

Section A (5 marks)

Text 1

Study the poster below and answer Questions 1-3.



VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT



So what am I volunteering for?

The International Students Section (Office of Student Affairs) and the i.CARE Network are launching a new buddy programme from Semester 1 of the Academic Year 2015/2016! Known as the "SG Kaki Programme" or SG KAKI for short, the programme aims to immerse international students deeply into local culture by matching them with a "kaki" familiar with the Singaporean culture.

The word, "kaki", is a Malay word commonly used to refer to a good friend. We are expanding our local pool of "kaki" volunteers for this coming semester and we hope that you can join us in the SG KAKI family!

Why?

SG KAKI offers you the opportunity to learn about different cultures and broaden your outlook in an increasingly globalised world! Share your experience, practise a new language, step out of your comfort zone and enrich your learning experience in NUS with us!

When and what will happen?

You will be matched to one or two international students throughout the whole duration of the programme which consists of cultural workshops, city trips and activities from the very start of the semester.

I'm in, what's the next step?

We will be hosting two informal briefing sessions if you need more information. Alternatively, sign up to be a "Kaki" below!

Scan for faster access!



Register as a volunteer today!

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/osa/iss/be-a-volunteer/areas-of-contribution/student-buddies>

Two sessions

When: 25 March, 7PM or 27 March, 6PM

Where: NUSSU Student Lounge, located at Yusof Ishak House level 4

Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, contact us: sgkaki.icare@gmail.com

Organised by:



Office of Student Affairs



Section A [5 marks]

Refer to the poster (Text 1) for Questions 1–3.

- 1** The programme uses the word 'kaki' to describe a good friend. What effect is this intended to have on the reader?

.....
..... [1]

- 2** Refer to the pictures at the top of the poster. Explain how the pictures show the intended outcomes of the volunteer programme.

.....
..... [2]

- 3** In your own words, explain the main purpose of the programme.

.....
.....
..... [2]

Section B (20 marks)

Text 2

The text below is about Kerstin Bruns' experience at sea. Read it carefully and answer questions 4– 12.

- 1 Kerstin Bruns braced herself in her chair as the office tipped at an outrageous angle. The German container ship, Hansa Bergen, which had travelled eight days out of Singapore and bound for Mauritius, was lurching through a heavy gale in the Indian Ocean. From every window there was a spectacular view of massive crests tumbling down eight-metre waves and spume streaking the water. The phone rang and the bosun reported that the portside gangway was breaking loose. Captain Helmut Wende requested for Second Officer Bruns to assist Lorie Bernaldez, the ship's Filipino chief officer, to repair it. 5
- 2 Captain Wende, towering and athletic looking, had never before sailed with females in his thirty years at sea. Though satisfied with Bruns's work, Wende hesitated for a moment when considering asking a female to do a tough job on an open deck in heavy weather. However, he knew the difficult task would provide Bruns with valuable experience. 10
- 3 Out on deck, strong winds ripped at her short ginger hair and stung her pale cheeks. The ship had turned, so its port side was more sheltered, as the two officers, with the bosun and two seamen running behind, hastened along the hundred and seventy metre long side deck to the damaged gangway. They were contemplating what to do when Bernaldez glanced up and spotted a rogue wave crossing the others at right angles, rolled over the rail and crashed towards them. 15
- 4 The men found secure handholds while the bosun grabbed Bernaldez as he was being swept away. Before Bruns could do anything, the avalanche of water lifted her up and over the rail and she was carried far down into a serene blue space. Swimming upwards took an extremely long time before she finally broke through the surface, gasping for air. Three metres away, the grey and white seven storey ship glided past, leaving Bruns behind in its wake. 20 25
- 5 As darkness fell, Bruns fought desperately to stay alive in the highly salty and warm sea. After spending almost four hours treading water, cold had begun to seep into her bones and stiffen her muscles as waves swept her up and down in an endless roller coaster ride. She battled to keep her back against the wind and spray. Salt stung her eyes constantly while her cheeks, forehead, nose and eyelids had been scorched by the wind and sun and her skin was rubbed raw by chafing. 30
- 6 Swimming for her life while coughing salt water, Bruns was suddenly faint with relief as she blinked her swollen eyes profusely. The ship was in sight again and heading her way but it was coming straight at her! The giant vessel loomed in the sky like a block of flats and only in the last few seconds, Bruns realised that it would just miss her. Three times, Captain Wende tried desperately to get into a position where they could reach Bruns without running over her but each time the manoeuvre had to be abandoned. For several heart-stopping minutes they lost sight of her but found her again before throwing a rope ladder over the side. 35 40
- 7 After almost 20 hours of fighting the turbulent sea, the five metre climb to safety up the rope ladder looked like Everest. Desperation lending strength to her arms, Bruns started to climb before she reached the rail, exhausted, where hands hauled her on board.

Section B [20 marks]

Refer to Text 2 for Questions 4–12.

- 4 Explain how the language used in paragraph 1 showed that weather conditions were unfavourable. Support your ideas with three pieces of evidence from paragraph 1.

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.....
.....[3]

- 5 Why is it that Captain Wende had never sailed with women before?

.....
..... [1]

- 6 **In your own words**, explain why Captain Wende hesitated before asking Bruns to work on deck.

.....
..... [2]

- 7 ‘Out on deck, strong winds ripped at her short ginger hair and stung her pale cheeks.’
(lines 14-15)

Identify two words from the above sentence that personifies the wind.

.....
..... [2]

- 8 (i) What does ‘serene blue space’ (line 22) refer to?

..... [1]

(ii) What effect does the author intend to achieve by using this phrase?

.....
..... [2]

- 9 In your own words, explain how ‘Bruns fought desperately to stay alive’ (line 26).

.....
..... [2]

10 Why did Captain Wende have to abandon the manoeuvre each time they tried to reach Bruns?

.....
..... [1]

11 'After almost 20 hours of fighting the turbulent sea, the five metre climb to safety up the rope ladder looked like Everest.' (lines 41-42)

Why did the author describe the climb up the rope ladder as such?

.....
..... [2]

12 Complete the flow chart by matching the paragraph description to the correct paragraph. There are some extra phrases that you do not need to use.

Thrown Overboard

The last climb

The Battle for Survival

Tough job in heavy weather

Waiting for Rescue

Gaining Experience

i. Paragraph 3

ii. Paragraph 4

iii. Paragraph 5

iv. Paragraph 7

[4]

Section C (25 marks)

Text 3

The text below is about the Cerro Rico mines. Read it carefully and answer Question 13–20.

- 1 Ricardo Morales started mining Bolivia's Cerro Rico when he was 12. "It's said that the silver taken from here could have built a bridge from the peak to Spain's palace door," boasts the raspy-voiced Morales, 52, standing at the entrance to his mine some 14,000 feet (4,200 meters) above sea level. But today, after almost 500 years of non-stop extraction, the Cerro Rico's grandeur is collapsing. Earlier this year, a 3,767-sq-ft (339-sq-m) crater opened near the mountain's summit, and geologists warn of more implosions to come. 5
- 2 Yet that's not the worst part. Even though much of the exhausted Cerro Rico seems set to give way, miners like Morales insist on staying and plucking as much treasure as they can from the mountain, whose name means Rich Hill. "I am a miner," says Morales, shrugging as he hunches down into the tunnel. "What else am I supposed to do?" 10
- 3 Indeed, for five centuries mining has been just about the only thing to do in Potosí, Bolivia, the city just beneath Cerro Rico that was once the western hemisphere's richest — a 17th-century Paris of the New World. The Cerro's silver funded Spain's colonial empire, and when the Spanish left in the 19th century, *Potosinos* started mining the mountain for themselves. Their earnings, however, have been minimal. Still, although Potosí is today the poorest state in the poorest country in South America, mining is what keeps the population afloat financially: more than half the city's 150,000 residents depend directly on the mines for their livelihoods. 15 20
- 4 Mining safety is a more acute issue today, especially after the Chilean mine rescue drama watched around the globe last year. Each day millions of people worldwide risk their lives underground for metals, coal and precious stones, and each year thousands are killed, often in the very cave-ins now threatening Cerro Rico — which is hardly a model of operational safety. Experts say infrastructure and machinery there are at least half a century behind the rest of the world. Miners normally descend three-story shafts by harness and rope with pick-axes in hand; passageways are buttressed by rotting planks and, in some tunnels, toxic gas stings the eyes within minutes and can cause lung and muscle paralysis in a few hours. Miners do not wear face masks and there is no monitoring of the toxic gas level in the mine. 25 30
- 5 Cerro Rico is already hundreds of meters shorter than it was when the Spanish first spotted it in 1545. "This is not about the whole mountain collapsing at once," says Hugo Delgado, lead researcher at the Cerro for Bolivia's National Geologic & Technical Mining Service. "But there are numerous zones of major risk that ought to have limited operations to avoid serious collapses." So far the warnings have fallen mostly on deaf ears. "We are going to keep working the Cerro until there is nothing left to mine," says Julio Quiñones, president of FEDECOMIN, an association of dozens of the more than 200 cooperatives, or small companies, that work the mountain. 35 40
- 6 And there's little to stop them. The government is largely hands-off on safety. Bolivia's state mining company, COMIBOL, owns the Cerro but licenses its operation to cooperatives and a handful of multinationals. Oscar Cáceres, a COMIBOL geologic engineer, explains that the state is not liable for mine 45

deaths or accidents. Cáceres' team polices the mountain, keeping people out of the "red zone" - the unstable peak that's been off-limits since 2009 — and trying to ensure safety standards elsewhere. But with only 15 men to monitor 15,000 miners there, he admits they can't do much.

- 7 Haphazard mineral exploitation is partially the cause of the Cerro's current geologic instability. So, say geologists, are the open pit mines operated on the mountain's back side by the Canadian-owned San Bartolomé company. "Collapses will increase because of the inadequate mining techniques currently being used," says Delgado, who urges cooperative owners to strengthen tunnel infrastructure and modernize extraction methods. But in Potosí, it's common knowledge that some miners are now purposely provoking collapses within the Cerro's spinal column because it's easy access to a tin-rich shaft the Spanish failed to empty. 50 55
- 8 It might seem more logical for cooperative owners to extend the lifespan of the source of their income. But logic often has little to do with the workings inside the Cerro. Nor does God exist there, according to miners like Morales. 60

Section C [25 marks]

Refer to Text 3 for Questions 13–18.

13 Identify a word in paragraph 1 that has the same meaning as ‘collapses’.

.....[1]

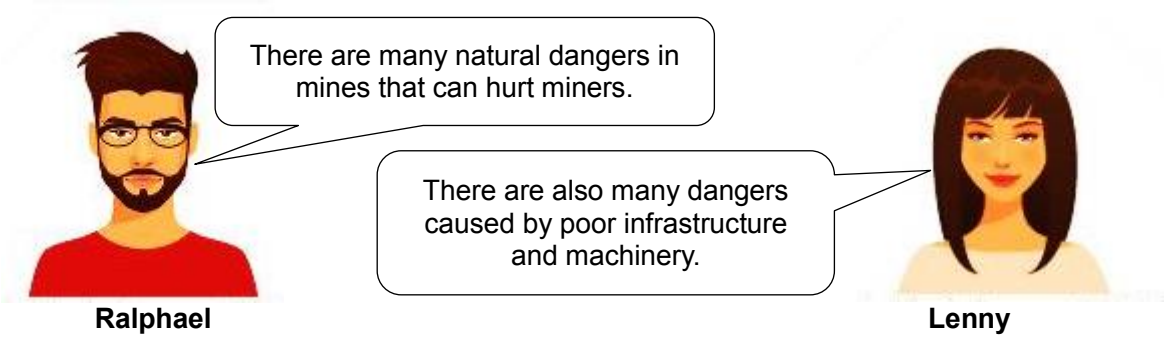
14 In your own words, explain why the impending collapse of Cerro Rico is ‘not the worst part’ (line 8).

.....
..... [2]

15 Find a sentence from paragraph 3 that proves that the city below Cerro Rico that was once the western hemisphere's richest.

.....
..... [1]

16 Here is part of a conversation between two students, Raphael and Lenny.



(i) Identify **two** examples from paragraph 4 that Raphael can use to support his argument.

.....
..... [2]

(ii) Identify **two** examples from paragraph 4 that Lenny can use to support her argument.

.....
..... [2]

17 In your own words, state what causes the miners to purposely provoke collapses within Cerro's spinal column.

.....
..... [1]

18 **Using your own words as far as possible**, summarise the conditions that endanger the lives of the miners at Cerro Rico.

Use only information from paragraphs 4 to 6.

Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form). It must not be longer than 80 words (not including the words given to help you begin).

Mining the Cerro Rico is dangerous for the miners because.....

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No of words:

Copyright Acknowledgements:

Text 1 http://nus.edu.sg/osa/images/iss/images/latesthappening/20150318_sg%20kakiposter.jpg
Text 2 Adapted from "Overboard in a White Sea" by John Dyson
Text 3 Adapted from "Mined to Death: Why Bolivia's Cerro Rico Mountain Is Collapsing", TIME Magazine, June 16, 2011

Answer Key
Section A [5m]

1. The programme uses the word '*kaki*' to describe a good friend. What effect is this intended to have on the reader?

It is to arouse interest/attract potential volunteers or participants (EFFECT) as it makes the programme sound more localised/makes the programme sound fun and unique (CONTEXT). [1]

Note: Students must describe effect AND include context.

2. Refer to the pictures at the top of the poster. Explain how the pictures show the intended outcome of the volunteer programme.

The pictures show students who are happy/contented/excited OR local and international students bonding/making friends [1 – describe picture] while exploring different cultures/Singapore [1 – intended outcome].

Note: Students must describe picture (for 1 mark) AND state the intended outcome (for 1 mark).

3. In your own words, explain the main purpose of the programme.

From the text: "aims to immerse international students deeply into local culture by matching them with a 'kaki' familiar with the Singaporean culture"

Rephrased: main purpose of the programme is to pair up local and foreign undergraduates [1] to explore Singapore and its culture [1]

Section B [20m]

4. Explain how the language used in paragraph 1 showed that weather conditions were unfavourable. Support your ideas with three pieces of evidence from paragraph 1.

Evidence from text	Explanation
<i>the office tipped at an outrageous angle</i>	Showed that the ship was rocking extremely due to the strong waves
<i>lurching through a heavy gale</i>	Showed that the ship was travelling forcefully and the winds were very strong
<i>spectacular view of massive crests tumbling down eight-metre waves and spume streaking the water</i>	Showed that the waves were very big and tall

Note: Students must state evidence and provide a VALID explanation before getting 1 mark for each point. NO valid explanation = 0 marks. NO evidence = 0 marks.

5. Why is it that Captain Wende had never sailed with women before?

Sailing usually involved men/Most of the crew were always men. [1]

6. In your own words, explain why Captain Wende hesitated before asking Bruns to work on deck.

Captain Wende hesitated because the work was harsh/dangerous [1] and may not be suitable/appropriate for a woman to do [1].

7. “Out on deck, strong winds ripped at her short ginger hair and stung her pale cheeks.” (lines 14-15)

Identify two words from the above sentence that personifies the wind.

‘ripped’ [1] and ‘stung’ [1]

Note: Even if students do not know the meaning of personifies, they can identify the two words that explain what the wind did.

8. (i) What does 'serene blue space' (line 22) refer to?

The ocean/sea. [1]

- (ii) What effect does the author intend to achieve by using this phrase?

The author wanted to show the contrast between the surface and below the surface of the water [1]. The sea is calm below the surface and chaotic above the surface. [1]

Note: students have to state the effect and explain it.

In your own words, explain how 'Bruns fought desperately to stay alive' (line 26).

9. **She tried to stay afloat in the water as long as she could [1] and she tried not to get the salt water and wind in her face [1]**

10. Why did Captain Wende have to abandon the manoeuvre each time they tried to reach Bruns?

Each time they tried, the position of the boat was very close to running her over instead of saving her. [1]

- 11.

'After almost 20 hours of fighting the turbulent sea, the five metre climb to safety up the rope ladder looked like Everest.' (lines 41-42)

Why did the author describe the climb up the rope ladder as such?

Bruns was so tired out trying to survive in the choppy seas [1] that climbing the ladder to safety seemed like a long, impossible task – like climbing Everest. [1]

12. Complete the flow chart by matching the paragraph description to the correct paragraph. There are some extra phrases that you do not need to use.

Thrown Overboard

The last climb

The Battle for Survival

Tough job in heavy weather

Waiting for Rescue

Gaining Experience

- i. Paragraph 3
- ii. Paragraph 4
- iii. Paragraph 5
- iv. Paragraph 7

Section C [25m]

13. Identify a word in paragraph 1 that has the same meaning as 'collapses'.

Implosions [1]

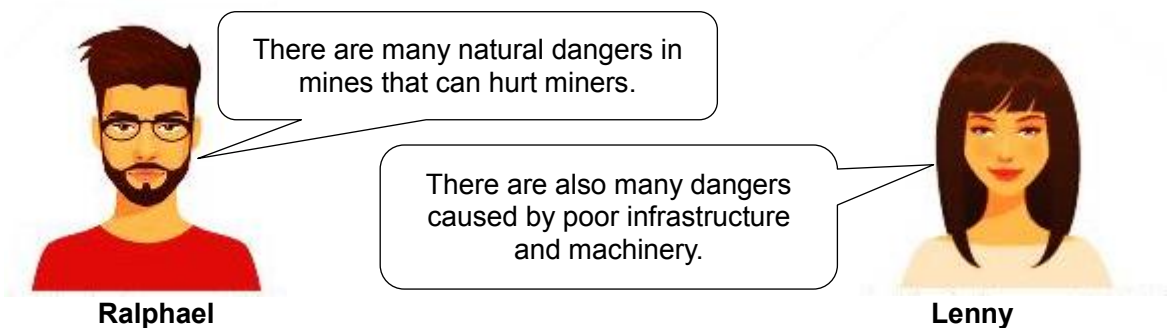
14. In your own words, explain why the impending collapse of Cerro Rico is 'not the worst part' (line 8).

Miners still want to mine the hill despite its dangerous conditions [1] and may get hurt in the process [1]

15. Find a sentence from paragraph 3 that proves that the city below Cerro Rico that was once the western hemisphere's richest.

'The Cerro's silver funded Spain's colonial empire.' [1]

16. Here is part of a conversation between two students, Raphael and Lenny.



(i) Identify **two** examples from paragraph 4 that Raphael can use to support his argument.

Cave-ins [1] and toxic gasses [1]

(ii) Identify **two** examples from paragraph 4 that Lenny can use to support her argument.

passageways are buttressed by rotting planks [1] Miners normally descend three-story shafts by harness and rope with pick-axes in hand [1]

17. In your own words, state what causes the miners to purposely provoke collapses within Cerro's spinal column.

From text: easy access to a tin-rich shaft

It will be convenient to get to/extract [1] the abundant [1] tin available in the shaft.

18. **Using your own words as far as possible**, summarise the conditions that endanger the lives of the miners at Cerro Rico.

Use only information from paragraphs 4 to 6.

Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form). It must not be longer than 80 words (not including the words given to help you begin).

Mining the Cerro Rico is dangerous for the miners because

From Text	Paraphrased Answer
1. cave-ins is now threatening Cerro Rico,	Cerro is vulnerable to collapses
2. which is hardly a model of operational safety.	There is barely any safety measure in place.
3. Infrastructure and	Infrastructure and equipment are very outdated.
4. machinery there are at least half a century behind the rest of the world.	
5. Passageways are buttressed by rotting planks and,	Rotting planks form the passageways.
6. toxic gas stings the eyes within minutes and can cause lung and muscle paralysis in a few hours.	Despite the presence of toxic gas, miners do not use face masks.
7. Miners do not wear face masks and	
8. there is no monitoring of the toxic gas level in the mine.	Gas level is not monitored.
9. Warnings have fallen mostly on deaf ears.	Warnings are largely ignored.
10. Miners are going to keep working the Cerro until there is nothing left to mine.	Miners insist on mining Cerro till it is empty.