

Candidate's Name		Assessment Number	
School Name		School Code	
Candidate's Signature		Date	

KENYA JUNIOR SCHOOL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT (KJSEA)

GRADE 8: ENGLISH

PAPER 1 (*Reading Comprehension, Oral Skills and Grammar*)

CODE: 009 YEAR: 2025

TIME: 2 HOURS



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

- You have been given this question paper and a separate answer sheet. The question paper consists of 50 multiple choice questions.
- Answer ALL questions on the ANSWER SHEET provided, NOT on the question paper.
- Do all the necessary rough work on the question paper.
- Use an ordinary HB pencil.
- Confirm that the answer sheet you have been provided with has the following:
 - ↔ YOUR NAME
 - ↔ YOUR ASSESSMENT NUMBER
 - ↔ NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL
 - ↔ NAME OF THE SUBJECT
- Keep the answer sheet clean and dry. DO NOT fold it.
- For each of the questions 1-50, four options are given. In each case, only ONE of the four options is correct. Choose the correct option.

Example

Use the correct preposition to fill in the gap.
The cat is _____ the table.
A. in B. at C. on D. into
The correct answer is C.
- 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. On the answer sheet, in the set of boxes given for number 40, draw a DARK LINE inside the box with the letter C printed in it as marked below. 40. {A} {B} {C} {D}
- Your dark line MUST be within the box. DO NOT make any marks outside the boxes.
- For each question, ONLY ONE box is to be marked.

This paper consists of 6 printed pages. Candidates should check the question paper to ascertain that all the pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.

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Turn over

Read the passage below and then answer questions 1 to 6.

Communication is a fundamental aspect of human interaction. It involves the exchange of information, ideas, and feelings between individuals or groups. Effective communication is not just about speaking clearly; it also includes listening attentively and understanding non-verbal cues like body language and facial expressions. Good communication skills are essential in every area of life, from personal relationships to academic and professional settings. In schools, learners who can express their thoughts clearly and listen to others tend to perform better in group projects and discussions.

At home, open communication fosters stronger family bonds and helps resolve conflicts peacefully. In the workplace, clear and concise communication leads to better teamwork, increased productivity, and fewer misunderstandings. Challenges to communication can arise from language barriers, distractions, or a lack of clarity. However, by practicing active listening, asking clarifying questions, and choosing appropriate channels, we can overcome these obstacles and build more meaningful connections.

1. **According to the passage, communication involves**
 - A. only speaking clearly.
 - B. exchanging information, ideas, and feelings.
 - C. ignoring non-verbal cues.
 - D. avoiding discussions.
2. **If communication is poor in a family, it can lead to**
 - A. stronger family bonds.
 - B. peaceful conflict resolution.
 - C. more misunderstandings.
 - D. better teamwork.
3. **Which one of the following statements is true according to the passage?**
 - A. Non-verbal cues are not important in communication.
 - B. Effective communication is only about speaking.
 - C. Learners who communicate well often perform better academically.
 - D. Language barriers always prevent any communication.
4. **The expression *fosters stronger family bonds* as used in the passage means**
 - A. weakens family connections.
 - B. creates arguments in the family.
 - C. encourages closer family relationships.
 - D. makes families distant.
5. **Which word in the passage means the same as *crucial*?**
 - A. Fundamental
 - B. Peaceful
 - C. Clear
 - D. Appropriate
6. **Which one of the following would be the best title for this passage?**
 - A. Speaking Clearly
 - B. The Importance of Communication
 - C. Language Barriers
 - D. Teamwork in the Workplace

Read the passage below and then answer questions 7 to 11.

Trees are vital to life on Earth. They absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and release oxygen, which we breathe. Forests act as giant filters, cleaning the air and water, and preventing soil erosion. They are also home to countless species of plants and animals, providing essential habitats for biodiversity. Beyond their ecological benefits, trees offer economic and social advantages. They provide timber for construction, fuel for heating, and ingredients for medicines.

Many communities depend on forests for their livelihoods. Trees also enhance urban environments, providing shade, reducing noise pollution, and improving mental well-being. Despite these immense benefits, deforestation remains a major global issue. Large areas of forest are cleared for agriculture, logging, and urban expansion, leading to climate change, loss of biodiversity, and desertification. Protecting and planting trees is crucial for the health of our planet and the future of humanity.

7. From paragraph one; we can say that trees are important for

- A. increasing carbon dioxide.
- B. making the air dirty.
- C. producing oxygen for breathing.
- D. causing soil erosion.

8. Which one of the following is true according to the passage?

- A. Forests are bad for biodiversity.
- B. Trees have no economic value.
- C. Deforestation is good for the environment.
- D. Trees help in preventing soil erosion.

9. The word *immense* as used in the passage means

- A. tiny. B. small. C. huge. D. unimportant.

10. From the passage, “essential habitats” means places that are

- A. optional. B. necessary. C. rare. D. temporary.

11. Which one of the following would be the most suitable title for this passage?

- A. Timber Production
- B. The Problem of Deforestation
- C. The Importance of Trees
- D. Urban Environments

Read the passage below and then answer questions 12 to 16.

Water is one of the most precious resources on our planet, essential for all known forms of life. It covers about 71% of the Earth's surface, yet only a small fraction of this is fresh water available for human use. Most of the fresh water is trapped in glaciers and ice caps. The remaining fresh water is found in rivers, lakes, and underground aquifers.

Humans rely on water for drinking, agriculture, industry, and sanitation. However, water scarcity is a growing global problem, affecting billions of people. This is due to a combination of factors: population growth, increasing demand from agriculture and industry, pollution, and climate change.

Pollution from industrial waste and agricultural run-off contaminates available water sources, making them unsafe for consumption. Climate change alters rainfall patterns, leading to more frequent droughts in some regions and floods in others. To address water scarcity, we must implement sustainable water management practices, such as conserving water in homes, improving irrigation efficiency in agriculture, treating wastewater for reuse, and protecting water sources from pollution. Ensuring access to clean water is a global challenge that requires collective action.

12. According to the passage, most of the Earth's fresh water is

- A. found in rivers and lakes.
- B. trapped in glaciers and ice caps.
- C. available for human use.
- D. polluted by industrial waste.

13. Which one of the following contributes to water scarcity according to the passage?

- A. Treating wastewater for reuse
- B. Conserving water in homes

C. Protecting water sources

D. Population growth

14. The word “scarcity” as used in the passage means the same as

- A. abundance.
- B. surplus.
- C. shortage.
- D. plenty.

15. According to the passage, clean water is

- A. not a global challenge.
- B. easily accessible to everyone.
- C. essential for all life forms.
- D. only for agriculture.

16. We can address water scarcity by

- A. increasing industrial waste.
- B. wasting water in homes.
- C. protecting water sources from pollution.
- D. ignoring climate change impacts.

Read the passage below and then answer questions 17 to 20.

Fatuma, Kevin, Sarah, and David are all Grade 8 learners at Bright Future Academy. Kevin and David enjoy playing chess and football. Fatuma and Sarah like playing netball and chess. Sarah sometimes plays badminton and practices swimming.

No.	A	B	C	D
17	Fatuma	Kevin	Sarah	David
18	Swimming	Football	Chess	Badminton
19	Chess	Badminton	Football	Netball
20	Fatuma	Kevin	Sarah	David

Read the following telephone conversation between two friends, Jane and Tom. It contains blank spaces numbered 21 to 23. For each blank space, select the best alternative from the choices given.

Jane: Hello, Tom.

Tom: Hi Jane. How are things with you?

Jane: 21 . Tom: That's great! I'm glad to hear that. What's on your mind?

Jane: Yes, **22 .** I have a big assignment due. Tom: **23 .**

Jane: No worries, I'll figure something out. Thanks anyway!

Tom: You're welcome! Good luck with your assignment.

No.	A	B	C	D
21	I'm okay, no problem.	I'm fine, how about you?	I'm good, what's new?	I'm fantastic, tell me everything.
22	I wanted to borrow your laptop for a few days.	I was just calling to chat.	I need to tell you about something important.	I was wondering if you could lend me your laptop this week.
23	No, I don't lend my things.	I'm sorry, I need my laptop for my own work this week.	You can't use my laptop.	I don't have a laptop.

For questions 24 and 25, select the alternative that best describes responses in each of the situations presented.

24. Your younger sibling breaks your favourite toy. What should you say to them?

- A. You always break my things!
- B. That's okay, it was just a toy.
- C. Please be more careful next time.
- D. I will break your toys too.

25. You want to excuse yourself from the dinner table before everyone else finishes eating. What will you say?

- A. I am leaving the table.
- B. May I be excused, please?
- C. I need to go now.
- D. I finished eating.

Read the passage below. It contains blank spaces numbered 26 to 35. For each blank space, choose the best alternative.

The internet has become an indispensable tool in modern life, connecting people and information across the globe. It offers a vast**26** of resources, from educational materials to entertainment. For learners, the internet is a powerful **27** for research and learning. They can access online libraries, educational videos, and interactive courses. However, it is crucial to use the internet**28**. There are many distractions online, and it's easy to get lost in irrelevant content. Parents and teachers should guide children on how to use the internet**29** and responsibly. Cyber-bullying and exposure to inappropriate content are real**30** that need to be addressed. Digital literacy is becoming as important as traditional literacy in today's world.

Moreover, the internet facilitates communication, allowing people to connect with friends and family members who are far away through social media and video calls. It has also transformed commerce, making online shopping a convenient..... **31** for many. Despite its many benefits, excessive internet use can lead to social isolation and physical inactivity. Therefore, a balanced approach is**32**, ensuring we harness its power **33** for productivity and learning, while avoiding its potential**34**. Ultimately, the internet is a tool, and its impact depends on**35** we choose to use it.

No.	A	B	C	D
26	shortage	supply	scarcity	limitation
27	obstacle	hindrance	resource	burden
28	carelessly	wisely	randomly	infrequently
29	ignorantly	safely	rarely	vaguely
30	benefits	advantages	opportunities	risks
31	chore	hassle	option	problem
32	unnecessary	essential	optional	forgotten
33	only	sometimes	primarily	never
34	advantages	drawbacks	strengths	features
35	when	why	how	what

For questions 36 to 45, select the alternative that best completes the sentence.

36. We saw a _____ of fish swimming gracefully in the ocean.

- A. school
- B. flock
- C. herd
- D. pack

37. A group of elephants is called a _____.

- A. pride
- B. colony
- C. parade
- D. swarm

38. The cupboard is full of items. _____ is neatly arranged.

- A. Nothing
- B. Someone
- C. Everything
- D. Anyone

39. "Did _____ call while I was out?" asked the manager.

- A. no one
- B. someone
- C. everybody
- D. nobody

40. She is excited _____ her upcoming trip to the coast.

- A. in
- B. with
- C. about
- D. at

41. They live in a small village, _____?

- A. do they
- B. don't they
- C. did they
- D. didn't they

42. Your brother can swim very well, _____?

- A. can he
- B. can't he
- C. did he
- D. does he

43. _____ he was tired, he continued working on his project.

- A. Because
- B. Although
- C. Since
- D. Unless

44. Neither my parents nor my sister _____ at home today.

- A. are
- B. were
- C. is
- D. have been

45. "This car belongs to him. It is _____," said the salesperson.

- A. ours
- B. theirs
- C. his
- D. hers

46. Which one of the following sentences is correctly punctuated?

- A. "Can you help me," asked the old woman.
- B. "Can you help me?" asked the old woman.
- C. "Can you help me"! asked the old woman.
- D. "Can you help me,"? asked the old woman.

47. Which one of the following alternatives means the same as the underlined sentence?

The chef cooked a delicious meal.

- A. A delicious meal was cooked by the chef.
- B. A delicious meal is being cooked by the chef.
- C. A delicious meal is cooked by the chef.
- D. A delicious meal was being cooked by the chef.

48. Choose the alternative that correctly combines the following sentences.

He was very busy. He could not attend the meeting.

- A. He was very busy and he could not attend the meeting.
- B. He was very busy but he could not attend the meeting.
- C. He was very busy so he could not attend the meeting.
- D. He was very busy until he could not attend the meeting.

For questions 49 and 50, choose the alternative that means the same as the underlined.

49. Despite facing many challenges, she never gave up on her dreams.

- A. quit
- B. continued
- C. started
- D. failed

50. We need to look into the matter carefully before making a decision.

- A. ignore
- B. investigate
- C. forget
- D. approve

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