Picnics in English

THE SCHOOL BELL

When we pass by a school, the most interesting thing which catches our eyes is the school bell. Outside the school, it is quite unusual to hear a bell for a school to be without a bell.

The school bell is so effective that it can cause a vast crowd to assemble, though they are scattered widely, it is no less powerful than even a general's command. A school must have a bell because its sound denotes the beginning of each lesson and the ending of it.

My liking for the school bell is changeable. Sometimes I like it, but sometimes I hate it. I like it when the lesson is dull. I keep looking at the watch and yearning for the bell to ring.

I hate it during the composition period and other interesting lessons because it is rung too soon. I have to write very quickly and strain my brain so much that I feel fatigued afterwards. Also during examinations, I have to give in my paper with a sigh as the essay or the questions is not finished yet.

by Cheong Him Wah
(St. Louis Evening School)

During Examination......

During our Biblical Knowledge Examination a student, who had not prepared beforehand, found it extremely difficult. At last he glanced at the paper on which wrote the following words:

"Under the wide and starry sky
Big the grass and let me sit,
Glad to live and gladly die,
And I lay down with a will."

W. G. Ho
(St. Louis School)

Animal Dwellings

Do you know where the following animals live?

1. Dogs live in ...
2. Pigs live in ...
3. Horses live in ...
4. Bees live in ...
5. Birds live in ...
6. Y. Y. Lan (St. Nan College)
7. Tigers live in ...
8. Elephants live in ...
9. Lions live in ...
10. Pigs live in ...
11. M. C. (St. Louis School)
12. Rabbitts live in ...
13. Sheep live in ...
14. Squirrels live in ...
15. Monkeys live in ...

J. G. Wah (Yan Yan College)

Answers: Riddle 1: The multiplication table. 2. The back of a clock. 3. Worship. 4. A month of a year. 5. Comb. 6. A sentence if it is in its place. 7. The earth in its place. 8. The world in its place. 9. The sky in its place. 10. The sun in its place. 11. The fence in its place. 12. The box in its place. 13. The table in its place. 14. The spade in its place. 15. The rest in its place. 16. The fire in its place. 17. The air in its place. 18. The bird in its place. 19. The dog in its place. 20. The cat in its place.

PASSAGE FOR APPRECIATION

Cry, The Beloved Country

Alan Paton

"Sadness and fear and hate, how they sway up (漂浮) in the heart and mind...... Cry for the broken tribes, for the law and the custom that is gone, and cry aloud for the man who is dead, for the woman and children bereaved (丧失了丈夫和儿童).... Cry, the beloved country, these things are not yet at an end...... Who can enjoy the lovely land...... and the sun that pours down on the earth, when there is fear in the heart? Who can walk quietly in the shadow of the jacarandas (一种热带植物), when their beauty is grown to design? Who can live peacefully abed, while the darkness holds some secret (秘密)? Who loves one he lovely beloved labourers, when memory (memories) grows with the measure of their execution (著作)?

【序】 Alan Paton 是南非一位的著名作家和小说家。他的《Cry, The Beloved Country》是一部武器的宣传。"Cry, The Beloved Country"是一部深邃的小说，也以他的著作而闻名。作者通过小说中的虚构人物（如史密斯牧师、黑人领袖和白人政府）描绘了种族矛盾和冲突。书中的语言精炼，文笔流畅，展现了作者深厚的文学功底。

Can You Fill My House?

ACROSS:
1. Sharp-sawed. 5. Look at.
13. Small. 15. Short time of Georgia.
16. Verb to be.
17. Rule of an empire.
DOWN:
1. Soothe, slay.
2. National Education Association. (abbreviation)
3. Obtain.
4. The short word of league.
8. Cuming.
10. Ever again.
11. The short word of Semitic.
13. Obscurest, present.
14. Internal Revenue Office. (abbreviation)
15. Wei Moo-Chan
(St. Louis School)

THINK AND GRIN

PETE: Do you know where he is?
MOCK: In Paradise.
PETE: What?
MOCK: "I mean in some part of our 'Earthly Paradise.'"
K. T. (Queen's College)

MOTHER: Oh, it will rain cats and dogs.
CHILD: But I hope it will rain cats and poppies.
L. Y. T. (King's College)

PAUL: If you commit such a sin against your soul you would never be saved.
COBBLER: Don't worry, I'll mend it myself.
J. Lai

**Due to** and **Owing to**

In the following sentences "Due to" and "Owing to" are misused.

1. Due to his laziness, he failed in the examination.
2. His failure is not owing to his laziness.

**Due to** has an adverbial function but is rarely an adjectival phrase. In the second sentence "Owing to" does not fit the work of an adjective which is also wrong. The three words should be interchanged as follows:

1. owing to his laziness, he failed in the examination.
2. His failure is not due to his laziness.

**Such**

The word "Such" should always be followed by "as".
Wrong: This is such a book which I expected to see.
Right: This is such a book as I expected to see.
Wrong: His behaviour was such which could not be pardoned.
Right: His behaviour was such as could not be pardoned.

Henry Ho
(Pui Ching Middle School).

At sweet "Can you fill my house"