



DOUBLE MERIT NATIONAL EXAMINATION
STANDARD EIGHT YEAR 2021

2ND MERIT

ENGLISH
SECTION A: LANGUAGE

Time: 1 hour 40 Mins

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES (please read these instructions carefully)

1. You have been given this question booklet and a separate answer sheet. The question booklet contains 50 questions.
2. Do any necessary rough work in this booklet.
3. When you have chosen your answer mark it on the ANSWER SHEET, not in the question paper.

HOW TO USE THE ANSWER SHEET.

4. Use an ordinary pencil only.
5. Make sure that you have written on the answer sheet:-
YOUR INDEX NUMBER
YOUR NAME
NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL
6. By drawing a dark line inside the correct numbered boxes mark your full Index Number (i.e. School Code Number and the three-figure Candidate's Number) in the grid near the top of the answer sheet.
7. Do not make any marks outside the boxes.
8. Keep your answer sheet as clean as possible and **DO NOT FOLD IT**.
9. For each of the questions 1-50 four answers are given. The answers are lettered A, B, C, D. In each case only **ONE** of the four answers is correct. Choose the correct answer.
10. On the answer sheet show the correct answer by drawing a dark line inside the box in which the letter you have chosen is written.

Example

In questions 25 to 26, choose the word which means the same as the underlined phrase.

25. The fire fighters put out the raging fire.

- A. Cancelled
- B. Postponed
- C. Extinguished
- D. Dressed

The correct answer is C

25 [A] [B] [C] [D] 26 [A] [B] [C] [D] 27 [A] [B] [C] [D] 28 [A] [B] [C] [D]

In the set of boxes number 25, the box with letter C printed in it is marked.

11. Your dark line **MUST BE** within the box.
12. For each question **ONLY ONE** box is to be marked in each set of four boxes.

This question paper consists of 7 printed pages.

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TURN OVER

Fill in the blank spaces in the passage below using the best alternative from the choices given.

It has been reported that armed police officers took a Nakuru 1 bus to chase gangsters on the Nakuru-Nairobi highway on Friday night. 2 passengers covered in their 3 as police fired 4 the windows at the 5 get away car pajero.

The gangsters abandoned 6 car and escaped 7 the nearby bush. It is believed they 8 injuries. Naivasha police boss Samuel Momanyi said yesterday that one person had been arrested and was assisting police with 9. He said police 10 looking for the car which was stolen from the owner in June. "The vehicle has been used to 11 several highway robberies" he added.

The bloodstained and 12 car was 13 to the Naivasha police traffic yard. Curious 14 thronged the yard to catch a 15 of the vehicles but the police would not let them near it, saying it was yet to be dusted for fingerprints.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | A. moving | B. driven | C. bound | D. proceeding |
| 2. | A. Panic-struck | B. Panic-stricken | C. Panic striking | D. Panicing struck |
| 3. | A. seats | B. sits | C. chairs | D. bench |
| 4. | A. into | B. in | C. at | D. through |
| 5. | A. gangster | B. gangster's | C. gangsters' | D. gangsters |
| 6. | A. their | B. them | C. a | D. they |
| 7. | A. to | B. into | C. from | D. in |
| 8. | A. got | B. received | C. acquired | D. sustained |
| 9. | A. knowledge | B. interrogations | C. inquiries | D. investigations |
| 10. | A. has been | B. had been | C. are | D. have been |
| 11. | A. conduct | B. commit | C. do | D. perform |
| 12. | A. bullet-filled | B. shot | C. bullet-riddled | D. injured |
| 13. | A. dragged | B. pulled | C. towed | D. pushed |
| 14. | A. audience | B. spectators | C. on lookers | D. villagers |
| 15. | A. glance | B. glimpse | C. look | D. stare |

For questions 16 and 17, choose opposite of the underlined word.

- 16. Our teacher made a random choice of our representatives.
 - A. specific
 - B. quick
 - C. special
 - D. abrupt

- 17. The young girl told the truth about the unfolding events.
 - A. accuracy
 - B. lie
 - C. rightness
 - D. verify

For questions 18 and 19, choose the meaning of the underlined words.

- 18. Teachers do not put up with lazy pupils.
 - A. tolerate
 - B. discourage
 - C. accommodate
 - D. encourage

- 19. Caroline Kangogo will be forced to give in to the police for her heinous crimes.
 - A. despair
 - B. surrender
 - C. report
 - D. tip off

For questions 20 and 21, choose the correct young ones of the animals given.

- 20. Fish
 - A. toadpoles
 - B. hatchlings
 - C. fingerlings
 - D. ducklings

- 21. Gorilla
 - A. ape
 - B. cub
 - C. calf
 - D. infant

For questions 22 and 23, choose the correct question tags.

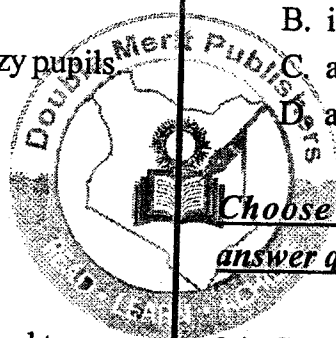
- 22. Pupils must work hard _____?
 - A. should they
 - B. must they
 - C. mustn't they
 - D. shouldn't they?

- 23. I am a hardworking boy, _____?
 - A. am I
 - B. isn't it
 - C. are I
 - D. aren't I

Choose the appropriate alternative to answer questions 24 and 25.

- 24. Scarlett was congratulated _____ her good performance.
 - A. for
 - B. on
 - C. about
 - D. because of

- 25. The senator is popular _____ the youth.
 - A. to
 - B. for
 - C. among
 - D. with



Read the following passage and answer questions 26 to 38.

It all started like a joke but within some minutes the unthinkable happened. My father pointed openly at my mother's shortcomings. He did something we had never witnessed before, barked and shrieked at our mother. My mother was hunched in a corner withdrawn and fear filled.

At this moment, my father had turned into a fire breathing monster. For the first time I noticed a strange character in him. His face was full of rage and hatred. Supper had not been served but the heavy atmosphere was enough to fill out stomachs. The tension cut the atmosphere like a sharp razor blade. He thrashed her mercilessly tearing any exposed part of her body. We cried silently with pity as we watched. No one dared make a move. Our mother cried with pain as the battering went on. She struggled to free herself from the firm grip.

For the first time in our lives we witnessed our parents fighting. It was a hurting and painful sight. Suddenly my father dashed to the bedroom and came out with a sword. My mother had already gone out and had bolted the door from outside. My father turned with wrath on us, "you dogs, you've always plotted to be against me with that woman you call your mother. You will take whatever punishment she was supposed to undergo. I will hack all of you to death,"

All this time he was trembling with rage. He tried to open the door but all in vain. Being the youngest of all, I was ordered to go out through the window to unbolt the door. After unbolting he pulled. He rushed boldly in hot pursuit of our mother. We were imprisoned in the house and went into prayer realising only God could save us from the impending ordeal. We also prayed for our mother's protection.

I personally felt I had betrayed her by agreeing to unbolt the door. We then sat there confused and waiting for him to come back and kill us. But God answered our prayers. My sister suggested that I go out again through the window and unbolt the door from outside. I wasted no time I unbolted and my brothers and sisters rushed out blindly like butterflies. We took refuge in the nearby forest where we covered ourselves with tree branches. We remained awake in fear of wild animals.

Life became unbearable and we had to join street children. Our father has never bothered about our whereabouts and our mother seems to have gone forever. It is now fifteen years since our lovely mother left us. But is she really gone for good? Please mother, if you are alive answer me.

26. "...within some minutes the unthinkable happened." The sentence means the
- end results were expected.
 - results were small
 - results were big.
 - results were not expected.
27. The father of the writer pointed at _____ of the mother.
- shortness
 - weakness
 - strengths
 - preparedness
28. The happenings took place at
- night
 - morning
 - day time
 - evening
29. From the second paragraph we can conclude that
- the father was a real monster
 - the mother was disobedient
 - the father assaulted their mother.
 - the parents fought because there was no supper
30. Why couldn't one dare to make a move? They
- had been ordered not to move
 - were full of fear
 - had been beaten
 - were cowards
31. Why do you think the mother bolted the door from outside?
- To bar the children from following her
 - To escape from the firm grip.
 - To escape from the fury of her husband
 - For pleasure.
32. The word rage has been underlined, it means
- resentment
 - harmony
 - glee
 - excitement
33. From the act of the children in the fourth paragraph we can conclude that the children were?
- In problem
 - Obedient
 - Disobedient
 - Religious
34. According to the story, what did the father accuse the children and mother of?
- Conspiracy
 - Disobeying him
 - Selling his property
 - Failure to serve him food
35. Where did the children spend their night?
- Neighbour's home
 - Friends's home
 - At the corner of the house
 - In a thicket.
36. The writer says, "life became unbearable". This means life was
- endurable
 - difficult
 - untouchable
 - tolerable
37. The word impending ordeal as used in the passage. It means
- an unpleasant experience
 - a moment of contentment
 - awaiting danger.
 - the darkness of the night
38. What is the **BEST** title for this story?
- A fateful night
 - Disappearance of our mother
 - Angry father
 - The worst day

Read the passage below and answer questions 39 to 50.

They say that a journey of a thousand miles begins with one step. Just a step and that's how I start my morning everyday. Hoping for the best. You see, I have sickle cell anaemia, an inherited chronic disease in which red blood cells are crescent-shaped instead of round. These rigid, sticky cells can get stuck in small blood vessels, which can slow or block blood flow and oxygen to other parts of the body. This makes it difficult for the cells to deliver enough oxygen to the body, causing chronic anaemia and episodes of extreme pain. Normally, the flexible, round blood cells move easily through blood vessels.

It affects mainly people of Africa descent and is more common in West and East Africa. It cannot be transferred by touch. Both parents have to have the genes (but not necessarily the condition) to pass it on to their child. It is incurable. There's normally no cure for most people with sickle cell, but treatments that can relieve pain and help prevent complications associated with the diseases can be offered.

Signs of anaemia show up around five months of ages and these includes vision problems, delayed growth or puberty, frequent infections, swelling of feet and hands, periodic episodes of pain and anaemia. Treatment include medication to reduce pain and prevent complications, blood transfusions and supplemental oxygen and in extreme cases bone marrow transplants.

An attack on the body is called sickle crisis and it is when you are in extreme pain in your joint, arms and legs. This condition requires frequent hospitalization. It also requires taking medicine everyday of your life, sometimes I feel like giving up.

Living with sickle cell proves quite a challenge. I struggled with people's prejudices when they found out that I had sickle cell anaemia. They give you the ooh-aah treatment, then stop inviting you to their places because they think you'll drop dead. They look and talk to you differently. It comes with stigma.

Whenever I thought of who I was, the one with this condition, I would put a strain on myself, so I stopped I learnt that I am not who I am and because of the sickle cress, I work twice as hard to prove myself. My mother once told me, "I have faith that you'll get better, but if you do not have your own faith, then my faith can not save you" It jolted me. I realised then that I may be a sickling, but I am also a daughter, a friend and a sister.

I have come this far with God's grace and the support of my family, more so, my mother and friends. I can go much further.

39. The writer wants us to believe that:-
 A. she finds life easy
 B. she finds life normal
 C. she finds life difficult
 D. she is trying to cope with hard life experience
40. Which of the following best explains what sickle cell anaemia is?
 A. It is a painful cell disease
 B. It is an inherited sickle cell disease
 C. It is an inherited chronic blood disease
 D. It is anaemic that affects the red blood cells
41. According to the passage the writer begins his mornings
 A. with a lot of vigour
 B. with hope
 C. with a word of step
 D. with a word of prayer
42. The following are symptoms of sickle cell anaemia except
 A. chronic anaemia
 B. extreme joint pain
 C. frequent fainting
 D. extreme body pains
43. Which of the following best explains the meaning of the word prejudices as used in the passage?
 A. An adverse judgemental opinion formed before hand.
 B. A state of expression of open love
 C. Willingness of a person to assist the one with a problem
 D. The desire to molest a person suffering from sickle cell
44. Sickle cell affects mainly
 A. children from parents who have the gene
 B. children from parents who have the condition
 C. children from Africa more so West and East Africa
 D. children who are exposed to the disease
45. A medical specialist who treats sickle cell is known as
 A. hematologist
 B. doctor
 C. pediatrician
 D. oncologist
46. What makes crescent-shaped red blood cells not operate normally?
 A. They are rigid and sticky
 B. They should be round instead
 C. They easily get stuck in blood vessels blocking blood and oxygen flow
 D. They cause severe pain to the body of the carrier
47. Which of the following statements is true according to the passage?
 A. Sickle cell anemia can be treated but its incurable
 B. Sickle cell anaemia patients cannot live a normal life as other people
 C. Sickle cell anaemia patients live in despair
 D. Sickle cell anaemia has several treatments, that can help to cure it
48. From the passage, we can describe the writer as
 A. ambitious
 B. a dare devil
 C. a sympathy seeker
 D. a fighter
49. The opposite of the word frequent as used in the passage is
 A. never
 B. often
 C. seldom
 D. sometimes
50. The best title for the above passage would be
 A. The cure of sickle cell anaemia
 B. Managing sickle cell anaemia
 C. Causes of sickle cell anaemia
 D. Signs and symptoms of sickle cell anaemia