

2016 BECE English Language Past Questions – Paper One

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

1. He ispoor that he cannot pay his bills.

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

1. A. so

2. You will be lateyou hurry.

- A. if
- B. or
- C. unless
- D. while

2. C. unless

3. Aminu has been absent from classone month.

- A. in
- B. for
- C. from
- D. since

3. B. for

4. Many people have been invited, butwill be employed.

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

4. A. few

5. The teacher told the girl he had receivedof the two exercises.

- A. all
- B. any
- C. none
- D. neither

5. D. neither

6. My father has bought acar

- A. private brand new
- B. new brand private
- C. private new brand
- D. brand new private

6. D. brand new private

7. Mama is neverready for anything.

- A. so
- B. ever
- C. even
- D. rather

7. B. ever

8. Akua wasthat she won four prizes.

- A. a girl so brilliant
- B. a so brilliant girl
- C. so brilliant a girl
- D. a brilliant so girl

8. C. so brilliant a girl

9. Before he entered the classroom, wethe chalkboard.

- A. cleaned
- B. have cleaned
- C. had cleaned
- D. are cleaning

9. C. had cleaned

10. I have forgotten allmy friend told me.

- A. this
- B. that
- C. what
- D. which

10. B. that

11. The supervisor will ask theto come and repair the pipe in the bath room.

- A. mason
- B. repairer
- C. plumber
- D. lumber

11. C. plumber

12. The stone fell into the river with a loud

- A. bang
- B. crash
- C. noise
- D. splash

12. D. splash

13. Aggie gotmark for French in the examination.

- A. bad
- B. worse
- C. the worse
- D. the worst

13. D. the worst

14. We won the school debating contest,we?

- A. hadn't
- B. didn't
- C. couldn't
- D. did

14. B. didn't

15. Kwame looks very handsome,?

- A. isn't he
- B. isn't it
- C. doesn't he
- D. does he

15. C. doesn't he

16. Nana Yaa was sufferingmeasles.

- A. by
- B. with
- C. from
- D. through

16. C. from

17. The suspect was chargedpickpocketing.

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

17. D. with

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. One essential item for making local soap is soda ash.

- A. correct
- B. main
- C. real
- D. important

18. D. important

19. Pupils are to read the instructions carefully.

- A. notices
- B. demands
- C. commands
- D. directives

19. D. directives

20. The dog saw its image in the water.

- A. nature
- B. condition
- C. reflection
- D. attraction

20. C. reflection

21. We shall have the final rehearsal for the play tonight

- A. meeting
- B. practice
- C. trial
- D. preparation

21. B. practice

22. My mother is skilled in domestic affairs

- A. local
- B. internal
- C. everyday
- D. household

22. D. household

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. Akweley was taken aback on seeing a stranger in her room.
This means Akweley was very

- A. angry
- B. afraid
- C. confused
- D. surprised

23. D. surprised

24. The employees saw eye to eye with their manager.

This means that the employees

- A. agreed completely with him
- B. were very close to him
- C. rarely saw him
- D. greatly respected him

24. A. agreed completely with him

25. The priest was in high spirits during the sermon.

This means that he was

- A. content
- B. cheerful
- C. spiritual
- D. annoyed

25. B. cheerful

26. The opponents decided to bury the hatchet .

This means that they decided to

- A. make peace
- B. bury their guns
- C. hold discussions
- D. suspend the fighting

26. A. make peace

27. The headmaster took the students' version of the theft with a pinch of salt.

- A. believed the students' version.
- B. doubted the students' version.
- C. accepted the students' version.
- D. ignored the students' version.

27. B. doubted the students' version

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 judge acquitted four of the accused butthe rest.

- A. convicted
- B. discharged
- C. cautioned
- D. rebuked

28. A. convicted

29. It pays to be courteous rather than being

- A. rude
- B. wicked
- C. disobedient
- D. boastful

29. A. rude

30. Drivers who do not drive with care are sometimes charged with

- A. speeding
- B. drunkenness
- C. disobedience
- D. recklessness

30. D. recklessness

31. King David was the heir to the throne while the brother was the

- A. usurper
- B. successor
- C. claimant
- D. descendant

31. A. usurper

32. The secretary intentionally hid the documents but the clerkburnt them.

- A. willingly
- B. hastily

- C. mistakenly
- D. carelessly

32. C. mistakenly

PART B
LITERATURE

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

33. A poem of six lines is called a/an

- A. octave
- B. opera
- C. sextet
- D. sonnet

33. C. sextet

Read the following extract below and answer Questions 34 to 38.

The sudden change in the weather frightened Araba.
The bright orange colour of the sunset sky had quickly turned dull as the grey clouds gathered, rumbling, dark and angry.
The booming voice of thunder was intimidating.
Lightning flashed shards of light from his formidable torch.
Araba was a cornered rat.
How would she get home if the worst happened?

34. The atmosphere is

- A. cheerful
- B. friendly

- C. frightening
- D. undaunting

34. C. frightening

35. The state of the weather is emphasized by the word

- A. angry
- B. cloud
- C. flashed
- D. grey

35. A. angry

36. 'Lightning flashed ...light fromtorch.' is an example of

- A. alliteration
- B. ellipsis
- C. parallelism
- D. personification

36. D. personification

37. What is being referred to by the question, 'How would shehappened?'

- A. Current calm
- B. Imminent rain
- C. Latent sky
- D. Rumbling clouds

37. B. Imminent rain

38. The extract is

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

38. B. poetry

39. One special feature of prose is the

- A. paragraph
- B. stanza
- C. stage direction
- D. rhyme

39. A. paragraph

40. The work of the novelist is in

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

40. C. prose

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