



SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENT

**JUNIOR SCHOOL**  
**ENGLISH: SECTION B**

**GRADE 8 - 2024**

**JS2402**

**Time: 1 Hour 40 Minutes.**

**LEARNER'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ASSESSMENT NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS TO THE LEARNER**

Answer all the questions in the spaces provided.

**For Teacher's Use Only.**

	<b>SECTION A</b> Reading comprehension and summary writing (Questions 1-10) 15MKS	<b>SECTION B</b> Grammar use (Questions 11-25) 15MKS	<b>SECTION C</b> Oral Literature (Questions 26-37) 12MKS	<b>SECTION D</b> Class Reader (Questions 38-45) 8MKS
<b>LEARNER'S SCORE</b>				
<b>TOTAL SCORE (50MKS)</b>				
<b>PERFORMANCE LEVEL</b>				



JS2402

This question paper consists of 8 printed pages.

© compasspress, 2024

**SECTION A: READING COMPREHENSION**

**Read the dialogue below and answer questions 1 to 5.**

**Mr Kuria:** *(While extending his hand for a greeting)* Hello, Madam. My name is Mr Kuria. I represent a human rights organisation concerned about workers' rights. I presume you are the manager of this company.

**Mrs Mambo:** Hello, Mr Kuria. You are right. I am the manager of this company. My name is Mrs Mambo. What do we owe your visit?

**Mr Kuria:** *(With a serious look on his face)* We got complaints that your company violates the rights of workers. Upon conducting some investigations, we gathered some evidence that proves the accusations.

**Mrs Mambo:** *(Looking rather shocked)* I appreciate your concern, Mr Kuria. Can you please specify the allegations? We take labour rights seriously and aim to address any issues promptly.

**Mr Kuria:** Our investigation reveals instances of unsafe working conditions, prolonged hours without overtime pay and limited access to workers' benefits and privileges. How does your company plan to rectify these issues?

**Mrs Mambo:** *(While shaking her head)* I am afraid I wasn't aware of these concerns. We prioritise our employees' well-being and I assure you we'll investigate these allegations thoroughly. Immediate corrective measures will be taken to ensure compliance with labour laws.

**Mr Kuria:** *(His face brightening up)* That's encouraging to hear. We also urge you to establish transparent communication channels for workers to voice their concerns without fear of victimisation. How does your company plan to foster a more open dialogue with employees?

**Mrs Mambo:** We understand the importance of open communication. We'll work on implementing anonymous reporting mechanisms and regularly engaging with employees to address their concerns. It's crucial for us to maintain a positive and respectful workplace.

**Mr Kuria:** Thank you for your commitment to addressing these issues. We'll monitor the progress closely and hope to see positive changes in the coming months. Workers' rights are fundamental and collaboration is key to ensuring their protection.

**Mrs Mambo:** *(Looking happy)* Absolutely, we value this dialogue. We're dedicated to upholding human rights and your feedback will guide our efforts to create a fair and just working environment.

1. What proof is there in the conversation that Mr Kuria and Mrs Mambo had not met before?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Why did Mr Kuria visit the company?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What does this statement '**I am afraid I wasn't aware of these concerns**' show about Mrs Mambo's leadership?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Why would it be important for Mrs Mambo's company to establish open communication?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Did Mr Kuria accomplish his goal for the meeting with Mrs Mambo? Give a reason for your answer  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Read the passage below and answer questions 6 to 10.**

There was once a village called Alara that lay between low hills. It was both fertile and beautiful. Towering trees lined the village and crystal-clear rivers meandered through its landscape. The villagers thrived on the bountiful crops they cultivated. There was plenty of food to eat. All the people in the village were strong and healthy. However, as prosperity flourished, a shadow began to loom over the Alara village. Driven by the desire for more farmland and the need for charcoal, the villagers started felling the majestic trees that had stood for generations. Slowly but steadily, the once lush village began to lose its green cover. Rivers, once full and lively, started to shrink, leaving behind parched riverbeds.

With the dwindling resources, the villagers faced a harsh reality. The once abundant harvests turned meagre and the scarcity of food brought about a period of suffering. The once joyful community now struggled under the weight of drought and famine. Everyone became weak and emaciated. Different malnutrition ailments became the order of the day. There was an urgent need for food or else many people, if not all, would face their demise.

In a desperate attempt to find a solution, the village chief called for a meeting of all the villagers. Despite their failing health and hunger, people turned up for the meeting. Their gloom spoke volumes of the problems they endured. The gathering, in the shade of the few remaining trees, became a forum to address the dire situation. Ideas were shared and the consensus was clear – the village needed to change its ways. With newfound determination, the villagers pledged to reverse the damage they had inflicted on their environment. A collective decision emerged to plant trees and embrace environmental conservation practices. The once barren lands were adorned with seedlings and a sense of responsibility swept through the community.

6. Why do you think the people of Alara village got good harvests?

---

7. Why did the villagers cut down trees?

---

8. What would happen if the villagers did not find a solution to their problem?

---

9. How did the meeting convened by the chief change the mindset of the people of Alara?

---

10. What was the mood of the villagers during the initial stages of the meeting?

---

**SUMMARY WRITING (5 marks)**

**Read the passage and summarise it in about 100 words.**

Choosing what to read is really important for growing your mind and making your life better. When you pick books, you go on a journey that can help you understand things better and learn more. Think about what you love when picking what to read. Reading about things you're passionate about not only makes it fun but also helps you connect more deeply with the content. Whether it's made-up stories or real facts, finding books that match your interests can make reading a meaningful and satisfying activity.

Reading different types of books opens your mind to new ideas. Learning about various topics, cultures and perspectives gives you a well-rounded view of life. Exploring books from different times and places helps you understand history, cultural differences and how societies work, making you see the world in a bigger way. Getting better at thinking critically happens when you choose challenging books.



Reading difficult novels, philosophical works, or scientific stuff helps your brain grow. Dealing with complex ideas and understanding complicated words makes your mind sharper and helps you think more carefully about different subjects.

If you have goals for learning, pick books that help you reach those goals. Whether you're in school or teaching yourself, choosing books that fit with what you're studying makes you more successful. This includes textbooks, research papers and extra materials that match what you're learning, giving you a complete and smart learning experience. In today's digital world, being smart about what you read is crucial. Checking if sources are trustworthy, making sure information is correct and being aware of possible biases are important skills for readers. Being careful about what you read helps you navigate through tons of information, telling the difference between what you can trust and what you can't.

In the end, picking what to read is a thoughtful process with big results. By thinking about what you love, exploring different ideas, improving your thinking skills, sticking to your learning goals and being careful about what you read, you can create a reading experience that makes your life better and helps you grow as a person.

**Rough draft**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Fair draft**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**SECTION B**

**GRAMMAR IN USE (15 marks)**

Form abstract nouns from the word given.

- 11. prove \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. false \_\_\_\_\_

Write the sentences in plural

- 13. The thief who attacked a passerby was arrested by the chief.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 14. The commander-in-chief placed a new mousetrap on his bookshelf.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 15. The master of ceremonies invited the bride's sister-in-law to give vote of thanks.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Punctuate the following sentences correctly

- 16. he shouted you must not return to this place  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 17. george went to upendo bookshop in eldoret town last thursday to buy some text books  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 18. mr mwangi our teacher of english usually advises us to take our work seriously said the children  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Complete the sentences with the correct collective noun.

- 19. We were amazed to see a \_\_\_\_\_ of geese swimming.
- 20. They got scared when they saw a \_\_\_\_\_ of owls in the cave they had taken shelter in.
- 21. There is a \_\_\_\_\_ bushes behind the compound.

Use the correct form of the word in brackets to complete the sentences.

- 22. Neither John nor James \_\_\_\_\_ going to the zoo now. (be)
- 23. Harriet may not show up though we need to give her a little more time in case she \_\_\_\_\_  
(do)

Use the adjectives in brackets in the correct order.

- 24. The man bought a \_\_\_\_\_ table. (dining round wooden new)
- 25. Tina had worn a \_\_\_\_\_ dress. (red cotton beautiful long)



## SECTION C

### ORAL LITERATURE (7 marks)

Read the story below and answer questions 26 to 32.

There was once a monkey that lived in a dense forest. The monkey was called Magaga. He relished in pulling tricks on other animals. He easily interacted with these animals though he was always keen on grabbing any available opportunity to make them appear silly. The other animals were aware of this but they could not resist Magaga's charm. They were always eager to listen to his cock and bull stories. Magaga was mostly in an ecstatic mood. A wide smile was frequently planted on his face. He knew this was the best way to make the other animals fall prey to his pranks.

Not far from Magaga's home, there was a huge crocodile called Masira who did not see eye to eye with Magaga. He had hatched a plan to get rid of him once and for all. Masira lived in an expansive river in the forest. One day, Masira approached Magaga's home. As soon as he saw him, he put on a sly smile, pretending to befriend the unsuspecting primate. "Magaga, my friend. I've heard tales of a magical island with the sweetest fruits you can imagine. Follow me and we'll feast like kings," Masira whispered with a deceitful charm.

Although Magaga was taken aback when Masira called him 'friend', he did not dismiss him. As a matter of fact, he felt intrigued by the promise of exotic delights. That very moment, Magaga decided to trust Masira and hopped onto his back as they ventured towards the 'paradise'. Little did he know that Masira was leading him to a remote part of the river, where the lush surroundings concealed the crocodile's true intentions.

As they reached the water's edge, Masira's eyes gleamed with hunger. He revealed his true nature and lunged at Magaga, who struggled to escape the powerful jaws closing in around him. In a desperate attempt to save himself, Magaga pleaded, "Masira, I thought we were friends! What happened to the promise of a magical feast?"

With a wicked grin, Masira responded, "I'm sorry, Magaga. I have never liked you and your perpetual mischief. I must make a meal out of you today." Despite being frightened to the core, Magaga thought quickly and came up with a plan to save his skin.

"I have always considered you the most brilliant animal in the forest. Unfortunately, today you have proven me wrong. Don't you know that monkeys' flesh usually becomes poisonous when eaten in the water. If you do not want to kill yourself in the process, get me back to back to the land and eat me from there," said Magaga. Unfortunately, Masira believed him and swam back to the land. No sooner had they got there than Magaga sprang to the highest tree and mocked the crocodile. The truth dawned on Masira and he swam away in regret.

26. What shows in the first paragraph that Magaga was cruel?

---

27. Why was Magaga always happy?

---

28. How best can one describe the relationship between Magaga and Masira?

---

29. Write one word that can best replace **expansive** as used in the story.

---

30. Why did Magaga agree to visit the magical island?

---

31. What description best fits Masira according to the story?

---

32. What made it possible for Magaga to escape Masira's scheme?

---

**POETRY (5 marks)**

Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow.

In daily ritual, cleanse your skin,  
A dance of water, soap begins.  
Beneath the stream, get dirt washed away,  
Embrace the hygiene, a brighter day.

Brush the teeth, a morning song,  
Banish plaque, where germs belong.  
Floss the gaps, a silent grace,  
Guard the smile, in every space.

Hands, the diligent workers be,  
Against the germs, a firm decree.  
With soap and water, a simple art,  
A shield against what may impart.

Trim the nails, a tidy trim,  
Neat and clean, from root to rim.  
In cleanliness, a mindful pledge,  
A journey to wellness, edge to edge.

33. What is the main idea in the first stanza?

34. Why is it important to brush the teeth according to stanza two?

35. What is the word class of the word **firm** as used in the poem?

36. Why is cleanliness important according to the fourth stanza?

37. Suggest a word that can best replace **pledge** as used in the poem.

**SECTION D**

**CLASS READER (8 marks)**

Read the excerpt below and answer questions about it.

Since his childhood days, Kadenju had lived with his grandfather with whom he shared a very special relationship. They were always seen together and seemed inseparable. Both of them had a common passion: football. Kadenju's grandfather used to be **the backbone of his team** during his prime days. His mere presence in the lineup was enough to guarantee his side a win. Because of his unrivalled skills in the game, he became a football legend far and beyond.



Unlike his grandfather who towered over his peers even in his old age, Kadenju wasn't physically endowed. He was the smallest of the class both in primary and secondary school. Since he appeared rather feeble, he was only selected as a reserve player. Neither his coach nor his teammates had confidence in him. He hardly ever got a chance to play even in friendly matches. Kadenju was almost a permanent bench warmer. Nevertheless, he did not take offence. As a determined person, he always hoped he would be given a chance to play when he got to the senior classes in high school. He enjoyed watching matches to pick up a few more skills from more talented players.

All through secondary school, Kadenju attended practice regularly and promptly. Unfortunately, the coach was still untouched by the lad's commitment. He still remained a substitute. As time went by, Kadenju was very envious of the other players who were always on the team. He wished he were as sturdy as they were. In his free time, Kadenju enjoyed watching videos of great football matches to improve his skills. Determined to become a better player, he asked for extra tips from his coach. Not wanting to disappoint him, the coach agreed but knew it would not make any difference. That notwithstanding, Kadenju worked really hard to become a better footballer. His faithful grandfather occasionally accompanied him for practice to encourage him. The coach and his teammates were very impressed with Kadenju's grandfather.

When Kadenju went to college, he decided to try out for the football team there. Everyone was sure he would not be selected, but he proved them wrong. He made the team but again, as a reserve. The coach admitted that he kept Kadenju on the reserve list because he had always put his heart and soul into every practice. Besides, his dedication inspired the rest of his team. The news that he had been selected thrilled him so much that he rushed to the nearest telephone to call his grandfather. The old man was equally excited. Each time Kadenju's team played, he made it a point to be there. The persistent young footballer never missed practice during his four years at college but still he never got to play in any matches..

38. What shows in the excerpt that Kadenju and his grandfather got along?

---

39. What is the meaning of the phrase '**the backbone of his team**'?

---

40. Describe the difference between Kadenju and his grandfather?

---

41. Why did Kadenju like watching matches?

---

42. Why was Kadenju hardly ever chosen to play?

---

43. Describe Kadenju's character according to the third paragraph?

---

44. Why did the coach give Kadenju a chance to be a reserve player?

---

45. Write one word that means the same as **sturdy** as used in the passage.

---



