STANDARD 8 MID-TERM 2, 2016

ENGLISH

HOW TO USE THE ANSWER SHEET **TIME: 1 HR. 40 MIN**

1. Use an ordinary pencil.
2. Make sure that you have written on the answer sheet:-
   (I) YOUR INDEX NUMBER (II) YOUR NAME (III) NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL
3. For each question show the correct answer by drawing a line in the in the brackets in which the letter you have choosen is written.

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

Esther had looked forward ___1___ this moment ___2___ expectations. ___3___ out on to the platform, she ___4___ around and her heart ___5___. Her parents were not there to ___6___ her. She ___7___ on to her dress helplessly as the cold night wind ___8___ hard on it. Only one other passenger ___9___ from the train, but he ___10___ almost immediately. She walked to the ___11___ office to ask ___12___ help. A bright light from approaching vehicle ___13___ on her face, dazzling her. She was temporarily ___14___. Then from the parking lot she heard familiar voices. It was her dad and mum. "Thank ___15___ they have arrived," Esther whispered to herself as she breathed a sigh of relief.

	A.	B.	C.	D.
1.	at	on	to	from
2.	in	with	by	on
3.	Stepping	Running	Walking	Strolling
4.	look	idled	sat	looked
5.	broke	sink	sank	sunk
6.	deceive	receive	see	meet
7.	clung	pulled	held	pushed
8.	swept	pulled	blew	blow
9.	alighted	descended	sat down	jumped
10.	walked	melted	disappeared	dispersed
11.	waiting	ticket	arrival	departure
12.	into	about	for	of
13.	struck	lit	hit	beamed
14.	annoyed	blown	lost	blinded
15.	you	goodness	all	them

For questions 16 and 17, choose the alternative that means the opposite of the underlined word

16. When he was brought before the magistrate, the thief was convicted soon after.
    A. jailed B. pardoned
    C. accused D. acquitted

17. The walls of this building are made of fine materials.
    A. thick B. hard
    C. strong D. coarse

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In questions 18 and 19, choose the correct question tag

18. The painter exhibited his art work at the gallery, _____?
A. did he B. didn't he
C. he did D. he didn't

19. The teacher who entered the classroom hadn't worn a red dress, _____?
A. she had B. hadn't she
C. wasn't she D. had she

For questions 20 to 22, choose the sentence which gives correct meaning of the given statements

20. He is 'A wolf in a sheep's clothing'
A. He is dangerous
B. He pretends to be better than he really is
C. He steals things which do not belong to him
D. He does not protect his sheep from danger

21. Our parents struggle to make both ends meet
A. our parents love to struggle
B. our parents support us very much
C. our parents manage to meet their expenses
D. our parents can join two ends together

22. Half a loaf is better than none
A. it is better to eat half a loaf than none
B. always be grateful for having half of anything
C. having half a loaf is better than having none
D. having something is better than having nothing

For questions 23 , arrange the given sentences to make a sensible paragraph

23. i) set out under a tree
ii) and the hare and the lion were having tea at it
iii) there was a table
iv) in front of the house
A. iii, iv, ii, i B. ii, iv, i, iii
C. iii, i, iv, ii D. iii, ii, i, iv

In question 24 and 25, choose the phrasal verb that means the same as the underlined words

24. Do not consider him inferior.
A. do away with him B. look down on him
C. fall back on him D. put up with him

25. I won't tolerate that behaviour.
A. look down on B. go back on
C. put up with D. live up to

Read the passage below and then answer questions 26 - 38

Katana had been working on his garden for a couple of days. This involved digging the shamba and herding the cows. Whenever he was not very busy, he took his box guitar with him and played some of his favourite tunes. If not so, he would summon his best friend Wamaya and share stories. Wamaya would laugh from Katana's amazing stories.

One of these fine days, he told Wamaya of a tribe in South Africa which did not have any names for numbers more than ten as they lived as one family and everything in the tribe belonged to everybody. They hunted and farmed together thus sharing all what they got.

Katana never dried up of these stories. He was a good man and always encouraged young boys to work hard, finish their work before they played or told stories. He never learnt enough because his father was poor therefore dropping out at standard six.

This particular night, supper was not ready and Wamaya as usual was not a fun of watching news. He wondered why the rest of the family found news very amusing. To him, it was all politics and boring stuff. He shifted his eyes and met with something that always made his heart skip a beat. It was not moving and seemed stuck on the wall and had its eyes wide open. It was almost three feet long. The most scaring thing was the way its tongue kept in and out of its mouth. Wamaya had seen snakes before and surely they scared him out of his wits more than anything else.

Katana must have noticed a scared look on Wamaya's eyes. He quickly noticed something was wrong, "What is it Wamaya?" Inquired Katana. "Behind you, Katana," Wamaya whispered.

Katana did not move. He behaved normally and his siting position did not change at all. He consciously stood up in a bending position and walked away from it. He strode to the corner of the room where a piece of wood lay and picked it up. He lifted it and looked at the snake. He walked closer enough then shot out and the wood hit the snake on the head.

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Wayama screamed. All this time, he had not moved his eyes. He was shaking like a leaf and there was sweat on his forehead. "It's dead, boy," said Katana as he picked up the lifeless beast from the ground with the piece of wood.

26. The first paragraph suggests that _____
A. Katana's favourite tunes made Wamaya laugh
B. Wamaya was a good listener and a guitarist
C. Katana preferred leisure to normal
D. Wamaya's friend was hardworking

27. What was funny about the tribe Katana mentioned?
A. They had no name for numbers more than ten
B. It was a South African tribe
C. Everything in the tribe belonged to everybody
D. They hunted and farmed together

28. Apart from telling amazing stories _____
A. Katana never dried up of these stories
B. Katana was a good man and played a guitar
C. Katana dropped out of school at standard six
D. Katana encouraged young boys to work hard

29. What was encouraging about Katana before supper was ready?
A. He was having fun watching the news
B. He was telling his sweet stories
C. He wondered why Wamaya was not interested with news
D. He was busy reading something important

30. When the rest of the family were watching news
A. it was full of politics and boring stuff
B. Wamaya was looking for something strange
C. something scaring met Wamaya's eyes
D. Wamaya saw snakes moving on the wall

31. The snake moving on the wall _____
A. was stuck and had its eyes wide open
B. had its tail going side by side
C. had a tail almost three feet long
D. was long enough to scare anybody

32. What made Katana ask Wamaya what the matter was?
A. The sudden silence in the room
B. Fear expressed on Wamaya's face
C. A snake that almost bit Wamaya
D. Eyes which had seen something wrong

33. "..... scared him out of his wit....." means
A. fairly scared B. rather scared
C. quite scared D. extremely scared

34. Why did Wamaya whisper in response to Katana's question?
A. He could not talk properly
B. He feared alerting other people
C. He feared alerting the snake
D. He wished Katana alone to hear

35. How was Katana different from Wamaya in response to the snake?
A. Katana was composed
B. Wamaya was clever and fearless
C. Katana ignored the sight of the snake
D. Wamaya did not change his position

36. Why did Katana stand up and walk away from the snake?
A. He saw the snake was too big to handle
B. He saw Wamaya jumping away screaming
C. He was looking for a way of killing the snake
D. He had seen a piece of wood near the snake

37. Which word can be used to describe Katana's character?
A. Tall and smart B. Old and wise
C. Brave and daring D. Swift and silent

38. The most suitable title for the passage would be __
A. Katana the story teller
B. Snake attack
C. Wamaya's fear for snake
D. Katana and the snake

Read the passage and answer questions 39 - 50

Something is clearly and seriously wrong with the management of the country's water systems. From Isiolo to Taveta, Kisumu to Mombasa and in the city of Nairobi itself, reports of water shortages have become so frequent that they no longer make news. And these shortages cannot all be blamed on the weather.

Water is a basic requirement of life, both for plants and animals. So important is it that is often said water is life. Yet, so many of the country's institutions and private homes are operating without it somehow.

Reasons given for lack of water range from disconnections of power supply by the Kenya power and lighting company for non-payment of bills, available supplies being used up by people watering their lawns and gardens and washing their cars to breakdown of water pumps.

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Greed is also to blame in some instances. For example, in Kisumu, persistent water shortages were attributed to "certain senior employees of the council." Addressing members of the Kisumu agricultural society of Kenya committee early last month, the Nyanza provincial commissioner alleged that these employees had tapped water from the main water lines all over the town which they later sold or used for their own private needs.

Water problems have also been blamed on wrangles between the public institutions that manage it, that is the ministry of Land Reclamation, Regional and Water Development and the National Water Conservation and Pipeline Cooperation.

Whatever the reason for the shortages, it should be pointed out that the health and lives of Kenyans are in danger in all the affected areas. Among the first to suffer are patients in hospitals and students in schools and other institutions.

Also badly affected by water shortages are hotels and other eating places. Thoughts of the extent of an epidemic should it break, due to the unhealthy situations, should be enough to spur on those responsible. Solutions should be found and communication channels opened or improved between the two institutions that handle water so that they effectively perform the job that justifies their existence.

39. According to the passage, shortages of water does not make news any longer because _____
A. something is wrong with the country's water systems
B. there have been numerous water shortages
C. the reports have become so frequent
D. the shortages are attributed to certain senior officers

40. Which of the following best captures the meaning of the sentence "And these shortages cannot be all blamed on the weather?"
A. The weather is to blame for the shortages
B. The weather is not the cause of the shortages
C. Bad weather has contributed to the shortages
D. Weather changes have lead to inadequate water supply

41. What does the expression "water is life" mean
A. There is no life without water
B. Life and water are the same
C. Water is a major component of life
D. There is no water without life

42. Which one of the following is not a reason given for water shortages?
A. Watering gardens and washing cars
B. Non-payment of bills by Kenya power and Lighting Company
C. Breakdown of water pumps
D. Disconnection of power supply

43. What does the word 'alleged' mean?
A. Stated unknowingly B. Claimed
C. Said in public D. Declared without proof

44. In paragraph 3, some employees are said to have
A. tapped water from the main lines
B. used water for their own private needs
C. sold water
D. tapped water, to their homes

45. The word 'wrangles' means _____
A. angry exchanges B. a fight
C. war D. a quarrel

46. Why does the writer argue that the health and lives of Kenyans are in danger?
A. Differences between public institutions exist
B. Water shortages exist in some areas
C. There is greed
D. Senior employees are insufficient

47. Which of the following are said to suffer as a result of water shortages in the passage?
A. Patients and students
B. Students in school
C. Patients in hospitals
D. Student in schools and other institutions

48. The word 'epidemic' means _____
A. a disease which is widespread
B. a disease which breaks out in some places
C. a disease which breaks out periodically
D. a disease which is spread over a small area

49. The expression "spur on" means _____
A. trot B. run C. ride D. urge

50. An appropriate title for the passage would be _____
A. "Water shortages"
B. "Dangers of water shortages"
C. "Causes of water shortages"
D. "Water shortages: Causes and Effects"

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