



FRONTRUNNER EXAM

STANDARD EIGHT 2021

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

8

Time: 1 hour 40 minutes

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

Nowadays, many people _____ 1 _____ music from the _____ 2 _____ everyday _____ 3 _____ it has a huge economic _____ 4 _____ and could put more than one million people out of work by the year 2020. A study _____ 5 _____ internet piracy by a Paris based consultancy published last year showed that 1-2 million jobs in the Europe could be _____ 6 _____ over the next five years if more is not done to clamp _____ 7 _____ on illegal downloading. The study by Tera consultants _____ 8 _____ the International Chamber of Commerce focused on piracy in Europeans music, films, television _____ 9 _____ software industries. Those industries _____ 10 _____ 860 million euros and employed 144 million people in 2008. But in the same year, 10 billion euros and 186,000 jobs were lost to _____ 11 _____. If _____ 12 _____ trend continues and the _____ 13 _____ increase in _____ 14 _____ downloads and advancing piracy techniques continue, the research suggest that upto 1.2 million jobs and 240 billion euros worth of European commerce could be _____ 15 _____ out by 2020.

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|-------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. buy | B. browse | C. tweet | D. download |
| 2. A. phones | B. computer | C. internet | D. website |
| 3. A. since | B. but | C. however | D. although |
| 4. A. impact | B. effect | C. burden | D. potential |
| 5. A. into | B. to | C. on | D. in |
| 6. A. created | B. lost | C. threat | D. thwarted |
| 7. A. on | B. out | C. down | D. off |
| 8. A. in | B. at | C. into | D. for |
| 9. A. and | B. with | C. also | D. then |
| 10. A. created | B. generated | C. produced | D. gave |
| 11. A. theft | B. criminals | C. piracy | D. bloggers |
| 12. A. this | B. these | C. those | D. that |
| 13. A. increased | B. many | C. rapid | D. considerable |
| 14. A. legitimate | B. illegal | C. internet | D. legal |
| 15. A. left | B. dealt | C. cleaned | D. wiped |

For questions 16-17, replace the underlined word with most appropriate choice.

16. Mary Keitany finally withdrew from the service after thirty years.
A. left B. retreated
C. retired D. abandoned
17. Due to the long drought the animals are emaciated.
A. thin B. fat
C. huge D. slender

For questions 18, choose the sentence that means the same as the given one

18. *The athlete was too slow to win the race.*
A. The athlete won the race because he was too slow.

- B. The athlete failed to win the race for being slow.
C. Though he was slow, the athlete won the race.
D. The athlete was not slow, hence he won the race.

For questions 19-20 complete the given sentences with the most appropriate choice

19. Would you rather walk _____ run?
A. than B. or
C. to D. not
20. Dinah prefers singing _____.
A. to taking part in drama.
B. for taking part in drama.
C. or taking part in drama.
D. and taking part in drama.

For question 21, change the given sentence into reported speech.

21. "I will inform you when I succeed," his brother told him.
- A. His brother told him that he would inform him when he succeeds.
 - B. His brother told him that he will inform him when he succeeds.
 - C. His brother said that he would inform you if he succeeds.
 - D. His brother told him that he would inform him when he succeeded.

For questions 22-23, select the sentence which is grammatically correct

22. A. The perfume she was wearing is very expensive.
B. The pupils were discussing about the Garissa attack.

- C. The parents entered inside the class.
- D. The recce squad reached Garissa at 5pm.

23. A. It's my lovely dog.
B. They did the work themselves.
C. Its going to be a very long journey
D. She herd him clearly

For questions 24 and 25, select the word that means the opposite of the underlined phrase

24. Njeri is a proud girl she looks down on her classmates.
- A. loves
 - B. ignores
 - C. despises
 - D. cares
25. The old man treads downhill gradually
- A. slowly
 - B. carefully
 - C. hurriedly
 - D. continuously

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 - 38.

John woke up early. He was frightened. He was normally not superstitious, but still he did not like dreams of the night. He dreamt of circumcision; he had just been initiated in the tribal manner. Somebody he could not tell his face came and led him because he took pity on him. They went, went into a strange land. Somehow he found himself alone. The somebody vanished. A ghost came. He recognised it as the ghost of the home he had left. It pulled him back; then another ghost came. It was the ghost of the land he had come to. It pulled him forward. **The two contested.**

Then came other ghosts from all sides and pulled him from all sides so that his body began to fall in pieces. The ghosts were **insubstantial**, he could not cling to any. Only that they were pulling him and he was becoming nothing. He was now standing a distance away. It had not been him but he was looking at the girl, the girl in the story. She had nowhere to go. He thought he would go to help her, he would show her the way. But as he went to her, he lost his way. He was alone, something destructive was coming towards him. He woke up. He was sweating all over.

Dreams about circumcision were not good. He dismissed the dream with a laugh. He opened the window only to find the whole country clouded in mist. It was perfect July weather in Limuru. The hills, ridges, valleys and plains that surround the village were lost in the mist. It looked such a strange place. But there was almost a magic fascination in it. Limuru was a land of contrast and evoked differing emotions at different times. Once, John would be fascinated and would yearn to touch the land, embrace it or just be on the grass. At another time, he would feel repelled by the dust, the mist, the sun and the rain. He might feel contented to live here. At least he thought he would never like to die and be buried anywhere else but at Limuru.

But there was the human element whose vices and betrayal of other men embodied in the new ugly villages. The last night's incident rushed into his mind like a flood making him weak again. He got out of his blankets and went out. Today he would go to the shops. He was uneasy. An odd feeling was coming; that his relationship with his father was perhaps unnatural. But he dismissed the thought. Tonight would be the day of reckoning. He shuddered to think of it. It was unfortunate that this scar had come into his life at this time, when he was going to Makerere, and it would have brought him closer to his father.

26. From the passage, it is evident that when John woke up he was
- A. late
 - B. superstitious
 - C. annoyed
 - D. anxious.

25. It is important to maintain peace in the society **mainly** because it
- promotes economic development
 - helps us to develop respect for others
 - makes people to move freely without fear
 - makes many visitors to come into the country
26. In which one of the following cases are people **least** likely to practice direct democracy?
- Parents and teachers' meeting
 - People meeting in a chief's baraza
 - Villagers holding a public meeting
 - Members of parliament holding discussion in the house
27. The **most** fascinating feature in Maasai Mara game reserve in Kenya is
- the big five
 - the crocodile infested river Mara
 - the white Rhinos
 - migration of wildebeasts
28. Which of the following is **true** about fishing in Japan?
- Its mainly for domestic market
 - Marketing is done through cooperatives
 - Only marine fishing is carried out
 - Scientific fish breeding is not used
29. Which of the following economic activities is **least** carried out in savanna vegetation areas?
- Pastoralism
 - Tourism
 - Crop farming
 - Dairy farming
30. Who among the following people are from the same clan in the African traditional setting?
- Rita, her mother, her uncle
 - Nebo, his father, his grandfather
 - Collins, his mother, his father
 - Judy, her father, her grandmother
31. Which of the following components of the coat of arms represents our **readiness** to work together?
- Shield
 - Lions holding spears
 - Cock holding an axe
 - Harambee
32. Which of the following is **not** an import into Eastern Africa?
- Paper products
 - Agricultural products
 - Fertilizers
 - Electronics
33. The **main** reason for the migration of the Bantus from Congo was
- overpopulation
 - search for trade goods
 - internal conflicts
 - epidemics.
34. Which one of the following is the **main** reason why African countries have established regional trading blocs?
- To reduce the volume of imported goods
 - To increase the flow of goods among the countries
 - To reduce the cost of producing local goods
 - To enhance cultural and political understanding among the countries.
35. The following are contributions of horticultural farming to the economy of Kenya. Which one is **not**?
- Improvement of transport networks
 - Creation of more job opportunities
 - More importation of agricultural goods
 - Improved standards of living
36. Which one of the following was a result of the coming of the Arabs along the coast?
- Establishment of towns along the coast
 - Growth of the Swahili culture
 - Colonization of the region
 - Introduction of new crops in the region
37. Which of the following is **not** a service industry?
- Plastic making
 - Printing
 - Transport
 - Dry cleaning
38. Who among the following is a citizen by descent?
- Brown, a Canadian who has lived in Kenya for six years
 - Donalisa, who was born in Kenya
 - Zedi, who is 6 years and his country of origin is unknown
 - George, a Briton who has applied to be a Kenyan citizen
39. Which statement below **best** explains why Changanwe oil refinery is located at Mombasa?
- Availability of large amount of water
 - Presence of market
 - Nearness to raw materials
 - Its strategic location near the coastline.
40. The **main** reason why members of KADU joined the government of Jomo Kenyatta was to
- promote national unity
 - enable Kenya get independence immediately
 - enable Kenyatta to form the cabinet
 - increase the number of African members in the Legco
41. In the French policy of administration the head of a colony was called
- Minister for colonies
 - Governor general
 - Commandant
 - Lieutenant Governor
42. Wangari Maathai was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize **mainly** for
- promoting peace in Kenya
 - supporting environmental conservation

- C. creating many forest reserves
 fighting for the rights of women in Kenya
43. The following is a description of a river in Africa:
 - It is the largest in Southern Africa.
 - It rises from the plateau.
 - It has a tributary called Shire.
 The river described above is
 A. River Limpopo B. River Orange
 C. River Congo D. River Zambezi
44. Which of the statements below is **true** of Leopold Senghor?
 A. He led a military struggle against the French
 B. He used his poems and writings to promote assimilation
 C. He represented the Senegalese in the French parliament
 D. He was overthrown by the army.
45. Which of the following crops are **mainly** grown in plantations in Kenya?
 A. Sugarcane and cassava
 B. Maize and wheat
 C. Beans and rice
 D. Wheat and sisal
46. Which one of the following European countries is **correctly** matched with the country it ruled during the colonial period?
 A. Belgium - Nigeria
 B. French - Uganda
 C. Britain - Ethiopia
 D. Portugal - Guinea Bissau
47. All the following were contributions of Julius Nyerere **except**
 A. he promoted African socialism
 B. he supported African struggle for independence
 C. he introduced free and compulsory education
 D. he was the first president to retire voluntarily.
48. The **main** problem facing major capital cities in Eastern Africa is
 A. traffic jams B. street families
 C. unemployment D. water shortage
49. Which of the following statement **does not** describe the San social and political organisation?
 A. They were organised in hunting bands
 B. They were ruled by chiefs
 C. Decision was by consensus
 D. They practiced direct democracy
50. Three of the following trees are indigenous. Which one is **not**?
 A. Spruce B. Camphor
 C. Teak D. Mahogany
51. The **best** way of preventing soil erosion is by
 A. constructing terraces
 B. planting cover crops
 C. constructing gabions
 D. use of cut-off drains
52. Which of the following is **likely** to result in negative population growth in a country?
 A. Immigration B. Polygamy
 C. Early marriage D. Emigration
53. The following are facts about an aspect of school:
 - Helps the school community to know what is expected of them.
 - Tells more about the traditions of the school.
 - Helps in building the character of learners.
 The above describes the
 A. school administration B. school motto
 C. school routine D. school committee.
54. Which of the following statements is **true** of both civil and Christian marriage?
 A. Both are conducted by a religious leader
 B. In both no certificate is issued
 C. Both allow divorce
 D. Both are strictly monogamous.
55. Which of the following is **not** an example of collective responsibility?
 A. Participating in community projects
 B. Contributing money to give to electorates
 C. Participating in community policing
 D. Obeying laws of the land
56. Democracy guarantees development in all parts of the country because
 A. people are encouraged to vote regularly
 B. people learn to be patriotic
 C. people ensure fair distribution of resources
 D. people join political parties of their choice.
57. Police officers are present in chiefs barazas **mainly** to
 A. provide security to the government officers
 B. prevent illegal entry into the area
 C. arrest the law breakers in the event
 D. control the behaviour of the attendants
58. Which of the following is **not** a function of the judiciary?
 A. Upholding the constitution.
 B. Presiding over civil cases.
 C. Managing all state departments.
 D. Administering justice.
59. Which of the following is the **main** source of revenue for the county government?
 A. Income tax
 B. Grants from the national government
 C. Trade licences
 D. Property rates

27. Why do you think the writer dreamt of circumcision?
 A. He had just been initiated.
 B. He feared the whole ordeal.
 C. He was worried of the tribe.
 D. The memories of circumcision were fresh in his mind.
28. Who took pity on the writer and led him to a strange land?
 A. A fellow initiate.
 B. A strange man.
 C. A mysterious man.
 D. An anonymous fellow.
29. In the strange land, the writer
 A. had a lot of fun
 B. encountered scary ghosts
 C. met with familiar ghosts
 D. encountered vanishing creatures.
30. The phrase "**the two contested**" as used in the passage means that
 A. the ghosts were fighting over him
 B. the writer preferred the earlier ghost
 C. the writer was in a contest
 D. the two ghosts fought.
31. The state of the writer according to the third paragraph can be described as
 A. mysterious B. frightful
 C. awkward D. adamant
32. From the third paragraph, we learn that
 A. John was having a nightmare
 B. John was daydreaming
 C. John had not taken breakfast previously
 D. John was captured by ghosts.
33. John lost his way as he
 A. fought with the deadly ghosts
 B. tried to find his way to aid the girl.
 C. approached the girl to show her the way
 D. was left alone with the girl.
34. Dreams about circumcision according to the writer were
 A. regarded B. adored
 C. frightening D. fascinating
35. The land that morning covered in mist was almost a magic fascination means
 A. the land could perform magics
 B. the land was all invisible
 C. the mist brought with it some wonder and awe
 D. the ridges and hills were submerged
36. The writer would have wished to be buried in Limuru although
 A. he didn't like the recent human behaviour
 B. he was abit content living there
 C. he didn't like the bad weather
 D. he loved the indifference of the town.
37. Which of the following words can **best** replace the word **insubstantial** as used in the passage?
 A. Real B. Imaginary
 C. Formless D. Weak.
38. The **best** title for this passage would be:
 A. A meeting with the father
 B. John's predicaments
 C. A strange feeling
 D. A night of nightmares

Read the passage below and answer questions 39 - 50.

Since the beginning of time, people have made sense of the world by telling stories. Story telling has been the way to shape experience, give it a meaning, explain and record events. Around fires, cooking pots and tables, communities have gathered for centuries to keep alive the collective memories, legends, myths and heroic adventures of their people.

The story teller's calling was a sacred art-the power of narrating was closely linked to magic. Stories were sung and acted out, or recited to the accompaniment of music or drumming. The story teller was a highly skilled person-he had to entertain his audience, keep their attention, create suspense, as well as preserve traditions and weave a magic spell. The relation of the narrator to his audience was of prime importance.

When stories were written down for the first time, they became hardened into a set form. The speaker and the audience disappeared, becoming the author and reader and the written text became the focus. The whole drama of story telling became solitary, often silent act of one individual. The **epic**-long poetic form about the adventures of a hero- stiffened into prose, later the novel, while songs, ballards and rhymes accompanied by music and drums, became what we now call poetry. In all cultures where writing appeared later, the oral

tradition still favours the written word. The story teller is still alive and the audience still a communal ear.

In Africa particularly, literature is an exciting and ever-changing discipline. Many writers try to keep an oral flavour in their writing. Instead of imitating a western style, they borrow some elements of African traditions of narrations. As readers, then we are asked not to simply read, analyse and critique the stories but to respect the calling of the ancient story teller, to listen and participate in the act of story telling.

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39. According to the first sentence
- A. story telling shapes experience
 - B. story telling explains record of events
 - C. people have made sense since beggining
 - D. through story telling man has made sense of the world
40. From the passage, the art of story telling does the following apart from
- A. shaping experience
 - B. explaining events
 - C. sharing experience
 - D. recording events.
41. Which one of the following is not part of collective African communities memories?
- A. Story telling
 - B. Fables
 - C. Myths
 - D. Legends
42. The phrase "**the story teller's calling was a sacred art**" means
- A. the power of narrating was closely linked to magic
 - B. a story teller was always connected to superstitions
 - C. a story teller had to be holy and religious
 - D. one had to be a magician in order to be a story teller.
43. In African tradition, stories were passed to the audience through the following ways **except**
- A. acting
 - B. singing
 - C. recitation
 - D. dreams.
44. Which one of the following does not explain the role of a story teller?
- A. Entertainment.
 - B. Stimulating attention.
 - C. Pleasing the ancestors.
 - D. Sustaining interest.
45. Which one of the following is a way of preserving culture?
- A. Story telling
 - B. Weaving a magic spell
 - C. Creating suspense
 - D. Entertaining the audience.
46. The word "**epic**" has been underlined. As used in the passage it means
- A. a long poetic form on certain myths.
 - B. the disappearance of the audience
 - C. the preserved culture of communities
 - D. the long poetic form about a legend.
47. Why do you think the whole drama of story telling became solitary and silent act of one individual?
- A. Emergency of the author
 - B. Disappearance of the audience
 - C. When stories were written down
 - D. Erosion of the preserved culture.
48. African literature is an exciting and ever changing discipline because of
- A. imitating the western culture
 - B. listening and participating in story telling
 - C. retaining oral flavour and elements of African traditions
 - D. constant critique of the story teller.
49. The writer advises readers to
- A. respect the calling of the ancient story teller
 - B. retain some elements of African traditions
 - C. stop imitating the western style
 - D. maintain the oral flavour of story telling.
50. The most suitable title for this passage is:
- A. Africa traditions
 - B. Oral narratives
 - C. Evolution of story telling
 - D. Oral literature.