

## Practice Papers

Here is a set of practice papers for you to apply the skills you have learnt in the Strategies section. Remember to read the passages and questions carefully, and then apply the strategies you have learnt.

Each practice paper begins with two opportunities for you to practise the strategy of scanning and skimming. The next part of the paper contains three texts and their respective questions. These texts are based around a single theme. Finally, each paper is followed by an opportunity to improve your vocabulary.

### Points to Remember

- Text 1: Questions cover a range of strategies. Read the questions carefully to decide which strategies you want to apply.
- Text 2: Questions mostly require Strategies 1 to 5 and 9.
- Text 3: Questions usually require Strategies 4, 6 to 8, 10 and 11.
- Skimming and Scanning questions require you to apply Strategies 1 to 5.

### What It's All About

#### Skimming for Prediction (Strategy 1)

Skim Texts 1 to 3 in practice paper 1 on the next page by reading and viewing any heading, subtitle, illustration and the first sentence of each paragraph. Then, write the common topic of the three texts below.

Common topic:

#### Scanning (Strategy 5)

Scan Text 3 in Practice Paper 1 to find the answers to as many of the following questions as you can within one minute.

1. Which two years are mentioned?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Which actor mentioned is famous for playing the role of a pirate?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Where must piracy normally happen to be called piracy?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What other type of piracy is mentioned?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How many pirated articles did the Singapore Police Force recover in one year alone?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Practice Paper 1

50

## Text 1 [5 marks]

Study the fact sheet below and answer Questions 1–4.

## Pirates, Corsairs and Buccaneers



**CORSAIRS** is the name given to pirates operating in the Mediterranean Sea between the 15th and 18th centuries. They had bases along the Barbary coast of North Africa and even built fortresses to defend their strongholds.

**Famous Name**

The red-bearded Barbarossa brothers were the most daring of the corsairs.

**BUCCANEERS** lived on the Caribbean island of Hispaniola in the 17th century. They lived as hunters, their name coming from the special wooden huts they built called boucans. The governors of the Caribbean islands paid buccaneers to raid Spanish treasure ships, although they later became more and more out of control.

**Famous Name**

Some of the largest raids were led by the Welsh pirate, Sir Henry Morgan.



The Jolly Roger — the flag of pirates

**PIRATES** are generally those who rob ships anywhere on the high seas of the world. Some pirates also launch attacks on coastal towns. Today, many operate off the coast of Africa and in the South China Sea.

**Famous Name**

Edward Teach, known as Blackbeard, is probably the most famous pirate and notorious for his fearsome appearance. His wild eyes and mass of tangled hair intimidated victims.

1. Apart from facts and illustrations given about pirates, how does the writer attempt to interest the reader in pirates?  
\_\_\_\_\_ [1]
2. What characteristics of pirates such as Blackbeard are suggested by the picture of their flag?  
\_\_\_\_\_ [1]
3. In the past, many pirates lived in their own communities on land as well as at sea. Give **two** examples of this from the information provided.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]
4. What is the main purpose of this page?  
\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

**Text 2** [20 marks]

The text below is about a group of pirates raiding a Spanish ship. Read it carefully and answer Questions 5–13.

1	Assegar studied the channel of water as he guided the small boat through the coral reef. Krisna, following in a larger boat with another twelve men, had argued for hoisting a Spanish flag to avoid alarming the ship at anchor that was their target. Assegar had stoutly refused, believing that it would be despicable to be so deceitful. They were approaching along the coast, hidden from their target until the last moment. This involved passing by a school of sharks, the size of which turned many of the sailors' faces pale. As they came within sight of the treasure ship, the wind picked up behind them and they managed to surprise the Spaniards, who did not even have time to prepare their ship's cannons.	5
2	"Yield!" Krisna yelled to the Spaniards.	10
3	The captain replied boldly, with a smirk, "In whose name do you expect me to yield?"	
4	Krisna cried, "In the name of common sense, you dogs. Can you not see you have only fifty men to fight our twenty?" He wasted no time in scrambling aboard, knocking the captain over, but unwilling to shed blood needlessly. Unprepared for the attack, the Spanish crew surrendered. The pirates claimed the huge chests of pearls as their prize, although at that moment they were more interested in the salted pork and other food stored next to the pearls.	15
5	As they were busy opening the chests and wooden crates, Wijaya, one of the pirates, suddenly noticed one of the Spanish ship's boats was quietly pulling away from the ship. Not more than an oar's length away, it had several Spaniards on board. Wijaya seized a nearby boat hook and fastened it to the side of the boat, shouting, "Stop, you Spanish dogs!"	20

6	<p>Since there were eight oarsmen to his one, he was immediately pulled overboard. He fell into the sea, leaving the hook connected to the boat's stern. He started roaring like a bull, splashing wildly. In his confusion, he never thought to turn and get back on board the treasure ship, but struck out agitatedly after the boat containing the escaping sailors. It was unclear whether he was determined to recover the hook or the men in the boat. To the sailors on board the treasure ship, Wijaya looked like a giant fish as he howled and puffed, his cloak billowing around him, his mouth full of salt water. "Stop, you Spanish dogs! Help me! Do you not see that I am a dead man? They are nuzzling at my leg! My right thigh is bitten clean off! Yield, Spanish dogs, before I make mincemeat of you! Take me on board!"</p>	25  30
7	<p>Assegar, Krisna and their men laughed uproariously at the sight at first, but then, they realised that at any moment Wijaya might indeed be snapped up by the sharks or brained by the Spaniards' oars. They let fly a volley of shots in the direction of the fugitives. The Spaniards leapt overboard, leaving Wijaya to clamber onto their boat, his legs intact.</p> <p><i>Adapted from 'Westward, Ho!' by Charles Kingsley.</i></p>	35

5. Find words in paragraph 1 which suggest:
- (a) with firmness \_\_\_\_\_ [1]
- (b) disgraceful \_\_\_\_\_ [1]
6. '... turned many of the sailor's faces pale' (lines 6–7). Explain why the sailors' faces turned pale.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [2]
7. What evidence is there in paragraph 1 to suggest that the Spaniards were surprised by the pirate attack?
- \_\_\_\_\_ [1]
8. (a) 'The captain replied boldly, with a smirk...' (line 11)  
What does the captain's response suggest about his attitude towards the pirate attack at that point?
- \_\_\_\_\_ [1]
- (b) 'Can you not see you have only fifty men to fight our twenty?' (lines 12–13)  
What does this question suggest about Krisna's attitude towards the situation, and why?
- \_\_\_\_\_ [2]

9. What does the word 'needlessly' (line 14) suggest about Krisna's actions?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

10. According to paragraph 5, how did the Spaniards attempt to escape?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

11. The writer uses the similes 'roaring like a bull' (lines 24–25) and 'looked like a giant fish' (lines 28–29). What do these similes suggest about Wijaya?

Similes	What it suggests about Wijaya
(a) 'roaring like a bull'	[1]
(b) 'looked like a giant fish'	[1]

12. According to paragraph 6, what did Wijaya do or think in his confusion?

\_\_\_\_\_

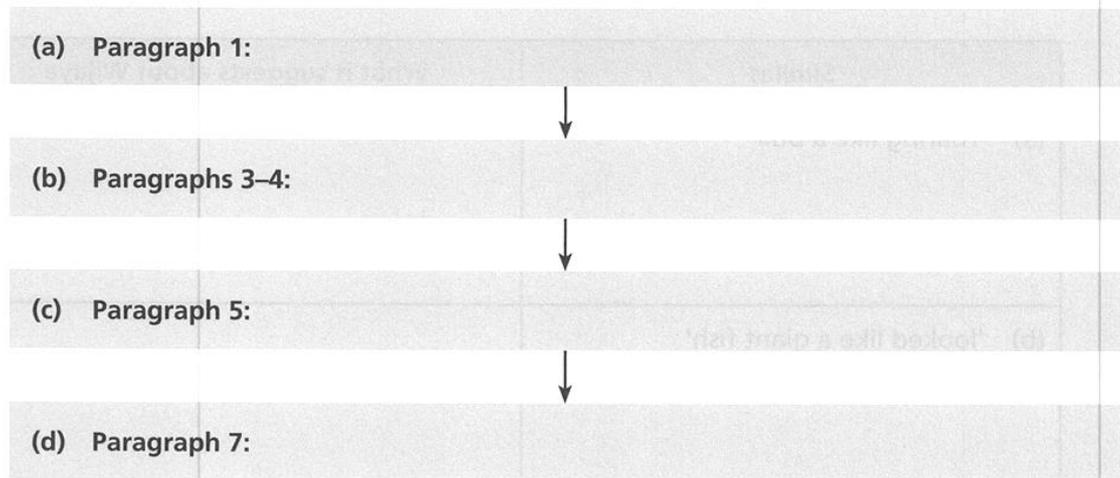
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

13. The structure of the text reflects the main stages of the narrative. Complete the flow chart by choosing one phrase from the box to summarise the main focus of each stage of the narrative. You do not need to use all the phrases in the box. [4]

**Raiding a ship**

- man overboard
- the cautious approach
- the sight of the treasure ship
- attempt at escape
- the main assault
- the situation is resolved satisfactorily
- losing a ship's hook
- Krisna sheds the captain's blood

**Flow chart**



**Text 3** [25 marks]

The text below is about piracy in Southeast Asia. Read it carefully and answer Questions 14–18.

1	<p>“That piracy has increased of late I cannot deny,” wrote the Governor of Singapore in 1835. In 2014, a headline admitted: ‘Southeast Asia heads the list of areas where pirate incidents occur.’ Pirates do not just exist in the fantasy films that viewers enjoy watching; they are real and they might just be much closer than you think! It is worth noting that the loveable pirates portrayed by actors such as Johnny Depp bear little resemblance to the real thing.</p>	5
2	<p>Strictly, piracy is any robbery or other violent action committed on the seas or in the air outside the normal boundaries of any state. Such acts happen all around the world, although few make headlines, with the actions of terrorist groups operating out of Somalia being the exception. Of the roughly 300 incidents around the world each year, well over a third happen in, or close to, Indonesian waters. There are so many islands in this area that it is relatively easy for the fast boats used by pirates to disappear almost as mysteriously as they appeared in the first place. Despite warnings to look out for the small high-speed craft that pirates like to use, captains of ships are often taken by surprise when pirates armed with small guns or knives board their ships and take crew hostage, before making off with cash, equipment or valuables.</p>	10  15

3	<p>Pirates have existed throughout known history. Some were even encouraged by rulers of states to plunder the ships of other countries. When Turkish rule weakened in the Mediterranean, piracy became so common that Morocco, Algiers, Tunis and Tripoli became known as pirate states, or Barbary states. However, improved patrolling and policing of the seas around the world has reduced piracy considerably. This has also been helped by greater acceptance of international law. Despite this, the lower numbers of pirate acts does not mean no acts of piracy.</p>	20
4	<p>Another modern headline roars, 'Booming piracy industry', referring not to the seas but pirated music, videos, computer software or whatever that is the latest in technology. Headline writers and journalists have taken the word 'piracy' a stage further here and applied it to the illegal copying of various items of software or even hardware — whatever is in demand at the moment. Illegal factories have been set up to churn out cheap replicas of the original. For example, within days or even hours of the premiere of a film in the United States, pirated versions are available across Southeast Asia.</p>	25 30
5	<p>Although these acts are not piracy in the strictest sense (since they do not occur on the oceans), they are pirate acts in many other senses. Piracy of intellectual property, like piracy on the seas, is robbery. It takes something from someone who owns it without permission. Both types of piracy are happening in the world that we live in. They often happen outside any one national legal system, especially if a country does not crack down on the offenders. This, however, is more rare with the international community pressurising all countries to follow the same rules. Even so, it can be just as hard for governments to catch up with intellectual pirates as with their original namesakes. Like them, the pirates of modern technology often move fast. They may have contacts within the authorities so that they know in advance when a raid is likely to happen, just as pirates of old occasionally had the support of rulers. The new type of pirate is stealing revenue from some of the biggest businesses of our time — especially in the entertainment world — just as their forebears stole from the richest nations of the day under the infamous skull and crossbones flag. In just one year, the Singapore Police Force managed to net 375 000 pirated articles with a street value of \$6.2 million. Even the pirates of the old days would have been impressed with that haul!</p>	35 40 45

14. (a) From paragraph 1, find a word which contrasts with 'real' (line 6).

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

(b) Find a word in paragraph 1 which means showing similarity to something.

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

15. Here is part of a conversation between Jane and Ali.



Jane

Movies give us a wrong idea about pirates.



Ali

Pirates are prevalent in the waters off Indonesia!

- (a) From paragraph 1, what **two** wrong assumptions about pirates can be used to support Jane's statement?

\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

- (b) From paragraph 2, give **two** reasons to support Ali's statement.

\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

16. Paragraph 3 states that there is less piracy these days than in the past. What **two** reasons are given for this?

\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

17. According to paragraphs 4 and 5, give **two** ways in which the illegal production of intellectual property is different from the original meaning of piracy.

\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

18. Using your own words as far as possible, summarise the similarities between piracy of intellectual property and piracy on the seas.

USE ONLY INFORMATION FROM PARAGRAPHS 4–5.

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

Begin your summary as follows:  
*Both types of piracy are similar in that they involve ...*

**Method**

1. Underline the key words in the summary question that tell you what to focus on.
2. Read the passage and underline the points that answer the summary question.
3. List the points and make brief notes in your own words about what you have underlined in the passage.

Points from passage	No.	Paraphrased points
	1	
	2	
	3	
	4	
	5	
	6	
	7	
	8	

Your notes should be marked out of 7 for language by your teacher / tutor.

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Lined writing area with 25 horizontal lines and two vertical margin lines.

[15]