



STUDENT EDUCATION NUMBER									

---

# Samoa Secondary Leaving Certificate

---

# ENGLISH

# 2021

## 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		Page	Time (min)	Weighting
SECTION 1:	READING COMPREHENSION	2	60	40
SECTION 2	FORMAL WRITING	13	40	20
SECTION 3:	RESPONSE TO TEXTS	18	80	40
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>180</b>	<b>100</b>

Check that this booklet contains pages 2-27 in the correct order.

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

Allow 60 minutes for this section.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** This section has FIVE passages. Read and answer ALL questions for each passage.

**PASSAGE ONE:**

**Correspondence**

**How the Islands of the South Pacific have remained relatively unscathed in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic**

Dear editor,

The COVID-19 pandemic has imposed unprecedented consequences on the global community with current figures from the WHO (as of June 12th, 2020) estimate about 7,355,981 cases and 416,891 deaths in 215 countries making this the largest pandemic in human history. Although the pandemic has rapidly spread globally, the least affected region of the world are the Islands of the South Pacific, which have remained relatively unscathed. According to recent data compiled by John Hopkins University, amongst the twelve countries currently without a single registered case of COVID-19, ten are in the South Pacific region (Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu). Although many have cited the remoteness of Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), especially from major epicenters of the pandemic (Europe, East Asia, North America), as a major factor for this insulation, it should be mentioned that PICTs were among the earliest to take proactive steps and initiatives to curb the pandemic.

In the last quarter of 2019, PICTs witnessed the reemergence of measles, with outbreaks declared in Samoa, Tonga, Fiji and American Samoa, and cases reported in Kiribati. In response, PICTs made serious efforts to close immunity gaps in their populations and strengthen infectious disease prevention, surveillance and response systems. As reports of the coronavirus accrued in China, PICT governments drew on the experience and lessons from tackling the immediate measles outbreak, regional governments were prompt to prepare contingency plans in anticipation of COVID-19. Additionally, the WHO in the Pacific coordinated with humanitarian and development partners including key regional players such as Australia, New Zealand, and The Pacific Community (SPC), to support and guide Pacific Island countries in preparedness, surveillance, and response activities and supply of personal protective and medical equipment required for health care facilities.

With COVID-19 declared a pandemic on 11th March 2020, the priority of PICT governments was isolating their countries from the disease. This was manifested through complete border shutdowns and strict travel restrictions. Additionally, national emergencies were declared by several PICTs including Samoa, Kiribati, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Tonga. As of June 12th, 2020, only four PICTs (Papua New Guinea,

Fiji, French Polynesia, and New Caledonia) have recorded positive COVID-19 cases, with 104 total confirmed cases. Affected countries in the region rapidly responded to contain the virus limit community transmissions.

In Fiji, authorities used a combination of early preventive measures and contact tracing of all suspected and identified cases. According to recent reports, 749,359 individuals (85%) of Fiji’s population were screened for COVID-19 within two months. By 12th June 2020, all 104 cases in the region had recovered with no deaths.

A recent study from the “Imperial College London COVID-19 Response Team” argues that the effectiveness of any one intervention in isolation is likely to be limited, requiring multiple interventions to be combined to have a substantial impact on transmission. Therefore, community-wide surveillance will need to be sustained in addition to social distancing, travel and movement restrictions to help control the pandemic.

### Funding

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for profit sectors.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmii.2020.06.015>

1684-1182/Copyright © 2020, Taiwan Society of Microbiology. Published by Elsevier Taiwan LLC. This is an open access article under the CC

BY-NC-ND license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>).

*Ivan Diarra\**

*School of Biological and Chemical Sciences, Faculty of Science, Technology and Environment, University of the South Pacific, PO Box 1168, Suva, Fiji*

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

1. Passage one, line 2, ‘current figures’ referred to by the author ‘as of June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020’ means the same as:

- A. figures for the month of June.
- B. figures up to the month of June.
- C. figures after June.
- D. figures estimated for June.

SL 1

2. Another word for **unprecedented** as used in the passage is:

- A. normal.
- B. priority.
- C. ordinary.
- D. unique.

	SL 1

3. Which institution does the author refer to when discussing information for countries without a COVID-19 case?

- A. PICT University.
- B. University of the South Pacific.
- C. John Hopkins University.
- D. Imperial College.

	SL 1

4. What are the estimated figures from W.H.O. used by the author?

- A. W.H.O. projected as of 12-06-2020 an estimated 7,355,981 cases + 416,891 deaths.
- B. Per W.H.O. exactly 7355,981 cases + 416,891 deaths.
- C. From W.H.O. an estimated 7355,981 cases +416 deaths in 215 countries.
- D. An estimated 416,891 cases + 7355,981 deaths in 215 countries.

	SL 1

**SHORT ANSWERS:** Read the following questions carefully and then write your answers in the space provided.

5. Describe the rationale/purpose of the report.

	SL 2



7. Explain in your own words the roles of W.H.O. in supporting the preventative measures carried out by the PICT countries.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

SL 3

8. How best did the Samoan government carry out its role to protect its people after the outbreak of the measles?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

SL 2

9. Summarise your understanding of the Imperial College of London COVID-19 team's response.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

<b>SL 3</b>

PASSAGE TWO:

**GINGER**  
*Zingiber officinale*

This ancient perennial herb is a tropical one, but the edible roots can be successfully grown under cover in a temperate climate.

☼ ☼

**GROW** Buy cuttings or fresh roots in early spring and break them into 2-in (5-cm) pieces. Let the ends dry, then plant them just below the surface of a rich, moist soil. Ginger likes heat and humidity, so grow it in a pot that you can bring indoors in winter.

**HARVEST** After 3 months, dig up the plants. Discard the leaves and store the roots in a moist paper towel in the salad drawer of the fridge for up to 3 weeks. It freezes well.

**COOK** Grate the root to add a refreshing tang to stir-fries, curries, cookies, cakes, desserts, chocolate, and teas. Use frozen roots straight from the freezer.

**HABIT** Upright  
‡ 5 ft (1.5 m) ↔ indefinite

*Beneath delicate aromatic leaves lies a deliciously spicy edible root.*



[ Cox, Jeff., Moine, Marie-Pierre., (2012) The Herb Garden for Cooks, Dorling Kindersley Limited, London.]

10. Explain in your own words how best to plant ginger and list one way it can be best used for cooking.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

SL 2

11. How long does it take for ginger to harvest and what is its scientific name?

---

---

---

---

SL 2



**PASSAGE THREE:**

One of the most oft-used terms after the pandemic is the term “new normal.” The new normal in education is the increased use of online learning tools. The COVID-19 pandemic has triggered new ways of learning. All around the world, educational institutions are looking toward online learning platforms to continue with the process of educating students. The new normal now is a transformed concept of education with online learning at the core of this transformation. Today, digital learning has emerged as a necessary resource for students and schools all over the world. For many educational institutes, this is an entirely new way of education that they have had to adopt. Online learning is now applicable not just to learn academics but it also extends to learning extracurricular activities for students as well. In recent months, the demand for online learning has risen significantly, and it will continue doing so in the future.

(Source: <https://elearningindustry.com/advantages-and-disadvantages-online-learning> )

12. What is the new normal as mentioned in the passage above and what has caused this change?

---

---

---

---

<b>SL 2</b>

13. Illustrate in your own words how much has changed in our learning through this new normal as mentioned in the passage above.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

<b>SL 4</b>

**PASSAGE FOUR:**

There are three men stranded on a deserted island. Buried in the sand they find a magic lamp. The first man rubs the lamp to get the sand off it, and would you believe it, a genie appears! He offers the men one wish each. The first man wishes to be safely home and poof, he disappears. The second man wishes the same thing. Poof! The third man sighs. I'm feeling lonely now. I wish my friends were back here.

*[Source: British Council – Teaching English]*

14. Describe what happens to the three men on the deserted island after they all make their wishes.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

SL 2

15. List TWO lessons learnt from this passage.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

SL 2

**PASSAGE FIVE:**

**Silent, Strong Dad**

*“He never looks for praises.  
He’s never one to boast.  
He just goes on quietly working  
For those he loves the most.  
His dreams are seldom spoken.  
His wants are very few,  
And most of the time his worries  
Will go unspoken, too.  
Here’s there.....a firm foundation  
Through all our storms of life,  
A sturdy hand to hold onto  
In times of stress and strife  
A true friend we can turn to  
When times are good or bad.”*

*[by Karen K. Boyer]*

16. List TWO characteristics of this father that are noticeable in the above extract.

---

---

---

---

SL 2

17. Explain the italicized lines in your own words...*“He never looks for praises. He’s never one to boast.”*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

SL 4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Allow 40 minutes for this section.

- Write an essay of about **200-300 words** on **ONE** of the following topics.
- Present your ideas in a clear, well developed and convincing manner.
- You must allow some time for planning, drafting and editing your essay.
- The opposite blank page is for planning and drafting, and will **NOT** be assessed.

**TOPICS:**

1. Online learning versus face to face learning.
2. Describe the consequences of doing poorly in school.
3. The importance of voting during elections.
4. Environmental consequences of Deforestation.
5. The impact of COVID-19 ON OUR Tourism Industry.
6. How important has the phrase 'going back to the land' been since the wake of COVID-19?

**BLANK PAGE**

**(Work on this page will not be assessed)**

Q.18 TOPIC:

**Write your chosen topic in the box.**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---







ALLOW 80 minutes for this section.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** There are 6 genres in this Section. You are to respond to TWO (2).

	<b>GENRE 1:</b>	<b>NOVEL</b>
<b>and/or</b>	<b>GENRE 2:</b>	<b>DRAMA</b>
<b>and/or</b>	<b>GENRE 3:</b>	<b>SHORT STORIES</b>
<b>and/or</b>	<b>GENRE 4:</b>	<b>POETRY</b>
<b>and/or</b>	<b>GENRE 5:</b>	<b>FILM</b>
<b>and/or</b>	<b>GENRE 6:</b>	<b>NON-FICTION</b>

Remember, choose only **2 GENRES**

For each response, write the Genre Number and Option.

Do **NOT** use the same work or author twice.

---

**GENRE 1                      NOVEL**

---

Write 200-300 words for your response.

State the **Title** and **Author** of the novel you have chosen.

Use examples from the chosen novel in your answer.

**EITHER**

- A. Novelists are usually concerned with presenting a part of human experience which inevitably shows his/her attitude towards human values. Discuss how the novel you studied does this.

**OR**

- B. Choose TWO of the following then discuss how each contributed to enhancing your enjoyment and understanding of the novel.
- (i) The setting of the novel.
  - (ii) The actions and development of a major character.
  - (iii) The climax of the novel.

---

**GENRE 2****DRAMA**

---

Write 200-300 words for your response.

State the **Titles** and **Authors** of the drama you have chosen.

Use examples from the chosen drama in your answer.

**EITHER**

- A. Discuss TWO major themes presented in a drama you have studied and explain why they are important to you.

**OR**

- B. Discuss how the playwright is successful in constructing language that genuinely reflects what she or he is trying to get across to the audience through what the characters say in a play you have studied.

---

**GENRE 3****SHORT STORIES**

---

Write 200-300 words for your response.

State the **Titles** and **Authors** of the short stories you have chosen.

Use examples from the chosen short stories in your answer.

**EITHER**

- A. Discuss with reference to TWO short stories you have studied how the authors' characterization contributed to your understanding of the short stories.

**OR**

- B. Discuss how writers of TWO short stories you studied are successful in portraying important issues that you are concerned about.

---

**GENRE 4****POETRY**

---

Write 200-300 words for your response.

State the **Titles** and **Authors** of the poems you have chosen.

Use examples from the chosen poems in your answer.

**EITHER**

- A. Poems address important issues. Choose TWO poems you have studied and name one issue in each poem. How does each poem reveal the issue you have selected?

**OR**

- B. *“The effect of a good image is to help you visualize and feel what the poet is experiencing.”*

Discuss what you have gained from TWO different poems (written by two different poets) you have studied.

---

**GENRE 5****FILM**

---

Write 200-300 words for your response.

State the **Title** and **Author** of the film you have chosen.

Use examples from the chosen film in your answer.

**EITHER**

- A. Discuss how a film you have studied is successful in achieving ONE of the following as its purpose.

- (i) Entertainment
- (ii) Educational

**OR**

- B. Discuss TWO themes that are portrayed in a film you have studied and comment on the extent to which these themes are relevant today.

Write 200-300 words for your response.

State the **Title** and **Author** of the non-fiction you have chosen.

Use examples from the chose non-fiction in your answer.

**EITHER**

- A. Discuss the development of a major character in a work of non-fiction you have studied and explain how this contributed to your understanding of the story.

**OR**

- B. With reference to a work of non-fiction you have studied, discuss TWO key concerns presented by the author and describe how they are relevant to today's society.











**This page has been left blank deliberately**

STUDENT EDUCATION NUMBER									

## ENGLISH

2021

(For Scorer only)

STRANDS		Weighting	Scores	Check Scorer	Double Entry (AED)
SECTION 1:	READING COMPREHENSION	40			
SECTION 2:	FORMAL WRITING	20			
SECTION 3:	RESPONSE TO TEXT	40			
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>			