

KENYA CERTIFICATE OF BASIC EDUCATION

SENIOR SCHOOL ASSESSMENT

DECEMBER ASSIGNMENT 2026

GRADE 10 – ENGLISH

Time: 2 Hours

LEARNER'S DETAILS

Name: _____ School: _____

Assessment Number: _____ Date: _____

School Code: _____ Signature: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Answer **ALL** questions.
2. Write your answers clearly in the spaces provided.
3. Read each question carefully before answering.
4. Give complete and grammatically correct answers where required.
5. This examination consists of **TWO** sections:
 - **Section A: Reading and Comprehension – 30 marks**
 - **Section B: Grammar and Functional Writing – 50 marks**

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (EXAMINER'S USE)

SECTION	A	B	C	D	E	% SCORE	EE1	EE2	ME1	ME2	AE1	AE2	BE1	BE2
SCORE RANGE	10 MARKS	20 MARKS	25 MARKS	5 MARKS	20 MARKS		90- 100	75-89	58-74	41-57	31-40	21-30	11-20	1-10
POINTS							8 POINTS	7 POINTS	6 POINTS	5 POINTS	4 POINTS	3 POINTS	2 POINTS	1 POINT
LEARNER'S TOTAL SCORE														

SECTION A: 30 MARKS

1: Identify the **underlined word** in each sentence and state the part of speech it represents. **(5 marks)**

a) The students worked diligently throughout the examination. _____.

b) Although it was raining, the team continued with the match. _____.

c) The teacher gave them an additional exercise. _____.

d) The carpenter made a beautiful table. _____.

e) The children walked through the narrow corridor. _____.

2: Rewrite each sentence correctly by choosing the appropriate form of the verb in brackets. **(5 marks)**

a) Neither the teacher nor the students **(was/were)** ready for the inspection.

b) The basket of oranges **(is/are)** on the table.

c) Each of the candidates **(has/have)** submitted the assignment.

d) The news from the school **(was/were)** encouraging.

e) My brother and his friend **(plays/play)** football every Saturday.

3: Complete each sentence using the correct form of the verb in brackets. **(5 marks)**

a) By the time the bus arrived, we _____ the station. (leave)

b) She _____ her homework when the lights went off. (do)

c) The students _____ the project next week. (complete)

d) I _____ this book twice since January. (read)

e) When I reached home yesterday, my mother _____ dinner. (prepare)

4: Rewrite each sentence by supplying an appropriate pronoun or determiner in the blank. **(5 marks)**

a) Jane and I completed the work by _____.

b) The teacher asked John whether the bag belonged to _____.

c) There isn't _____ water left in the tank.

d) _____ of the two boys received a certificate.

e) The children forgot _____ books at home.

5: Fill in each blank with an appropriate **preposition or conjunction**. **(5 marks)**

a) The meeting begins _____ 8.00 a.m.

b) We stayed indoors _____ it was raining heavily.

c) The prefect walked _____ the classroom and addressed the students.

d) You will succeed _____ you work hard.

e) The teacher was pleased _____ the students' performance.

6: Rewrite each sentence according to the instructions given without changing its meaning. **(5 marks)**

a) The boy is too young to drive a car.

Begin: **The boy is so...**

b) "I have completed my assignment," Mary said.

Rewrite in reported speech.

c) Despite being tired, the athlete continued running.

Begin: **Although...**

d) The teacher praised the student because he had worked hard.

Begin: **Having...**

e) It is possible that John will win the competition.

Rewrite using **may**.

SECTION B:– 50 MARKS

7: The paragraph below contains **ten grammatical errors**. Rewrite it correctly.

Last Monday, our class were preparing for an educational trip. The teacher tell us that each student must brings enough food and water. Neither the students nor the teacher were willing to arrive late. When the bus arrived, everyone have boarded quickly. Our guide, who were a very experienced man, welcomed us warmly. He advised us to listened carefully and obey all the instructions.

(10 marks)

8: Rewrite the following sentences in the **passive voice**. (5 marks)

a) The students cleaned the laboratory after the experiment.

b) The school will organize a cultural day next month.

c) The prefect has announced the examination timetable.

d) The carpenter was repairing the broken desk.

e) The committee had approved the proposal before the meeting ended.

9: Rewrite the following sentences in **reported speech**. (5 marks)

a) "I am studying for my examination," Peter said.

b) "We shall visit the museum tomorrow," the students said.

c) "Do you understand the instructions?" the teacher asked me.

d) "Please close the window," the teacher told Brian.

e) "Why did you arrive late?" the principal asked the student.

10: Complete or transform the following sentences as instructed. (5 marks)

a) If you work hard, you _____ the examination. (pass)

b) If I had enough money, I _____ a new computer. (buy)

c) If they had left early, they _____ the train. (catch)

d) Rewrite using **unless**:

You will fail if you do not revise adequately.

e) Rewrite as a third conditional sentence:

She did not carry an umbrella, so she got wet.

11: Join each pair of sentences using an appropriate **relative pronoun**. (5 marks)

a) The woman is our new principal. She addressed the students yesterday.

b) I borrowed a book from the library. The book is very interesting.

c) The boy won the scholarship. His father is a farmer.

d) We visited a school. The school has modern laboratories.

e) I met a teacher. You recommended the teacher to me.

12: Rewrite the following passage correctly, using appropriate **capital letters and punctuation marks**.

last friday our english teacher said students you should prepare yourselves for the end of year examination she then asked who among you has revised all the topics peter replied i have revised most of them but i need more practice

(5 marks)

13: Follow the instructions given in each item. (5 marks)

a) Combine the sentences using **not only...but also**:

The candidate was intelligent. The candidate was hardworking.

b) Begin with **Hardly**:

The bell had rung when the students entered the classroom.

c) Rewrite using **too...to**:

The box is so heavy that the child cannot lift it.

d) Begin with **No sooner**:

The teacher entered the room than the students became quiet.

e) Rewrite using **unless**:

You cannot enter the laboratory if you do not have permission.

Cloze Test (5 marks)

14: Read the passage below and fill in each blank with an appropriate word.

Education plays an important role _____ (a) the development of an individual. A learner who is committed _____ (b) his or her studies is likely to perform well. Success does not come _____ (c) hard work and discipline. Students should therefore make good use _____ (d) their time and avoid activities that interfere _____ (e) their studies.

GRADE 10 ENGLISH GRAMMAR

MARKING SCHEME / ANSWERS

SECTION A: GRAMMATICAL COMPETENCE – 30 MARKS

1:

- a) **Diligently** – Adverb
- b) **Although** – Conjunction / subordinating conjunction
- c) **Them** – Pronoun
- d) **Beautiful** – Adjective
- e) **Through** – Preposition

1 mark each = 5 marks

2:

- a) Neither the teacher nor the students **were** ready for the inspection.
- b) The basket of oranges **is** on the table.
- c) Each of the candidates **has** submitted the assignment.
- d) The news from the school **was** encouraging.
- e) My brother and his friend **play** football every Saturday.

1 mark each = 5 marks

3:

- a) By the time the bus arrived, we **had left** the station.
- b) She **was doing** her homework when the lights went off.
- c) The students **will complete** the project next week.
- d) I **have read** this book twice since January.
- e) When I reached home yesterday, my mother **was preparing** dinner.

1 mark each = 5 marks

4:

- a) Jane and I completed the work by **ourselves**.
- b) The teacher asked John whether the bag belonged to **him**.
- c) There isn't **much** water left in the tank.
- d) **Each** of the two boys received a certificate.
- e) The children forgot **their** books at home.

1 mark each = 5 marks

5:

- a) The meeting begins **at** 8.00 a.m.
- b) We stayed indoors **because** it was raining heavily.
- c) The prefect walked **into** the classroom and addressed the students.
- d) You will succeed **if** you work hard.
- e) The teacher was pleased **with** the students' performance.

1 mark each = 5 marks

6:

- a) The boy is too young to drive a car.
The boy is so young that he cannot drive a car.
- b) "I have completed my assignment," Mary said.
Mary said that she had completed her assignment.
- c) Despite being tired, the athlete continued running.
Although the athlete was tired, he/she continued running.
- d) The teacher praised the student because he had worked hard.
Having worked hard, the student was praised by the teacher.
- e) It is possible that John will win the competition.
John may win the competition.

1 mark each = 5 marks

SECTION B: STRUCTURED GRAMMAR AND LANGUAGE USE – 50 MARKS

7: Corrected paragraph:

Last Monday, our class was preparing for an educational trip. The teacher told us that each student must bring enough food and water. Neither the students nor the teacher was willing to arrive late. When the bus arrived, everyone had boarded quickly. Our guide, who was a very experienced man, welcomed us warmly. He advised us to listen carefully and obey all the instructions.

Errors corrected:

- 1. **were → was**
- 2. **tell → told**
- 3. **brings → bring**
- 4. **were → was**
- 5. **have → had**
- 6. **boarded → had boarded**
- 7. **were → was**
- 8. **a very experienced man → who was a very experienced man**
- 9. **listened → listen**

10. Correct construction: **obey all the instructions**

1 mark for each correctly identified and corrected error = 10 marks

8:

- a) The laboratory **was cleaned by the students after the experiment.**
- b) A cultural day **will be organized by the school next month.**
- c) The examination timetable **has been announced by the prefect.**
- d) The broken desk **was being repaired by the carpenter.**
- e) The proposal **had been approved by the committee before the meeting ended.**

1 mark each = 5 marks

9:

- a) Peter said that **he was studying for his examination.**
- b) The students said that **they would visit the museum the following day.**
- c) The teacher asked me **whether/if I understood the instructions.**
- d) The teacher **asked/told Brian to close the window.**
- e) The principal asked the student **why he/she had arrived late.**

1 mark each = 5 marks

10:

- a) If you work hard, you **will pass** the examination.
- b) If I had enough money, I **would buy** a new computer.
- c) If they had left early, they **would have caught** the train.
- d) **Unless you revise adequately, you will fail.**
- e) **If she had carried an umbrella, she would not have got/gotten wet.**

1 mark each = 5 marks

11:

- a) The woman **who addressed the students yesterday is our new principal.**
- b) I borrowed a book from the library **which is very interesting.**
- c) The boy **whose father is a farmer won the scholarship.**
- d) We visited a school **which/that has modern laboratories.**

e) I met a teacher **whom/that you recommended to me.**

1 mark each = 5 marks

12: Correct answer:

Last Friday, our English teacher said, “Students, you should prepare yourselves for the end-of-year examination.” She then asked, “Who among you has revised all the topics?” Peter replied, “I have revised most of them, but I need more practice.”

Award:

- Capital letters – **1 mark**
- Commas – **1 mark**
- Full stops – **1 mark**
- Question mark – **1 mark**
- Quotation marks/apostrophe/hyphen as appropriate – **1 mark**

Total = 5 marks

13:

- a) **The candidate was not only intelligent but also hardworking.**
- b) **Hardly had the bell rung when the students entered the classroom.**
- c) **The box is too heavy for the child to lift.**
- d) **No sooner had the teacher entered the room than the students became quiet.**
- e) **You cannot enter the laboratory unless you have permission.**

1 mark each = 5 marks

14: Cloze Test

- a) Education plays an important role **in** the development of an individual.
- b) A learner who is committed **to** his or her studies is likely to perform well.
- c) Success does not come **without** hard work and discipline.
- d) Students should therefore make good use **of** their time.
- e) ...activities that interfere **with** their studies.

Answers:

- a) **in**
- b) **to**
- c) **without**
- d) **of**
- e) **with**

1 mark each = 5 marks

KENYA CERTIFICATE OF BASIC EDUCATION

SENIOR SCHOOL ASSESSMENT

TERM 3: PROJECT ASSESSMENT 2026

GRADE 10 – ENGLISH

Time: 2 Hours

LEARNER'S DETAILS

Name: _____ . School: _____ .

Assessment Number: _____ . Date: _____ .

School Code: _____ . Signature: _____ .

PROJECT TITLE:

ENGLISH LANGUAGE USE IN THE COMMUNITY

Instructions to the Learner

1. Work **individually or in a group of not more than five learners**.
2. Conduct a small investigation on the use of English in your school or community.
3. Collect information through **observation, interviews, questionnaires or short conversations**.
4. Organise the information collected and prepare a written project report.
5. Present your findings to the class orally.
6. Use correct English throughout the project.
7. Where digital devices are available, you may use them to type, organise or present your work.

TASK 1: PROJECT PROPOSAL – 3 MARKS

Write a brief project proposal on the topic:

“How Effective Communication in English Can Improve Interaction in Our School/Community.”

Your proposal should include:

- a) **Project title** – 1 mark
- b) **Purpose/objective of the project** – 1 mark
- c) **Method you will use to collect information** – 1 mark

TASK 2: DATA COLLECTION – 4 MARKS

Collect information from **at least five respondents** in your school or community.

You may ask questions such as:

1. In which situations do you commonly use English?
2. What challenges do people experience when communicating in English?
3. How can learners improve their spoken English?
4. How important is English in education and employment?
5. What can schools do to improve communication skills?

Present your findings in a simple table.

No.	Respondent	Main Finding
1	Respondent 1	
2	Respondent 2	
3	Respondent 3	
4	Respondent 4	
5	Respondent 5	

Award:

- Appropriate respondents/information – 1 mark
- Relevant questions – 1 mark
- Accurate recording of information – 1 mark
- Well-organised presentation of data – 1 mark

TASK 3: PROJECT REPORT – 6 MARKS

Using the information collected, write a **250–300 word report**.

Your report should contain:

A. Introduction – 1 mark

Explain the purpose of the investigation.

B. Findings – 2 marks

Present and explain the main findings.

C. Challenges identified – 1 mark

Discuss at least **two challenges** affecting effective communication in English.

D. Recommendations – 1 mark

Suggest practical ways of improving English communication.

E. Conclusion – 1 mark

Give a brief conclusion based on your findings.

TASK 4: ORAL PRESENTATION – 4 MARKS

Present your project findings to the class for **3–5 minutes**.

You will be assessed on:

Aspect	Marks
Organisation and clarity of ideas	1
Fluency and pronunciation	1
Appropriate vocabulary and grammar	1
Confidence, eye contact and non-verbal cues	1
Total	4

TASK 5: REFLECTION – 3 MARKS

After completing the project, write short responses to the following:

- a)** What new English language skill did you acquire from the project?
(1 mark)
- b)** What challenge did you experience while carrying out the project and how did you overcome it?
(1 mark)
- c)** How can the skills acquired from this project be useful in your future education or career?
(1 mark)

MARK DISTRIBUTION

Project Component	Marks
1. Project Proposal	3
2. Data Collection	4
3. Written Project Report	6
4. Oral Presentation	4
5. Reflection	3
TOTAL	20

GRADE 10 ENGLISH PROJECT ASSESSMENT

MARKING SCHEME – 20 MARKS

TASK 1: PROJECT PROPOSAL – 3 MARKS

Item	Expected Response	Marks
a) Project title	Appropriate title related to effective communication in English	1
b) Purpose/objective	Clear statement explaining what the learner intends to investigate/find out	1
c) Data collection method	Appropriate method such as interview, questionnaire, observation or discussion	1
Total		3

TASK 2: DATA COLLECTION – 4 MARKS

Criterion	Description	Marks
Respondents/information	Collects information from at least five relevant respondents	1
Relevant questions	Questions are clear, relevant and related to the project	1
Accuracy	Information is recorded accurately and faithfully	1
Organisation	Findings are presented clearly in a table or other appropriate format	1
Total		4

Note: Award proportionately where fewer than five respondents are used.

TASK 3: PROJECT REPORT – 6 MARKS

A. Introduction – 1 Mark

- Clearly introduces the topic and purpose of the investigation – 1

B. Findings – 2 Marks

- Presents relevant findings from the investigation – 1
- Clearly explains/interprets the findings – 1

C. Challenges – 1 Mark

- Identifies and appropriately explains at least two challenges affecting effective communication in English – 1

D. Recommendations – 1 Mark

- Gives practical and relevant suggestions for improving English communication – 1

E. Conclusion – 1 Mark

- Provides a logical conclusion based on the findings – 1

Total: 6 marks

TASK 4: ORAL PRESENTATION – 4 MARKS

Aspect	Excellent	Good	Fair/Poor	Marks
Organisation and clarity	Ideas very well organised and clearly communicated	Generally clear and organised	Ideas poorly organised	1
Fluency and pronunciation	Fluent with clear pronunciation	Minor hesitation/errors	Frequent hesitation/pronunciation	1

			errors	
Vocabulary and grammar	Appropriate vocabulary and accurate grammar	Some errors but meaning clear	Frequent errors affecting communication	1
Confidence and non-verbal communication	Confident, good eye contact, posture and gestures	Fair confidence and eye contact	Lacks confidence/limited eye contact	1
Total				4

TASK 5: REFLECTION – 3 MARKS

a) New English skill acquired – 1 Mark

- Clearly identifies a relevant skill gained, e.g. interviewing, speaking, report writing or research – **1**

b) Challenge and solution – 1 Mark

- Identifies a genuine project challenge and explains how it was overcome – **1**

c) Application of skills – 1 Mark

- Clearly explains how the acquired skills can be useful in future education, work or everyday communication – **1**