

# 2010 BECE English Language Past Questions – Paper One

Learners Hub

**From the alternatives lettered A to D, choose the one which most suitably completes each sentence**

1. Our teacher was late for school because he .....a flat tyre.

- A. had
- B. will have
- C. is having
- D. has

A. had

2. We had dinner at a Chinese restaurant where I .....fried chicken.

- A. am enjoying
- B. will enjoy
- C. enjoyed
- D. would enjoy

C. enjoyed

3. Ama's father asked her to choose .....John and William.

- A. among
- B. from
- C. with
- D. between

D. between

4. Willie has malaria and is not .....enough to go to school.

- A. good
- B. well
- C. fine
- D. free

B. well

5. The school band .....two days a week.

- A. practise
- B. are practicing
- C. practises
- D. were practising

C. practises

6. Philomena .....passed the examination if she had tried harder.

- A. could have
- B. will have
- C. may have
- D. could

A. could have

7. The law was passed according to strict legal .....

- A. cases
- B. principles
- C. rules
- D. issues

B. principles

8. The book, as well as several others, .....interesting reading.

- A. makes
- B. are to make
- C. are making
- D. make

A. makes

9. .... Joe scored the first goal, he was injured in the process.

- A. But
- B. Nevertheless
- C. Although
- D. Furthermore

C. Although

10. Neither Kojo nor his friend ..... the issue clearly.

- A. understands
- B. have understood
- C. understand
- D. is understanding

A. understands

11. The .....centre is located on the hill.

A. womens'

B. woman

C. womans'

D. women's

D. women's

12. One of the cows .....from the herd.

A. has strayed

B. have strayed

C. have been strayed

D. has been strayed

A. has strayed

13. At the party, the guests placed an order for a large.....of drinks.

A. count

B. total

C. quantity

D. sum

C. quantity

14. The hall was so small that it could .....contain all of us.

- A. rarely
- B. comfortably
- C. conveniently
- D. hardly

D. hardly

15. If I were a manager, I .....satisfy my customers.

- A. will
- B. shall
- C. would
- D. must

C. would

**Choose from the alternatives lettered A to D the one which is nearest in meaning to the underlined word in each sentence.**

16. Florence performs creditably in all examinations.

- A. fairly
- B. well
- C. graciously
- D. good

A. fairly

17. The choir sang some melodious songs at the function.

- A. loud
- B. pleasant
- C. soft
- D. musical

B. pleasant

18. Jane is always immaculately dressed.

- A. modestly
- B. correctly
- C. neatly
- D. scantily

B. correctly

19. The village was enveloped in a thick fog.

- A. built
- B. put
- C. shaped
- D. covered

D. covered

20. The inquisitive stranger asked many questions.

- A. curious
- B. pompous
- C. intelligent
- D. cowardly

A. curious

**In each of the following sentences a group of words has been underlined. Choose from the alternatives lettered A to D the one that best explains the underlined group of words.**

21. Whenever Kweku goes to Kumasi, he puts up with his uncle. This means that Kweku .....

- A. helps
- B. stays with
- C. converses with
- D. avoids

B. stays with

22. I glanced over the papers as I walked home. This means that I quickly .....the papers.

- A. wrote
- B. analysed
- C. saw
- D. read

D. read

23. The woman entered the room to find her daughter with her eyes glued to the television.

This means that her daughter was .....the television.

- A. smiling at
- B. dismantling
- C. intently watching
- D. cleaning

C. intently watching

24. Kojo was dragged to the farm like a lamb to the slaughter. This means that Kojo was dragged .....

- A. with difficulty
- B. without resistance
- C. with a lamb on his shoulder
- D. without anything on him

B. without resistance

25. The bully was ordered to leave his younger brother alone. This means that the bully was told .....

- A. not to accompany him anywhere
- B. to accompany him everywhere
- C. not to disturb him
- D. to teach him well

C. not to disturb him



**From the list of words lettered A to D, choose the one that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word underlined in each sentence**

26. Some of the guests at the party were rude.

- A. courteous
- B. bold
- C. friendly
- D. shy

A. courteous

27. The lawyer supported his argument with copious evidence.

- A. inconsistent
- B. scanty
- C. bad
- D. unconvincing

B. scanty

28. If you want to be believed, you must be objective.

- A. subjective
- B. positive
- C. active
- D. emotive

A. subjective

29. In all boarding schools, going out in the night is prohibited.

- A. advised
- B. ignored
- C. permitted
- D. admitted

C. permitted

30. The surest way to avoid defeat is to strive for .....

- A. position
- B. victory
- C. knowledge
- D. ability

B. victory

31. Suddenly the sky became dark and there was a rainstorm.

- A. Continuously
- B. Gradually
- C. Heavily
- D. Immediately

B. Gradually

32. The athlete looked dejected at the end of the race.

- A. angry
- B. calm
- C. strong
- D. excited

D. excited

**Read the following extract carefully and answer Questions 33 to 36**

*'Young lady, you are like.....  
The moon that walks beautifully across the sky,  
An eagle feather worn by a husband*

33. The extract is an example of .....

- A. prose
- B. poetry
- C. drama
- D. dialogue

B. poetry

34. The extract is about .....

- A. a mirror
- B. an eagle feather
- C. the moon
- D. a beautiful young lady

D. a beautiful young lady

35. "The moon that walks beautifully across the sky" is an example of

- A. metaphor
- B. hyperbole
- C. alliteration
- D. personification

D. personification

36. "Young lady, you are like ...  
An eagle feather worn by a husband"

The above extract is an example of

- A. simile
- B. metaphor
- C. alliteration
- D. assonance

A. simile

37. The writer of a poem is called

- A. a novelist
- B. a poet
- C. a playwright
- D. an actor

B. a poet

38. "The potter puts the pots in the pans" is an example of

- A. metaphor
- B. simile
- C. alliteration
- D. personification

C. alliteration

*“Twinkle, twinkle, little star  
How I wonder what you are!  
Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky.”*

39. The rhyme scheme of the above verse is

- A. abab
- B. aabc
- C. abcc
- D. aabb

D. aabb

40. “Afua Bonsu is the apple of my eye”.  
This is an example of

- A. metaphor
- B. simile
- C. alliteration
- D. personification