



SIGNAL EXAMS 2020

ENGLISH SECTION A: LANGUAGE

Time: 1 hour 40 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

1. You have been given this question booklet and a separate answer sheet. The question booklet contains 50 questions.
2. Do any necessary rough work in this booklet.

3. When you have chosen your answer, mark it on the **ANSWER SHEET**, not in this question booklet.

HOW TO USE THE ANSWER SHEET

4. Use only an ordinary pencil.
5. Make sure that you have written on the answer sheet:
YOUR INDEX NUMBER
YOUR NAME
NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL
6. By drawing a **dark line** inside the correct numbered boxes mark your full Index Number (i.e. School Code Number and the three-figure Candidate's Number) in the grid near the top of the answer sheet.
7. Do not make any marks outside the boxes.
8. Keep your answer sheet as clean as possible and **DO NOT FOLD IT**.
9. For each of the Questions 1 – 50 four answers are given. The answers are lettered A, B, C, D in each case only **ONE** of the four answers is correct. Choose the correct answer.
10. On the answer sheet show the correct answer by drawing a **dark line** inside the box in which the letter you have chosen is written.

Example

For question 23 to 25 choose the word that means the same as the underlined word.

23. The stranger coaxed the two pupils.

- A. lured
- B. soothed
- C. deceived
- D. persuaded

The correct answer is D

3. (A) (B) (C) (D)

13. (A) (B) (C) (D)

23. (A) (B) (C) (D)

33. (A) (B) (C) (D)

43. (A) (B) (C) (D)

On the answer sheet

In the set of boxes numbered **23** , the box with letter **C** printed in it is marked.

11. Your **dark line MUST** be within the box.
12. For each question **ONLY ONE** box is to be marked in each set of four boxes.

This question paper consists of 7 printed pages

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Read the passage below. It contains blank spaces numbered 1 to 15. For each blank space, choose the best alternative from the choices given.

Criminals are continuously 1 new ways to 2 the police and public to 3 in business. When they 4, they leave the police 5 on how the plan was organised and 6. The police 7 expected to be 8 of them and monitor their activities. It has become common to 9 of kidnappings, bank robberies and car-jacking.

When thugs just block 10 vehicle and drive 11 with the motorist, then it means the law-enforcement officers are not working hard enough. Several 12 have lost their lives 13 the hands of these crooks. They must work 14 the clock to bring these criminals to 15.

- | | | | |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. A. devising | B. revising | C. reviewing | D. receiving |
| 2. A. hit | B. bit | C. beat | D. win |
| 3. A. remain | B. start | C. over | D. improve |
| 4. A. appear | B. fight | C. decide | D. strike |
| 5. A. thinking | B. guessing | C. wandering | D. searching |
| 6. A. persecuted | B. rehearsed | C. executed | D. performed |
| 7. A. are | B. must be | C. could be | D. will be |
| 8. A. in front | B. ahead | C. leader | D. the head |
| 9. A. imagine | B. see | C. hear | D. remember |
| 10. A. the | B. this | C. that | D. a |
| 11. A. away | B. out | C. a side | D. beyond |
| 12. A. sufferers | B. victims | C. suspects | D. witnesses |
| 13. A. in | B. by | C. for | D. on |
| 14. A. around | B. round | C. them | D. above |
| 15. A. cell | B. arrest | C. prison | D. book |

For questions 16 to 18, choose the alternative that best completes the statement given.

- A. belief
- B. knowledge
- C. opinion
- D. understanding

16. Had he known it was going to rain:-
A. he could easily carry an umbrella
B. he must have stayed at home
C. he would have taken shelter at our home
D. he ran all the way home before it started.
17. Our visitors rarely come after seven o'clock but we will be ready in case:-
A. they come
B. they do
C. they decide
D. they will
18. All the school pupils are expected to abide:-
A. by the school rules
B. with the school rules
C. to the school rules.
D. about the school rules.

For questions 19 and 20, choose the alternative that best completes the given sentence.

19. They talked _____ the telephone for over fifteen minutes.
A. on
B. over
C. with
D. by
20. In my _____, everyone should have some understanding of Mathematics.

For questions 21 to 23, choose the word which means the same as the underlined word(s).

21. **Bright** pupils normally score high marks in examinations.

- A. Fast
- B. Active
- C. Reliable
- D. Smart

22. The police had a firm **grip** on the suspect to prevent him from escaping.

- A. grasp
- B. arrest
- C. clutch
- D. hold

23. As the grandmother was sick, Asha decided to **put off** the visit to Kilgoris.

- A. postpone
- B. cancel
- C. delay
- D. stop

For questions 24 and 25, choose the option which best fills the blank space in the sentences below.

24. As long as the work was done, it really _____ who did it.

- A. did not matter
- B. will not matter
- C. does not matter
- D. could not matter

25. We are extremely grateful _____ all the teachers for the help they have given us.

- A. for
- B. with
- C. of
- D. to

Read the passage below and then answer questions 26 to 38.

The drought had been longer than usual and really devastating. Even the very old in the society admitted that they had never experienced such magnitude of drought. Almost all trees had shed their leaves. Wild animals died in large numbers, so did their domestic counterparts. Human beings, on the other hand, struggled daily to remain alive. Many resorted to survival tactics never heard before and one of such was a man called Neka.

Neka was greedy by nature. The bad weather drove him to do what no other man in his right minds would have been expected to do. He deprived his wife and children of food which he ate alone; greedily. Whenever some food was cooked in the house, the wife knew well how to keep safe. She would serve two-thirds to the husband and share the remaining third with their four children.

As the drought continued, Neka became a worried man. If anything, he feared to die of starvation while at the same time, he was oblivious of his family members' attitude towards his insatiable appetite. So, after carefully trying to balance the two issues for some time, he came up with a plan, yes, and a workable plan which to him would **put the matter to rest** once and for all. He believed the plan was harmless to the family and beneficial to him at the same time.

The next few days, in bed day and night. He complained of aches from virtually every part of his body and in spite of medication, his condition seemed to deteriorate very fast. He gathered his family members near his bed and made a chilling announcement: "I don't see any recovery coming my way any time soon. Anything can happen and I'd wish to make a wish, a wish which must be obeyed to the latter or else curse will befall whoever goes against it and for the rest of your lives, you will know no peace. Should I **die**, I should be buried in the next eight hours. The top of my coffin should not be nailed and the grave must not be covered with soil but five new papyrus mats. You will put plenty of firewood, cooking pans, match boxes and water in jerricans. All these must be put in the grave during the burial". The very following dawn, Neka 'died.'

Funeral arrangements were hastily made to conform to the 'dead man's wish and by two o'clock that afternoon, the villagers were through. They talked in low tones at the strange burial ceremony the late Neka had made them attend. It was normal to bury a fellow villager but the speed and the procedure of this particular one was unusual.

The strangest of strange things started happening on the dead man's farm. One of Neka's children was walking round the farm and noticed fresh earth and immediately informed the mother. Elders soon converged on the farm to confirm the boy's statement, wondering who was harvesting from a dead man's farm. It was true! The cassava was indeed being harvested at night and some even a few hours ago. A private consultation by the elders followed by after which they asked everyone to leave the farm at once and say nothing about the issue. They followed the foot tracks and it led to a further complication-too puzzling to help them solve the mystery. However, they resolved to dig a deep pit early that night. It would be carefully covered with trash and it is in this that they expected to find the thief trapped.

The following day when they visited the trap, true to their instincts the thief had been trapped. The elders decided to evacuate the thief from the hole but when his face came into full glare,

everyone, irrespective of age or status, scampered for safety. It was the face of the ‘dead man’ they had buried two weeks ago!

26. According to the first paragraph what made the drought more devastating?
- A. All the animals died of starvation.
 - B. It was prolonged.
 - C. Big trees shed off all their leaves.
 - D. The main fatalities were old men and animals.
27. The old men were able to gauge the effect of the drought due to all the following except:-
- A. forethought.
 - B. experience.
 - C. age.
 - D. wisdom.
28. Hardly had Neka issued his death wishes:-
- A. than he died
 - B. than he feigned his death
 - C. than he was buried
 - D. than he passed out.
31. Which statement is true about Neka?
- A. Although he was greedy, he had some regard for his family.
 - B. He was the greediest man known in the village.
 - C. He was the laziest man.
 - D. He had almost no friends at all.
32. Why did Neka complain of pain from every part of the body?
- A. The pain was so much to bear.
 - B. He intended to make it achieve a specific aim.
 - C. He needed some special attention from the family members.
 - D. Hunger made him do so.
33. Instead of using the word 'die' Neka could have used the phrase:-
- A. pass over
 - B. give up
 - C. pass on
 - D. pass out.

34. Why did Neka tell his family members that if they disobeyed his wish then they would never have peace?
- His ambitious plan would be foiled
 - His spirit would deal with them.
 - All dying men do so.
 - His family had of late been a bit hesitant to obey him.
35. As the villagers hastily made arrangements for Neka's burial:-
- some of them knew he was just being greedy
 - they were at loss of what to say about his rushed funeral
 - they felt they would miss him dearly
 - they felt the family was responsible for his problems.
29. As the drought started biting Neka:-
- altered the family's eating habits.
 - Why do you think consultations to catch the thief were held sprightly?
 - It devised the proper plan of a dead person.
 - AD. It devised the proper plan of a dead person.
30. The phrase, 'put the matter to rest' as used in the passage, refers to:
- how to please one's family
 - beaten to death
 - how to end a problem
 - The news of their plan was not to be escaped from starvation.
36. D. Where there is smoke, there is fire.
37. Why did the villagers take off in all directions when the thief came into full glare?
- The person they saw was least expected.
 - They were afraid he could turn violent upon release.
 - They had never seen such a person.
 - They realised they had not caught the right thief.
38. Which of the four proverbs would not be the best to summarise this passage?
- Do not judge a book by its cover.
 - Look before you leap.
 - Blood is thicker than water.

Read the passage below and then answer questions 39 to 50

Getting money is not easy but what many people find easy is spending it. It can take a whole week, fortnight, **effortlessly** and efficiently be done within minutes. The most notorious activities that take money in bulk from people include medical bills, school fees, rent, purchase of land and the list is not limited to these. Even the purchase of foodstuff can leave a family with little or no money.

There are various steps one can put in place to tame the fast disappearance of money from the wallet. When you go shopping, have a shopping list and tick the items as you pick them. Avoid going for what you did not have in your initial list although it is not an entirely bad idea to buy a thing that you did not plan to if some money is left after your purchase. The word you must keep in mind all the time is 'priority'. Things which matter more in your house must be given priority but the luxurious ones we can even do without may be bought, depending on availability of funds.

Partying and eating out with friends is good and makes many feel good. However, eating out for whatever reason costs more than home-eating. If you intend to travel, carry home-made food or snacks and as much as possible, avoid eating in hotels. Food meant for people on transit is usually almost double-priced as the travellers have no choice but to buy. A bottle of water carried from home tastes just like the bottled ones so why buy one? When the weather is hot or you are traveling far, you could spend a lot on water while this is avoidable.

Never waste anything; food, not even a newspaper. Left-over food should not be thrown away. It could be kept safely and warmed for the next day's meal. You could even pack them well and carry them for lunch the following day instead of buying snacks. By doing this, you will have reduced the cost of buying food in the house in the long run. Remember to use all of everything you have before you buy more. Old newspapers can be safely kept at home and then sold in a pile. Only when something goes bad should it be thrown as it may endanger life.

Not all shops charge the same amount for similar goods. Shops that sell items through hire purchase definitely charge higher. Such shops must be avoided and borrowing items should likewise be discouraged. The items being sold should not be on offer all the time. There are times when the goods on offer happen to be of inferior quality. Buy from trusted stores where you can always return bought items for exchange if found to be faulty, in bad condition or expired. Sometimes, items are marked 'Save ksh.100/-' it is not always true; the shop owners just write that to play with your psychology. Be careful with every shopping step you make for whatever appears good from far could be far from good.

39. From the first paragraph, it is **true** to say that:-
- A. money is difficult to get
 - B. money is easier used than got
 - C. medical bills, school fee, rent and purchase of land make people poor
 - D. with money, you can buy anything.
40. What are people yet to learn about money?
- A. How to spend money.
 - B. The kind of things to do with the money they get.
 - C. How to get enough money.
 - D. Measures to put in place to control fast use of money.
41. Why does the writer describe the using of money as **effortless**?
- A. It does not need a lot of brainwork.
 - B. Things bought with money require little effort to use.
 - C. Many people have to be shown how to use their own money.
 - D. Money has become difficult to get.
42. A person who goes shopping without a shopping list is likely to:-
- A. spend less money than what would be on the shopping list
 - B. buy more goods with less money
 - C. end up doing impulse buying
 - D. buy more goods knowingly.
43. The condition on which you should buy an item on which you did not have in your shopping list is:-
- A. if the item you need is being sold at a cheaper price
 - B. if you have extra money left after exhausting what was on your list
 - C. if other shoppers do not seem to know its value
 - D. if you see it before starting to buy the items on your shopping list.
44. Why should a shopper buy things on priority?
- A. Prices of things keep changing.
 - B. There are varieties of items.
 - C. Money is ever limited.
 - D. There are items we cannot do without in a house.

45. Being told to avoid partying and eating out with friends can **best** be described as:-
- A. an order.
 - B. a warning.
 - C. a piece of advice.
 - D. a total ban
46. A person who uses all of everything before buying a new one:-
- A. spends less on purchases
 - B. does so because of failure to draw a budget
 - C. spends more on purchases
 - D. is always in short of cash.
47. One of the following does not refer to money meant for a specific purpose. Which one is it?
- A. Fees.
 - B. Cheque.
 - C. Rent.
 - D. Fine.
48. When a shopper compares prices of specific items from various shops shows:-
- A. he suffered a lot in the past
 - B. many shopkeepers are dishonest
 - C. he may not have enough money
 - D. he is an informed shopper.
49. What would be the best things to do when you see some goods on offer?
- A. Assess the quality of the item before engaging your money.
 - B. Buy before they run out of stock.
 - C. Keep off such goods.
 - D. Ask the shopkeeper if he is playing with your psychology.
50. The best title for this passage would be:-
- A. making a shopping list.
 - B. avoiding impulse buying.
 - C. careful use of money.
 - D. ways of acquiring and spending money.