
KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATION COUNCIL

KCPE 2010

ENGLISH PAPER

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**ENGLISH
SECTION A:
LANGUAGE****Time: 1 hour 40 minutes****READ THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY**

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

HOW TO USE THE ANSWER SHEET

3. Use an ordinary pencil.
4. Make sure you have written on the answer sheet:

YOUR INDEX NUMBER
YOUR NAME
NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL
5. 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.
6. Do not make any marks outside the boxes.
7. Keep the sheet as clean as possible and do not fold it.
8. 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.
9. 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

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

- 19.** Nafula quit her job to go to America.
 A. abandoned
 B. deserted
 C. ignored
 D. left

The correct answer is D.

On the answer sheet:

9 (A) (B) (C) (D) **19** (A) (B) (C) (D) **29** (A) (B) (C) (D) **39** (A) (B) (C) (D) **49** (A) (B) (C) (D)

In the set of boxes numbered **19**, the box with the letter D printed in it is marked.

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

This question paper consists of 7 printed pages and 1 blank page.

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TURN OVER

Questions 1 to 15

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

Laughter is part of everyday human communication. We can 1 think of a day in our lives that 2 without us laughing or hearing someone laugh. Research has shown that human beings are 3 of laughter even before they are born. 4 , pictures have shown unborn babies smiling in their mothers' womb. Smiling 5 be thought of as the first 6 of laughter.

Humans are not the only 7 capable of laughing. It is 8 that chimpanzees and gorillas also make sounds and facial expressions that resemble those made by humans 9 laughing. The major difference 10 , is that whereas human beings can laugh at jokes, it is doubtful 11 animals can see the funny 12 of life. It should, however, be noted that laughter is not always 13 expression of happiness. Sometimes we laugh to 14 up embarrassment or hide our fears. We may even laugh to 15 annoyance.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. | A. hardly | B. usually | C. never | D. even |
| 2. | A. comes | B. begins | C. sets | D. passes |
| 3. | A. capable | B. thought | C. fond | D. suspected |
| 4. | A. Really | B. So | C. Truly | D. Indeed |
| 5. | A. must | B. should | C. can | D. would |
| 6. | A. sign | B. step | C. attempt | D. display |
| 7. | A. people | B. things | C. creatures | D. persons |
| 8. | A. felt | B. assumed | C. imagined | D. known |
| 9. | A. during | B. while | C. through | D. from |
| 10. | A. nevertheless | B. moreover | C. anyway | D. however |
| 11. | A. because | B. whether | C. if | D. since |
| 12. | A. part | B. things | C. side | D. bit |
| 13. | A. a | B. an | C. the | D. that |
| 14. | A. keep | B. cover | C. shut | D. put |
| 15. | A. show | B. display | C. demonstrate | D. indicate |

For questions 16 and 17 choose the option which best fills the blank space in the sentences below.

16. If only I had known I _____ have come to visit you.
A. would
B. could
C. should
D. may.
17. She wrote the report _____ ink.
A. in
B. of
C. with
D. by

For questions 18 and 19 choose the sentence that means the same as the underlined one.

18. You should listen to your teachers.
A. You will listen to your teachers.
B. You have to listen to your teachers.
C. You may listen to your teachers.
D. You ought to listen to your teachers.
19. No sooner had we sat than she gave us the news.
A. As soon as we sat she gave us the news.
B. The news was given to us after we sat.
C. As soon as she gave us the news, we sat.
D. She gave us the news as we sat.

In questions 20 and 21 choose the best alternative that means the opposite of the underlined word.

20. My grandmother was generous.
A. mean
B. greedy
C. thrifty
D. unkind
21. The pencil is sharp.
A. dull
B. flat
C. blunt
D. smooth

In questions 22 and 23, choose the best arrangement of the given sentences to make sensible paragraphs.

22. (i) All living things depend on energy from it.
(ii) It is the closest star to the earth.
(iii) Life on earth would not be possible without the sun.
(iv) The sun is one among millions of stars.
A. (iv) (ii) (i) (iii)
B. (i) (iv) (ii) (iii)
C. (iv) (i) (iii) (ii)
D. (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)
23. (i) The bride and the bridegroom were on their way.
(ii) The invited guests were chatting excitedly.
(iii) The big wedding was about to begin.
(iv) The blaring of vehicle horns was heard from afar.
A. (ii) (i) (iii) (iv)
B. (iii) (i) (ii) (iv)
C. (ii) (iv) (i) (iii)
D. (iii) (ii) (iv) (i)

For questions 24 and 25 choose the sentence which is correctly punctuated.

24. A. "Come here," she ordered.
B. "Come here, she ordered."
C. "Come here!" she ordered.
D. "Come here?" she ordered.
25. A. How best can the Environment be conserved.
B. How best can the environment be conserved?
C. How best can the environment be conserved!
D. How best can the Environment be conserved?

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

All his life Charles Dickens, one of the greatest novelists in the world, would remember a particular day when he was nine years old, and something his father said. They were out walking together and had stopped, as they often did, to admire a handsome brick house. With its lovely windows and neat lawn, it seemed as grand as a palace.

Then John Dickens told his son that if he worked very hard, someday he might live in that house. The thought took Charles' breath away. The sort of person who would live in that house would be a distinguished man of taste and education. His father believed that Charles could someday be like that. All he had to do was work hard.

He could not have known on that day how far he would fall and how high he would rise, and that he really would live in that house, and that he would die there.

When Charles looked back on his childhood, these were happy years. They lived in a small house which had a little garden and, across the road, there was a playground for the children. He had a nursemaid, Mary, who comforted his childish sorrows. She also terrified him with blood-curdling horror stories that he adored, though they gave him nightmares. He spent wonderful hours in his tiny room reading from his father's set of novels. He went for days imagining himself to be one of his storybook heroes.

But when Charles was ten, his father was transferred to London, and his happy childhood came to a sudden end. His father had many wonderful qualities. He worked hard at his job and was loving to his wife and children. He had many friends and loved to invite them to the house in the evening for a bowl of steaming porridge and lively conversation. But he had one terrible fault: he spent more money than he made.

In the ten years of Charles' life, the family had lived in six different houses, each poorer than the one before. And as the number of mouths to feed kept growing, the family fell deeper and deeper into debt.

When they reached London, Charles was shocked to learn that he would not be sent to school – they couldn't afford it. He stayed at home and made himself useful by cleaning his father's boots and minding the younger siblings. His parents seemed to have forgotten him and all his ambitions.

Two days after his twelfth birthday, Charles was sent to work at a factory. From eight in the morning till eight at night, he worked in a dark room, covering pots of boot polish and pasting on labels. Other children worked there, too, but they were not like his old friends. They were poor boys with rough manners who referred to him scornfully as the "young gentleman."

Worse still, two weeks later his father was arrested for debt and sent to prison, where he had to stay until his debts were paid. His wife and children were allowed to join him there, the whole family living in one room – everyone, that is, except Charles. The factory was too far from the prison for him to get back before the gates were shut at night. So he lived in a cheap boarding house. From Monday morning to Saturday night, he was on his own with "no advice, no counsel, no encouragement, no consolation, no support from anyone".

At night he wandered through the dark city. His clothes were shabby. He had no friends. Instead of growing into a fine gentleman, he had descended to the streets.

The memory of that time was so painful that, even as a grown man, Charles could not walk through those streets without the sting of tears coming to his eyes. And years later, when he became a famous writer, his stories were filled with orphaned and abandoned children, debtors' prisons, factories, and the grim and degrading lives of the poor.

(Adapted from *Charles Dickens, the Man who had Great Expectations* by Diane Stanley and Peter Vennema. Published by Morrow Junior Books: New York, 1993)

26. The fact that Charles never forgot what his father told him when he was only nine shows that he
- had a good memory
 - respected his father
 - took his father's words seriously
 - was a very good child.
27. From the first paragraph we can conclude that palaces are
- magnificent buildings
 - places young boys admire
 - homes for special people
 - unique homes.
28. Why did John Dickens tell his son he could live in "that house" one day?
- To encourage him to think big.
 - He really liked the house.
 - He knew the future was bright.
 - To motivate him to work hard.
29. "The thought took Charles' breath away" means
- he was unable to breathe
 - he was greatly surprised
 - his father had frightened him
 - his father made him feel sick.
30. What do we learn about Charles' life from the third paragraph?
- He fell down and then rose up again.
 - He suffered a lot but later succeeded.
 - He had high hopes in spite of hardships.
 - He lived a life full of disappointments.
31. Which of the following statements is **not** true?
- The stories by Mary were interesting but scaring.
 - Charles did not mind listening to horror stories.
 - The stories Mary told truly fascinated Charles.
 - Perhaps Charles merely pretended to be frightened.
32. How do we know that moving to London affected Charles' life drastically?
- Life suddenly become more difficult and miserable.
 - His father brought friends who ate all the porridge.
 - There was no time for him to play any more.
 - He had been very happy in his previous home.
33. Which of the following **best** describes Charles Dickens' father's character?
- Wonderful, hardworking, loving and friendly.
 - Friendly, caring, hardworking but extravagant.
 - Sociable, lively, generous and loving.
 - Hardworking, jolly, hospitable and carefree.
34. We can tell that Charles loved school because he
- was very disappointed when he wasn't sent to school
 - enjoyed reading novels in his father's collection
 - had dreams of becoming a great writer
 - knew it was the only way to achieve fame.
35. How did that society violate children's rights?
- By not doing enough to meet their needs.
 - By making them look after young siblings.
 - By making them work in factories.
 - By not punishing irresponsible parents.
36. "Rough manners" means that the boys at the factory
- did not impress Charles at all
 - were probably naughty and rude
 - did not know how to behave properly
 - made Charles rather uncomfortable.
37. Which one of these pairs of words accurately describe Charles' feelings when his family moved to the debtors' prison?
- unhappy and angry
 - hurt and miserable
 - helpless and desperate
 - lonely and hopeless
38. What would be the best summary of this passage?
- Accumulating debts is a dangerous habit.
 - Suffering does not mean we cannot succeed.
 - No experience in life is useless.
 - A careless father can cause untold heartaches.

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

Laziness can be defined as a state of idleness and unwillingness to spend energy. When we feel lazy, we do not want to do any work. We want to let things stay as they are. Well, sometimes we all enjoy being a little lazy such as on a very cold or hot day. However, if this occurs too often, we need to do something about it. This is not to say that we should always be working so as not to be thought as lazy. We need to rest to refresh our bodies and minds after working for long hours. For us to do our work efficiently and eventually have a successful life, we must learn how to overcome laziness.

How can this monster be overcome? If you feel you have a lot to do, you will probably feel overwhelmed and let laziness overcome you instead of you overcoming laziness. The solution is to break down the huge task into small manageable parts which makes you feel you do not require too much effort. In some cases, the cause of laziness is lack of motivation. This means you simply do not see the reason for carrying out a task. In such cases, it is necessary to think about or visualize the importance of performing your task and achieving your goals. Think about the benefits you will reap if you overcome laziness and take action instead of thinking about difficulties or obstacles. Your imagination has a great influence on your mind, habits and actions. When tempted to be lazy, imagine yourself performing the task easily and energetically. Do this before starting a task or when your mind tells you to abandon what you are doing.

Sometimes laziness leads to procrastination. This is the act of postponing tasks without good reasons. If there is something you have to do now, and you can actually do it, why not just do it and get it over with? An old saying goes, 'Do not put off until tomorrow what you can do today'.

All in all you need to realize that overcoming laziness is achieved through a series of daily actions and activities. Every time you overcome laziness, you get stronger, more able to achieve your goals and improve your life.

Adapted from 'Tips to overcome laziness by Remez Sasson. Success consciousness.com

39. Which one of the following is a sign of laziness?
A. Lacking energy to spend.
B. Wanting to be idle.
C. Refreshing your minds.
D. Enjoying ourselves.
40. Rest differs from laziness in that it
A. does not happen often
B. comes after working for long
C. refreshes our minds and bodies
D. makes us not to be thought lazy.
41. Laziness overcomes you when you
A. feel cold or hot
B. take time to rest
C. you have too much to do
D. feel overwhelmed.
42. Why should we break down huge tasks into small parts?
A. So as to be motivated.
B. In order to use less effort.
C. So as to make tasks manageable.
D. In order to solve our problems.
43. The word monster as used in the passage refers to something that
A. is frightening
B. is discouraging
C. makes life difficult
D. makes us successful.
44. Which of the following statements is **not true** according to the passage?
A. Your imagination influences your actions.
B. Obstacles can make you feel lazy.
C. You should not think of difficulties.
D. Habits can influence your imagination.
45. When your mind tells you to abandon what you are doing
A. do not be tempted to be lazy
B. perform the task easily and energetically
C. see yourself performing the task with ease
D. take action that will influence your mind.
46. Refreshing your mind and body means
A. improving your life
B. achieving your goals
C. being able to work for long
D. regaining your lost energy.
47. Which of the following statements is an example of procrastination?
A. failing to do your assignment
B. being reminded to do your assignment
C. completing your assignment late
D. doing your assignment slowly.
48. The phrase “put off” as used in the passage means
A. discourage
B. postpone
C. cancel
D. refuse.
49. Which of the following is the best lesson drawn from the story?
A. Laziness should be overcome.
B. Laziness must be avoided.
C. Laziness ought to be punished.
D. Laziness hinders progress.
50. A suitable title for this passage would be
A. Consequences of laziness.
B. How to overcome laziness.
C. Problems of laziness.
D. All about laziness.