

Assessment Schedule – 2025

Lea Faka-Tonga: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of written and/or visual Lea Faka-Tonga text(s) on familiar matters (91677)

Assessment Criteria

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<p><i>Demonstrating understanding</i> involves making meaning of relevant information, ideas, and/or opinions in the texts.</p> <p>Responses as a whole show an understanding of the general meaning (gist) of the texts.</p>	<p><i>Demonstrating clear understanding</i> involves selecting relevant information, ideas, and/or opinions from the texts and communicating them unambiguously.</p> <p>Responses as a whole show a clear understanding of the content of the texts. Information is selected and connected to provide responses supported by relevant detailed examples from the texts.</p>	<p><i>Demonstrating thorough understanding</i> involves expanding on relevant information, ideas, and/or opinions, with supporting detail, to show understanding of the meanings or conclusions implied within the texts.</p> <p>Responses as a whole show a comprehensive understanding of the content and underlying meaning of the texts, including nuance and meanings not obviously stated in the texts.</p>

Evidence

N1	N2	A3	A4	M5	M6	E7	E8
Shows very little understanding and does not communicate the general meaning of the text.	Shows little understanding and does not communicate the general meaning of the text.	Demonstrates some understanding and communicates some of the general meaning of the text.	Demonstrates understanding and communicates the general meaning of the text.	Demonstrates clear understanding and unambiguously communicates some of the meaning by selecting and using relevant supporting detail from the text.	Demonstrates clear understanding and unambiguously communicates most of the meaning by selecting and using relevant supporting detail from the text.	Demonstrates thorough understanding and communicates some of the implied meanings by providing supporting detail from the text to justify conclusions.	Demonstrates thorough understanding and communicates most of the implied meanings by providing supporting detail from the text to fully justify conclusions.

N0 = No response; no relevant evidence.

Cut Scores

Not Achieved	Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
0–8	9–14	15–19	20–24

Sample Evidence

What follows is not a complete list of all acceptable responses, nor is it an indication of the exact wording required.

Assessment judgments are based on the level of understanding shown, rather than knowledge of individual lexical items.

Quoting or direct translation alone are not sufficient evidence that the candidate understands the meaning of the text **clearly** or **thoroughly**.

The overall grade for a question must be judged after considering how much of the text as a whole has been understood, and to what depth. Refer to the Evidence statements on page 1.

Question ONE		Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
(a)	<p><i>Where is Mele going today and why?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She is in her school Polyfest and she's going to the shopping mall to buy her costumes that need to be ready by the next week. 	<p>Describes where Mele is going. Provides some details.</p>	<p>Explains where Mele's going and why. Clear understanding demonstrated. Relevant evidence from text provided.</p>	
(b)	<p><i>According to Mele and Semisi, what are the benefits Tongan students growing up in New Zealand can get from choosing to take part in Polyfest?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students growing up in New Zealand can improve their speaking skills in the Tongan language. • They can perform <i>faiva</i> and improve their learning of the Tongan traditional <i>faiva</i>, as they may not have had access to it before. • They will have a legacy to pass it on to their children and grandchildren in the future. • Tongan youth in New Zealand won't feel left out, as they will be able to sing, speak and perform a Tongan dance. • They can feel proud of their heritage being a Tongan. 	<p>Describes some of the benefits. Provides some details.</p>	<p>Explains the benefits in detail. Clear understanding demonstrated. Relevant evidence from text provided.</p>	<p>Justifies what the benefits are for students in New Zealand. Comprehensive understanding demonstrated, and includes nuanced meaning.</p>

<p>(b)</p>	<p><i>How would you describe Sundays in Tonga? Explain why Sundays are treated in this manner.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday is a day of rest, and no work is done. • All members of families make an ‘umu in the morning and then they go to church. They come back and have their lunch after church. • It’s a quiet day and no shops are open. • Love is shown in the form of sharing foods and exchanging plates of foods with the neighbouring homes. • No swimming is allowed as it’s a holy day. • It can be a boring day and less active, as mostly everyone lies down and sleeps as they’re not allowed to be loud or make any noise in the village. 	<p>Provides some details.</p>	<p>Clear understanding demonstrated. Relevant evidence from text provided.</p>	<p>Comprehensive understanding demonstrated, and includes nuanced meaning.</p>
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Question THREE		Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<p>(a)</p>	<p><i>Why was Lisa confused when attending her grandmother’s birthday celebration?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa was confused when she saw her grandmother sit down beside the chair that was decorated and designed for the birthday woman, as she was unsure whether it was her grandmother’s birthday or not. • Lisa thought that the celebration of the day was well deserved to be for her grandmother who turned 70, but it turned out to be her grandmother’s aunty who deserved the acknowledgement of the day. • She was unsure why the huge amount of money, gifts of <i>tapa</i>, and <i>fala</i> were given to the aunty, as all the hard work and donations families given on the day goes to the <i>fahu</i> of the birthday lady. • She felt sorry for her grandmother and how she wasn’t spoiled on the day. Even though it was her birthday, she had to sit down and walk at the back of her aunty when they enter the hall at the start of the celebration. • Lisa wasn’t sure about the role of <i>fahu</i> in the Tongan family, as she has grown up in New Zealand and doesn’t live a traditional Tongan way of life and is not sure about how a <i>fahu</i> is acknowledged. • She is unsure of why monetary gifts and money raised in dances and items performed on the day are given to someone else, not the birthday lady. 	<p>Describes why Lisa was confused. Provides some details.</p>	<p>Explains why Lisa was confused. Clear understanding demonstrated. Relevant evidence from text provided.</p>	<p>Explains why Lisa was confused, giving a comprehensive answer, and includes nuanced meaning.</p>

<p>(b)</p>	<p><i>What made Lisa happy on the day, and why?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa was happy, as she now realises the important role of the <i>fahu</i> in the Tongan family. • As a Tongan growing up in New Zealand, she’s happy to learn about how a traditional birthday celebration is done. • She was happy as all families from Tonga, Australia, and America all came to join them in the celebration of her grandmother’s 70th birthday. • She was happy to meet her cousin ‘Olivia from Tonga, who came to the birthday, as they hadn’t seen each other in five years. • Lisa was happy that her friends from school were there and experienced the traditional way of birthday celebration for a Tongan. • She was happy to see the long years her grandmother has lived, and felt so special to be part of the celebration of her grandmother Sela’s milestone. • Lisa was happy when her mother explained everything to her, and she now has knowledge of a tradition she can pass onto her own children in the future. 	<p>Describes what made Lisa happy. Provides some details.</p>	<p>Explains why Lisa was happy. Clear understanding demonstrated. Relevant evidence from text provided.</p>	<p>Explains comprehensively why Lisa was happy, and includes nuanced meaning.</p>
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