APPENDIX A

STUDENT'S QUESTIONNAIRE

Class: ___________________________  Sex: Male  Female

Section A

1. What grade did you obtain for English in the PMR? _______

2. Which language do you use most? If the language or dialect is not listed below, please specify in the last column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language Environment</th>
<th>Malay</th>
<th>Mandarin</th>
<th>Tamil</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At home</td>
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<td>In school</td>
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<td>In public places (e.g. shops)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

3. How would you rate each of the four English language skills in terms of importance to you as a student?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
<th>Very important</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Not very important</th>
<th>Not important</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listening</td>
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<td>Speaking</td>
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<td>Reading</td>
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<td>Writing</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

4. How would you rate your proficiency in each of the four English language skills?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
<th>Very good</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Listening</td>
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<td>Writing</td>
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</table>

5. If you could choose to take or not to take English as a subject in the SPM, which would you choose?
   I would choose to take English   I would choose not to take English

6. What are your reasons for learning English? Please number the reasons beginning with 1 as the most important reason.
   ____ to enjoy movies and music in English
   ____ to have better job opportunities
   ____ to make friends with English-speaking people
   ____ to prepare for the SPM English paper
   ____ to have access to more knowledge and information
Section B

1. Do you enjoy reading in your first language?  Yes  No

2. Do you enjoy reading in English?  Yes  No

3. Do your parents, teachers and friends encourage you to read?
   Parents  Yes  No  Sometimes
   Teachers  Yes  No  Sometimes
   Friends  Yes  No  Sometimes

4. What do you think are your reading problems, if any? (You may tick more than one box.)
   I cannot concentrate on what I read as I have a short attention span.
   I am usually too lazy to make an effort to read and understand the text.
   I find reading boring because it is a silent, solitary and passive activity.
   I have little interest in reading because whatever I read in class is not tested in the exam.
   I have difficulty understanding what I read unless the teacher guides me.

5. Do you enjoy reading most of the passages in the English textbook?  Yes  No

   If your answer is No, what are your reasons? (You may tick more than one box.)
   There are too many new words.  The contents in the passages are not familiar to me.
   There are few or no pictures.  The topics are generally boring.
   The passages are too long.  The information in the passages is not relevant to my needs.

6. For each of the statements below, tick the appropriate column.
   S.A. = Strongly Agree;  A. = Agree;  U. = Undecided;  D. = Disagree;  S.D. = Strongly Disagree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading the passages in the textbook will help me</th>
<th>S. A.</th>
<th>A.</th>
<th>U.</th>
<th>D.</th>
<th>S.D.</th>
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<td>to have better moral values</td>
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</table>
7. Would you be more interested in reading if you could choose what you want to read?
   Yes      No

8 What are your favourite sources of reading materials? Please number them according to your preferences, with 1 as your most preferred choice.

   ____ Newspapers  ____ Magazines  ____ Comics
   ____ Books       ____ Internet

9. Which of the following would you be interested in reading? (Please tick only TEN boxes.)

   Current Issues  Computer & I.T.  Mysteries  Good Habits
   Sports         Environment      Travel     Teen Issues
   Entertainment  Hobbies & Crafts Health Care Adventure Stories
   Local Culture  Love Stories     Animals    Famous People
   Foreign Culture Moral Values    History    Science & Technology

10. If you were a textbook writer and you could choose topics for TEN reading passages for a Form 4 KBSM textbook, which topics would you choose from the list below? (Please tick only TEN boxes.)

   The 1998 Commonwealth Games
   The Orang Utan of Sepilok
   Malaysians Conquer Mt Everest
   Caring for the Elderly
   Complaints about School Facilities
   How to Prepare for an Interview
   Motor Sports
   The Making of ‘Tarzan – the movie’
   Islamic Art and Architecture
   Beauty Contests
   Made-in-Malaysia Products
   Colours and their Meaning

   Siti Nurhaliza – Malaysia’s Pop Princess
   The Use and Abuse of the Internet
   The Fast Food Phenomenon
   A Visit to a Biscuit Factory
   The Ghost of Pulau Senja – a short story
   Qualities of a Good Leader
   A Day in the Life of a Radio DJ
   A Traditional Japanese Wedding
   Buying Originals vs Buying Copies
   The World’s Tallest Building
   Teenage Romance
   Keeping Our Rivers Clean

Thank you for answering this questionnaire.

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APPENDIX B
TEACHER’S QUESTIONNAIRE

Class: ___________________________  Sex: Male  Female

Section A

1. How many years have you been teaching English? ______ years

2. How would you rate each of the four language skills in terms of importance to your students?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
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</table>

3. How would you rate your students’ proficiency in each of the four language skills?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
<th>Very good</th>
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</table>

4. In your opinion, how many of your students are motivated to learn English?
   Most of them  Some of them  Only a few

5. What do you think are your students’ reasons for learning English? Please number the reasons beginning with 1 as the most important reason.
   ______ to enjoy movies and music in English  ______ to make friends with English-speaking people
   ______ to have better job opportunities  ______ to prepare for the SPM English paper
   ______ to have access to more knowledge and information

Section B

1. Do you think your students enjoy reading in English?
   Yes  No  Only a few do

2. Do you think your students have problems with reading in English?
   Yes  No  Some of them  Most of them
3. What do you think are their reading problems, if any? (You may tick more than one box.)
   They cannot concentrate on what they read as they have a short attention span.
   They are usually too lazy to make an effort to read and understand the text.
   They find reading boring because to them it is a silent, solitary and passive activity.
   They have little interest in reading because whatever they read in class is not tested in the exam.
   They have difficulty understanding what they read unless the teacher guides them.

4. Do you think your students enjoy reading most of the passages in the English textbook?
   Yes  No

   If your answer is No, what are the possible reasons? (You may tick more than one box.)
   There are too many new words.
   The content in the passages is unfamiliar to them.
   There are few or no pictures.
   The topics are generally boring.
   The passages are too long.
   The information in the passages is not relevant to their needs.

5. What of the following would your students be interested in reading? (Please tick only TEN boxes.)

   Current Issues      Computer & I.T.      Mysteries      Good Habits
   Sports              Environment       Travel         Teen Issues
   Entertainment       Hobbies & Crafts  Health Care    Adventure Stories
   Local Culture       Love Stories      Animals        Famous People
   Foreign Culture     Moral Values     History        Science & Technology

6. If you were a textbook writer and you had to choose topics for TEN reading passages for a Form 4 KBSM textbook, which topics would you choose from the list below? (Please tick only TEN boxes.)

   The 1998 Commonwealth Games
   The Orang Utan of Sepilok
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   A Traditional Japanese Wedding
   Buying Originals vs Buying Copies
   The World’s Tallest Building
   Teenage Romance
   Keeping Our Rivers Clean
Section C

1. Apart from the textbook, how often do you use materials from other sources to teach comprehension?

   Very often       Sometimes       Seldom       Never

2. If you use materials from the sources listed below, please number them according to your preferences, with 1 as your first preference.

   Newspapers _____  Magazines _____  Internet _____
   Other textbooks _____  Others (please specify) _____

3. For each of the statements below, tick the appropriate column.
   S.A. = Strongly Agree;  A. = Agree;  U. = Undecided;  D. = Disagree;  S.D. = Strongly Disagree

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Thank you for answering this questionnaire.

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APPENDIX C

Skill Specifications for the reading component in the KBSM English syllabus for Form 4.

At the end of the English Programme for Form IV, students should be able to

2.1 Read using correct pronunciation, intonation, stress and rhythm.
2.2 Read and understand meanings of words, phrases and sentences.
2.3 Use a dictionary to locate meanings of words and learn how these words are used in different contexts.
2.4 Read and understand instructions on how to fix things, such as a leaking tap.
2.5 Read and understand messages through the mass media, such as from the television and the newspapers.
2.6 Read and understand; locate main ideas and supporting details; follow sequence of events and ideas; predict outcomes; find proof to support statements; locate cause and effect relationships; and draw conclusions from stories on moral values, such as self-reliance, diligence and public-spiritedness.
2.7 Read and understand; locate main ideas and supporting details; follow sequence of events and ideas; and find proof to support statements in reports, such as newspaper reports and book reports.
2.8 Read and understand information contained in charts, graphs and manuals.
2.9 Read and understand information contained in informal letters in the newspapers; and in formal letters of enquiry and complaint.
2.10 Read and understand descriptions of scenes, such as tourist spots in the ASEAN region.
2.11 Read and understand descriptions of events, such as the SEA games.
2.12 Read and understand; follow sequence of ideas; and find proof to support statements in opinions on current issues, such as unemployment.
2.13 Read and understand; and follow sequence of events in descriptions of processes and procedures, such as the recycling of material.
2.14 Read and understand, follow sequence of ideas; and find proof to support statements in talks on current issues, such as consumerism and health care.
2.15 Read and enjoy poems of writers from the ASEAN region.