



THE QUEEN'S  
COMMONWEALTH ESSAY COMPETITION 2017

Junior Runner-Up: Ry Galloway, 10, UK

**My peaceful place is on a lilo in a pool**

Lying lazily on my vibrant lilo...

The magnificent, motionless view  
spreads before me like a cat standing its ground

The blazing sun sooths and strokes  
At my skin like liquid silk

The ultramarine water beneath me  
Ripples with refracted sunlight like stained glass

The many hued iridescent butterflies  
Flutter precisely like fragile clockwork

The dusty leaved olive trees undulate  
In the cool Spanish breeze

The invigorating taste of ice pink cloudy lemonade  
Invites me like a lion to its prey

My amber tinted sunglasses  
Carmelise my view like toffee

I plunge into the serenity of a book  
Like a deep sea diver

The minute swallows dip and dive  
Like hand gliders skimming their shimmering  
Reflections on the surface

The aromatic fragrance of rosemary and lavender  
Hangs in the air like a memory