



**SEC 2 EXPRESS**

**END-OF-YEAR EXAMS 2017**

**PREPARATION PACKAGE**

**(Updated on 01 Sep 2017)**

# How to Prepare for the Exams

## Preparing myself Academically

### Make a plan

- Using Assessment (MYE, Class Tests) to decide what to focus on.
  - Assessment is more than just a number. Assessment provides us information on what we need to do next.
  - Look through your past assessments and to pick out topics and skills that needs to improve before he can do better.
  
- Study Plan
  - With consideration of your weak areas and using a checklist. You can do a simple study plan.
  - A study plan is important because you have limited time left and a plan will help to utilize the time efficiently and also to help prioritize.
  - Tips on how to do an effective Study plan:
    - Specific – Indicate the specific chapter and or sub-topic.
    - Outcomes – Must have clear observable outcomes. i.e. Written answers, mind maps, notes, essays, etc.
    - Realistic – Don't over plan. Allow for a 10% buffer time.
  
- Positive Monitoring
  - Monitor your progress daily
  - If you are having problems following the plan, discuss with your teacher/parents/friend the obstacles that is preventing you to accomplish the revision planned.
  - If there is need, modify the study plan accordingly.

### Learning effectively and efficiently

- Active Learning
  - Learning is most effective if there are tangible outcomes. (Notes, Mind Maps, Practice papers, etc)
  - Ensure that you check your answers immediately after you have completed the practice.
  - Learn from your mistakes mistakes.
  
- Seeking Help
  - If you are looking for a teacher for help, it would be more effective for you to compile a list of queries to ask instead of just waiting for instruction from the teacher.
  - Small focused study groups can also help you seek answers from your peers.
  - If you are shy, you can look for your teachers in small groups.

### **Effective Learning Environment**

- Remove all distractions from the study area. This includes Mobile Phones, Laptops, Story Books, etc.
- Comfortable, but not too comfortable. A comfortable chair with a firm back. Don't study on the bed or sofa.
- Study area should be brightly lit. Use white lighting instead of warm lighting. Warm lighting is bad for the eyes and it will make you drowsy.
- Ensure that all resources (textbook, notes, assessment book) for the subject is within reach.
- Take regular breaks. Every 1-2 hours. (Take a walk, take a shower, have a snack BUT don't use your phone)

### **Being Healthy makes you learn better**

- Drink lots of water. You need to stay hydrated to be alert and awake.
- Exercising will keep the mind active and it releases endorphins which will help you stay positive. You can just exercise 10-15 minutes a day.
- Ensure that you have sufficient sleep. Do not study through the night. You will be inattentive in school the next day. Sleep deprivation also impacts memory, perception and judgement. 7-8 hours a day will be appropriate for a 13-16 year olds.
- Ensure that you have regular sleeping times. This is to help you remain alert during the day. This is especially important during the examination period.
- Snacking does helps to give energy boosts and keeps alert. However ensure that the snacks are healthy (Fish, nuts, berries, seeds, etc)
- Have a large and healthy breakfast. Breakfast provides a boot to ensure that you are not lethargic during the day.

The reason most people never reach their goals is that they don't define them, or ever seriously consider them as believable or achievable. Winners can tell you where they are going, what they plan to do along the way, and who will be sharing the adventure with them. ~**Denis Watley**

**Ever with the Best**

**--CWSS Academic Committee**

<b>Subject</b>	English Language
<b>Day / Date</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> Fri 29 Sep <b>Paper 2:</b> Fri 29 Sep <b>Paper 3:</b> Mon 02 Oct <b>Paper 4:</b> Fri 06 Oct
<b>Time</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 0800-0950 <b>Paper 2:</b> 1050-1240 <b>Paper 3:</b> 1030-1115 <b>Paper 4:</b> 0800-1300 *specific timing to be advised*
<b>Duration</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 1h 50m <b>Paper 2:</b> 1h 50m <b>Paper 3:</b> 45m <b>Paper 4:</b> 20m
<b>Marks</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 70 marks <b>Paper 2:</b> 50 marks <b>Paper 3:</b> 30 marks <b>Paper 4:</b> 30 marks
<b>Scope &amp; Format</b>	<p><b>Paper 1 Writing</b> Section A: Editing Identifying language and grammar errors</p> <p>Section B: Situational Writing (Formal/informal letter, proposal) Awareness of Purpose, Audience, Context, Format, Organisation of ideas, Development of ideas, Use of material including visuals</p> <p>Section C: Continuous writing (Personal Recount, Personal Reflective, Descriptive, Discursive) Sentence structure, grammar, spelling, punctuation, use of a varied vocabulary, clarity of expression and organisation, relevance of content and appropriateness of register and tone</p> <p><b>Paper 2 Comprehension</b> Text 1: Visual Comprehension Text 2 and 3: Literal questions, Inferential questions, Quotation, Vocabulary, Own words questions, Language Impact questions, Evaluative questions, Summary</p> <p><b>Paper 3 Listening</b> Ability to listen closely to details and to identify key details and main gist Note-taking skills</p> <p><b>Paper 4 Oral Communication</b> Pronunciation, Articulation, Expressiveness in showing an awareness of purpose, audience and context. Discussion on a topic based on a visual stimulus.</p>

<b>Subject</b>	Mathematics
<b>Day / Date</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> Wed 04 Oct <b>Paper 2:</b> Thurs 05 Oct
<b>Time</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 0800 - 0930 <b>Paper 2:</b> 0800 - 0930
<b>Duration</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 1h 30m <b>Paper 2:</b> 1h 30m
<b>Marks</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 60 marks <b>Paper 2:</b> 60 marks
<b>Format</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> Short structured questions <b>Paper 2 :</b> Long questions
<b>Scope</b>	<p><b>All Sec 1 topics will be tested</b></p> <p><b>Sec 2 topics tested are:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chap 1 Direct and Inverse proportions</li> <li>2. Chap 2 Linear Graphs &amp; Simultaneous Linear Equations</li> <li>3. Chap 3 Expansion &amp; Factorisation of Quadratic Expressions</li> <li>4. Chap 4 Further Expansion &amp; Factorisation of Algebraic Expressions</li> <li>5. Chap 5 Quadratic Equations and Graphs</li> <li>6. Chap 6 Algebraic Fractions &amp; Formulae</li> <li>7. Chap 8 Pythagoras' Theorem</li> <li>8. Chap 9 Trigonometric Ratios</li> <li>9. Chap 10 Volume and Surface Area of Pyramids, cones and spheres</li> <li>10. Chap 11 Probability of single events</li> <li>11. Chap 12 Statistical Diagrams</li> <li>12. Chap 13 Averages of Statistical Data</li> <li>13. Indices and Standard Form ( from Sec 3 )</li> </ol>

<b>Subject</b>	Science
<b>Day / Date</b>	Tues 03 Oct
<b>Time</b>	1030 - 1230
<b>Duration</b>	2h
<b>Marks</b>	100 marks
<b>Format</b>	MCQ (30 marks), Structured Questions (40 marks), Free Response Questions (30 marks)
<b>Scope</b>	<p><b>Chemistry (30 m)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Atoms and Molecules, ions and Periodic Table [refer to both textbook and notes]</li> <li>2. Chemical Changes [Changing matter, including acids, alkalis and indicators]</li> <li>3. The Particulate Nature of Matter</li> </ol> <p><b>Physics (70 m)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Effects of Heat &amp; its Transmission</li> <li>5. Electrical Systems</li> <li>6. Ray Model of Light</li> <li>7. Transfer of Sound Energy through Vibrations</li> </ol>

<b>Subject</b>	English Literature
<b>Day / Date</b>	Tues 03 Oct
<b>Time</b>	0800 - 0930
<b>Duration</b>	1h 30m
<b>Marks</b>	50 marks
<b>Format</b>	(a) Essay (b) Essay (c) Passage-Based Question Answer either (a) OR (b) AND (c)
<b>Scope</b>	The Merchant of Venice Plot Theme (Friendship, Prejudice & Discrimination, Justice & Mercy) Character (Portia, Antonio, Bassanio & Shylock) Author's Style

<b>Subject</b>	History
<b>Day / Date</b>	Mon 02 Oct
<b>Time</b>	0800 - 0930
<b>Duration</b>	1h 30m
<b>Marks</b>	34 marks
<b>Format</b>	<b>Section A: Source Based Questions (20 marks)</b> A 4-6 sources will be provided. Students will be required to answer 4 questions with reference to these sources. Each question will be between 4-6 marks. ALL questions must be answered.  <b>Section B: Essay Questions (14 marks)</b> Students will need to answer 2 Essay questions of 7m each.
<b>Scope</b>	<b>Section A: Source Based Questions (20 marks)</b> - Inference (What Question) - Inference (Message Question) - Compare and Contrast - "Surprise" Question (Questions will be based on Chapter 7 and Chapter 8)  <b>Section B: Essay Questions (14 marks)</b> (Questions will be based on Chapter 5 and Chapter 6)

<b>Subject</b>	Geography
<b>Day / Date</b>	Wed 04 Oct
<b>Time</b>	1030 - 1200
<b>Duration</b>	1h 30m
<b>Marks</b>	40 marks
<b>Format</b>	<b>Section A: Short-Answer Questions (10 marks)</b> - Interpretation of geographical data  <b>Section B: Structured Questions (30 marks)</b> - Q1 (Housing) - 15 marks - Q2 (Floods) - 15 marks
<b>Scope</b>	1. Interpretation of geographical data (e.g. tables, line and bar graphs, interpretation of photographs) 2. Chapter 3: Housing (GQ 1-4) 3. Chapter 4: Floods (GQ 1-4)

<b>Subject</b>	Chinese Language / Malay Language / Tamil Language
<b>Day / Date</b>	Thurs 28 Sep
<b>Time</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 0800 - 0930 <b>Paper 2:</b> 1100 - 1230
<b>Duration</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 1h 30m <b>Paper 2:</b> 1h 30m
<b>Marks</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 60 marks <b>Paper 2:</b> 70 marks
<b>Format</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> Part 1- Email Writing, Part 2- Essay Writing <b>Paper 2:</b> Language Use and Comprehension
<b>Scope</b>	Format on Email Writing Narrative Essay Language Usage Comprehension Skills

<b>Subject</b>	Higher Chinese / Higher Malay / Higher Tamil
<b>Day / Date</b>	Thurs 28 Sep
<b>Time</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 0800 - 1000 <b>Paper 2:</b> 1100 - 1245
<b>Duration</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 2h <b>Paper 2:</b> 1h 45m
<b>Marks</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> 80 marks <b>Paper 2:</b> 80 marks
<b>Format</b>	<b>Paper 1:</b> Part 1- Email Writing, Part 2- Essay Writing <b>Paper 2:</b> Language Use and Comprehension
<b>Scope</b>	Format on Email Writing Narrative Essay Language Usage Comprehension Skills