

2014 BECE English Language Past Questions – Paper One

SECTION A

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

1. The students were hostilethe lazy teacher.

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

B. to

2. Themet at the mess.

- A. commander-in-chief
- B. commander-in-chiefs
- C. commanders-in-chief
- D. commanders-in-chiefs

C. commanders-in-chief

3. The workers are demonstratingmanagement.

- A. at
- B. on
- C. upon
- D. against

D. against

4.failed the examination, Doris was dismissed from the school.

- A. Having
- B. In having
- C. On having
- D. To having

A. Having

5. The building he boughtmillions of cedis.

- A. cost
- B. costs
- C. costed
- D. costing

B. costs

6. The dresses are

- A. you
- B. your's
- C. our's
- D. ours

D. ours

7. We shall invite him when hefrom America.

- A. will return
- B. had returned
- C. returns
- D. returned

C. returns

8. The students were congratulatedtheir brilliant performance.

- A. by
- B. on
- C. with
- D. about

D. will have left

9. By this time next year, Ischool.

- A. will leave
- B. would leave
- C. might leave
- D. will have left

D. will have left

10. Isn't that girlold to play with toys?

- A. as
- B. so
- C. too
- D. very

C. too

11. You usually come to school early,

- A. can you
- B. will you
- C. aren't you
- D. don't you

D. don't you

12. I amfaithfully.

- A. your
- B. yours'
- C. yours
- D. your's

C. yours

13. No sooner had we arrivedhe came back from work.

- A. than
- B. then
- C. when
- D. before

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A. than

14. Kofi and Ama love

- A. another
- B. themselves
- C. each other
- D. one another

C. each other

15. It's no goodto him.

- A. to be talking
- B. talked
- C. talking
- D. about talking

C. talking

16. Since our last meeting, Iill.

- A. am
- B. was
- C. had been
- D. have been

D. have been

17. I wastired that I couldn't go any further.

- A. so
- B. too
- C. much
- D. very

A. so

SECTION B

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

18. The elders were advised not to meddle in chieftaincy affairs.

- A. indulge
- B. intrude
- C. interfere
- D. intervene

C. interfere

19. The accountant corrected all the mistakes made by the Chief Executive.

- A. refused
- B. erased
- C. nullified
- D. rectified

D. rectified

20. Elorm's decision was superb

- A. right
- B. good
- C. excellent
- D. wonderful

C. excellent

21. The students complained that the rules were too rigid.

- A. strong
- B. hard
- C. strict
- D. bad

C. strict

22. The new headmaster met the staff and made his maiden speech.

- A. first
- B. fresh
- C. official
- D. original

A. first

SECTION C

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. The student was caught red-handed breaking the louvers. This means that the student was caught

- A. while committing the offence
- B. with blood on his hands
- C. before the act
- D. after the act

A. while committing the offence

24. We knew it was a cock and bull story. This means that the story was

- A. difficult to believe
- B. about a cock and a bull
- C. real
- D. false

D. false

25. The thieves were armed to the teeth when they entered the house. This means that the thieves were

- A. well trained
- B. experienced
- C. fully armed
- D. violent

B. honoured

26. Mr. Abban instructed his wife to keep an eye on their daughter. This means that their daughter should be

- A. pampered
- B. disciplined
- C. controlled properly
- D. watched closely

B. honoured

27. The president hit the nail on the head when he complained that most of the ministers were corrupt.

- A. the exact truth
- B. in detail
- C. harshly
- D. clearly

B. honoured

SECTION D

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. The man was disgraced in public.

- A. respected
- B. honoured
- C. welcomed
- D. accepted

B. honoured

29. Akosua accepted the offer.

- A. disliked
- B. declined
- C. withdrew
- D. ignored

B. declined

30. Food is abundant in the rural areas.

- A. scarce
- B. less
- C. few
- D. cheap

C. offered

31. Doctors have withdrawn their services.

- A. hidden
- B. registered
- C. offered
- D. displayed

C. offered

32. By our constitution, it is obligatory to vote.

- A. good
- B. necessary
- C. optional
- D. right

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C. optional

From the list of words lettered A to D, choose the one that correctly answers the questions or completes the sentence.

33. Which of the following is **not** an example of oral literature?

- A. Myth
- B. Folktale
- C. Proverb
- D. Melodrama

D. Melodrama

34. The dominant idea in a literary work constitutes its

- A. plot
- B. theme
- C. diction
- D. structure

B. theme

35. The expression “The world is a stage.” is an example of

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

D. metaphor

36. A genre is

- A. any kind of poetry
- B. another name for prose
- C. a subdivision of drama
- D. any of the three forms of literature

D. any of the three forms of literature

Read the following extract carefully and answer questions 37 and 38

Sweet sensation rises in pressure
Tiny legs kick with pleasure
Sleep comes gently and strong
Sleep whispers softly and strong

37. The device used in “Sleep comes gently and strong” is

- A. irony
- B. hyperbole
- C. euphemism
- D. personification

D. personification

38. The rhyme scheme of the stanza is

- A. abba
- B. bbaa
- C. aabb
- D. abab

C. aabb

Read the following extract carefully and answer questions 39 and 40

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

39. The **main** sound device used in the stanza is

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

C. alliteration

40. The device helps to express

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

C. the fairness of the weather

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