

TARGETER WINGS

JUNIOR SCHOOL ASSESSMENT



GRADE 8 - 2024



ENGLISH

TIME: 1hr 40mins

| |
|--------------------------|
| Name _____ |
| School _____ |
| Adm No: _____ Date _____ |

Instructions:

- (a) Write your name, school, admission number and date in the spaces provided above.
- (b) Answer all questions in this question paper.

| FOR EXAMINER'S USE ONLY | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Questions | Maximum score | Student's score | Performance scale |
| 1 - 37 | 50 | | |
| Total | 50 | | |

SECTION: A

TASK 1: READING COMPREHENSION

1. **Read the story below and answer questions 1 - 5.**

When Jonah learnt that fishing is not only an economic activity but it is also a hobby, he decided to try what would become his new hobby. His father had promised to take him to lake Victoria one Saturday morning.

The bumpy journey took them one hour and the pair pulled into a five-star hotel. They were both exhausted and hungry. After munching a delicious breakfast, father and son left for the shores. They paid for the boat and a standby lifesaver incase of any eventuality. Jonah took his bait and hooked it on the fishing rod as his father slowly by slowly rowed the boat along the shore. The cool breeze was amazing and rejuvenating. Jonah discovered how exciting fishing was.

Suddenly he felt his rod being touched and began to drift towards the edge of the shore. Swiftly, he pulled it and disappointedly, it was a giant crab. Jonah's father encouraged him to try once again and it did not take long before catching a mammoth Nile perch. Jonah was surprised and thrilled as well when their neighbouring boats edged closer to see his massive catch.

1. What was Jonah's odd way of thinking? (2mks)

2. Why did Jonah hook a bait on the fishing road? (2mks)

3. What is the meaning of the word "rejuvenating" as used in the story? (1mk)

4. Why was Jonah discouraged by his first attempt? (1mk)

5. What drew attention towards the boat carrying Jonah and his father? (1mk)

2. **Read the following story and then answer questions 6 - 9.**

Bonte was the only son in Mr. Matilo's family of five. The boy was born with a silver spoon in mouth. Seeing all the possessions of his father, Bonte never took his school work seriously. He knew he was the only heir of the vast wealth of his father. All his sisters were happily married and living a comfortable life. However, Bonte was getting sicker and sicker of his ageing frugal father.

One day, Bonte thought of something that would send his father to the grave with a heart attack. He devised a shrewd plan and made up his mind to fake suicide. He issued sharp threats to his father and left indefinitely. He locked himself in his room and cleverly executed his plan. He took off his white shirt and dipped it in red paint and hanged it somewhere visible through the keyhole. Then quietly and stealthily, he slipped out of the room through the window and closed it back expertly.

Since blood is thicker than water, his concerned father went to check his son's room. He found it locked from inside and his heart skipped a beat. He peeped through the keyhole and what met his eyes was a bloody shirt. He let out a cry of distress which attracted his neighbour who responded instantly. Using an axe, the two broke into Bonte's room only to find out the silly trick. Mr. Matilo was furious but glad it was not real. Bonte came back home to meet a volcano of a father.

6. Why did Bonte never take school work seriously? (1mk)

7. What made Bonte sick about his father? (2mks)

8. Describe Bonte's plan and why he opted for that particular plan (2mks)

9. Why was Mr. Matilo both angry and happy? (2mks)

SECTION : B

TASK 2: GRAMMAR (15 MARKS)

Fill in the blank spaces with the correct alternative from the words given in brackets

10. The old man's _____ is to see his grandsons growing healthy and strong. (happy)
11. A little _____ was the cause of his falling off the cliff. (drowsy)
12. Our small sister has the _____ to walk with her eyes closed. (able)
13. Veterinary doctor is his main _____ since he graduated from college. (profess)

Fill in the black spaces with the correct alternative given in brackets

14. The news about the fatal accident _____ broadcast in all TV stations. (were, was, are)
15. _____ geese are really enjoying in that muddy pool of water. (These, This, That)
16. None of the girls _____ a volleyball team member. (are, is, be)
17. Walk bravely as though you _____ a real warrior. (were, are, is)

Fill in the blank spaces using the corrective reflexive pronoun.

18. He covered the textbooks all by _____
19. The eagle built _____ a nest using twigs and leaves.
20. Athletes carry _____ with discipline and dignity.

Fill in the blank spaces with the right preposition or adverb to complete each sentence

21. Unknown burglars broke _____ my uncle's house last week.
22. The most awaited boxing fight was finally called _____ until further notice.
23. Learners cannot do _____ supplementary books in their schools.
24. My elder sister is getting _____ her nursing course at Kenya Medical Training College.
25. The forest rangers look _____ wildlife by patrolling the protected areas.

SECTION: C

TASK 3: ORAL LITERATURE AND POETRY

Read the story below and then answer the questions that follow.

Once upon a time in a village, lived a farmer and his wife. They had a fine little son. The farmer had a pet mongoose. The little boy and the mongoose were fond of each other. They were good playmates. Both the farmer and his wife loved the mongoose.

One day the farmer was busy on the farm. The farmer's wife had gone to the market to buy vegetables. The little boy fell asleep in a cradle. The mongoose was lying near the cradle.

Suddenly a poisonous snake appeared into the house and was nearing the sleeping boy. The mongoose sensed the snake and jumped up. He fought with the snake as the snake fought back. There was a fierce fight between the snake and the mongoose. The mongoose finally over-powered and killed the snake.

The mongoose saw the farmer's wife returning from the market. He ran towards her to greet her. She saw blood around the mouth of the mongoose. The paws were also bloody. The farmer's wife thought that the mongoose had killed the child. She took a long stick and gave heavy blows on the mongoose and left him to die. When she ran into the house, she was shocked to see a dead snake lying on the floor near her son. She realized her terrible mistake and cried aloud.

26. What type of a friend is the mongoose? (1mk)

27. Why did the mongoose jump up? (2mks)

28. Mention two characters of the mongoose that made him triumph over the snake. (2mks)

29. What moral lesson do we learn from this story? (2mks)

SECTION: D

TASK 4: POEM

Read the poem below and then answer questions 30 - 33.

Where the Guns Come From by Dorsey Baker

Where all these guns
come from?
Kids killing kids with
where all these guns come from?
why so many kids
with lethal
weapons in their hands
on the rampage
Kids with guns
full of rage

Where all these guns
come from?
Kids killing kids with
where all these guns come from?
how do kids
get all these guns
where all these kids
get guns from?

30. What is the main message of the poem? (2mks)
-
31. Who is the speaker speaking to? (1mk)
-
32. Repetition has been used in the poem. Give two examples (2mks)
-
33. Explain the meaning of the line "kids killing kids" in the poem. (2mks)
-

SECTION: E

CLASS READERS

10. **Read the extract below and then answer the questions that follow**

Lengai inner voice grew increasingly louder. He turned sideways and gazed at the short thick man next to him. He lacked confidence to fire the shot that would kill the rhino. He felt as though he had been given an impossible task of pushing a large truck up a steep incline. It was impossible for him to collect the one ounce of energy needed to pull out that tiny piece of metal.

34. Why was Lengai unable to fire at the rhino? (2mks)
-
35. What was the short man's interest with the rhino? (2mks)
-
36. What is the occupation of the main characters in this extract? (1mk)
-
37. Identify the weapon in the hands of Lengai. (1mk)
-

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TIME: 40mins

SECTION B:
ENGLISH : COMPOSITION

| |
|----------------------------------------|
| Name _____ |
| School _____ |
| Adm No: _____ Date _____ |

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

- 1. Write your name, school, admission number and date in the spaces provided above.**
- 2. Now open the page, read the instructions of the composition carefully and write your composition on the lines provided.**

This Question Paper consists of 4 printed pages.

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TURN OVER

Write an interesting composition beginning with the following words.

One Saturday afternoon, my friend and I

A series of horizontal lines for writing the composition.