PIECES IN ENGLISH

THE SCHOOL BELL

When we pass by a school, the most interesting thing which catches our eyes is the school bell hanging outside the windows. It is quite a common sight 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 the class.

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 yawning for the bell to ring.

I hate it during 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 Hin Wah
(Boasary Evening School)

PASSAGES FOR APPRECIATION

"Sadness and fear and hate, how they swirl up (渾濁) in the heart and mind ...... Cry for the broken brook, for the law and the custom that is gone, and cry aloud for the man who is dead, for the woman and children bequeth (遺矢) to the world. Cry, the beloved country, these things are not yet at an end. ...... Who can enjoy the lovely land ...... and the sun that shone down on the earth, when there was fear in the heart? Who can walk quietly in the shadow of the jasmines (扶桑) when their beauty is gone? Who can lie peacefully abroad, while the darkness holds some secret (秘密). Who loves one so he weekly goes into the stars, when memory (記憶) grows with the measure of their extinction (消逝)?"

by Alan Paton
(Cry, The Beloved Country

ACROSS:
2. Look at 8.
4. A forest tree 10.
5. Small 11.
6. The short word of Georgia 12.
7. Verb to be 13.
11. Obtain 17.
12. The word of lie 18.
13. Enter again 19.

DOWN:
1. Sooth, slay 1.
2. Obtain 2.
3. Obtain 3.
4. The short word of lie 4.
5. Cuming 5.
7. The short word of Semitic 7.
11. Internal Revenue Office, abbreviation 11.

by Wei Moo-Chan
(ST. LOUIS SCHOOL)

RIDDLE

During Examination:......

What have you not prepared your mind?......

What have you not prepared your soul?......

Answers: Riddle 1. The multiplication table. 2. The back of a clock. 3. Worship.

by Alan Paton

Cry, The Beloved Country

"Due to" and "Owing to"

The following sentence "Due to" and "Owing to" are incorrect:

1. Due to his laziness he failed in the examination.
2. His failure is owing to his laziness.

In the first sentence "Due to" has an adverbial function but it is a proper adjective, phrase. In the second sentence "owing to" does the work of a subject which is also wrong. The sentence should be rephrased as follows:

1. Owing to his laziness he failed in the examination.
2. His failure is due to his laziness.

by Henry Ho

"SUCH"

"The word "such" should always be followed by "as".

Wrong: This is such book which I expected to see.
Right: This is such a book as I expected to see.

Wrong: His behavior was such which could not be pardoned.
Right: His behavior was such as could not be pardoned.

by L. Chee
(Pui Ching Middle School)

"Can you fill my house?"

A great many people do not know how to fill their houses, especially those who have just started living alone. It is not easy to fill a house with a good amount of food and furniture. It is necessary to plan and organize the space properly. Here are some tips to help fill your house:

1. Make a list of everything you need, from furniture to groceries.
2. Prioritize your needs based on their importance and urgency.
3. Start by filling the essentials, such as furniture and appliances.
4. Add decorative items and personal touches as you see fit.
5. Remember to include storage solutions for future planning.

by J. Lai
(ST. LOUIS SCHOOL)