hong Kong. Once a celebrated strip of public space showcasing diverse street-performance talent from musicians to dancers to acrobats, a few years prior to its demise it had transformed into the battle ground of a loudness war between organized singing groups and other buskers as they fought to be the loudest. To prevent similar issues in the future, a well-thought-out licensing scheme should be put into place to ensure that qualified street performers across the territory will be allocated proper performing space without causing a nuisance to the general public.

10 [2] In fact, developed countries such as the UK, Singapore and Australia have successfully implemented licensing schemes to regulate busking. Auditions led by experts in performing arts are held to make sure successful applicants possess the required skills and experience to engage in public performance. Meanwhile, all the applicants who are not good enough are weeded out. The vetting process also ensures that all the approved performances are safe and will not be so loud that they disturb the residents and businesses in the vicinity. In Australia, for instance, licence holders who receive any noise complaint are liable to have their licences revoked.

20 [3] Unfortunately, such comprehensive systems are non-existent in Hong Kong. Although the Open Stage Scheme and the West Kowloon Street Performance Programme require applicants to pass auditions to obtain permits to perform in public, such permits are in effect only in limited locations, such as the designated outdoor area outside Sha Tin Town Hall and the open spaces in the West Kowloon Cultural District. This also means that buskers performing in other areas, for instance, those who used to perform in Mong Kok, are not in any way regulated by the said schemes.

25 [4] In view of this, a licensing scheme that can not only ensure the quality of the performance but also give licence holders their own performing space should be put into practice. Kept a reasonable distance from one another, they will no longer need to engage in turf disputes or compete in loudness by turning up their amplifiers, effectively reducing the risk of a nuisance or noise pollution.

[5] The busking culture in Hong Kong is still in its infancy, with massive potential yet to be

realized. While some buskers haven't fully developed an awareness of self-discipline and do not understand the importance of respecting fellow street performers, a transparent and fair licensing scheme will motivate them to become better performers and members of society. It will also earn them more respect from the general public and enrich the cultural ambience of our city.

- 10 When was the Mong Kok pedestrian zone closed?
- 11 Based on the information given in paragraph 1, why do you think the writer describes the pedestrian zone as 'the battle ground of a loudness war' (line 4)?
- 12 Find words in paragraph 1 with similar meanings to the following: (2 marks)
- A. changed
- B. highly rated
- 13 Refer to paragraphs 2 and 3 to compare how foreign countries and Hong Kong regulate busking. The answers may or may not be found in the text. Use only ONE word to complete the sentences below. (6 marks)

Foreign countries	Hong Kong
● Applicants have to take part in auditions assessed by (a) _____.	● Applicants have to pass auditions to get (b)_____ to perform in public.
● The audition panel makes sure the performances are (c) _____ and will not be overly (d) _____.	● Buskers are only allowed to perform in (f) _____ areas.
● Buskers with the performance permit risk losing their licence if anyone (e)_____ about noise.	● There is no such rule.

- 14 Find a phrase in paragraph 2 which has the same meaning as 'removed'.
- 15 Based on the information given in paragraph 3, why do you think the writer uses the word 'Unfortunately' (line 17)?
- 16 According to paragraph 5, what are the TWO problems faced by some buskers in Hong Kong? (2 marks)

- 17 Based on the information given in paragraph 5, what does the phrase ‘in its infancy’ (line 29) mean? Choose the best answer.
- A. in a late stage of development
 - B. in an early stage of development
 - C. enjoying a high status
 - D. not having any hope
- 18 Based on the information given in paragraph 5, what is the writer’s attitude towards busking culture? Choose the best option.
- A. Comical
 - B. Hopeful
 - C. Neutral
 - D. Childish
- 19 Match the main ideas with the paragraphs by writing the letters (A-E) in the table below. (4 marks)

Main ideas	
A	Hong Kong lacks a proper licensing scheme for busking.
B	Busking is regulated by licensing schemes in some foreign countries.
C	A good licensing system will boost the development of busking in Hong Kong.
D	Unregulated busking has caused problems in Hong Kong.
E	Proper allocation of performing space will solve problems arising from busking.

Paragraph No.	Main idea
1	D
2	
3	
4	
5	

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

Ella has written an email to Johnson to talk about their science project. Complete the email with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Change the form of the verb and use the negative form where necessary.

Hi Johnson,

How's it going, my man? You asked me if I (1) (come) up with an idea for our science presentation yet. At that time, I (2) (have) any topic in mind, but since then I (3) (think) about several possible topics. How about giving a presentation on artificial intelligence (AI)?

In the presentation, we should first introduce what AI is. Put simply, AI does things that (4) (require) human intelligence, such as understanding languages and recognising faces and voices. Next, we can talk about the pros and cons of using AI. In terms of pros, it can carry out actions without making careless mistakes. Some online stores in America have started (5) (use) robots in their warehouses to bring items from the shelves to human workers. This innovation (6) (increase) productivity significantly and it's very clever of them to reduce the workload of humans in this way. Aside from making workers' lives easier, AI robots (7) also (7) (assign) to perform dangerous tasks in place of humans, such as oil exploration and rescue missions.

As for cons, some see AI as a threat as they fear (8) (lose) their jobs once their work can be done by AI. Their worst fear is AI becoming so intelligent that they are unwilling to follow humans' instructions.

I suggest (9) (end) the presentation on a more positive note. Indeed, I believe that humans' social interactions cannot be replaced by machines. If AI (10) (take) up all our jobs, it would be the end of the world. Do you agree? Let me know what you think.

Cheers,

Ella

Section B (12 marks, 2 marks each)

Mary and Peter had a conversation about an English writing task yesterday. You are their friend and were asked to jot down the main points of their conversation. Now, you plan to change their conversation into reported speech. The first one has already been done.

Mary: (E.g.) What do we need to do for the English writing task?

Peter: (1) We have to write a short story of around 400 words and it will be due next Wednesday.

- Mary: I see. (2)Do we need to write on any particular topic?
- Peter: No. (3)We can write anything we like.
- Mary: That's great! (4)What do you plan to write?
- Peter: (5)I'm thinking about writing an adventure story of a boy and his loyal dog.
- Mary: It sounds interesting! I love stories that depict the loyalty between humans and animals. For me, I will write a horror story about a little girl living in a haunted house. (6)Do you think my story will be too scary?
- Peter: No, it sounds really great! I would love to read your story!

Section C (10 marks)

Fill in each blank with the best choice selected from the following table. Each term can only be used once. For some answers, you may need to change the form of words.

appeal	appetite	blessings	complicated	depressed
dumps	fatigue	frazzled	hormone	creepy
optimistic	mission	promote	recognition	seat
strategy	stressed	sympathy	vision	wordy

Healthy Eating for Better Mood

You may crave for packs of chocolate when you are down in the (1) because it can make your brain release a happy (2) called endorphin which makes you feel better. But do you know what you eat does not just affect your physical health but also your mental health? Diets composed of lots of processed meats, takeout food and sugary snacks are linked to (3), anxiety and even bipolar disorder. In fact, food scientists have found that a balanced diet is beneficial to both mind and body. You can learn how to improve your mood by following the food tips below.

Choose wisely

Processed or fried food always looks (4) and the advertisements of fast food restaurants leave a strong (5) impact on your mind. They can greatly stimulate your (6). However, you are advised to replace them with natural, organic food whenever possible as it reduces the amount of toxins absorbed into our bodies.

Drink plenty of water

Water is vital for flushing waste products and toxins out of our bodies, and it helps reduce (7), in other words, tiredness. Besides, staying hydrated allows you to exercise more and this reduces the level of (8).

Prepare your own meals

Making meals at home should be (9) because it enables us to eat more healthily. Homemade meals have fewer calories, and although becoming a home cook might

not be easy from the start, you can avoid the chemicals and additives found in takeout foods.

Don't just take a back__ (10) __ in managing your mood. Let's start a healthy diet today!

Section D (8 marks, 0.5 mark each)

Choose the best option to complete the sentences and write the letter on the answer sheet.

How to stay creative

As an artist, I always get__ (1) __how I've managed to stay creative. Indeed, creativity is actually less about talent than it's about having the right mindset, __ (2) __? Along my creative journey I have discovered some useful tips. I guess if I had known them right from the start, maybe my past works would have turned out even better. Hope you'll find these tips useful as well.

1. *Be childlike*

Being childlike__ (3) __our mind, so next time when you have difficulties__ (4) __with ideas for your project, try not to worry__ (5) __the end result. Just__ (6) __the creative process and imagine what you would do if you__ (7) __a kid – that should help you__ (8) __and create something unique.

2. *Be open to new concepts and experiences*

__ (9) __open mind is vital when you try to benefit from new concepts and experiences. Try to avoid__ (10) __them as they can be huge__ (11) __for your work.

3. *Make friends with creatives*

It's always worth__ (12) __your creative ideas with people, especially with those whose interests are similar to yours. Not sure how to meet people? You can try spending some time__ (13) __some arts and cultural events, then go and make some new friends.

4. *Get enough sleep*

Sleep is the time when your brain organises the information it__ (14) __during the day.

__ (15) __, having enough sleep means you can get up to speed quickly the next day. You__ (16) __sleep fewer than eight hours every night.

1. A. asked
B. asking
C. ask
D. asks

2. A. doesn't it
B. is it
C. isn't it
D. wasn't it

3. A. open up
B. opens up
C. open to
D. opens to

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 4. A. coming up
B. having up
C. to come up
D. coming across | 5. A. on
B. about
C. with
D. for | 6. A. enjoy
B. enjoying
C. enjoyed
D. to enjoy |
| 7. A. are
B. was
C. being
D. were | 8. A. jump out of the box
B. be on cloud nine
C. count your blessings
D. think out of the box | 9. A. A
B. An
C. The
D. X |
| 10. A. reject
B. to reject
C. rejecting
D. rejected | 11. A. inspiration
B. inspirations
C. inspire
D. inspirational | 12. A. to share
B. share
C. sharing
D. on sharing |
| 13. A. research
B. researches
C. to research
D. researching | 14. A. has processed
B. process
C. did processed
D. hasn't processed | 15. A. However
B. Therefore
C. Nevertheless
D. Although |
| 16. A. should not
B. may not
C. can
D. must | | |

Section E (10 marks)

Refer to p.6 of the Answer Sheets.

Section F (10 marks)**Vocabooster and Read to Achieve 2 (10 marks)**

Fill in the blanks with words/phrases from *Vocabooster 3* and *Read to Achieve 2* to complete sentences below. Use ONE word for each blank. You may need to change the form of words. The first letters of some answers have been given to you.

- The principal has just made an ____ on the Campus TV that the school will resume its whole day school timetable commencing next month.

2. It is wrong to make ____ of a person with special needs. Everyone is equal and deserves respect.
3. Yesterday, Jack ____ into his primary school English teacher in a supermarket. She suddenly seemed to remember him when he called her name out loud.
4. Many shops and restaurants have ____ down owing to the spread of the pandemic.
5. Many teenagers are still not *a* ____ of the dangers of taking drugs though many talks have been conducted at schools. I think the government definitely needs to do more to deepen the understanding of the teenagers on the dangers of taking drugs.
6. Kevin felt so ____ of himself for cheating in the exam. He couldn't sleep and lost the appetite. He was thinking about reporting his wrongdoing to the teacher.
7. John is surprised and *e* ____ to find out that he confused me with my twin sister.
8. Susan claimed that the way she had been treated at work had caused her extreme *e* ____ and psychological distress.
9. When we go camping at a remote place such as woods, a pocketknife can come in ____ for cutting things and food in the wild.
10. The air was ____ with lavender. It smelt so nice and refreshing!

End of Paper