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Name _____ () Class _____

Section A [10 marks]

Carefully read the text below, consisting of 12 lines, about the life of Albert Einstein
 The first and last lines are correct. For eight of the lines, there is one grammatical error in each line
 There are two other lines with no errors

If there is NO error in a line, put a tick (✓) in the space provided

If the line is incorrect, circle the incorrect word and write the correct word in the space provided

The correct word you provide must not change the original meaning of the sentence

Examples

I arrived to my destination at 2 p.m.

at _____

My mother wears fashionable clothes

✓ _____

$E=mc^2$ is an equation familiar to every school child and adult across the

world, though not many grasps its significance, and even fewer understand its

1 _____

meaning. However, everyone knows that Einstein's theories change the course of

2 _____

science forever, catapulting a shy and brilliant young scientist to everlasting fame

3 _____

He published a number of highly controversial but important research papers

4 _____

The Einstein phenomenon went truly global when $E=mc^2$ came to life with a bang

5 _____

in 1945 and journalists, governments and the public seek his opinion on the

6 _____

threat of atomic war. By then, he was 66 years old, an active voice in world peace

7 _____

and indelibly alive in the mind of the public as the world's greatest genius. Until

8 _____

his death in 1955, he remains perplexed and bemused by his fame and

9 _____

considered himself a "lone traveller", believed his passionate sense of social

10 _____

responsibility was at odds with his independent spirit

SJI (2)

Section B [30 marks]

You are advised to write between 250 and 350 words for this section

You should look at the printout of a webpage on page 3, study the information carefully and plan your answer before beginning to write.

You are the President of the English Language and Drama Society in SJI. As part of the inaugural English Language Fiesta 2014, you have been given the task of organizing a series of activities to promote a love for the English language.

To prepare for the project, you have been asked by your teacher-in-charge to select some of the activities from the webpage that you have come across

Write a report to the Head of Department, English Language stating

- The aims and objectives of the English Language Fiesta
- Two activities shown in the website that will be beneficial to SJI students
- One activity not shown in the website that both teachers and students can be actively engaged in

Write your report in clear, accurate English to convince the Head of Department that your suggestions will help to make the event a success.

You should use your own words as much as possible.

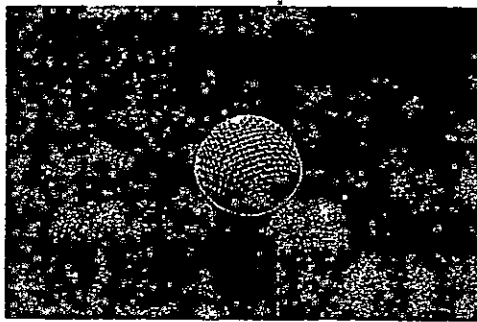
FOUR FUN ACTIVITIES TO ENGAGE ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS!

DRAMA



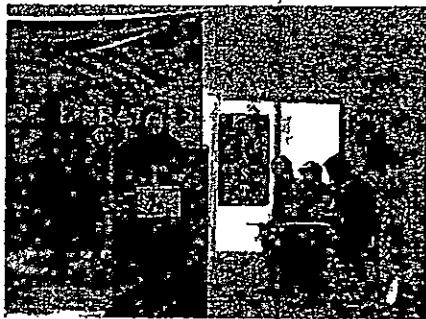
Through drama you can ~~become aware~~! Plays often capture the essence of a culture. Drama will help you to be ~~more~~ aware of how your physical presentation can affect the way people see you

PUBLIC SPEAKING



Public speaking has shown to develop a student's ability to analyze, organize and deliver presentations. This activity can help a student throughout school as well as his/her chosen career

DEBATE



The process of debate offers immense benefits, given its emphasis on ~~critical thinking, effective communication, independent research, and teamwork~~. Once students have learned how to debate, they are better able to critically examine and make informed judgments about crucial issues

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE



Research has shown that integrating music helps with spoken interaction. It is an excellent means of enabling students to memorize words and phrases and develop familiarity with the sounds, rhythms and stress of English

Section C [30 marks]

Begin your answer on a fresh page

You are advised to write between 350 and 500 words on one of the following topics.

At the head of your composition, write the number of the topic you have chosen

- 1 'In creating opportunities for all, MOE will ensure that every school is a good school' In your opinion, what makes a school 'good'?
- 2 Teenagers today are socially inept. What are your views?
- 3 Describe a particularly pleasant experience that made you realize that Singaporeans can be compassionate
- 4 Discuss some ways to improve the lives of migrant workers in Singapore

End-of-Paper

1

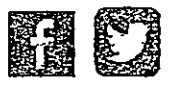
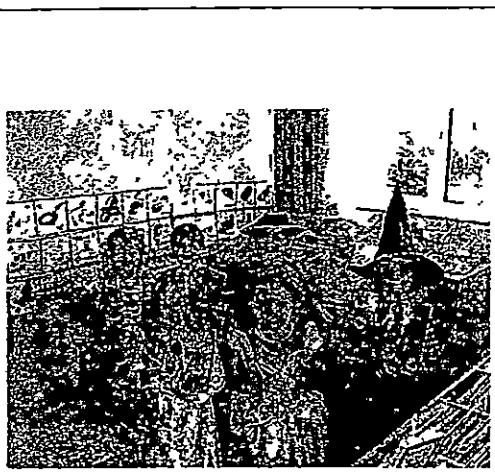
Section A

Text 1

Study the poster below and answer Questions 1 – 4 in the Question Paper Booklet

WORLD BOOK DAY fest!

HAPPY BIG BOOKS
SEEKING READING



Adapted from www.worldbookday.com/

World Book Day is a day set aside every year to celebrate reading, books, authors and illustrators. It's marked in more than 100 countries around the world. We are delighted to be celebrating the 16th World Book Day on Thursday 6th March 2014. Over the last 16 years World Book Day has become firmly established as the biggest annual event promoting the enjoyment of books and reading. The main aim is to encourage children to explore the pleasure of books and reading by providing them with an opportunity to have a book of their own. This may sound like a very simple idea, but unfortunately, many children do not have access to books in their homes.

A key aim of World Book Day is to give every child in the country a book of their own to keep. Every nursery and pre-school that registers with us receives \$1.50 World Book Day Book tokens to distribute to children, who can exchange them for one of nine exclusive \$1.50 World Book Day Books – or, if they prefer, \$1.50 off any book costing more than \$3.99. The tokens are sponsored by National Book Tokens, publishers and booksellers.

Section B

Text 2

In this passage, a writer subjects himself to being water boarded as part of an investigation into torture methods used by the United States Military. Read it carefully and answer Questions 5 – 14 in the Question Paper Booklet

- 1 Here is the most chilling way I can find of stating the matter. Until recently, "waterboarding" was something that Americans did to other Americans - It was inflicted, and endured, by those members of the Special Forces who underwent the advanced form of training. In these harsh exercises, brave men and women were introduced to the sorts of barbarism that they might expect to meet at the hands of a lawless-foe who disregarded the Geneva Conventions. But it was something that Americans were being trained to resist, not to inflict. 5
- 2 Exploring this narrow but deep distinction on a gorgeous day last May, I found myself deep in the hill country of western North Carolina, preparing to be "tortured" by a team of extremely hardened veterans. It goes without saying that I knew I could stop the process at any time, and that when it was all over I would be released into happy daylight rather than returned to a darkened cell. But it's been well said that cowards die many times before their deaths. 15
- 3 On the night before the encounter, I got to sleep with relative ease, but woke early and knew at once that I wasn't going back to any sort of doze or snooze. The first specialist I had approached with the scheme had asked my age on the telephone and when told what it was (I am 59) had laughed out loud and told me to forget it. 20
- 4 Waterboarding is for Green Berets in training, or wiry young jihadists whose teeth can bite through the gistle of an old goat. It's not for wheezing, paunchy scribblers. For my current "handlers" I had had to produce a doctor's certificate assuring them that I did not have asthma, but I wondered whether I should tell them about the 15,000 cigarettes I had inhaled every year for the last several decades. I was feeling apprehensive, in other words, and beginning to wish I hadn't given myself so long to think about it. 25
- 5 I have to be opaque about exactly where I was later that day, but there came a moment when, sitting on a porch outside a remote house at the end of a winding country road, I was very gently yet firmly grabbed from behind, pulled to my feet, pinioned by my wrists (which were then cuffed to a belt), and cut off from the sunlight by having a black hood pulled over my face. 30

- 6 I was then ~~turned around a few times~~, I presume to assist in disorienting me, and led over some crunchy gravel into a darkened room. Well, mainly darkened: there were some oddly spaced bright lights that came as pinpoints through my hood. And some weird music ~~assaulted my ears~~. (I'm no judge of these things, but I wouldn't have expected former Special Forces types to be so fond of New Age techno-disco.) ~~The outside world~~ seemed ~~very suddenly~~ very distant indeed. 35 40
- 7 Arms already lost to me, I wasn't able to flail as I was pushed onto a sloping board and positioned with my head lower than my heart. Then my legs were lashed together so that the board and I were one. I do have a fear of drowning that comes from a bad childhood moment on the Isle of Wight, when I got out of my depth 45
- 8 As a boy reading the climactic torture scene of 1984, where what is in Room 101 is the worst thing in the world, I realize that somewhere in my version of that hideous chamber comes the moment when the wave washes over me. Not that that makes me special. I don't know anyone who likes the idea of drowning. As mammals we may have originated in the ocean, but water has many ways of reminding us that when we are in it we are out of our element. In brief, when it comes to breathing, give me good old air every time 50
- 9 The "board" is the instrument, *not* the method. You are not being boarded. You are being watered. This was very rapidly brought home to me when, on top of the hood, which still admitted a few flashes of random and worrying strobe light to my vision, three layers of enveloping towel were added 55
- 10 In this pregnant darkness, head downward, I waited for a while until I abruptly felt a slow cascade of water going up my nose. I held my breath for a while and then had to exhale and — as you might expect — inhale in turn. The inhalation brought the damp cloths tight against my nostrils, as if a huge, wet paw had been suddenly and annihilatingly clamped over my face. It was then I realized that I couldn't tell if I was breathing or not. 60 65
- 11 I triggered the pre-arranged signal and felt the unbelievable relief of being pulled upright and having the soaking and stifling layers pulled off me. I find I don't want to tell you how little time I lasted

Adapted from Christopher Hitchens, *Believe Me, It's Torture*

Section C

Text 3

Read it carefully and answer Questions 15 – 20 in the Question Paper Booklet

- 1 Everyone tells a little white lie now and then. But a Cornell professor recently claimed to have established the truth of a curious proposition. We fib less frequently when we are online than when we are talking in person. Jeffrey Hancock asked 30 of his undergraduates to record all of their communications -- and all of their lies -- over the course of a week. When he talked the results, he found that the students had mishandled the truth in about one-quarter of all face-to-face conversations, and in an astounding 37 percent of phone calls. But when they went into cyberspace, they turned into Boy Scouts: only 1 in 5 instant-messaging chats contained a lie, and barely 14 percent of e-mail messages were dishonest. 5 10
- 2 Wasn't cyberspace supposed to be the zone where you could not trust anyone? Back when the Internet first came to Main Street, pundits worried that the digital age would open the floodgates of deception. Since anyone could hide behind an anonymous Hotmail address or chat-room moniker, Net users, we were warned, would be free to lie with impunity. Parents panicked and frantically cordoned off cyberspace from their children, under the assumption that anyone lurking out there in the ether was a creep until proved otherwise. And to a certain extent, the fear seemed justified. According to psychological theory, we are more likely to lie to people when there is distance between us. You cannot get much more distant than an online buddy in Siberia who calls himself Ominous-1. 15 20
- 3 Why were those fears unfounded? What it is about online life that makes us more truthful? It is simple. We are worried about being caught. In real life, after all, it is actually rather easy to get away with "spin". If you tell a lie to someone at a cocktail party, you can always backtrack later and claim that you did not say such a thing. 25
- 4 On the Internet, though, your words often come back to haunt you. The digital age is punishing on its liars, as a seemingly endless parade of executives are learning to their chagrin. Today's titans of industry are laid low not by ruthless competitors but by prosecutors gleefully waving transcripts of old e-mail, filled with suggestions of subterfuge. Even Microsoft was tripped up by old e-mail messages, and you would figure its employees would know better. 30

- 5 Indeed, the axiom that machines never forget is built into the very format of e-mail -- consider that many e-mail programs automatically "quote" your words when someone replies to your message. Every time I finish an e-mail message, I pause for a few seconds to reread it before I hit "send" just to make sure I have not said something I will later regret. It is as if I am constantly awaiting the subpoena. And it is not only e-mail that records our deeds for future scrutiny. Before going on a first date, people Google their partners to see what they can learn. Mobile phones take photographs. We are facing an age in which virtually nothing will be forgotten. 35
- 6 Still, it is not only the fear of electronic exposure that drives us to tell the truth. There is something about the Internet that encourages us to bare our souls. Psychologists have noticed for years that going online seems to have a catalytic effect on people's personalities. The most quiet and reserved people may become deranged loudmouths when they sit behind the keyboard, staying up until dawn and conducting angry debates on discussion boards with total strangers. You can usually spot the newbies in any discussion group because they are the ones WRITING IN ALL CAPS -- they are tripped out on the Internet's heady combination of geographic distance and pseudo-invisibility. 40 45 50
- 7 The Samaritans, a British crisis-line organization, has found that 50 percent of those who write in via e-mail express suicidal feelings, compared with only 20 percent of those who call in. This is not because Net users are more suicidally depressed than people offline. It is just that they are more comfortable talking about it -- "disinhibited", as the mental-health profession would say. The Net has become a vast arena for collective therapy -- for a mass outpouring of what we are thinking and feeling. Stripped of our bodies, it seems, we become creatures of pure opinion. 55 60

Adapted from *The Honesty Virus* by Clive Thompson

Name : _____ () Class : _____

Section A [5 marks]

Refer to Text 1 on page 2 of the Insert for Questions 1 – 4.

- 1 What is the effect of using the word "Big" in the subheading?

.....
..... [1]

- 2 Explain the role of National Book Tokens, publishers and booksellers in World Book Day

.....
..... [1]

- 3 Other than promoting World Book Day, how else can the use of social media be beneficial to the event?

.....
..... [2]

- 4 How do the photos show that World Book Day can be an enjoyable event for the children?

.....
..... [1]

Name : _____ () Class : _____

Section B [20 marks]

Refer to Text 2 on page 3 and 4 of the Insert for Questions 5 – 14.

- 5 What does the writer mean when he states that Americans were "trained to resist, not to inflict" (line 8)?

.....

 [2]

- 6 What is the writer trying to imply with the use of quotation marks on the word "tortured" (line 11) Give a reason for your answer

.....

 [2]

- 7 What does the word "hardened" (line 11) suggest about the veterans?

.....
 [1]

- 8 Why did the specialist "(laugh) out loud" (lines 19-20)?

.....
 [1]

9 From paragraph 4, what could be **two** probable causes for the writer's wheezing?

.....

.....

..... [2]

10 In paragraph 5, the writer mentions that his whereabouts had to be kept secret
What word does he use to convey this?

..... [1]

11 Explain how the language used in paragraph 5 shows the effect of the attack on the writer

"grabbed from behind" (line 31-32)	
"pinioned by my wrists" (line 32)	
"black hood pulled over my face" (lines 33-34)	

[3]

12 What does the writer mean when he mentions "water has many ways of reminding us that when we are in it we are out of our element" (lines 52-53)?

.....

.....

..... [2]

- 13 Paragraph 10 describes the writer's experience at waterboarding. What effect do the descriptions below have on the writer?

Description	Effect on the writer
"pregnant darkness" (line 60)	
"huge wet paws . clamped over my face" (lines 64-65)	

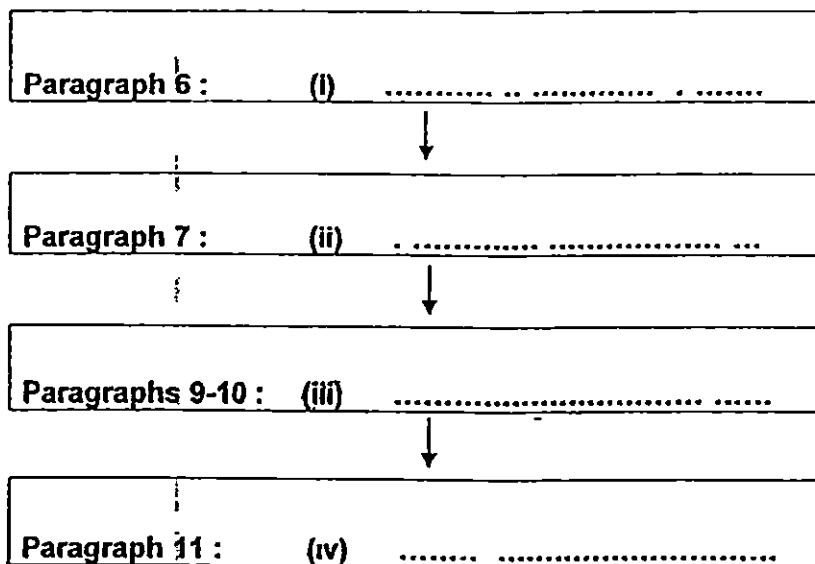
[2]

- 14 The structure of the text reflects the feelings of the writer as he undergoes the process of being waterboarded. Complete the flow chart by choosing one word from the box to summarise his feelings as described in each part of the text. There are some extra words in the box that you do not need to use.

The writer's feelings

terror melancholic abashed despair uneasy confusion helplessness

Flow Chart



[4]

Section C [25 marks]

Refer to Text 3 on page 5 and 6 of the Insert for Questions 15 – 20.

15 "Everyone tells a white lie now and then" (line 1)

What is the writer's tone?

..... [1]

16 "When the Internet first came to Main Street, pundits worried that the digital age would open the floodgates of deception " (lines 12-13)

(a) What does the word "floodgates" suggest about the lies?

..... [1]

(b) Give two reasons for the pundits' fear Answer in your own words

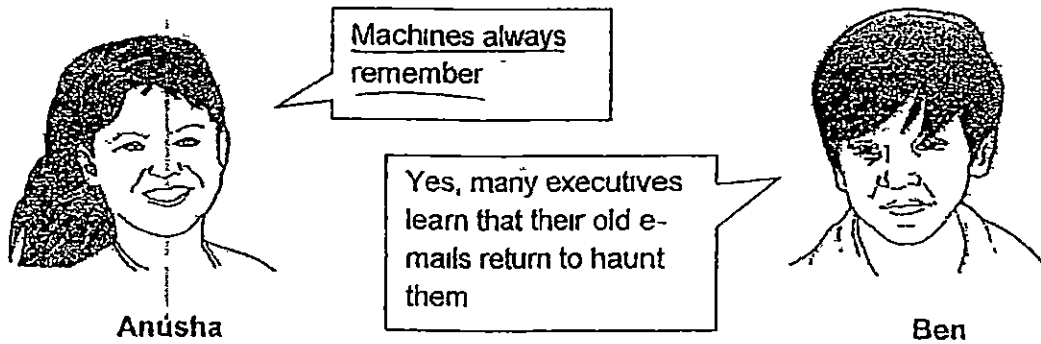
(i)
.....

(ii)
..... [2]

17 Why is it ironic that "Microsoft was tripped up by old e-mail messages" (line 32)?

.....
.....
.....
..... [2]

- 18 Here is part of a conversation between two students, Anusha and Ben who have read the article



- (i) Apart from e-mail "quoting" a person's words, identify another example from paragraph 5 that Anusha can give to support her view

.....

..... [1]

- (ii) How would Ben explain in detail his position with reference to paragraph 4?
Answer in your own words

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

- 19 What does the word "catalytic" (line 46) suggest about the effect of the Internet on people's personalities?

.....

..... [1]

BLANK PAGE

Please continue to complete the summary on Page 9.

Name : _____ () Class . _____

- 20 Using your own words as far as possible, summarise the reasons why the Internet makes people more truthful

Use only information from paragraphs 3 to 7.

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

Begin your summary as follows

The Internet, we know of today makes people more truthful

No of words [15]