

UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY, NIGERIA
POST UNIVERSITIES MATRICULATION EXAMINATION SCREENING
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 19th 2007

Time Allowed: 1 hour 10 Minutes

SECTION A: English

Read the following instructions carefully

1. Use an HB pencil to shade in your answers. Ensure that any shading in error is thoroughly erased.
2. Candidates should write their **names**, **JAMB Registration numbers** and the **Question Paper Option** given to them in the appropriate spaces in the **Answer Sheet**.
3. Write your JAMB Registration number on the Question Paper in the space provided at the top of Page 1.
4. Attempt all questions.
5. The use of calculators and/or similar electronic devices is **NOT** allowed.

In question 1 and 2, an idiom is underlined in each of the sentences, find under each sentence the group of words that give the nearest meaning to the idiom.

1. Let us now get down to brass tacks
(a) dodge the facts (b) tell a lie (c) change the iron tacks to the brass one (d) face the actual fact
2. He talked my head off when I visited him
(a) wearied me with talking (b) pushed off his head (c) had nothing to say (d) gave himself a headache

In questions 3 and 4, select the option that is nearest in meaning to the underlined word

3. Do your parents always decry insubordination?
(a) speak against (b) tolerate (c) embrace (d) overlook
4. Can you mention any two inimical acts?
(a) economical (b) dangerous (c) encouraging (d) fantastic

In question 5 and 6, choose the word or set of words that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole

5. The magazine was by the government for an offensive publication
(a) suspended (b) proscribed (c) condemned (d) scaled
6. Your mobile phone has many times in the last thirty minutes
(a) rang (b) rung (c) been ringing (d) being rung

Read the passage below and answer question 7 to 11 that follow

Cloning creates serious problems of individuality. The cloned person may experience concerns about his or her distinctive identity, not only because the person will be in genotype (genetic make-up) and appearance identical to another human being, but in this case, because he or she may also be twin to the person who is the "father" or "mother" if one can still call them that. What would be the psychic burdens of being the "child" or "parent" of your twin? The cloned individual, moreover, will be saddled with a genotype that has already lived. He or she will not be fully a surprise to the world.

People will likely always compare a clone's performance in life with that of the original. True, a cloned person's nature and circumstances in life will be different; genotype is not exactly destiny. Still, one must also expect parental and other efforts to shape this new life after the original or at least to view the child with original vision

firmly in mind. Why else then would they clone from the star basketball player, mathematician and beauty queen or even dear old dad - in the first place?

Since the birth of Dolly, there has been a fair amount of doublespeak on this matter of genetic identity. Experts have rushed in to reassure the public that the clone would in no way be the same person, or have any confusion about his or her identity; they are pleased to point out that the clone of film star Julia Roberts would not be Julia Roberts. Fair enough. But one is short-changing the truth by emphasizing the additional importance the environment, rearing and social setting has on the clone. Genotype obviously matters plenty. That after all, is the only reason to clone whether human beings or sheep. The odds that the clone of basketball star Laury Bird will play basketball are I submit, infinitely greater than they are clones of Jockey Willie shoemaker.

QUESTIONS

7. In line 1 paragraph 3, "fair" most nearly means
(a) pleasing (b) considerate (c) promising (d) ethical
8. The author agrees that
(a) genetic characteristics alone cannot determine a person's behaviour
(b) people who are cloned from others may have greater professional opportunities
(c) cloning human beings is a greater technological challenge than cloning sheep
(d) a formal code of ethical rules will be needed once human beings can be cloned
9. The question at the end of paragraph 2 ("why else.....first place?") chiefly serves to
(a) Suggest that some issues are not easily resolved (b) argue for the importance of parents to the life of children (c) imply that cloning might displace many familiar means of reproduction (d) suggest the value perceived in a person who might be elected for cloning
10. The author mentions two sports stars in order to
(a) distinguish between lasting fame and mere celebrity (b) highlight the need for greater understanding of the athletic data (c) suggest that athletics' special skills have a genetic component (d) argue against genetic analysis of any sports star's physical abilities.
11. The author uses the word "true" to indicate
(a) acknowledgement that the passage's opening arguments are tenuous
(b) distrust of those who insist on pursuing cloning research
(c) recognition of a potential counterargument
(d) conviction about the accuracy of the facts presented

After each of the sentences in question 12 and 13 is a list of possible interpretations. Choose the interpretation most appropriate for each sentence

12. For all he cared, the match was as good as lost. This means that
(a) he didn't care if the match was lost (b) he was almost certain the match would be lost
(c) he was afraid that the match would be lost (d) he cared very much about losing the match
13. It is possible that he has not read that book yet. This means that he
(a) has certainly not read that book yet (b) has probably read that book (c) may not have read that book yet (d) has still not read that book

Question 14 and 15, choose from the options given in A-D, the one which is opposite in meaning to the word underlined in each of the following sentences

14. I know you will prefer a colossal amount as a monthly salary to a _____ amount even though you are a bachelor
(a) fantastic (b) meagre (c) few (d) huge

15. I think the manager should have embarked on actions that would soothe the feelings of the striking workers instead of uttering statements that could _____ them
(a) increase (b) placate (c) stimulate (d) sensitize