

**MMUL-QURA HIGH SCHOOL**  
**AROWONA BUS-STOP, AKANRAN ROAD, IBADAN**  
**2020/2021 THIRD TERM EXAMINATION**

CLASS: SS 2

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANG.

TIME: 3hrs

**Part A: Comprehension and Summary**

**Comprehension**

*Instruction: Read the passage carefully and answer the questions on it correctly.*

As I watched Musa stepped out of the plane, I concluded that diligence, intelligence and luck had turned Musa from the rustic pauper of thirty years earlier to a highly successful professional. Here was a village boy of yesteryear, an orphan from early life cheated out of his heritage by his half-brothers and uncles whose actions forced him to fend for himself. So, how did he become an internationally acclaimed computer wizard?

When his well-to-do father died three years after his mother, he had just gained admission to a fee-paying secondary school. Had his parents lived, that would not have been a problem. But his closet relatives were more interested in sharing assets than handling liabilities. They shared the three buildings in the city, as well as several cocoa plantations with hundreds of oil-palms. None considered it right to take on the care of the poor boy.

Left in lurch, he cling on to classmate who longed to work in the city as a petty clerk. They moved to the city. Both were engaged by a big-time retailer in all sorts of goods, which he gave out to boys to hawk on the busy roads.

There were no salaries, all they had were commissions from each day sales. Musa and his friends could be out in the street from 6am till almost midnight. That way, they were abl to keep body and soul together.

But Musa soon decided his returns could cater for a little more than that. His yearning for education still very keen, he cut short his daily schedule at 4.00pm to attend to an evening school organized by some secondary school teachers. And he made very rapid progress. Often, after classes, he would return to the streets. He never cared worse than any of the other learners, most of whom attended classes normal school. In time, he sat for and passed all his school certificate papers with flying colours. Indeed, his results were among the best in the country.

An oil company which had a policy of sponsoring the university education of the best students in the various disciplines awarded him a scholarship. Thus, his university education in computer science was fully sponsored. Eventually, he emerged as the best graduate in the university. The training made him a 3-D computer programmer in engineering and architect designs.

So, as he stepped out of the plane, returning from one of his several international conferences, I could not but reach the conclusion I had made earlier.

### Questions

- (a) Where was the writer when he arrived at the conclusion with which he opened the passage?
- (b) What tragedy had beset Musa early in life?
- (c) What worsened Musa's plight?
- (d) How did Musa solve the problem of acquiring secondary education?
- (e) What element of luck contributed to Musa's success?
- (f) "... keep body and soul together"
  - I. What figure of speech is contained in this expression?
  - II. What does it mean?
- (g) "... who had longed for work in the city..."
  - I. What grammatical name is given to the expression as used in the passage?
  - II. What is its function?
- (h) For each of the following words or phrase, find another word or phrase which means the same and which can replace it as it is used in the passage.
  - I. Fend for
  - II. Considered
  - III. Engaged
  - IV. Yearning
  - V. Eventually

### Summary

For some, grass is just the green stuff outside the house that they have to mow. For farmers and football players, it is indispensable. For children, it is the ideal playground. And those who love in most urban areas assume they have very little to do with grass of any sort. However, almost all of us have daily contact with some type of grass and the product made from it.

Grass makes up a major part of the vegetation that covers the earth. And no wonder, since it is one of the most adorable plant groups on earth, growing in polar regions and on wind-swept mountain slopes. Entire vegetation areas are dominated by grass.

Unlike many other plants, grass grows, not at the tip, but in growth area above nodes. New shoots might start from stems growing horizontally on or under the ground. So, when the lawn mower or the cow cuts away the tips or fire rages through a field, grass keeps growing, whereas many other

plants stop. Furthermore, with most grasses, if the stem is bent over by the wind or trodden underfoot, it can raise itself erect by growing faster on the side facing the ground. For these reasons, grass usually recovers quickly after being damaged, which gives it an edge over other plants in the fight for sunlight.

Grass is not only the most abundant but also the most important flowering plant family on earth. A botanist once described grass as the foundation of our food. It is "like a dam protecting mankind from famine". Try to remember what you ate today. Did you start with a cereal made with millet, rice, oats or sorghum? Well, you ate grass seeds. Or perhaps, you had a roll or other kind of bread. The flour used made from grass kernels- wheat, rye, barley, and other grains are all grass. Cornflakes and other corn products are no exception, as corn or maize is a grass too. You had sugar in your tea or coffee? More than half of all sugar is made from sugarcane, a grass. Grass is not only good for food, however. If your house has walls made of clay and straw, it is grass that gives them the necessary strength. In different parts of the world, roofs are thatched with grass. One of the advantages of such roofs is that they keep the interior of the buildings cool regardless of the external temperature.

Grass covers and adorns much of the earth. Apart from the beautiful, peaceful and relaxing sight of a green meadow or a well kept lawn, grass is a major oxygen supplier, because of the sheer mass of the green vegetation that it produces.

Finally, its fine roots perform the all-important function of protecting from erosion. Keeping its versatility in mind, we are joy surprised to learn that the usage and cultivation of has a long history. The next time you see a waving corn-field, a lush green meadow, or just humble blades of grass growing between stones in a sidewalk, you might stop and think of this marvelous and most versatile plant family!

### Questions

- (a) In two sentences, one for each, summarize the reasons why grass forms a major part of the Earth's vegetation
- (b) In four sentences, one for each, summarize the four ways in which grass is useful to human.

### Part B: Essay Writing

Instruction: Answer **one** question only from this part. Your essay must not be less than 450 words.

- (1) Write an article suitable for publication in your school magazine on the problems of indiscipline in schools.
- (2) You are the chief speaker in a debate on the topic: it is the home and not the school that contributes to moral laxity among students. Write your argument for or against the topic
- (3) Write a story that illustrates the saying: **Strike while the iron is hot**

- (4) Your sister wants to marry a man from another ethnic group against your mother's wishes. Write a letter to your mother, giving at least **three** reasons why she should accept your sister's decision.
- (5) There has been rising incidence of road traffic accidents in your state. Write a letter to the ministry of transportation in your state, giving at least **three** factors responsible for this and suggesting ways of dealing with the problem.

## Objectives

**Instruction: Answer all the questions correctly.**

### Section A

From the list of words lettered A-D, choose the one that is most nearly **opposite** in meaning to the underlined word and that will, at the same time, correctly fill the gap in the sentence.

1. The handsome profit from her fish business made Mrs. Uba stop complaining about her husband's \_\_\_\_\_ salary.
  - A. ugly
  - B. meagre
  - C. modest
  - D. lowly
2. Chief Osa prefers fame in the village to \_\_\_\_\_ in the city
  - A. neglect
  - B. ignorance
  - C. poverty
  - D. obscurity
3. The media houses should employ both the novice and the \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. apprentice
  - B. probationer
  - C. newcomer
  - D. veteran
4. It pays to be firm rather than \_\_\_\_\_ in a case like this
  - A. flexible
  - B. frank
  - C. irresponsible
  - D. careless
5. Rather than convict him, the impartial judge \_\_\_\_\_ him
  - A. blamed

- B. dismissed
- C. upheld
- D. acquitted

**Section 2:** From the words lettered A-D, choose the word or group of words that is **nearest in meaning** to the underlined word as it is used in the sentence

6. The provocation had an instantaneous effects on him
  - A. a lasting
  - B. an immediate
  - C. a terrifying
  - D. a momentous
7. I woke up feeling rather queer
  - A. fine
  - B. strange
  - C. strong
  - D. tired
8. If he declined the offer, it will be better for him
  - A. ignores
  - B. denies
  - C. snubs
  - D. rejects
9. Our club encourages benevolence
  - A. sincerity
  - B. charity
  - C. affluence
  - D. association

10. The president appointed staunch supporters of his policies as advisers
- A. trusted
  - B. critical
  - C. affluent
  - D. strong

**Section 3:** Choose from the interpretation that you consider most appropriate for each sentence

11. James and Henry were at daggers drawn when I knew them. This means that they
- A. were good at drawing daggers
  - B. were fighting everybody
  - C. were always angry with each other
  - D. were in love with the use of daggers
12. My book has become dog-eared through use. This means that the
- A. corners of the pages of my book are crumpled
  - B. My book is designed like dog's ear
  - C. My book is torn
  - D. My book is indispensable
13. Musa does not believe that there is poverty in Africa. He is a dyed-in the wool capitalist. This means that Musa is
- A. a kind capitalist
  - B. a thoughtful capitalist
  - C. an old capitalist
  - D. an unbending capitalist
14. Whenever my cousin comes to realize that I am telling the truth, She will eat humble pie. This means that my cousin will
- A. respect me
  - B. hates herself
  - C. apologize
  - D. be ashamed

15. The beauty of Bimpe's garden shows that she was green finger. This means that Bimpe
- A. always paints her fingers green
  - B. is good at growing plants
  - C. turns everything she touched to green
  - D. likes keeping green objects

**Section 4:** From the words lettered A-D, choose the word that **best completes** each of the following sentences

16. When you \_\_\_\_\_ an opponent's point in a debate, you must do so politely
- A. refute
  - B. rebuke
  - C. reject
  - D. refuse
17. Mr. Collins does not allow his name to be published in connection with his philanthropy because he \_\_\_\_\_ publicity
- A. wields
  - B. lacks
  - C. denies
  - D. detests
18. Everyone was disappointed to see the pastor doing those things that were \_\_\_\_\_ with morals he preached
- A. complacent
  - B. inconsistent
  - C. conducive
  - D. incompetent
19. The doctor listened to my heartbeat with a \_\_\_\_\_
- A. microscope
  - B. chronometer
  - C. scalpel
  - D. stethoscope
20. Se was \_\_\_\_\_ and it was not clear to me what she meant
- A. unknown

- B. unintelligible
- C. indefinite
- D. illegible

**Section 5:** *From the words or group of words lettered A-D, choose the word or group of words that best completes each of the following sentences*

21. A loyal citizen ought not to abstain \_\_\_\_\_ voting
- A. in
  - B. against
  - C. from
  - D. by
22. She set \_\_\_\_\_ preparing lunch when I came
- A. on
  - B. at
  - C. about
  - D. for
23. \_\_\_\_\_ were asked to represent the school at the quiz competition
- A. I and Ngozi
  - B. Ngozi and me
  - C. Ngozi and I
  - D. myself and Ngozi
24. I won't be able to come \_\_\_\_\_ to the part as the day's work had tired me
- A. down
  - B. through
  - C. out
  - D. on
25. It's been rough so far \_\_\_\_\_?
- A. hasn't
  - B. hadn't it
  - C. isn't it
  - D. wasn't it
26. It was a long time before his surprise wore \_\_\_\_\_
- A. out
  - B. off
  - C. through

- D. down
27. I'm sorry I can't find \_\_\_\_\_ of the two books you lent me
- A. neither
  - B. each
  - C. either
  - D. any
28. The visitor was very uncomfortable because of his \_\_\_\_\_ nose
- A. running
  - B. runny
  - C. watery
  - D. flowing
29. My friend 'scar has \_\_\_\_\_ to a halt
- A. grinded
  - B. grounded
  - C. ground
  - D. grind
30. "He kicks the buckets " in passive form will be
- A. The bucket is kicked
  - B. The buckets were kicked
  - C. The buckets are kicked
  - D. The bucket was kicked
31. The teacher said \_\_\_\_\_
- A. there were seven days in a week
  - B. there was seven days in a week
  - C. there are seven days in a week
  - D. There used to be seven days in a week

**Section 6:** *Choose the word that has the same sound as the one represented by the letter(s) underlined*

32. Tick
- A. Busy
  - B. Freak
  - C. Police
  - D. Meat
33. Card
- A. Sand
  - B. Talk

- C. Guard
- D. Mad
- 34. Good
  - A. Wool
  - B. Fool
  - C. Rude
  - D. Cook
- 35. Purge
  - A. Bus
  - B. Bush
  - C. Worm
  - D. Flood
- 36. Now
  - A. Bough
  - B. Mow
  - C. Snow
  - D. Though

**Section 7:** *From the words lettered A-D, choose the word that has the same consonant sound as the Theo e represented by the letter(s) underlined*

- 37. Boat
  - A. Climb
  - B. Can
  - C. Comb
  - D. Tomb
- 38. Deaf
  - A. Hummed
  - B. Slapped
  - C. Stopped
  - D. Cursed
- 39. Sick
  - A. Days
  - B. Pants
  - C. Boos
  - D. Sure
- 40. Breathe
  - A. Throw
  - B. Them
  - C. Width
  - D. North

**Section 7:** *From the word lettered A-D, choose the one that has the correct stress.*

- 41. autocratic
  - A. AUT-o-cra-tic
  - B. aut-O-cra-tic
  - C. aut-o-CRA-tic
  - D. aut-o-cra-TIC
- 42. information
  - A. IN-for-ma-tion
  - B. in-FOR-ma-tion
  - C. in-for-MA-tion
  - D. in-for-ma-TION
- 43. facilitate
  - A. FA-ci-li-tate
  - B. fa-Cl-li-tate
  - C. fa-ci-LI-tate
  - D. fa-ci-li-TATE

**Section 8:** *From the words lettered A-D, choose the word that contains the sound represented by the given phonetics*

- 44. / t /
  - A. Subtle
  - B. Warmed
  - C. Worth
  - D. Depot
- 45. / j /
  - A. Blue
  - B. Jug
  - C. New
  - D. Gist

**Section 9:** *From the words lettered A-D, choose the word that rhymes with the given word*

- 46. Suspected
  - A. Unwanted
  - B. Repented
  - C. Protected
  - D. Congested
- 47. Burst
  - A. Worst

- B. Marshled
- C. Perched
- D. Guessed

- C. Opponent
- D. Sacrifice

**Section 10: In the following options lettered A-D, all the words except one have the same stress pattern. Choose the one with different stress pattern.**

48.

- A. Colleague
- B. Success
- C. Challenge
- D. Vomit

49.

- A. Prevalent
- B. Simplify

**Section 11: From the options lettered A-D, choose the one that correctly answers the question**

50. Dad has invited SIX guests to the dinner

- A. Has mum invited six guests to the dinner?
- B. Has dad invited ten guests to the dinner?
- C. Has dad invited six colleagues to the dinner?
- D. Has dad invited six guests to the launch?

**Section 12: In the following passage, the numbered gaps indicate the missing words. Choose the word that is most suitably fill the gaps in the passage.**

Birds are instantly recognizable -52-, perhaps, because of their ability to -52-. Some people might consider their shape the most distinguishing -53-. Everyone, however, agrees on the characteristics that a bird possesses; two -54- feathers, two legs, a toothless -55-, warm blood and the ability to -56- eggs. The modern system of -57- birds is like a pyramid, with the base formed by 8,154 different -58- . A convenient-59- of this system recognizes a group of birds which does not normally -60- with other groups.

	A	B	C	D
51	beings	Creatures	things	mammals
52	soar	Dive	glide	fly
53	Possession	Mark	feature	sign
54	arms	Flaps	Forearms	wings
55	mouth	Lip	beak	gum
56	produce	Provide	lay	give
57	Classifying	Arranging	ordering	numbering
58	species	Birds	types	varies
59	Judgement	Explanation	Statement	name
60	agree	Mate	fly	go