



GRADE 9 ENGLISH PAPER 1

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION (25 MARKS)

Read the passage below and answer Questions 1–6.

The village of Greenfield had always been known for its lush gardens and friendly community. Every Saturday, the residents gathered at the central market to sell vegetables, fruits, and handmade items. For many, it was more than just a place of trade; it was a place to meet friends, share stories, and laugh together.

One particular Saturday, however, the market was unusually quiet. The news had spread that a large supermarket was opening just outside the village. Some villagers worried that their small businesses would collapse, while others felt hopeful about the new opportunities. The village elders called for a meeting to discuss how best to adapt to the coming changes.

1. Why was the Greenfield market important to the villagers?

- A. It was the only place they could buy imported goods.
- B. It was a centre for trade and social interaction.
- C. It was the biggest supermarket in the area.
- D. It was managed only by the elders.

2. What made the market unusually quiet one Saturday?

- A. The weather was bad.
- B. People were attending a festival.
- C. A new supermarket was opening nearby.
- D. The elders closed the market.

3. The word **collapse** as used in the passage is closest in meaning to:

- A. Grow stronger
- B. Go bust
- C. Stabilize
- D. Improve

4. Which group took responsibility for addressing the change?

- A. The children
- B. Traders only
- C. Customers
- D. The elders

5. From the passage, which statement is true?

- A. Everyone supported the opening of the supermarket.
- B. The villagers were divided in their opinions.
- C. The elders wanted the market to close.
- D. The village refused to meet.

6. Which of the following would be the best title for the passage?

- A. The Fall of the Greenfield Market
- B. The Opening of a New Supermarket
- C. The Village that Stopped Trading
- D. The Transformation of Greenfield Market

Read the passage below and answer Questions 7–11.

In the early days of the 20th century, travelling long distances required days or even weeks of preparation. Trains and ships were the most common means of transport. Families planning journeys packed large trunks, carried food, and prepared for unpredictable delays.

Today, however, modern air travel allows people to cross continents within hours with just a passport and boarding pass. Travellers can reach destinations that once seemed impossibly far away.

Despite the convenience, modern travel also has challenges. Delays at airports, security checks, and the high cost of tickets sometimes frustrate passengers. Moreover, environmental experts argue that air travel contributes significantly to global warming. While technology has made the world seem smaller, it has also raised new concerns for the future.

7. How did families prepare for travel in the early 20th century?

- A. By buying airline tickets in advance
- B. By packing food in large trunks
- C. By carrying passports only
- D. By using boarding passes

8. According to the passage, what advantage does air travel provide?

- A. It reduces security checks.
- B. It makes long journeys quicker.
- C. It makes tickets cheaper.
- D. It avoids all delays.

9. Which disadvantage of modern travel is mentioned?

- A. Travellers cannot cross continents.
- B. Airplanes take longer than ships.

C. Travellers cannot carry food.

D. Air travel contributes to climate change.

10. The phrase "**the world seems smaller**" means:

- A. Continents are moving closer.
- B. Distances feel shorter because of faster travel.
- C. The earth has reduced in size.
- D. People are travelling less often.

11. Which statement best summarizes the passage?

- A. Air travel is always the best option.
- B. Old methods of transport were better
- C. Modern travel is convenient but has challenges.
- D. Travelling in the past was comfortable.

Read the passage below and answer questions 12–16.

The school drama club had been preparing for months for their annual play. The theme chosen this year was **Unity in Diversity**. Students from different cultural backgrounds contributed unique ideas, songs, and dances to enrich their performance. Teachers supported them by providing costumes and training sessions after school.

On the day of the performance, the hall was filled to capacity. Parents, teachers, and fellow students applauded loudly as the actors delivered their lines with confidence. The highlight of the evening was a powerful poem recited by Amina, reminding everyone that differences should not divide people but bring them together.

The play ended with a standing ovation, and the head teacher praised the students for their creativity and teamwork.

12. What was the theme of the school play?

- A. Teamwork in Sports
- B. Respect for Elders
- C. Education for All
- D. Unity in Diversity

13. How did the students prepare for the play?

- A. By practising during lessons only
- B. By bringing costumes from home
- C. By contributing cultural ideas and rehearsing after school
- D. By reading poems silently

14. The phrase "**filled to capacity**" means:

- A. There were a few empty seats.
- B. The hall was completely full.

- C. The hall was under construction.
- D. The hall was too small to use.

15. Which part of the play had the greatest impact?

- A. The opening song
- B. The teacher's speech
- C. Amina's poem
- D. The costumes

16. Why did the head teacher praise the students?

- A. For arriving on time
- B. For inviting parents
- C. For winning a competition
- D. For their creativity and teamwork

Read the information below and answer Questions 17–20.

Five learners from Silver Springs School were asked about their favourite subjects. Alice liked Mathematics and English. Brian enjoyed History and Biology. Carol liked English and Biology. David preferred Mathematics and Business Studies. Esther liked History and English.

17. Which two learners shared a subject?

- A. Alice and Carol
- B. Brian and Esther
- C. Brian and David
- D. Carol and Esther

18. Which subject was liked by the highest number of learners?

- A. Mathematics
- B. English
- C. Biology
- D. History

19. Which subject was chosen by only one learner?

- A. Business Studies
- B. Biology
- C. History
- D. English

20. Which career best suits David?

- A. Doctor
- B. Lawyer
- C. Engineer
- D. Accountant

Read the telephone conversation below and answer Questions 21–23.

JOAN: Hello Meshack, how are you?

MESHACK: Hi Joan! I am fine, thanks. And you?

JOAN: 21. _____. I was just thinking about our CAS project.

MESHACK: Oh yes, the one on Kenyan folksongs.

JOAN: I was wondering 22. _____.

MESHACK: That is a great idea. I can meet you any time on Friday after school.

JOAN: Perfect! What time can we meet?

MESHACK: 23. _____.

JOAN: Sounds good! See you then.

21.

- A. I am very fine.
- B. I'm okay.
- C. I am fine, thank you.
- D. I feel great today.

22.

- A. if you will help me with it.
- B. if we could work on it together.
- C. whether we should work on it.
- D. if we could meet to discuss it.

23.

- A. I shall call you on Friday.
- B. What time can we meet?
- C. How about we meet in the library at 4 p.m.?
- D. Where should we meet tomorrow?

24. A shopkeeper gives you less change than expected. Which polite response would you use?

- A. You gave me the wrong money.
- B. Give me back my money.
- C. You cheated me!
- D. Excuse me, I think there is a mistake in my change.

25. Your neighbour is playing loud music while you are studying. Which statement is polite?

- A. Stop that noise immediately.
- B. Why are you so noisy?
- C. Would you kindly reduce the volume of your music?
- D. This is very annoying.

SECTION B: GRAMMAR (25 MARKS)

Read the passage below and fill each blank with the most suitable word to fill in question 26 to 35

Camels are _____ (26) friendly animals that can withstand extremely difficult conditions. These are _____ (27) qualities for a beast of burden that is _____ (28) in hostile regions. The regions _____ (29) from boiling arid deserts to freezing mountain country.

The _____ (30) body is covered _____ (31) soft fine woolly hair. This hair is usually dark brown or yellowish-brown in colour from which high-quality _____ (32) is made.

The flesh and milk of the camel _____ (33) food and drink for people who keep _____ (34) animals. The camel's hump is composed of fat which is used by the animal _____ (35) it cannot find enough food.

Choose the best answer that suits the questions 36 to 50

36. Food is **abundant** in some parts of the country.

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| A. Scarce | B. Many |
| C. Plentiful | D. Bumper |

37. The mansion has been **vacant** for some time.

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| A. Abandoned | B. Empty |
| C. Lonely | D. Rejected |

38. Onyango's cows were attacked by a _____ of wolves.

- A. Herd
B. Pack
C. Swarm
D. Group

39. The match will _____ at 2 p.m. today.

- A. Kick up
B. Start out
C. Start up
D. Kick off

40. The inferno was finally _____ after a couple of hours.

- A. Put out
B. Put off
C. Brought down
D. Brought off

41. Choose the correctly punctuated sentence.

- A. Hush. You will wake up the baby.
B. What an interesting story that was?
C. It's not fair for him to be locked out of the house.
D. You don't have to shout. Don't you?

42. Choose the best alternative.

We believe either Kaburia _____.

- A. or Kibaara milked the cow.
B. and Kibaara milked the cow.
C. nor Kibaara milked the cow.
D. and also Kibaara milked the cow.

43. She is not only a good cook _____.

- A. but she is still an excellent gardener.
B. but also an excellent gardener.
C. and also an excellent gardener.
D. and still an excellent gardener.

44. She shouldn't be rude to the visitors,
_____?

- A. is it B. should she
- C. could they D. shouldn't she

45. We can at least show her the way out,
_____?

- A. can't we B. should we
- C. can we D. isn't it

46. Choose the adverb in the sentence:

They loudly demanded to be let into the hall.

- A. Let B. Loudly
- C. Demanded D. They

47. Choose the adverb in the sentence:

When we reached the main road, we were too tired to move on.

- A. Too B. Reached
- C. Main D. When

48. We should study hard for we have
_____ time before the KJSEA
assessment.

- A. Some B. Little C. A little D. Few

49. Most of my classmates read the story
books _____ a few did not.

- A. Although
- B. And
- C. But
- D. Besides

50. Choose the correctly punctuated
sentence.

- A. My friend, who lives in London is visiting me.
- B. My friend who lives in London, is visiting me.
- C. My friend, who lives in London, is visiting me.
- D. My friend who lives in London is, visiting me.

ENGLISH PAPER 1

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1. B | 26.A |
| 2. C | 27.C |
| 3. B | 28.C |
| 4. D | 29.A |
| 5. B | 30.A |
| 6. D | 31.B |
| 7. B | 32.C |
| 8. B | 33.A |
| 9. D | 34.B |
| 10.B | 35.B |
| 11. C | 36.C |
| 12. D | 37.B |
| 13. C | 38.B |
| 14. B | 39.D |
| 15. C | 40.A |
| 16. D | 41. C |
| 17. D | 42.A |
| 18. B | 43.B |
| 19. A | 44.B |
| 20.D | 45.A |
| 21. C | 46.B |
| 22.B | 47.A |
| 23. C | 48.B |
| 24.D | 49.C |
| 25. C | 50.C |

