



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

SOLOMON ISLANDS YEAR 9 EXAMINATION

2019

ENGLISH

LISTENING COMPREHENSION QUESTION

(Teacher's Copy)

THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS 8 PAGES.

NOTE TO THE TEACHER WHO IS READING THIS:

It is crucial that you say exactly what is written down. No other help or instruction should be given. Read the full document to the candidates. Pause only where indicated within the brackets.

TEACHER BEGINS:

Today you are going to do your Listening Comprehension Examination. You should all have the Question Booklet and a pen to write with. **DO NOT OPEN THE QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.** I am going to read to you a story. The first time through, I will read it normally and you should listen to it carefully.

(Teacher reads the passage – first reading)

Summers at the beach

As Jay walked toward the beach that beautiful morning, the sun sparkled across the blue water, and the sand already felt warm under his toes. There was a slight breeze, but even in shorts and a T-shirt, Jay didn't feel the least bit cold. Yet despite the gorgeous scenery and the perfect temperature, Jay couldn't help feeling a bit disappointed. After all, it was December, and as far as Jay was concerned, this was not how December should feel.

It had been over six months since Jay's family had relocated from their small mountain town in Colorado to this bustling beach community in southern California. It had been a time of adjustments: a new neighbourhood, a new school, and new friends. Surprisingly, Jay had adapted far better than he would have expected. The one thing he had not been able to get used to was the seasons here. He still missed the mild spring, the hot summer, the crisp fall, and especially the cold winter of Colorado.

For Jay, winter had always been the perfect season. He enjoyed hearing boots crunch on fresh snow and drinking a mug of hot chocolate when it was freezing outside. Then, there was sledding, Jay's favourite winter activity. He'd eagerly climb to the top of the hill. Then, sitting on his wooden sled, he'd push off with his feet, flying downhill, steering with the rope, and grinning as he glided through the icy snow. Recently, his friends had been sending pictures of their sledding exploits. Jay couldn't help feeling jealous. Living in this mild climate just wasn't the same.

In an attempt to persuade Jay that beach life wasn't all bad, his friend Miguel invited Jay to his first surfing lesson. Miguel was already waiting, standing next to two large surfboards and wearing a wet suit.

"So, you miss the cold?" Miguel smiled, greeting Jay. "Well, around here, nothing compares to a surf in the Pacific." He tossed a wet suit at Jay. "Better put this on."

As Jay pulled on the wet suit, Miguel quickly went over some basic surfing techniques, clearly eager to get straight into the water. Jay scrambled after him.

The first time an ocean wave hit Jay, it completely took his breath away. By the time he was waist-deep, he could barely feel his toes. His cold fingers struggled to grip the surfboard as he pulled himself on top. As another wave crashed over him, he could hardly hear Miguel shouting directions to him. Paddling with his arms, he turned toward shore as a giant wave approached. Suddenly, he felt the surfboard being lifted by the wave, and he was flying toward the beach. He held on tight, forgetting Miguel's instructions about how to stand. Soon, Jay heard a crunch as his board hit the shore, and he slid off onto the sand.

Although it had been a short ride, Jay felt a rush of excitement. The biting cold, the sudden speed, the struggle for control; for a moment, it had felt a lot like sledding, but even better.

Then, Miguel was standing over him, looking amused.

"Hey are you okay?" he asked. "Anytime you want to stop, we can go back to my house and have a hot chocolate. It's the best way to warm up."

“No. I want to give it another try!” Jay sputtered, smiling. Maybe he could learn to like it here after all.

(PAUSE..... 10 SECONDS)

I am now going to read the passage for the second time. When I finish reading, I will ask you ten questions about the story. The questions are printed in your Question and Answer Booklet. You should listen for possible answers to the questions. *Open your Question and Answer Booklet. You can look at the questions while I read the passage. DO NOT WRITE ANYTHING AT THIS TIME.*

(Teacher reads the passage – Second reading)

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(PAUSE20 seconds)

You may now open your **QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOKLET** and write your **BEST answer (A, B, C or D)** in the boxes on the back-flap provided at the end of the **Question and Answer Booklet**. Each item is worth one (1) mark.

1. What is the story mainly about?
 - A. Playing a team sport.
 - B. Visiting an old friend.
 - C. Adjusting to a new place.
 - D. Learning to swim in the ocean.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

2. Which of the following is Jay's favourite thing about winter?
 - A. The cold temperature.
 - B. The sound of the snow.
 - C. Drinking hot chocolate.
 - D. Sledding with his friends.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

3. **Exploits** in this story would mean?
 - A. Trips.
 - B. Slopes.
 - C. Partners.
 - D. Adventures.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

4. **“Went over”** as used in the passage is another phrase for?
 - A. Crossed.
 - B. Explained.
 - C. Passed by.
 - D. Read through.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

5. What is probably TRUE about Jay's **first** surfing experience?
It was _____.
- A. too cold for him.
 - B. too difficult for him.
 - C. more enjoyable than sledding.
 - D. just as he had expected it to be.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

6. How long ago was Jay's family relocated from Colorado?
- A. 6 days ago.
 - B. 6 years ago.
 - C. 2 months ago.
 - D. 6 months ago.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

7. Where did Jay's family relocated to?
- A. Miami.
 - B. Hawaii.
 - C. Colorado.
 - D. Southern California.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

8. Miguel was Jay's;
- A. dad.
 - B. brother.
 - C. new friend.
 - D. new neighbour.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

9. Jay's new experience of surfing has forced him to;
- A. quit.
 - B. return home.
 - C. give another try.
 - D. drink hot chocolate.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

10. What month is mentioned in the story?
- A. January.
 - B. August.
 - C. October.
 - D. December.

This brings us to the end of the Listening Comprehension questions. You can now proceed on to the next questions in your Question and Answer Booklet. You have 15 minutes reading time and 2 hours to do the examination.

You can now start the 15 minutes reading time.