

UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY, NIGERIA
POST UNIVERSITY MATRICULATION EXAMINATION SCREENING
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11TH 2006

TIME Allowed: 1 hour
Section A: English

Read passage 1 and answer the questions that follow:

When we survey all known human societies, we find everywhere a form of the family, some set of permanent arrangement by which males assist females in caring for children while they are young. The distinctively human aspect of the enterprise lies not in the protection the male affords the females and the young – this we share with the primates. Nor does it lie in the lordly possessiveness of the male over the females for whose favour he contends with other males – this too we share with the primates. Its distinctiveness lies instead in the nurturing behaviour of the male who among human beings everywhere helps provide food for women and children.

Among our structurally closest analogues – the primates – the male does not feed the female. He may fight to protect her or to possess her, but he does not nurture her. She has to fend for herself. Somewhere at the dawn of human history some social invention was made under which males started nurturing females and their young. In every known human society, everywhere in the world, the young male learns that when he is grown up, one of the things which he must do in order to be a full member of society is to provide food for some females and her young. Even in very simple societies a large number of men may escape the burden of feeding females and the young by entering monasteries – and feeding each other – or by entering some profession that their society will classify as giving them a right to be fed, like the Army and the Navy, or the Buddhist order of Burma. But in spite of such exceptions, every known human society rests firmly on the learned nurturing behaviour of men.

1. Man differs from other animals because
(a) he forms a family (b) he cares for children (c) he cares for women and children (d) he provides food for women
2. The lordly possessiveness of the male over the female means that the male
(a) shows mastery over the female (b) is most aggressive towards the female (c) claims right over the female (d) protects the female
3. "Somewhere at the dawn of history" refers to
(a) the beginning of creation (b) the creation of man (c) the time when man was yet a monkey (d) the beginning of civilization
4. Man makes it upon himself to feed the females except when
(a) he takes up the gun to fight (b) he becomes religious (c) joins a religion (d) enters some profession
5. According to the passage a common feature of all human communities is
(a) the family (b) caring mothers (c) aggressiveness fathers (d) nurtured women and children

Read passage 2 carefully and answer the questions that follow:

From ancient times, people commonly believed that life arose repeatedly by spontaneous generation from non-living materials in addition to parental reproduction. For example frogs appeared to arise from damp earth, mice from putrefied matter, insects from dew and maggots from decaying meat. Warmth, moisture, sunlight and even starlight often were mentioned as factors that encourage spontaneous generation of living organism. Among the account of early efforts to synthesize organisms in the laboratory is a recipe for making mice given by the Belgian plant nutritionist Jean Baptiste van Helmont (1648). "If you press a piece underwear soiled with sweat together with some wheat in an open jar, after about twenty one days the odour changes and it ferment ... changes

the wheat into mice. But what is more remarkable is that the mice which came out of the wheat and underwear were not small mice, not even miniature adults or aborted mice but adult mice emerged". In 1861, the great French scientist Louis Pasteur convinced science that living organisms cannot arise spontaneously from non-living matter. In his famous experiments, Pasteur introduced fermentable materials into a flask with a long S-shaped neck that was open to air. The flask and its contents were then boiled for long time to kill any micro-organisms that might be present. Afterward the flask was cooled and left undisturbed. No fermentation occurred because all organisms that entered the open end were deposited in the open neck and did not reach the fermentable material. When the neck of the flask was removed, microorganisms in the air promptly entered the fermentable material and proliferated. Pasteur concluded that life could not originate in the absence of previously existing organisms and their reproductive elements such as eggs and spores. Announcing his results to the French Academy, Pasteur proclaimed, "Never will the doctrine of spontaneous generation arise from this moral blow. All living organisms share a common ancestor, most likely a population of colonial micro-organisms that lived almost four billion years ago. This common ancestry was a product of a long period of prebiotic assembly by non-living matter, including organic molecules and water, to form self-replicating units. All living organisms retain a fundamental chemical composition inherited from their ancient common ancestor.

6. Throughout the passage the words spontaneously can best taken to mean
(a) without reproductive elements (b) in a medium (c) unthinking (d) freed spirited
7. In Pasteur's experiment, why was the neck of the flask removed?
(a) to allow air to escape (b) to provide access to micro-organism (c) to kill any micro-organism that may be present (d) to permit the heating of the flask
8. In the third paragraph, the word "moral" most nearly means
(a) human (b) impermanent (c) fatal (d) earthly
9. The expression "when the neck of the flask was removed" found in the third paragraph can be described as
(a) adverbial clause of time (b) adjectival clause (c) noun clause (d) adverbial phrase of time
10. In what sense is the use of the word "water" in the last paragraph ironic?
(a) it is a medium in which many living organism thrive (b) it has a relatively low boiling point
(c) Pasteur did not mention it specifically in his description of his experiment (d) it was not one of the ingredients in Helmont's recipe.

Read the following passage and select the best option that fills the corresponding gap in the text.

By the 28th week, that is the end of the 7th 11, the foetus moves around vigorously within the 12 and its heartbeat can be heard by the 13. Its length is 38cm (15inches) and its weight 100grams. Its body is thin, its skin reddish and covered with 14 coating of a creamy, waxy substance, which is manufactured by small glands in the skin. It can open up its eyes and the 15 covering the pupils of the 16 has gone. If it is 17 at this stage, it can 18 but with difficulty. It can also cry 19, but 20 its legs energetically.

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
11	Day	Week	Month	Year
12	Stomach	Uterus	Bladder	Belly
13	Audience	Women	Crowd	Doctor
14	Defensive	Kicking	Plastic	Protective
15	Membrane	Hand	Glass	Rubber
16	Eyes	Class	Month	Uterus
17	Left	Sent	Discharged	Born
18	Breathe	See	Hear	Eat
19	Angrily	Weakly	Loudly	Strongly
20	Walk	Wove	Wraps	Fold

In questions 21-25 choose among the option the one that has the opposite meaning to the word or group of words underlined in the sentence to fill the missing word(s).

21. One would have expected the students to take to consultation with the school authorities instead of resorting to _____.
(a) mediation (b) confrontation (c) arbitration (d) exultation
22. It is surprising that one of the identical twins is an alcoholic but the other is _____.
(a) teetotaler (b) dipsomaniac (c) agoraphobic (d) saboteur
23. While the man is parsimonious his wife is obviously _____.
(a) ingenious (b) curious (c) judicious (d) extravagant
24. The lackadaisical student failed the test but the _____ one passed it well _____.
(a) enthusiastic (b) listless (c) classical (d) obtuse
25. While a sinner will incur the wrath of God, a saint will enjoy the _____ of God.
(a) anger (b) anointing (c) favour (d) pleasure

In question 26 to 35 from the words lettered A to D choose the one that best completes the sentence

26. The rich man _____ money to his wives and children every Monday
(a) disperses (b) dispensed (c) discusses (d) dispenses
27. If I had known that the man was not a genuine pastor, I would not have _____ too much confidence in him
(a) imposed (b) reposed (c) inputted (d) disposed
28. The poor woman has _____ herself to fate
(a) consigned (b) concerned (c) resigned (d) reposed
29. The clergy _____ everyday for the success of the present government
(a) are praying (b) is praying (c) pray (d) prays
30. The young girl _____ mind her language
(a) has better (b) had better (c) have best (d) had best
31. Many a secondary school student _____ afraid of English language examination nowadays
(a) are (b) is (c) was (d) were
32. The man with his three wives and seventeen children _____ just travelled abroad
(a) is (b) are (c) has (d) have
33. The lecturer does not _____ his real age
(a) seem (b) look (c) appear (d) resemble
34. During the recent communal crisis, the palace of the monarch was _____ with charms and amulets
(a) decorated (b) fortified (c) embellished (d) ensured
35. I _____ your father to stop going out with politicians: then I changed my mind
(a) had told (b) have told (c) was going to tell (d) have being telling

In question 36 to 40 a list of options is given below every sentence choose from the options, the nearest in meaning to the word or phrase underlined in the sentence.

36. Are they expecting celestial blessing?
(a) terrestrial (b) heavenly (c) religious (d) sacrificial
37. The indigent boy is my younger brother's friend
(a) indolent (b) diligent (c) efficient (d) needy
38. Adults seldom visit the new amusement centre
(a) frequently (b) rarely (c) usually (d) reluctantly
39. Really, life is ephemeral
(a) enjoyable (b) difficult (c) transient (d) permanent
40. I want to tell you that Felix has an eclectic mind
(a) shocking (b) versatile (c) narrow (d) critical