



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

STUDENT EDUCATION NUMBER									

Samoa National Junior Secondary Certificate

ENGLISH

2023

QUESTION and ANSWER BOOKLET

Time allowed: 3 Hours & 10 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS

1. You have 10 minutes to read **before** you start the exam.
2. Write your **Student Education Number (SEN)** in the space provided on the top right hand corner of this page.
3. **Answer ALL QUESTIONS.** Write your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet.
4. If you need more space, ask the Supervisor for extra paper. Write your SEN on all extra sheets used and clearly number the questions. Attach the extra sheets at the appropriate places in this booklet.

STRANDS: READING AND WRITING		Pages	Time (min)	Weighting
SECTION 1:	READING COMPREHENSION	2-10	55	30
SECTION 2:	LIBRARY & RESEARCH	11-13	20	10
SECTION 3:	LANGUAGE	14-17	30	18
SECTION 4:	WRITING	18-23	30	18
SECTION 5:	RESPONSE TO LITERATURE	22-33	45	24
	TOTAL		180	100

Check that this booklet contains pages 2-34 in the correct order.

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

INSTRUCTIONS: There are TWO parts to this Section. You must answer BOTH parts.
Spend about ONE hour on this Section.

Part 1. Read the passage below and then answer Questions 1 – 13.



PLASTIC POLLUTION

A sea turtle swims through the water and spots a white blob floating near the surface. “Yum!” it thinks. “A jellyfish!” Chasing after its dinner, the turtle swallows the item. But the floating blob isn’t a jellyfish—it’s a⁽⁵⁾ plastic bag that could make the sea turtle sick.

Hundreds of marine animals have been reported to have eaten or been **entangled** in plastic. Scientists think that the amount of plastic in the ocean might triple by 2050—and that would mean **seriously bad news** for the ocean and the creatures that live there.

What’s the problem with plastic? The problem is that most of us use and then toss way⁽¹⁰⁾ more plastic than we need: things like grocery bags, drink bottles, straws, food wrappers, and plastic packaging around toys. This kind of plastic that’s used only once before being thrown away is called **single-use plastic**, and it makes up more than 40 percent of all plastic trash.

Where does the plastic go? Scientists think that 8.8 million tons of plastic winds up in the⁽¹⁵⁾ ocean every year—that’s a lot of trash.

How does it get into the sea? Plastic left on the ground as litter often blows into creeks and rivers, eventually ending up in the ocean. And because plastic trash is different from other types of waste—it doesn’t decompose back into nature like an apple core or a piece of paper—it stays in the ocean forever. That means discarded fishing nets can entangle⁽²⁰⁾ animals; harmful straws and grocery bags can be mistaken as food.

What can we do about it? You can look at how much single-use plastic your family uses by filling out a plastic journal for a week—then talking about what you can do to use less. By working together, our choices can help save animals—and the ocean they live in.

Source: Shaw, A. (2023) Plastic Pollution. *National Geographic for Kids*. <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/nature/kids-vs-plastic/article/pollution-1> [Accessed 22 March].

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the **BEST** answer and write the **CORRECT** letter in the box provided.

1. What could make a sea turtle sick?

- A. Chasing after a jellyfish.
- B. Chasing a plastic jellyfish.
- C. Eating a jellyfish.
- D. Eating plastic.

SL 1

2. Another word for **entangled** (Line 6) is...

- A. lost.
- B. free.
- C. knotted.
- D. drowned.

SL 1

SHORT ANSWERS: Answer the following questions by writing complete sentences in the spaces provided.

3. According to the article (in paragraph 2), what is '**seriously bad news**'?

SL 2

4. Describe what the article means by '**single-use plastic**' (paragraph 3)?

SL 2

5. What are TWO (2) examples of 'single-use plastic' (paragraph 3)?

SL 2

6. Based on the information in paragraph 4 and your own knowledge of rubbish disposal, explain why Scientists think most plastic rubbish will end up in the ocean.

SL 3

7. Explain why plastic is more harmful than other types of rubbish (paragraph 5).
Give an example to support your answer.

SL 3

Part 2: Read the following poem and then answer Questions 11 – 13.

Water Is Our Everything

Water is our source of life
Water is our everything
Without it, we have nothing
Together we must protect it

The little things do a lot
Start taking shorter showers
Maybe just 5 minutes or so
It's not that much to ask

Do not waste day old water
There is nothing wrong
Use to water all your plants
So they grow nice and strong

While doing the dishes, turn off the tap
There's no need for waste
Your dishes can be squeaky clean
The Earth will be okay.

Poet: Olivia Souza

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the BEST answer and write the CORRECT letter in the box provided.

9. The poet says that people should save water by:

- A. taking shorter showers.
- B. using water from the day before.
- C. turning the tap off when washing dishes.
- D. All of the above.

	SL 1

SHORT ANSWERS: Read the questions carefully then write your answers in complete sentences in the spaces provided.

10. Why does the poet start the poem with the following repetition?

Water is our source of life
Water is our everything

SL 2

11. Describe the mood of the poem.

SL 3

12. **'The Earth will be okay'** (final line of the poem)
Explain what the poet means.

SL 3

INSTRUCTIONS: There are **FOUR** (4) Questions in this Section.
You must answer **ALL** four (4) Questions.
Spend about 20 minutes on this section.

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the **BEST** answer and write the **CORRECT** letter in the box provided.

14. What information can be found on the cover of a book?

- A. Title, Date.
- B. Author, Publisher.
- C. Title, Author.
- D. Author, Date.

SL 1

SHORT ANSWERS: Read the questions carefully and then write your answers in complete sentences in the spaces provided.

15. Which section of the library contains books which cannot be borrowed? Also, give ONE (1) example of a book that is found in this section of the library.

SL 2

16. Explain how the **Dewey Decimal System** makes it easier for students to find books in the library. Give an example to support your answer.

SL 3

17. Discuss why it would be a good idea to use a questionnaire in a research on the topic – *“Students in Samoa spend too much time on TikTok.”*

SL 4

INSTRUCTIONS: There are **THREE** (3) parts in this section.
You must answer **ALL** three (3) parts.
Spend about 30 minutes on this section.

MULTIPLE CHOICE: Choose the **BEST** answer and write the **CORRECT** letter in the box provided.

18. My younger cousin constantly misbehaves and is always causing _____.

- A. hostility
- B. mischief
- C. generosity
- D. violence

SL 1

19. Choose the synonym for the word 'BURGLER'.

- A. bungler
- B. thief
- C. liar
- D. thinker

SL 1

20. Choose the antonym for the word, 'CAREFREE'.

- A. easygoing
- B. relaxed
- C. cautious
- D. worried

SL 1

SHORT ANSWERS: Read the questions carefully and then write your answers in complete sentences in the spaces provided.

20. **‘Their’, ‘There’ or ‘They’re’.** Write the correct word in the gaps in the following sentences.

“Hang the photo _____,” aunty Moe showed Sierra. “I want your uncles to see _____ photo as soon as they arrive. _____ going to be so proud to see _____ photo with our parents in the lounge.

SL 2

21. Re-write the following sentence with the correct punctuation.

where have you been all this time Moe asked Sione

SL 2

22. Identify the simile in the following sentence, and explain how it helps you understand what Sierra thinks about doing chores.

Siera knew that if she walked like a turtle, she would have less time to do chores when she arrived home.

SL 3

24. Discuss why conjunctions are used in sentences and give examples to support your answer.

Lined area for writing the answer.

SL 4

INSTRUCTIONS: Choose **ONE** (1) **OPTION** to write ONE (1) **ESSAY FOR THIS SECTION**.

EXPRESSING OPINION **OR** PERSONAL WRITING

OPTION 1: **EXPRESSING OPINION**

Choose **ONE** (1) of the following topics in the box below to write an expressing opinion essay.

You may **AGREE** or **DISAGREE** with the topic.

Write the '**Topic**' **OR** '**Topic Number**' of your choice in the space provided below.

Spend about 30 minutes on this section.

TOPICS:

1. Tik Tok should be banned in Samoa
2. Students should be allowed to study from home.
3. Reading is the key to success in education.
4. Diabetes is becoming a real concern for Samoa.
5. Every village must have a learning centre.

TOPIC/TOPIC NUMBER: _____

Lined writing area with 30 horizontal lines.

for Scorer's use only

SKILL LEVEL	1	1	1	2	2	3	4	4
STUDENT RESPONSE								

OPTION 2:

PERSONAL WRITING

Choose **ONE (1)** of the following topics in the box below to write person essay.

Write the **‘Topic’ OR ‘Topic Number’** of your choice in the space provided below.

Spend about 30 minutes on this section.

- TOPICS:**
1. My Hero/Heroine/Favourite person.
 2. My bravest moment.
 3. A special place.
 4. My secret talent.
 5. A wrong choice.

TOPIC/TOPIC NUMBER: _____

Lined writing area consisting of multiple horizontal lines for text entry.

for Scorer's use only

SKILL LEVEL	1	1	1	2	2	3	4	4
STUDENT RESPONSE								

INSTRUCTIONS: There are FOUR (4) genres in this Section.
You must choose TWO (2) genres to respond to.

and/or **GENRE 1: NOVEL**
and/or **GENRE 2: SHORT STORIES**
and/or **GENRE 3: POETRY**
and/or **GENRE 4: FILM**

Remember to choose **TWO GENRES**.

You must begin your response by writing the **GENRE NUMBER** and its **OPTION NUMBER**.

Write your responses on pages 28 – 33.

Spend about 45 minutes on this Section.

GENRE 1:	NOVEL
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Choose **ONE** (1) Option from the list below, and apply it to **ONE** novel you have studied in class.
Write 150-200 words.

- Support your ideas with details, examples and/or quotes from the novel.
- DO NOT FORGET to write the author's name and title of the Novel.

NOVEL OPTIONS: CHOOSE ONE (1):

1. Explain what motivated the character to act or speak the way they do in the novel.
2. Discuss how the main theme in the novel helps you to understand more about life.
3. Explain how the ending is important to understanding the title of the novel.

GENRE 2**SHORT STORIES**

Choose **ONE** (1) Option from the list below and apply it to **ONE** short story you have studied in class.
Write 150-200 words.

- Support your ideas with details, examples and/or quotes from the short story.
- DO NOT FORGET to write the author's name and title of the short story.

SHORT STORY OPTIONS: CHOOSE ONE (1):

1. Explain how a character in a short story learned an important lesson.
2. Explain how the setting of a short story helps you understand the plot.
3. Discuss the main theme and why it is important to you.

GENRE 3:**POETRY**

Choose **ONE** (1) Option from the list and apply it to **ONE** (1) poem you have studied in class.
Write 150-200 words.

- You can use a poem that you have studied or a poem on page 25.
- Support your ideas with details, examples and/or quotes from the poem.

DO NOT FORGET to write the author's name and title of the poem.

POETRY OPTIONS: CHOOSE ONE (1):

1. Explain the main idea in the poem and a lesson you learned from it.
2. Discuss the importance of using rhyme in a poem you have studied this year.
3. Identify symbols in the poem and discuss why they are important.

GENRE 4:**FILMS**

Choose **ONE** (1) Option from the list below and apply it to a film you have studied in class.

Write 150-200 words.

- Support your ideas with details, examples, and/or quotes from the film.

DO NOT FORGET to write the names of the Director, the Producer and the title of the film.

FILM OPTIONS: CHOOSE ONE (1):

1. Explain why you would recommend the film to your friends.
2. Discuss how music emphasizes the mood of a character in the film.
3. Describe how the film uses flashbacks and/or flashforwards to make the storyline more interesting.

POEMS:

My Dog

My dog Ali
is as gold
as a dollar coin.
He is as old
as a dinosaur.
He's half deaf.
All of his knees
are worn out.
He smells like
rotten cheese.

When we take Ali for a walk,
he rolls in mud puddles
and snorts like a horse.
He scavenges for food,
and finds fish and chips
with tomato sauce.
He eats the paper too
of course.

By Laura Ranger

Rainy Day

One day it rained
And rained, every cloud would fade.
Crystals falling on the ground,
Pounding hard louder than loud.
Lightning struck a beam of light.
Booming thunder and a bit of fright.
Rain is refreshing,
Rain is a danger,
That is the cloud's way of letting out anger.
Hearts racing as fast as the wind
Even when the drops of rain were running thin.
The rain has stopped and all is at peace,
The rain that poured hard has ceased.
The gray sky with little blue
Makes us think what can we do?
Therefore we say let it rain!
It can't last forever,
This rainy day.

Anon.

MY ROBOT

I told my robot to do my biddin',
He yawned and said, "You must be kiddin."
I told my robot to cook me a stew.
He said, "I got better things to do."
I told my robot to sweep my shack.
He said, "You want me to strain my back?"
I told my robot to answer the phone.
He said, "I must make some calls of my own."
I told my robot to brew me some tea.
He said, "Why don't you make tea for me?"
I told my robot to boil me an egg.
He said, "First—let me hear you beg."
I told my robot, "There's a song you can play me."
He said, "How much are you gonna pay me?"
So I sold that robot, 'cause I never knew
Exactly who belonged to who.

Lisa Viager

Imagine

Imagine a snail
As big as a whale,
Imagine a lark
As big as a shark,
Imagine a bee
As big as a tree,
Imagine a toad
As long as a road,
Imagine a hare
As big as a chair,
Imagine a goat
As long as a boat
And a flea the same size as me

Roland Egan

RESPONSE TO LITERATURE 1

GENRE Number: _____

Option Number: _____

Title: _____

Name of Author(s)/Poet/Director/Producer:

Response:

Lined writing area consisting of 25 horizontal lines.

RESPONSE TO LITERATURE 2

GENRE Number: _____

Option Number: _____

Title: _____

Name of Author(s)/Poet/Director/Producer:

Response:

Lined writing area with horizontal lines.

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2023

(For Scorer only)

STRANDS		Weighting	Scores	Check Scorer	AED check
SECTION 1:	READING COMPREHENSION	30			
SECTION 2:	LIBRARY & RESEARCH	10			
SECTION 3:	LANGUAGE	18			
SECTION 4:	WRITING	18			
SECTION 5:	RESPONSE TO LITERATURE	24			
TOTAL		100			