

Our School Exhibition

Our school held a very interesting exhibition of students' art and craft work last year. It was surprising to see the various pieces of handwork of such high standards. These exhibits were attractive and colourful for they had been prepared and designed well by the students with guidance from the Art teachers. The students were obviously enthusiastic about their work; for each item was rendered carefully and lovingly without the slightest trace of sloppiness.

There were many sections to interest parents and friends who came to see the work of their children. The painting of nature, Malaysian scenes, flowers and fruits was of an exceptionally high standard. Other items such as puppets, dolls and articles of embroidery were admired, too. In the geography section, there were clay models of physical features like hills, mountains and plateaus set in a natural environment of green landscape with rivers meandering through the land.

Recess Time in Our School

R-r-ring! These goes the daily bell at 10.30 a.m. for recess. An audible sigh of relief can be heard in each classroom as the students immediately rush to the school tuck-shop. Hungry and thirsty students make straight for the mee-man, the iced-drinks seller or the curry and rice stall, for many have come to school early in the morning without any breakfast as there is hardly any time to eat.

I find the stall-holders busy serving food to the students, who are impatient and sometimes downright rude if the stall-holder is slow in serving them. The chatter of students, the noise of frying noodles, the chopping up of ingredients and the delicious smell of food floating in the air contribute to the typical tuck-shop environment which makes one hungry and eager to eat the daily snack.

R-r-ring! The unwelcome bell goes at 10.50 a.m. for the students to get back to class. It is another rush, this time for lessons which begin promptly and late-comers will be punished. Recess time is a welcome break, for hungry stomachs are filled and dry throats are refreshed with iced drinks.

Now the tuck-shop is quiet except for the clatter of plates, glasses and cups being washed by the stall-holders, who then rest till the next session.

Teachers' Day

Every year, all schools throughout Malaysia celebrate Teachers' Day - a day to honour and remember our teachers who are our leaders and who guide us in our education during our youthful days.

Teachers are very much a part of a student's life as they influence a child, right from Kindergarten days to Upper Secondary days; and perhaps beyond. It is they who prepare the child for his or her life in society.

Teachers' Day is held to show our appreciation to our teachers who work hard and bear patiently with us. In most schools, pupils bring gifts of flowers, presents and other tokens, which are sometimes hand-made, to show that they care for their teachers. A party is held where tasty refreshments and drinks are served in the classroom for both the teachers and the students. Everyone has a good time and the day ends earlier than usual.

Teachers play a very important role in the development of a child. However, their efforts are seldom appreciated. That is why Teachers' Day is so significant to teachers; it is only on this day that they are appreciated and honoured for their deeds.

A Squatter Fire

I had never seen a house on fire before, only filmed reports of it on the television. So, one evening when I heard the siren screams of a few fire-engines rushing past my house, I dashed into the street and joined a growing crowd of curious people. We could see the fire only from a safe distance as the police had cordoned off the place for security reasons. Even at a distance, I could recognize that the affected houses were in a squatter area where my part-time maid, Mani, lived.

What a terrible scene greeted my eyes! The fire was raging through the shabbily built houses. Flames leaped up hungrily to devour the wooden sheds. Every now and then tongues of fire would shoot up almost sky-high, sprinkling bright red sparks of fire about. Fiery wooden beams crashed and glowed brightly. Thick black smoke spread all around.

Dozens of firemen from the four fire-engines were busily engaged in putting out the fire. The rushing water from several hoses soaked the houses but it did not seem to have any effect on the flames. Soon, a few firemen with hoses in their hands were seen climbing up tall red ladders of the fire-engines. The continuous flooding from the top finally brought the fire under control. Where it had been red there was only black -- the charred remains of ruined houses.

While all eyes were transfixed on the inferno, the plight of the victims did not escape the eyes of the spectators. Firemen were seen dragging wailing women away from the burning houses to a safe area. Frightened children clutched to their mothers. Some of the men simply stared speechlessly as they witnessed their homes reduced to ashes.

It took only 30 minutes before the whole squatter area, comprising mainly wooden houses, was razed to the ground. No one could salvage anything. According to a reporter, the estimated loss was around 1 million dollars. Although the amount may seem insignificant to some, for the victims it was all they had. Their only consolation was the fact that no lives were sacrificed.

Though I watched with great sympathy for the other victims of the fire, my real fear and concern were for Mani. All this while, I was straining my eyes to catch a glimpse of her. What a relief when I finally saw her standing with downcast eyes in the midst of other fire victims. My heart went out to her.

Memories of My Childhood Days

My first recollection of my childhood is the day I toppled down the stairs when I was three years old. I was so upset that I cried and cried for nearly an hour in spite of my parents' attempts at comforting me. Finally, I quietened down when I was given ice-cream and chocolates. Luckily, I was not hurt.

My days were happy ones before I started going to school, as I had good neighbours to play with from morning till evening. We played games outdoors, dressed as cowboys and Red Indians and rode about on our tricycles happily. There were also other games to occupy our time.

At the age of five years, I had to attend kindergarten and this turned out to be quite an ordeal for me. To begin with, I felt very sad having to leave my mother and go off each morning to be amongst strangers. I cried and wanted my mother around, much to my teacher's displeasure. As the days went by, however, I made friends easily in class and found company. I became happy again and actually looked forward to leaving the house each morning.

I still remember those days when I was learning to ride a bicycle. I fell and bruised myself several times but I never gave up. Finally, I was able to join my friends going around the neighbourhood on my bike.

Another fond memory is the end-of-year concert held at the kindergarten. I was chosen to play the role of Jack in the play, 'Jack and the Beanstalk', and I became a celebrity overnight receiving lots of compliments for my performance.

I now realise what a wonderful childhood I have had and at times wish I could relive those days.

A Wedding I Attended

My cousin sister got married during the December school holidays and my whole family attended the function. Dressed in my best, I went along with my family to the bride's home where the 'Bersanding' ceremony was held. There were beautiful coloured lights and the garden was lit, too. I found flowers everywhere and guests were milling around.

On a dais in front of the hall were two chairs beautifully adorned in satin and silk, with two velvet cushions for the bridal couple. At about 7.00 p.m., a 'kompang' group started beating their 'kompangs' and entered the garden. The bridegroom, dressed in blue 'kainsongket' and looking like a Malay prince, arrived next, his retinue of young men, and took his place on the dais. Later, the bride, dressed also in blue 'songket kebaya' and 'sarung', arrived looking beautiful. Her jewellery sparkled in the light. In her hair were sweet-scented flowers and 'bunga goyang' which glistened visibly. She looked like a princess and sat next to the bridegroom.

Then the 'kadi' said prayers and everyone was ready for the 'kenduri'. The dinner had all the traditional dishes of 'beriyani', 'kurma', 'dalcha' with salad and 'rendang'. After a sweet dessert, a 'Bunga Telur' was presented to each guest. It consisted of an egg placed in a small, decorated

basket with flowers on top. Malay music was played throughout the function and guests were entertained to some cultural shows.

Then it was time to go home. We had enjoyed a hearty meal, blessed the blissful couple and were ready to leave the place.

A Frightful Experience

One day, as I was returning home late from school at about 7.30 p.m., I was dismayed to discover a group of rough-looking boys following me.

As I quickened my steps, one of them, apparently the leader, obstructed my path and ordered me to surrender to him my watch and my wallet. At first I resisted, but, when he threatened to cause me harm, I quickly handed over the items. I felt frightened and, at the same time, mad, having to part with my possessions as they were of sentimental value to me. Once they had taken possession of my properties, they laughed and made their way to a coffee shop nearby while I was left fuming by the road.

At first I wanted to report the incident to the police but, later, I decided against it and went straight home. I told my parents about it and they concluded that it was unsafe for me to walk alone. They then arranged for me to go in my neighbour's car and that solved the problem.

Things I Like To Do

I like to play games out in the garden. When it rains, I stay indoors and play card games and scrabble with my family. Alternatively, I indulge in doing jigsaw puzzles. I have completed several scenes and pictures.

I also like to play with my puppy. It chases me round the garden and barks at me. It has learnt how to pick up a stick and bring it back to me each time I throw it far off.

Besides this, I like watching my fish and feeding them with worms. They have beautiful colours and I enjoy following their movements in the water.

Drawing pictures and painting them is another activity I enjoy doing. Reading story books is my favourite pastime too as there are exciting adventure and mystery stories to keep me engrossed.

Lastly, I like watching good television programmes.

Hari Raya Celebrations

Every year, after one month of fasting, Muslims celebrate Hari Raya Puasa which falls in the month of Syawal. All Muslims celebrate the day with great joy. In the morning, they go to the mosque to pray. Then, on returning home, they receive guests and relatives who come to pay them a call.

Days before, the women folk make many varieties of cakes, cookies and sweet meats. They also cook 'rendang' curries and prepare 'satay' to go with the 'ketupat'. Homes are decorated with many coloured lights all over the garden. Small lamps are lit and placed along the driveway.

On Hari Raya Day, many Malaysians visit their Muslim friends to share their joy. They receive warm hospitality and are entertained to a feast of specially prepared food. Boys and girls wear new clothes and shoes. Girls wear jewellery and boys new 'songkoks'.

The town is usually crowded with Muslims dressed gaily and going about. They visit their friends and relatives while some go to the cinemas or to the Lake Gardens. Many, however, go back to their 'kampungs' to celebrate the festival with their parents. It is also a time for family reunions. Everyone rejoices during this festive season.

My Best Pal

Close friendships are hard to come by these days. In an ever-changing world with people striving to achieve their interpretation of preordained success, it is hard to know who your true friends are. Fortunately, I found my best pal early at the tender age of seven. We were both enrolled at the same school and were at wits' ends as we searched tirelessly for our designated classes.

Samantha and I got acquainted as both of us were in the same class and sat next to each other. Samantha was a happy-go-lucky girl who always managed to breathe fresh air into the sometimes arid classroom. She always knew what to say and would voice them at the best possible moments. Both pupils and teachers alike enjoyed her company and liveliness. There was hardly ever a dull moment when she was around with her funny quips and expressions.

Samantha was born with a silver spoon. Her father was a businessman and her mother owned and ran a boutique. Both her parents were very caring towards her as she, just like I, was the only child of the family. Samantha came to school each day with a perpetual smile. She was a very nice person to be around with. She and I used to go everywhere together and both of us were rarely seen apart. We used to talk about so many things as we walked, thoroughly enjoying our time together.

One day, I went to school and forgot to ask my parents for lunch money. At first, I was not hungry and thought I could bear going without a meal but soon, my stomach began to growl. Without asking, Samantha generously paid for my meal and drinks during recess. The incident revealed to me how lucky I was to have such a caring and compassionate friend.

As time went on, people started teasing us as we were spending more and more time together. We seemed to know what each other thought and we cared for each other deeply. Was I in love with her? I did not know then and we both knew we were too young for all that emotional roller coaster.

Currently, Samantha and I are studying at different schools. It was hard to be apart at first, but technology in the form of instant messaging and e-mails have helped to bridge the gap in our

friendship. I sincerely wish our friendship will never end as it would be equivalent to waking up from a beautiful dream.

My Favourite TV Programme

The television (TV) is part and parcel of many households. Therefore, watching television is a culture of today's modern society. It is a favourite past-time of many people, cutting across the culture, creed, gender and age. I must admit that I too enjoy "sitting glued" to the TV as mum often laments. Since I watch TV whole day long, I don't blame mum. However, whenever I watch my favourite TV programme she doesn't complain. In fact, she often sits together to watch it, the 'National Geographic'.

The National Geographic is a well-known documentary programme, focusing mainly on the ever-changing world, on Mother Earth and on nature and peoples and creatures that colour it with. Just the press of a switch and a button and 'Hey Presto!', the whole world is brought before me, for me to savour its beauty and wonders. Personally, I am often awed and amazed with them.

I like this programme because it is very educational. It is a 'window to the world'. By watching it, I can 'travel', 'explore' and 'discover' the four corners of the world. I have trekked up the highest peak and conquered Mt. Everest. I have dived down the deepest trenches. I have walked through the wilderness and be amongst the wild beasts, big and small. Thus, this programme has helped to expand my horizon and improve my knowledge and experience. I can proudly say I am no more a 'frog in the well'.

I also enjoy watching the National Geographic because it is entertaining, interesting and stimulating. I never imagined that such an educational programme can be very enjoyable. I get a chance to enjoy the kaleidoscope of sights, sounds and colours of the world and its different peoples, all in the comfort of my own home.

In addition to that, this programme is of very high quality and it is produced by a team of experts, all are authorities in their own field of interest. The photographic footage is extremely breathtaking and inspiring. Besides, the narration is very accurate, informative, vivid and descriptive. Thus, I have never felt restless, distracted or bored watching this programme.

The National Geographic is my favourite programme as it has helped me to 'grow' and 'mature'. I have watched it since I was a seven-year-old innocent child. Now, I am more sensitive and aware of the world and Mother Earth. I learn to be more appreciative of Mother Earth and its beauty and wonders. I am more concern about the preservation and conservation of the world not only now but also for posterity. In short, the National Geographic has converted me into a more responsible citizen of the world and a caretaker of Mother Earth.

It is a touching and heart-warming TV programme and I will not hesitate to recommend it to others so that they too have a chance to savour amazing moments and appreciate and care for the one and only world we live in.

The Night Market

One of the most interesting places in Malaysia is the night market. You may visit and experience the night market yourselves. Both locals and foreigners agree that the night market is the most common feature in the local society.

The night market begins when the vendors arrive in the late afternoon. More and more goods laden vans arrive to begin a brisk day of business. Most of the vendors busily set out to set up their stalls respectively in order to get ready for a brisk day of business.

The sun gradually sets and the night market picks up momentum. More cars and vans are arriving. By now, the stalls are neatly and strategically arranged to entice their customers. There is an assortment of goods sold ranging from food, toys and clothes, to name a few. A variety of goods is sold at low prices.

Large rainbow-coloured parasols are used to shade the people from rain and shine. A concoction of blaring music can be heard in the night market background amidst the constant shouting. It is an amazing kaleidoscope of sights, sounds, smells and colours.

The night market is known as a haven by local 'gourmets' who can enjoy various kinds of mouth-watering local cuisine. Still more people arrive, they come from all walks of life, mingling freely and harmoniously. Crowds are walking up and down in an endless stream. Some of them are stopping by the stalls and haggling before making purchases. Little children tag along, amused and excited. Sprinklings of tourists join in to experience the lifestyle of typical Malaysian folks.

When night falls, lighted lamps brighten up the place, they add gaiety to this atmosphere, and it is like a funfair. The night wears on and the traffic of people recedes. Vendors get a chance to rest their weary legs besides bantering with each other.

By 10.00 pm, all the stalls call it a day. The vendors pack up and close the van doors. One by one, they leave, leaving behind pieces of papers, plastic bags and discarded boxes. It is an eyesore! Finally, the night market disappears. The place becomes quite and still once more.

A Road Accident

Road accidents are reported in newspaper and on television every day. There are more frequently caused by reckless drivers rather than faulty vehicles. Last Saturday, while I was travelling from Ipoh, I witnessed a serious accident. The scene of the accidents was vivid in my mind.

A motorcyclist was following behind was taxi very closely. He was so impatient that he was trying to overtake my taxi even near a sharp bend. At that critical moment, there was an oncoming car. The taxi driver swerved to the roadside and I got a terrible jolt. It was too late for the motorcyclist to avoid the car. His motorcycle ran against the bumper of the car and smashed

its windscreen. The motorcyclist somersaulted over the car and was found lying in a pool of blood. It was a scene to chill the flesh! The car driver, who was cut by the flying glass, was in a state of shock. All that happened in split second and fear overwhelmed us.

The taxi driver stopped his taxi and I quickly ran to the nearest telephone booth to inform the police and the hospital. From a distance I could see some people trying to help the injured motorcyclist and the car driver. They carried them into one of the onlooker's car and sent them to the hospital for treatment. Meanwhile the taxi driver tried to control and directs the traffic. Soon the police arrived and they promptly took some measurements and evidence. After that they moved the damaged car and the motorcycle to the roadside to ease the traffic congestion. They also took down the evidence provided by witnesses and onlookers. Some sweepers were clearing the debris and the blood stains on the road.

When the taxi finally continued the journey, I silently thanked God for my narrow escape. I learned a good lesson that impatience and recklessness would bring harm and danger. I was happy to see that Malaysians are public-spirited and they render help to others readily. Since then I remember and follow the saying 'more haste less speed' and 'prevention is better than cure'. I believe good road manners and roads safety campaigns can help to reduce the number of road accidents which cause injuries, loss and lives and properties.

A Terrifying Experience

"If mum finds out that I'm going to the beach, I'll be in big trouble." I muttered to myself softly.

I crept slowly down the stairs and tried to walk casually into the kitchen. As I was walking towards the back door, mum asked without looking up from her "dish-washing", "Where are you going?" I answered back without hesitation, "I'm going to the garden to play." After I got out of the kitchen, I breathed a sign of relief. My plan had worked out fine so far. I scaled the fence and jumped onto the muddy field next to my house and started running towards the bus-stop at top speed.

After half-an-hour, I was at the beach scanning the crowd for my friends, Jimmy and Bobby. After a while, I spotted them near a coconut tree. I ran towards them and got into my swimming trunk. For about an hour, we played volleyball happily.

Suddenly, Bobby hit the ball too hard and the ball fell into the sea. Just as Bobby was going to pick up the ball, the tide came in and carried the ball further and further away from the shore. I wanted to show off my swimming skills so I decided to get the ball for them.

I dived into the water and started swimming at a steady pace. After swimming for about ten minutes, I became tired but when I saw that the ball was only a few feet away from me, I put in an extra burst of speed. However, just as I was going to grab the ball, a very strong current swept the ball further away from me. At that moment, a string of weed tangled up with my feet and I could not swim properly.

I struggled to keep afloat but it was no use. "If I had listened to mum and dad, this would never have happened," I thought silently.

Finally, after struggling for a minute or two, I had no more energy and got pulled underwater. I tugged at the weed which finally broke. I swam back to the surface, gasping for breath. I saw two young men in canoes, racing each other. I was exhausted but I shouted to the men for help. The two men, instead of helping me, ignored me and raced on. By the time, a lifeguard who was holding a life buoy reached me, I had already fainted.

When I woke up, I was in an empty room lying on a bed. It was not until a doctor came into the room that I realised that I was in a hospital. After a few minutes, my parents with half angry and half worried faces walked in. My parents scolded me for sneaking out of the house but were also glad that I was not seriously injured.

I will never forget that terrifying experience. Neither will I ever want to show off again.

Describe An Afternoon at The Bus Station

It was two o'clock in the afternoon. I was heading towards the bus station with Mohan after Mrs Wong's extra class. The sun was beating mercilessly on my back and I could feel my sweat trickling down my spine. I have often wished that my mother would allow me to ride a motorcycle to school. She says that I am not ready but we both know that she is terrified that a car would knock me down.

When I reached the bus station, it was nearly empty except for a handful of boys. Mohan and I strode to a bench near the stationmaster's office. I could feel the tension on my shoulders as the straps of my school bag ate into my shoulder. "Where is the bus?" I sighed to myself. An elderly woman came and asked me where I was going. She started a conversation but gave up after my monosyllable answers.

Suddenly, someone shouted and I saw a bus swerved into the station. I got up, thankful for the chance to escape from the woman. . It was Mohan's bus. The group of boys were jostling each other to get into the bus. "Masuk! Masuk!" shouted the conductor but nobody seemed to be moving. The black fumes made me nauseous. All of a sudden, people started appearing from all directions to board their bus. In no time, the passengers were packed like sardines in the bus. It started to move, leaving some unfortunate passengers behind. I waved at Mohan when I noticed him dangling on the steps of the bus. The bus swerved out of the station again. It left another trail of black smoke.

I decided to go to Panjang's ice stall. The iced sugar cane juice soothed my parched throat as I sipped slowly, all the while keeping an eye on the bus. Then I saw the bus heading towards the station. I paid for my drinks. "See you tomorrow," I waved to Panjang.

Once more, the crowd began to swell near the bus. I noticed that the elderly woman was being

shoved around by the boys. She started hitting them with her umbrella. Then, I saw Raja, my classmate at the back of the bus. I hurled my bag through the window and he caught it. By the time I got into the bus, it had already started moving. I got into my seat and told myself that I must really try to convince my mother about the motorcycle again.

You recently went an expedition with your classmates to Langkawi. You have been asked to write a letter to your cousin about your visit to Langkawi Island.

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12 March 2012.

Dear Zarina,

How's life? I hope you are in the best of health. How's my beloved Uncle Johari? I miss him too. The reason I write this letter is to tell you about my expedition to Langkawi. Guess what? We just came back from Langkawi . I went there with 25 of my classmates and my class teacher. Mr, Zaid had kindly accompanied us for the 3 day-trip. You should have joined us. It was such an awesome experience!

Well, on the first day, we arrived at Langkawi in morning after a short flight. Then, we were taken to Langkawi Geopark, a UNESCO World Heriatage Site where we could see magnificent rock formations. We were taught the history of the place and some fossils of fish could also be sighted. This is a wonderful opportunity to understand geogical aspect of the island at the Geopark.

After visiting Geopark, we were taken to Pulau Dayang Bunting which about an hour boat ride. I forgot to mention that the boat ride itself was so exciting and adventurous. Upon arrival at the island, we were greeted by monkeys and soon, we saw a breathtaking lake, with its gree clear water. Not forgetting the fish spa where thousands of catfish nibble at your feet when you

lower feet into the water. Again, this is a new experience for me. Other than that, we could really enjoy the beautiful scenery of the island.

The next day, we went to Underwater World where we saw the penguin, giant fishes, colourful onemones and all sorts of marine life there. I'm sure, it's heaven for fish lovers. One advantage of this trip is I could learn about the marine life. Well, on the final day, we went to Mahsuri Tomb and Padang Mat Sirat to relive the legend of Mahsuri. It was a good experience since I managed to see the historic sites and understand Mahsuri legend better. Other than that, I also learn about the importance of being true to our words and do not spread false gossips since these can lead to horrible consequences. I also managed to make friends with some other tourists visiting the site.

Okay, I guess I have to have to pen off now. Hope to see you in the next letter. Please convey my love and regards to my uncle and aunti. Take care!

It Was The Last Day of School

I could hardly wait for the school bell to ring as it was the last day of the term. And although I had just finished my last exam, I couldn't help but daydream about the fun I would have for the next few months - getting up late, watching movies with my friends, spending time with my relatives in Pakistan and generally doing things I enjoy doing but don't find the time to.

When the bell finally rang, we rushed out of our classrooms as if released from prison. Chattering and yelling to be heard, we all gathered in a corner of the schoolyard to discuss our plans for the coming weeks. Everyone had something to say.

To begin with, we decided to have a water fight right there and then and did. We got soaked through and through and got caught by one the school nuns. We were lucky to escape with a scolding.

My friends decided they were coming to my place and I had to hurriedly phone and warn my unsuspecting mother. Luckily mom made dozens of hot dogs and French fries and we had a fun lunch in my room.

After lunch we decided to go to the City Centre to watch the third Harry Potter film. We got there an hour too soon but had fun all the same checking out the cosmetics shops, video games outlets and other shops that interested us.

Finally, we bought large bags of popcorn, gigantic paper glasses of cokes and tramped into the cinema hall. The movie was terrific as expected and when it got over I had to overcome the urge to see it again.

The day was not over for us, however, as we still had a friend's birthday party to attend. The only problem was that we had almost run out of money so we pooled together what we had and

bought a gift that all thought was just perfect. Luckily, the birthday girl thought so too, so that was a relief.

The party turned out to be full of fun and games and we really enjoyed it no end. When we finally headed our different ways, it was with no regrets. It had been an eventful day and a full one... the perfect start to the summer holidays.

My Life 20 Years From Now

Everyone has their own future plan for their own good. To see myself from 20 years from now would be a great gift, but it is indeed impossible. We got no time machine to make it happen, so we just can plan, predict and pray. I have many dreams for myself.

20 years from now. 20 years from now, I would love to see myself as a success man in career. Being on the top of the particular career such as CEO, maybe a boss or a corporate worker; that's what I want myself to be. This time my occupation is in stable, and my personal economy flows out smoothly. I am a rich man right now, able to buy anything of my desires easily. That would be a perfect thing to see my own future self.

Also, I want to see myself to be a great father of my children. I am able to teach and train them well. Make sure they would never forget their customs, and enrich them with many moral values. This can be a challenge, to teach my children in these wild social problems. But, I will do what it takes to make sure my bloods are worth to be known as human.

Furthermore, in the future I really hope I can get myself a car different from the locals here. It's my favourite dream car, called BMW Z8 or maybe something better. There must be new models to come out at the future. This is the only chance for me, I am going to be old, so still with the local cars would be a shame to me, since it shows me that I made no improvements.

Last but not least, I want to build myself a nice home for myself and my beloved family. This home will hold many of our great and sweet memories together. I will decorate it with superb floral landscape for my future wife and a nice playground for my children to play with.

There are more things I want to achieve in the next 20 years, these are nothing but some examples of many other. Hopefully I can do it well to achieve these dreams, so my desire will be fulfilled while I am still alive.

Safety Tips When Going To School

Every year, hundreds of children are injured and sometimes killed in an accident. This is because they are neglecting the rules and regulation of road safety. However, there are many ways to prevent from the increasing of road accidents that affect students.

For those who walk to school alone, needs to be accompanied by the elderly. Besides, they can also walk in pairs or groups if that makes them feel more safe. Don't ever use short cuts especially through a dark and quiet place such as the back alleys. This place is dangerous for girls to pass through it.

Next, you have to be aware with your surroundings. Watch out for any suspicious person. When you smell anything fishy, immediately inform it to the security guard or straight forward to the principal. This action, sometimes can scare them away from you.

Discipline is very important. When you are well disciplined, you will never break any rules for every place that you'll go. For an example, students who attend to school by bus. Always queue up before ascending the bus. Patience is needed, because this will prevent them from pushing other bus users whether they are boarding or alighting the bus. Thus, for them who attend to school by public or private transport are also the same. It's just that when you're waiting for your transport to fetch you up, never play on the road or joke with your friend while crossing the road. This may cause an unexpected accident that occurs to you or the life of others.

In a nutshell, students must follow the tips mentioned. Actions speak louder than words. Therefore, you must ensure that you are always alert whenever you are to and from school so, that you will stay safe. Like all people said "safety comes first".

My Most Embarrassing Situation

Everyone has been embarrassed at one time or another. It is that moment in time when you wish the earth would open up and swallow you. The anxiety and discomfort felt during that time which may only last a few seconds feels like time has stood still.

I remember so well when I had my most embarrassing moment. I was in Form 4 and it was during the school recess. The minute the bell rang for recess, I rushed to the toilet because I had been controlling my urges since class started. I didn't want to miss class because the lesson taught that morning was to include tips for the forthcoming examination.

Without realising, I had rushed to the girls' toilet. The prolonged control and an upset stomach made worse by two glasses of cold milk in the morning made me grunt and groan in what I thought in what I thought was the privacy of the cubicle. I thought I heard giggling outside and wondered why the giggles sounded unusually near. A few minutes later I came out the cubicle and discovered my horror that I had entered the girls' toilet. To make matters worse, the few girls standing outside didn't even turn away when I came out. Instead they looked down at me, then only they turned quickly away. Horror of horrors, I had forgotten to zip up! No beetroot could have matched the colour of my face at this point in time!

The news of my predicament spread like wild fire throughout school. I was truly the talk of the town. I felt like I could either walk around feeling perpetually self-conscious and embarrassed or I could turn the situation round, perhaps even to my advantage. I remembered my

mother's words that 'if you can't beat them, join them'. So I decided to make fun of myself, to laugh at myself too. It works. Everyone got bored after a while and nobody teased me after that.

It was indeed an eye-opening experience for me. I have learnt that when people laugh at you, you should laugh along. You must not take yourself seriously. Learn to look at yourself through other people's eyes and you will realise that most of the time when they laugh at you, they just want to have some fun. They mean no harm. If you can make people laugh, it's like bringing sunshine into their lives and as someone said, 'those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves.'

What Would You Do If You Had A Lot Of Money

When I was small, I often dreamt about being rich as my parents were quite poor. We had difficulty making ends meet each month. So, if I had a lot of money, I would certainly fulfill my dreams. First and foremost, I would buy a house for my parents, preferably a bungalow, in a quiet town. I would equip the house with the latest technology so that it would be a smart home. My mother would have a state-of-the-art kitchen as she loves cooking. I would also get a maid to help her with the household chores. I will ensure that my family is comfortably settled in this house.

The second thing I would do is to go on a world tour with my parents. I have never been overseas but I long to see the places I have only read or dreamt about. First, I would like to visit Europe, especially Italy, the city of romance. I would visit all the museums and buildings I have heard so much about. My next stop would be Hong Kong or China. There is something mystical about China and her people. This would be my dream come true.

Apart from that, I could finally go on a shopping spree, which is my favourite pastime. Thus far, I could only go window shopping and if I had a lot of money, I would go into these stores and buy whatever I fancy. Just imagine that for once in my life, I do not need to look at the prices of the items that I like. I could just shop till I literally drop. The salesgirls would be hovering near me with their latest outfits and my wish would be their command. Ah, I would not be ignored anymore as I walk into their stores!

Besides shopping, I would also remember the poor and the less fortunate. First, I would certainly build a better home for the orphans in my town. In fact, I would also sponsor their education till they could stand on their own. They would receive an allowance monthly and I would definitely take them shopping.

Finally, I would take the opportunity to further my studies. When I was younger, my parents could not afford to send me overseas. So, I would love to pursue a course in interior decorating in London and once I graduate, I would like to set up my own business with the rest of the money. They say that a fool and his money are soon parted. Thus, I would be very careful with how I spend my money. I would invest my money with my parents' advice and keep some for rainy days.

Teenagers Don't Smoke

Smoking is one of the worst things teenagers can do to their bodies. Yet every day, almost 5000 teenagers under age of 18 try smoking for the first time.

No wonder, tobacco companies spend billions of dollar ever year on advertisements and other ways to make sure that these young people start smoking and buying their product. The companies count on them to become hooked for it keeps in them in business.

The nicotine in cigarettes is a poisonous drug. It even be used to kill insects. Nicotine and dozens of other poisonous chemicals in tobacco can cause illness like heart problems and certain kinds of cancer. Some of these illness take years to develop but others can show up right away.

Generally, smoking makes a teenager's body less fit and more susceptible to infections. For example, teenagers who smoke are much more likely to get a cold on pneumonia. Each time they like up, it hurts their heart, lungs and brain. And the longer the smoke, the worse the damage becomes.

Smoking has such a long list of bads points that wonders why teenagers smoke. Along with bad breath and stinky hair and clothes, smoking makes it harder to run and to play sports. It also cause a difficulty for blood to move around in the body.

Smokers often feel tired and cranky and cannot think quickly, not surprisingly, there are more likely to get in trouble in school and get lower grades. There are also more likely to lie to their friends or their parents about their activities; what they do and how they spend their money. Smoking therefore not only brings about health problems but may also develop undesirable traits. Teen smokers can become lazy, irresponsible and dishonest.

Police Report on Accident (Directed Writing)

You witnessed an accident. The police officer has asked you to make a report. Use the points given below:

- when the event happened
- where the event took place
- how it happened
- description of the vehicles
- step taken

To: Sergeant Razali Kamrin
From: Julia Selamat
Date: 7th September 2011

Report of the accident on Jalan 2/14

On 7th September 2011 at 10.30 a.m., I was walking alone Jalan 2/14 which is next to the

children's playground. As I was about to cross the road to enter the park, I saw a car driving swiftly down Jalan 4/14. It was a Honda Civic with the number plate BEH 9110. Another car, a Toyota Vios 1.5 with plate number WHM 4657 came out of Jalan 4/14 as well. The Honda Civic was driving too fast that make it did not have time to avoid collision.

The accident caused a loud crash. The Honda Civic hit the Toyota Vios on the driver's door. The door could not be opened and the driver had to get out from the passenger's door. The driver of the Toyota Vios was lucky as he survived with no physical injuries. Both air bags popped up when they collided to each other. They both were fortunate as their car was not badly damaged and dented.

The Toyota Vios's windscreen was shattered to pieces. The Honda Civic's headlight and signal light were smashed. There was plenty of glass on the road. The two drivers startled to argue. The driver of the Honda City was a woman. They blamed each other and the argument stopped when her mobile phone rang. Most of the passerby slowed down their vehicle to watch the accident. Some pedestrian came by and offered help.

As it happened, I ran into my house which is close by. I called the nearest police station and in ten minutes, a police car drove up. I told the police officer I had witnessed the accident and offered to come out to the station to give a statement. The cars were towed to the side of the road first, and then were brought to the police station before to workshop. Pictures were taken for insurance claim.

In my opinion, the driver of the Honda City is to blame for the accident. She was driving too fast and did not pay any attention to vehicles coming out from the side road. The driver of the Toyota Vios should have stopped at the junction.

Drug Abuse: Problems and Solutions

Drug abuse is rife in many countries. Billions of dollars are spent internationally preventing drug use, treating addicts, and fighting drug-related crime. Although drugs threaten many societies, their effects can also be combated successfully. This essay looks at some of the effects of drug use on society, and suggests some solutions to the problem.

Drug abuse causes multiple problems for countries and communities. The medical and psychological effects are very obvious. Addicts cannot function as normal members of society. They neglect or abuse their families, and eventually require expensive treatment or hospitalization. The second effect is on crime. Huge police resources are needed to fight smuggling and dealing. Criminal gangs and mafia underworlds develop with the money from drugs.

However, the menace of drugs can be fought. Education is the first battle. Children need to be told at home and in school about drugs. People need to be aware of the effects so that they can make avoid this problem. A second approach is to increase police manpower and powers to stop dealers and to enforce the law. However the main target should be the user. Families and

counselors need to talk to children and people at risk. Parents need to look at their children and help them to Jobs are needed to give people a role in society.

In conclusion, although the problem of drugs may seem impossible to eliminate, there are concrete steps that can be taken to weaken the hold of drugs on society. The danger from drugs is too great to ignore.

Road accidents have been on the increase with more young people becoming victims. Your school has decided to launch a “Road Safety Week” to raise awareness among students of the need to be more responsible on the road chairperson of the school’s organising committee, you have been asked to give a talk to other students on road safety.

A very good morning to the Principal of SM Sri Mayang, teachers and fellow friends. As the chairperson of the school’s organizing committee for the ‘Road Safety Week’, I would like to give a talk on some safety tips for the students. As we know, there has been an increase in the accidents reported involving students of this school. I hope this talk will raise your awareness to be more responsible and careful when using the road.

I would like to identify some of the reasons why road accidents occur. First, speeding beyond the prescribed limits is the main cause. Some drivers not only speed but also drive recklessly, breaking road rules and beating the traffic lights. Moreover, drivers who are tired after long distance driving or after a long day work, may not be able to concentrate on the road, thus causing accidents. Youngsters using the road as their racing track is another cause too. Drivers who do not check and maintain their vehicles often may be involved in accidents because their vehicle is faulty. Many potholes and uneven roads which contribute to the poor condition of the road too can cause accidents.

However, these problems can be overcome with strict enforcement of traffic rules to those who flaunt the law. The offenders should be caught and fines should be increased. Only road-worthy vehicles, which have been maintained well, should be permitted on the roads. Awareness campaigns on safe driving should be carried out everywhere. Since young drivers are high on the accident list, their age limit should be increased. If the drivers are involved in any accidents, their licence should be suspended.

I hope the short talk that I have delivered have given you some ideas of how to use the road safely. Thank you for listening

The Importance of Studying English

It is a big concern for teenagers nowadays as they are unaware of the importance of English language as they tend to ignore to learn the language. Students’ attitude towards the language is also crucial to make sure that these teenagers can face the future world better by learning English language as it is an international language.

Although the government has repeatedly told us of the importance of English, many students are still not bothered about studying it seriously. There is also a campaign that still on to make all the Malaysian becomes a better English learner, which is 'Enhance Proficiency in Bahasa Malaysia, Strengthen the English'. English is the most important and the most useful language in the world today. There are many reasons why you should study the language properly.

First and foremost, English will definitely help you a lot when you want to further studies. Almost all books at university are written in English in all subjects. Plus, it is a compulsory for any candidate to pass English with credit before entering any universities. So, if you are poor in English, you will blow you chance for better education or worse, you are going to have a big problem studying at university.

The second reason why you have to study English well is that it will help you to get a job. When you go for a job interview, the interviewer will surely talk to you in English. The first impression you should give in order to success and have the job is, to respond in English fluently. Your chances of getting the job are very slim if you stutter while interviewing.

A good command in of English will also help you greatly in your job. If the company you work is actively involved in international trade, you have to speak to prospective customers in English. Miscommunication might occur if your English is bad. And this will put your company at risk and you will likely be dismissed if this happen.

Good English will also help you a lot when you travel. Every country in the world studies English. Even the roadside stall-holders in China speak fairly good English! At least some of the people you meet on your travels in other countries can understand English. The language is certainly practical when you are lost in your trip. Communication problem will not happen if you can converse well in English. Inevitably, English is one of the languages used in any airport in the world in making announcement. Knowing English well, therefore, make travelling overseas easier.

Besides all these, entertainment is one of the major advantages you will experience if you good in English. You will enjoy television's best programmes. We must admit that many of the best programmes are produced by the Americans and British companies. High self confidence influenced by the programmes will indirect inculcate in yourself when you are fluent in the language. Quality time is worthily spent if you understand and enjoy the programmes.

Based from all the above elaboration, I hope that students will see the importance and realise how importance the language is for their own future. Although it is a second language in our country, it is now a main language all over the world.

The Unusual Experience

It was the same bus I got onto every morning, but today, I fell asleep in the bus. When I woke up, I sensed something was unusual. The bus took me to a strange place that I had not seen before. Before I managed to ask the bus driver, it vanished.

Wandering around aimlessly looking for anybody, the place seemed weird. Some crows were flying above me. There was an old building on the waste land. When I reached the building, a girl tapped me from behind. Liz was wearing a school uniform. She looked very beautiful as she gestured me towards the building.

When I got into the building, there were many people. They were wearing the same uniform as Liz. I realised that it was a school. The students were going to their classes. Being a new student, Liz brought me to see the principal. I followed her without saying any word.

In the spacious principal's office, I was welcomed by En. Juhair. He told Liz to bring me to Class A. It was overcrowded. We took our seats at the back row. Everybody stood up and said "Sam! Welcome to Monster School!" I was so shocked to hear that. I could hardly believe my ears and eyes. All of a sudden, the students and teachers looked like monsters.

Looking closer at Ms. Munirah, I noticed she wore a tail. I had an unpleasant feeling in my stomach. I turned to face pretty Liz and felt relieved that she was still the same, she was just smiling. The very thought of this bizzare place made me feel like running away. Nevertheless, I kept the thought to myself.

When the school bell rang, I planned my escape route. I couldn't leave Liz behind and decided to invite her along. She happily agreed to my infamous plan because she knew that the monsters would kill me for being a human. We rushed out of school quickly. I showed her the bus station where I got down in this morning.

Apparently we had been spotted by the monsters. They were trying to catch us. As we were beginning to feel helpless, fortunately the bus came into the station. Both Liz and I boarded the bus. It was going at a maddening speed. Feeling exhausted, I dozed to sleep. When I got up, I was surprised to see a vacant seat next to me.

"Did you see the girl next to me?"

"Which girl? You were alone."

The bus driver looked at me with cynical eyes and shook his head unbelievably. It was 2.30 pm when the bus stopped in front of my house. I still could not understand what had happened to me until now. Maybe to some people this seems like a joke; to others, it is just a fantasy. However, to me, this has been a very shockingly unexplainable experience in my life.

Sample of Excellent Essay Writing for Section C - Paper 2

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the hard work done by the my pupils and all UPSR pupils throughout their 6 years of schooling. Hope that they will keep improving their EL.

These are some samples to be shared.

Hope that the pupils will get the idea on how to score high marks for Section C.

Theme: Stung by the bee (Good deed)

Anisa - garden - used -trowel - watered

mother - stung - bee - pain - swollen - skin

worried - quickly - phoned - father - office

went - clinic - doctor - medicine - felt better

Sample 1

One sunny morning, Anisa and her mother, Puan Sara were in the garden, tending to their plants.

Puan Sara used the trowel to uproot some plants from the pots and placed them in the soil while Anisa watered the plants using a large watering can.

As her mother uprooting the last plant, a bee flew by and stung in her arm. Her mother cried out as she fell. She **was sobbing uncontrollably** as she never felt such **excruciating pain** in her entire life. Puan Sara's entire arm was swollen by the time she finished crying.

Anisa was so worried, she immediately ran to her house phone and phoned her father who was working in his office. He drove back home as fast as he could and took Puan Sara and Anisa to the clinic.

When they finally arrived at the clinic, Puan Sara's entire arm **wasthrobbing in pain**. The doctor bandaged Puan Sara's arm and prescribed her some medicine **to numb the pain**. Puan Sara felt better and was thankful for having such a wonderful and caring family.

Sample 2

Two Fridays back, Anisa and her mother were doing some gardening in their garden. Her mother, Puan Anita was using the trowel to flatten up the damp soil in the pot that Anisa had watered. **They both had green hands.**

Puan Anita was very happy that day. As she whistled her favourite song, **out of the blue**, a bee stung Puan Anita's right arm. Puan Anita dropped the trowel she was using. Puan Anita started **screaming her lungs out in pain**. Anisa thought her mother had been clumsy once again but when she heard her scream, she turned around as quick as lightning. Puan Anita told Anisa what had happened. Anisa saw her mother's swollen hand. Her skin was also turned red.

Anisa was very worried. Quickly, she phoned her father and explained to him the situation and to urge him to rush back. So, quickly her father left his office. While waiting for her father, Anisa **dabbed some ice on her mother's swollen arm to reduce the swell.**

In a jiffy, her father arrived. He picked up his wife and they went to the nearby clinic. After the doctor questioned them and they explained, the doctor examined her arm. He told them that the swelling area would heal soon and the pain would lessen. The doctor prescribed her some medicine and ointment. Her husband took her home and she applied the ointment. She ate the medicine that the doctor gave as well. After a while, she felt better. Then she thanked her kind and helpful daughter for being so caring.

Sample 3

It was a fine day. Anisa and her mother were doing their usual Saturday gardening together. Anisa was busy watering the plants as her mother used a trowel to prepare a pot of soil for a new plant. Since they had a beautiful garden, it was not uncommon to see a few bees buzzing around.

However, when Anisa's mother tried to lift a small plant, she was unaware that she had disturbed a bee. **Sensing danger**, the bee immediately stung her in the arm. Anisa's mother cried out in pain as the stung area swelled within minutes.

Anisa **rushed to her mother's aid**. After Anisa's mother told her what had happened, Anisa quickly went inside and phoned her father's office. When her father picked up, Anisa hastily retold what her mother had said, **worry evident in her voice**. Her father told her to stay calm and that he would take her mother to the clinic shortly. Anisa hung up after saying goodbye and went back to her mother.

Sure enough, a few minutes later her father arrived and took her mother to the clinic. There she was examined by a doctor named Randy. Dr. Randy told her to be more careful at her age and gave her some cream **to soothe the pain**. After putting the cream on, she instantly felt a little bit better. She was very grateful and thanked Dr. Randy. Anisa's

parents bid the doctor goodby and went home. Anisa was as happy as a lark as her parents reached home and knocked the door because she knew that her mother was okay.