

ACHIEVERS FOCUS EXAMINATION SERIES



STANDARD 8 – 2021

ENGLISH

AF005

Time: 1 hour 40 minutes

Read the passage below. It contains blank spaces numbered 1 to 15. For each blank space, select the best alternative from the choices given.

The level of noise 1 increased the 2 we got the bus station. 3 Juma said pointing at the new colorful matatu. On its roof was a 4 with words 'NAIROBI EXPRESS' boldly written on it. We quickened our pace 5 it. At the booth office was a 6 waiting for their 7. I gave the attendant a 8 note. He checked the note 9 light. Satisfied it was 10 he pointed at us with a biro pen and asked, 11 I nodded a 12. He wrote 13 book, tore out two tickets and handed them 14 to us. At the entrance we found 15, man who I thought was a tout.

1. A. gradually B. gradually
C. also D. finally
2. A. closer B. close
C. closest D. farther
3. A. "there?" B. "there!"
C. "there," D. There?
4. A. poster B. billboard
C. signboard D. noticeboard
5. A. besides B. beside
C. toward D. towards
6. A. short queue travellers
B. short queue of travellers
C. shorter queue of travellers
D. shorter queue of travelers
7. A. luck to get their tickets
B. turn to acquire their tickets
C. time to draw their tickets
D. time to sell their tickets
8. A. five hundred shillings
B. five hundred shilling
C. five hundreds shilling
D. five hundreds shillings
9. A. against B. under
C. in D. at
10. A. genuine B. fake
C. original D. duplicate
11. A. "for you the two" B. "for the two of you"
C. "for all of you two" D. "for you the two"
12. A. amazement B. disagreement
C. confirmation D. satisfaction
13. A. rapidly on receipt
B. quickly on a receipt

- C. faster on a receipt
D. more rapidly on a receipt
14. A. from B. in
C. up D. over
15. A. a teenage aged B. a teen aged
C. a ten aged D. a ten-year aged

For question 16 to 18, select the appropriate question tags.

16. Close the window, _____?
A. won't you C. will you
B. isn't it D. shouldn't you
17. The little girl did her work well, _____?
A. did she C. didn't she
B. doesn't she D. isn't she
18. She said she won't do the test at all cost, _____?
A. will she C. does she
B. didn't she D. won't she

For questions 19 to 21, select the best alternative that means the same as the given sentence

19. It would not be easy for us to agree.
A. Although it is not easy, we shall agree.
B. We did not agree because it was not easy.
C. It is unlikely for us to agree because it is not easy.
D. It is not unlikely for us to agree because it is not easy.
20. Hardly had he left the house when it collapsed.
A. The house collapsed before he left.
B. The house collapsed when he left.
C. The house collapsed after he left.
D. The house collapsed immediately he left.
21. Neither the boys nor the teachers were caught up in the mistake.
A. The teachers were caught up in the mistake.
B. None of them was caught up in the mistake
C. None of them was not caught up in the mistake.
D. The boys were caught up in the mistake.

For question 22 and 23, select the best alternative to replace the underlined word.

22. We were all astounded when we received the message
A. Shocked C. ashamed
B. Disappointed D. excited

23. He is the most **celebrated** president of them all.
- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| A. known | C. liked |
| B. popular | D. famous |

For question 24 and 25, choose the alternative that is grammatically correct.

- 24.
- A. Father told the carpenter to make for me a table.
 - B. John would not join in our games since he was unwell.
 - C. Neither Rose nor Christine are to be blamed.
 - D. We discussed the matter over a cup of tea.
- 25.
- A. He treats me as if I were his own son.
 - B. It is not I who am to blame for your problems.
 - C. I could tell that they were discussing about me.
 - D. The naughty boy made a hole in the perimeter wall.

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 – 38.

Long ago, there lived a man called Ronny. He was a great farmer who owned a large track of ancestral land. Ronny had four wives and numerous siblings. He faced a lot of problems in educating his children since he was not rich by any standard.

During the final year in primary school, when many of his children were sitting for their exams, a foreign company prospecting mineral in the area discovered that a half of Ronny's land was covered in diamond. What a fortune! Ronny was very excited; he started thinking on how he would be able to educate his children and change from grass-thatched huts to a permanent house which was the living standard of the rich by then.

The law, however stated that a foreign company would only buy a minute piece of the diamond land and leave the rest in the hands of the locals. Ronny was paid a large sum of money for a quarter piece of diamond land. With the money, he hired more men to dig the rest of the diamond on his land. Astonishingly for Ronny, more diamond rolled out than he ever expected. He would not even see why taking his children to school would be important anymore. This shocked not only his neighbors but village mates as well.

Unfamiliar to them, Ronny did not sell his diamond. Instead, he dug a big hole in which he hid the refined diamond. Long after the company wound up its operations in the vicinity, Ronny's mining continued. He however stored the diamond in the night when no one was awake. Eventually he too finished his portion, but he liked his fortune with relish. The issue of selling any portion of it was out of question. He was contented

with just inspecting and seeing that it was safe and sound.

It was a result of good and bad coincidence that one night. A robber saw him. He was unarmed and when he went in and came out again with nothing. Sensing this as odd, the burglar let him disappear then followed right where he had been to and rolled out the huge stone that covered the entrance. When he saw what was inside, he almost collapsed! He, however, did what was most expected of him. He carried away all the diamond in the boxes faster and by dawn when he went to sleep, all the diamond was safely hidden at a different place.

As usual, Ronny went to check on his diamond the next day and the turnout of events arose the piercing scream that woke up the neighborhood. They came out carrying all sorts of weapons for it was strange for a man to cry so loudly at such a time unless he was under attack. To their astonishment, Ronny was there, by the hole, solely. He had no visible injuries and, in a lamentation, punctuated with sobs, he retold the ordeal. No one sympathized with him. They walked back to their houses one by one to continue with their sleep as if nothing had happened.

26. According to the passage, what made it difficult for Ronny to do well in life?
- A. The four wives were problematic.
 - B. The land produce was not enough.
 - C. He had many children to educate in school.
 - D. He was a good farmer.
27. What convinced Ronny that he was fortunate?
- A. All his comrades felt jealous of his good luck.
 - B. He had finally seen where he would get the money he needed.
 - C. He knew where he would sell all his diamond.
 - D. None of the villagers had been approached by the foreign company.
28. According to the passage Ronny felt that all was not well soon after because,
- A. the law of land was to be obeyed.
 - B. there was no accurate figure for the diamond on his farm.
 - C. numerous family members were at logger head with each other.
 - D. some of the villagers owned a portion of the land.
29. The diamond that Ronny hired other casual workers to dig from his farm
- A. was of less value compared to what he had been paid for.
 - B. should have been left to the foreign company.
 - C. was from the portion he was left with.
 - D. was part of the piece of land he was paid for.

30. What prompted the robber to go to the hole Ronny had just left?
- He was sure Ronny had diamond and must have hidden it somewhere.
 - He was curious.
 - He wanted to know how much diamond was still left there.
 - He had not had a brilliant day that day.
31. 'It was a result of good and bad coincidence'. This phrase means that,
- both Ronny and the robbers did not see each other.
 - it was beneficial to one and a loss for another.
 - both Ronny and the robbers did not see each other.
 - it was beneficial to one and a loss for another.
32. Why did the robber steal all the diamond?
- He wanted to show Ronny how clever he was.
 - He needed to fulfill his usual mission.
 - He realized Ronny did not know the value of the diamonds.
 - He wanted to see what Ronny would do next.
33. According to the passage, what would have made the writer to be taken aback?
- The two men had met inside the hole.
 - The robber had not found no pieces of diamond in the hole.
 - The robber had left the diamond in the hole.
 - Ronny had returned and found the robber in the hole.
34. Three of the following are reasons why Ronny had to check on the diamond except,
- it was a coincidence
 - it was usual
 - it was normal
 - it was a routine
35. When the neighbors came out of their houses that night, they
- knew Ronny had finally learnt his lesson.
 - were ready for confrontation.
 - went after the robber but it was futile.
 - were sure Ronny had been cheating them.
36. The key reason why Ronny cried out in the night was
- to scare, chase and make the robber drop the diamond.
 - to wake the other neighbors to help him catch the burglar.
 - due to frustrations caused by the loss.
 - because his life was in danger from the robber.
37. How did the neighbors react while on their way back?
- Ronny realized it was no use calling them in the first place.

- They knew the robber must be one of them.
- They warned themselves against such meanness.
- They were excited about what had happened.

38. The best title for this passage would be
- Christmas comes but once a year.
 - Valuables should not be kept in holes.
 - Days of the thief are always numbered.
 - Every cloud has a silver lining.

Read the passage below and answer questions 39 – 50.

The lion and the zebra may both live cheek by jowl in the vast savannahs of the jungle, but the two are so unlike when it comes to fatherhood. However, both the carnivores and the herbivores have important lessons that they can teach human beings. On any given day, father lion is **aloof** to his cubs, keeping his distance high up in the rocky knolls as mother lioness plays with the young ones most of the day, rolling in the grass, cleaning each other's coats and when hunger pays bite, going for the kill as one.

But the lioness and her cubs know that when they zeroed in on a prey that is too strong for them, **they can always count on the lion**, to deliver the killer blow. Unfortunately, the lioness and her little ones, once the kill is ready, they must step back a respectable distance and wait until the King of the jungle has had his fill. That is why what father eats is called '**the lion's share**'. Once a while, the lioness and her cubs will bring down an eland or wildebeest and gobble it down without any knowledge of the lion. The time, the lion is away surveying his territory.

As the dominant male in his pride, one of the lion's key responsibility is to secure the family and keep away the competition. The day he is not strong enough to fight them off is the day he loses his all and is cast away to die in ignominy. And because he must fight many other males to secure his territory, this reduces his life expectancy to twelve years compared to sixteen years for the lioness.

Unlike the lioness, bonding with the young ones is the biggest responsibility, the lion spends most of his time alone. He does not like to be bothered by the cubs. He takes offence when they step on his claws.

Whereas the lion is the alpha and omega of the wild, the zebra is a **sentimental** and caring male. The moment his female companion or companions become pregnant; he makes it his duty to stand by her. He will be there, doing sentry duty. When the calf is born and stands by his family until the calf is old enough to feed itself. The zebra is no different from the humble warthogs, the most forgetful creature in the African wilds. This weakness can make it easy for the parents to lose their young ones, especially in the long grass. To get around their own forgetfulness and that of their little ones, the

father and mother always raise their tails. That way, their young ones can always follow them, especially when they are running away from predators.

The most solving lesson for fathers will probably be brought by the male buffalo. When he becomes too old to compete with young studs in the herd he will be banished from his family. He will be lucky to find those like him who have suffered a similar fate, and together, spend their sunset days starrng into the distance with nothing to do to give their lives meaning. This teaches us that we live in our world in which how far we can see (into the future into our lives and into an environment), is as important as what we know. If a man is a lion, his next meal will be guaranteed by his sight. And on him. Finally, fathers can learn lesson from the wildebeest from when the power of community is the biggest life insurance. When they spot danger, the herbivores will make noises that are enough to irritate the group. However, the moment one steps away from the herd, he is exposed to every imaginable danger.

Nothing can save him when the enemy strikes and he has to stare death in the eye, surrounded by hyenas.

39. The first sentence implies that
- the zebra and the lion live peacefully in the jungle.
 - the zebra and the lion are so different when it comes to fatherhood.
 - the lion lives in the vast savannah unlike the zebra.
 - the fatherhood behavior of the lion and zebra is similar.
40. The word 'aloof' as used in the passage means
- apart
 - attached
 - sympathetic
 - angry
41. Mother lioness does all the following with her cubs except
- hunting together
 - cleaning each other's coat
 - hunting for each other
 - rolling in the grass
42. The phrase 'they can always count on the lion' as used in the passage means that
- they are no longer used to the lion.
 - they cannot make any kill without the lion.
 - they cannot fight the lion as he is strong.
 - they can depend on the lion for assistance.
43. According to the second paragraph, it is not correct to say that
- sometimes, mother lion and her cubs can make a kill and eat without the lion's knowledge.
 - the 'lion's share' belongs to the mother lion and her cubs.

- the lion eats his share before the lioness and her cubs.
- mother lion and her cubs can hunt on their own.

44. One of the lion's key responsibilities is to
- bond with the young ones.
 - hunt for his family.
 - allow other males into his territory.
 - secure his family and keep away the competition.
45. Which one of the following has made the lion to have a low life expectancy?
- The fear of being cut out from his territory.
 - The act of the lioness and the cubs eating the kill alone.
 - Having to fight to secure his territory.
 - Having to take care of the cubs.
46. The word 'sentimental' as used in the paragraph means
- Emotional
 - Furious
 - skeptic
 - courageous
47. Which one of the following statements does not show the zebra's act of being caring?
- Standing by his female companion.
 - Keeping aloof to the calf.
 - Taking care of the calf until it is big enough.
 - Doing sentry duties for its pregnant companion.
48. According to the fourth paragraph, it is not correct that
- the lion is humble unlike the zebra.
 - the zebra is caring compared to the lion.
 - though the warthog is humble, he is very forgetful.
 - the warthogs always raise their tails to cope with their forgetfulness.
49. Which one of the following happens to the buffalo when he is unable to compete with the young in the herd?
- He is pardoned for some time.
 - He is killed for food.
 - He is banished from his family.
 - He is adopted by another herd.
50. Which one of the following is not a lesson that we can learn from this passage?
- How far we can see is as important as what we know.
 - The power of the community is the biggest life insurance.
 - Our survival depends on ourselves.
 - Indolence in life is an acceptable behavior.