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THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL  
**KPSEA 2023**



**601** 

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Oct. 2023 – 1 hour**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES (Please read these instructions carefully)**

1. You have been given this question paper and a separate answer sheet. The question paper contains 30 questions. Answer **ALL** the questions.
2. When you have chosen your answer, mark it on the **ANSWER SHEET** only. You should **NOT** mark your answers on the question paper.

**HOW TO USE THE ANSWER SHEET**

3. Use an ordinary pencil.
4. Confirm that the answer sheet that you have been provided with has the following:

**YOUR ASSESSMENT NUMBER**  
**YOUR NAME**  
**NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL**  
**NAME OF SUBJECT**

5. Do not make any marks outside the boxes.
6. Keep the sheet as clean as possible and do not fold it.
7. For each of the questions 1 – 30, four choices are given. The choices are lettered A, B, C and D. In each case, only **ONE** of the four choices is correct. Choose the correct answer.
8. On the answer sheet, the correct answer is to be shown by drawing a **dark line** inside the box in **which the letter you have chosen is written**.

**Example**

**In the Question Paper:**

For question 22, choose the alternative that **best** completes the sentence.

22. We are working hard in school, \_\_\_\_\_ ?
- A. are we
  - B. isn't it
  - C. aren't we
  - D. don't we

The correct answer is **C**.

**On the answer sheet:**

In the set of boxes numbered **22**, draw a **dark line** inside the box with the letter C printed in it as indicated below.

22. [A] [B] ☒ [C] [D]

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

**This question paper consists of 7 printed pages.**





### Questions 1 to 3

Read the telephone conversation below. It contains blank spaces numbered 1 to 3. For each blank space, select the **best** alternative from the choices given.

**Pupil:** Hello, Teacher.

**Class teacher:** Hello. \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_

**Pupil:** I am Barasa Kabengi, a pupil in Grade 6 Yellow.

**Class teacher:** Yes, Barasa, how can I help you?

**Pupil:** \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_

**Class teacher:** Is there a problem at home?

**Pupil:** My young sister is joining Grade 1 today. She has been crying.  
She wants me to accompany her to school. Grade 1 learners are to report at 8:30 a.m. today.

**Class teacher:** Okay, Barasa. You can come along with her. Make sure you come to see me after she settles down in her classroom.

**Pupil:** \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_

1. A. Who are you?  
B. Who is this?  
C. Whom am I speaking to?  
D. Whom do you want to speak to?

2. A. May I be late for school today?  
B. I want to be late for school today.  
C. I will be late for school today.  
D. Must I be late for school today?

3. A. That's good, Teacher.  
B. It's okay, Teacher.  
C. It's alright, Teacher.  
D. Thank you, Teacher.

For questions 4 to 5, complete each of the blank spaces with the correct alternative from the choices given.

4. If I had a lot of money, I \_\_\_\_\_ travel all over the world.

- A. should  
B. would  
C. can  
D. will

5. Odoko goes to school \_\_\_\_\_ foot every morning.

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



Read the passage below and then answer questions 6 to 9.

Human beings have always kept animals for different purposes. Animals can be kept as pets. A pet is an animal kept for pleasure. We keep pets because we love their company. We play with them. They are just like our friends, so we keep them happy and comfortable. Indeed, the dog, which is a common pet, has been said to be man's best friend.

Animals can also be kept to help human beings do certain tasks. This is because they have **special** abilities which human beings do not have. For example, donkeys have strength to carry heavy luggage. They can therefore help us in transportation.

Some animals are kept as source of food. Animal products such as milk and eggs are a rich source of nutrients. It is important to realise that whether we keep animals as pets, to help in work, or for food, they deserve kind treatment.

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>6. Why do we keep pets?</p> <p>A. To help us carry heavy things.</p> <p>B. To make us happy.</p> <p>C. To provide food.</p> <p>D. To protect the environment.</p>                                                                                    | <p>8. The word '<b>special</b>' as used in the passage means the same as _____</p> <p>A. strange.</p> <p>B. unusual.</p> <p>C. new.</p> <p>D. unknown.</p>                                                                                                 |
| <p>7. Which one of the following is <b>true</b> about donkeys and dogs?</p> <p>A. They are man's best friend.</p> <p>B. They are better than us.</p> <p>C. They can do things that we cannot do.</p> <p>D. They are always comfortable and healthy.</p> | <p>9. What is likely to happen if we do not treat animals kindly?</p> <p>A. They will not live with us.</p> <p>B. They may not give us enough food.</p> <p>C. We may not get enough benefits from them.</p> <p>D. We may not be happy and comfortable.</p> |



Read the story below and then answer questions 10 to 12.

Hassan likes running errands for his parents. The other day, he was sent to the shop to buy some items. His father had written the prices of the items on a list. The total cost was four hundred and twenty five shillings. His father had given him five hundred shillings. Hassan was expecting a balance of seventy five shillings.

The shopkeeper was very busy on that day. She was serving many customers. When Hassan got the balance, he stepped out of the shop to count the money. He could not believe it. The shopkeeper had given him five hundred and seventy five shillings! Hassan thought this was his lucky day.

He sat down under a tree to plan how he would spend his new found cash. He started counting all the things he wanted to buy. This time he would go to a different shop.

On his way to the shop, Hassan remembered what his father had once told him, "Never take what does not belong to you". He realised the five hundred shillings belonged to the shopkeeper. He walked back to the shop to return the money. The shopkeeper was surprised to see him back so soon. When Hassan handed her the money, she was very grateful and said, "You are an angel. I'm proud of you, young man".

Hassan walked home shoulder high. He knew his father would be very pleased with him.

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>10. Why did Hassan's father write the list of items?</p> <p>A. He did not want Hassan to forget any item.</p> <p>B. He did not want Hassan to delay in the shop.</p> <p>C. He wanted Hassan to get the right balance from the shopkeeper.</p> <p>D. He wanted Hassan to do the totals of the cost of the items.</p> | <p>12. This story teaches us that _____</p> <p>A. honesty is the best policy.</p> <p>B. hurry hurry has no blessing.</p> <p>C. once bitten twice shy.</p> <p>D. a friend in need is a friend indeed.</p> |
| <p>11. The shopkeeper was surprised to see Hassan back because _____</p> <p>A. Hassan returned the money.</p> <p>B. the shopkeeper was very busy that day.</p> <p>C. Hassan had just left the shop.</p> <p>D. the shopkeeper had given him the balance.</p>                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |



Read the story below and then answer questions 13 to 15.

Many afternoons, Hyena and Hare spent hours in a field eating the farmer's groundnuts. One day, Hare heard that the farmer was complaining that his groundnuts were being stolen. Hare went to him and said, "I will catch the thief for you."

One afternoon, Hare told Hyena that groundnuts are sweeter when you eat them with your legs buried in the ground. Hyena buried his four legs in the ground. He looked at the Hare and asked him, "Hare, why have you not buried your four legs?" Hare replied, "My legs are very short." Hyena was happy with Hare's answer, and he continued eating groundnuts. Hare watched carefully and when he saw the farmer coming, he quickly ran away. Hyena too saw the farmer, and tried to escape, but his legs were stuck in the ground. The farmer caught him and gave him a thorough beating.

13. Which one of the following is **true** according to the story?
- A. Hare stole the groundnuts just like Hyena.
  - B. Hare was a true friend of the farmer.
  - C. Hare was not able to cheat Hyena.
  - D. Hare buried one of his legs in the ground.
14. From the story, Hare is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. friendly
  - B. funny
  - C. busy
  - D. tricky
15. What do we learn from this story?
- A. People need to share what they have.
  - B. We should keep the right friends.
  - C. Farmers should beat all Hyenas.
  - D. We should always do what we are told.

Questions 16 to 20



Read the passage below. It contains blank spaces numbered 16 to 20. For each blank space, select the **best** alternative from the choices given.

Asha has a small garden at home. She likes it because it is a gift from 16 grandfather. Asha grows 17 vegetables in her garden. She 18 taking care of her vegetables. She does not like to sit in the house 19 play games on the phone. She hopes to sell her harvest 20 month.

16. A. his B. hers C. him D. her  
 17. A. different B. dry C. cooked D. plenty  
 18. A. begins B. accepts C. enjoys D. admires  
 19. A. also B. and C. yet D. because  
 20. A. future B. new C. next D. later

For questions 21 to 28, fill in the blank spaces with the **correct** alternative from the choices given.

21. The teacher found the learner \_\_\_\_\_ the classroom.  
 A. to  
 B. in  
 C. on  
 D. over
22. Ali left the book \_\_\_\_\_ the table.  
 A. with  
 B. on  
 C. in  
 D. from
23. The children are planting trees, \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. aren't they?  
 B. aren't we?  
 C. are they?  
 D. are we?
24. Rudisha did not find the story book in his bag because \_\_\_\_\_ had taken it.  
 A. anybody  
 B. somebody  
 C. everybody  
 D. nobody
25. The teacher told us to take care of \_\_\_\_\_ during the journey.  
 A. themselves  
 B. yourself  
 C. ourselves  
 D. yourselves
26. The thieves took away our goats \_\_\_\_\_ force.  
 A. with  
 B. by  
 C. at  
 D. under



27. This is the hen \_\_\_\_\_ egg broke.

- A. who
- B. whom
- C. whose
- D. which

28. The class teacher will \_\_\_\_\_ us a present.

- A. given
- B. gives
- C. gave
- D. give

*In question 29, choose the best alternative from the choices given.*

29. 'Neither Kalusi nor Sofia came late to class'.

Means:

- A. Only Kalusi came late to class.
- B. Only Sofia came late to class.
- C. Both Kalusi and Sofia came late to class.
- D. Both Kalusi and Sofia did not come late to class.

*Read the following paragraph and answer question 30.*

Nasir, Banda and Lona are friends. They all play football. Nasir also plays volleyball. Lona also plays netball.

30. According to the story, who plays football only?

- A. Nasir.
- B. Banda.
- C. Lona.
- D. All of them.