



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

SOLOMON ISLANDS YEAR 9 EXAMINATION

2020

ENGLISH

LISTENING COMPREHENSION QUESTION

Teachers copy

THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS 9 PAGES.

SECTION A: LISTENING COMPREHENSION (10 MARKS)

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 a 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 you a story. The first time through, I will read it normally and you should listen to it carefully.

(Teacher read the passage-first reading)

Reward for Taro

A young woodcutter named Taro lived with his mother and father on a lonely hillside. All day long he chopped wood in the forest.

Though he worked very hard, he earned very little money. This made him sad, for he was a thoughtful son and wanted to give his old parents everything they needed.

One evening, when Taro and his parents were sitting in a corner of their hut, a strong wind began to blow. Suddenly Taro's father said, "I wish I had a cup of sake'. It would warm me and do my old heart good."

This made Taro sadder than ever, for the heart-warming drink called sake' was very expensive. "How do I earn more money?" he asked himself. "How do I get a little sake' for my poor old father?" He decided to work harder than before.

Next morning, Taro jumped out of bed earlier than usual and made his way to the forest. He chopped and cut, chopped and cut as the sun climbed and soon he was

so warm that he had to take off his jacket. His mouth was dry and his face was wet with sweat. "My poor old father!" he thought. "If only he was warm as I!"

Then suddenly Taro stopped chopping. What was the sound he heard? Could it be...could it possibly be rushing water?

Taro could not remember ever seeing or hearing a rushing stream in the part of the forest. He was thirsty. The axe dropped out of his hands and he ran in the direction of the sound.

Taro saw a beautiful little waterfall hidden behind a rock. Kneeling at a place where the water flowed quietly, he cupped a little in his hands and put it to his lips. Was it water? Or was it sake'? He tasted it again and again and always it was the delicious sake' instead of cold water.

Taro quickly filled the pitcher he had with him and hurried home. That afternoon a neighbour stopped by for a visit. Taro's father politely offered her a cup of the sake'. The lady drank it greedily and thanked the old man. Then Taro told her the story of the magic waterfall. By nightfall she had spread the story throughout the whole village.

Next morning, Taro started for work even earlier than the morning before. He carried with him the largest pitcher he owned, for he intended first of all to go to the waterfall. When he reached it, he found to his great surprise all his neighbours there.

They were carrying pitchers, jars, buckets – anything they could find to hold the magic sake'. Then one villager knelt and held his mouth under the waterfall to drink. He drank again and again and then shouted angrily, "Water! Nothing but water!" Others also tried But there was no sake', only cold water.

"We have been tricked!" shouted the villagers. "Where is Taro? Let us drown him in this waterfall". But Taro had been wise enough to slip behind a rock when he saw how things were going. He was nowhere to be found.

The story of Taro and his magic waterfall reached the Emperor of Japan, He sent for the young woodcutter and rewarded him with twenty pieces of gold for having been so good and kind.

Then he named the most beautiful fountain in the city after Taro. This, said the Emperor, was to encourage all children to honour and obey their parents.

Source: “adapted from Advance-Africa.com”

(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)

Reward for Taro

A young woodcutter named Taro lived with his mother and father on a lonely hillside. All day long he chopped wood in the forest.

Though he worked very hard, he earned very little money. This made him sad, for he was a thoughtful son and wanted to give his old parents everything they needed.

One evening, when Taro and his parents were sitting in a corner of their hut, a strong wind began to blow. Suddenly Taro’s father said, “I wish I had a cup of sake’. It would warm me and do my old heart good.”

This made Taro sadder than ever, for the heart-warming drink called sake’ was very expensive. “How do I earn more money?” He asked himself. “How do I get a little sake’ for my poor old father?” He decided to work harder than before.

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The story of Taro and his magic waterfall reached the Emperor of Japan, He sent for the young woodcutter and rewarded him with twenty pieces of gold for having been so good and kind.

Then he named the most beautiful fountain in the city after Taro. This, said the Emperor, was to encourage all children to honour and obey their parents.

(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. This story is about a/an?

- A. wood-cutter
- B. old man
- C. lazy young man
- D. hunter

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

2. This story happened in

- A. Japan
- B. Africa
- C. Solomon Islands
- D. A country side of Australia

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

3. The wood cutter was sad because

- A. he lost his axe.
- B. earn little money.
- C. his parents died.
- D. he has lost all his money.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

4. Taro was even sadder when

- A. his father was sick.
- B. when other young boys stole his axe.
- C. he realise there is no more trees to cut.
- D. his poor old father wish for a cup of sake' to keep him warm.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

5. The wood-cutter suddenly stopped chopping when

- A. he felt thirsty.
- B. someone called his name.
- C. he heard the sound of rushing water.
- D. he heard a loud noise coming from the trees.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

6. How did the villagers knew about the story of the magic fall?

- A. A messenger told them.
- B. Taro's father informed them about it.
- C. Another villager informed them.
- D. One of them discovered for the whole village.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

7. Why did the villagers disappointed?
- A. There was no magic fall after all.
 - B. Taro's family collected all the seke'.
 - C. Because Taro did not want to show them the magic fall.
 - D. When they went to the fall and found out that it was just water.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

8. When the villagers were looking for the woodcutter, he was
- A. hiding in their house.
 - B. returning to the village.
 - C. ran away into the bushes.
 - D. hiding behind a big stone.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

9. The emperor name the most beautiful fountain in the city after the wood-cutter because
- A. he is famous.
 - B. he found the fountain.
 - C. he is the emperor of Japan at that time.
 - D. to encourage all children to honour and obey their parents.

(PAUSE 20 seconds)

10. According to the story, Taro is described as

- A. a hunter.
- B. lazy young man.
- C. a thoughtful son.
- D. trouble maker.

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.