



GRADE 8 English

SECTION: A TASK 1: READING COMPREHENSION

Read the story below and answer questions 1 - 5.

Eliud let out an irritating laughter at the back of the classroom. It was not funny at all but his classmates laughed too. This really irked Mr. Katana. The class was right in the middle¹ of an English lesson. Everyone paused and stared at him. "What are you laughing at, young man?" Mr. Katana asked angrily. "Nothing," responded Eliud. "Did you just say nothing? Are you insane or something?" blurted Mr. Katana. Mr. Katana was just defining what a noun is before Eliud stopped all progress. "Are you laughing at my bald head, heh" continued Mt. Katana still boiling with rage. "I wasn't laughing at that," Eliud replied. He knew that his teacher of English would teach him a lesson if he did not tell the truth. "Anyway, back to the topic of the day. Eliud be silent but follow me to the office after the lesson." Now, Eliud realised he was in for trouble and only wished the teacher would comprehend his reason for laughing.

1. Why do you think Eliud laughed? (2mks)

2. What made Mr. Katana more irritated? (2mks)

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

4. What could have made Eliud laugh according to Mr. Katana? (2mks)

5. Why did Mr. Katana tell Eliud to follow him to the office after the English lesson? (2mks)

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

Matthew is a student at Jeju Junior School. He was known to be an early bird and this was evident in his performance. He exceeded expectation in all the learning areas. One day, he left the dormitory very early in the morning. He was neatly dressed in his uniform and looked forward to a great day ahead. He was committed to learning new ideas and had pioneered in the building of a modern greenhouse in school. During an agriculture project, Matthew suddenly fell sick. His face turned pale and his vision began to blur. He was about to black out when his teacher rose to the occasion. He was taken to the nurse who checked his pulse and temperature. The nurse prepared a glucose solution and gave Matthew to drink. He felt rejuvenated and requested to be allowed back to class. "Not, now, Matthew. We need to talk. It is obvious that you have overworked yourself," the nurse explained. The nurse recommended a long bed rest and thereafter advised him to be having enough rest every night.

2

6. What shows that Matthew was a bright student? (2mks)

7. Which achievement had Matthew achieved for his school? (2mks)

8. What is the meaning of the word 'rejuvenated' as used in the story? (2mks)

9. Why did the nurse recommend a long bed rest to Matthew? (2mks)

SECTION: B TASK 2: GRAMMAR (15 MARKS)

Fill in the blank spaces with the correct alternative given in brackets.

10. One of _____ pair of glasses belongs to my grandfather. (This, These)

11. _____ news about the floods is very disturbing. (This, These)

12. _____ geese laid a huge egg. (this, these)

Fill in the blank spaces with the correct form of the word given in brackets.

13. He dived into the pool and _____ across. (swim)

14. Have you been _____ enough water everyday. (drink)

15. My sister has _____ in bed due to a nasty cold. (lie)

16. I have _____ to the coach about the problem. (speak)

Fill in the blank spaces with the correct conjunction.

17. Kitonga has been our soccer captain _____ last year.
18. He would have harvested a lot _____ he had planted earlier.
19. Hardly had the day elapsed _____ the rain fell heavily.
20. You will become overweight _____ you stop eating junk food.

Fill in the blank spaces with the correct preposition that completes the phrasal verb.

21. Daniel was _____ by his grandmother since he was a child. (bring)
22. The governor's tour was _____ until further notice. (call)
23. They _____ that the suspect was innocent. (find)

3

Fill in the blank spaces with the correct form of the word given in brackets.

24. The player was _____ injured and he continued playing. (to some degree)
25. My mother _____ allows children to play with tap water. (at no time)

SECTION: C TASK 3: ORAL LITERATURE AND POETRY

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

One rainy season, excess rain caused floods everywhere. Many houses and livestock drowned in the floods.

Some people too were swept by the floods.

In one of the houses, there was a brass pot and a clay pot. Both these were washed away in the floods to a river. The brass pot called the clay pot and said, "My friend, you are made of soil. You are so weak and light.

Save yourself by coming near me."

The clay pot replied, "Thank you for your kindness, my friend. But let me swim across to the bank by myself." The clay pot began to swim towards the bank of the river.

As the brass pot tried to swim across, he was too heavy and water got filled into him making swimming impossible. Soon, he drowned. However, the clay pot reached the bank.

26. Which natural calamity befell the two pots? (1mk)

27. Why did the brass pot despise the clay pot? (2mks)

28. What type of a friend is the brass pot? (2mks)

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

SECTION: D

TASK 4: POEM

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

4

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

The river flows; it can't turn back,
From mountain high to plain so slack, Its course it finds
through twist and bend, Each turn, a lesson, to apprehend.

You cannot swim the same stream twice,
For waters change, as does the ice,
Adapt we must, with time's swift flow, Or sink and drown in
sorrow's woe.

Yet even rivers meet the sea,
Their journey ends, as will yours and me.
And when we reach that distant shore,
We'll know we've learned what life is for.

30. The poem you have read is about (1mk)

31. What does the poet mean by the line: 'You cannot swim the same river twice'? (1mk)

32. Rhyming words have been used in poem. Give any two pairs of rhyming words. (2mks)

33. How many stanzas are in this poem? (1mk)

SECTION: E CLASS READERS

Read the extract below and then answer the questions that follow

"Do you mean to say they are nearly impossible to obtain?" Chung Ling's brow furrowed as he inquired.

"Not impossible," the guide quickly defended himself. "In this country, anything is possible but everything comes at a cost. There are people tasked with protecting the animals. Those people will certainly be more expensive, especially their leaders. I am sure Mugeni will brief you," the guide added.

34. Who are the main characters in the extract? (2mks)

5

35. What did the guide expose about the country in the extract? (2mks)

36. According to the extract, animals are protected from (1mk)

SECTION: F COMPOSITION

Write an interesting composition beginning with the following words.

It was about to rain and I was still far away from home _____

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

English

Answers

1. 1. Something amusing or distracting at the back of the classroom.
2. Eliud saying he was laughing at "nothing."
3. Extreme anger.
4. Mr. Katana's bald head.
5. To discipline him or address his misbehavior privately.
2. 1. He exceeded expectation in all learning areas.
2. He pioneered in building a modern greenhouse.
3. Regained strength and felt better.
4. Because he had overworked himself.
3. 1. This
2. This
3. These
4. 1. He dived into the pool and **swam** across.
2. Have you been **drinking** enough water every day?
3. My sister has **lain** in bed due to a nasty cold.
4. I have **spoken** to the coach about the problem.
5. 1. Kitonga has been our soccer captain **since** last year.
2. He would have harvested a lot **if** he had planted earlier.
3. Hardly had the day elapsed **when** the rain fell heavily.
4. You will become overweight **unless** you stop eating junk food.
6. 1. Daniel was **brought up** by his grandmother since he was a child.
2. The governor's tour was **called off** until further notice.
3. They **found out** that the suspect was innocent.
7. 1. The player was **slightly** injured and he continued playing.
2. My mother **never** allows children to play with tap water.
8. 1. Floods.
2. Because the clay pot was made of soil, which the brass pot considered weak and light.
3. A proud and boastful friend who underestimates others.

4. We should not despise others based on their appearance or perceived weakness; everyone has their own strengths.
9.
 1. Life's journey and the lessons learned along the way.
 2. Life keeps changing, and each moment is unique and cannot be experienced exactly the same way again.
34. back / slack
5. bend / apprehend
6. Three stanzas.
10.
 1. Chung Ling and the guide.
 2. That in the country, anything is possible if one is willing to pay the cost, implying corruption or bribery.
 3. People who might harm or exploit them.