

2011 BECE English Language Past Questions – Paper One

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

1. The jury acquitted the manmurder.

- A. from
- B. of
- C. on
- D. with

B. of

2. Ama's essay is superiorthat of Adzo.

- A. from
- B. over
- C. than
- D. to

D. to

3. I would study hard for the examination if Iyou.

- A. am
- B. be
- C. was
- D. were

D. were

4. I cannot tell you

- A. what about the story is
- B. what about is the story
- C. what is the story about
- D. what the story is about

D. what the story is about

5. That troublesome friend ofis here again.

- A. he
- B. him
- C. his
- D. himself

C. his

6. I told you to leave my office,I?

- A. aren't
- B. didn't
- C. don't
- D. wasn't

B. didn't

7. Kofi travelled five days

- A. ago
- B. hence
- C. now
- D. since

A. ago

8. Kwame's uncle, with his three friends,coming home tomorrow.

- A. are
- B. is
- C. were
- D. would be

B. is

9. I am afraid I cannot make you

- A. in
- B. on
- C. out
- D. up

C. out

10. The plane takesat noon.

- A. from
- B. of
- C. off
- D. to

C. off

11. Please, can I havesalt in my soup?

- A. little more
- B. a few more
- C. a little more
- D. few more

C. a little more

12. I wish Imy friend next week.

- A. can visit
- B. am visiting
- C. shall visit
- D. could visit

D. could visit

13. By September 2007, Ischool for nine years.

- A. had attended
- B. have attended
- C. have been attending
- D. shall have attended

A. had attended

14.Aso runs short of money, what would she do?

- A. If
- B. In case
- C. Should
- D. Were

A. If

15. Human beings will not live forever,?

- A. will they
- B. isn't it
- C. does it
- D. shall they

A. will they

16. I saw Esia new pair of shoes.

- A. bought
- B. buy
- C. buys
- D. to buy

B. buy

17. Let us have a cup of tea,?

- A. do we
- B. shall we
- C. should we
- D. would we

B. shall we

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

18. The headteacher's arrival in the classroom was sudden.

- A. quick
- B. strange
- C. unexpected
- D. Unusual

C. unexpected

19. It is rude to talk loudly in the presence of elderly people.

- A. impolite
- B. incorrect
- C. improper
- D. unwise

A. impolite

20. The pupils grumbled about the assignment.

- A. bothered
- B. complained
- C. talked
- D. questioned

B. complained

21. The victim could not identify the thief.

- A. discover
- B. find
- C. know
- D. recognize

D. recognize

22. Armed robbery is a very risky undertaking.

- A. dangerous
- B. dreadful
- C. unacceptable
- D. uncertain

A. dangerous

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.

23. For all his brilliance, Kofi could not solve the problem. This means that Kofi failed to solve the problem

- A. as he was clever enough
- B. even though he was clever
- C. as he was too clever
- D. for he was still clever

B. even though he was clever

24. The manager's decision on the matter is cut and dried. This means that the manager's decision is

- A. clear
- B. simple
- C. unchangeable
- D. unknown

C. unchangeable

25. Abba made an ass of herself at the party. This means that Abba behaved

- A. foolishly
- B. shamefully
- C. uncontrollably
- D. unpleasantly

A. foolishly

26. In spite of his boasting, Mensah proved to a chicken-hearted fellow. This means that Mensah was

- A. cowardly
- B. mean
- C. stupid
- D. weak

A. cowardly

27. Efua can always talk her way out of trouble. This means that Efua

- A. is troublesome
- B. can defend herself
- C. can avoid trouble
- D. is talkative

B. can defend herself

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

28. My friends welcomed my suggestion.

- A. changed
- B. discussed
- C. disliked
- D. rejected

D. rejected

29. Unlike his sister, Ackah is stingy.

- A. friendly
- B. generous
- C. selfless
- D. sympathetic

B. generous

30. Serwa's dress was decent.

- A. dirty
- B. old
- C. shabby
- D. ugly

C. shabby

31. It is compulsory for all pupils to be in school uniform for the ceremony.

- A. considerate
- B. optional
- C. unnecessary
- D. expected

B. optional

32. Aminata is boastful about her beauty.

- A. careless
- B. humble
- C. modest
- D. uneasy

C. modest

33. A metaphor achieves the same effect as a/an

- A. alliteration.
- B. metonymy.
- C. paradox.
- D. simile.

D. simile

34. One of the following gives a clue to a character's nature:

- A. what he thinks
- B. how he feels
- C. what he says
- D. how he moves about

A. what he thinks

Read the following extract carefully and answer Questions 35 and 36

The fair breeze blew; the white foam flew,
The furrow followed free;
We were the first that burst
Into the silent sea

35. The dominant sound device used in the extract is

- A. alliteration.
- B. onomatopoeia.
- C. pun.
- D. rhyme.

A. alliteration.

36. The device in the extract helps to express the

- A. silence of the sea.
- B. smoothness of the movement.
- C. whiteness of the foam.
- D. fairness of the weather.

B. smoothness of the movement.

37. A good novel or play both entertains and

- A. condemns.
- B. preaches.
- C. teaches.
- D. warns.

C. teaches.

38. A character that develops in a play or novel in the course of the work is known as

- A. complete.
- B. flat.
- C. round.
- D. sound

C. round.

39. Which of the following best help(s) to develop the plot of a novel or play?

- A. Characters
- B. Literary devices
- C. Setting
- D. Style

A. Characters

40. A lyric is usually fairly short and

- A. tells a short story.
- B. praises a dead person.
- C. expresses thoughts and feelings.
- D. is sung to send a child to sleep.