

Time: 40 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

1. In the spaces provided above write your full Index Number, your Name and the Name of your School.
2. Now open this paper, read the composition subject carefully and write your composition on the lines provided.

You have 40 minutes to write your composition

The following is the beginning of a story. Write and complete the story. Make your story as interesting as you can.

Although we have been practicing regularly for the competition since the beginning of the term, the day was a big disappointment .....

SECTION A: LANGUAGE

Questions 1 to 15

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

Of all the planets in our solar system only one, Earth, has water. There are two main 1 why there is water on Earth and not on the other planets. First, the appropriate gases that 2 water are present on Earth. These gases are hydrogen and oxygen. Secondly, we are 3 the right distance from the sun. If the Earth 4 closer to the sun the water in the seas and oceans 5 boil, 6 if it were further away, the water would all freeze.

7 how the oceans were originally formed remains something 8 a mystery, but what is 9 is that nearly three-quarters of the surface of the Earth is now covered 10 water. Some scientists 11 that Earth was once a ball of fire, and as it cooled, 12 rocks at the centre, which remained 13 hot, let off steam. This condensed into water as it 14 into the cold 15, just as steam in a kitchen condenses into water droplets on a cold surface.

- |                |                |              |                  |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1. A. points   | B. causes      | C. reasons   | D. forces        |
| 2. A. provide  | B. manufacture | C. bring     | D. produce       |
| 3. A. about    | B. just        | C. nearly    | D. approximately |
| 4. A. were     | B. became      | C. is        | D. be            |
| 5. A. can      | B. could       | C. would     | D. might         |
| 6. A. and      | B. even        | C. also      | D. or            |
| 7. A. Surely   | B. Really      | C. Basically | D. Exactly       |
| 8. A. of       | B. about       | C. over      | D. under         |
| 9. A. unreal   | B. certain     | C. right     | D. sure          |
| 10. A. below   | B. in          | C. with      | D. under         |
| 11. A. belief  | B. believe     | C. beliefs   | D. believes      |
| 12. A. any     | B. other       | C. the       | D. these         |
| 13. A. too     | B. quite       | C. so        | D. very          |
| 14. A. escaped | B. disappeared | C. fled      | D. ran           |

For questions 16 to 18, choose the word that means the opposite of the underlined word.

Example:

My friend plays football very well.

- A. badly
- B. nicely
- C. stylishly
- D. roughly

The answer is A (badly)

16. Njenga spoke to the stranger in a very friendly manner.
- A. angry
  - B. warm
  - C. pleasant
  - D. hostile
17. Asha denied committing the offence.
- A. refused
  - B. admitted
  - C. agreed
  - D. rejected
18. It is probable that it will rain soon.
- A. possible
  - B. likely
  - C. impossible
  - D. unlikely

For questions 19 to 21, select the alternative that means the same as the given sentence.

19. 'Ochieng is coming home tomorrow,' Kanini said.
- A. Kanini said that Ochieng was coming home the next day.
  - B. Kanini said that 'Ochieng is coming home tomorrow.'
  - C. Kanini said that Ochieng is coming home the next day.
  - D. Kanini was coming home tomorrow, Ochieng said.
20. Katana wished he had gone to school early.
- A. Katana hoped to go to school early.
  - B. Katana did not like going to school late.
  - C. Katana regretted not going to school early.
  - D. Katana hoped he had not gone to school late.
21. No sooner had Wambui fallen asleep than the baby began screaming.
- A. The baby screamed when Wambui fell asleep.
  - B. The baby began screaming as soon as Wambui fell asleep.
  - C. Wambui fell asleep and the baby screamed.
  - D. Wambui had not really fallen asleep when the baby screamed.

For questions 22 and 23, arrange the sentences given to form a sensible paragraph.

22. (i) We are both tall and slender.  
(ii) We both have long hair and brown eyes.  
(iii) My sister and I look alike.  
(iv) People who see us together always know that we are sisters.
- A. (iii) (i) (ii) (iv)
  - B. (iii) (iv) (i) (ii)
  - C. (iii) (i) (iv) (ii)
  - D. (iii) (iv) (ii) (i)
23. (i) These pupils may begin school expecting nonstop fun.  
(ii) When they find out that school is often a routine, they quickly lose interest.  
(iii) First of all, some pupils are bored in school.  
(iv) Pupils drop out of school for many reasons.
- A. (iii) (i) (ii) (iv)
  - B. (iii) (ii) (i) (iv)
  - C. (iv) (iii) (ii) (i)
  - D. (iv) (iii) (i) (ii)

In questions 24 and 25, choose the correct alternative to fill the blank space in each of the sentences.

24. The story was not true; Johana had made it \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. up
  - B. out
  - C. over
  - D. off
25. After working hard all day, he dozed \_\_\_\_\_ as soon as he sat down.
- A. out
  - B. up
  - C. down
  - D. off



26. It is clear from the second sentence in the passage that Anansi and Kling Kling
- feared each other.
  - hid from each other.
  - had once been friends.
  - were different types of creatures.
27. How do we know that Anansi was determined to capture Kling Kling?
- He hid traps near the berries Kling Kling loved to eat.
  - He tried to use many types of traps one after the other.
  - He tried to catch Kling Kling over a long period of time.
  - He was always thinking of new ways to deal with him.
28. 'But it was no use.' This expression means
- it was almost useless.
  - there was no reason for it.
  - he nearly despaired.
  - every attempt failed.
29. From the first paragraph we can conclude that Kling Kling
- was too clever for Anansi.
  - had done something wrong.
  - followed Anansi everywhere.
  - considered Anansi rather foolish.
30. Why did Anansi approach Mr. Tiger for help?
- Kling Kling had refused to pay a fine.
  - Anansi was puzzled and angry.
  - He was a good friend of his.
  - It was probably the only alternative left.
31. The fact that Mr. Tiger asked to be paid for helping Anansi proves that
- he did not believe in giving free service.
  - he was not really a true friend.
  - Anansi was serious about capturing Kling Kling.
  - Anansi was capable of giving Tiger what he demanded.
32. Which of the following best explains why Mr. Tiger exclaims 'a whole cow!'?
- He wanted to be given less than a whole cow.
  - He was excited about eating a whole cow.
  - He was concerned that Anansi was willing to pay such a price.
  - He was shocked when he heard the price.
33. Anansi can be described as
- rich but foolish
  - foolish and desperate
  - rich but unlucky
  - desperate and unlucky.

34. If Kling Kling had not gone to the market, he probably
- would not have received the news of Tiger's 'death'.
  - would not have had any food in his house.
  - would have thought Tiger was still alive.
  - would have missed an important funeral.
35. Which of the following statements is not true about Kling Kling?
- He had at least two coats.
  - He had shoes that could cry.
  - He dressed specifically for the 'funeral'.
  - He hurried home on hearing the news.
36. '... a great crowd of people' means
- a multitude.
  - a mob.
  - a group
  - a congregation.
37. Why do you think Kling Kling asked so many questions?
- He wanted correct answers.
  - He was curious and anxious.
  - He was shocked and puzzled.
  - He probably doubted the story.
38. Mr. Tiger can be described as
- helpful but foolish.
  - foolish and greedy.
  - great and famous.
  - funny but greedy.

Read the following passage and then answer questions 39 to 50.

Nobody in Maria's family knew. She carefully hid the gifts she received or kept them at her friend's house. Her friend Rachel took her to the Family Planning Clinic to get an injection so that she would not become pregnant. In exchange for keeping quiet about Maria's secret sugar-daddy, Rachel was allowed to wear the clothes and the jewellery Dan gave Maria. Maria lived for Saturdays. Life went by so slowly during the week.

One evening, Mrs. Mungai, Maria's mother came home from the hospital looking very depressed. 'Aai, these AIDS babies,' she wailed, as she pushed her food away. She had no appetite. 'They break my heart.'

'What sort of babies?' asked her son David, curiously.

'AIDS babies are babies that are born to die,' Gladys answered. 'Their mothers have AIDS.'

'What is AIDS?' asked Maria.

'It's a terrible disease, Maria,' said Mrs. Mungai. 'It has no cure.'

'You mean it's like cancer?' David asked.

'Well, it's only like cancer because there isn't a cure,' Mrs. Mungai explained. 'It starts with a virus called HIV. This HIV makes your body weaker and weaker, so it can't protect itself from disease any more. Then you can catch any disease and die from it. Even a simple disease like flu.'

'How do you get this HIV?' asked Maria.

'Well, the most common way of getting it is by having sex with an infected partner.'

Maria stopped eating. She stared at her mother. She suddenly felt very frightened.

'We shouldn't talk about these things at table. I think we should change the subject,' Mr. Mungai said.

'No, dear,' protested Mrs. Mungai, touching her husband's arm. 'This is an important subject. Our children should become aware of it.'

'We are already learning about HIV/AIDS in school,' said Gladys. 'Mrs. Chelimo told us all about it. She says the most dangerous thing about it is that you can't tell by looking at someone if he or she has got HIV or not.'

Maria stared at her plate in silence. Her face felt very hot.

'But how do babies get it?' David asked. 'I mean babies do not have sex!'

'If a woman has HIV, then the virus is in her blood. She passes it on to the baby before it is born. Then the little thing doesn't have a chance. It gets ill so easily, and such a baby usually dies before its second birthday. Another one died today at the hospital. It's so sad.'

Maria was very quiet. She had hardly heard what her mother had said about AIDS babies. She didn't feel like eating any more. Her stomach felt strange with fear. She and Dan had had sex many times. Did Dan have HIV? Was she going to die of AIDS? Suddenly, having a sugar-daddy didn't seem such a grown-up thing any more.

The things Maria heard that day really shocked her. But she made a decision and she was going to stick to it; she would have nothing to do with Dan from that day on. She also resolved to warn all her friends about the risks of living a careless sex life.

(Adapted from *The Yellow Dress* by Gladys Ngwenya)





39. Which of the following is true according to the first paragraph?
- Maria kept quiet about Rachel's secrets.
  - Maria always looked forward to Saturdays.
  - Maria had a friend who knew everything.
  - Maria hid all her gifts at her friend's house.
40. What do we learn about Rachel from the first paragraph?
- She was older than Maria.
  - She had no clothes of her own.
  - She knew something about family planning.
  - She too was HIV positive.
41. Mrs. Mungai looked very depressed means she was
- angry
  - disappointed
  - tired
  - cheerless
42. Which of the following statements is **not true** about HIV according to the passage?
- It weakens the body.
  - It is found in infected people only.
  - It is a deadly disease.
  - It makes you catch simple diseases.
43. Mr. Mungai did not want the subject of HIV/AIDS discussed at the table because he
- felt embarrassed about the subject.
  - did not think the subject was important.
  - he feared he would lose his appetite for the food.
  - was too tired and hungry.
44. According to Mrs. Chelimo,
- HIV makes a person look unfit and unhealthy.
  - you can tell by looking, that a person does not have AIDS.
  - a person can look perfectly fit and healthy and yet have HIV.
  - people who have AIDS look perfectly fit and healthy.
45. Which of the following can best replace 'passes it on' as used in the passage?
- distributes it.
  - supplies it.
  - gives it.
  - presents it.
46. Maria had hardly heard what her mother had said because
- she was wondering if she had the virus.
  - her stomach felt strange with fear.
  - she was worrying about Dan her sugar-daddy.
  - she feared she might already be pregnant.
47. From the questions David asks, we can conclude that he is
- curious
  - stubborn
  - troublesome
  - anxious
48. At first, having a sugar-daddy made Maria feel
- excited
  - mature
  - lucky
  - rich
49. At the end of the passage we can tell that Maria resolved to
- end her relationship with Dan.
  - end her friendship with Rachel.
  - advise all friends about careless living.
  - stick to one boyfriend only.
50. Which of the following best summarises the message in the passage?
- Maria's secret life.
  - Maria becomes frightened.
  - Maria's adventures with friends.
  - Maria learns a lesson.

