



ZIMBABWE SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

GRADE SEVEN EXAMINATION, SPECIMEN.

ENGLISH
PAPER 1

701/01

SPECIMEN PAPER

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Read **all** the instructions carefully.
2. Do **not** open this booklet until you are told to do so by the invigilator.
3. Use **only** an **HB** pencil for all entries on the answer sheet.
4. When you are told to start, choose **one** correct answer from the suggested answers and shade it **very dark** as shown in the examples at the top of the answer sheet.
5. If you wish to change your answer, **erase it completely** with a pencil rubber and then shade the new choice.
6. If **more** than **one** lozenge is shaded for any one answer, that answer will be regarded as wrong.
7. Answer **all** the questions on the separate answer sheet provided.
8. If **you do not understand** the instructions, **ask** the invigilator to explain them to you **before you start**.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Each question carries one mark

This question paper comprises 9 printed pages and 3 blank pages.

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READ THE PASSAGE BELOW AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW.

Fishing

Most people who live along the Shangani River earn a living from fishing. In those areas, fishing is a trade for both males and females.

Although the Shangani River is infested with crocodiles, the people still fish in the river day in and day out. Some use fishing rods while others use nets. Men are the ones who normally use fishing rods while the majority of women and children use nets.

Busongo, a boy in Graded Seven at Ndangabavi Primary School, also joins other school children during weekends at the river. For Busongo, fishing has become both a hobby and a source of employment. Apart from doing it for enjoyment, he goes fishing to increase the family's income. His father is crippled and fends for the family by weaving mats made from baobab tree barks. Busongo's mother displays the mats along the road where they are mainly bought by tourists.

Apart from locals poisoning the fish, the river has been polluted by gold panners in the area. Fish, cattle and other livestock are dying from drinking the contaminated water.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Who fish in the Shangani River?
 - A. males and children
 - B. females and children
 - C. boys and girls
 - D. males and females
2. According to paragraph 2, why is the Shangani River dangerous?
 - A. There is a lot of water.
 - B. There are a lot of crocodiles.
 - C. The water is contaminated.
 - D. The river is deep and wide.
3. When does Busongo and other school children fish?
 - A. during weekends
 - B. everyday
 - C. after school
 - D. during the holidays
4. Busongo's father takes care of his family by
 - A. fishing in the river.
 - B. selling fish.
 - C. weaving mats.
 - D. selling fishing rods.

5. Busungo goes fishing for _____ reasons.
- A. five
 - B. two
 - C. three
 - D. four
6. Which **two words** in the passage mean *made dirty*?
- A. infested and contaminated
 - B. crippled and polluted
 - C. polluted and contaminated
 - D. polluted and infested

LANGUAGE QUESTIONS

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES.

7. The man was _____ by a crocodile.
- A. bitten
 - B. beat
 - C. bit
 - D. beaten
8. _____ of the fishermen is here today.
- A. Somebody
 - B. Nobody
 - C. Everybody
 - D. None
9. It looks as _____ the Shangani River is in flood.
- A. like
 - B. through
 - C. much
 - D. though
10. Busungo _____ a fishing rod from his friend since he had lost his.
- A. lent
 - B. borrowed
 - C. learnt
 - D. rent

11. Busongo has gone fishing, but his friend
- A. didn't.
 - B. isn't.
 - C. hasn't.
 - D. can't.
12. The women washed _____ nets after fishing.
- A. they're
 - B. their
 - C. there
 - D. they
- 13 Which collection of nouns has an odd one out?
- A. tiger, bream, shark,
 - B. cattle, goats, ship
 - C. miners, engineers, electricians
 - D. crocodiles, lizards, snakes

READ THE PASSAGE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW.

Mpho's Journey

Mpho got off the taxi in Soweto. He looked around him. He wondered if he was going to succeed in his mission to search for his father. There were a lot of people selling food. Near where he stood, a woman was selling apples, oranges and bananas. Each fruit cost one rand.

A little further away, there was a cart with sausages sizzling on a fire. They smelled very good to Mpho, but he thought he had to keep his money and eat what he had.

He put his parcels on the ground and sat down next to them. He took out a tin of sardines from his satchel and opened it with his knife. Opening the tin was harder than he had thought, so he had to give the job all his concentration.

Suddenly, Mpho heard a noise. Someone shouted, "Stop, thief!" There was the sound of running feet. Mpho looked up and saw a tall, handsome man running fast into the crowd. He then looked down and saw that the bundle with his precious blanket was missing. "My blanket," he gasped. "That man has stolen my blanket!"

Adapted from: Mpho's Search, by Sandra Braude, 1994, College Press.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

14. Why did Mpho go to Soweto?
- A. to sell food
 - B. to sell fruits
 - C. just to enjoy riding on a taxi
 - D. to search for his father
15. Why did Mpho not buy sausages?
- A. He did not like sausages.
 - B. They smelled very bad.
 - C. He wanted to save money.
 - D. Mpho had no money.
16. Where was the fire?
- A. next to Mpho
 - B. far away from the cart
 - C. on the cart
 - D. next to the cart
17. Mpho did not see the thief approaching because he was concentrating on
- A. opening the tin.
 - B. watching the crowd.
 - C. looking for a knife.
 - D. eating the sardines.
18. Who was the 'tall handsome man'?
- A. Mpho
 - B. the man who had shouted, "Stop thief!"
 - C. the thief
 - D. his father
19. What was the most important thing the thief stole from Mpho?
- A. a tin of sardines
 - B. his satchel
 - C. his blanket
 - D. his parcels
20. Which word shows that Mpho had all his mind on the opening of the tin?
- A. job
 - B. concentration
 - C. thought
 - D. harder

LANGUAGE QUESTIONS

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD TO COMPLETE EACH OF THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES.

21. Replace the underlined part of the following sentence with the most appropriate word that has the same meaning.

The angry group of people chased and caught the thief that had stolen Mpho's blanket.

- A. crowd
- B. murderers
- C. mob
- D. vendors

22. Mpho ate the sardines _____

- A. hungry.
- B. hungrier.
- C. hungrily.
- D. hunger.

23. The thief was asked to pay a _____ for stealing the blanket.

- A. find
- B. fine
- C. fee
- D. fare

24. The thief ran very fast, _____

- A. isn't it?
- B. wasn't he?
- C. didn't he?
- D. was he?

25. Which of the following sentences is correctly punctuated?

- A. After getting off the taxi in Soweto Mpho first looked around.
- B. After getting off the taxi in Soweto, Mpho first looked around.
- C. After getting off the taxi, in Soweto Mpho first looked around.
- D. After getting off the taxi in Soweto; Mpho first looked around.

26. Which of the following sentences has the correct word order?

- A. What was in Mpho's bundle the thief knew.
- B. Mpho's bundle the thief knew what was in.
- C. Knew the thief what was in Mpho's bundle.
- D. The thief knew what was in Mpho's bundle.

READ THE PASSAGE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW.**The Feast**

The aroma from the boiling meat could be smelt a kilometre away. There were five drums of meat and ten huge pots of samp, simmering on the fire. The women were hurrying up and down the compound preparing food, sweeping and decorating the yard. Some men could be seen chopping firewood, while others were drinking beer in the shade of the tree.

As the morning wore on, groups of people started arriving at the compound. They came in their numbers to celebrate the installation of their chief. Everyone was smartly dressed and in a jovial mood. The long awaited moment had finally come. The villagers had not had a chief for five years.

The food was served in large bowls set up in front of groups of people. The people ate and drank until they were full. Small children could be seen running around, carrying big chunks of meat. In the late afternoon, the beer drinkers were very drunk. They started singing and dancing.

Towards nightfall, women could be seen carrying dishes, leading their children back to their homes. The men continued with their drinking well into the night. It was a great day indeed for the people and they talked about it for days.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

27. What were the women doing at the chief's compound?
- A. chopping the firewood
 - B. drinking beer
 - C. doing some domestic duties
 - D. singing and dancing
28. 'They came in their numbers,' means there were _____ people.
- A. many
 - B. a few
 - C. hardly any
 - D. all
29. According to the passage, the people were celebrating
- A. the women's cooking.
 - B. the intoxicating beer.
 - C. their arrival at the compound.
 - D. their chief's installation.

30. The people started singing and dancing because they
- A. had liked the beer.
 - B. had eaten lots of food.
 - C. were drunk.
 - D. had had large bowls.
31. According to the passage, how long did the celebrations last?
- A. until sunset
 - B. continued well into the night
 - C. for days
 - D. until late afternoon
32. Which sentence in the passage shows that people had enough to eat and drink?
- A. 'They ate and drank until they were full.'
 - B. 'They came in their numbers.'
 - C. 'The food was served in large bowls.'
 - D. 'There were five drums of meat.'
33. Which of the following best summarises the idea in paragraph 1?
- A. The sweet smell of the food
 - B. Women at work
 - C. Men at work
 - D. Preparations for the chief's installation

LANGUAGE QUESTIONS

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES.

34. The aroma from the boiling meat _____ in the air as we approached the kitchen.
- A. hanged
 - B. hang
 - C. hung
 - D. hanging
35. The villagers were happy to have a chief. They had not had one for five years. When these sentences are joined into one sentence it becomes:
- A. The villagers were happy to have a chief, they had not had one for five years.
 - B. The villagers who had not had one for five years were happy to have a chief.
 - C. The villagers who had not had a chief for five years were happy to have one.
 - D. They had not had one for five years, the villagers were happy to have a chief.

36. The bowls of meat were put _____ front of the people.
- A. on
 - B. in
 - C. at
 - D. by
37. The news about the party was _____ with great joy.
- A. received
 - B. recieved
 - C. reicived
 - D. riceived
38. Some women were cooking _____ others were sweeping the yard.
- A. before
 - B. until
 - C. after
 - D. while
39. The villagers sang and danced as their chief _____
- A. passed on.
 - B. passed away.
 - C. passed by.
 - D. passed down.
40. "Yesterday's celebrations were a great success," one of the villagers commented. When this sentence is changed to reported speech, this becomes:
- A. One of the villagers commented that "Yesterday's celebrations were a great success."
 - B. One of the villagers commented that yesterday's celebrations were a great success.
 - C. One of the villagers commented that yesterday's celebrations had been a great success.
 - D. One of the villagers commented that the previous day's celebrations had been a great success.

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