

2014 Year 6 Preliminary Examination

3 hour

Paper 1

[illegible]

IPA Chart

- Head each sheet of answer paper with your name, CT group and your ELL Tutor's name.
- Answer Section A and Section B on separate sheets of paper and tie them separately.
- Write in dark blue or black ink on both sides of the writing paper.
- Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid/tape.

Both sections in this paper carry equal marks. You should allocate 1.5 hour to each section/question.

This question paper consists of 13 printed pages, including this page.

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Answer Questions 1 and 2 (Section A and Section B)

Section A: Analysis

Text A is an article from the website of the Personal Data Protection Commission (PDPC) of Singapore.

Text B is a blog from Infoworld.com, a website that touts itself as “a technology resource for IT managers and decision makers to identify new products and strategies to modernize IT”.

Read both texts and then complete the following task:

- 1) Compare the linguistic features of Text A and Text B, considering relevant contextual factors.

In your analysis, you should make relevant reference to:

- lexis, grammar and other features of discourse
- how the contexts affect the ways language is used

[25]

TEXT A



[Home](#) > [INDIVIDUALS](#) > [Do Not Call Registry & You](#)

Do Not Call Registry & You

The Do Not Call (DNC) Registry lets you opt out of marketing messages addressed to your Singapore telephone number, such as those which promote or advertise a good or service, allowing you to have more control over the kind of messages you receive on your telephone, mobile phone or fax machine. 5

The DNC regime under the PDPA prohibits organisations from sending such messages to Singapore telephone numbers, including mobile, fixed-line, residential and business numbers, registered with the registry.

Organisations which have an ongoing relationship with a subscriber or user of a Singapore telephone number may send marketing messages on similar or related products, services and memberships to that Singapore telephone number via text or fax without checking against the DNC Registry. Each exempt message must also contain an opt-out facility that you may use to opt out from receiving such telemarketing messages. If you opt out, organisations can no longer rely on the exemption and must stop sending you such messages after 30 days. 10 15

The DNC Registry is meant to focus on telemarketing calls or messages of a commercial nature sent to consumers. Messages for pure market survey or research; messages that promote charitable or religious causes; personal messages sent by individuals; public messages sent by government agencies; and political messages will not be covered under the DNC provisions. Telemarketing calls or messages of a commercial nature that target other businesses are also excluded from the DNC provisions. For the list of messages that are excluded under the PDPA, please refer to the Eighth Schedule of the PDPA. 20

You may register in any of the three DNC Registers, based on your preference:

- No Voice Call Register; 25
- No Text Message Register; and
- No Fax Message Register.

For more information on registering with the DNC Registry, please see [here](#). You can still choose to receive marketing messages by certain organisations, simply by giving them your clear and unambiguous consent in written or other accessible form. 30

Organisations that have obtained your consent may then send marketing messages to your Singapore telephone number, even if it is registered with the DNC Registry. If you change your mind, you will be able to withdraw your consent from the organisation concerned (subject to existing contracts).

Provisions relating to the DNC Registry came into effect on 2 January 2014.

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Last updated on 06 January 2014

Source: <https://www.pdpc.gov.sg/individuals/do-not-call-registry-you>

TEXT B

Stop telemarketers from calling your cell phone

Despite the Do Not Call Registry, telemarketers are back and they know where to reach you: on your mobile phone. Here's how to keep them at bay.

By Christina Wood

Created 2010-04-08 03:00AM

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I know I'm not the only one who hates telemarketers. For one thing, telemarketers are evil - like biting insects. Everyone wants to swat them, but they skitter away. Also, there are too many of them, so your efforts eventually feel futile.

Rather than resign ourselves to being harassed, consumers banded together in protest, and the Do Not Call Registry was formed in 2003 -- but that wasn't enough. The Federal Trade Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, and the states enforce the National Do Not Call Registry [1], but putting your phone number on it no longer seems to be effective. You also have to take the time to report telemarketers who ignore the DNC; otherwise, they just carry on.

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[Also on InfoWorld: Telemarketers aren't the mobile industry's only problem. According to the Better Business Bureau, cell phone makers and carriers top the list of consumer tech complaints [2] | Frustrated by tech support? Get answers in InfoWorld's Gripe Line newsletter [3].]

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Many consumers, myself included, cancelled our landline to escape the swarm of telemarketers. Do the Baby Bells know how many customers they lost forever because of these pests?

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Now we hide behind our cell and VoIP phones. But even though the FCC bans automatic dialing to cell phones and it's easy to put your mobile number on the DNC, the insects have found us again, and there's no escape. Not for me anyway -- I always have my cell phone with me. It's a much more immediate and personal form of communication than that landline ever was.

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These days, when I get a telemarketing call, it's not just interrupting my supper -- it's interrupting my life. So here is my gripe: Telemarketers are back, and this time it's personal.

When I got a press release recently announcing a product designed to stop this invasion, I set up a conference call right away to hear more about it. I found myself having a delightful conversation with PrivacyStar [4] CEO Jeff Stalnaker. The company makes an application (\$2.95 a month after a 30-day trial) for BlackBerrys that not only blocks telemarketing calls, but automates the process of reporting the calls to the Do Not Call Registry.

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"There are over a 190 million people on the DNC list," Stalnaker told me, "and there are a 150 million telemarketing calls made every day. We have estimated that about 30 million of those calls are violating your rights as a consumer. More and more people are using their cell phone for package deliveries and that sort of thing, so telemarketers are getting that number and using it. This has become a huge -- and growing -- problem. In some countries where people skip the landline altogether, it is even worse. People in Brazil, for example,

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average 20 telemarketing calls a day."

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We griped for a bit about telemarketers' pesky nature, and he explained that his service allows you to block -- via a single click -- any future calls from a number that offends you, even if it's your mother-in-law or alma mater requesting donations. The caller gets no voicemail and simply can't get through. The service will also look up a number as it's ringing you, so you can see who's calling even if they aren't in your contact list.

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The part I like the best was PrivacyStar's ability to easily report offenders. "The reason the FTC and regulators in the states have a problem enforcing the DNC," Stalnaker explained, "is that it is too challenging for users to complain when they get called." You have to go to the DNC complaint section [5] at its Website, type in your own number, the time and date of the call, the number the call came from, and anything else you know about the company that called you. People just don't get around to it.

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"But all that data is right there at your fingertips on your cell phone," said Stalnaker. PrivacyStar automates the complaint process; with a click, the complaint is filed right after you get the call.

"We are at 15,000 complaints since we launched in December," he said. "It's almost like we can match when there is a big campaign going on."

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That brings me to my next gripe: PrivacyStar is currently only available for BlackBerrys, which I don't have. Stalnaker promised there'd be an Android application this summer. After that comes the iPhone -- maybe in six months. On the heels of the iPhone, the company plans tools for Symbian and Microsoft Mobile phones. There are plans for a similar service for VoIP lines, as well.

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Got gripes? Send them to christina_tynan-wood@infoworld.com [6].

This story, "[Stop telemarketers from calling your cell phone](#) [7]," was originally published at [InfoWorld.com](#) [8]. Read more of [Christina Tynan-Wood's Gripe Line blog](#) [9] at [InfoWorld.com](#).

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Source: <http://www.infoworld.com/d/adventures-in-it/stop-telemarketers-calling-your-cell-phone-868>

[1] – [9] denotes links to various websites

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Section B: Adaptive Writing and Commentary

*Note: Begin your evaluation (part (b)) on a **new page**.*

Text C is a news report from the website of Channel NewsAsia (CNA), a local free-to-air television channel of MediaCorp News Group.

Text D is a letter to the editor of The Straits Times.

Read both texts and then complete the following tasks:

- 2(a) Text C, taken from the Channel NewsAsia website, is a news report on the recent National Library Board (NLB) saga concerning two children's storybooks that were removed from the Children's Section after a complaint by a parent. Text D is a letter to The Straits Times in response to this controversy.

As a frequent user of the National Library as well as Chairperson of the Raffles Reading Club, write an **opinion article** in your school's newsletter 'A Better Age' to petition the NLB to refrain from removing books deemed 'unhealthy'.

Write the text for this article in approximately 300-400 words. Base your writing on the ideas and references which are contained in Texts C and D, adapting them in a way which will be suitable for your purpose and audience.

and

- (b) Write an evaluation of approximately 300 - 400 words of your adaptation for (a). Your evaluation should illustrate significant linguistic differences between your adaptation and Texts C and D, by considering:

- mode of address to the reader
- lexical choices
- grammatical and syntactical cohesion
- morphology

and any other relevant linguistic issues.

[25]

TEXT C

SINGAPORE

Netizens petition against NLB removal of children's titles

There have been at least two petitions making their rounds online, after the National Library Board (NLB) pulled two children's titles off the shelves on Monday, following email complaints that they were not "pro-family".

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By Kimberly Spykerman

POSTED: 09 Jul 2014 20:57

UPDATED: 09 Jul 2014 23:20

SINGAPORE: Netizens have pushed back, after the National Library Board (NLB) pulled two children's titles off the shelves on Monday, following email complaints that they were not "pro-family".

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At least two petitions calling on the NLB to reinstate the titles have been making their rounds online.

One of the titles is about two male penguins who become a couple and raise an egg together, while the other features a female couple trying to adopt a child.

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The content of the books has raised the ire of some.

One Facebook user who lodged a complaint about them urged others in a post to not let similar children's books in the library "go under the radar".

But NLB's decision to remove the books has led some to question the kind of message being sent out.

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Assoc Prof Paulin Straughan, sociologist at National University of Singapore, said: "I think we have to be very cautious how we address this issue because the important message we have to uphold always is regardless of your sexual orientation, you are an important member of our community. And you don't want to demonise or cast a deviant label on somebody who has an alternative sexual orientation.

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"Of course from a parent's perspective, it's a very difficult stance to take. When we are socialising our children, we would want them to stay within the norms and values the family prescribes to... So that's where we have to be mindful, that primarily, that is the responsibility of the family."

She added that while some parents may prefer that the state's norms are in line with the message they want to send to their children, it's a no-win situation.

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"You demonise homosexuality, you end up demonising real people who are in your community. And I think given that scenario, it's important for us to remain inclusive, especially when it comes to sending messages to young children," she said.

Those that oppose the NLB's decision said these books are a good way to broach sensitive subjects with children, as well as provide them with different perspectives. 35

Sociologists said this is a good opportunity for parents to step in to set the context so their children do not grow up with prejudices.

Parents Channel NewsAsia spoke to said the onus is on them to help their kids understand issues better. 40

One of the parents said: "Just pulling it off the shelves is not the answer. If the parents can explain the books, it would help, but not every parent is equipped to explain such a difficult matter."

Assoc Prof Straughan said: "I don't think any parent would really want their child to end up discriminating against another human being. But the seeds are sown when they are young, and when we teach them very straightforward kind of messaging that this is right and this is wrong, there's no in-between. And they grow up believing that's the case, I think in terms of growing an inclusive society, something goes wrong there." 45

When contacted, NLB referred Channel NewsAsia to its original statement issued on Tuesday, where it said that it takes a pro-family and cautious approach in selecting books for children, and exercises its best judgment when it comes to assessing the contents of books. 50

It added that it continually reviews its children's collection.

NLB's statement also said: "We also refer to synopses, reviews and other books written by the authors. Parents can be assured that NLB is sensitive to their concerns and views, and their feedback." 50

- CNA/xq

Source: <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/netizens-petition-against/1249500.html>

TEXT D

The Straits Times, 10 July 2014

FORUM

Not NLB's role to promote ideology

KIDS' BOOKS WITHDRAWN FOR 'NOT BEING PRO-FAMILY'

I am concerned by the National Library Board's removal of three children's books from its catalogue because of its "strong pro-family stand" ("NLB pulls 3 kids' books off its shelves" yesterday). 5

Any type of "stand" would necessitate removing many books that are currently in circulation.

For instance, the NLB's collection contains the writings of Adolf Hitler and Pol Pot. Despite their morally objectionable content, these remain legitimate objects of study and thus ought to be made available to the public. 10

Under the National Library Board Act, one of the functions of the NLB is to "promote reading and encourage learning through the use of libraries and their services".

It is not for the NLB to promote any particular ideology in its choice of books; its role is only to promote access to information, and it is up to the readers to draw their own conclusions. 15

Learning can take place only when the public has access to as great a "marketplace of ideas" as possible, from which readers, and not the NLB, can separate acceptable ideas from the unacceptable ones. 20

Indeed, an intelligent public can be trusted not to take any book at face value.

Books are not just texts to be read and thought about; they, and society's views towards them, are social phenomena to be studied.

The interaction of books with Singaporean society – even if such interaction takes the form of disapproval – is part of the living history of our society. 25

Thus, I call on the NLB to restore the three books to its collection. People are, of course, free to disapprove of them, but that is their business, not the NLB's.

Moreover, they would perhaps find it easier to explain their disapproval to others if the public had ready access to these books.

Benjamin Joshua Ong 30

Source: <http://www.straitstimes.com/premium/forum-letters/story/not-nlbs-role-promote-ideology-20140710>

REFERENCE TABLE OF IPA PHONEMIC SYMBOLS (RP)

1. Consonants of English		2. Pure vowels of English	
/f/	<u>f</u> at, rou <u>gh</u>	/ɪ:/	be <u>a</u> t, kee <u>p</u>
/v/	<u>v</u> ery, <u>v</u> illage, lo <u>v</u> e	/ɪ/	b <u>i</u> t, t <u>i</u> p, bu <u>s</u> y
/θ/	<u>th</u> eatre, <u>th</u> ank, ath <u>l</u> ete	/e/	be <u>t</u> , ma <u>n</u> y
/ð/	<u>th</u> is, <u>th</u> em, w <u>ith</u> , e <u>ith</u> er	/æ/	ba <u>t</u>
/s/	<u>s</u> ing, thi <u>nk</u> s, lo <u>ss</u> es	/ʌ/	cu <u>p</u> , so <u>n</u> , bloo <u>d</u>
/z/	<u>z</u> oo, be <u>d</u> s, ea <u>s</u> y	/ɑ:/	ca <u>r</u> , hea <u>r</u> t, ca <u>l</u> m, au <u>n</u> t
/ʃ/	<u>s</u> ugar, bu <u>sh</u>	/ə/	po <u>t</u> , wa <u>n</u> t
/ʒ/	plea <u>s</u> ure, be <u>i</u> ge	/ɔ:/	po <u>r</u> t, sa <u>w</u> , ta <u>l</u> k
/h/	<u>h</u> igh, <u>h</u> it, be <u>h</u> ind	/ə/	a <u>b</u> out
/p/	<u>p</u> it, to <u>p</u> , sp <u>i</u> t	/ɜ:/	wo <u>r</u> d, bi <u>r</u> d
/t/	<u>t</u> ip, po <u>t</u> , st <u>ee</u> p	/ʊ/	bo <u>o</u> k, wo <u>o</u> d, pu <u>t</u>
/k/	<u>k</u> ee <u>p</u> , ti <u>ck</u> , sca <u>r</u> e	/u:/	fo <u>o</u> d, so <u>u</u> p, ru <u>d</u> e
/b/	<u>b</u> ad, ru <u>b</u>		
/d/	ba <u>d</u> , <u>d</u> im	3. Diphthongs of English	
/g/	<u>g</u> un, bi <u>g</u>		
/tʃ/	<u>ch</u> urch, lu <u>n</u> ch	/eɪ/	la <u>t</u> e, da <u>y</u> , gr <u>ea</u> t
/dʒ/	<u>j</u> udge, <u>g</u> in, ju <u>r</u> y	/aɪ/	t <u>i</u> me, hi <u>gh</u> , di <u>e</u>
/m/	<u>m</u> ad, ja <u>m</u> , s <u>m</u> all	/ɔɪ/	bo <u>y</u> , no <u>i</u> se
/n/	ma <u>n</u> , n <u>o</u> , s <u>n</u> ow	/aʊ/	co <u>w</u> , ho <u>u</u> se, to <u>w</u> n
/ŋ/	si <u>ng</u> er, lo <u>ng</u>	/əʊ/	bo <u>a</u> t, ho <u>m</u> e, kno <u>w</u>
/l/	<u>l</u> oud, ki <u>ll</u> , pl <u>a</u> y	/ɪə/	ea <u>r</u> , he <u>r</u> e
/j/	<u>y</u> ou, pu <u>r</u> e	/eə/	a <u>ir</u> , ca <u>r</u> e, cha <u>ir</u>
/w/	<u>o</u> ne, <u>w</u> hen, s <u>w</u> ee <u>t</u>	/ʊə/	ju <u>r</u> y, cu <u>r</u> e
/r/	<u>r</u> im, br <u>ea</u> d		