

SCHOOL BASED EVALUATION TEST

STD 8 - YEAR 2020



STEP FLYER (003)

ENGLISH: LANGUAGE

8

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

Time: 1hrs 40 min

- You have been given this question paper and a separate answer sheet. The question paper contains 50 questions.
- Make sure that you have written on the answer sheet.

(i) Your name

(ii) Name of your school

Read the passage below. It contains blank spaces numbered 1-15. For blank spaces choose the best alternative from the choices given

The government ___ 1 ___ today that the bus ___ 2 ___ for the cities ___ 3 ___ increase ___ 4 ___ the end of the month.

Some of the ___ 5 ___ given were high petrol ___ 6 ___ and high cost of ___ 7 ___. Reports said that this ___ 8 ___ was made only as a last ___ 9 ___ to save the transport industry.

People ___ 10 ___ were ___ 11 ___ made it very clear that the government was making ___ 12 ___. One of them said, "It is a bad ___ 13 ___. They should ___ 14 ___ that people ___ 15 ___ just stop taking buses and decide to walk or even cycle.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. A. announce | B. announcement | C. announces | D. announced |
| 2. A. fair | B. fairs | C. fare | D. fares |
| 3. A. will | B. can | C. shall | D. night |
| 4. A. over | B. by | C. in | D. on |
| 5. A. excuse | B. excuses | C. reasons | D. reason |
| 6. A. price | B. prices | C. costs | D. prizes |
| 7. A. maintenance | B. maintainance | C. decision | D. mantinance |
| 8. A. verdict | B. reason | C. action | D. conclusion |
| 9. A. result | B. entity | C. which | D. resort |
| 10. A. who | B. who's | C. examined | D. whom |
| 11. A. interrogated | B. interviewed | C. a mistake | D. tested |
| 12. A. an error | B. these mistake | C. tackle | D. these error |
| 13. A. movement | B. choice | C. reason | D. move |
| 14. A. find | B. realize | C. must | D. tell |
| 15. A. will | B. can | | D. ought |

Choose the best preposition to complete question 16 to 18.

- Women can do well in football contrary _____ common belief.
A. for B. of
C. to D. under
- The county volleyball team would not go _____ without a fight.
A. down B. up
C. with D. for
- He turned _____ a new leaf after being the family's black sheep.
A. up B. over
C. into D. off

For questions 19 - 21, choose the best answer to complete the sentences.

- Each of my brothers _____ given a new ball.
A. was B. are
C. were D. will
- My father and confidant _____ here now.
A. was B. are
C. were D. is
- Neither the bankers nor the customer _____ awarded.
A. will B. were
C. are D. was

In question 22 and 23, choose the sentence that means exactly as the given sentence.

22. Kenya is the most developed country in Eastern Africa.
- A. Kenya is more developed than many other countries in Eastern Africa
 - B. No other country in Eastern Africa is as developed as Kenya
 - C. Kenya is among the most developed countries in Eastern Africa
 - D. Kenya is as developed as other countries in Eastern Africa
23. The policeman said, "John, go out now!"
- A. The policeman requested John to go out
 - B. The policeman said John do out now

- C. The policeman shouted that John go out
- D. The policeman ordered John to go out then

Choose the correct pronoun to fill the blank spaces.

24. Kelly and _____ went swimming yesterday.
- A. her
 - B. me
 - C. she
 - D. us
25. That is the boy _____ father is a pilot.
- A. who's
 - B. whose
 - C. whom
 - D. which

Read the passage below to answer questions 26 -38

I wish I had a free hand in trying to improve our family shamba. After all, father had to pay for my education and what I learnt at school should be of some use to my family. We have a reasonably large plot of land in Kirinyaga on the eastern slopes of Mount Kenya and not too far from the rice growing plains of Mwea. Twenty hectares of land is not considered large enough to boast about in that area and father does not consider himself a rich man. He is essentially a traditionalist and for him wealth is counted in terms of wives, children, cows, goats and sheep. What was good fifty years ago is still best for him.

He remembers with pride that when he was a youth, his father used to harvest bags and bags of maize on a gently sloping section of the land near the forest. For as long as I personally can remember, he has kept on growing maize in that field in the hope of getting as good a harvest as his father used to do in the early sixties.

To the south of our property there is a fast flowing stream that comes down from the mountain. During the rains it becomes a torrent that has eaten deeply into the land right down to the bedrock. Where the stream joins the larger river there is a wide valley where the soil is quite good but the whole place is often waterlogged. Our house was built just after the emergency. Grandfather liked to have a clear view over the plain and he built as high as he could on the hill. Grandmother once had a beautiful garden of cabbages and pumpkins on the rather sharp slope below the house. She always kept it absolutely free of weeds.

Father employs a few of his clansmen and they are all welcome to get as much firewood as they want from the forested part of the land. Some have become quite rich by selling building poles and charcoal but there is less and less cover for the soil. When it rains, the torrent roars; the heavy drops dig deep into the bare ground and our red soil bleeds into the valley. Much of our maize is uprooted since the rows are always planted up and down. When the dry season wind blows, it is just as bad: clouds of dust rise from our bare fields and from the grazing grounds which the hooves of our numerous animals have turned to powder.

I am still too young to be given much say in family matters but I feel that if I was given a chance a number of things would happen.

The maize shamba with its exhausted soil would be given a rest, a long one I would make sure grass grows there undisturbed for a year or two; then I would allow a few cows to graze in one section after another and drop their manure there.

I know it would not be a popular decision but I would stop the cutting of trees for charcoal burning; I would plant a lot of wattle trees on the upper slopes: there is good money in wattle bark and poles. In the waterlogged area near the river, I would plant gum trees for firewood, and, a little higher, an orchard of oranges, avocados and mangoes. Who would dare cut a fruit tree for firewood?

26. According to paragraph one, it's true to say that
 A. The writer was a farmer
 B. The writer's family shamba was quite big
 C. The writer's father paid others to improve the family shamba.
 D. The writer was willing to help improve the family shamba if allowed
27. The writer's family shamba
 A. is in Mwea
 B. is used for growing rice
 C. is modest in size compared to other
 D. is one of the largest in the area
28. Why does the writer's father not consider himself rich?
 A. Twenty hectares is for the poor
 B. He is a modern man
 C. He does not have what he considers as wealth
 D. He still keeps what he owned fifty years ago
29. According to the writer, his grandfather
 A. used to reap more beautiful maize than his father
 B. taught his father the art of growing maize
 C. was not as good a farmer as his father
 D. hoped to outdo his father one day
30. The term in the early sixties is underlined. It may mean?
 A. after half a century
 B. around 1965
 C. between 1960 and 1963
 D. in 1960
31. All the following features lie in close proximity to the writer's property **except**
 A. a fast flowing stream
 B. the eastern slopes of Mt. Kenya
 C. a valley
 D. waterlogged
32. The house the writer lives in
 A. was built during the emergency
 B. was built by his father
 C. had a beautiful garden of pumpkins and cabbages
 D. was a post-emergency building
33. As a result of the father's clansmen
 A. the writer's father has become very rich
 B. a lot of charcoal is sold by the writer's father
 C. erosion has destroyed a huge chunk of their farm
 D. the land is being reclaimed
34. It is true from the passage to say that
 A. the writer's family shamba doesn't produce much
 B. the writer's family shamba is a replica of what it was during the hey days
 C. no maize is ever harvested by the writer's father
 D. the clansmen do not benefit much
35. If the writer were given a chance, he would do all the following **except**
 A. stop all activity on the maize shamba for about one year
 B. keep fewer cows
 C. introduce rotational grazing
 D. enrich the shamba with manure from the cows
36. The term exhausted is underlined. What does it mean according to the passage
 A. tired
 B. infertile
 C. lethargic
 D. fertile
37. Whom do you think would not support the idea of not felling trees for charcoal?
 A. The father
 B. father's clansmen
 C. the family
 D. the neighbours
38. Which one of the following would be an appropriate title for the passage?
 A. An ounce of protection is worth a pound of cure
 B. don't judge a book by its cover
 C. Hurry hurry has no blessing
 D. All that glitters is not gold

Read the passage below to answer questions 39 - 50

The urge for instant gratification among the young is the biggest blow to a savings culture in Kenya. Worse, are those borrowing to finance their expensive lifestyles.

Founder and chief executive of software firm Compulynx Limited Sailesh says, "young people getting into well paying jobs move fast to acquire a good car and live in exclusive neighbourhoods with an eye on expensive holidays and binge parties.

"In case, they get a better paying job, they change employers very fast, denying themselves an opportunity to grow their careers. Such lives funded by costly loans have eroded the savings culture that every Kenyan needs to inculcate early in life." Enwealth chief executive Simon says that a Sh.5,000 a month saving for 40 years could see an astute person receive a minimum of sh24 million upon attainment of the mandatory 60 year retirement age.

"This is due to compounded interest accrued over time. Young people must plan early for a happy retirement or risk falling into the heavy spending stretch that leaves them with big loans to service at extremely high interest rates," he says.

This has condemned many to a loan laden working life with little retirement savings, he says. While the two CEOs affirm the need to save and grow into successful careers over time, formal sector employees, who have saved up to "Sh 1.2 trillion with pension schemes, could soon enjoy higher returns after a new law allowing use of pension cash to fund infrastructure projects was passed.

Retirement Benefits Authority (RBA) chief executive Mutuku said Kenyans in 14 'big' pension schemes had provided Sh 254 billion for investment in public infrastructure bonds. Addressing a one day symposium attended by managers and trustees of 40 US pension schemes" visiting Nairobi, Mr Nzomiro said this was after laws were reviewed introducing infrastructure bonds, where pension schemes could pool resources via a public private partnership (PPP) arrangement.

"Studies show Americans are better savers than Kenyans and passionately plan for their retirement via pension savings. Kenyans are learning fast, which has seen pension savings rise four fold in the last decade to stand at Sh 1.2 trillion," he said.

39. According to paragraph one, its true to say that
- A. Kenya's youth does not save anything
 - B. Some young Kenyans are borrowing money to show their lives
 - C. The savings culture is poorly entrenched among the young
 - D. Instant gratification is one of the biggest blows to a savings culture
40. According to Sailesh Savani young people getting into well-paying jobs do all the following **except**
- A. buy sleek cars
 - B. live in leafy neighbourhoods
 - C. going on expensive holidays
 - D. live in rundown apartments
41. Why do young people change employers?
- A. to indicate the savings culture
 - B. to fund their costly loans
 - C. to grow in their careers
 - D. to move on to a better paying job
42. Saving sh 5000 for 40 years will guarantee
- A. at least 24 million at the age of 60
 - B. at most 24 million at the age of 60
 - C. 24 million after 60 years
 - D. 24 million at the age of 60
43. An astute person is _____
- A. one who is young
 - B. one who is inept
 - C. one who is insightful
 - D. one who is employed
44. How can the young people plan early for a happy retirement?
- A. Leaving their jobs earlier than at the age of sixty
 - B. putting away some money every month
 - C. taking interest free loans for cars
 - D. doing everything after retirement
45. What is the antonym of the word mandatory as used in the passage
- A. compulsory
 - B. voluntary
 - C. bound
 - D. obligatory
46. The formal sector employees
- A. have been condemned to a loan laden life
 - B. are worse off than the young employees
 - C. have saved at least 1.2 trillion shillings
 - D. have saved at most 1.2 trillion shillings
47. All the following are infrastructure projects that can be funded by pension cash **except**
- A. non-interest loans
 - B. constructing greenhouses
 - C. building houses
 - D. purchasing land
48. According to the passage, how many pension schemes are in Kenya
- A. fourteen
 - B. at most fourteen
 - C. very many
 - D. not more than fourteen
49. The word decade has been highlighted to mean
- A. the last one hundred years
 - B. the last fifty years
 - C. the last ten years
 - D. the last five years
50. What would be the **best** title for the passage?
- A. Posh lifestyles
 - B. Savings among Kenyan youth
 - C. Kenya and American youth
 - D. Gainful employment