

GOVERNMENT BILINGUAL HIGH SCHOOL YAOUNDE	SUBJECT CODE NUMBER 730	PAPER NUMBER 1
GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION SCHOOL MOCK EXAMINATION	SUBJECT TITLE ENGLISH LANGUAGE	
CANDIDATE'S NAME: .....		
ADVANCED LEVEL	APRIL 2021	

Mobile phones are **NOT** allowed in the examination room. **MULTIPLE CHOICE**  
**QUESTION PAPER**

**One and a half hours. INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

*Read the following instructions carefully before you start answering the questions in this paper. Make sure you have a soft HB pencil and an eraser for this examination.*

- USE A SOFT HB PENCIL THROUGHOUT THE EXAMINATION.
  - DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO. *Before the examination begins:*
  - Check that this question booklet is headed "**Advanced Level English Language 1**"
  - Fill in the information required in the spaces above.
  - Fill in the information required in the spaces provided on the answer sheet **using your HB pencil: Candidate Name, Exam Session, Subject Code and Candidate Identification Number.**
- Take care that you do not crease or fold the answer sheet or make any marks on it other than those asked for in these instructions.

**How to answer the questions in this examination**

- Answer **ALL** the 50 questions in this Examination. All questions carry equal marks.
- Each question has **FOUR** suggested answers: A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best answers the question. Find the number of the question on the Answer Sheet and draw a horizontal line across the letter to join the square brackets for the answer you have chosen. For example, if C is your correct answer, mark C as shown below:

[A] [B] **m** [D]

- Mark only one answer for each question. If you mark more than one answer, you will score a zero for that question. If you change your mind about an answer, erase the first mark carefully, then mark your new answer.
- Avoid spending too much time on any one question. If you find a question difficult, move on to the next question. You can come back to this question later.
- Do all rough work in this booklet using the blank spaces in the question booklet.
- At the end of the examination, the invigilator shall collect the answer sheet first and then the question booklet.**

**DO NOT ATTEMPT TO LEAVE THE EXAMINATION HALL WITH THE QUESTION PAPER.**

**SECTION A READING COMPREHENSION: 16 MARKS**

*Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions below it.*

My name is Tanlaka Bana. I was born at the height of the rainy season, in the village of Mbokoh.. My father cultivated an acre of **tired red soil** around our hut and fished in a near-by muddy stream, wringing from these unimpressive resources a livelihood which most of the other villages regarded as enviable. I was the second son and **th** child in a family of eleven, and my childhood was consequently quite unspoiled.

In addition to all her work in the house and compound, my mother ran a palm-wine bar and a shop for the sale of salt, groundnuts, and fresh fruit.

The village we all loved so well consisted of perhaps twenty mud houses grouped in compounds on either side of the main road. Each compound contained four to five houses arranged in a hollow square. One of these compounds, the biggest by far, was the chiefs. His was the only house with corrugated iron roofing. Not even his wives' houses in the same compound had this luxury.

I suppose I must at an early age have given some evidence of possessing better-than-average intelligence, for my family to send me to school-the only one of my brothers and sisters thus favoured. Perhaps, though, it was only that when we children squatted on the bare earth in front of the house, taking it in turns to invent stories, mine always seemed to be the lengthiest and most involved as well as the most popular. But then my elder brother had learned to give mother's customers their correct change at an earlier age than I, and one of my younger brothers could beat the drum much better than I could. I see now that, slight as were my father's contacts with the outside world, he had already learned that a high premium was set on verbal dexterity in the big city on the coast (which to the best of my knowledge he visited once), as well as in the great unknown world beyond, toward which that city turned its bemused face.

I do not remember ever hearing my father and mother discuss the question of my being sent to school. One morning, without any warning my father said to me, "Tanlaka, put on your best gown, wash your feet and follow me". I must have been about ten years old at the time for I was just tall enough to reach things on our veranda parapet from the ground outside. My father had put on his best khaki trousers and blue and white striped smock, and walked ahead of me down the miles of road between our hut and the small school run by American missionaries on the other side of the village.

We turned off the road up a neat gravelled path lined with short bushes of crimson double hibiscus set at regular intervals. To one side of the path was a **dwarf-sized football field**, and mango and avocado pear trees stood on the other side, the former with blossoms, so much like Christmas-tree decorations swaying softly in the breeze. My feelings as we stopped over the dusty threshold into the cold interior of the one-roomed school were composed of curiosity and pride, but mainly of the latter. I knew virtually all the children in the school, and the difference in social standing between them and those of us who were not at school was not unlike between the English public school pupil and his council school counterpart. Amongst us the important question was never "How many palm trees does your father have?" or even "Have you ever been to Yaounde?" but simply "do you go to school?"

The American lady who rose from her table in a corner of the room to greet us as we entered was, I thought, radiantly beautiful. She smiled as if she already knew and was very fond of us; her skin was white and red and looked so soft and smooth that I longed to touch it. But when she spoke her voice sounded unmusical and unnatural, and even the little boy who was summoned to interpret for her seemed to have difficulty in understanding what she was saying. I marvel now at the speed with which we all learned to understand and speak the strange language she spoke, and to flatten our intonation the way she did.

And so to school I went. At the cost of only having to do without my help in the house and yard (we paid no school fees), my parents started me off that day on the long, endless road of schooling; a road on which, for me, every milestone was to be a signpost pointing ahead, and every step of the way a sharpener of intellectual appetite. It was in that dusty school compound, amongst the hibiscus and mangoes, and in the cool of the schoolroom straining to catch the meaning of the words spoken by the smiling white lady, that I first caught a glimpse of a prospect that was almost intolerably exciting and attractive. I know now that it was attractive because it was then entirely strange, and largely misunderstood by us all, at least by our teachers.

Most of us learned very quickly. We forced ourselves to speak English whenever possible. We memorised avidly the spelling and meaning of every word in the small hymnbooks which were at first our sole and highly prized schoolbooks. We would stay on for hours after school testing each other at the blackboard on the letters of the alphabet, on numerals, on spelling, and later on grammar. When Miss Victoria announced in school one day that she wanted one of us to come and live with her, to help her with domestic duties outside school hours, there was a rush rush to volunteer which took her completely by surprise. When she recovered and had quieted our excited shouting and bid us lower the forest of stretching arms, there was a moment during which none of us dared breathe as she scanned the eager faces. What made her choose me? I have never found out, but I had noticed before that she was partial toward me, as children always do notice such things soon enough.

"All right, Tanlaka. You can come, but run along and ask your father first, and remember you will only stay with me as long as you are a good boy." I imagined my parents were only too glad to have one mouth fewer to feed, and my brothers and sisters to see the back of one who, inevitably, had begun to assume an air of learned superiority in talking to them. Miss Victoria's bungalow was a stone's throw from the school, and that very evening saw me installed on a mat in a corner of back veranda, unable to sleep with excitement at the thought of the good fortune that had befallen me. To be within earshot of Miss Victoria's English all day, to have access (I hoped) to her books, to nurse the possibility, overwhelming even in thought, of going with her to Yaounde and perhaps even further away; all these visions kept my eyes wide open and my brain racing until very late that night, with my cloth pulled right over my head to keep the mosquitoes away, warm and snug in my own cocoon, happy beyond all description in my heart, I smiled myself to sleep.

## QUESTIONS

Choose the best answer from the alternatives A, B, C and D for each question.

1. The expression "tired red soil" (line 2) indicates that the land was \_\_\_\_\_  
A. exhausted B. overfarmed  
C. reddish  
D. Fertile
2. The opening sentence is peculiar to a/an \_\_\_\_\_  
A. narrative

- B. biography
- C. autobiography
- D. descriptive

3. How many older siblings did the narrator have?

- A. five
- B. one
- C. Six
- D. four

4. His parents can be said to be — .

- A. lazy
- B. poor
- C. industrious
- D. indifferent

5. Which quality provoked the writer's parents to send him to school?

- A. He was a favoured child.
- B. He squatted on the floor always.
- C. He could give the correct change to their customers
- D. He was a good orator

6. In the expression "gravelled path" (line 24) gravelled is used as a/an

- A. adjective
- B. noun
- C. verb
- D. adverb

7. "Dwarf-sized football field" (line 24) means that the football field is.

- A big B long
- C short
- D sizeable

8. The writer's dominant feeling as they entered the school compound was that of

- A. fear
- B. curiosity and pride
- C. pride
- D. curiosity

9. The question asked the young at the end of paragraph six are indicative

- A. of poor educational level
- B. of many rich palm tree farmers
- C. that people of his village travelled a lot.
- D. that children went to school.

10. It can be deduced that the attitude of the teacher towards visitor

- A. receptive
- B. radiantly smooth
- C. indifferent
- D. beautiful^

11. The writer and his school mates stayed after school testing each other on the alphabet, numerals, spelling and grammar. Thus they learned by

- A. cram work
- B. peer group
- C. memorised strategy
- D. repetition

12. The learners' reaction at the request of Miss Victoria to have a helping hand indicates that the children -----her.

- A. hated
- B. loved
- C. reviled
- D. dashed

13. The expression "the forest of stretching arms" (lines 56-57) means it was
- personification
  - simile
  - irony
  - metaphor
14. The expression "a stone's throw from the school" (lines 56-57) means it was
- far
  - near
  - behind
  - opposite
15. From the passage the writer's stay with Miss Victoria meant he will enjoy all EXCEPT ONE of the following. Which is the ONE?
- Abandon his parents
  - Possibility to travel around and far
  - Perfect his English
  - Have books for his studies
- 16 The expression "smiled myself to sleep" (line 62)
- very sleepy
  - very unhappy
  - smiling
  - very happy

**SECTION B GRAMMAR (22 Marks)**

For questions 17 - 36, choose the alternative A, B, C or D that best completes each sentence.

17. My mother doesn't like \_\_\_\_\_ eating too much ice cream.
- me
  - I
  - us
  - my
18. On the re-opening day, the students watched with admiration as the principal drove into the campus in his \_\_\_\_\_.
- A blue latest expensive model Rav 4
  - Expensive latest model blue Rav 4
  - Latest model expensive blue Rav 4
  - Expensive blue latest model Rav 4
19. By 7:00 a.m tomorrow, I shall have done all my chores. This is an example of the use of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Simple Future Tense
  - Future Perfect Tense
  - Future Continuous Tense
  - Future Perfect Continuous Tense
20. "Where are you from?" They asked me \_\_\_\_\_.
- where I was from
  - from where I was
  - where was I from
  - that I was from where
21. "I was not late although my name was on the \_\_\_\_\_ list of late comers" is an example of a \_\_\_\_\_ sentence.
- Simple
  - Compound
  - Complex
  - Compound Complex
22. Which sentence below is correctly written?

- A A man was at the corner and his dog.  
B A man is at the corner and his dog.  
C A man and his dog was at the corner.  
D A man and his dog were at the corner.

23. My country has shown that there is an obvious need to ward \_\_\_\_\_ enemy attacks.

- A. against  
B. off  
C. out  
D. away

24. Many students hardly ever read novels that are prescribed on the book list, "hardly" is an adverb of \_\_\_\_\_ manner

- B time  
C frequency D degree

25. Would you mind having supper with me this evening? (He intends to agree).

- A No, I won't  
B Yes, I would  
C No, I would  
D Yes I won't

26. Many civil servants are not well disposed to working with commitment in their offices these days, \_\_\_\_\_ they?

- A do  
B are  
C aren't  
D don't

27. If my dog were here, thieves \_\_\_\_\_ from my house.

- A would not steal  
B will not steal  
C would not have stolen  
D will not have stolen

28. Having seen the manager, the man decided to leave. The underlined portion is a(n)

- A adjectival phrase  
B adverbial phrases  
C participial phrases  
D prepositional phrase

29. I work very hard \_\_\_\_\_ I don't seem to be making progress.

- A yet  
B and  
C but still  
D still yet

30. After taking his medication, the sick child \_\_\_\_\_.

- A threw away  
B threw up  
C threw down  
D threw off

31. The captains of both teams embraced \_\_\_\_\_ before handing over their flags to the referee.

- A each other  
B themselves  
C one another  
D one after the other

32. "Meet me here tomorrow", said Joseph. Joseph instructed me to \_\_\_\_\_

- A meet him there the next day  
B meet him there the previous day

C meet him here tomorrow

D meet him there tomorrow

33. The principal relieved the night watchman \_\_\_\_\_ his function because of the theft in the Chemistry Laboratory.

A. from

B. off

C. of

D. into

34. Many a candidate \_\_\_\_\_ to realise the difference between written and spoken English.

A. fails

B. have failed

C. is failing

D. fail

35. We discovered at the end of the last term that we had to read \_\_\_\_\_ books before we could confidently go for our final examination.

A. more of several

B. many more

C. much more

D. many of several

36. My parents bought for me a beautifully made school bag. The underlined word in the sentence is used as a(n) .

A. adjunct

B. adverb

C. object

D. adjective

For questions 37 and 38, choose from the alternatives A, B, C or D the sentence that is correctly punctuated.

37. A The girl shouted: "thieves help!"

B The girl shouted, "Thieves! Help!"

C The girl shouted; "thieves! help!"

D The girl shouted, "thieves; help!"

38. A The lean boy is incapable of walking; his legs wobble, and he cannot move a step forward.

B The lean boy is incapable of walking, his legs wobble and he cannot move a step forward.

C The lean boy is incapable of walking: his legs wobble and he cannot move a step forward.

D The lean boy is incapable of walking; his legs wobble and he cannot move a step forward

**SECTION C VOCABULARY (12 Marks) For questions 39 - 45, choose the alternative A, B, C or D that best completes each sentence.**

39. The boy was born before his parents got married, so the court has declared him .

A illegal

B illegitimate

C illicit

D illegible

40. Although the possibility of a constant serious strike action remained, the students concern about such a strike gradually A shifted B remained C waned D persisted

41. A good writer must have a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ mind

A Imaginary

B imaginative

C receptive

D developed

42. He has the moral duty to the wrongs he did to his people.

A write

- B rite
- C wright
- D right

43. It is .....humanizing to strip an adult in public

- A. un
- B. de
- C. in
- D. dis

44. Class is to school as

- A Sailor is to crew
- B bird is to sky
- C ship is to sea
- D canoe is to river

45. The expression, "Don't cross a bridge till you come to it

"means

- A. you should not cross any bridge when you have not arrived there
- B. you should not worry too much about life
- C. you should not worry about something before it has happened
- D. you should not be worried about the problems of life

For questions 46 - 49, choose the best answer from the alternatives A, B, C or D that has the same meaning as the underlined expressions.

46. He spoke with his heart in his mouth.

- A with courage
- B with such unusual cowardice
- C with a lot of confusion in his speech
- D with fright and agitation

47. At the sight of a ghastly motor accident, the woman's hair stood on end.

- A woman's hair became straight
- B The woman was frightened
- C The woman's hair was blown upward by the wind
- D The woman became unkempt

48. The ingenious scheme of the robber broke down because of the efficiency of the police officer stalking him.

- A. suspicious
- B. deceitful
- C. clever
- D. ambitious

49. Because the students' representative in the assembly is immature, his view of the students' social and economic problems is jaundiced.

- A prejudiced
- B hazy
- C unclear
- D bleak

For question 50, choose the best answer from the alternatives A, B, C or D which is opposite in meaning to the underlined word in the sentence

50. We should never have followed the complexity of his argument, but for the extreme \_\_\_\_\_ of his language

- A. Correctness
- B. elegance
- C. eloquence
- D. simplicity