



Centre Number	Candidate Number

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

# SOLOMON ISLANDS SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

## 2018

### ENGLISH

## QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOKLET

MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 9.00 AM

TIME: 3 Hours Plus  
15 Minutes Reading Time.

<u>QUESTION</u>	<u>CONTENT</u>	<u>MARK</u>	<u>TIME</u>
1	Reading Comprehension	30	40 mins
2	Fill in the Blanks	10	15 mins
3	Grammar	35	35 mins
4	Written Composition I	15	45 mins
5	Written Composition II	15	45 mins
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>180 mins</b>

### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.
2. Read instructions carefully before you attempt each question.
3. Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet.
4. Make sure both your Centre number and Candidate number are written in the box at the top right hand corner.
5. If you need extra paper, ask your invigilator.
6. Do NOT use correction fluid.
7. Mobile phones are NOT allowed in the Examination room.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS 24 NUMBERED PAGES.

**QUESTION 1:**

**READING COMPREHENSION**

**(30 MARKS)**

**YOU ARE ADVISED TO SPEND 45 MINUTES ON THIS QUESTION.**

**READ THE PASSAGE CAREFULLY THEN ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW IN THE BOX PROVIDED ON PAGE**

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“If you want to change the world, start off by making your bed”  
*Speech by Navy Seal Admiral, William H McRaven, 2014*

... An Extract from the Speech.....

So, the University motto is “*What starts here, changes the world*”. Well, I’ve got to admit, I kinda like it – “*What starts here changes the world*”.

**Paragraph 1**

Changing the world can happen anywhere, and anyone can do it. It matters not your gender, your ethnic or religious background, your orientation or social status. Our struggles in this world are similar, and the lessons to overcome those struggles and to move forward – changing ourselves and the world around us – will apply equally to all.

I have been in the United States Navy SEAL (**SEA, AIR and LAND**) for 36 years. Basic SEAL training is six months of long torturous runs in the soft sand, midnight swims in the cold water, obstacle courses, days without sleep and always being cold, wet and miserable. It is six months of being constantly harassed by professionally trained warriors who seek to find the weak of mind and body and eliminate them from ever becoming a Navy SEAL. But the training also seeks to find those students who can lead in an environment of constant stress, chaos, failure and hardships. To me basic SEAL training was a lifetime of challenges crammed into six months. So here are lessons I learnt from basic SEAL training that hopefully will be of value to you as you move forward in life.

**Paragraph 3**

Every morning in SEAL training, my instructors, who at that time were all Viet Nam veterans, would show up in my barracks room, and the first thing they would inspect was my bed. Every morning we were required to make our bed to perfection. It seemed a little ridiculous at the time, particularly in light of the fact that we were aspiring to be real warriors, tough battle-hardened SEALS. But the wisdom of this simple act has been proven to me many times over.

If you make your bed every morning, you will have accomplished the first task of the day. It will give you a small sense of pride, and it will encourage you to complete another task, and another task and another. And at the end of the day, that one task completed, will have turned into many tasks completed. Making your bed will also reinforce the fact that the little things in life, matter. If you can’t do the little things right, you’ll never be

**Paragraph 5**

able to do the big things right. And if by chance you have a miserable day, you will come home to a bed that is made. That you made! And a made bed gives you encouragement that tomorrow will be better.

To pass SEAL training there are series of long swims that must be completed. One is the night swim. Before the swim, the instructors joyfully briefed the students on all species of sharks that inhabit the waters. They assure you however, that no student has ever been eaten by a shark. At least, not that they can remember. But you are also taught that if a shark ever begins to circle your position, stand your ground. Do not swim away. Do not act afraid. And if the shark, hungry for a midnight snack darts towards you, then summon up your strength and punch him in the snout and he will turn and swim away. There are lot of sharks in the world. If you hope to complete the swim, you will have to deal with them. So, if you want to change the world, don't back down from the sharks.

Over few weeks of difficult training, my SEAL class which started with 150 men was down with just 42. There were now six boat crews of seven men each. I was in the boat with tall guys but the best boat crew we had was made up of little guys – The Munchkin crew we called them. No one was over five foot high. The munchkin boat crew had one American Indian, one African American, one Polish American, one Greek American, one Italian American and two tough kids from the Midwest. They out-paddled, outran and outswam all the other boat crews. The big men on the other boat crews would always me good natured fun of the tiny little flippers the munchkins put on their tiny little feet prior to every swim. But somehow these little guys, from every corner of the nation and the world, always had the last laugh, swimming faster than everyone and reaching the shore long before the rest of us. SEAL training was a great equalizer. Nothing matter but your will to succeed. Not your colour, not your ethnic background, not your education, not your social status. If you want to change the world, measure a person by the size of their heart, not by the size of their flippers.

***Paragraph 7***

The ninth week of training is referred to as the Hell week. It is on Wednesday of Hell Week, that you paddle out to the mud flats and spend the next 15 hours trying to survive the cold, the howling wind, and the incessant pressure to quit from the instructors. As the sun began to set on that Wednesday evening, my training class, was ordered into the mud. The mud consumed each man till nothing visible but our heads. Looking around the mud flat, it was apparent that some students were about to give up. There was still over eight hours before the sun came up, eight more hours of bone chilling cold. The chattering teeth and shivering moans of the trainees were so loud, it was hard to hear anything.

And then one voice began to echo through the night. One voice raised in song. The song was terribly out of tune but sung with great enthusiasm. One voice became two, and two became three and before long, everyone in the class was singing. The

***Paragraph 9***

instructors threatened us with more time in the mud if we kept up the singing but the singing persisted and somehow the mud seemed a little warmer and the wind a little tamer and the dawn not so far away. If I have learnt anything in my time travelling the world, it is the POWER of HOPE – the power of one person, a George Washington, an Abraham Lincoln, a Nelson Mandela, a Mother Theresa. One person can change the world by giving people hope.

So, if you want to change the world, start each day with a task completed, find someone to help you through life. Respect everyone. Know that life is not fair, and you will fall often but if you take some risks, step up when the times are the toughest, face down the bullies, lift-up the down trodden, and never ever give up. If you do these things, the next generation and the generation that follow will live in a world far better than the one we have today. And what started here will indeed have changed the world for the better.

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

**For each of the questions circle the letter of your correct choice.**

1. According to the speaker, he has been a Navy SEAL for;  
  
A. only six months.  
B. thirty six years.  
C. over six months.  
D. less than thirty six years. (1 mark)
  
2. The purpose of visiting the SEAL trainees every morning was to;  
  
A. make them feel ridiculous.  
B. inspect the barracks room.  
C. ensure their beds were made.  
D. show that the instructors were from Viet Nam. (1 mark)
  
3. This is the speaker's personal expression of what basic SEAL training is ...  
  
A. a lifetime of challenges crammed into six months.  
B. six months of exposure to unbearable conditions.  
C. six months of harassment testing one's strength to become a Navy SEAL.  
D. the search for students who can lead in most difficult circumstances. (1 mark)

4. The speaker said that his SEAL class;
- A. was full of tall guys.
  - B. started with 42 men.
  - C. started with 150 men.
  - D. only had six boats with some men in each. (1 mark)
5. In **paragraph 6**, the speaker said that SEAL training was a great equalizer. In order to succeed, which of these matter?
- A. will
  - B. colour
  - C. education
  - D. social status (1 mark)
6. From the speech, we learnt that on Wednesday of Hell Week, the SEAL trainees spent 15 hours;
- A. paddling in the mud.
  - B. dealing with the cold.
  - C. chattering their teeth and moaning loudly.
  - D. withstanding extremely difficult circumstances. (1 mark)
7. While in the mud, the speaker's;
- A. moaning was very loud.
  - B. entire body was not seen except his head.
  - C. friends gave up and some left but others remained. (1 mark)
  - D. closest friend started singing and others joined, singing harmoniously.
8. Before the night swim, the SEAL trainees were briefed about.
- A. tricking sharks.
  - B. man-eating sharks.
  - C. what to do when confronted by a shark.
  - D. giving a midnight snack to a hungry shark. (1 mark)

9. According to the speech, all of the following details are true of the manner in which the SEAL trainees were singing, except;
- A. the trainees were eager to sing.
  - B. the singing was not in proper tune.
  - C. the tune was started by one person.
  - D. each person joined after each song.
- (1 mark)
10. Who do you think William H McRaven is addressing in this speech?
- A. High school students.
  - B. University students.
  - C. University lecturers.
  - D. A class of Navy SEAL students.
- (1 mark)

**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.

The last sentence of paragraph 3 reads, “*But the wisdom of this simple act has been proven to me many times over*”.

(i) What does the phrase *simple act* refer to?

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(1 mark)

(ii) Explain what the speaker means by that sentence?

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(2 marks)

11. This is another expression found in paragraph 6 “**There are a lot of sharks in the world. If you hope to complete the swim, you will have to deal with them. So, if you want to change the world, don’t back down from the sharks**”.

Sharks don’t live on land like humans do, so here, the speaker is using a metaphor. What does he mean by *sharks*?

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(2 marks)

12. From your school life, give an example of a *shark* and explain your answer.

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(2 marks)

13. “**Measure a person by the size of their heart, not by the size of their flippers**” is a figurative expression found in **paragraph 7**. We can see a person’s feet but we cannot see his/her heart. Explain what this means.

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(2 marks)

15. Which word in **paragraph 3** means the opposite of ‘pleasure’?

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(1 mark)

16. Which word in **paragraph 8** means ‘endless’?

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(1 mark)

17. Which word in the last paragraph is another word for ‘eagerness’?

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(1 mark)

18. What effect does the singing have on the atmosphere in which the trainees are in?

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(2 marks)

19. The speaker mentioned George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Nelson Mandela and Mother Theresa. In what way are they important?

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(2 marks)



20. According to the speaker, William H McRaven, if you want to change the world, FOUR (4) of his suggested actions are;

i) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

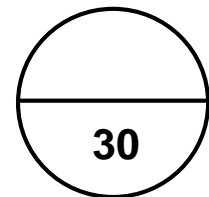
ii) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

iii) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

iv) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(4 marks)

**Total marks for Question 1:**



**QUESTION 2:      FILL IN THE BLANK SPACES**

**(10 MARKS)**

You are advised to spend 15 minutes on this question. Select the most suitable word from the word- list below for each numbered space in the passage. Each word should be used only once. Write your answers on the spaces provided on the right hand column.

**Wordlist**

today	but	favour	quality	differently	knew
less	saying	known	worked	agreed	work

**A TRUE STORY OF A CARPENTER**

Mr Chris, an elderly carpenter who was ready to retire, told his employer about his plans to leave the *house building business* to live in a more leisurely life with his wife and spend time with his extended family. Now, he would miss the pay each week   1   he wanted to retire. The employer was sorry to see his good worker go and asked if he could build just one more house as a personal   2  .

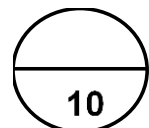
The carpenter   3   and started working on the last project of his life. Since it was his last project, he   4   half-heartedly. He said goodbye to overtime. He did not consider finding the best cement mixture. He did not consider having a swimming pool in his project. He did not use   5   wood for doors. The furniture was not of good quality. The employer invited the carpenter in his office and gave the keys to the newly built house to the carpenter,   6  , "This is my gift to you for your commendable service over 15 years". The carpenter was shocked!

What a shame! If only he had   7   that he was building his own house, he would have done it so differently. So, it is with us. We build our lives, a day at a time, often putting   8   than our best into the building. Then, with a shock we realise we have to live in the house we have built. If we could do it over again, we would do it much   9  . But you cannot go back, you are the carpenter and every day you hammer a nail, a piece of a board, or erect a wall.

Someone once said, "Life is a do-it-yourself-project". Your attitude and the choices you make   10  , help build the house you live in tomorrow. Therefore, build wisely!

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. \_\_\_\_\_

**Total marks for Question 2:**



**QUESTION 3: GRAMMAR**

**(35 MARKS)**

**YOU ARE ADVISED TO SPEND 30 MINUTES ON THIS QUESTION. THERE ARE FOUR (4) PARTS TO THIS SECTION.**

**PART I: Multiple Choice (10 marks)**

**Circle the letter of the best choice.**

1. During the 2018 FIFA World Cup Grand final match, I turned on the television just in time to see Mbappe \_\_\_\_\_ the ball into the net and Titi shouted, 'N—e —t—e!'  
  
A. head  
B. headed  
C. heading  
D. was heading (1 mark)
  
2. The cat except the rats \_\_\_\_\_ aware of the approaching enemy.  
  
A. is  
B. are  
C. have been  
D. are being (1 mark)
  
3. Neither the teacher nor Form 5 boys \_\_\_\_\_ clean hair.  
  
A. has  
B. have  
C. has had  
D. have had (1 mark)
  
4. You wouldn't know I was here if I didn't call your name, \_\_\_\_\_?  
  
A. will you  
B. won't you  
C. would you  
D. wouldn't you (1 mark)

5. The Principal announced, 'Do not fall in love when you are still at high school! It's a total waste of time.'

Tom: That is one of \_\_\_\_\_ pieces of advice I have received!

Ana: Yes, I totally agree! Everything he says is absolutely \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the better ... important
  - B. the good ... important
  - C. the best ... importance
  - D. the best ... important
- (2 marks)

6. John: When you were in Auki last month, how often did you go to the market?

Joy: I \_\_\_\_\_ there twice a week.

- A. go
  - B. went
  - C. have gone
  - D. have been
- (1 mark)

7. Lyn and Doreen \_\_\_\_\_ their room. Look, it's clean now!

- A. will clean
  - B. has cleaned
  - C. are cleaning
  - D. have cleaned
- (1 mark)

8. Mathew \_\_\_\_\_ the clothes from the line by the time the rain came.

- A. collected
  - B. had collected
  - C. has collected
  - D. has been collecting
- (1 mark)

9. Roy: Do you think we'll get there before the boat leaves?

Tina: No, I think by the time we get there, it \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. will go
  - B. will be going
  - C. will have left
  - D. will have been gone
- (1 mark)

**Part II:      Active and Passive      (5 marks)**

**Rewrite the following active sentences into passive sentences and write them on the spaces provided. An example has been done for you.**

**Active: Beetles are destroying oil palms at GPPOL.  
Passive: Oil palms at GPPOL are being destroyed by beetles.**

11. Rising sea level is affecting our islands.

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(1 mark)

12. Solomon Power officers warned the public to keep away from the fallen power line.

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(1 mark)

13. Parliament has passed the Anti-Corruption Bill.

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(1 mark)

**Rewrite the following passive sentences into active sentences and write them in the spaces provided.**

14. Students and youths who have turned eighteen years old are encouraged by the Electoral Commission Office to register and vote in 2019 National General Election.

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(1 mark)

15. Gold Ridge Mining Limited is strongly requested by the government to produce an environmental management plan before it commences operation.

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(1 mark)

**Part III:      Direct and Indirect Speech      (10 marks)**

**Report the following direct statements and write them on the spaces provided.**

***An example has been done for you:***

***'Can you lend me your pen, Helen?' Joe asked.***

***Joe asked Helen if she could lend him her pen.***

16. Mau, will you take this note to the Principal?' Salo asked.

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(2 marks)

17. Carol told her son, 'Don't eat the cake!'

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(2 marks)

18. 'Come with me to the beach?' Martin told Jay.

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(2 marks)

**Change the following reported statements into direct statements and write them on the spaces provided.**

19. Mr Robert reminded us to be punctual to class.

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(2 marks)

20. Kathy asked Jane if she had met her uncle.

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(2 marks)

**Part IV: Conditional Tenses (10 marks)**

**Rewrite the following sentences, using the verbs given in brackets and in the tense indicated in the bracket. An example has been done for you.**

Conditional tense **type 1**: present tense + will

If you see the movie, you will cry.

Conditional tense **type 2**: past tense + would

If you saw the movie, you would cry.

Conditional tense **type 3**: past perfect tense + would have + participle form

If you had seen the movie, you would have cried.

**Example**

If I (know) you were coming, I (stay) to meet you.

*(Change to conditional tense 3)*

If I had known you were coming, I would have stayed to meet you.

21. If every Form 5 students (study) hard they (pass) the SISC examination.

*(Change to conditional tense type 1)*

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(2 marks)

22. If she (ask) me to go, I (agree). *(Change to conditional tense type 2)*

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(2 marks)

23. If we (control) the African snails earlier, all our crops on the island (not die).  
(Change to conditional tense type 3)

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(2 marks)

24. Tom and Jerry (not suspend) from school if they (not smoke) that roll of solbako.  
(Change to conditional tense type 3)

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(2 marks)

25. Solomon Islanders are crazy about soccer. I think if a famous soccer player like Neymar Junior (visit) Solomon Islands, soccer fans (very excited).  
(Change to conditional tense type 2)

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(2 marks)

Total marks for Question 3:

35



**QUESTION 4: WRITTEN COMPOSITION I**

**(15 MARKS)**

**WHEN WRITING THIS ESSAY, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING POINTS:**

- a clear beginning 2 marks
- constructive ideas with supporting details 5 marks
- logical organisation of ideas 2 marks
- lively and correct expressions 2 marks
- smooth linking of sentences and paragraphs 2 marks
- a conclusion rounding off your points 2 marks

**YOU ARE ADVISED TO SPEND 40 MINUTES ON THIS QUESTION PLUS 5 MINUTES TO PLAN YOUR ESSAY. THIS ESSAY SHOULD BE ABOUT 300 WORDS LONG.**

**WRITE AN EXPOSITORY ESSAY ON ONE (1) OF THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:**

1. *Nowadays, many Solomon Islanders depend heavily on the Constituency Development Fund (CDF) from their Members of Parliament for school fees, sea-fares, building materials and money to meet many other family needs. It is observed that this has changed people's mindset and behaviour – from being **independent** to being **dependent** on the MPs.*

Do you agree?

Discuss THREE (3) reasons to support your point of view.

**OR**

2. *The role of a Member of Parliament can be summed up in this way: to make laws for the country, to make the budget for the country and to look after government ministries. Like men, women are equally capable to perform these roles and having equal number of men and women in parliament is extremely important for Solomon Islands. Therefore, more women should be elected into parliament and provincial assemblies.*

Discuss THREE (3) ways in which Solomon Islands will benefit from equal representation in parliament and provincial assemblies.

**USE THIS PAGE TO PLAN YOUR ESSAY**  
**(Whatever you write here will not be marked or assessed)**





**QUESTION 5:      WRITTEN COMPOSITION II.**

**(15 MARKS)**

**WHEN WRITING THIS ESSAY, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING POINTS;**

- a clear beginning 1 mark
- constructive ideas with supporting details 3 marks
- logical organisation of ideas 3 marks
- lively and correct expressions 5 marks
- smooth linking of sentences and paragraphs 2 marks
- a conclusion rounding off your points 1 mark

**YOU ARE ADVISED TO SPEND 5 MINUTES ON PLANNING AND 40 MINUTES TO WRITE YOUR ESSAY. THIS ESSAY SHOULD BE ABOUT 300 WORDS LONG.**

**WRITE AN IMAGINATIVE ESSAY ON ONE (1) OF THE FOLLOWING TOPICS. EACH STATEMENT IS PART OF THE EVENTS IN A STORY SO REMEMBER TO INCLUDE IT IN YOUR STORY.**

1. Three of us. We were the only ones left, the only ones to make it to the island.

**OR**

2. The eyes in the painting followed him down the corridor.

**USE THIS PAGE TO PLAN YOUR ESSAY.**  
**(Whatever you write here will not be marked or assessed)**







**SISC – ENGLISH 2018**

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

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

**FOR MARKERS USE ONLY**

QUESTION	MARKS	MARKER	SCRIPT CHECKER
<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>		
<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>		
<b>3</b>	<b>35</b>		
<b>4</b>	<b>15</b>		
<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>105</b>		
<b>Marker / Checker Initials</b>			

QUESTION 1. Part I:	QUESTION 3. Part I:
1. <input type="text"/>	1. <input type="text"/>
2. <input type="text"/>	2. <input type="text"/>
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