

MOCK PRACTICE 1

HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 1A

Question-Answer Book

(1 hour)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Write your Candidate Number, Centre Number and Seat Number in the boxes provided.
2. Read the instructions carefully. Answer **ALL** questions.
3. For multiple-choice questions, choose only **ONE** answer to each question. Two or more answers will score **NO MARKS**.
4. Marks will not be deducted for wrong answers.
5. You will lose marks if you do not follow these instructions.

Candidate Number									
Centre Number									
Seat Number									

Marker's Use Only	
Marker No.	
A1	
A2	
Total	

Checker's Use Only	
Checker No.	
A1	
A2	
Total	

PAPER 1A READING

There are 53 questions in this paper.

Text 1 Read the following article and then answer questions 1 – 17. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer for each question and write the appropriate letter in the box provided. For other questions, write your answers in the spaces provided. (17 marks)

LEARNING WITH THE COMPUTER

1 Nowadays, almost every school has an MMLC – Multi Media Learning Centre. It is an ideal place for students to learn and to be exposed to alternative channels of learning. It is also a favourable place that secondary school pupils like to go to besides staying in the classroom. In this article, we are going to look at how the MMLC helps us in language learning, English in particular.

5 In the MMLC, you can enjoy learning the English language more easily. Using the e-dictionary means that you do not have to use the heavy and expensive traditional dictionary. You don't have to pay for e-dictionaries as many of them are free of charge and there are examples and meanings of new words provided. There is also a wide variety of e-books and e-news available for students. You do not have to spend a penny buying books and newspapers, nor do you need to spend precious time going to the library to borrow books as there are many free points of access. All of the 10 above can be done via the net.

What else can be done in the MMLC? With the help of their English teachers, students can learn effectively with the projector and visualizer. Students usually find it more attractive looking at the screen than the blackboard. It is also more beneficial to the environment than using reams of paper as teachers can reuse the transparency when using the projector and no paper at all is needed when using the visualizer! It is quite true to say that the twenty-first century is an 'information 15 technology age' in which computers have become a prominent tool for teaching and learning.

'I like taking my students to the MMLC for their English lessons,' Miss Tam, a secondary English teacher said. 'Students can learn in a more relaxed way as they always find the classroom a stifling atmosphere where no one should speak but the teacher. Therefore, the MMLC is a better place for training speaking skills.' Miss Tam continued, 'I like 20 to form students into groups and give them some interesting topics in the oral lesson. They can find information using the search engine and then start the group discussion. The microphones as well as the recording function help me to facilitate and evaluate the discussion process and I can spend time listening to the recordings again after the lesson.' Miss Tam concluded, 'It is really a more suitable and appropriate venue for teachers to conduct lessons.' With the supplementary audio-visual equipment like the DVD player, VCD player, tape recorder, hi-fi, etc., the Multi Media Learning Centre is really tailor-made for students practising oral skills. Besides these pieces of equipment, there is also 25 a lot of computer software and hardware. There is software installed onto the computer that enables you to download tests and exercises to practise grammar and vocabulary. These are computer-marked so that teachers' workloads can be lightened. There is also hardware like scanners and printers which assist teaching in the MMLC.

'I like going to the MMLC,' May Tan, a form four student, said. 'Our English teacher takes us there every Thursday. We usually drill our listening skills there and the sound is loud and clear. It is much more satisfactory than the volume of 30 the tape played on the tape-recorder in classrooms.' 'My English teacher sometimes takes us to the MMLC,' Judy Lai, a form two girl, added. 'The most attractive thing is the setting with the air-conditioner and comfortable seats. We can read from the whiteboard instead of the blackboard.' Kenneth Kwong, a form six student, said, 'In the MMLC, we can type rather than write. Our teacher encourages us to type our essays on the computer so that we can use the spell check and grammar check. It can help us save some trees because we send our essays to the teacher via e-mail.'

35 But sometimes teachers may not like visiting the MMLC because of some uncooperative students. There are some cases when students do not follow teachers' instructions and visit some irrelevant web sites. This is not only disturbing to the class, but also wastes the resources provided in the centre. Mr Cheng, a disciplinary teacher, complained, 'I remember a student who ignored the teacher and used ICQ during the lesson. Going to the MMLC was a waste of time for him!'

Text 2 Read the following article and then answer questions 18 – 34. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer for each question and write the appropriate letter in the box provided. For other questions, write your answers in the spaces provided. (20 marks)

COMPUTER-ASSISTED LANGUAGE LEARNING (CALL)

These days whenever you walk into any school, you can surely find multimedia learning resources like the Multi Media Learning Center (MMLC) and the Computer-Assisted Language Learning (CALL). These are typical examples of advanced technologies in learning through different medias. All these have been used to help learners learn Chinese, English, Putonghua as well as many other foreign languages. Learning a language with the computer is becoming a trend for language learners around the world. We do not need a private tutor but a computer with a monitor, a headphone, a pair of speakers, a videocamera and a piece of suitable software. We can now learn a language more easily and interestingly.

There are many merits of using the computer to improve your language proficiency. It is efficient. You will find everything you need by pressing a few buttons. Then simply find the biggest button – ENTER – in your keyboard and your computer will obediently follow your instructions. Computers also ensure accuracy. With functions like spell check and grammar check, mistakes can easily be identified and corrected. Learning a language is no longer a painstaking and difficult task. If you want to see your progress, simply use the computer as an electronic journal. It tells you where you have stopped last time, what you have learnt, what you can learn and things you should know. Unlike human beings, it will never complain when it keeps working for hours and it can be upgraded by being installed different software and programs. Instead of learning in a classroom with forty students with a lecturer, a teacher or a tutor, it encourages individualized learning, which facilitates independence and efficiency.

But of course, there are other considerations. A computer is a non-living object and is, after all, (a) . It does not discuss, interact and talk (27) . For example, if a mistake is identified, you cannot ‘ask’ the computer, though you can check and find (28) through other means. As it is an insensible machine, it cannot establish relationships with users. Since (29) have argued that learning a language is most effective with interactions and discussions among groupmates, that is a group of learners, living and active human beings, so learning through the computers is not perfect and is sometimes criticized as inhumane and cold.

However, interviews with teachers give us other points of view. They generally believe that computers help them to a very large extent when they:

- 25
- plan their lessons
 - develop teaching materials
 - establish both formal and informal relationships with students
 - analyze data
 - answer students’ questions in creative ways such as attaching icons, links and pictures

30 Students also respond positively when they say that they can:

- co-operate with other people in doing projects
- find information more easily
- learn outside the classroom

After all, there are two sides of a coin. We must evaluate the benefits and drawbacks of CALL and decide if the traditional way of language learning should be adopted.

Text 3 Read the following article and then answer questions 35 – 52. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer for each question and write the appropriate letter in the box provided. For other questions, write your answers in the spaces provided. (24 marks)

PROJECT LEARNING

1 Project learning is the idea of learning through projects. While doing the project, whatever the topic is, students are encouraged to be exposed to different sorts of texts and learn different generic skills like communication, critical thinking, problem-solving, time-management, etc. The objectives are that students can learn independently and establish interpersonal relations with their groupmates in the project. They can then acquire more knowledge and broaden their horizons through a variety of means instead of only focusing on the textbooks. In this way, students learn through doing the project, which is more interesting than reciting and memorizing things directly from books.

There are three steps in conducting project work. Each step guarantees that students are able to develop some skills. These three steps are preparation, implementation and conclusion. Through these steps, students' interest and initiative will come into play.

10 **Preparation**

Students' sense of belonging to the group and on the project must be cultivated from the very first beginning so that they know their position and more importantly, their responsibility. Students may form themselves into groups with teachers' instructions and advice or according to their own will, both of which help facilitate the discussion and interactions in the group. Teachers may plan and organize various kinds of activities to make the project work more interesting and attractive. It is always welcome to have activities conducted outside the classroom. Common examples are things like site visit, picnic, interviews, observation and field trip to arouse students' curiosity, creativity and concern. These help enhance their understanding of the area their project is focused on. In the meantime, there may be different modes of learning like doing research, setting questionnaires, doing analysis, taking pictures, etc. Students are therefore not confined in the classroom. If there is a budget available, the project can even be conducted outside Hong Kong.

20 **Implementation**

The next step is to put their plan into practice. Students collect various types of data through different channels, some examples being the Internet, books, magazines, interview results, news, etc. It is in this way that they are exposed to many different kinds of things and people. In the age of information explosion, students can probably find tons of information from the Internet and of course the library. But the most challenging task is the students' ability to select and sort the most suitable piece of information and extract data from various sources.

Conclusion

After the previous step of collecting, analyzing, selecting, tidying up and consolidating the data, students make a conclusion and give a review and a presentation on the whole project. Finally, they have to present their findings by various formats such as written report, oral presentations, portfolio, folder, poster, model, website, etc. They may do this in front of the teacher, the whole class or even the whole school. There are also examples of students showing their good work in some open exhibitions in public. Since the idea of project learning focuses more on the process than the result, teachers must put more time and effort into monitoring students' contribution during the whole task.

There are a lot of possible topics which students can focus on when they have project learning. For example, they may find out the history of ferries in Hong Kong, the popularity of pop stars in Japan among students, the career prospect of a cook, a comparison between the library and the Internet, the local use of English in ICQ, etc. So, the very first thing before you start the project is to find an interesting topic and gather your groupmates.

Text 1

Answer the following questions using information from the article on page 1.

1. In line 2, 'It' refers to the
- A. MMLC.
 - B. school.
 - C. classroom.
 - D. channel .
1.
2. In line 5, what does 'e' stand for in 'e-dictionary'?
- A. Easy
 - B. Electronic
 - C. English
 - D. Efficient
2.

Read paragraphs 2 and 3 and decide whether these statements are **True**, **False** or the information is **Not Given**. Put a tick in **ONE** box only for each statement. (4 marks)

- | | True | False | Not Given |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3. Few e-books are free of charge. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The MMLC is good for both teaching and learning. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Students like the screen saver in the MMLC. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Transparency is an environmentally-friendly tool. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. In line 8, 'spend a penny' means | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. spend a minute.B. spend a second.C. spend a lot of money.D. spend the least amount of money. | | | |
| 7. <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| 8. Look at the word 'atmosphere' in line 17. Now look at the dictionary entry for 'atmosphere' below. Which meaning corresponds to the meaning in line 17? Write the correct number in the box provided. | | | |

atmosphere *n*

1 (the + singular) the mixture of gases that surrounds the earth: *The power station is releasing toxic gases into the atmosphere.* **2** [C] the mixture of gases that surrounds some planets: *Mars has a very thin atmosphere.* **3** [C] the air in a room or around a place: *The atmosphere in the room was smoky and he could hardly breathe.* **4** [C, usually singular] the general feeling or mood of a place or situation: *There's a very friendly atmosphere in his office.* **5** [U] a feeling that a place has of being pleasant and interesting: *This cafe serves tasty food and has a bit of atmosphere.*

8.

9. According to paragraph 4, which of the following statements are correct?
1. Miss Tam thought that the MMLC is the most suitable place practising oral.
 2. The search engine helps students in discussion.
 3. Miss Tam did not listen to the recording during the lessons.
 4. Students can watch videos in the MMLC.
- A. 1, 2 and 3
 B. 1, 2 and 4
 C. 1, 3 and 4
 D. 2, 3 and 4

9.

10. According to paragraph 4,
- A. both hardware and software help teachers in marking.
 - B. hardware and software must be used together.
 - C. teachers may do less if they conduct their lessons in the MMLC.
 - D. students can install some software onto the computers in MMLC.

10.

Read paragraph 5 and fill in the blanks.

(3 marks)

- | <u>Student</u> | <u>Why does he/she like the MMLC?</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 11. May Tan | She likes the _____. |
| 12. Judy Lai | She likes the _____. |
| 13. Kenneth Kwong | He likes _____ on the computer. |

14. In paragraph 6, what do the uncooperative students do? (1 mark)

15. In paragraph 6, the writer mentions Mr Cheng because

- A. some students visit some irrelevant websites.
 - B. there are some uncooperative students.
 - C. some students disturb the class.
 - D. there are drawbacks when lessons are conducted in the MMLC.
15.

Choose the correct words from the box to complete the sentence. (2 marks)

right	left	negative	wrong	upper	positive	lower
-------	------	----------	-------	-------	----------	-------

The purpose of the passage is to tell students the 16. _____ side and the 17. _____ side of teaching and learning in the MMLC.

Text 2

Answer the following questions using information from the article on page 2.

18. What does CALL stand for?

19. What do you need now, as mentioned by the writer, when learning a language?

- 1. A private tutor
- 2. A computer
- 3. A headphone
- 4. A pair of speakers
- 5. A videocamera
- 6. A piece of suitable software

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 2, 3 and 5
- D. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
- E. All of the above

19.

According to paragraph 2, fill in each blank below with ONE word only.

(7 marks)

The benefits of CALL:

- i) You just need to _____ (20) a few buttons to find everything.
- ii) The computer is always _____ (21) .
- iii) You can _____ (22) and _____ (23) mistakes easily.
- iv) You can upgrade your computer by _____ (24) software and programs.
- v) Individualized learning encourages _____ (25) and _____ (26) .

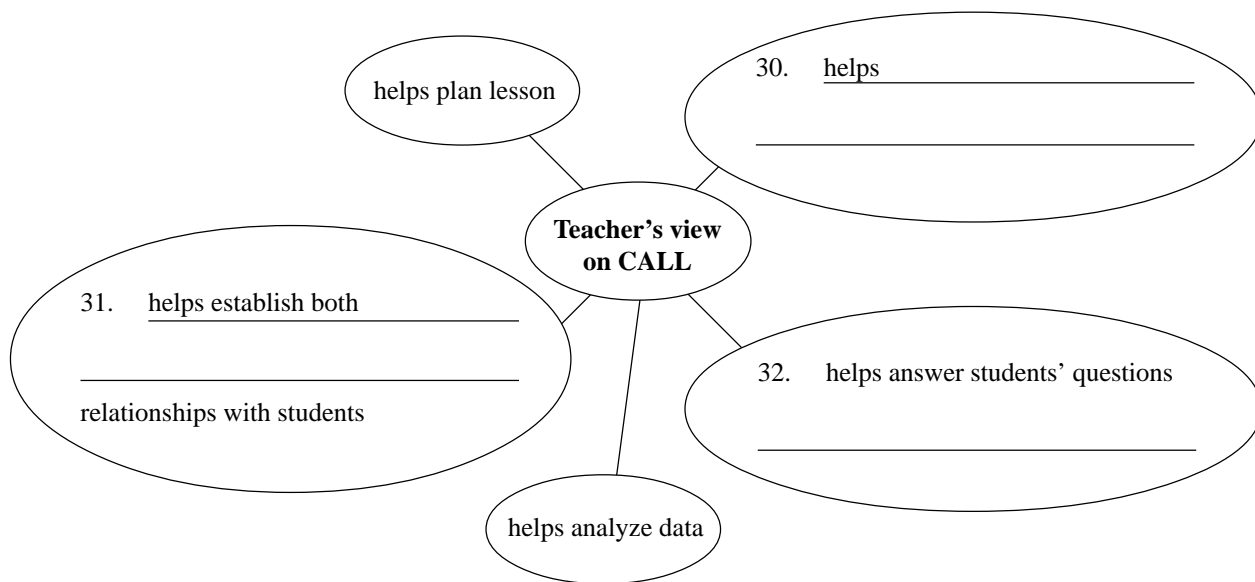
- 20. _____
- 21. _____
- 22. _____
- 23. _____
- 24. _____
- 25. _____
- 26. _____

Phrases are missing from paragraph 3. From the six phrases (A – F) below, choose the three which best complete the blanks (27–29) in the text. Write the letters in the spaces provided. One has been done as an example. (3 marks)

- (a) C
 27.
 28.
 29.

- A. relevant details and information
- B. the MMLC
- C. only a machine
- D. in the midnight
- E. many scholars
- F. with the user

Read paragraph 4 and complete the following chart. One has been done as an example. (6 marks)



33. In line 38, 'there are two sides of a coin' means
- A. there are a lot of money.
 - B. a coin is circle in shape.
 - C. there are two ways to look at things.
 - D. there are two ways to learn a language.
 - E. there are benefits and drawbacks of learning a language.
33.

34. Which one of the following is NOT mentioned in the article?
- A. Merits of using computers to learn a language
 - B. Teachers' opinions on using computers
 - C. Students' opinions on using computers
 - D. How to set up a CALL at school
34.

Text 3

Answer the following questions using information from the article on page 3.

35. According to paragraph 1, which of the following are the objectives of project learning?

- 1. Students are exposed to different sorts of texts.
- 2. Students learn different common skills.
- 3. Students can learn without help from others.
- 4. Students develop good relationships with groupmates.

- A. 1, 2 and 4
- B. 2 and 4
- C. 1, 3 and 4
- D. 1, 2 and 3
- E. All of the above

35.

36. In line 9, what does 'come into play' mean?

(2 marks)

37. According to paragraph 3, give three examples of outside classroom activities organized for project learning. (3 marks)

- (i) _____
- (ii) _____
- (iii) _____

38. Under what circumstance can a project be conducted overseas?

39. In line 12, what does 'they' refer to?

- A. Information
- B. Channels
- C. Students
- D. Teachers

39.

40. Look at the word 'explosion' in line 23. Now look at the dictionary entry for 'explosion'. Which meaning corresponds to the meaning in line 23? Write the correct number in the box provided.

explosion *n*

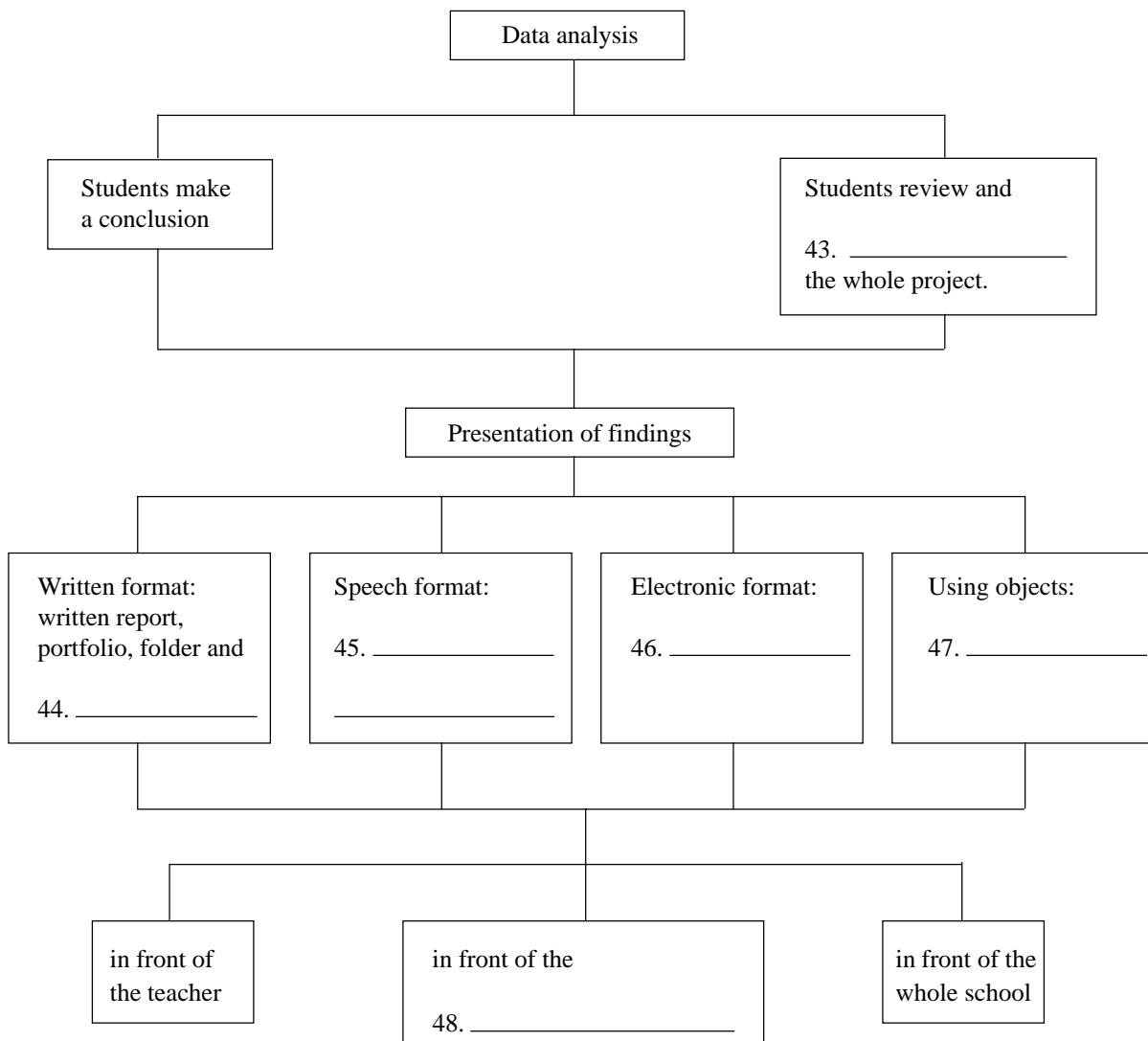
1. a sudden and violent bursting: *After a loud explosion, the house burst into flames.* **2.** a sudden outburst of anger or laughter: *Explosion of laughter could be heard from the hall.* **3.** a large and sudden increase: *There is an explosion of interest in learning Putonghua in Hong Kong.* **4.** the act of causing a bomb to explode: *The soldiers carried out a controlled explosion of the bomb.* **5.** a sudden serious outbreak of political protest or violence: *An explosion of protest and violence was sparked off by the killing of two workers.*

40.

41. According to paragraph 4, what is the most challenging task for students? (2 marks)

42. In line 20, what does 'implementation' mean?

Read paragraph 5 and complete the flow chart below. Some have been done as examples. (6 marks)



49. According to the writer, why is process more important than result in project learning?

- A. It helps assessment.
- B. It encourages extensive reading.
- C. It keeps track of students' contribution.
- D. It is similar to examination.

49.

According to paragraph 6, give two examples of possible topics about Hong Kong which students may use in their project learning. (4 marks)

50.

51.

52. Another suitable topic for this article could be

- A. *Another Fun Way of Learning.*
- B. *The Three Stages of Learning.*
- C. *How to Find an Interesting Topic.*
- D. *Presentation Skills.*

52.

THIS IS A BLANK PAGE.

MOCK PRACTICE 1

HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPER 1B

Question-Answer Book

(1 1/2 hours)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Write your Candidate Number, Centre Number and Seat Number in the boxes provided.
2. For Task 1, write your composition in the spaces provided.
3. For Task 2, choose only **ONE** topic and write about 250 words on **ONE** of the topics.
4. You are reminded of the importance of clear handwriting and the need for planning and proofreading.
5. Do not use your real name in answering any of the questions. If names are provided in the question, you must use those names. If no name is provided and you still wish to use a name to identify yourself, then use 'Chris Wong'.
6. You will lose marks if you do not follow these instructions.

Candidate Number									
Centre Number									
Seat Number									

Marker's Use Only	
Marker No.	
A1	
A2	
Total	

Checker's Use Only	
Checker No.	
A1	
A2	
Total	

PAPER 1B WRITING

Complete both tasks.

Task 1

As the chairperson of the computer club, you are going to help your computer teacher design a leaflet, introducing the school's computer facilities to the parents. Complete task 1 by describing what you have in your school. Write about 100 words in total.

<p style="text-align: center;">Computer facilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Internet connection in classroom2. School website3. Library borrowing system

Task 2

Write about 250 words on ONE of the following topics:

1. 'Learning with the computer is better than learning with books'. Do you agree? Give reasons.
2. Write a story on how your classmate was punished by your teacher because of downloading some illegal software onto one of the school computers.

Task 1 Write about 100 words.

Computer facilities

1. Internet connection in classroom

2. School website

3. Library borrowing system
