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Name: () Class:

**ASSUMPTION ENGLISH SCHOOL
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2019**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE (1128/01)
INSERT**



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LEVEL: Secondary 4 Express &
 5 Normal (Academic)

DATE: 6 May 2019

CLASS(ES): Secondary 4/1, 4/2, 4/4 (OOS)
 and 5/1

DURATION: 1 hour 50 min

Additional Materials provided: NIL

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

This Insert contains the text for Section B.

This Insert consists of 4 printed pages including this page.

[Turn over]

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REWILD Our Planet

- We're losing nature at an unprecedented rate. Nature is vital to our very existence and our future. Our homes, our health, the food we eat, the air we breathe, the water we drink — our lives and all the things we care about — simply can't exist in a world without nature.
- This exhibition highlights the most pressing challenges facing nature today and shows you how we can work together to build a better future for our planet.
- *REWILD Our Planet* puts you at the heart of the natural world and shows you how to play an active role in conservation.

Remember Singapore: Campaigning through the Years



- In the seventies and eighties, Singapore launched over 200 campaigns to move a young and growing nation to achieve certain political, social or commercial objectives.
- Many of these campaigns had positive long-lasting effects, such as the iconic National Courtesy Campaign. Others had less desirable outcomes, like the "Stop At Two" population control campaign.
- In this exhibition, let the various campaigns take you through Singapore's history and gain critical insights into the planning and reasoning behind our historical movements.

Wonderland



- Fall down the rabbit hole into *Wonderland*, a playful and interactive exhibition for all ages, celebrating the timeless tale of Alice's adventures.
- This one-of-a-kind exhibition follows Alice's journey through popular culture and an enchanted world. Using theatrical sets, bold, interactive environments, over 300 eye-catching movie props and amazing audio-visual artworks, *Wonderland* spectacularly conjures up the surprising and magical world of Alice and her adventures!
- Die-hard fans of Alice will particularly enjoy character designs, set drawings and film clips from the 1930s to the 1980s.
- Enter this exhibition through the looking glass with your friends to create fun and unique learning experiences involving an integration of art, drama and technology.

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Name: () Class:

**ASSUMPTION ENGLISH SCHOOL
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2019**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE (1128/01)



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LEVEL: Secondary 4 Express and
5 Normal (Academic)

DATE: 6 May 2019

CLASS(ES): Secondary 4/1, 4/2, 4/4 (OOS)
and 5/1

DURATION: 1 hour 50 min

Additional Materials provided: A 2-Page Insert

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Write your name, index number and class at the top of this page.
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.
Do not use staples, paper clips, glue, or correction fluid and tape.

Answer **Section A**, **Section B** and one question from **Section C**.
Write your answers in the spaces provided in the Question Booklet.
The Insert contains the text for **Section B**.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the head of each section.

For Examiner's use:	
Section A	/ 10
Section B	/ 30
Section C	/ 30
Total	/ 70

This Question Paper consists of 12 printed pages including this page.

[Turn over]

Section A [10 marks]

Question 1

Carefully read the text below, consisting of 12 lines, about modern inventions. The first and last lines are correct. For eight of the lines, there is one grammatical error in each line. There are two more 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 pm.

.....at.....

My mother always wears sensible clothes.

.....✓.....

History has taught us that humans are the most curious and smartest

living organism on the planet and as a result of this we invent new **1**

things. Despite the fact that we have hardly spent fifteen years in the **2**

new millennium, our century was already full of great and not-so-great **3**

inventions which remind us that no matter how advancing society might **4**

be, human curiosity never fail to seek out new advancements and **5**

technologies. For example, scientists have created a bio-artificial liver **6**

device who gives hope to all those suffering from acute liver failure. In **7**

comparing, a Dutch artist has been making indoor clouds since 2010. **8**

They only last for the moment and will definitely help anyone who is **9**

trying to impress others on surrealistic photos, but one wonders what **10**

other use or contribution to society this bizarre invention could have.

Adapted from <https://list25.com/25-spectacular-inventions-of-the-21st-century/>

Section B [30 marks]

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

Question 2

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

Your school is planning post-examination activities for students. Three exhibitions happening at the National Museum of Singapore have been shortlisted. The Year Head has requested for students who would like to express their preferences to write an email to explain their views.

Write the email to the Year Head to explain your views. In it you should explain:

- which exhibition you would like your class to attend and why
- two ways in which this exhibition would benefit you and your class
- why the school should organise more of such learning journeys.

You may add any other details you think will be helpful.

Write your email to the Year Head in clear, accurate English. Your tone should be polite and persuasive, showing your enthusiasm to attend one of the exhibitions.

You should use your own words as much as possible.

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1128/4E5NA/MYE/19

Name: () Class:

**ASSUMPTION ENGLISH SCHOOL
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2019**

**SECONDARY 4 EXPRESS & 5 NORMAL (ACADEMIC)
ENGLISH LANGUAGE (1128/02)**



INSERT

This Insert consists of 6 printed pages including this page.

[Turn over]

Section A

Text 1

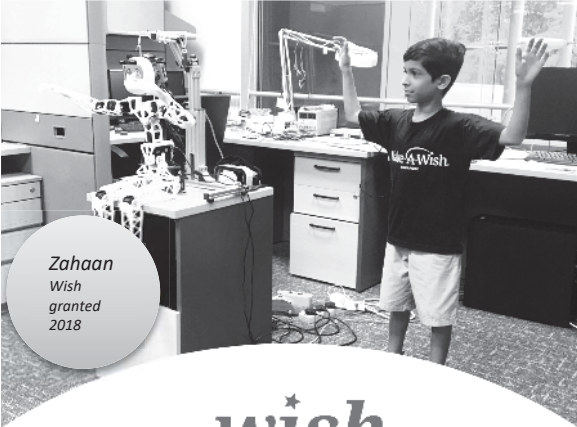
Study the webpage below and answer Questions 1 – 4 in the Answer Booklet.

<https://www.makeawish.org.sg/en/>

English | 中文 | Melayu

WISHES ▾ EVENTS & NEWS ▾ SUPPORT US ▾ ABOUT US ▾

DONATE MONTHLY



Zahaan
Wish
granted
2018

WORLD WISH MONTH 2019

Where There's A Wish, There's A Way

This April, join us each #WishWednesday as we help celebrate the hundreds of thousands of life-changing wishes that have been granted and the thousands still to come. Because for children battling a critical illness, a wish is not just a dream. A wish-come-true can be a turning point that allows children with critical illnesses to focus on the possibilities of tomorrow and not the challenges of today. Let's show the world what Make-A-Wish children, families, and our communities already know: Where there's a wish, there's a way.

DONATE HERE >

WHERE THERE'S A **wish** THERE'S A WAY.

#WISHWEDNESDAY

Make A Wish WORLD WISH DAY

ACT NOW WITH A ONE-OFF DONATION

You can make their wishes come true



Violette
Wish
granted
2019

Children like Violette need your help

Little Violette was diagnosed with neuroblastoma at the tender age of 2. This type of cancer affects one's nerve tissue and it was an extremely trying time for her and her family. During her treatment, Violette sought solace from Disney's Princess Sofia, so when asked to make a wish, it was no surprise that her wish was to meet Princess Sofia.

Make-A-Wish brought Violette and her family on a trip to fulfil her wish. The whole experience brought Violette's family closer together and everyone was in awe of Violette's bravery, stamina and zest for life. It was a life-changing experience for Violette, imbuing her with newfound courage to continue fighting her illness.

Make-A-Wish wants to extend such experiences to more children and you can help make a difference to their lives.

Adapted from <https://www.makeawish.org.sg/en/>

Section B

Text 2

The text below is about a battle site in Vietnam. Read it carefully and answer Questions 5 – 15 in the Answer Booklet.

- 1 Travelling along the banks of the Ya Cong Poco river, on the northern flank of the B3 battlefield in the Central Highlands, the Missing In Action (MIA) Remains-Gathering Team awaits the dry season of 1975. Not until after dusk does the MIA truck finally reach the Jungle of Screaming Souls, where they park beside a wide creek clogged with rotting branches. The driver stays in the cab and goes straight to sleep. Kien climbs wearily into the rear of the truck to sleep alone in a hammock strung high from cab to tailgate. At midnight the rains start again, this time a smooth drizzle, falling silently. The old tarpaulin covering the truck is torn, full of holes, letting the water drip, drip, drip through onto the plastic sheets covering the remains of soldiers laid out in rows below Kien's hammock. 5 10
 - 2 The humid atmosphere condenses, its long moist, chilly fingers sliding in and around the hammock where Kien lies shivering, half-awake, half-asleep, as though drifting along on a stream. He is floating, sadly, endlessly, sometimes as if on a truck driving silently, robot-like, somnambulant through the lonely jungle tracks. Next to the truck, the stream moans, a desperate complaint mixing with distant faint jungle sounds, like an echo from another world. The eerie sounds come from somewhere in a remote past, arriving softly like featherweight leaves falling on the grass of times long, long ago. 15
 - 3 Kien knows the area well. It was here, at the end of the dry season of 1969, that his 27th Battalion was surrounded and almost totally wiped out. Ten men survived from the Lost Battalion after fierce, horrible, barbarous fighting. 20
 - 4 That was the dry season when the sun burned harshly, the wind blew fiercely, and the enemy sent napalm spraying through the jungle and a sea of fire enveloped them, spreading like the fires of hell. Troops in the fragmented companies tried to regroup, only to be blown out of their shelters again as they went mad, became disoriented, and threw themselves into nets of bullets, dying in the flaming inferno. Above them the helicopters flew at treetop height and shot them almost one by one, the blood spreading out, spraying from their backs, flowing like red mud. 25 30
- The diamond-shaped grass clearing was piled high with bodies killed by helicopter gunships. Broken bodies, bodies blown apart, bodies vaporized.
- No jungle grew again in this clearing. No grass. No plants.
- 5 "Better to die than surrender, my brothers! Better to die!" the battalion commander yelled insanely; waving his pistol in front of Kien he blew his own brains out through his ear. Kien released a silent scream at the sight, while all around him, the Americans attacked with submachine guns, sending bullets buzzing like deadly bees. Then Kien lowered his machine gun, grasped his 35

side, and fell, rolling slowly down the bank of a shallow stream, hot blood trailing down the slope after him.

40

- 6 In the days that followed, crows and eagles darkened the sky. After the Americans withdrew, the rainy season came, flooding the jungle floor, turning the battlefield into a marsh whose surface water turned rust-coloured from the blood. Bloated human corpses, floating alongside the bodies of incinerated jungle animals, mixed with branches and trunks cut down by artillery, all drifting in a stinking marsh. When the flood receded everything dried in the heat of the sun into thick mud and stinking rotting meat. And down the bank and along the stream Kien dragged himself, bleeding from the mouth and from his body wound. The blood was cold and sticky, like blood from a corpse. Snakes and centipedes crawled over him, and he felt death's hand on him. After that battle no one mentioned the 27th Battalion any more, though numerous souls of ghosts and devils were born in that deadly defeat. They were still loose, wandering in every corner and bush in the jungle, drifting along the stream, refusing to depart for the Other World.
- 7 From then on it was called the Jungle of Screaming Souls. Just hearing the name whispered was enough to send chills down the spine. Perhaps the screaming souls gathered together on special festival days as members of the Lost Battalion, lining up in the little diamond-shaped clearing, checking their ranks and numbers. The sobbing whispers were heard deep in the jungle at night, the howls carried on the wind. Perhaps they really were the voices of the wandering souls of dead soldiers.
- 8 Here, when it is dark, trees and plants moan in awful harmony. When the ghostly music begins it unhinges the soul and the entire wood looks the same no matter where you are standing. Not a place for the timid. Living here one could go mad or be frightened to death. Which was why in the rainy season of 1974, when the regiment was sent back to this area, Kien and his scout squad established an altar and prayed before it in secret, honouring and recalling the wandering souls from the 27th Battalion still in the Jungle of Screaming Souls.
- Sparkling incense sticks glowed night and day at the altar from that day forward.

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Adapted from 'The Sorrow of War' by Bao Ninh

Section C

Text 3

The text below is about rats. Read it carefully and answer Questions 16 – 22 in the Answer Booklet.

- 1 A rat is a rodent, the most common mammal in the world. *Rattus norvegicus* is one of the approximately four hundred different kinds of rodents, and it is known by many names, each of which describes a trait or sometimes a habitat: the migratory rat, the house rat, the sewer rat, the alley rat, the common rat, the brown rat... . The average brown rat is large and stocky; it grows to be approximately sixteen inches long from its nose to its tail — the size of a large adult human male's foot — and weighs about a pound. 5
- 2 Rats are nocturnal and though they forage in darkness, the brown rat has poor eyesight. It makes up for this with an excellent sense of smell and taste, detecting the most minute amounts of poison, down to one part per million. The brown rat's teeth are yellow, the front two incisors being especially long and sharp, like buckteeth. When the brown rat gnaws, its front two teeth spread apart and a flap of skin plugs the space behind its incisors. Hence, when the rat gnaws on indigestible materials — concrete or steel, for example — the shavings don't go down the rat's throat and kill it. These incisors grow at a rate of five inches per year. In terms of hardness, the brown rat's teeth are on par with steel. With the alligator-like structure of their jaws, rats can exert a biting pressure of up to seven thousand pounds per square inch. 10 15
- 3 Rats seem to be attracted to wires — to utility wires, computer wires, wires in vehicles, in addition to gas and water pipes. One rat expert theorises that wires may be attractive to rats because of their resemblance to vines and the stalks of plants; cables are the vines of the city. By one estimate, 26 percent of all electric-cable breaks and 12 percent of all phone-cable disruptions are caused by rats. According to one study, as many as 25 percent of all fires of unknown origin are rat-caused. Sitting in a nest of tattered rags and newspapers, in the floorboards of an old tenement, a rat gnaws the head of a match — the lightning in the city forest. 20 25
- 4 When it is not gnawing or feeding on trash, the brown rat digs. Anywhere there is dirt in a city, brown rats are likely to be digging; they dig holes to enter buildings and to make nests. Rat nests can be in the floorboards of apartments, in the waste-stuffed corners of subway stations, in sewers, or beneath old furniture in basements — literally anywhere. "Cluttered and unkempt alleyways in cities provide ideal rat habitat, especially those alleyways associated with food-serving establishments," states a pest control manual. "Alley rats can forage safely within the shadows created by the alleyway, as well as quickly retreat to the safety of cover in these narrow channels." Often, rats burrow under concrete sidewalk slabs. Entrance to a typical under-the-sidewalk rat's nest is gained through a two-inch-wide hole — their skeletons collapse and they can squeeze into a hole as small as three quarters of an inch wide, the average width of their skull. This tunnel 30 35 40

then travels about a foot down to where it widens into a nest or den. The den is lined with soft debris, often shredded plastic garbage or shopping bags; some rat nests have been found stuffed with the gnawed shavings of the wood-based, spring-loaded snap traps that are used in attempts to kill them. 45
 The back of the den then narrows into a long tunnel that opens up on another hole back on the street. This second hole is called a bolt hole; it is an emergency exit. A bolt hole is typically covered lightly with dirt or trash — camouflage. Sometimes there are networks of burrows, which can stretch beneath a few concrete squares on a sidewalk, or a number of backyards, or 50
 even an entire city block — when *Rattus norvegicus* first came to Selkirk, England, in 1776, there were so many burrows that people feared the town might sink.

- 5 Rats also inhabit subways, as most people in any city with a subway system are well aware. Every once in a while, there are reports of rats boarding trains, but for the most part rats stay on the tracks. People tend to think that the subways are filled with rats, but in fact rats are not everywhere in the system; they live in the subways according to the supply of discarded human food and sewer leaks. Sometimes, rats use the subway purely for nesting purposes; they find ways through the walls of the subway stations leading 60
 from the tracks to the restaurants and stores on the street — the vibrations of subway trains tend to create rat-size cracks and holes. Many subway rats tend to live near stations that are themselves near fast-food restaurants. At the various subway stations near Herald Square, for example, people come down from the streets and throw their unfinished food onto the tracks, along 65
 with newspapers, soda bottles and, I have noticed, thousands of no longer charged AA batteries, waiting to leak acid. The rats eat freely from the waste and sit at the side of the little streams of creamy brown sewer water that flows between the rails. They sip the water the way rats do, either with their front paws or by scooping it up with their incisors. 70

Adapted from 'Rats' by Robert Sullivan

----- End of Insert -----

Name: ()

Class:

**ASSUMPTION ENGLISH SCHOOL
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION 2019**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE (1128/02)



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LEVEL: Secondary 4 Express and
5 Normal (Academic)

DATE: 6 May 2019

CLASS(ES): Secondary 4/1, 4/2, 4/4 (OOS)
and 5/1

DURATION: 1 hour 50 min

Additional Materials provided: A 6-Page Insert

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Write your name, index number and class at the top of this page.

Write in dark blue or black ink on both sides of the paper.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid and tape.

Answer **all** questions.

Write your answers in the spaces provided in the Answer Booklet.

The Insert contains the texts for all the sections.

The Insert and Answer Booklet will be collected separately.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

For Examiner's use:	
Section A	/ 5
Section B	/ 20
Section C	/ 25
Total	/ 50

This Answer Booklet consists of 8 printed pages including this page.

[Turn over]

Section A [5 marks]

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

- 1** Why is the use of alliteration in the tagline “Where There’s A Wish, There’s A Way” effective?

.....

..... [1]

- 2** What effect are the photographs meant to have on the reader?

.....

..... [1]

- 3** Pick a word which summarises the effect that this foundation has on its beneficiaries.

.....

[1]

- 4** Identify **two** outcomes of a ‘wish-come-true’ for children with critical illnesses.

(i)

.....

[1]

(ii)

.....

[1]

Section B [20 marks]

Refer to Text 2 on pages 3 – 4 of the Insert for Questions 5 – 15.

- 5 In Paragraph 1, we are introduced to 'the Missing In Action (MIA) Remains-Gathering Team'. **In your own words**, explain what this tells you about the purpose of the team.

..... [1]

- 6 In Paragraph 1, we are told that 'The old tarpaulin covering the truck is torn, full of holes, letting the water drip, drip, drip through...'

What effect does the writer create with the repetition of the word 'drip'?

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

- 7 In Paragraph 2, Kien sleeps uneasily. Explain how the language used in this paragraph suggests that the environment contributed to Kien's uneasiness.

Support your explanations with **three** details from Paragraph 2.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
..... [3]

- 8 Which words or phrases from Paragraph 4 describe the scene of war?

Descriptions of the scene of war	Words or phrases from the passage
(i) state of confusion	
(ii) engulfed in flames	
(iii) relentless ammunition	

[3]

- 9 'No jungle grew again in this clearing. No grass. No plants.' (line 33)

What is the effect of the use of short sentences here?

..... [1]

- 10 What is unusual and effective about the phrase 'silent scream' (line 36)?

.....

 [2]

- 11 In Paragraph 6, we are told that 'The blood was cold and sticky, like blood from a corpse.'

What does this suggest about Kien's physical state?

..... [1]

- 12 Why is the 'Jungle of Screaming Souls' aptly named?

.....
 [1]

- 13 (a) What does 'ghostly music' (line 63) refer to?

..... [1]

- (b) Explain **in your own words** the effect that the 'ghostly music' can have on a person.

..... [1]

- 14 Give **one** reason to explain why Kien and his scout squad established an altar.

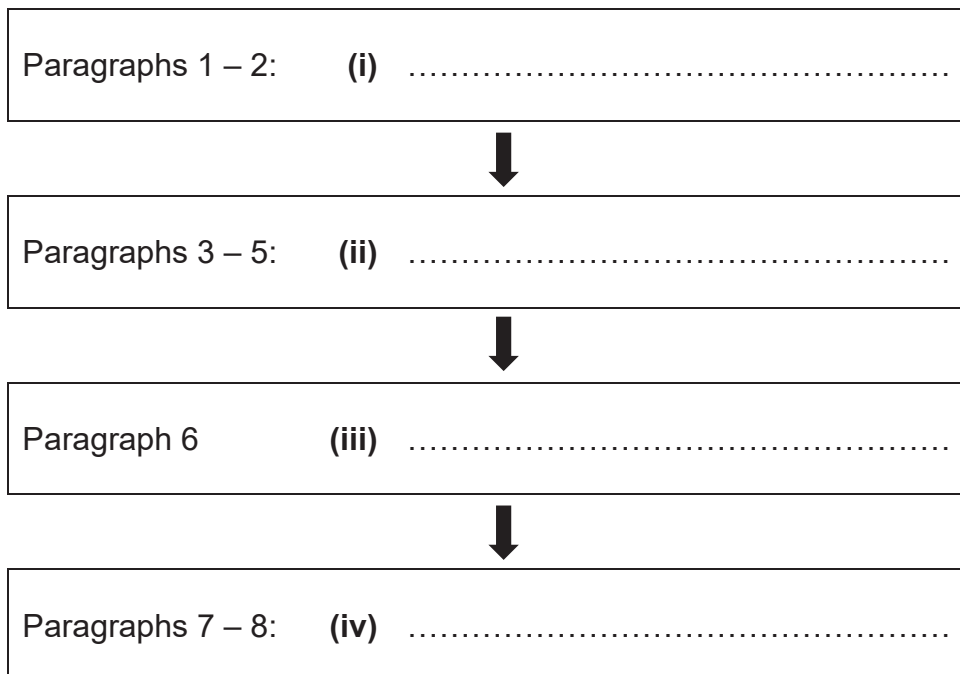
.....
 [1]

- 15** Complete the flow chart by choosing one phrase from the box that best describes the following scenes in the text. There are some extra phrases you do not need to use.

Descriptions

a delightful reunion	a sense of gloom
a state of desolation	a state of tranquillity
a brutal reality	a sinister atmosphere
a familiar place	

Scenes in the text



[4]

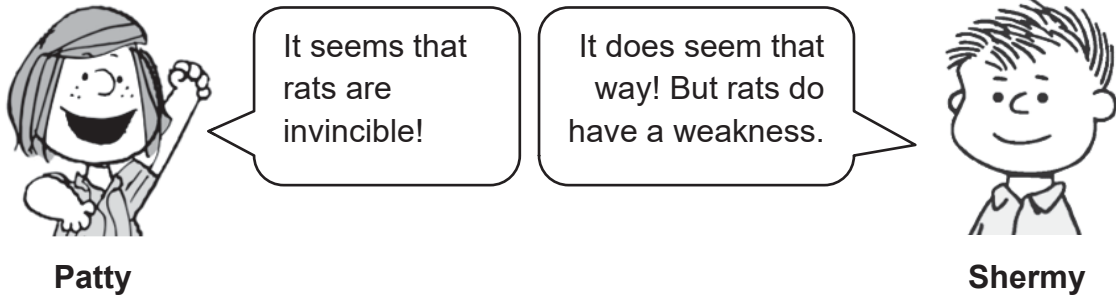
Section C [25 marks]

Refer to Text 3 on pages 5 – 6 of the Insert for Questions 16 – 22.

- 16 How does the writer show that the *Rattus norvegicus* has many names?

..... [1]

- 17 Here is part of a conversation between two students.



- (a) From Paragraph 2, identify **two** physical attributes of rats and explain how these attributes support Patty's view.

(i) [1]

(ii) [1]

- (b) With reference to the same paragraph, how would Shermy explain his position?

..... [1]

- 18 In Paragraph 2, the rat's incisors are compared with other items.

What are these items and what is the property that is being compared with each item?

Item	Property
(i)	
(ii)	

[2]

- 19 (a) In Paragraph 3, the writer says that ‘cables are the vines of the city’. What does this expression suggest about the rat’s presence in a city?

..... [1]

- (b) Pick a piece of evidence from the same paragraph which supports your answer.

..... [1]

- 20 In Paragraph 3, we are told that ‘a rat gnaws the head of a match — the lightning in the city forest.’ What is effective about this comparison?

..... [1]

- 21 In Paragraph 4, we are told that ‘some rat nests have been found stuffed with the gnawed shavings of the wood-based, spring-loaded snap traps that are used in attempts to kill them.’

What does this suggest about rats?

..... [1]

- 22 **Using your own words as far as possible**, summarise the ways in which rats have been able to evade human beings, and how human beings have ironically supported their existence.

Use only information from Paragraphs 4 and 5.

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).

Rats have evaded human beings by

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----- End of Paper -----

