



Preparation for the National Grade Six Assessment

Guide #3 | English Free Response

Who are you?

If you are in grade 5 or 6 and will be taking the next National Grade Six Assessment, then this packet is for you. This packet has past exam questions which have been solved with explanations to help you learn how to solve similar questions. Completing this packet will increase your chances of passing the exam with the highest possible score.

Who are we?

This packet was created by the Caribbean Education Project, a team of students and teachers from universities in the United States and the Caribbean. Our goal is to help you with your preparations for the next exam and to help you better understand each topic. We want you to achieve your best score on the exam. If you are not clear on concepts after reading the material, ask your parent or guardian for help. If they cannot help, ask another family member or a friend. If no one can help you, then ask your parents to send us a message on Facebook or WhatsApp or e-mail us.

- To reach us through Facebook, go on Facebook and search for “Shawn Shivdat.” Then send me a message using Facebook Messenger.
- To reach us by WhatsApp, save this number “Shawn Shivdat, +1 404-406-9638” and message me on WhatsApp.
- To reach us by e-mail, send a message to this e-mail address: info@caribed.org.

Keep in contact

If you are using this packet to prepare, we would like to hear from you. Please keep in touch with us so we can help you with any questions you may have. We can also provide updates when future materials are posted. Send us your name and contact information through WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, or e-mail (listed above), or send a picture of this sheet filled out through WhatsApp, Facebook Messenger, or e-mail.

Name: _____

Parent’s phone number: _____

Parent’s e-mail address: _____

**PLEASE SHARE THIS GUIDE WITH OTHERS WHO MAY BENEFIT
FROM USING IT.**



How to use this guide:

1. Try to answer these questions in the prescribed 55 minutes. If you are not able to answer a question, skip it and go on to the next question. When you are done answering all the questions, you can return to the ones you are having trouble with during your remaining time.
2. It is okay if you were not able to answer all the questions correctly on your first try. Keep practicing the questions, and you will get better. Soon, you will be able to answer all the questions in the 55 minutes. (**TIP:** Practice makes you perfect, so keep practicing.)
3. Answers to all the questions are on the pages immediately after the practice test. When you finish answering the questions, compare your answers to the answers on these pages.
4. Mark the questions which you got wrong.
5. Read our guide to solving each question. Even for questions you got correct, read the explanations we provided because you will likely learn something from them. Our explanations provide valuable information which can provide you with additional skills to solve other problems.
6. Always read the instructions for each question carefully before attempting to answer. Also, read the question itself carefully and pay attention to what the question is asking you to do before attempting to answer it.
7. We provide the answers to all the questions in the practice exams to help you. Do not look at the answers before you attempt the questions. If you look at the answers before, you will not learn a lot from this packet. So, do we have a deal? Okay, I heard you say yes.





**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
NATIONAL GRADE SIX ASSESSMENT
PRACTICE TEST
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
PAPER 2
2010**

Hey students, for the purposes of practice, you can ignore the instructions listed below about the composition paper provided (just use your own paper). We have included that here so you will be familiar with these instructions on exam day.

Reading Time: 10 minutes

Writing Time: 45 minutes

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY
BEFORE YOU ATTEMPT TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.**

1. The paper consists of two sections: Section A and Section B.

Section A consists of three letters.
Section B consists of three composition topics.
2. You **must** answer **one** question from **either** Section A **or** Section B.
3. Write your letter or composition on the paper provided.
4. Write your candidate number on each sheet of paper that you use.

DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.



SECTION A

Answer ONE question from this Section A OR one question from Section B.

In about 120 – 150 words, write a letter based on the information below.

- (a) Your Sunday School would be having a camp during the August holidays. Your friends would like to go to camp with you.

Write a letter to your friend's father to persuade him to allow his son/daughter to go to the camp.

- (b) Your elderly neighbour has complained about the loudness of the music at your birthday party.

Write a letter to your neighbour apologizing for the discomfort you caused.

- (c) You are the captain of a cricket or football team.

Write a letter to the captain of the team from a neighbouring school inviting his/her team to play a friendly match.

- (d) Last Saturday you saw a programme on television which you did not like.

Write a letter to the producer of the programme giving **three** reasons why you did not like the programme.

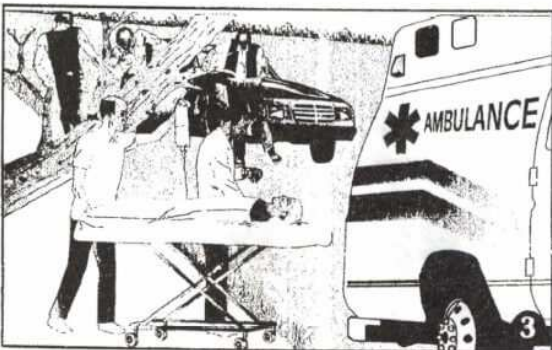


SECTION B

Answer ONE question from this Section if you have NOT answered a question from Section A.

In about 120-150 words, write a composition based on the information below.

- (a) Retell a story you recently read or heard.
- (b) Write a story entitled "A trip on the river".
- (c) Write a story entitled "A day I would always remember".
- (d) Write a composition based on the pictures below. Begin at 1 and end at 4. Give your story a title.



END OF TEST



**ANSWER EXPLANATIONS
SECTION A**

QUESTION (a) ANSWER EXPLANATION

In about 120 – 150 words, write a letter based on the information below:

Your Sunday School would be having a camp during the August holidays. Your friends would like to go to camp with you.

Write a letter to your friend’s father to persuade him to allow his son/daughter to go to the camp.

Example Answer:

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Williams,

I am attending our Sunday School’s camp during the August holidays. I would like Lucia to come with me, and in this letter, I will explain three reasons why. First, camp will be a good opportunity for both of us to grow spiritually. Because this camp is part of our Sunday School, we can talk with community mentors and learn more about our faith. Second, this is a great opportunity to be surrounded by peers who will challenge us to grow. During activities, we will be challenged to be with other children, and we will learn to work with people whom we do not know. Third, it will be a chance for Lucia and me to spend more time with one another and have fun! During camp, we will have chaperones who will make sure everyone stays safe. Thank you for considering my request!

Sincerely,
Maria

In your answer, be sure to include:

- Your answer in a letter format, using the vocabulary such as “Dear...” or “To...”
- Three reasons why Lucia should come to camp with you
- Try to explain your reasons as best you can
- A statement saying thank you to your friend’s parents

QUESTION (b) ANSWER EXPLANATION

In about 120 – 150 words, write a letter based on the information below:

Your elderly neighbour has complained about the loudness of the music at your birthday party.

Write a letter to your neighbour apologizing for the discomfort you caused.

Example Answer:

Dear Mrs. Smith,

I can understand why you are upset about the music at my birthday party last night. I want to apologize for playing my music too loud and causing you discomfort. My friends and I were trying to celebrate my birthday and have a fun time, so we played music on our speakers loudly instead of playing it on our phones. We should have been mindful of how the volume affected our neighbours, especially when played so late at night. We will be more careful in future celebrations, as you should not have feel discomfort because of our actions. Thank you for being understanding of the situation. I hope you have a lovely rest of your week.

Sincerely,
Andrea

In your answer, be sure to include:

- Your answer in a letter format, using the vocabulary such as “Dear...” or “To...”
- Include an apology



**ANSWER EXPLANATIONS
SECTION A (CONTINUED)**

QUESTION (c) ANSWER EXPLANATION

In about 120 – 150 words, write a letter based on the information below:

You are the captain of a cricket or football team.

Write a letter to the captain of the team from a neighbouring school inviting his/her team to play a friendly match.

Example Answer:

Dear Danny,

I would like to invite you and your team to play a friendly match of cricket. In this letter, I give you three reasons this would be a good idea. First, it would be a good opportunity to strengthen competitive techniques that we learn in practice. By using the drills in context of a match, both of our teams will improve. Second, it will be a good way to lose pressure and allow our teammates to get creative with strategies. Creativity will help with adapting to situations that we might not have practiced. Third, a friendly match be fun! Playing together would be a good time for our teammates to destress and simply enjoy the game without the pressure of competition. Thank you for considering this request, and I will be waiting for your response.

Sincerely,
Sahan

In your answer, be sure to include:

- Your answer in a letter format, using the vocabulary such as “Dear...” or “To...”
- Three different reasons why Danny and his team should play a match with your team.
- Try to explain your reasons as best you can

QUESTION (d) ANSWER EXPLANATION

In about 120 – 150 words, write a letter based on the information below:

Last Saturday you saw a programme on television which you did not like.

Write a letter to the producer of the programme giving **three** reasons why you did not like the programme.

Example Answer:

Dear Mr. King,

I did not enjoy your cooking programme last Saturday. In this letter, I will explain to you three reasons why. First, the programme spent more time interviewing the chef than showing how the chef cooked his food. I did not like this because I wanted to learn how to properly cook the dish. Second, there was no one at the end to taste the food. I would like to see how someone who does not know the chef likes the dish. I would also like to see comments about the dish at the end, including what could be done to make the food taste better next time. Third, there was not a variety of dishes. I would like to see the chef cook different types of food, especially food from other cultures. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Anthony

In your answer, be sure to include:

- Your answer in a letter format, using the vocabulary such as “Dear Mr. King” or “To Mr. King”
- Three different reasons why you did not like Mr. King’s programme
- Try to explain your reasons as best you can



SECTION B

QUESTION (a) ANSWER EXPLANATION

In about 120 – 150 words, write a composition based on the information below:

Retell a story you recently read or heard.

Example Answer:

Retelling Abuela’s Weave

I recently read the story *Abuela’s Weave*. This is a story about a young girl, Esperanza, and her abuela who weave tapestries, blankets, and huipiles together and sell them at the market. Abuela has a birthmark on her face, which scares customers away. So, Esperanza is in charge of selling their homemade weaves. She is afraid that no one will buy them, preferring the commercial vendors instead. However, all of the people at the market loved her weaves! She ended up selling all of the weaves and people were upset that there were no more. Esperanza promised everyone that she would be back in the next month with more weaves. Esperanza and her mother went home happily.

In your answer, be sure to include:

- A title that is related to your story
- A summary of the story

QUESTION (b) ANSWER EXPLANATION

In about 120 – 150 words, write a composition based on the information below:

Write a story entitled “A trip on the river”.

Example Answer:

A trip on the river

Maria and her friend wanted to go on an adventure. They decided to take a boat and travel along the river. Maria was excited—she loved being near water. They wanted to take time and appreciate the beauty of what was in front of them. The paddles created ripples in the water as both of the friends rowed the boat. The birds sang as they flew high above them. The water sparkled with the reflection of the sun. The fish swam freely under the clear water. Maria felt at peace. Maria and her friend also talked about their days and what excited them about the next few weeks. They enjoyed talking and spending time with one another. Eventually, the sun started to set, and Maria and her friend rowed the boat back to shore.

In your answer, be sure to include:

- The given title
- Details about the setting surrounding the river
- Details about what Maria did during the trip



**ANSWER EXPLANATIONS
SECTION B (CONTINUED)**

QUESTION (c) ANSWER EXPLANATION

In about 120 – 150 words, write a composition based on the information below:

Write a story entitled “A day I would always remember”.

Example Answer:

A day I would always remember

The day started off normally. I woke up, did my chores, and then sat to do my homework. Suddenly, my mother started to scream that she was going into labour! We rushed her to the hospital. I was so excited for my baby sister to be born. I sat outside in the hall with my father, anxiously waiting to see my sister. Eventually, we were allowed to go inside. I immediately focused on my baby sister. She was so small and wrinkly. Mother allowed me to hold her, and when I did my baby sister smiled and held my finger. I promised her that I would always protect her, and even if we fought, I would always love her. When we all came home, I reflected on that beautiful moment and knew that I would always remember the day my baby sister was born.

In your answer, be sure to include:

- The given title
- Details about what happened that day
- Explain why you will always remember that day

QUESTION (d) ANSWER EXPLANATION

In about 120 – 150 words, write a composition based on the information below:

Write a story entitled “A day I would always remember”.

Example Answer:

John’s Accident

Eddy, Bryan, and Luis were sawing down a tree near the road one day. The tree had been there for quite some time, and cars would often have accidents there. Unfortunately, after sawing through the tree, it fell on John’s car and injured John! While trying to prevent more accidents, Eddy, Bryan, and Luis had created another one. Bryan called the ambulance immediately after the tree fell, and the ambulance came to take John to the hospital. Eddy, Bryan, and Luis worked to take the tree off of John’s car and off the road. John had a broken leg, but the doctors were able to set the leg and put a cast on it. After waiting for the doctors to finish treating John’s leg, Eddy, Bryan, and Luis were finally able to visit John and apologize for the accident.

In your answer, be sure to include:

- A title that is related to your story
- Descriptions that match the pictures

