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WordPub

BECE

English Language

Past Questions and Answers

2014

**Junior High School
Years 1, 2 & 3**

Compiled by:



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DEDICATION

To the Lord **Jesus Christ**, our Saviour and soon-coming King

June 2014

ENGLISH LANGUAGE 1

Objective Test
45 minutes

PART A LEXIS AND STRUCTURE

SECTION A

*From the alternatives lettered A to D, choose the one which **most suitably completes** each sentence.*

1. The students were hostilethe lazy teacher.
 - A. on
 - B. to
 - C. from
 - D. with

2. Themet at the mess.
 - A. commander-in-chief
 - B. commander-in-chiefs
 - C. commanders-in-chief
 - D. commanders-in-chiefs

3. The workers are demonstratingmanagement.
 - A. at
 - B. on
 - C. upon
 - D. against

4.failed the examination, Doris was dismissed from the school.
 - A. Having
 - B. In having
 - C. On having
 - D. To having

5. The building he boughtmillions of cedis.
 - A. cost

- B. costs
- C. costed
- D. costing

6. The dresses are

- A. you
- B. your's
- C. our's
- D. ours

7. We shall invite him when hefrom America.

- A. will return
- B. had returned
- C. returns
- D. returned

8. The students were congratulatedtheir brilliant performance.

- A. by
- B. on
- C. with
- D. about

9. By this time next year, Ischool.

- A. will leave
- B. would leave
- C. might leave
- D. will have left

10. Isn't that girlold to play with toys?

- A. as
- B. so
- C. too
- D. very

11. You usually come to school early,?

- A. can you
- B. will you
- C. aren't you
- D. don't you

12. I amfaithfully.

- A. your
- B. yours'
- C. yours
- D. your's

13. No sooner had we arrivedhe came back from work.
A. than
B. then
C. when
D. before
14. Kofi and Ama love
A. another
B. themselves
C. each other
D. one another
15. It's no goodto him.
A. to be talking
B. talked
C. talking
D. about talking
16. Since our last meeting, Iill.
A. am
B. was
C. had been
D. have been
17. I wastired that I couldn't go any further.
A. so
B. too
C. much
D. very

SECTION B

Choose from the alternatives lettered A to D the one which is **nearest in meaning** to the underlined word in **each** sentence.

18. The elders were advised not to meddle in chieftaincy affairs.
A. indulge
B. intrude
C. interfere
D. intervene
19. The accountant corrected all the mistakes made by the Chief Executive.
A. refused
B. erased

- C. nullified
- D. rectified

20. Elorm's decision was superb

- A. right
- B. good
- C. excellent
- D. wonderful

21. The students complained that the rules were too rigid.

- A. strong
- B. hard
- C. strict
- D. bad

22. The new headmaster met the staff and made his maiden speech.

- A. first
- B. fresh
- C. official
- D. original

SECTION C

*In each of the following sentences a group of words has been underlined. Choose from the alternatives lettered A to D the one that **best explains** the underlined group of words.*

23. The student was caught red-handed breaking the louvers. This means that the student was caught

- A. while committing the offence
- B. with blood on his hands
- C. before the act
- D. after the act

24. We knew it was a cock and bull story. This means that the story was

- A. difficult to believe
- B. about a cock and a bull
- C. real
- D. false

25. The thieves were armed to the teeth when they entered the house. This means that the thieves were

- A. well trained
- B. experienced
- C. fully armed
- D. violent

26. Mr. Abban instructed his wife to keep an eye on their daughter. This means that their daughter should be

- A. pampered

- B. disciplined
- C. controlled properly
- D. watched closely

27. The president hit the nail on the head when he complained that most of the ministers were corrupt.
- A. the exact truth
 - B. in detail
 - C. harshly
 - D. clearly

SECTION D

*From the list of words lettered A to D, choose the one that is **most nearly opposite** in meaning to the word underlined in **each** sentence.*

28. The man was disgraced in public.
- A. respected
 - B. honoured
 - C. welcomed
 - D. accepted
29. Akosua accepted the offer.
- A. disliked
 - B. declined
 - C. withdrew
 - D. ignored
30. Food is abundant in the rural areas.
- A. scarce
 - B. less
 - C. few
 - D. cheap
31. Doctors have withdrawn their services.
- A. hidden
 - B. registered
 - C. offered
 - D. displayed
32. By our constitution, it is obligatory to vote.
- A. good
 - B. necessary
 - C. optional
 - D. right

PART B
LITERATURE

From the list of words lettered A to D, choose the one that **correctly** answers the questions or completes the sentence.

33. Which of the following is **not** an example of oral literature?
- A. Myth
 - B. Folktale
 - C. Proverb
 - D. Melodrama
34. The dominant idea in a literary work constitutes its
- A. plot
 - B. theme
 - C. diction
 - D. structure
35. The expression “The world is a stage.” is an example of
- A. metonymy
 - B. simile
 - C. personification
 - D. metaphor
36. A genre is
- A. any kind of poetry
 - B. another name for prose
 - C. a subdivision of drama
 - D. any of the three forms of literature

Read the following extract carefully and answer questions 37 and 38

Sweet sensation rises in pressure
Tiny legs kick with pleasure
Sleep comes gently and strong
Sleep whispers softly and strong

37. The device used in “Sleep comes gently and strong” is
- A. irony
 - B. hyperbole
 - C. euphemism
 - D. personification

38. The rhyme scheme of the stanza is
- A. abba
 - B. bbaa
 - C. aabb
 - D. abab

Read the following extract carefully and answer questions 39 and 40

The fair breeze blew; the white foam flew,
The furrow followed free;
We were the first that burst
Into the silent sea.

39. The **main** sound device used in the stanza is
- A. pun
 - B. rhyme
 - C. alliteration
 - D. onomatopoeia
40. The device helps to express
- A. the silence of the sea
 - B. the whiteness of the foam
 - C. the fairness of the weather
 - D. the smoothness of the movement

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE 1

SOLUTIONS

OBJECTIVE TEST

1. B. to
2. C. commanders-in-chief
3. D. against
4. A. Having
5. B. costs
6. D. ours
7. C. returns
8. B. on
9. D. will have left
10. C. too
11. D. don't you
12. C. yours
13. A. than
14. C. each other
15. C. talking
16. D. have been
17. A. so
18. C. interfere
19. D. rectified
20. C. excellent
21. C. strict
22. A. first
23. A. while committing the offence
24. D. false
25. C. fully armed
26. D. watched closely

- 27. A. the exact truth
- 28. B. honoured
- 29. B. declined
- 30. A. scarce
- 31. C. offered
- 32. C. optional
- 33. D. melodrama
- 34. B. theme
- 35. D. metaphor
- 36. D. any of the three forms of literature
- 37. D. personification
- 38. C. aabb
- 39. C. alliteration
- 40. C the fairness of the weather

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE 2

1 hour

Answer **two** questions in all; **one** question from Part A and all the questions in Part B.
Your composition should be about **250** words long.

PART A **ESSAY WRITING** **[30 MARKS]**

Answer **one** question **only** from this part

1. You have been offered admission to a Senior High School to pursue a programme which you do not like. Write to the headmaster of the school stating **at least two** reasons why you want the programme changed.
2. Write an article to be published in a national newspaper on why every school should have a library
3. Write the speech you would give at your school's graduation day on *The school's achievements and failures in the academic year.*

PART B **COMPREHENSION** **[30 marks]**

4. *Read the following passage carefully and answer **all** the questions which follow*

Fatimeh was always silent. She learnt a lot within a short time. In one month, she could milk cows, separate butter and cheese from the milk, ferment the milk and cook nearly as well as Rikku's mother. At first, she went with Rikku's mother to hawk the sour milk; she was beginning to find her way to and from town.

Fatimeh was always chewing tobacco flower and so her lips, teeth and gums became red. Hodio noticed that her looks had improved since she came to live with the family. Her skin was smooth and shiny; she had also put on more flesh.

Towards nightfall, when Fatimeh came home, she would take a pot and go down to the stream where she bathed and drew water. Sometimes, she went with Leibe or Shaitu; she was never alone.

One evening, Hodio followed Fatimeh quietly to the stream when the place was quiet and he could hear the sound of his own footsteps on the dusty road. When he caught up with Fatimeh, he suggested to her to run away with him because he loved her dearly and wanted her to be his wife. Fatimeh refused. She knew very well that, as a slave, she could never hope to marry a freeborn and proud Fulani like Hodio Sunsaye.

Hodio did not give up. He spoke to her again. He tried to persuade her to run away with him and live in a town where no one cared about tradition and custom. Eventually, Fatimeh agreed to consider his proposal.

Hodio's father, old Sunsaye, was the first person who missed Fatimeh. He called his wife, Shaitu, and asked her if she had seen Fatimeh. She replied in the negative. He asked Rikku and Leibe. No one could tell him where Hodio and Fatimeh were. They then looked behind the hut; the horse was not there.

- (a) What **two** things did the girl learn to do in one month?
- (b) Give **two** adjectives that describe Fatimeh as presented in the first paragraph.
- (c) What was Hodio's **main** reason for following Fatimeh to the stream?
- (d) *Fatimeh refused.*
 - (i) What did Fatimeh refuse to do at first?
 - (ii) Why did she refuse Hodio's proposal?
- (e) Why did Hodio want to live in a town?
- (f) For **each** of the following words, give another word or phrase that means **the same** and can fit into the passage:
 - (i) silent
 - (ii) sour,
 - (iii) improved
 - (iv) drew
 - (v) proposal

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE 2

SOLUTIONS

4

(a) Two things the girl learnt to do in one month

She learnt to milk cows, separate butter and cheese from the milk, ferment the milk and cook nearly as well as Rikku's mother. (any two)

(b) Two adjectives that describe Fatimeh as presented in the first paragraph

Silent /quiet, diligent/ hardworking/ industrious, intelligent/ clever/ smart, fast/quick

(c) Hodio's main reason for following Fatimeh to the stream

Hodio's main reason for following Fatimeh to the stream was to propose marriage to her.

Or : to ask her to be his wife

Or: to ask that they elope (leave secretly to get married)

(d) (i) What Fatimeh refused to do at first

She refused to get married to Hodio / She refused his marriage proposal.

(ii) Why she refused Hodio's proposal

She refused because she was a slave, and could not hope to marry a freeborn Fulani.

(e) Why Hodio wanted to live in a town

Hodio wanted to live in a town because there, no one cared about tradition and custom.

(f) (i) silent - quiet

(ii) sour - sharp-tasting / bitter

(iii) improved - become better/ nicer /more pleasant

(iv) drew - fetched

(v) proposal - plea/ request/ appeal/ petition/ entreaty/offer