

# DOYEN PUBLISHERS

## KENYA JUNIOR SCHOOL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT



### END TERM I 2025 JOINT EXAM

### GRADE 8 - ENGLISH

Time: 1 hour 30 mins

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

STREAM: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Write your name, school, stream and date in the spaces provided above.
- This paper consists of two sections: A and B.
- Section A comprises Multiple Choice Questions numbered 1 to 35.
- Section B comprises short, structured questions number 36 to 41.
- Answer ALL the questions in section A in the table provided below.
- Answer ALL the questions in section B in the spaces provided in this QUESTION PAPER.
- Do NOT remove any page from this question paper. Answer ALL the questions in English

#### ANSWER SHEET – SECTION A

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.

21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	31.	32.	33.	34.	35.

#### LEARNER'S SCORE

SCORES		TOTAL
A (Out of 35)		
B (Out of 25)		

*This paper consists of 6 printed pages. Candidates should check the question paper to confirm that all pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.*

## SECTION A (35 marks)

*Answer ALL the questions in this section. Write your answers in the spaces provided on the first page.*

*Read the passage below and use it to answer questions 1 to 13.*

In the heart of the small village of Greenfield stood a massive oak tree. Its gnarled branches stretched out like ancient arms, providing shade for the villagers on hot summer days. The tree was more than just a natural wonder; it was believed to have magical powers. According to local legend, anyone who sat beneath its branches and made a wish would see it come true.

One day, a young girl named Emily, who had recently moved to Greenfield, decided to test the legend. Emily was a shy and quiet girl who often felt out of place in her new home. She missed her old friends and the bustling city life she had left behind. As she walked through the village, she saw the oak tree towering over her, its leaves rustling softly in the wind. Remembering the story, she sat down beneath its branches and closed her eyes.

"I wish I could make one true friend," she whispered. "Someone who understands me."

The wind seemed to pick up, swirling around her, as if the tree had heard her wish. Emily felt a strange warmth in her heart, a sense of hope she hadn't felt in a long time. She smiled and stood up, deciding to take a walk through the village.

As she passed by the local bakery, she noticed a girl about her age sitting on the steps, drawing in a notebook. Emily hesitated for a moment but then walked over and smiled.

"Hi, I'm Emily. I just moved here," she said shyly.

The girl looked up and smiled back. "I'm Lily. Welcome to Greenfield! What brings you here?"

They quickly struck up a conversation about their favorite books, hobbies and the things they missed about their old homes. By the end of the afternoon, Emily and Lily had become fast friends.

From that day on, Emily often returned to the old oak tree, remembering how it had helped her find the friend she had longed for. She never fully understood the magic of the tree, but she didn't need to. The true magic, she realized, was in the connections we make and the kindness we share.

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| 1. Where was the old oak tree located?<br>A. In the middle of the forest<br>B. In the village square<br>C. In the heart of the village<br>D. At Emily's house      | 5. What did Emily do after making her wish?<br>A. She fell asleep under the tree<br>B. She waited for the wish to come true<br>C. She went for a walk through the village<br>D. She told everyone about her wish |
| 2. What was the belief about the oak tree?<br>A. It could grant wishes<br>B. It could predict the future<br>C. It could talk to people<br>D. It was a haunted tree | 6. Who did Emily meet while walking through the village?<br>A. A boy named Max<br>B. A girl named Lily<br>C. Her old friend from the city<br>D. The baker's daughter   |
| 3. What did Emily wish for under the tree?<br>A. To become famous<br>B. To make one true friend<br>C. To return to her old home<br>D. To be the best student       | 7. What was Lily doing when Emily met her?<br>A. Playing with her dog<br>B. Drawing in a notebook<br>C. Reading a book<br>D. Singing in the bakery   |
| 4. How did Emily feel when she first moved to Greenfield?<br>A. Excited and happy<br>B. Out of place and lonely<br>C. Angry and upset<br>D. Confused but hopeful   | 8. What did Emily and Lily talk about?<br>A. Their favorite movies<br>B. Their favorite books and hobbies<br>C. The history of Greenfield<br>D. The magic of the oak tree  |



9. What is the main theme of the story?
  - A. The importance of wishes
  - B. The magic of nature
  - C. The power of friendship and kindness
  - D. The mystery of old legends
10. What did Emily learn from her experience with the oak tree?
  - A. Magic can solve all problems
  - B. True friends are hard to find
  - C. Friendship and kindness bring magic to life
  - D. Wishes never come true
11. Why did Emily feel out of place when she first moved to Greenfield?
  - A. She didn't like the village
  - B. She missed her old friends and city life
  - C. She was homesick for her family
  - D. She didn't like the people in the village
12. Give a synonym of the word '**remembering**' as used in the passage.
  - A. Forgetting
  - B. Recalling
  - C. Ignoring
  - D. Collecting
13. What do you think the oak tree symbolizes in the story?
  - A. Magic and mystery
  - B. The passage of time
  - C. The importance of nature
  - D. Hope and new beginnings

**Read the passage below and use it to answer questions 14 to 25.**

One of the most amazing things about the discovery of a 2,000-year-old cemetery in the Bahariyah Oasis in Egypt was that no one was looking for it. No one even knew it existed. It had been completely buried by sand.

In 1996, a donkey belonging to a guard at the nearby temple stumbled into a hole in the sand, a mile from the temple. When the guard peered into the hole, he saw something shining brightly. He reported the discovery to Egyptian archaeologists right away.

However, the archaeologists did not begin serious digging immediately. They did not have the workers or the money. So, they made a quick survey of the site and then covered everything up again. They wanted to hide it from thieves and protect it from exposure to the sun and weather. Finally, in 1999, they had enough money to begin exploring the site.

On their very first day of work, after digging only several feet into the sand, they found a lot of mummies. Mummies are dead bodies that have been preserved for a long time. They are mostly found in Egypt. One of them had an especially beautiful mask. It was not a pharaoh's mummy, though. It turned out that none of the tombs in this cemetery belonged to royalty. Most of the people buried here came from families that grew rich by trading in wine.

The most spectacular of these mummies have masks made of plaster covered with a thin layer of gold. Many are in wonderful condition. And because grave robbers never found these tombs, everything that was buried with them is still there. Most of the mummies have been left where they were found, but a few of the best-preserved ones are on display in the Bahariyah Museum, where the public can take a look at them.

Two mummies were found lying side by side and were probably a husband and wife. His mask and chest plate were decorated with religious figures. Her head was turned in his direction, indicating that the husband had died first.

Two other mummies are of children. Archaeologists think they were brother and sister because they were found together. The boy was probably about five years old. His mask, with its painted eyes and features, is so real that he almost seems alive!

Did archaeologists find treasures in these tombs? It depends on what you mean by "treasures." They have not found any solid gold, but they have discovered all sorts of objects. The people buried in the cemetery may have thought some of these items would be useful in the afterlife. Or some may have been intended as gifts to the gods. For example, archaeologists have unearthed small statues of various gods. They have found many pieces of jewelry—necklaces, bracelets, and anklets—made of copper, glass, ivory, and semi-precious stones.

They have also discovered many pottery pieces used for storing, cooking, or serving food. There were some bronze Greek and Roman coins, too. And in the children's tombs, they found toys—carved animals—for the children to play with in the afterlife.

Archaeologists will be able to learn more about these people and their way of life by further studying their mummies and the things buried with them. And so many mummies were buried in the Valley of the Golden Mummies that excavation and learning will continue at the site for years to come.

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| <p>14. The discovery of the 2,000-year-old cemetery in Bahariyah was:</p> <p>A. very sudden                      C. quite accidental<br/>B. really surprising                D. extremely important</p> <p>15. Who actually discovered the cemetery?</p> <p>A. The guard.                      C. The archaeologists.<br/>B. The donkey.                    D. The Egyptians.</p> <p>16. What can we tell about the archaeologists from the information in the third paragraph?</p> <p>A. They did not do things in a hurry.<br/>B. They had a lot of digging to do.<br/>C. They received reports from guards.<br/>D. They did not have much money.</p> <p>17. Which of the following statements is not true according to the passage?</p> <p>A. Robbers can interfere with the mummies.<br/>B. Thieves had also discovered the cemetery.<br/>C. Exposure to the weather can affect the mummies.<br/>D. There was enough sand to cover the cemetery.</p> <p>18. The first day of digging can be described as:</p> <p>A. very stressful                    C. very successful<br/>B. quite amazing                  D. quite interesting</p> <p>19. "None of the tombs in this cemetery belonged to royalty" means that:</p> <p>A. The royal family did not own that cemetery.<br/>B. Members of the royal family were not buried there.<br/>C. It was not good enough for kings and queens.<br/>D. You do not bury such important people anywhere.</p> <p>20. The word "unearthed" means:</p> <p>A. removed                        C. exposed<br/>B. discovered                    D. recovered</p> | <p>21. What evidence is there that the people buried there were rich?</p> <p>A. They traded in wine.<br/>B. They were well-preserved.<br/>C. Their bodies were beautifully decorated.<br/>D. Their masks are covered with a layer of gold.</p> <p>22. What can we assume about the culture of the people buried in this cemetery?</p> <p>A. Members of the same family were buried together.<br/>B. The people were buried side by side.<br/>C. The woman was supposed to face her husband.<br/>D. They used masks in their religious ceremonies.</p> <p>23. According to the passage, the word 'treasures':</p> <p>A. means different things to different people.<br/>B. is an important word in the passage.<br/>C. refers to all sorts of objects.<br/>D. refers to items found in tombs.</p> <p>24. It is obvious that the people in the community believed:</p> <p>A. they would meet some gods later.<br/>B. the gods expected some gifts.<br/>C. there was life after death.<br/>D. they needed some items after dying.</p> <p>25. Which of the following would be the best title for this passage?</p> <p>A. The Unusual Discovery<br/>B. The Mummies of Bahariyah<br/>C. The Wonders of Ancient Egypt<br/>D. The Work of Archaeologists</p> |
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**Read the passage below. It contains blank spaces numbered 26 to 35. For each blank space, choose one best alternative from the choices given.**

Last weekend, my family and I went to the beach. The sun was shining brightly and the sky was clear with no clouds in sight. We arrived early in the morning, so we were able to find a nice spot near the 26 of the beach. My sister and I immediately ran to the water and started 26 in the waves. The waves were huge, and we had so much fun jumping 26 them.

My dad set up a big umbrella to provide some 26 the sun, and my mom began unpacking our lunch. We had sandwiches, fruit and some cold 26. After eating, we decided to take a walk 26 the shore, collecting seashells and watching 26 the waves crashing against the rocks.

Later in the afternoon, we rented a kayak to explore the 26 part of the beach. The water was so clear, we could see fish swimming 26 us. We paddled around for almost an hour before heading back 26 our spot. By then, the beach had become crowded and we were all feeling tired, so we decided to pack up and go home.

- |     | <b>A</b> | <b>B</b>    | <b>C</b> | <b>D</b>   |
|-----|----------|-------------|----------|------------|
| 26. | bottom   | edge        | center   | corner     |
| 27. | running  | swimming    | playing  | walking    |
| 28. | in       | through     | behind   | over       |
| 29. | behind   | under       | in       | for        |
| 30. | juice    | ice cream   | water    | sandwiches |
| 31. | across   | under       | along    | around     |
| 32. | beside   | above       | through  | under      |
| 33. | quiet    | far         | nearest  | shallow    |
| 34. | beside   | in front of | around   | under      |
| 35. | by       | at          | to       | from       |

### SECTION B (25 Marks)

**Answer ALL questions in this section in the spaces provided after each question.**

36. Construct **five** sentences using compound words. (5 marks)

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37. Fill in the blanks with the correct collective noun. (5 marks)

- a) The \_\_\_\_\_ of cattle grazed peacefully in the field.  
 b) A \_\_\_\_\_ of wolves was seen hunting in the forest.

- c) The \_\_\_\_\_ of birds flew south for the winter.  
d) The \_\_\_\_\_ of ships sailed across the horizon.  
e) A \_\_\_\_\_ of bees buzzed around the flowers in the garden.

38. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the auxiliary verb (be, have or do). (5 marks)

- a) She \_\_\_\_\_ studying for her final exams right now.  
b) They \_\_\_\_\_ never been to Paris before.  
c) I \_\_\_\_\_ go to the gym every morning, but I didn't today.  
d) We \_\_\_\_\_ working on the project since last week.  
e) \_\_\_\_\_ you like the new movie we watched last night?

39. Gradable adjectives have different levels. Non-gradable adjectives, on the other hand, do not have different levels since they describe a sense of completeness.

- a) Construct **two** sentences using gradable adjectives. (2 marks)

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- b) Construct **three** sentences using non-degradable adjectives. (3 marks)

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40. Complete the sentences with the antonym of the word in brackets. (5 marks)

- a) The weather today is very \_\_\_\_\_. (hot)  
b) She felt \_\_\_\_\_ after hearing the news. (happy)  
c) The movie was \_\_\_\_\_ and put me to sleep. (interesting)  
d) The coffee was \_\_\_\_\_ so I added some sugar. (sweet)  
e) The sea was \_\_\_\_\_ when the sailor woke up. (rough)

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