



# K.C.P.E. FIFTH TRIAL STANDARD EIGHT

**ENGLISH**  
**SECTION A:**  
**LANGUAGE**

Time: 1 hour 40 minutes

**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 booklet.

**HOW TO USE THE ANSWER SHEET**

4. Use an ordinary pencil.
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 and D. In each case only **ONE** of the four answers is correct. Choose the correct answer.
10. On the answer sheet the correct answer is to be shown by drawing a **dark line** inside the box in which the letter you have chosen is written.

**Example**

**In the Question Booklet:**

For question 14, choose the **BEST** alternative to replace the underlined word.

**14.** We are nowadays allowed to air our views.

- A. choose our leaders
- B. listen to others
- C. make new rules
- D. give our comments

The correct answer is **D**

**On the answer sheet:**

**4** | A | B | C | D |    **14** | A | B | C |  |    **24** | A | B | C | D |    **34** | A | B | C | D |    **44** | A | B | C | D |

In the set of boxes numbered 14, the box with the letter D 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.**



Read the passage below. It contains blank spaces numbered 1 - 15. For each blank space, choose the **BEST** alternative from the choices given.

Many schools have of late changed system of \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ the prefects' body. In the past, prefects were \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ by the teachers. Those pupils who happened to be in good \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ with their teachers or \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ teachers got appointed to serve \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ positions they did not deserve. \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ prefects served the interests of the appointing authority. As long as an \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_ was good to the teachers, they would push for it, \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ of whether the pupils are \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_ it or not. The prefects ended up being \_\_\_\_\_ 10 \_\_\_\_\_ unpopular with the students and instead instilled fear into their \_\_\_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_\_\_.

This, \_\_\_\_\_ 12 \_\_\_\_\_, has changed recently. Elections, \_\_\_\_\_ 13 \_\_\_\_\_ to the General Elections, are now held in schools. Students nominate the candidates of their choice and then go ahead to conduct free and fair elections \_\_\_\_\_ 14 \_\_\_\_\_ voting. The student who gets the highest \_\_\_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_\_\_ of votes automatically gets the position.

- |     |                 |             |                  |              |
|-----|-----------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| 1.  | A. forming      | B. creating | C. choosing      | D. putting   |
| 2.  | A. elected      | B. called   | C. appointed     | D. collected |
| 3.  | A. terms        | B. places   | C. positions     | D. orders    |
| 4.  | A. majority     | B. specific | C. cruel         | D. special   |
| 5.  | A. at           | B. on       | C. for           | D. in        |
| 6.  | A. Some         | B. Even     | C. Such          | D. Any       |
| 7.  | A. item         | B. issue    | C. information   | D. error     |
| 8.  | A. irrespective | B. despite  | C. disrespectful | D. apart     |
| 9.  | A. with         | B. like     | C. to            | D. for       |
| 10. | A. very         | B. too      | C. so            | D. either    |
| 11. | A. siblings     | B. juniors  | C. subjects      | D. workmen   |
| 12. | A. moreover     | B. however  | C. furthermore   | D. moreso    |
| 13. | A. according    | B. relating | C. connected     | D. similar   |
| 14. | A. over         | B. with     | C. through       | D. along     |
| 15. | A. number       | B. quality  | C. standard      | D. position  |



Use the information below to answer questions 16 to 18.

Wangare, Masinde, Oloo and Kirui were discussing food crops grown in their home area. Oloo said sweet potatoes, cassava and groundnuts grow well in his home area while Kirui's list comprised maize, millet, green grams and wheat. Masinde listed maize, cassava and millet. Only Wangare and Kirui listed Irish potatoes but beans was listed by all. Wangare said she saw millet, arrowroots and tomatoes where she lived. Only Oloo excluded sorghum.

16. Who among the following children had the longest list?
- A. Oloo
  - B. Wangare
  - C. Kirui
  - D. Masinde
17. The **least** common crop in the regions the children come from is
- A. beans
  - B. groundnuts
  - C. millet
  - D. cassava
18. Which of the following statements is **true** according to the information?
- A. More than half of the crops appeared in one list only.
  - B. Maize, cassava and millet were listed by the same number of children.
  - C. No child had an equal number of crops listed to another.
  - D. There's no crop that was listed by all the children.

For questions 19 to 22, choose the alternative that means the same as the underlined word.

19. Lelei left his job because of sickness.
- A. deserted
  - B. abandoned
  - C. ignored
  - D. quit

20. He was released from hospital after being in the ward for one week.
- A. left
  - B. forgiven
  - C. discharged
  - D. freed
21. Beline was elected as a class prefect but she turned it down.
- A. doubted
  - B. rejected
  - C. resigned
  - D. grumbled
22. The concert was cancelled due to insecurity.
- A. called off
  - B. put across
  - C. put out
  - D. looked into

For questions 23 to 25, choose the alternative that best completes the given sentence.

23. Hard times come to pass; \_\_\_\_\_?
- A. doesn't it
  - B. does it
  - C. can't it
  - D. don't they
24. The dentist doesn't visit this hospital everyday but he \_\_\_\_\_ every Tuesday.
- A. does
  - B. comes
  - C. visits
  - D. could
25. Musa is a hard working boy, \_\_\_\_\_, he plays for the school team.
- A. however
  - B. although
  - C. moreover
  - D. nevertheless



Read the passage below and then answer questions 26 to 38.

Sending children was always done in more than two. It was either to act as security of the other or to provide company. Likewise, it was for us to report if any of us misbehaved along the way or at the place we had been sent to. So, when Luka was sent to where his eldest sister was married, he resisted. It was a long distance away and one was not expected to return before evening. Upon refusing, his mother called Lowe and I to provide the company. Still, he had to be rebuked and threatened before he reluctantly agreed to go.

I can't remember what information Luka was to relay to his sister. Naturally, children shared such information so that should any of them forget, the others would still remind the bearer. We did not ask Luka what it was because, anyway, he did not look to be in the moods to talk to us until we were some distance away from home. Then, slowly, he started joining us in throwing stones at birds and making fun of cyclists who rode creakily past us. We never made mistakes in the fun we made for we knew the consequences of being too loud.

We walked, ran and laughed. It is this combination of activities that actually made us reach faster. Luka's sister had just come from her routine weeding when we appeared at the home. She was happy to see us and anyway, she had always been. To her, we were all her brothers and none of us was closer to her than the rest. In a very short time, she had prepared tea which we took with the reddish sweet potatoes.

As we were hungrily taking the tea, she disappeared. Immediately, Luka started urging us to leave before she returned but we told him that would be very bad manners. It did not take long, however, before she reappeared, carrying some fresh fish from the lake. She embarked into the preparation as if she knew what was in the mind of one of us.

Outside, we were expected to be playing in the compound but that was far from it. Luka kept urging us to leave because it was getting late. We wondered whether it was getting really late since we had not been ordered to return home by a specific time. The sister heard us arguing and rushed out. She shouted angrily at Luka and asked him to leave alone if he wanted to but the rest of us would wait for the meal. In that furious mood, she told Luka that he was not being tied there.

Somehow, the scolding drummed some sense into Luka's head. Food was soon brought and we ate so hungrily that one would have wondered where the tea we had just taken had gone to. We got satisfied but not at the same time. Luka remained eating alone, long after we had stopped and we kept stealing glances at the latest turn of events curiously. The sister did not hide her surprise.

All along the way back, we walked in two groups, Luka ahead of us and we trailing. He talked to neither of us and never looked back. We were comfortable that way for Luka had had double that day.



26. When children were sent, they were ever more than two because of all the following **EXCEPT**
- A. to ensure the others were safe.
  - B. to persuade the others to agree in case of disagreement.
  - C. to safeguard themselves against misbehaviour.
  - D. to give good account of themselves against misbehaviour.
27. Why was Luka hesitant to go to where his sister was married?
- A. He probably did not want to go out of home.
  - B. He did not want to be accompanied by the others.
  - C. He did not approve of that family.
  - D. His friend had persuaded him not to go anywhere.
28. Luka was rebuked because
- A. he wanted to go on the journey alone.
  - B. his sister had quarrelled him earlier.
  - C. he did not want to return home on the same day.
  - D. he was hesitant even after normal condition were fulfilled.
29. The **MAIN** reason why the boys were throwing stones at birds is
- A. they were already hungry due to the long walk.
  - B. to test their skills at stone throwing.
  - C. they were enjoying their journey.
  - D. it was one way of showing their disgust.
30. According to the boys, one of the possible consequences for being too loud is
- A. their journey could be terminated at once.
  - B. they could be reported for being noisy.
  - C. they could be heard right from home.
  - D. they could get punished for being rude.
31. The other boys did not know the information Luka was to relay to the sister since
- A. its source was unwilling to disclose it.
  - B. Luka had been instructed to keep it a secret.
  - C. Luka's sister would eventually tell them.
  - D. It was not all that important.
32. As the boys were nearing their destination, they were
- A. curious
  - B. disgusted
  - C. upbeat
  - D. calm
33. According to the passage, Luka's sister
- A. knew Luka was always a bad boy when sent.
  - B. Came from the farm to receive her visitors.
  - C. had not been to her parents' home for a long time.
  - D. had a neutral affection for all the boys.
34. When the two boys turned down Luka's proposal that they leave, it was most likely out of
- A. curious
  - B. disgusted
  - C. upbeat
  - D. calm
35. Why did Luka's sister remind him that he was not being tied at her home?
- A. Just to remind him in case he had forgotten.
  - B. She did not want Luka to feel like a prisoner.
  - C. She felt he was being a nuisance.
  - D. Luka had a different instruction from the rest.
36. The two boys stole glances at Luka as he ate
- A. to encourage him to eat as well as they.
  - B. because he was the least expected to be left eating alone.
  - C. to ensure that he did not leave his share uneaten.
  - D. since they would have to give a report back home.
37. What does the writer mean by saying Luka had had double?
- A. His journey had been very tiring.
  - B. The boys had eaten two meals in succession.
  - C. Luka had been angered by his cousins and sister.
  - D. Being scolded twice on the same day.
38. In the end, we learn that
- A. there was no reconciliation among the boys.
  - B. The boys never accompanied Luka on any journey again.
  - C. Luka learnt a lesson on good behaviour.
  - D. Luka was punished at home for misbehaviour.



Read the passage below and then answer questions 39 to 50.

If you have ever gone to the Coast, then you must have seen the coconut tree. This is because they grow everywhere from people's doorsteps, city streets to the wild uncultivated areas. It grows well in tropical areas around the world. It grows very tall and without any branches, sometimes up to thirty metres high, with the leaves measuring four to six metres long.

The coconut, it is said, owes its name to the 16<sup>th</sup> century Portuguese sailors who thought the small holes on the fruit resembled a human face. Therefore, they name the fruit 'Coco' which means 'Grinning face' in Portuguese language. Although it is called a nut, coconut technically belongs to the fruit family called drupes, which includes other fruits like peach, plums and cherries.

It is common to see some coconut vendors slice the top of a coconut, put a straw in it and have one drink. This is done in the early growth stages when the coconut has a lot of water that can be consumed directly. The refreshing drink contains sugar, dietary fibre, proteins, anti-oxidants and minerals. However, the water is not the same as coconut milk. Coconut milk is squeezed from the blended, grated or chopped chunks of the white fleshy part of the fruit and also referred to as coconut 'meat'. The meat is high in milk fat and is a popular additive in rice dishes.

Coconut meat is also pressed for oil. The coconut oil has multiple uses - from cooking to being used as body massage oil. Since coconut tree grows very tall, wood from its trunk was preferred traditionally for building houses. The wood's straightness, strength and ability to resist salt made it a reliable building material for boats, bridges and houses in the tropics.

If you thought that that is all a coconut is worth, you will be pleasantly surprised to learn that the coconut leaves too have many uses. Some of these are: making brooms, weaving baskets and mats or dried and used as thatch for roofing houses. Such roofs are called Makuti-thatched roofs.

Although coconut is a drupe fruit, it does not get dispersed by animals like the rest of its family (it's too high up anyway). Instead, the coconut palm disperses its seed using the ocean. Coconut is very buoyant (can float easily) and highly water resistant and can travel very long distances across the ocean.

39. Seeing a coconut tree at the Coast is
- easy because everyone grows them.
  - common because of its presence.
  - possible if you look where they are planted.
  - A must since everyone has seen them.

40. Why do coconuts grow easily at the Coast region?
- It is liked by many people in that area.
  - The people are well aware of its benefits to them.
  - It grows easily in all areas around the world.
  - The coconut is suitable for tropical areas where Coast lies.

41. The source of the name coconut can be described as
- anonymous
  - unanimous
  - accurate
  - imagination

42. The coconut fruit whose top can be sliced then drank
- gives a lot of coconut milk.
  - is from an immature fruit.
  - contains a lot of flesh.
  - can easily make one feel unwell.



43. The sugar, dietary fibre, proteins, antioxidants and minerals are given in the passage as
- ingredients of the fruit.
  - formation of the fruit.
  - parts of a coconut fruit.
  - content of the fruit.
44. What does the writer think of the coconut meat?
- It is the only known source of both cooking and hair oil.
  - It is mixed with coconut milk to make a refreshing drink.
  - Its uses is more than what is listed.
  - It contains both water and milk.
45. Why is the coconut tree suitable for building houses?
- It combines well with makuti to cover the roof.
  - It grows straight and is resistant to salt.
  - People prefer it to other types of trees.
  - All the fruits fall off after some time.
46. Which of the following information is TRUE according to the passage?
- Not all the uses of the coconut have been mentioned.
  - Both the mature and young fruits contain coconut oil.
  - The coconut trees grow to at least 30 metres tall.
  - A coconut fruit grins as observed by the Portuguese.
47. Where is one most likely to get a wild coconut tree seedling?
- In forested areas.
  - In the middle of the ocean or sea.
  - In any place within Portugal.
  - Along the seashore.
48. The MAIN reason why boat makers prefer making their boats from coconut trees is
- it is very light and floats easily on water.
  - it does not burn well as firewood.
  - it is resistant to salt found in the ocean water.
  - it makes better boats compared to other types of wood.
49. While cooking rice, the most useful ingredient in the coconut is
- meat
  - milk
  - flesh
  - water
50. The most suitable title for this passage would be
- the coconut tree.
  - origin of coconut trees.
  - uses of coconut trees
  - location of the coconut trees.