

2010

Read the passage below. It contains blank spaces numbered 1- 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 laughing even before they are born. 4, pictures have shown unborn babies smiling in their mothers' wombs. 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.

- | | | | | |
|----|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | A | B | C | D |
| 1. | hardly | usually | never | even |

Answer: A

The examiner tested on the use of vocabulary. Here the meaning intended is to show that it is not common to have a day pass without people laughing – hence the correct answer 'hardly' which means rarely. The use of 'usually' would mean that it is normal for a day to pass without laughing or hearing others laugh – which is not the case. The use of 'never' would mean that there is no day that passes without one laughing – which may not necessarily be the case. The use of 'even' would mean we are referring to a particular day that passed without one laughing or hearing others laugh – which is unapplicable here as we are talking of what happens everyday not just a single day.

- | | | | | |
|----|-------|--------|------|--------|
| 2. | comes | begins | sets | passes |
|----|-------|--------|------|--------|

Answer: D

Here the examiner wants to bring the idea of what happens by the end of the day. The end result can be evaluated at the end of the day; not the beginning; hence the correct answer – 'passes'.

- | | | | | |
|----|---------|---------|------|-----------|
| 3. | capable | thought | fond | suspected |
|----|---------|---------|------|-----------|

Answer: A

The writer wants to bring out the meaning of the 'abilities' human beings have even before birth. One of them is laughing. The correct answer, hence, is 'capable' because it tries to show what human beings are capable of doing-laughing-whether one actually laughs or not is not actually the issue – the main thing is that they possess the ability to laugh.

- | | | | | |
|----|--------|----|-------|--------|
| 4. | Really | So | Truly | Indeed |
|----|--------|----|-------|--------|

Answer: D

The question tested on degree. Here, we need a word that will show emphasis or stress on the fact that human beings are fond of laughing even before they are born – hence the answer 'indeed!'

- | | | | | |
|----|------|--------|-----|-------|
| 5. | must | should | can | would |
|----|------|--------|-----|-------|

Answer: C

The question tested on modal auxiliary verbs. 'Must' and 'Should' are used to show compulsion/command. The sentence does not intend to show compulsion. Instead, he wants to show how smiling can be understood as or how it can be looked as – hence the answer.

- | | | | | |
|----|------|------|---------|---------|
| 6. | sign | step | attempt | display |
|----|------|------|---------|---------|

Answer: A

When you smile, it is a sign not a step, that you are about to laugh – hence the answer. An 'attempt' is to try something to see whether it works or not – when we smile, we are not trying to attempt to be laughing – we are actually laughing. To 'display' is to show things out as an advertisement which is far from the answer.

- | | | | | |
|----|--------|--------|-----------|---------|
| 7. | people | things | creatures | persons |
|----|--------|--------|-----------|---------|

Answer: C

The question tested on vocabulary. The examiner wants to generally refer to other living things other than human beings hence the use the word creatures. 'Things' cannot apply because this includes lifeless/non-living things – which may not have the ability to laugh.

8. felt assumed imagined known

Answer: D

You cannot 'feel', 'assume' or 'imagine' that a particular creature is making a sound as these are hypothetical words. Hence the answer 'know' as this is a fact which needs not be guessed.

9. during while through from

Answer: B

The examiner intends to bring out the meaning that the two actions (producing sounds and laughing) took place at the same time / in succession hence the use of 'while' – to indicate that sounds are produced in the process of laughing.

10. nevertheless moreover anyway however

Answer: D

The question tested on conjunctions. We want to show the relationship between what humans do and what other creatures do. Since these are two contrasting statements, they can only be joined using a contrasting conjunction – however.

11. because whether if since

Answer: C

The question tested on conditional words. 'Whether' is used together with 'or not' – hence cannot be used here. 'If' is used here to show the possibility of animals being able to notice anything funny.

12. part things side bit

Answer: C

The question tested on vocabulary. The writer wants to bring out the meaning that sometimes life can be funny and other times it may be not. We compare one 'side' of life with the other (positive or negative side) hence the answer.

13. a an the that

Answer: A

The question tested on articles. The fact that we are defining laughter for the first time, and it is in singular form means we can only use 'an', 'a' is used before nouns starting with consonant sounds. 'The' is a definite article which can only be used to refer to nouns already introduced –hence cannot apply here.

14. keep cover shut put

Answer: B

The question tested on phrasal verbs. We are supposed to complete the given phrasal verb to bring out the intended meaning hence the word 'Cover up' meaning to hide.

15. show display demonstrate indicate

Answer: D

The question tested on vocabulary. The writer wants to bring out the meaning of 'portray' i.e what we intend others to understand from our gestures or actions. The word which best replaces portray here is indicate – hence the answer.

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

Answer: A

The question tested on the use of conditional sentence. In conditional sentences, the word 'had' is followed by 'would' hence the correct answer.

17. She wrote the report _____ ink.
A. in B. of C. with D. by

Answer: A

The question tested on prepositions. We write 'with' a pen/ pencil but 'in' ink hence the correct answer.

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.

Answer: B

'Should' is used to indicate compulsion i.e something that must be done (no option). It is similar to 'have to' or must – hence the correct answer. 'Ought to' means one is 'supposed to' but whether one does as required or not is not clear.

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.

Answer: A

There are two actions here; (i) sitting down (ii) receiving the news. 'No sooner' indicates/ means that the two actions took place one immediately after the other (as soon as) hence the correct answer.

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

Answer: A

The opposite of generous is 'mean' hence the correct answer. 'Thrifty' means that one is careful about how they spend money and not wasting things. 'Unkind' means 'rude'. 'Greedy' means wanting more money, food e.t.c than you really need.

21. The pencil is sharp.
 A. dull
 B. flat
 C. blunt
 D. smooth

Answer: A

The opposite of 'sharp' is 'blunt' to mean that it is not sharpened.

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)

Answer: A

The question tested on paragraph formation sentence 'iv' acts as the topic sentence as it introduces us to the subject – the sun. Sentence

'is' should follow as it gives additional information to the subject – its proximity to the earth. Sentence '(i)' should follow then sentence '(ii)' should be the last as it gives a conclusion.

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)

Answer: D

Sentence (iii) is the topic sentence as it introduces us to the subject – wedding. It should be followed by sentence '(ii)' as it gives us information on what was happening as they waited for the wedding to start. Sentence '(iv)' should follow as it announced the sign of the coming of the bride and the groom – the blaring of horns. Sentence 'i' should be the last as it gives hope to the expected end – the arrival of the groom and the bride.

For questions 24 to 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.

Answer: C

Being a direct speech sentence and an order, we need to have opening and closing speech marks as well as an exclamation mark and of course a full stop.

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?

Answer: B

This is a question and hence should end with a question mark. The word 'environment' is a common noun hence should start with a small letter – hence the correct answer.

Read the passage below and 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 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 boots 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 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 _____.

- A. had a good memory
- B. respected his father
- C. took his father's words seriously
- D. was a very good child

Answer: C

The fact that you don't/cannot forget what you were told at a tender age (9 years old) shows/ indicates that you must have taken the words (information) seriously – hence the correct answer. (If the fathers' words were

not very important to him, he would have forgotten them long ago.

27. From the first paragraph we can conclude that palaces are _____.

- A. magnificent buildings
- B. places young boys admire
- C. homes for special people
- D. unique homes

Answer: C

Palaces are not just magnificent buildings, neither are they unique but house/ homes where special people e.g Kings live – hence the correct answer.

28. Why did John Dickens tell his son he could live in "that house" one day?

- A. To encourage him to think big.
- B. He really liked the house.
- C. He knew the future was bright.
- D. To motivate him to work hard.

Answer: D

From John Dickens' statement, we can infer that he aimed at motivating his son to work hard as there was a prize ahead of him 'that house'.

29. "The thought took Charles' breath away"

means

- A. he was unable to breathe
- B. he was greatly surprised
- C. his father had frightened him
- D. his father made him feel sick

Answer: B

The realization on Charles Dickens that he could live in such a house came as a surprise to him as he thought such houses were a preserve of the royal family (the rich). To him such a dream was far fetched.

30. What do we learn about Charles' life from the third paragraph?

- A. He fell down and then rose up again.
- B. He suffered a lot but later succeeded.
- C. He had high hopes in spite of hardships.
- D. He lived a life full of disappointments.

Answer: B

"He could not know how far he would fall (suffer) and how high he would rise (succeed)" This means that his early life was full of suffering but later he succeeded.

31. Which of the following statements is **not** true?

- A. The stories by Mary were interesting but scaring.
- B. Charles did not mind listening to horror stories.
- C. The stories Mary told truly fascinated Charles.
- D. Perhaps Charles merely pretended to be frightened.

Answer: D

It is true that the stories Mary told Charles were interesting as he liked listening to them (..... that he adored) though they frightened him. Since Charles adored listening to the stories, he wouldn't have minded listening to them, for if he minded, he would not listen to them. It is not true that Charles pretended to be frightened as he really was frightened – hence the answer.

32. How do we know that moving to London affected Charles' life drastically?

- A. Life suddenly became more difficult and miserable.
- B. His father brought friends who ate all the porridge.

- C. There was no time for him to play anymore.
- D. He had been very happy in his previous home.

Answer: A

"....."his father was transferred to London and his happy childhood came to a sudden end"..... clearly shows that Charles' life suddenly became more difficult and miserable – hence the correct answer.

33. Which of the following **best** describes Charles Dickens' father's character?

- A. Wonderful, hardworking, loving and friendly.
- B. Friendly, caring, hardworking but extravagant.
- C. Sociable, lively, generous and loving.
- D. Hardworking, jolly, hospitable and carefree.

Answer: C

"..... his father had many wonderful qualities; he 'worked hard' ' loved his wife and children'had many friends he spent more money than he made.....". This clearly shows that he was friendly, hardworking, caring but extravagant – hence the correct answer.

34. We can tell that Charles loved school because he _____.

- A. was very disappointed when he wasn't sent to school
- B. enjoyed reading novels in his father's collection
- C. had dreams of becoming a great writer
- D. knew it was the only way to achieve fame

Answer: A

"When they reached London, Charles was shocked to learn that he would not be sent to school" This shows that he must have been very disappointed when he wasn't to school.

35. How did that society violate children's rights?

- A. By not doing enough to meet their needs.
- B. By making them look after young siblings.
- C. By making them work in factories.
- D. By not punishing irresponsible parents.

Answer: C

"Two days after his twelfth birthday, Charles was sent to work at a factory, from eight in the morning to eight at night..... Other children worked there too," This shows that society violated children's rights by making them work in factories – hence the correct answer.

36. "Rough manners" means that the boys at the factory _____.

- A. did not impress Charles at all
- B. were probably naughty and rude

Read the passage below and 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.

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....."his father was transferred to London and his happy childhood came to a sudden end"..... clearly shows that Charles' life suddenly became more difficult and miserable – hence the correct answer.

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"When they reached London, Charles was shocked to learn that he would not be sent to school" This shows that he must have been very disappointed when he wasn't to school.

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- By not doing enough to meet their needs.
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"Two days after his twelfth birthday, Charles was sent to work at a factory, from eight in the morning to eight at night..... Other children worked there too," This shows that society violated children's rights by making them work in factories – hence the correct answer.

36. "Rough manners" means that the boys at the factory _____.
- did not impress Charles at all
 - were probably naughty and rude

- C. did not know how to behave properly
D. made Charles rather uncomfortable

Answer: B

The fact that the boys at the factory referred to him as the young 'gentleman' means that they themselves were not gentle hence the answer that they were probably naughty and rude.

37. Which one of these pairs of words accurately describes Charles' feelings when his family moved to the debtors' prison?
- A. unhappy and angry
B. hurt and miserable
C. helpless and desperate
D. lonely and hopeless

Answer: D

The passage says, ".....he was on his own with' no advice, no counsel, no encouragement, no consolation, no support.....". This implies that he must have

been lonely and hopeless – hence the correct answer.

38. What would be the best summary of this passage?
- A. Accumulating debts is a dangerous habit.
B. Suffering does not mean we cannot succeed.
C. No experience in life is useless.
D. A careless father can cause untold heartaches.

Answer: B

The fact that Charles' Dickens suffered when he was young and his dreams of education were shattered when they moved to London, it did not mean his fate had been sealed. He picked himself up, dusted himself and went on to be a successful man – hence the answer.

Read the passage below and then answer questions 39 – 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 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 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 mind
D. Enjoying ourselves

Answer: B

From the first paragraph, laziness can be defined as a state of idleness and unwillingness to spend energy....." This implies that laziness is the state of wanting to be idle – hence the answer.

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

Answer: B

"..... We need to rest to refresh our bodies and minds after working for long hours" This shows that rest comes after working for long.

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

Answer: D

"..... If you feel you have a lot to do, you will probably feel overwhelmed and let laziness overcome you.....". This means/implies that laziness overcomes you when you feel overwhelmed –hence the correct answer.

42. Why should we break down huge tasks into small parts?
- So as to be motivated.
 - In order to use less effort.
 - So as to make tasks manageable.
 - In order to solve our problems.

Answer: A

".....: the solution is to break down huge tasks Which makes you feel you do not require too much effort". This implies that when we break down huge tasks into small parts, we get motivated to do it by the fact that we shall not require a lot of effort – hence the answer.

43. The word monster as used in the passage refers to something that _____.
- is frightening
 - is discouraging
 - makes life difficult
 - makes us successful

Answer: B

The word monster which is used to refer to laziness is used to refer to something that is discouraging since when laziness creeps in, you feel discouraged to perform any tasks.

44. Which of the following statements is **not true** according to the passage?
- Your imagination influences your actions.
 - Obstacles can make you feel lazy.
 - You should not think of difficulties.
 - Habits can influence your imagination.

Answer: D

According to the passage, "..... your imagination has a great influence on your mind, habits and actions". Think about the benefits you will reap if you overcome laziness and take action instead of thinking about difficulties or obstacles. All these are true statements according to the passage. However it is not true to say that habits can influence your imagination as truth is the other way round.

45. When your mind tells you to abandon what you are doing _____.
- do not be tempted to be lazy
 - perform the task easily and energetically
 - see yourself performing the task with ease
 - take action that will influence your mind

Answer: C

"..... when tempted to be lazy, imagine yourself performing the task easily and energetically...." This shows/implies that when your mind tells you to abandon what you are doing, see yourself performing the task with ease – the correct answer.

46. Refreshing your mind and body means:
- improving your life
 - achieving your goals
 - being able to work for long
 - regaining your lost energy

Answer: D

We refresh our bodies and minds after working for long hours. This would be taken to mean that we are giving our bodies time to regain lost energy.

47. Which of the following statement is an example of procrastination?
- failing to do your assignment
 - being reminded to do your assignment
 - completing your assignment late
 - doing your assignment slowly

Answer: C

Procrastination refers to the act of delaying/ postponing tasks to a later date. This means that though you will eventually do something/ the task, you don't complete it within the specified time/ period – hence the correct answer – completing your assignment late.

48. The phrase "put off" as used in the passage means:
- discourage
 - postpone
 - cancel
 - refuse

Answer: B

To 'put off' means either to cancel (when there is no alternative date given) or postpone (when there is an alternative date). According to passage, 'put off' is used to mean you delay performing a task but not doing away with it completely – hence the answer – postpone.

49. Which of the following is the best lesson drawn from the story?
- Laziness should be overcome.
 - Laziness must be avoided.
 - Laziness ought to be punished.
 - Laziness hinders progress.

Answer: D

From the first paragraph: "..... for us to do our work efficiently and eventually have a successful life, we must learn how to overcome laziness ..." The last statement says: "..... everytime you overcome laziness, you get stronger, more able to achieve your goals and improve your life. From these two statement and the passage in general, we can conclude that laziness hinders progress – hence the answer.

50. A suitable title for this passage would be:
- Consequences of laziness.
 - How to overcome laziness.
 - Problems of laziness.
 - All about laziness.

Answer: B

The writer has been exploring different several ways of overcoming laziness which include; breaking down huge tasks into small manageable parts, avoiding procrastination, imagining yourself performing the task easily and energetically among others. This clearly shows the writer has mainly been exploring ways of overcoming laziness – hence the answer.

KCPE ENGLISH 2009

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

I was sitting on a beach one day, 1 two children, a boy and a girl, were playing 2 the sand. They were hard at work, building 3 beautiful sand castle by the water's 4 it had gates and towers and internal passages. 5 when they had nearly finished their 6 a big wave came along and knocked it down, reducing it to a heap of 7 sand. I expected the children to burst into tears, disappointed by what had happened. 8, they ran up the shore away from the water, laughing while 9 hands and sat down to build another castle. I realized that they had taught me 10 lesson. All the things in our lives, all the complicated structures we 11 so much time and energy creating are built on sand. Only our 12 with other people endure. Sooner or later, the wave 13 come along and knock down what we 14 so hard to build up. 15 that happens, only the person who has somebody's hand to hold will be able to laugh.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | A. seeing | B. viewing | C. watching | D. inspecting |
| 2. | A. on | B. over | C. in | D. about |
| 3. | A. a | B. the | C. some | D. that |
| 4. | A. boundary | B. line | C. end | D. edge |
| 5. | A. suddenly | B. just | C. immediately | D. now |
| 6. | A. project | B. task | C. duty | D. scheme |
| 7. | A. watery | B. wet | C. sticky | D. muddy |
| 8. | A. Then | B. Yet | C. Moreover | D. Instead |
| 9. | A. joining | B. holding | C. uniting | D. touching |
| 10. | A. a serious | B. a necessary | C. an important | D. an interesting |
| 11. | A. give | B. have | C. spend | D. use |
| 12. | A. relationships | B. contacts | C. unity | D. harmony |
| 13. | A. must | B. may | C. shall | D. will |
| 14. | A. had worked | B. have worked | C. had been working | D. have been working |
| 15. | A. If | B. Since | C. Whenever | D. When |

Okeyo	Mbura	Karani	Jebet
Nakuru	Nakuru	Nakuru	Athi River
Mombasa	Mombasa	Mombasa	Mumias
Mwingi	Mwingi	Mwingi	Nyeri
Athi River	Wajir	Nyeri	
Mumias		Wajir	
Nyeri			

Use the information below to answer questions 16 to 18

Okeyo, Mbura, Karani and Jebet were discussing towns in Kenya which they had visited. Okeyo, Mbura and Karani had visited Nakuru, Mombasa and Mwingi. Jebet and Okeyo had visited Athi

River and Mumias. All the children, except Mbura, had visited Nyeri. Only Jebet and Okeyo had not been to Wajir where Mbura comes from.

16. Which one of the following has visited most towns?
- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| A. Jebet | B. Karani |
| C. Mbura | D. Okeyo |
17. Athi River has been visited by.
- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| A. Okeyo and Jebet | B. Okeyo and Mbura |
| C. Jebet and Karani | D. Jebet and Mbura |

18. Which towns has Mbura visited apart from Wajir?
 A. Nakuru, Mwingi and Mumias
 B. Nakuru, Athi River and Mombasa
 C. Nakuru, Mombasa and Mwingi
 D. Nakuru, Nyeri and Mumias

For questions 19 to 22, choose the alternative 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
20. He has been acquitted of all the charges.
 A. Freed
 B. forgiven
 C. Discharged
 D. released
21. The neighbours managed to put out the fire.
 A. cool
 B. extinguish
 C. defeat
 D. cover
22. They called off the concert.
 A. stopped
 B. cancelled

- B. postponed
 D. abandoned

For questions 23 to 25 choose the alternative that best completes the sentence

23. She passed he exams very well, _____?
 A. is it
 B. did she
 C. didn't she
 D. isn't it
24. He may not come, but we will get ready in case he _____.
 A. will
 B. does
 C. May
 D. comes
25. Mwikali is an intelligent pupil, _____ she is a talented singer
 A. nevertheless
 B. although
 C. moreover
 D. and

Read the following passage then answer questions 26 to 38.

The day before Jennifer Bell had made a **solemn vow** that was going to change her life forever, no one else knew about it yet, but people were going to notice sooner or later. Right then it was a kind of a secret and she loved secrets. Grover Middle School was her sixth new school in eight years. If you are as shy as she was, it was tough to be the new kid all the time. But it was not going to be tough anymore because she had read a book called *Instant Ways to Instant Friends*. She was starting with lesson number one that day. It said 'Change your whole **attitude**. Think of yourself as somebody that everyone wants to get to know!'

That was right and she was going to have fun and lots of it! Jennifer, aged twelve-and-a-half, had decided to break out of her old, shy nature at last.

Her mother was driving her to school the first day.

"Scared?" she asked.

"No way." She answered, wondering if she had time to take her mirror out of her purse for one last peek at her hair. She was a little nervous, but she wasn't going to admit that to her mum.

"That is the right spirit," her mother said. "Remember, this may be a new school, but **you've got a head start on the problem this time.**"

Her mother wasn't thinking about Jennifer's solemn vow and her book on making friends. Those were secrets and there was no way Jennifer was going to tell her mother, they were too personal and who tells secrets to their mothers, anyway?

"I know, I know," she said. "This is the school where you were a *pom pom* girl and Dad was in the Maths club, and you fell in love in the eighth class."

Don't forget your dad was the chairman of the Maths club," her mother said with a laugh.

Jennifer loved to listen to her mum's bubbly laugh. In fact, she decided to imitate it as a part of the new her.

"My mum, the *pom pom* queen," Jennifer said, imitating her mum's laugh. She wondered if it sounded okay, or if it sounded fake. She decided she would have to work on it. "Do you think there is anyone in the school who still remembers you and Dad?"

"Hey, don't make it sound like we went to school in the Dark Ages! We're not that old."

Jennifer's mother stopped in front of the school to let her out. Then she said, "Blow them away with the Bell family charm, honey."

"No problem, mum," Jennifer answered. When she opened the door, a rush of cold air hit her. She then realized that she definitely needed a heavier jacket. The Octobers here were a lot colder than in California, where they had just moved from.

"I like your change of attitude, Jennifer," Jennifer's mother said as she leaned over to look at her through the car window. "What brought it on?"

"I don't know. Instant maturity, I guess," she said with a grin. "Thanks for the ride, mum. See you later."

"Do you want me to pick you up after school?"

"No thanks," she said. "I'll walk home."

Her mum drove off and Jennifer turned away to start her new life as the new her.

(Adapted from Can You Keep a Secret by Elizabeth Van Steanwyk)

26. How many schools had Jennifer attended in the last eight years?
- A. Eight
B. Five
C. Twelve
D. Six
27. The phrase "a solemn vow" means a
- A. Serious promise
B. Change for better
C. Great step
D. Big decision
28. Why did Jennifer find it tough to be the new kid all the time?
- A. She loved secrets
B. She was young
C. She was shy
D. She would be noticed
29. What was Jennifer's secret?
- A. To change her attitude.
B. To make friends with everyone.
C. To practice all the lessons.
D. The special book she had read.
30. What in the passage shows that Jennifer was not really open with her mum?
- A. She thought her secrets were too personal
B. She didnt want her mother to pick her up.
C. Nobody is really open with their moth
D. No one else could know her secrets.
31. What word would **best** replace the word "attitude" in the passage?
- A. Thoughts
B. views
C. Feelings
D. behavior
32. The phrase "you've got a head start on the problem this time" means
- A. she already knows how to behave
B. her parents had learnt there
C. she had decided to imitate her mother
D. she had acquired the right spirit
33. According to the passage it is correct to say that
- A. Jennifer was more prepared for her new school than before;
B. Jennifer wanted to be exactly like her Mum;
C. Jennifer's mum got married at a very young age;
D. Jennifer was going to use the Bell family charm.
34. Why was Jennifer's mum's laugh important to Jennifer?
- A. It was going to be part of her new self.
B. It made Jennifer's mum a queen.
C. It sounded funny to listen to.
D. It made Jennifer as important as her mum.
35. In your own opinion, why did Jennifer change schools?
- A. She was too indisciplined to stay in one school.
B. She wanted to go where she was not known.
C. Her parents wanted her to be in their old school.
D. Her parents never stayed in one place for long.
36. Jennifer's mum said they never went to school in the Dark Ages. This implies that
- A. They never liked being thought of as old
B. They were not very old
C. They were very young
D. They were known by everyone in the school.
37. Which one of the following **best** describes Jennifer's character?
- A. Shy, disrespectful, determined
B. Intelligent, determined, proud
C. shy, determined, oneful
D. cheerful, proud, disrespectful
38. Which of the following **best** summarizes the passage?
- A. The journey to a new school.
B. Jennifer the new girl.
C. Jennifer's new school.
D. Jennifer and her mum.

Read the following passage then answer questions 39 - 50

Why do we go to school? Why do we strive to get an education? Well, perhaps you will say that we spend so much time and resources in the classroom so as to acquire skills for which society will be willing to pay. This will enable us to earn a living and eventually improve our standard of living. While it is definitely

true that education arms us with the necessary tools to be able to **put bread on our tables**, there are more benefits that come from education.

Education makes you a better person in many ways. It broadens your understanding of various issues that are likely to affect your life. These include health, economic, social and political matters. An educated person is able to independently access information on how to live a healthier life. Similarly, the educated person is empowered to make **sound** economic and political decisions based on ideas obtained through different channels of information.

Your thinking abilities are also sharpened through education. With the rapid development of technology today it is easier to get information. There is always so much information that it is often difficult to distinguish between the true and the false; the important and the trivial; the relevant and the irrelevant. An educated mind is, however, able to critically examine the information and decide what to make of it.

Society too reaps benefits when its individuals are educated. Where would society be without doctors, teachers, engineers, drivers or lawyers? People in different occupations have their roles to play in making society a better place to live. Indeed, many inventions that have improved society have sprung from the minds of educated individuals. A truly educated person is always thinking of how to make society better by introducing more effective and efficient ways of doing things.

What of peace and harmony? When we get educated, we learn about other people and their cultures. This makes us understand and accept them as part of our society. In this way, unnecessary conflict is avoided and we become willing to join hands with others in order to achieve certain goals for the good of us all. Evidently, there is so much to be gained from education. It is therefore not surprising that governments and households put aside **substantial** amounts of their income to spend on books and the support materials, teachers and development of educational facilities.

39. According to the first paragraph, education ____.
- gives us higher standards of living
 - provides us with our daily food.
 - helps us to gain more benefits in life.
 - equips us with skills to live better lives
40. How does education enable an individual to live a healthy life?
- There is enough information on healthy living.
 - One can distinguish between important and trivial things.
 - One can examine the available information properly.
 - There is enough money to go to hospital
41. The expression "put bread on our tables" implies
- Enjoying life in the society
 - Meeting our basic needs
 - Providing food for ourselves
 - Earning enough money
42. The word "sound" as used in the passage means
- clear
 - perfect
 - clever
 - informed
43. A sharpened thinking ability enables one to ____.
- get information more easily
 - get a lot of information
 - choose information wisely
 - decide what to do with information
44. In society, truly educated individuals ____.
- are more efficient and effective
 - always think of improving society
 - reap benefits from society
 - invent things from their minds
45. Peace and harmony are achieved when we ____.
- understand and accept others
 - avoid unnecessary conflict
 - achieve certain goals
 - join hands with others.
46. Which of the following is **not** a result of higher levels of technology according to the third paragraph?
- Our thinking ability is improved.
 - There is more knowledge available.
 - Getting information is quite simple.
 - Selecting information is more challenging.
47. The word "substantial" as used in the passage means.
- Large
 - meaningful
 - Important
 - reasonable
48. Educated people
- are always independent
 - are healthier than others
 - understand things more widely
 - make wiser decisions.
49. From the passage, it is evident that education
- Satisfies our needs
 - Is the key to improved life
 - gives us information
 - prevents conflict in society.
50. Which of the following is the **best** title for the passage?
- Education and Society
 - Books and Teachers
 - Education for a Better Society
 - The Benefits of education

KCPE ENGLISH 2008

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

Police officers raided a home on 1 outskirts of town yesterday and seized an assortment of electronic goods. The men 2 the police found during the early evening raid were arrested and 3 in police cells. 4 suspects are being sought.

The police spokesperson told the press that the goods 5 suspected to have been 6 from a neighbouring country. Investigations have 7 started in order to establish the nationalities of the suspects as they have no identification 8 .

It is not clear 9 the goods were destined for another country, or were to be sold locally. On the local 10 the goods are estimated 11 ten million shillings. The head of the area Criminal Investigation Unit said that the suspects would soon be 12 in a court of law but declined to give further details.

The police 13 the home following a tip off from 14 caller who had been suspicious of the people living in the home. He told the police that the men stayed indoors 15 daytime and only went out late in the night

- | A | B | C | D |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. those | some | these | the |
| 2. who's | which | whom | whose |
| 3. locked up | locked in | locked away | locked out |
| 4. More | Few | Many | Some |
| 5. are being | were being | were | are |
| 6. brought | smuggled | imported | bought |
| 7. recently | immediately | already | soon |
| 8. forms | documents | sheets | letters |
| 9. weather | whether | wether | wither |
| 10. market | scene | town | centre |
| 11. for | about | to | at |
| 12. sentenced | sued | charged | judged |
| 13. inspected | stormed | invaded | visited |
| 14. a loyal | an unknown | a strange | an unseen |
| 15. during | at | over | in |

For questions 16 to 18 choose the alternative that best completes the statement given.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>16. The Mutukus are so kind.</p> <p>A. because they always help people.</p> <p>B. as they always help people.</p> <p>C. that they always help people.</p> <p>D. since they always help people.</p> <p>17. Have they been forbidden</p> <p>A. to go to town?</p> | <p>B. from going to town?</p> <p>C. not to go to town?</p> <p>D. against going to town?</p> <p>18. Would you have done that job if you</p> <p>A. had been paid well?</p> <p>B. were paid well?</p> <p>C. could have been paid well?</p> <p>D. would be paid well?</p> |
|--|---|