

HOLY TRINITY SSS NKOZI
ONLINE EXAMINATIONS
ENGLISH S.3
TIME: 1 ½ HOURS.

INSTRUCTION:

Attempt all the questions.

1. Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions that follow.

Back – nestling

Many African mothers carry their babies on their backs. Sometimes these mothers have no alternatives. Many do so out of preference. This is a custom which has its advantages and some disadvantages when overdone. People in Asia, South American and some other parts of the world also carry their babies on their back, but not in quite the same way the African does. Others carry their babies on their backs but African mothers really nestle their babies in it.

Advantages

The back is a warm and safe place for the baby and it also keeps him in close contact with the mother or whoever is carrying him. This makes for a strong sense of security. When a mother has the problem of no baby – sitter, it is a way out. Out all day, it is a way of keeping baby and mother together. Some people, especially the older generation, believe that when a child has fever there is an advantage in back – nestling him because with the child in that position, you can notice any changes quickly. For instance, if the child suddenly goes into fits of convulsion, you will become aware of it right away.

However, as in all aspects of life, too much of any good thing can be harmful. In order that all or any advantage may be gained from back – nestling, it should not be overdone. Even in the cases of women who must carry their babies with them everywhere, they should be encouraged to set their babies free every time they have the opportunity, and it is safe to do so. Children need freedom, and they need to use their limbs. During the very hot months, the less of it done, the better for mother and child. Back – nestling can be wonderful, but do it only when it is necessary.

Disadvantages

Back – nestling, while being a most welcome natural solution sometimes, also has its drawbacks. For a baby who is in that position all the time, life soon becomes very stifling, especially when he gets to this interesting stage of active movements. It is natural for a baby to want to get around, and do the things demanded by his natural process of development, but he cannot do this when he is all strapped up. As a result of being confined to one position, his range of perception is limited.

Even in a case where the mother is on the move, such as when she is walking along, the baby cannot observe as well as retain much because his powers of focusing and concentrating are not developed yet, and therefore, his powers of observation are also limited. The market women who carry their babies with them everywhere have no satisfactory

alternatives. One can only hope that they try to give their babies as much freedom as possible when they themselves are sitting down either in their homes or work places.

What I find most unreasonable is when babies are nestled on the back all day long as a line of least resistance: when adults feel that the baby is safest. Away from the ground, quieter, and likely to sleep longer. This attitude may be understandable (if not quite orthodox) when the baby is in his first few months, but when it is not imperative and the practice is continued indiscriminately through the baby's active periods of growth, then this is unfair on the baby.

I once visited the home of a friend during midmorning. She was out and her old 'Mama – Nurse' was carrying her eleven – month – old baby on the back. The child was not asleep and he was showing signs of being restless and wanting to be set down. 'Mama – Nurse' refused to set him down "because", she said, "he will only turn this whole place upside down. I persuaded her to let me chat with him, so he was set down. He was a sweet, normal baby with lots of bubbling energy which he was not allowed to use.

Since the child did not have any toys to play with, I asked 'Mama – Nurse' to get us various items from the kitchen. The boy sat down right away, and it was fun to watch him. He picked up each item in turn and examined it carefully, then he started hitting the pots with the spoon. They gave different sounds, and that fascinated him. He went from pot to egg cartons and he chuckled all the time. After a while I got up to go and she came with me to the door and said "The baby loves making a lot of noise and now I am sure we shall have a big job keeping track of all the pots and pans in this house." You just cannot win with these old nurse – maids, can you?

Over – back – nestling induces a child to sleep too much. This does not make for mental alertness. With a baby tucked away thus, you do not have much chance of stimulating his senses and instincts. He is so inactive for so long that after a while he gets used to just sitting and letting the world go by. This could be the beginning of a lack of confidence, of curiosity, and of initiative; a lack of the desire to explore the world around him, and of a desire to create.

Questions

Answer questions 1 – 10 by circling your best choice answer.

1. According to the writer, why do many African mothers carry their babies on their back?
 - A. Because they prefer to.
 - B. Because they have to.
 - C. Because they know it is good for their babies.
 - D. Both A and B are correct.
2. The writer argues that
 - A. Back – nestling is good to some extent.
 - B. Back – nestling is harmful.
 - C. Back – nestling is common in Africa, Asia and South America.
 - D. Back – nestling is a good thing.
3. The writer says that
 - A. Whenever possible babies should be set down.
 - B. Babies should be carried on the back whenever possible.

- C. Babies should be carried on their mother's back whenever possible.
 - D. Babies should never be set down except by their mother.
4. The chief argument against too much back – nestling is
- A. It is dangerous.
 - B. It tires the mother out.
 - C. It prevents the baby from developing normally.
 - D. If done indiscriminately it tires the mother.
5. The writer thinks that a market - woman
- A. Always has to have her baby on her back.
 - B. Is incapable of bringing up her babies properly.
 - C. Should give her baby as much freedom as possible whenever she sits down.
 - D. Should stay at home so her baby can be free to explore the world.

Which of the following would best replace the words in italics?

6. *draw backs* (1.51)
- A. pain in the back B. disadvantage
 - C. advantages D. burdens.
7. *stifling* (1.53)
- A. difficult B. sympathetic
 - C. oppressive. D. unimportant
8. *retain* (1.65)
- A. keep B. remember
 - C. notice D. protect
9. *a line of least resistance* (1.78)
- A. an easy solution
 - B. to prevent the baby from resisting.
 - C. A way of comforting the baby.
 - D. An unreasonable solution.
10. *imperative* (1.84)
- A. very necessary B. very unnecessary
 - C. desirable D. harmful

SECTION B

Rewrite as instructed without changing the meaning.

1. An old man in pink dress suddenly stood up in the middle of the meeting. No body had noticed him. (Use whom).

2. Abraham Lincoln is honoured for getting rid of slavery in America. He was murdered just before the end of the civil war. (use who)

3. Maria wears very expensive clothes. I thought she was rich. (Use such----that)

4. He loved her very much. He could not live without her. (Use so-----that)

5. You have brains. You can get to the top of your class. (Use enough)

6. He was digging in his garden. He found a box of coins.
(Begin: digging)

7. She played hockey every evening. She soon lost weight.
(Make it a present participle phase)

8. If he doesn't concentrate, he will fail the exams. (Use unless)

9. They have already thought of that. (Use the passive)

-
10. Give me a call when you need me. Use incase)
-
-

SECTION C

Choose the correct tense.

1. If I -----him tomorrow, he will tell me what happened.
(see, saw)
2. If I ----- as ghost, I would run away. (see, saw)
3. If the weather had been finer, the match-----
(take place)
4. If he is fit, he ----- for the school team. (play)
5. He would leave school this term if he ----- a good job.
(find)

Circle the right alternative.

6. She despaired ----- ever becoming a nurse.
A. to B. out C. with D. of E. from
7. She comes to school-----bus.
A. by B. with C. come
8. -----my friend Tina.
A. greet B. meet C. come
9. -----me a call in ten minutes.
A. telephone B. ring C. give
10. One by one makes a bundle
A. does it? B. doesn't it?

- END -