



Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board

# 2017

Primary School Leaving Examination

# Instructions For Candidates

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Icon:  Important information

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- This booklet contains essential instructions for the PSLE. You are advised to read and comply with these instructions and regulations.
- You may use the checklist in **Annex D** as a guide on what to take note of and bring for the PSLE.
- It is recommended that you share the information in this booklet with your parents / guardian.
- For Non-Tamil Indian Language (NTIL) Examinations, you will be given a set of “Instructions for Candidates on the NTIL Examinations”, in addition to this booklet. Please approach your teacher/school for the instructions.
- For details on the examination syllabuses, you can visit the SEAB website at <http://www.seab.gov.sg>
- If you have any queries, please contact your school for clarification.

## **2. SITTING FOR EXAMINATIONS**

- It is compulsory for you to sit for all registered subjects.
- If you are a Singapore Citizen as of 27 March 2017, you will be given a full waiver of the examination fees.
- You will not be entitled to waiver of the examination fees if you obtain the Singapore citizenship after 27 March 2017.
- The examination timetable can be found in **Annex A**.

### **2.1 Examination Format**

#### **ORAL EXAMINATION**

- The Oral Examinations for English Language / Foundation English Language and Mother Tongue Language / Foundation Mother Tongue Language will be held on two separate days.
- Your school will inform you of the reporting time and subject you will be sitting for on the two days of the Oral Examination.
- You must not use your mobile phone or communicate with anyone during the oral examination duration, including the waiting and quarantine period.

## **LISTENING COMPREHENSION EXAMINATION**

- The Listening Comprehension paper consists of multiple-choice questions (MCQs).
- You should choose your answer for each question and then shade the appropriate oval on the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided.
- You must complete the shading of answers within the duration of the Listening Comprehension Examination. No extra time will be given at the end of the broadcast to shade the answers.
- If you are not able to hear the Listening Comprehension broadcast clearly, you should raise your hand immediately to inform the invigilator.

## **WRITTEN EXAMINATION**

- The Written Examination will be held over five days.
- You should read carefully and follow the instructions printed on the question paper and answer booklet.

- For the **Composition papers**,
  - You will be given a **Composition Answer Booklet**.
  - You must write your answers on the lined or boxed pages only.
  - You may do your rough work on the blank pages.
- For **papers with MCQs**, you should choose your answer for each question and shade the appropriate oval on the OAS or answer sheet provided.

## 2.2 Examination Regulations

**BEFORE  
the start of the examination**



- **Be punctual** for all examination papers. You will not be given extra time to complete the examination if you are late.
- Be seated at your assigned desk at least 15 minutes before the start of each examination.
- Be in your school uniform when you report for the examination at your school / examination centre.
- Bring all materials needed for the examination. They include blue / black ink or ballpoint pens, 2B pencils, soft erasers, sharpeners and standard

mathematical instruments (ruler, protractor and set-squares). Unauthorised materials or equipment should not be brought in.

- You must **listen to the invigilator** and follow the instructions at all times.
- Raise your hand to ask the invigilator if you have any questions.
- **Read carefully the instructions** provided in the question booklets, answer booklets and OAS.

**DURING  
the examination**

- The duration of each examination paper includes the time for reading the questions, writing and/or shading your answers on the OAS, etc. No extra time will be given.
- You should read all questions carefully. No marks will be awarded for information that is not asked for in the questions.
- For MCQs that require you to answer on the OAS, you should use a 2B pencil to shade your answers on the OAS. Do not write the answers in the question booklet as they will not be marked.

- You can use a soft eraser if you wish to change your answers on the OAS. Erase the shaded oval completely before shading the new oval.
- You should not fold the OAS or make any marks on it.
- You should **write your answers legibly in blue / black ink or ballpoint pens**. If you need to change your answers, cross them out and re-write the answers.
- You are **advised not to use correction fluid / tape** in the examinations as it may affect the legibility of the answers. There are instances where candidates left their answers incomplete after correction fluid / tape had been applied. Answer scripts with correction fluid / tape may also be damaged when scanned or the pages may stick together if the fluid has not dried.

You must comply with the following regulations:

- **Do not cheat or assist in cheating.**
- **Do not turn and look around at other candidates**, as this may be mistaken for cheating.
- **Do not talk or communicate** (verbally or non-verbally) with other candidates during the examination.





- **Do not have in your possession:**



- a) Any unauthorised electronic, communication, entertainment or gaming devices capable of capturing, storing, displaying and/or transmitting visual, audio or verbal information within the examination premises (e.g. Examination Room, Quarantine Room, Waiting Room).

Examples include, but are not limited to, mobile phones, cameras, tablets, wired and wireless ear-pieces / earphones, smart wrist watches, smart glasses, and pens with image capturing capabilities.

- b) Any unauthorised equipment or materials even if you do not intend to use them within the examination premises.

Examples include, but are not limited to, books, papers, study notes, enclosed instructions, fact sheets, glossary of mathematical terms, conversion tables or mathematical formulas in mathematical instrument boxes and non-standard mathematical instruments e.g. model rulers.

- c) Your bags or other unauthorised personal belongings in the examination premises. You must place them outside the examination premises or in a place identified by the examiner or invigilator.

- **Check your belongings** before you enter the examination room / hall and before the examination starts.

**Surrender any unauthorised devices and materials to the invigilator immediately if you have brought them into the examination room / hall.**

- If you are not feeling well or need to go to the toilet urgently, remain seated and raise your hand to inform the invigilator. The examination personnel will bring you to the toilet.
- **Do not eat** in the examination room / hall.

**AT THE END  
of the examination**



- You must **stop writing immediately** when told to do so by the invigilator.
- You must **remain seated and not talk to other candidates** while your question booklets, answer booklets and/or OAS are being collected.
- **Do not remove** any used or unused paper, question booklet, answer booklet and OAS from the examination room / hall.
- **Do not leave the examination room / hall** even if you have finished the examination paper before

the given time. You are only allowed to leave the examination hall when you are told to do so by the invigilator.



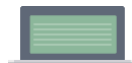
If you cheat, attempt to cheat or assist in cheating, misbehave or do not follow the examination regulations during the examination, you may:

- Be prohibited from taking the examination
- Be expelled from the examination room / hall
- Be disallowed from sitting for subsequent papers
- Have your examination results terminated or imposed with a grade penalty
- Have your results slip and/or certificate withheld or confiscated
- Be banned from registering for the examinations in future

### 2.3 Use of dictionaries

You are allowed to use:

- a) An **approved dictionary** for the Mother Tongue Language, Higher Mother Tongue Language and NTIL Paper 1 (Composition).
- b) An **approved hand-held electronic dictionary** for the Chinese, Malay, Higher Chinese and Higher Malay Paper 1 (Composition).



You can refer to **Annex B** for the list of approved dictionaries.

For NTIL, you can bring in any dictionary as long as it is monolingual with no annotations on any of the pages.

**Dictionaries and electronic dictionaries must conform to the following requirements:**

- Your dictionary is monolingual.
- Your dictionary in printed form (except electronic dictionaries) must bear the school stamp. If your printed dictionary has not been stamped by your school, inform your teacher or invigilator before or on the day of examination, before the examination starts.
- Your dictionary does not have any annotations on any of the pages. Annotations include tagging pages with stickers, highlighted text, and/or written text.
- Your electronic dictionary must be silent and battery operated. No ear-pieces are permitted in the examination room / hall.
- You are advised to bring along a spare set of batteries for your electronic dictionary as no extra time will be given if your dictionary fails to function during the examination.



Any unauthorised dictionary found in your possession during the examination will be confiscated.

You are not allowed to borrow any dictionary from other candidates during the examination.

## 2.4 Use of Scientific Calculators

You are allowed to use only **approved scientific calculator models** for Mathematics / Foundation Mathematics Paper 2. You can refer to **Annex C** for the list of approved models recommended for use.



### Your calculator must be:

- Silent, with a visual display only.
- Indicated clearly with the original model number and brand for verification purposes.
- In working condition (including the power supply). This is the responsibility of the candidate and any fault in the calculator will not be accepted as justification for special consideration.

## You are to ensure that you:

- Do not share calculators with other candidates during the examination.



- Do not bring in calculators with an external storage function which can allow users to input and store data via external storage media, e.g. cards, tapes and plug-in modules.
- Do not bring in calculators with wireless communication capability with other machines, e.g. infra-red communication capability.
- Do not bring in calculators with capabilities for storing and displaying verbal information.
- Do not bring in any enclosed instruction leaflets containing any mathematical formula, conversion table or instructions into the examination venue. Any such information on the calculator that cannot be removed must be securely covered.



The use of calculators with unacceptable features or for retrieval of information/programs during the examinations is an infringement of the regulations.

## 2.5 Instructions for Unexpected Situations



If you are hospitalised or suffering from infectious diseases, necessary arrangements will be made provided that:

- You have been certified medically fit to sit for the examination,
- You have informed your school and,
- Sufficient time is given to make the necessary arrangements.

For **hospitalised** candidates, your school will make arrangements for you to sit the examination in the hospital.

For candidates **suffering from infectious disease** (e.g. chicken pox or hand, foot and mouth disease), SEAB will make the arrangements for you to sit the examinations at a designated examination centre.

For candidates who are **not feeling well** and **not able to sit the examination**, you have to inform your school.

## **3. RESULTS & CERTIFICATES**

### **3.1 PSLE Results Release**

- The tentative dates for the release of the 2017 PSLE results is between 24 and 27 November 2017.

### **3.2 Results Slips and Certificates**

- You will receive your PSLE results slip and certificate through the school.
- You will receive your PSLE certificate if you are awarded a grade for at least one PSLE subject. Ungraded subjects are not reflected in the certificate.
- Where there is cause for suspicion that any examination rules or regulations have been breached, SEAB may withhold the issuance of results slip and certificate to you pending the outcome of the investigation. A decision will then be made on issuing the results slip and certificate to you.



- Subjects are awarded one of the following grades:

| <b>Subjects</b>  | <b>Grades awarded</b>   |
|--|---|
| English Language<br>Mathematics<br>Science<br>Mother Tongue                                    | A*, A, B, C, D or E<br>where A* is the highest<br>and E is the lowest.        |
| Foundation English<br>Foundation Mathematics<br>Foundation Science<br>Foundation Mother Tongue | 1, 2, 3 or 4<br>where Grade 1 is the<br>highest and Grade 4 is<br>the lowest. |
| Higher Mother Tongue<br>subjects   | Distinction, Merit or<br>Pass   |

- The personal particulars printed on the certificate are based on the registration slip that your parent / guardian had verified during the PSLE registration.
- A request for re-print of certificate due to amendment of personal particulars must be requested through your school by **29 December 2017**. Requests received after the deadline may not be considered.
- An administrative charge of S\$50 is payable for each request.
- The original certificate must be returned to the school in exchange for the reprinted certificate.

- SEAB does not issue duplicate copies of the results slip and certificate. A statement of results is available instead.
- A fee is chargeable for each statement of results.
- You may contact the Ministry of Education Customer Service Centre at 6872 2220 for more information.

### **3.3 Computation of T-Scores**

- For standard subjects, the following formula is applied:

$$T = 50 + 10 \frac{(x - m)}{s}$$

where x is the candidate's mark for the subject Q, m is the average mark (mean) scored by all the candidates, s is the spread of the marks around the average mark (standard deviation).

- The Aggregate T-Score is calculated by adding all the T-Scores for the examination subjects taken by the candidates.

### **3.4 Withdrawal from PSLE**

- If you have withdrawn from the PSLE, you will not be issued with any results or certificate.
- You will not be entitled to any refund of the examination fees paid.

### **3.5 Appeal for Review of PSLE Results**

- If you wish to appeal for a review of your PSLE results, it must be requested through your **Principal**.
- **An appeal fee will be charged** for each subject.
- Your appeal must reach SEAB through the school **within one week from the release of the PSLE results**.
- Appeals received after the deadline will not be considered.

### **3.6 Ownership of All Documents Issued to Candidates**

- All documents issued to candidates, including but not limited to result slips and certificates, are the property of SEAB and are provided to candidates on condition of strict compliance with the Examination Instructions and Regulations contained in this booklet.
- SEAB may recall any issued documents from any candidate at any time in its sole discretion. This includes, but is not limited to, the discovery of a candidate's breach of the examination rules and regulations.
- Candidates shall comply with any demand or direction by SEAB to submit or surrender documents to SEAB without delay.

## Annex A: PSLE Timetable

### Oral Examination

| Date  | Paper  | Time             |
|---|--|------------------|
| Thursday,<br>17 August<br>&<br>Friday,<br>18 August | English Language /<br>Foundation English   | 0800 –<br>1300 h |
|   | Chinese / Malay / Tamil  |                  |
|   | Foundation Chinese /<br>Foundation Malay / Foundation<br>Tamil   |                  |
| Friday,<br>18 August                                | Bengali / Gujarati / Hindi /<br>Panjabi / Urdu / Foundation<br>Bengali / Foundation Gujarati /<br>Foundation Hindi / Foundation<br>Panjabi / Foundation Urdu | 0800 –<br>1300 h |

### Listening Comprehension Examination

| Date                       | Paper   | Time              |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Friday,<br>15<br>September | Chinese / Malay / Tamil   | 0900 –<br>0935 h* |
|                            | Foundation Chinese /<br>Foundation Malay /<br>Foundation Tamil  | 0900 –<br>0940 h* |
|                            | Bengali / Gujarati / Hindi /<br>Panjabi / Urdu<br>Foundation Bengali /<br>Foundation Gujarati /<br>Foundation Hindi / Foundation<br>Panjabi / Foundation Urdu | 0900 –<br>0930 h* |
|                            | English Language /<br>Foundation English  | 1115 –<br>1150 h* |

*\*Actual duration may differ slightly.*

## Written Examination

| Date                         | Paper   | Time             | Duration |
|------------------------------|---|------------------|----------|
| Thursday,<br>28<br>September | English Language<br>Paper 1   | 0815 –<br>0925 h | 1h 10min |
|                              | English Language<br>Paper 2   | 1030 –<br>1220 h | 1h 50min |
|                              | Foundation English<br>Paper 1   | 0815 –<br>0925 h | 1h 10min |
|                              | Foundation English<br>Paper 2   | 1030 –<br>1150 h | 1h 20min |
| Friday,<br>29<br>September   | Mathematics Paper 1   | 0815 –<br>0905 h | 50 min   |
|                              | Mathematics Paper 2   | 1015 –<br>1155 h | 1h 40min |
|                              | Foundation<br>Mathematics Paper 1   | 0815 –<br>0915 h | 1h       |
|                              | Foundation<br>Mathematics Paper 2   | 1015 –<br>1130 h | 1h 15min |
| Monday,<br>02 October        | Chinese / Malay /<br>Tamil<br>Bengali / Gujarati /<br>Hindi / Panjabi / Urdu<br>Paper 1 | 0815 –<br>0905 h | 50 min   |
|                              | Chinese / Malay /<br>Tamil<br>Bengali / Gujarati /<br>Hindi / Panjabi / Urdu<br>Paper 2 | 1015 –<br>1155 h | 1h 40min |
|                              | Foundation Chinese /<br>Foundation Malay /<br>Foundation Tamil<br>Paper 1               | 0815 –<br>0855 h | 40 min   |

| <b>Date</b>              | <b>Paper</b>   | <b>Time</b>      | <b>Duration</b> |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------|
| Tuesday,<br>03 October   | Science  | 0815 –<br>1000 h | 1h 45min        |
|                          | Foundation Science   | 0815 –<br>0930 h | 1h 15min        |
| Wednesday,<br>04 October | Higher Chinese /<br>Higher Malay / Higher<br>Tamil Paper 1 | 0815 –<br>0905 h | 50min           |
|                          | Higher Chinese /<br>Higher Malay / Higher<br>Tamil Paper 2 | 1015 –<br>1135 h | 1h 20min        |

### **PSLE Marking Exercise**

The 2017 PSLE Marking Exercise is scheduled from 19 to 24 October 2017. All primary schools will be closed during this period to facilitate the conduct of the marking exercise.

## Annex B: List of Approved Dictionaries

### Chinese Dictionaries

| S/N | TITLE     | PUBLISHER   | ISBN NUMBER                        | APPROVED PERIOD |
|-----|-----------|-------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1   | 规范汉语词典    | 联营出版(马)有限公司 | 978-983-820-627-3                  | 2017 – 2021     |
| 2   | 新世纪学生华语词典 | 怡学出版社·商务印书馆 | 978-981-4237-75-8                  | 2016 – 2020     |
| 3   | 新编小学实用词典  | 新亚出版社       | 981-274-954-3<br>978-981-274-954-3 | 2014 - 2018     |

### Chinese e-Dictionaries

| S/N | NAME & MODEL         | PUBLISHER               | APPROVED PERIOD |
|-----|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1   | Besta All Pass-1     | Besta DigiTech Pte Ltd  | 2013 – 2017     |
| 2   | Besta New All Pass-1 | iKnow Pte Ltd           | 2015 – 2019     |
| 3   | HansVision PX2051    | Creative Technology Ltd | 2014 – 2018     |
| 4   | HansVision PX2101    | Creative Technology Ltd | 2014 – 2018     |
| 5   | HansVision PX2131    | Creative Technology Ltd | 2016 – 2020     |
| 6   | Besta All Pass 2     | iKnow Pte Ltd           | 2017 – 2021     |
| 7   | Besta All Pass 3     | iKnow Pte Ltd           | 2017 - 2021     |
| 8   | ZZ.New-01            | ZZ Perfection Pte Ltd   | 2017 - 2021     |

## Malay Dictionaries

| S/N | TITLE  | PUBLISHER                | APPROVED PERIOD |
|-----|--|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1   | Kamus Dewan (Edisi Kedua)                          | Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka | 2017 – 2021     |
| 2   | Kamus Dewan (Edisi Ketiga)                         | Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka | 2017 – 2021     |
| 3   | Kamus Dewan (Edisi Keempat)                        | Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka | 2017 – 2021     |
| 4   | Kamus Pelajar Bahasa Melayu Dewan (Edisi Kedua)    | Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka | 2017 – 2021     |
| 5   | Kamus Pelajar (Terbitan Khas KBSM)                 | Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka | 2017 – 2021     |
| 6   | Kamus Pelajar Bahasa Malaysia (Edisi Kedua)        | Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka | 2017 – 2021     |
| 7   | Kamus Pelajar Bahasa Malaysia (Terbitan Khas KBSM) | Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka | 2017 – 2021     |
| 8   | Kamus Komprehensif Bahasa Melayu                   | Oxford Fajar Sdn. Bhd.   | 2017 – 2021     |

## Malay e-Dictionaries

| S/N | NAME & MODEL  | PUBLISHER                    | APPROVED PERIOD |
|-----|---|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1   | Global Translator / Model M188 e-dictionary (Kamus Bimbit Elektronik Riang Ria) | EDN-Media Consultant Pte Ltd | 2017 - 2021     |



## Tamil Dictionaries

| S/N | TITLE  | PUBLISHER   | APPROVED PERIOD |
|-----|--|---|-----------------|
| 1   | Kriyavin Tarkalat<br>Tamil Akarati (Tamil –<br>Tamil Version only)       | Cre-A Publishers,<br>Chennai  | 2017 – 2021     |
| 2   | Kazhakat Tamil<br>Kaiyakaraathi (Tamil<br>– Tamil Dictionary)            | The South India Saiva<br>Siddhanta Works<br>Publishing Society,<br>Tinnevelly Limited,<br>Chennai | 2017 – 2021     |
| 3   | Kazhakat Tamil<br>Akaraathi (Tamil –<br>Tamil Dictionary)                | The South India Saiva<br>Siddhanta Works<br>Publishing Society,<br>Tinnevelly Limited,<br>Chennai | 2017 – 2021     |
| 4   | Lakshmi's Learners'<br>Tamil Language<br>Dictionary (Revised<br>Edition) | Lakshmi Publications  | 2016 – 2020     |

## Annex C: List of Approved Scientific Calculators

The following models of scientific calculators are suitable for PSLE Mathematics and Foundation Mathematics Examinations.

| S/N | Calculator Brand  | Calculator Model | Approved Period* |
|-----|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1   | CASIO             | FX 82MS          | 2003 – 2021      |
| 2   |                   | FX 85MS          | 2003 – 2021      |
| 3   |                   | FX 95MS          | 2003 – 2021      |
| 4   |                   | FX 95SG Plus     | 2009 – 2018      |
| 5   |                   | FX 96SG Plus     | 2013 – 2021      |
| 6   |                   | FX 350MS         | 2003 – 2021      |
| 7   | CANON             | F-960SG          | 2017 – 2021      |
| 8   | HEWLETT PACKARD   | HP10S            | 2008 – 2018      |
| 9   |                   | HP10S+           | 2014 – 2018      |
| 10  | SHARP             | EL 509WM         | 2005 – 2018      |
| 11  |                   | EL 509WS         | 2005 – 2018      |
| 12  |                   | EL 509X          | 2015 – 2019      |
| 13  |                   | EL W531S         | 2010 – 2019      |
| 14  |                   | EL W531XM        | 2014 – 2018      |
| 15  |                   | EL 533X          | 2013 – 2020      |
| 16  | TEXAS INSTRUMENTS | TI 30XIIS        | 2010 – 2018      |

*\* All earlier approved calculator models can continue to be used for all national examinations unless there is a change in policy, syllabus or examination format. Under any of these situations, the Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board (SEAB) may withdraw the approval for use of these calculators in the examinations.*

## Annex D: Checklist for PSLE

# CHECKLIST

- Have you read through the exam regulations?
- Have you allocated sufficient travelling time to your school so that you can report at least 30 minutes before the start of your examinations?
- Have you brought all the necessary items that you need to sit for the examination?
- Have you checked whether the items you brought are allowed for use during the examination?



| Items allowed   | Items <u>not</u> allowed  |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stationery such as 2B pencils, soft erasers, sharpeners, blue/black pens</li> <li>• Standard mathematical instruments such as rulers, protractors, set-squares</li> <li>• Approved scientific calculators (for only Mathematics / Foundation Mathematics Paper 2)</li> <li>• Approved electronic / printed dictionaries (for only Mother Tongue / Higher Mother Tongue / NTIL Composition Papers)</li> <li>• Spare set of batteries if needed for calculators / electronic dictionaries</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electronic / communication / entertainment / gaming devices</li> <li>• Study notes / Book / Paper</li> <li>• Instruction leaflets containing mathematical formula / conversion table / instructions</li> <li>• Non-standard mathematical instruments e.g. model rulers</li> <li>• Calculators or electronic dictionaries with unacceptable features</li> </ul> |



This checklist is not exhaustive and serves only as a guide. You are advised to read the instructions booklet thoroughly before sitting for the examinations.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Vectors are designed by Freepik