

THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL  
Kenya Certificate of Primary Education

501

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

**Mar. 2022 – 1 hour 40 minutes**



**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES (Please read these 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**

1. Use an ordinary pencil.
2. Confirm that the answer sheet that you have been provided with has the following:  
**YOUR INDEX NUMBER**  
**YOUR NAME**  
**NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL**
3. Do not make any marks outside the boxes.
4. Keep the sheet as clean as possible and do not fold it.
5. 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.
6. 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 23, choose the alternative that best completes the sentence.*

23. She passed her exams very well, \_\_\_\_\_?

- A. is it
- B. did she
- C. didn't she
- D. isn't it

The correct answer is C.

**On the answer sheet:**

In the set of boxes numbered 23, draw a **dark line** inside the box with the letter C printed in it as indicated below:

23 [A] [B] [C] [D]

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

This question paper consists of 7 printed pages.

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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, select the *best* alternative from the choices given.

Everyone feels tired at one time 1 another. The office worker feels tired after a hard day 2 work. The sportsman feels tired after hours of 3 exercise. Why 4 we get tired? The explanation is that when you 5 a muscle in your body over and over 6, substances known as 'fatigue toxins' are produced. The blood system then 7 these toxins throughout the body. In the end, not only does that muscle feel tired but the whole body feels tired as 8.

When you are tired, the best thing to do is to get 9 of rest. Sleeping is one of the best 10 to fully 'recharge' your tired body. Most importantly, any damage caused to the muscles is slowly being repaired when we sleep.

Another way to 11 fatigue is by doing some activity that you enjoy. For example, after a tiring day at work or school, you can go 12 a relaxing walk, or even jog. When we take 13 in such an activity, our blood circulation is improved. 14, the body system is revitalised and we 15 more refreshed.

- |     |                 |              |               |                 |
|-----|-----------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | A. and          | B. after     | C. or         | D. until        |
| 2.  | A. from         | B. at        | C. in         | D. to           |
| 3.  | A. continuous   | B. endless   | C. excessive  | D. difficult    |
| 4.  | A. must         | B. should    | C. do         | D. can          |
| 5.  | A. pull         | B. apply     | C. press      | D. move         |
| 6.  | A. more         | B. again     | C. also       | D. still        |
| 7.  | A. spreads      | B. places    | C. releases   | D. passes       |
| 8.  | A. such         | B. above     | C. well       | D. much         |
| 9.  | A. quantities   | B. plenty    | C. enough     | D. some         |
| 10. | A. methods      | B. styles    | C. techniques | D. ways         |
| 11. | A. overcome     | B. limit     | C. control    | D. stop         |
| 12. | A. on           | B. to        | C. for        | D. with         |
| 13. | A. place        | B. part      | C. charge     | D. interest     |
| 14. | A. Nevertheless | B. Therefore | C. However    | D. Consequently |
| 15. | A. seem         | B. appear    | C. feel       | D. look         |

In questions 16 and 17, choose the word whose meaning includes the meanings of the other three.

16. A. walk  
B. move  
C. crawl  
D. jump
17. A. plants  
B. grass  
C. weeds  
D. trees

For questions 18 and 19, choose the alternative which means the same as the underlined sentence.

18. Juma was the most frightened of us all when the house caught fire.  
A. Juma frightened most of us when the house caught fire.  
B. Juma was the most frightening of all when the house caught fire.  
C. Juma was more frightened than the rest of us when the house caught fire.  
D. Juma was more frightening to us when the house caught fire.
19. "What have you been doing since morning?" the teacher asked Pendo.  
A. The teacher asked Pendo what she was doing since morning.  
B. The teacher asked Pendo what she had done since morning.  
C. The teacher asked Pendo what she has been doing since morning.  
D. The teacher asked Pendo what she had been doing since morning.

For questions 20 and 21, choose the alternative that can best replace the underlined words.

20. The teacher bought pens, pencils, rubbers and exercise books at the beginning of the term.  
A. materials  
B. stationery  
C. equipment  
D. instruments

21. There is a lovely garden full of orange, mango, pawpaw and avocado trees near our school.  
A. orchard  
B. farm  
C. forest  
D. plantation

For each of questions 22 to 25, choose the option that best fills the blank space.

22. It was \_\_\_\_\_ hot that we all removed our sweaters.  
A. too  
B. very  
C. so  
D. really
23. The little girl runs extremely fast, \_\_\_\_\_?  
A. is it  
B. isn't it  
C. does she  
D. doesn't she
24. What a great day \_\_\_\_\_  
A. was it?  
B. it was!  
C. that was?  
D. was that!
25. My grandfather never gets tired of reading his \_\_\_\_\_ book.  
A. big old black  
B. black big old  
C. big black old  
D. black old big

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

Two years before the flood which washed away most of Kipenu village, there had been a **prolonged** drought. Only the toughest trees and shrubs were able to survive the intense heat of the sun and the continued lack of water. The men, women and children grew thinner and thinner every day until most of them were nothing but walking skeletons. Whereas people had been friendly and generous before, some now became mean and unfriendly. They cooked and ate the little food they got behind closed doors. The animals, too, suffered from the effects of the drought, and only the strongest lived through it.

The warthog is a very tough animal. **When times are hard** and there is little else to eat, the warthog does her best to get the fruit of the **enkoyo** tree to feed her family. She does this by hitting the tree with her head. The fruit is shaken off the branches by the force, and it falls to the ground where the hungry young ones quickly eat it up. But wait till you hear this.

One day during that drought, a widow who lived with her daughters in the middle of the village was out looking for food. Suddenly, she came across a warthog which was lying completely still under an enkoyo tree. Convinced that the animal was dead, she rushed back home and got the long leather strap she normally used for tying up and carrying firewood. Accompanied by her daughters, she ran back to the enkoyo tree and, with their help, quickly tied up and carried the strange load home. **A hungry person has no pride**, so the neighbours who saw her carrying the 'meat' home followed her in the hope that they would get something to eat. However, they were in for a rude shock.

"I don't care whether you are the one who shaves my head or the one who will wash my body when I die". The woman shouted at them. "Nobody will get even a hair of this animal except my daughters and myself. If you want to eat, go out and get your own meat. Now clear off!" With that she closed the door firmly and got the eldest daughter to light the fire at once. The woman and her youngest daughter got busy sharpening knives for the slaughter, while the other one put the water on the fire to boil the meat.

But things were never to be as the widow had imagined. The animal that was presumed dead was in fact only unconscious. Hitting a thick enkoyo tree is dangerous work. After a few trials, the poor creature had passed out. Now, unexpectedly coming awake she found herself in unfamiliar surroundings. The smell of fire and the sound of metal being sharpened frightened the poor beast and made her go **out of her mind**.

The warthog started with the nearest object, the widow, who was standing over it with knife raised up. The animal attacked with her sharp tusks, and no one in that house escaped serious injury. She upset the cooking pots and scattered the fire in all directions, nearly causing the house to burn. Confused and obviously terrified, she knocked down the door and, with tail held high, made straight for the plains to look for her offspring.

Can you imagine what the neighbours said about the woman who had hoped to make a meal from an unconscious warthog?

26. The word '**prolonged**' as used in the passage suggests that the drought
- continued for about two years.
  - spread over quite a large area.
  - lasted over quite a large area.
  - affected both people and animals.
27. The drought made some people become
- slow but sure.
  - cunning and careless.
  - wise but unhealthy.
  - selfish and unkind.
28. Some people cooked and ate the little food they got with doors closed because
- they were afraid of the hungry animals.
  - they did not want to share with neighbours.
  - they had become too thin to move outside.
  - they feared the sun outside as it was too hot.
29. The words '**when times are hard**' as used in the passage mean a period when
- the ground is so hard that nothing can grow.
  - the hot sun has made all the rivers dry up.
  - it is difficult to get enough of what one needs.
  - there is nothing to eat except wild fruits.
30. Which of the following statements is **TRUE** about warthogs?
- They risk their lives so as to feed their young ones.
  - They like practising hitting the enkoyo tree.
  - They often prove their toughness quite courageously.
  - They pretend to be dead after hitting big trees.
31. From the passage, it is true to say that the woman
- often went out hunting warthogs.
  - faced more problems than other villagers.
  - hated her neighbours a lot.
  - had three daughters and no husband.
32. Why did the woman rush back home?
- She needed to prepare her house for the feast to come.
  - She needed to get a strap and her daughters' help.
  - She needed to give her daughters the good news.
  - She needed to ensure none of the villagers was in her house.
33. The woman managed to tie up the warthog and carry it home because it
- had slept.
  - was too hungry.
  - had fainted.
  - was too exhausted.
34. '**A hungry person has no pride**' means that
- hunger makes us disrespect people.
  - hunger can make us lose our dignity.
  - hunger makes us go wherever there is food.
  - hunger can make us do strange things.
35. The woman refused to share the meat because she
- had got tired of getting meat for her neighbours.
  - was particularly fond of warthog meat.
  - disliked her neighbours for not minding their business.
  - wanted to save all of it for her family.
36. The animal went '**out of her mind**' means she
- became extremely terrified.
  - wanted to kill everyone.
  - lost her senses completely.
  - started behaving badly.
37. It is most likely that after this incident, the neighbours
- caught the warthog and brought it back to the woman.
  - felt disappointed because the warthog had escaped.
  - mocked and laughed at the woman and her daughters.
  - came to comfort the woman and offer her help.
38. The most important lesson to be learnt from this passage is that
- troubles will always be with us.
  - selfishness does not actually pay.
  - things can change suddenly.
  - even animals can sense danger.

*Read the following passage and then answer questions 39 to 50.*

Most people will agree with me that boxing is one of the most popular sports in the country today. There is hardly any month that passess without a contest being held somewhere in the country. Boxing as a sport features regularly in our televison programmes. Men, women and even children like watching these programmes at home.

All boxers are exposed to great danger. There is in particular the possibility of brain damage. Unlike in most sports, the intention in boxing is to render the opponent ineffective, and this is achieved by blows **deliberately** aimed at the head, with consequent injury to the brain. Repeated blows to the head can make one develop a disorder commonly described as being 'punch-drunk'.

The disorder is most common in those who have had long boxing careers with repeated knockouts, or those who have the capacity to remain on their feet despite heavy battering. The disorder is due to the shrinking of the brain as a whole and the death of some brain cells. These individuals suffer from impairment of memory, sudden changes of mood, unclear speech, and unsteadiness while walking or sometimes while at rest.

When the head is struck, the shape of the skull may be **deformed**. In addition, sudden change in pressure within the skull may make small blood vessels rupture resulting in internal bleeding, which may lead to loss of consciousness. Even without any obvious brain damage, the person who receives a heavy blow can still lose consciousness for a while. Very forceful blows may tear not only the blood vessels within the skull but also some other important organs such as the nerve fibres.

Bloodflow to the head may become reduced for a long time after a head injury. The result of this is death of the brain cells and their supporting structures. It might interest you to know that once a brain cell dies, there can never be a replacement. So, the loss is permanent.

A brief loss of consciousness may follow sudden severe pain, such as a blow to the eyeball. The heartbeat may slow down as a result of less bloodflow to the head. The person may feel dizzy and may lose consciousness. A blow to the umbilicus or lower abdomen may cause immediate fainting in addition to severe pain. Sometimes a severe blow to the neck or the left side of the chest may cause the heart to stop beating.

Boxing is sometimes referred to as 'the noble art of self defence'. I consider it a violent and uncivilised sport. What kind of sport is this that encourages an individual to inflict painful injuries on another? And what's more, each blow is aimed at a vital centre. I strongly feel that boxing should be banned altogether.

39. From the first paragraph, we can tell that boxing is
- the most known sport in the country today.
  - a very good sport in the country today.
  - the toughest sport in the country today.
  - a favourite sport in the country today.
40. Which of the following is **not** true about boxing according to the writer?
- Many people like watching it being played.
  - It is played quite often across the country.
  - Many people play it in their homes.
  - It is featured regularly on television.
41. The greatest risk for boxers according to the passage is
- suffering brain damage.
  - being battered heavily.
  - losing a serious game.
  - having repeated knockouts.
42. Why do boxers aim at the head and not any other part of the body? Because
- the head is easily accessible.
  - they mean to weaken the opponents.
  - the head is the most important part of the body.
  - they wish to make the opponents sick.
43. The word '**deliberately**' as used in the passage can be replaced by
- seriously.
  - carefully.
  - intentionally.
  - skilfully.
44. The state of being 'punch-drunk' is usually experienced by boxers
- who are unsteady as they walk or rest.
  - whose brain has been shrinking over time.
  - whose mood changes frequently and suddenly.
  - who have been exposed to heavy battering for long.
45. The word **deformed** as used in the passage means
- disturbed.
  - deflated.
  - distorted.
  - depressed.
46. Internal bleeding inside the skull can make a person
- become unconscious.
  - experience sudden pressure changes.
  - have ruptured blood vessels.
  - suffer torn nerve fibres.
47. Which one of the following is **true** about brain cells?
- They live permanently.
  - They are renewed often.
  - They require adequate blood supply.
  - They are similar to nerve fibres.
48. If a boxer faints suddenly during a contest, he has most probably been hit on the
- eyeball.
  - neck.
  - chest.
  - navel.
49. The writer strongly feels that boxing should be
- made safer.
  - prohibited completely.
  - developed further.
  - improved immediately.
50. Which one of the following would be the most suitable title for this passage?
- Failures of boxing.
  - Lessons from boxing.
  - Hazards of boxing.
  - Tips on boxing.