



Centre Number	Candidate Number

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

# **SOLOMON ISLANDS SCHOOL CERTIFICATE**

## **2017**

### **ENGLISH**

## **QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOKLET**

**MONDAY 30<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 9.00 AM**

**TIME: 3 HOURS plus  
15 mins reading time**

<u>QUESTION</u>	<u>CONTENT</u>	<u>MARK</u>
1	Reading Comprehension	30
2	Fill in the Blanks	10
3	Grammar and Writing	30
4	Written Composition I	15
5	Written Composition II	15
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.
2. Each question takes a certain length of time to complete.  
Plan your time carefully.
3. Read instructions carefully before you attempt each question.
4. Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet.
5. Make sure both your Centre number and Candidate number are written in the box at the top right hand corner.
6. If you need extra paper, ask your invigilator.

**THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS 22 NUMBERED PAGES**

**YOU ARE ADVISED TO SPEND 40 MINUTES ON THIS QUESTION.  
READ THE PASSAGE CAREFULLY THEN ANSWER THE QUESTIONS  
THAT FOLLOW IN THE BOX PROVIDED ON PAGE 22.**

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### **The Paradise boat cruise**

It was on a beautiful fine Saturday morning, the 3rd of June 2017 that former Selwyn College scholars set out for the most enjoyable boat cruise to the Florida Islands, Gela. This was a day I would sincerely cherish and continually recall as the most enjoyable recreational trip I have taken locally in the last thirty-five active years of my life. Our destination was the serene haven of Paradise village, in the Hogo district of small Gela, Central Islands Province. It is my pleasure sharing with you my slice of paradise, in the paragraphs that follow.

### **A family excursion**

The idea of going on a boat cruise was an initiative by a family of former high school scholars, as part of their fund raising drive towards the rehabilitation of the Maravovo - based Selwyn College, West of Guadalcanal. I had made up my mind to join the boat cruise with my twelve year old son as I had envisaged adventure, relaxation, fun, excitement, and the fun-filled stories and memories that would follow. I had calculated these rewards much earlier, and even when the weather was playing up the day before, I decided not to change the plan to take my son along with me. Above all, my son had never travelled across the ocean to another island, and taking him with me, would be an enlightening experience for him. When I broke the news to him two weeks earlier, he was overjoyed and kept repeating the idea at home; 'am going on a boat cruise, and mum, when are we going?'

### **Day of departure**

Surely, that day finally arrived, and my son and I were the first to be up at six o'clock in the morning, getting ourselves prepared for the voyage. Despite doubts over the previous day's weather, we were warmly reassured at the day break by the orange colours that printed the Eastern sky, that we would have abundant sunshine for our voyage. Our transport turned up at 6:30 am, and took us safely to the wharf.

At the Point Cruz wharf, the MV Akwa berthed peacefully with its entrance wide open, and bustling with the local tourists enthusiastically making their way in. At the wharf's entry were ticket sellers, and family members mingling and parting. I purchased one ticket for myself, waved goodbye to my younger son and his father, and followed my older son into the boat. He was already glued to the company of

his two male class mates, enjoying experimenting the narrow stairs and corridors of their new floating home.

## **Departure**

At 8:20 am the ship's crew dismantled the ropes around the anchorage, and the door of the front's entrance was closed. Ten minutes later, our cruise vessel pulled itself away from the wharf, and there we were, beginning our cruise in high spirits on the finest and bluest seas of the week.

## **On board the Cruise Boat,**

I looked around me everywhere I stationed, and noticed with deep satisfaction a great mixture of families, individuals and groups mingling at every corner of the vessel; on the rooftop and the cabins, along the corridors, and on the front and the deck of the vessel. The rowdiest commotion was at the bottom floor of the vessel, where the crew, the band, musical instruments, food, drinks, and the biggest crowd were positioned. With the throbbing vibration from the engine, the band playing noisily was simply deafening. I was not sure how the others reacted. Personally, I was irritated at first, but soon the musical rhythm had overpowered that feeling. Except for the passive ones, everyone else was either mingling loudly in pairs and groups, dancing, or roaming the vessel freely.

## **The world around us**

As we were cruising, our heads were constantly turned to gaze at many things including the fading view of Honiara, the widespread view of mighty Guadalcanal, and the beaming view of Gela and Savo Islands. I was overwhelmed by the magnificent and vast blue ocean spreading around us in its friendliest form, the clear blue sky above us, as well as the sight of sea birds, the flying fish, and dolphins racing along with the vessel. Aside all these, from time to time, everyone was directing their attention at the beckoning Gela islands. I could not keep still as there was so much to view and enjoy so I left the big crowd and climbed up the narrow stairs to join my son and the brave ones on the rooftop. This was heaven aboard, with the clearest view of everything.

## **Through Bungana to Paradise Bay**

After an hour's travel, we could see the Gela mountains and trees appearing green before us. That was when we focused our attention on our ultimate destination. I had been fortunate to travel the same route in July 2016, thus I was able to clear the ignorance of my friends on board. As we watched and mingled, we noticed we were heading straight for the passage way between Bungana and Paradise village.

## **The Paradise welcome**

As we all came out to witness our jubilant entry into the Bungana passage, a new wave of excitement flooded the cruise family, and there was clapping and shouting everywhere. With the vessel's slow turn and loud thud of the engine, the rooftop crowd rushed to position itself to embrace the view of the beautiful passage that was already enfolding us. The brilliant sight of land richly adorned with coastal myriad greens was soothing. As our vessel gracefully carried us to a gentle stop, we felt abundant peace, joy and happiness, and celebrated our safe arrival. The Paradise Bay was a perfect white sandy curve that held the calm blue waters intact tenderly. The village was still before us, and people were already out to meet us at the beach front.

Just then a boat came rushing towards us, and we watched it as it speedily made several rounds about our vessel. Yes, we could see it had a banner flying high with the words, 'Welcome to Paradise village!' Our hearts leaped in triumph to salute this spectacular heart-warming welcome.

It was only 10: 30 at mid- morning, and as it turned out, we spent eight solid hours of complete fun and relaxation with the villagers - swimming, feasting, dancing and boat riding, before taking our return voyage to Honiara under the glamor of the moonlit and starry evening sky.

**From: *02.06 Star Collections, July 2017***

**Part I: Multiple Choice Questions (10 marks)**

**For each of the questions, circle the letter of your choice in the boxes provided on page 22.**

1. Who is the writer referring to using the pronoun 'you' in paragraph 1 (last sentence)?
  - A. Friends of the writer
  - B. Local tourists to Gela
  - C. Readers of the article
  - D. Passengers of MV Akwa
  
2. How many details about 'Paradise village' did the writer give in the last sentence of paragraph 1?
  - A. 2
  - B. 3
  - C. 4
  - D. 5
  
3. According to the passage, it took MV Akwa ..... to reach Paradise village.
  - A. one hour
  - B. two hours
  - C. two and half hours
  - D. four hours
  
4. Where was the writer when the vessel headed towards the Paradise Bay? At the;
  - A. ground floor enjoying the music.
  - B. corridor rushing up to the rooftop.
  - C. rooftop with the brave ones.
  - D. front of the vessel shouting.
  
5. Which word is closest in meaning to the word 'irritated' in paragraph 6?
  - A. initiated
  - B. annoyed
  - C. amazed
  - D. attracted

6. The calm blue waters in paragraph 9 refers to the;
- A. fine waters painted in blue.
  - B. fresh water reflecting the blue sky.
  - C. special name of a stream on the bay.
  - D. fine sea along the Paradise Bay.
7. The boat rushing towards the vessel carried a village welcome
- A. warrior.
  - B. banner.
  - C. flag.
  - D. song.
8. The word '**this**' in the last sentence of paragraph 7, refers to:
- A. A special cabin in the vessel.
  - B. The narrow stairs of the vessel.
  - C. The rooftop of the vessel.
  - D. The heavenly view of the vessel.
9. When did MV Akwa leave Paradise village for its return voyage to Honiara?
- A. 4:30pm.
  - B. 5:30pm.
  - C. 6:30pm.
  - D. 8:30pm.
10. This article was written using the \_\_\_\_\_ person point of view.
- A. first
  - B. second
  - C. third
  - D. omniscient

**Part II: Short Answer Questions (20 marks)**

**Answer the following questions in complete sentences in the spaces provided. Use your own words as much as possible.**

11. How did the writer know that the weather would be favourable for the day's voyage?

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1 mark

12. Study carefully the correct words in the table and how they are used in the passage. Select the correct words from the list given to match each of the words in column A. Write your answers on the space provided in column B.

***glorious, rebuilding, MV Akwa, beauty, visualized, decorated, embracing, relaxing***

Table

<b>A. Words and Phrases</b>	<b>B. Synonym</b>
a. Floating home	
b. Soothing	
c. Adorned	
d. Magnificent	
e. Glamor	
f. Envisaged	
g. Rehabilitation	
h. Enfolding	

8 marks

13. Explain ONE reason why the writer of the story joined the Boat Cruise to Gela.

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2 marks

14. Complete the following sentence using the correct words from the article.

As we entered the Bungana passage, we were filled with \_\_\_\_\_,  
and we could hear \_\_\_\_\_ everywhere.

2 marks

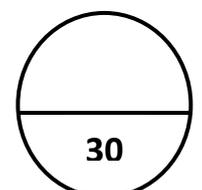
15. Below is a simplified summary of part of the article 'The world around us'.  
Fill in the missing parts to complete the paragraph using the most suitable  
words from the list given. Each word is worth 1 mark.

7 marks

***best, calmly, wonderful, swimming, from, crowd, towards***

As we were sailing, we kept turning our heads to look at many things including the wider view of Honiara and of mighty Guadalcanal, and bright view of Gela and Savo Islands. I was amazed by the \_\_\_\_\_ and big ocean surrounding us \_\_\_\_\_, the clear blue sky above us, as well as the sight of sea birds, the flying fish, and dolphins \_\_\_\_\_ along with the vessel. Apart \_\_\_\_\_ these, from time to time, everyone was looking \_\_\_\_\_ the Gela islands. There was so much to enjoy so I left the big crowd and climbed up the narrow stairs to join my son and the brave \_\_\_\_\_ on the rooftop. This was the \_\_\_\_\_ spot, and I could see everything everywhere.

**Total marks for Question 1:**



**QUESTION 2:**

**FILL IN THE BLANK SPACES**

**(10 MARKS)**

**YOU ARE ADVISED TO SPEND 15 MINUTES ON THIS QUESTION. READ THE PASSAGE CAREFULLY BEFORE SELECTING THE MOST APPROPRIATE WORD FROM THE WORD-LIST FOR EACH NUMBERED SPACE IN THE PASSAGE BELOW. ANY WORD THAT YOU CHOOSE SHOULD ONLY BE USED ONCE. WRITE YOUR ANSWERS IN THE RIGHT HAND COLUMN.**

**Events, occasions, celebrations**

<p>Have you participated seriously in any of the national, international or community events that have occurred lately?</p>	1
<p>What should we say about events, occasions and celebrations that occur in our lives and around us?</p>	2
<p>Obviously, we all know that events <u>  1  </u> occur in life every now and then vary in size and <u>  2  </u> As we hear on the radio, <u>  3  </u> in the newspapers, and watch or view on television and internet, there</p>	3
<p>are international and <u>  4  </u> events that our nation celebrate and participate in yearly, such as the Queen’s Birthday, RAMSI farewell, and the thirty-ninth Independence Anniversary celebrations. <u>  5  </u> our</p>	4
<p>own provinces, communities and churches there are also occasions <u>  6  </u> celebrate such as the Provincial Second Appointed Days,</p>	5
<p><u>  7  </u> festivals, sports competitions, and church festivals or jubilee celebrations.</p>	6
<p>How do we respond to important events that come <u>  8  </u> our pathway in life?</p>	7
<p>Do we sit back and watch while the tide of celebration, happiness, joy and blessings pass by?</p>	8
<p><u>  9  </u> the answer to this question will depend on <u>  10  </u> personal judgement and what we consider as the most important events in our lives.</p>	9
<p>And, most importantly, of all, we all have a freedom of choice, on what we think will benefit our lives, at the end of each day.</p>	10
<p><b><i>2017 Alpha-Celeb Collections.</i></b></p>	

## WORD-LIST

read	in	which	Perhaps
our	national	nature	However
we	around	cultural	Within

**Total marks for Question 2:**

10

**QUESTION 3: GRAMMAR AND WRITING**

**(30 MARKS)**

**YOU ARE ADVISED TO SPEND 30 MINUTES ON THIS QUESTION.  
THERE ARE FOUR PARTS TO THIS SECTION: PART 1, 2, 3 AND 4.**

**Part 1: Multiple Choice (10 marks)**

**Write the letter of the best choice on page 22 under Question 3- Part 1.**

1. Jenny must apologize ..... her sister in law.  
  
A. at  
B. for  
C. to  
D. with  
  
1 mark
  
2. The school leaders were proud..... their achievements.  
  
A. with  
B. by  
C. for  
D. of  
  
1 mark
  
3. I agree to let you go, but I disagree.....what you did.  
  
A. with  
B. on  
C. in  
D. by  
  
1 mark
  
4. The snake was found coiling .....the thin stick.  
  
A. at  
B. above  
C. around  
D. against  
  
1 mark
  
5. The school librarian complains .....the shortage of reading books in the school.  
  
A. with  
B. of  
C. by  
D. on  
  
1 mark

6. The people have been waiting for a transport ..... seven o'clock in the morning.
- A. before
  - B. after
  - C. at
  - D. since
- 1 mark
7. It is always wise not to interfere.....other people's problems.
- A. in
  - B. for
  - C. with
  - D. into
- 1 mark
8. The boy was .....many others who took part in the universal boat cruise.
- A. amongst
  - B. above
  - C. beside
  - D. against
- 1 mark
9. The thief jumped.....the fence and ran away.
- A. around
  - B. to
  - C. on
  - D. over
- 1 mark
10. Every day, I looked ..... my front yard and my backyard to view the sea and the mountain top.
- A. at
  - B. around
  - C. beside
  - D. beyond
- 1 mark

**Part 2: Word Building (5 marks)**

Use the correct form of these words listed below to complete the sentences. Make sure that the words are spelt correctly, and the sentences are grammatical and punctuated correctly.

<b>obey</b>	<b>choose</b>	<b>nation</b>	<b>neighbour</b>	<b>believe</b>
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1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the pathway to a brighter future.
2. Our lives depend on the \_\_\_\_\_ we make in life.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ soccer team needs to do more to win future matches.
4. The people in my \_\_\_\_\_ all know each other.
5. Solomon Islanders have many different \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Part 3: Conjunctions (5 marks)**

**Select the most appropriate word from the given pair in brackets to complete each sentence. UNDERLINE the correct word or phrases.**

6. (Even though/Despite) life is tough, we should keep going.
7. We can meet (when/ whenever) it is convenient to you.
8. I wake up early each day (in order to/so that) I get to school on time.
9. We cannot pass through the gate (unless/ if) we show our tickets.
10. (Except/ Apart) for Ben, all have been told to repeat their homework.

**Part 4: Open Ended Writing (10 marks)**

Using your knowledge of conditional tenses, complete the following sentences with the most appropriate ending. Make sure your sentence is grammatically correct and meaningful.

11. The children will only start to read if \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

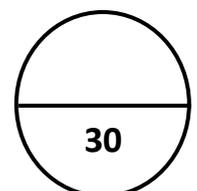
12. I would have come with you if \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

13. If I had enough money \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. I can help to teach you basic skills in writing if \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

15. Ken would try to pick you up, if \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Total marks for Question 3.**



**QUESTION 4: WRITTEN COMPOSITION 1.**

**(15 MARKS)**

**You are allowed 35 minutes to complete the writing, and 5 minutes to plan your ideas. Approved length of writing is 300 words.**

**When marking this essay, the marker will look for:**

- **A clear beginning**
- **Constructive ideas with supporting details**
- **Logical organisation of ideas**
- **Lively and creative expressions**
- **Smooth linking of sentences and paragraphs**
- **A smooth ending rounding off the story**

Use one of the following motivational starters to plan and write a descriptive essay:

**CHOOSE EITHER**

1. The most colourful event in my life was when....

**Or**

2. I could not think of another event as meaningful as the one that has just finished, and that was....

Make sure your story incorporates the motivational starter you have chosen for your writing.

**USE THIS PAGE TO PLAN YOUR ESSAY**

**(Remember, what you write here will not be assessed)**





**QUESTION 5: WRITTEN COMPOSITION 2.**

**(15 MARKS)**

**You are allowed 35 minutes to complete this writing, and 5 minutes to plan your ideas. Approved length of writing is: 300 words.**

**When marking this essay, the marker will look for:**

- **A clear and relevant introduction**
- **Constructive ideas with supporting details**
- **Logical organisation of ideas**
- **Lively and creative expressions**
- **Smooth linking of sentences and paragraphs**
- **A relevant conclusion rounding off the discussion**

**Choose one of the two topics below to write an expository essay.**

**Either**

1. The government and people of Solomon Islands need to realise that the only way to achieve progress and prosperity for our communities as openly declared in the National Anthem, is to consider **three** important factors as follows....

Discuss.

**Or**

2. Discuss **three** opinions you would share to help bring about lasting peace amongst the people of Solomon Islands.

**USE THIS PAGE TO PLAN YOUR ESSAY**

**(Remember, what you write here will not be assessed)**





**CENTRE NUMBER**

**CANDIDATE NUMBER**

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**QUESTION 1: - Part I**  
**QUESTION 3: - Part I**  
**MULTIPLE CHOICE (10 MARKS)**

Write the letter of the correct answer in the box provided. Make sure your answer is put alongside the right question number.

**Example:** If you consider your answer from A to C, cross out A 

A
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 and write the new answer by the bow like this: 

<del>A</del>
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**C**

**FOR MARKERS USE ONLY**

QUESTION	MARKS	ACTUAL MARK
<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>30</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>15</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Marker's Initial</b>		

<b>QUESTION 1. Part I:</b>	<b>QUESTION 3. Part I:</b>
1. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>	1. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>
2. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>	2. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>
3. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>	3. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>
4. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>	4. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>
5. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>	5. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>
6. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>	6. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>
7. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>	7. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>
8. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>	8. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>
9. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>	9. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>
10. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>	10. <input style="width: 60px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>