

This examination paper consists of THREE sections. Candidates are requested to attempt ALL sections and to read carefully the instructions within each section. ALL answers are to be written on the booklet provided.

Section A: Composition

Choose ONE title and write about 200 words on the subject.

- a) Birthdays are always happy occasions. Do you agree? Why?
- b) Do you want to be rich? Give reasons for your answer.
- c) "Imagine my surprise when, on opening the door, ...". Continue the story.
- d) You were driving back home late in the evening when all of a sudden you get caught up in a storm. Describe the trip home.
- e) Modern transport.
- f) Being confined at home is not easy. Discuss.

(40 marks)

Section B: Comprehension

Read carefully the following extract and then answer all the questions that follow. This section contains 40 marks.

The girl who fell out of the sky

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have to survive alone and injured in one of the most dangerous places on earth? This is the tale of a girl who, against all odds, not only managed to survive falling from a plane but also went on to survive for 11 days alone in the jungle. Nineteen-year-old Juliane Koepcke had no idea that disaster was about to strike when she got on the plane from Lima to Pucallpa. Juliane enjoyed flying and was excited about going to spend a few weeks with her father at his research station in the rainforest.

Half an hour into the flight, the sky darkened and the plane began to roll. Lightning flashed across the sky and rain pelted against the window panes. Suddenly, the cabin lights went out and the passengers started screaming. The right wing of the plane had been hit by lightning and had caught fire. The last thing Juliane remembered was falling through the air. She woke up the next morning in the Peruvian rainforest. She had plunged 3.2km still strapped into her seat. She had a broken collarbone, a bump on the head, a deep cut in her leg and some scratches and bruises, but her injuries were not life-threatening.

Juliane managed to get out of her seat and move around. Nearby she found a box with some cake and sweets in it. She saw no trace of the plane wreckage, though, and realised that she was the sole survivor. She knew that a search plane or rescue crew would have no way of locating her under the forest canopy. She thought of her father, who had been waiting for her, and decided that she had to stay alive for him.

Her father was a zoologist and had taught her how to survive in the forest. She knew that it is not the large animals that are dangerous, but the small ones like mosquitoes and venomous spiders. She also knew that to survive she would have to find a river and follow it downstream.

Luckily, she quickly came to a stream that led to a river. There was delicious-looking fruit everywhere, but she knew that it was poisonous and the waters were infested with alligators. She followed the river for days, drinking from it, and eating a sweet every now and again.

After a few days, she was exhausted and in pain. Mosquitoes had bitten her all over and flies had laid eggs in her wounds. She refused to give up, though, and eventually, after nine days, she found a hut where she rested for two days before three local workers found her.

Juliane had survived ten and a half days alone in the jungle. Without a doubt, her will to survive and her wish to see her father again had kept her alive.

(Text adapted from *Spark*, 2014)

1. Answer the following questions:

- a) Why was Juliane travelling to Pucallpa?
- b) What caused the plane to crash?
- c) Mention **two** injuries Juliane suffered from her fall.
- d) What made her think that she was the sole survivor?
- e) Mention **two** things that Juliane knew from her father which helped her survive in the jungle.

(4 marks x 5 = 20 marks)

2. Choose the correct answer:

- a. What did Juliane usually feel when she flew?
 - i. curious
 - ii. fear
 - iii. pleasure
 - iv. frustration.
- b. Juliane believed that rescuers would never find her because
 - i. the forest was too big
 - ii. she was too far from the wreckage
 - iii. she could not be seen because of the thick trees
 - iv. she thought she would be killed by alligators.
- c. Juliane survived by eating
 - i. flies and mosquitoes
 - ii. sweets and cake
 - iii. snakes and spiders
 - iv. leaves and fruit.



- d. After nine days in the jungle, Juliane
 - i. was found and saved
 - ii. was eaten by alligators
 - iii. found a hut and rested
 - iv. died of her injuries.

- e. What motivated Juliane to stay alive?
 - i. her desire to see her father again
 - ii. her desire to get out of the forest
 - iii. her desire to visit the research station
 - iv. her desire to find other survivors.

(4 marks x 5 = 20 marks)

Section C: Language

1. Place words opposite in meaning to the word underlined, in the spaces provided.

- a. The boy is tall, but his sister is..... (2 marks)
- b. Water is soft, but ice is..... (2 marks)
- c. His shirt is white, but his shoes are..... (2 marks)
- d. This house is new, but that castle is..... (2 marks)
- e. Nuts are hard, but jelly is..... (2 marks)

(10 marks)

2. Fill in the spaces with one of these words: flowers; fish; books; wind; trees.

- a. The.....was blowing from the North. (2 marks)
- b. The were being sold at the market. (2 marks)
- c. In the woods there were many..... (2 marks)
- d.are growing in the garden. (2 marks)
- e. In the library there were many..... (2 marks)

(10 marks)

Total: 100 marks

END OF EXAMINATION PAPER

**Qualifying Examination for the Post of Security Guard
in the Malta Public Service**

Subject: English

Date: ~~Monday 5th April 2021~~

23 APR 2021

Time: 11:00 – 12:30 (One and a half hours)