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THE WEST AFRICAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL  
GHANA

**Basic Education Certificate Examination**

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE 2&1  
ESSAY AND OBJECTIVE

2 hours

*Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so. While you are waiting, read and observe the following instructions carefully. Write your name and index number in ink in the spaces provided above.*

*This booklet consists of two papers. Answer Paper 2, which comes first, in your answer booklet and Paper 1, on your Objective Test answer sheet. Paper 2 will last 1 hour 15 minutes after which the answer booklet will be collected. Do not start Paper 1 until you are told to do so. Paper 1 will last 45 minutes.*



- (c) Why didn't the narrator agree to Lugu's suggestion?
- (d) "Until the unexpected happened"  
What do you think happened?
- (e) Explain in your own words the following expressions as used in the passage:  
 (i) *be as good as my words;*  
 (ii) *in search of greener pastures;*  
 (iii) *the best part of a year.*
- (f) For each of the following words, give another word or phrase that means the same and can fit into the passage:  
 (i) promptly;  
 (ii) stewardship;  
 (iii) burgle;  
 (iv) substantially.
- (g) In two sentences of not more than ten words each,  
 (i) summarize a lesson the narrator learnt based on the last paragraph;  
 (ii) give a suitable title to the passage.

PART C  
LITERATURE

[10 marks]

*Answer all the questions in this part.*

SACEY J. A. and DARMANI L.(COMP.): *The Cockcrow*

5. Read the following extract carefully and answer Questions 5(a), 5(b) and 5(c).

AMAATAA AIDOO: *The Dilemma of a Ghost*

Nama: Yes, I am sitting here. So you thought I was dead?

No, I am not. Go home, good neighbours and

save your tears for my funeral. It cannot be long now ...

- (a) Who are the *good neighbours*?
- (b) *It cannot be long now*  
Why does Nama think she will die soon?
- (c) Nama is in a/an \_\_\_\_\_ mood.

Read the following extract carefully and answer Questions 5(d) and 5(e).

KOBENA EYI ACQUAH: *A Wreath of Tears*

Your funeral  
was so quiet, and small-  
almost too small, it is said  
for a man your stature

You must  
Have preferred it that way

- (d) This poem is an example of a/an .....
- (e) *You must*  
*Have preferred it that way*  
The above lines show that the dead person was .....

Read the following extract carefully and answer Questions 5(f) and (g).

EVELYN TOOLEY HUNT: *Mama is a Sunrise*

When she comes slip-footing through the door,  
she kindles us  
like lump coal lighted  
and we wake up glowing.  
She puts a spark even in Papa's eyes  
and turns out all our darkness.

- (f) The literary device in *turns out all our darkness* is .....
- (g) *Mama is a Sunrise* is an example of which literary device?

Read the following extract carefully and answer Questions 5(h), 5(i) and 5(j).

ERNEST HEMMINGWAY: *A Day's Wait*

I thought perhaps he was a little light-headed  
and after giving him the prescribed capsules  
at eleven o'clock, I went out for a while.

- (h) One thing that made Schatz's father think the boy was a little light-headed is .....
- (i) What exactly did the writer do when he "went out for a while"?
- (j) How did Schatz feel at the end of the story?

**END OF ESSAY TEST**



**Answer all the questions.**

**Each question is followed by four options lettered A to D. Find the correct option for each question and shade in pencil on your answer sheet, the space which bears the same letter as the option you have chosen. Give only one answer to each question. An example is given below.**

**From the options A to D, choose the one which most suitably completes the following sentence.**

It is still dark and therefore not ... to go out alone.

- A. safe
- B. safely
- C. safety
- D. save

**The correct answer is safe, which is lettered A and therefore answer space A would be shaded.**

A  B  C  D  E

**Be sure you understand the instructions at the beginning of each section before you try to answer any of the questions that follow them.**

**Do not spend too much time on a question. If you find a question difficult, leave it and go on to the next one, then come and try it again later.**

**Use pencil throughout. If you wish to change an answer, erase your first answer completely and shade the appropriate space for the new answer.**

**Do all rough work in this paper.**

**Now answer the following questions**

**PART A  
LEXIS AND STRUCTURE**

**SECTION A**

**Choose from the options A to D, the one which most suitably completes each sentence.**

1. Our dog ..... barking since the stranger entered the house.
  - A. has been
  - B. is
  - C. was
  - D. would be
  
2. Enrolment has increased ..... the new classroom was built.
  - A. since
  - B. until
  - C. when
  - D. while

3. To ..... did you deliver the message?
- A. who
  - B. whoever
  - C. whom
  - D. whomever
4. Put the books on the shelf, .....?
- A. do you
  - B. have you
  - C. will you
  - D. may you
5. Amira prepared a delicious meal for her .....
- A. sisters-in-law
  - B. sister's-in-law
  - C. sisters-in-laws
  - D. sisters'-in-laws
6. We always ..... the lights before going to bed.
- A. off
  - B. put off
  - C. put out
  - D. out
7. We saw ..... people in the room.
- A. a little
  - B. much
  - C. plenty
  - D. many
8. The laptop is ..... than the other two.
- A. expensive more rather
  - B. expensive rather more
  - C. more expensive rather
  - D. rather more expensive

9. Their gardener was ..... old to work.
- A. even
  - B. so
  - C. too
  - D. very
10. The coach advised the two players to cooperate with .....
- A. each other
  - B. each one
  - C. ourselves
  - D. themselves
11. If it rained, the farmer ..... his seeds.
- A. will have sowed
  - B. will sow
  - C. would have sowed
  - D. would sow
12. Although there were ten beautiful bags in the shop, Sandra liked ..... of them.
- A. both
  - B. each
  - C. neither
  - D. none
13. Selfish people always consider ..... first.
- A. herself
  - B. myself
  - C. ourselves
  - D. themselves

From the options A to D, the correct reported speech for the sentence in Question 14 below is:

14. Amarh asked Tettey, "did you see the new student yesterday?"  
Amarh asked Tettey .....
- A. did he see the new student the previous day
  - B. whether he saw the new student yesterday
  - C. if he had seen the new student the previous day
  - D. if he had seen the new student yesterday

From the options A to D, the correct passive form of the sentence in Question 15 below is:

15. Had they completed the project before the deadline?  
..... the project been completed by them before the deadline?
- A. Were
  - B. Has
  - C. Had
  - D. Was

#### SECTION B

Choose from the options A to D, the one which is nearest in meaning to the underlined word in each sentence.

16. His dubious attitude has made him lose all his good friends.
- A. deceitful
  - B. disrespectful
  - C. untrue
  - D. unforgiving
17. The boy's account of the incident was elaborate.
- A. clear.
  - B. detailed.
  - C. interesting.
  - D. realistic.
18. Nobody paid any attention to the workers' demands.
- A. agitations.
  - B. complaints.
  - C. objections.
  - D. requests.

19. It was forecast that there would be thunderstorm in the evening.
- A. broadcast
  - B. calculated
  - C. observed
  - D. predicted
20. Paul purposely left the door open.
- A. carelessly
  - B. hurriedly
  - C. intentionally
  - D. occasionally

## SECTION C

*In each of the following sentences, a group of words has been underlined. Choose from the options A to D, the one that best explains the underlined group of words.*

21. On seeing the angry mob approaching the school, our school prefect told us to take to our heels. This means that the prefect told us to .....
- A. hurry up
  - B. join them
  - C. run away
  - D. walk gracefully
22. The two boys have often been at loggerheads with each other. This means that they .....
- A. are usually seen walking together
  - B. have often exchanged ideas
  - C. have often had strong disagreements
  - D. usually have the same views on issues
23. I learnt to paddle my own canoe. This means that I .....
- A. am independent and need no help from others
  - B. do not interfere in other people's matters
  - C. have no help in my fishing business
  - D. work hard to feed myself and my family

24. She tried to throw dust in our eyes. This means that she tried to .....
- A. cheat us
  - B. deceive us
  - C. fight us
  - D. make us blind
25. Aminu is full of himself. This means that Aminu is .....
- A. arrogant
  - B. dangerous
  - C. greedy
  - D. quarrelsome

## SECTION D

*Choose from the options A to D, the one that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the underlined word to fill the gap in each sentence.*

26. He loves taking hasty decisions so he never makes ..... moves.
- A. calculated
  - B. smart
  - C. delayed
  - D. final
27. Though we expected ....., the judge handled the case with partiality.
- A. fairness
  - B. happiness
  - C. patience
  - D. seriousness
28. The Policeman was reported to have concealed the evidence, but ..... it to the Jury.
- A. disclosed
  - B. gathered
  - C. found
  - D. planted

29. The minister publicly rebukes his assistant and always ..... his secretary.
- A. advises  
B. commends  
C. embraces  
D. harasses
30. Those children think their uncle is miserly yet he is ..... to strangers.
- A. friendly  
B. generous  
C. strict  
D. wicked

## SECTION E

*In the following passage, the numbered gaps indicate missing words. Against each number in the list below the passage are four options arranged in columns lettered A to D. For each numbered gap, choose from the options provided, the word that is most suitable.*

Akuba was trained as an accountant. After graduation, she went out to -31- employment. She visited several firms but was -32- in securing a job. Afiba, her friend, finally advised her to read the newspapers for -33- of vacant positions. Fortunately, a reputable company was looking for a -34- accountant who was -35- in financial reporting. Akuba immediately submitted her application, attended an interview and within a week, she received an appointment letter. Her patience and perseverance had finally paid off.

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
31.	seek	request	search	look
32.	unlucky	disappointed	unfortunate	unsuccessful
33.	advertisements	announcements	information	notices
34.	professional	certified	skilled	responsible
35.	proficient	specialized	knowledgeable	competent

13  
PART B  
ORAL LANGUAGE

[UNIT I]

Choose from the options A to D, the one which has the same initial consonant sound as the word underlined in the sentences below.

36. She received a beautiful psalm.

- A. shall
- B. palm
- C. sand
- D. page

37. The car sped around the curve.

- A. chain
- B. cell
- C. ciao
- D. colonel

38. We won the game easily.

- A. giant
- B. general
- C. gentle
- D. goat

[UNIT II]

Choose from the options A to D, the one which has the same vowel sound as the word unc in the sentences below.

39. The city grew quieter with each passing hour.

- A. bowl
- B. your
- C. tour
- D. owl

40. The queue moved slowly, yet no one seemed to mind.

- A. fee
- B. cool
- C. quest
- D. few

**END OF PAPER**