

# 2024 WAEC ENGLISH LANGUAGE

## OBJECTIVE TEST QUESTIONS

*In each of the following sentences, there is one underlined word and one gap. From the list of words lettered A to D, choose the one that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the underlined word and that will, at the same time, correctly fill the gap in the sentence.*

1. Abdul's contribution at the meeting was seen by many as invaluable but the chairman said it was ..... A. insincere B. useless C. impossible D. preposterous
2. The boy may be culpable but his brother is surely ..... A. innocent B. ignorant C. accountable D. honest
3. Our class teacher used to be rigid in his opinions but he is now ..... of other people's views. A. wary B. critical C. apprise D. tolerant
4. Some workers were quite affable at the meeting but their leader was rather ..... A. guarded B. caution C. suspicious D. antagonistic
5. The driver believed he would be castigated by all the passengers but he was ..... A. encouraged B. exonerated C. commended D. released
6. The manager was eulogized for his speech while his assistant was ..... A. discourage B. criticized C. appraised D. denounced
7. Some people are generous towards strangers, while others are ..... towards them. A. indifferent B. sympathetic C. nasty D. mean
8. The baby who had all long been calm suddenly became ..... A. restless B. hungry C. angry D. cheerful
9. While Ade is ....., his wife is quite self-effacing. A. aggressive B. lousy C. conceited D. unfriendly
10. Bakary is a prudent husband while Musa is ..... A. mean B. extravagant C. thoughtful D. mindless

### SECTION 2

*From the words lettered A to D, choose the word that best complete each of the following sentences.*

11. The incumbent chairman won the election by a ..... of twenty votes. A. surplus B. consensus C. space D. margin
12. Since all items on the agenda had been discussed, the meeting was ..... A. dismissed B. suspended C. adjourned D. dissolved
13. The police explained that all the aggrieved persons should seek ..... in the court of law. A. redress B. litigation C. address D. restoration
14. Our principle has a large ..... of cows A. gang B. herd C. skein D. flock
15. The first storey building in Nigeria stands as a historic ..... A. effigy B. artefact C. monument D. edifice
16. I returned from the vacation refreshed and ..... A. rejuvenated B. revived C. reloaded D. remodeled

17. She was advised to see a ..... because she had an unusual skin disease A. cardiologist B. dermatologist C. gynaecologist D. ophthalmologist
18. The doctor's ..... Was that the patient was suffering from cancer. A. prediction B. prescription C. diagnosis D. analysis
19. Tom's father gave him a valuable gift as an ..... to make him work harder in school. A. incentive B. attraction C. interest D. offer
20. We have not yet heard the weather ..... A. forecast B. broadcast C. prediction D. announcement

### SECTION 3

*After each of the following sentences, a list of possible interpretation is given. Choose the interpretation that is most appropriate for each sentence.*

21. Ojo was cautioned not to jangle the old man's nerve. This means that Ojo was cautioned not to A. harass the old man. B. annoy the old man. C. disturb the old man. D. tease the old man.
22. Amina was completely swept off her feet the first time she met Gabriel. This means that she A. fell deeply in love. B. was pleasantly surprised. C. trusted him completely D. became utterly confused.
23. His response showed that he kept abreast of events in the country. This means that he was A. mindful of events. B. involved in events. C. well-informed about events. D. curious about events.
24. Our school is the last but one on that road. This means that our school is A. the very last building B. one of the last building C. the one after the last D. the one before the last
25. The new shopping plaza is easy on the eye. This means that the shopping plaza is A. grandiose B. cool C. attractive D. expensive
26. That nonchalant attitude of Jonah's attitude A. baffles me B. irritates me C. amazes me D. amuses me
27. A good friend is supposed to be with you through thick and thin. This means that a good friend should A. be prepared for any eventually. B. stand by you in good and bad times. C. accompany you anywhere you go. D. always advise you.
28. Willy has been under the weather for some days. This means that Willy has been A. sad. B. ill. C. in the rain. D. outside the country.
29. Taya was beaten at his own game. This means that. A. Taya's strategies were leaked. B. Taya's missed the target. C. Taya's forgot his own tactics. D. Taya's methods were used to defeat him.
30. We never believed that Father would pull through that fever. This means that we did not believe that he would

A. recover from the sickness. B. acquire immunity to the fever. C. die from the sickness. D. suffer so long.

### SECTION 4

*From the words lettered A to D below each of the following sentences. Choose the word or group of words that is nearest in meaning to the underlined word as it is used in the sentences.*

31. It was apparent that John damage the desk. A. noticed B. evident C. recognized D. acknowledged
32. Some of the merchant's good were impounded by the customs officers A. intercepted B. delayed C. confiscated D. screened
33. My trust in Abah suddenly began to wane. A. dissipate B. disappear C. deteriorate D. decrease
34. Some believe it is ominous for the owl to perch on the roof of a house. A. forbidden B. portentous C. prophetic D. suspicious
35. The new shopping mall is on the fringe of the town A. limit B. outside C. middle D. edge
36. The supervisor spurned the offer of help from the cleaner. A. rebuffed B. denied C. defied D. refuted
37. I have eventually found the book. A. actually B. lately C. presently D. finally
38. It is not good for a child to be unduly inquisitive. A. naughty B. playful C. curious D. troublesome
39. Kofi is rather audacious; he jumps off high fences. A. daring B. smart C. active D. agile
40. The criminal approached the crowd menacingly. A. stealthily B. cunningly C. calculatedly D. threateningly

### SECTION 5

*From the words or group of words lettered A to D, choose the word or group of words that best completes each of the following sentences.*

41. He said that they ..... Painting the house by then. A. will have finished B. would have finished C. will finish D. would finish
42. I will wear my ..... Dress to the dance. A. blue silk new B. blue new silk C. new blue silk D. silk blue new
43. If I ..... an eagle, I would fly to distant lands. A. was B. were C. am D. be
44. The teacher needs ..... to write the note on the chalkboard. A. chalks B. a chalk C. some chalk D. many chalks
45. The man said that he ..... A. had eaten there the previous day B. ate here yesterday C. has eaten there before D. had eaten there yesterday
46. To be healthy we need to eat a ..... diet everyday A. balanced B. complete C. mixed D. delicious
47. I can rustle ..... an omelette - at

- least. A. out B. up C. on D. off
48. Banku was ..... unhappy after the fight. A. very B. too C. much D. such
49. Everything would be ..... cheaper in the sales. A. greatly B. considerably C. strongly D. most
50. The boot of my new car was ..... in the accident. A. cracked B. dented C. chipped D. marked
51. Parents should create an environment ..... their children can grow. A. In which B. what C. from where D. in that
52. In spite of their shortcomings, we cannot ..... admire them. A. yet B. though C. but D. however
53. Amadi's plan ..... at the last moment. A. fell down B. fell on C. fell through D. fell off
54. You think I am hungry, .....? A. am I B. don't you C. aren't I D. isn't I
55. Maria ..... tears when she was told that she failed the final examination. A. broke to B. broke up C. broke with D. broke into
56. Jide ..... before I arrived. A. could have eat B. had eaten C. must have eaten D. have eaten
57. He claimed to be an expert, but he knew next to ..... about it. A. everything B. nothing C. something D. anything
58. .... the textbooks, he advised his daughter to face her studies. A. Having being to buy B. Having bought C. Having buying D. Having been bought
59. Deficiency ..... just one essential vitamin may cause illness. A. on B. in C. from D. for
60. This is the ..... he has submitted his assignment since joining the class. A. early B. later C. earliest D. lately
61. It is wise to ..... with what one has rather than go borrowing. A. make up B. make out C. make do D. make over
62. The teacher was ..... hasty in meting out punishment. A. more B. much C. scarcely D. somewhat
63. Everybody should treat their parents with respect, .....? A. should they B. shouldn't they C. shouldn't we D. should we
64. The experienced clerk found herself at ..... A. a crossroad B. some crossroads C. a crossroads D. the crossroad
65. We are playing ..... the problems of the company. A. off B. up C. out D. down
66. You ..... have walked home alone so late at night. A. would not B. might not C. ought not to D. need not to
67. Did you notice that the ..... had been removed? A. price's tag B. price tag C. prices tag D. prices' tag
68. One has to be careful of ..... Friends. A. his B. their C. your D. one's
69. It is mandatory that consumables should have ..... dates. A. sell - by B. sell - out C. sell - off D. sell - on
70. Don't judge the boy ..... his past. A. from B. at C. by D. for

## SECTION 6

In the following passage, the numbered gaps indicate missing words. Against each number in the list below the passage, four options are given in columns lettered A to D. Choose the word that is the most suitable to fill the numbered gaps in the passage.

The ..... 71..... of the local government chairman would soon elapse. This means there would be an election soon. This will commence with the selection of ..... 72..... by registered political parties, who will present their ..... 73..... to public to inform them of their intentions when they assume office. The process of ..... 74..... for votes has a timeframe. Voting is usually done by universal ..... 75....., which means that every citizen above eighteen is ..... 76..... to vote provided he/she is duly registered and has a

A	B	C	D
71. period	reign	tenure	era
72. candidates	aspirants	applicants	competitor
73. promise	speech	mandate	manifestoes
74. lobbying	canvassing	buying	driving
75. suffrage	right	charter	declaration
76. recommended	approved	eligible	suitable
77. booths	boxes	Stations	compartments
78. endorsement	accreditation	validation	approval
79. presiding officer	returning officer	registration officer	electoral agent
80. chosen	appointed	announced	called

valid vote's card.

On the day of the election, the voters will go to the polling ..... 77....., go through the voter's register for ..... 78..... before casting their votes for the person of their choice. The counting of votes will be done by the ..... 79..... under the supervision of party agents. At the end of the exercise, the winner will be ..... 80.....

## 2024 TEST OF ORAL

### SECTION 1

From the words lettered A to D, choose the word that has the same vowel sound as the one represented by the letter(s) underlined

1. women A. red B. rid C. bead D. cool
2. pearl A. curtain B. fear C. care D. sergeant
3. edit A. many B. earthy C. forte D. meaty
4. penal A. penalty B. reality C. receipt D. pleasant
5. passage A. message B. package C. mortar D. partner
6. coarse A. coax B. chore C. road D. rod
7. stipend A. still B. free C. bear D. kite
8. dumb A. comb B. pupil C. urban D. month
9. wolf A. golf B. scold C. crude D. wood
10. manure A. party B. search C. again D. bad

11. host A. now B. hoarse C. thought D. known
12. steak A. stake B. mead C. meadow D. bellow
13. brute A. should B. stood C. lose D. brought
14. south A. drought B. foal C. southern D. doughy
15. ploy A. plough B. law C. noise D. sort

## SECTION 2

From the words lettered A to D, choose the word that has the same consonant sound(s) as the one represented by the letter(s) underlined.

16. escape A. lacks B. exact C. scene D. school
17. chute A. loch B. usual C. sugar D. choose
18. scion A. cars B. barks C. Sure D. zoo
19. suture A. chalet B. badge C. chalk D. city

20. whole A. white B. ewe C. house D. sword
21. sold A. could B. fodder C. soldier D. fold
22. lustre A. stay B. straight C. treat D. castle
23. helped A. moved B. banded C. risked D. begged
24. viscount A. Scent B. car C. race D. vital
25. punctual A. ankle B. funny C. damn D. thin
26. rest A. near B. survey C. choir D. carry
27. what A. who B. write C. one D. whose
28. giggle A. league B. ensign C. genre D. gesture
29. peasant A. lacy B. passion C. loser D. leisure
30. indict A. pack B. listen C. fiction D. till

## SECTION 3

From the words lettered A to D, choose the word that rhymes with the given word.

31. muscle A. tousle B. puzzle C. tussle D. dozen
32. trouser A. browser B. bounce C. trowel D. cower
33. aisle A. isle B. bail C. fly D. real
34. potter A. porters B. pear C. otter D. rotten
35. plaque A. lake B. lark C. luck D. plague

## SECTION 4

In each of the following questions, the main/primary stress is indicated by writing the syllable on which it occurs in capital letters. From the words lettered A to D, choose the one that has the correct stress.

36. leguminous A. LE-gum-in-ous B. le-GUM-in-ous C. le-gum-IN-ous D. le-gum-in-OUS
37. manifesto A. MAN-i-fes-to B. man-I-fes-to C. man-i-FES-to D. man-i-fes-TO
38. collocation A. COLL-o-ca-tion B. coll-O-ca-tion C. coll-o-CA-tion D. coll-o-ca-TION
39. dependable A. DE-pend-a-ble B. de-PEND-a-ble C. de-depend-A-ble D. de-depend-a-BLE
40. embodiment A. EM-bod-i-ment B. em-BOD-i-ment C. em-bod-I-ment D. em-bod-i-MENT

## SECTION 5

In the following options lettered A to D, all the words except one have the same stress pattern. Identify the one with the different stress pattern and shade your answer in the usual way.

41. A. couture B. cowshed C. forest D. gadget
42. A. galley B. hamlet C. hotel D. madam
43. A. remember B. harmony C. percentage D. agreement
44. A. blossom B. faucet C. gainsay D. bosom
45. A. elephant B. ectopic C. ensemble D. enrolment

## SECTION 6

In each of the following sentences, the word that receives the emphatic stress is written in capital letters. From the questions lettered A to D, choose the one to which the given sentence is the appropriate answer.

46. The United States will host the next FIFA football competition. A. Will the United States host the next CAF football competition? B. Will Nigeria host the next FIFA football competition? C. Will the United States fund the next EIEA football competition? D. Will the United States host the next FIFA basketball competition?
47. Bisi's mother ENJOYS cooking. A. Does Ayo's mother enjoy cooking? B. Does Bisi's mother hate cooking? C. Does Bisi's sister enjoy cooking? D. Does Bisi's mother enjoy washing?
48. We left for MAKURDI yesterday. A. Did we leave for Lagos yesterday? B. Did we arrive from Makurdi yesterday? C. Did they leave for Makurdi yesterday? D. Did we leave for Makurdi today?
49. Ahmed greeted AKIN at the party. A. Did Ahmed ignore Akin at the party? B. Did Peter greet Akin at the party?

Did Ahmed greet James at the party? D. Did Ahmed greet Akin at the park?

50. Bimpe was the FIRST to submit the assignment. A. Was Nneka the first to submit the assignment? B. Was Bimpe the first to leave the assignment? C. Was Bimpe the last to submit the assignment? D. Was Bimpe the first to submit the project?

## SECTION 7

From the words lettered A to D, choose the word that contains the sound represented by the given phonetic symbol.

51. /ʌ/ A. comfort B. music C. ozone D. food
52. /aʊ/ A. howl B. law C. flow D. note
53. /v/ A. of B. few C. off D. photo
54. /ə/ A. age B. argue C. about D. active
55. /ð/ A. these B. thanks C. thyme D. moth
56. /j/ A. jet B. flew C. few D. just
57. /z/ A. heart B. floor C. herb D. fork
58. /ai/ A. freight B. faith C. said D. piety
59. /i:/ A. pit B. exile C. regal D. Serve
60. /dʒ/ A. regime B. gutter C. gender D. design

## 2024 WAEC ESSAY

All questions carry equal marks. Your answer should not be less than 450 words.

You are advised to spend about 50 minutes on this section.

1. The Old Students' Association of your school has just erected an ultra-modern hall for the school. As the senior prefect, write a letter to the chairman thanking him for this project and pointing out three other areas in which the school needs assistance.
2. Several demonstrations have been organized in the past few months in your country. Write an article for publication in one of your national newspapers, discussing the causes of these demonstrations and proposing three ways by which the government could deal with them.
3. You are the principal speaker in a debate on the motion: *Living in one's country is more advantageous than living abroad*. Write your argument for or against the motion.
4. Your friend wrote a letter to you and a part of it reads: "I think I am going to fail my forthcoming examinations! I don't know what to do." Write a letter of encouragement to your friend, dis-

cussing at least three things he or she can do to manage examination jitters.

5. Write a story that ends with the statement: *I was mistaken to have thought the night would be like other peaceful nights*.

## SECTION B COMPREHENSION

You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section.

6. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions on it.

I got home late on the day of the party. Although I had planned to be home early, the heavy traffic scuttled my plan. The party was in full swing by the time I arrived, with our street lined up with cars I entered the compound and stood for several minutes, watching the scene before me with awe. My wife had spared no expenses in organizing the party.

I watched my son bear with delight. He had made me proud and was now getting his reward. My plan had worked. I hadn't believed it would do the trick but I knew I just had to motivate him to do better than being content with the tenth position every term for the past two years. I knew he could be the best in his class, but he was just not trying hard enough. His lack of push was a weight on my shoulders and it was clear he needed an incentive. So, when he approached me with his yearly demand for a party, an idea occurred to me. I had always declined his request for an elaborate celebration. It was not for lack of money; I just never believed in living ostentatiously. Maybe my austere background had something to do with it. After all, as a manager of a reputable bank, I earned enough to make life comfortable for my family of four.

My plan to have a small family sprang from my desire to give my children the best in life. They were in one of the best schools and were always well-groomed.

Looking at the children enjoying themselves took me down memory lane. I remembered my days in school when I was at that age. Things were quite difficult for me while growing up. My parents were separated and my father had taken another wife who treated me with disdain. I worked like a grown-up man on my father's farm to get produce to sell so as to pay my school fees. My consolation those

days was my strong belief that I would make it one day; after all, every cloud has a silver lining.

After my secondary school education, I knew I had to get a job, as any hope of going further in my education was slim despite my good grades. I went to Lagos to live with my uncle, who was accommodating and soon got me a job in a bank. Through hard work and after passing various professional examinations, I rose to the peak of my career.

The joyous shouts of the children roused me from my reminiscences. I realized that if I had not used my son's obsession for a party as a carrot for push, we wouldn't be celebrating his resounding success today. As soon as he knew the reward for coming first in his class, he worked hard like never before. He also surprised us by being the best student in all his subjects, even in Mathematics, which used to be his Achilles' heel.

The plan was worth it, though I still lament the amount of money it gulped.

- (a) What was the writer's plan for his son?
- (b) Why was the writer dissatisfied with his son's performance?
- (c) State **two** challenges that the writer faced while growing up.
- (d) What is the writer's attitude to life?
- (e) What **two** pieces of evidence in the passage suggest that the writer's children were well cared for?
- (f) ...no expenses.
  - (i) What is the grammatical name given to this expression as it is used in the passage?
  - (ii) What is its function?
- (g) *His lack of push was a weight on my shoulders.*  
What figure of speech is used in the expression above?
- (h) For **each** of the following words, find another word or phrase which **means the same** and which can replace it as it is used in the passage:
  - (i) scuttled; (ii) ostentatiously; (iii) reputable; (iv) sprang; (v) well-groomed; (vi) reminiscences.

### SECTION C SUMMARY

*You are advised to spend about 40 minutes on this section.*

7. Read the following passage **carefully** and answer the questions on it.

The campaign for the education of the girl-child appears to have achieved

an outstanding success. Many parents were once known to be indifferent to the education of the girl-child. But now, it is boys who appear to have become less serious with their studies. This calls for a determined effort to save the boy-child's education from further decline and avoid possible unpleasant consequences for both genders and the society.

It has been observed that more girls than boys now enroll for secondary and tertiary education than was the case forty years ago. Today, the population of boys and girls in classrooms is either equal or the girls outnumber the boys. The trend appears to be that after obtaining the first degree to work to raise enough money to get married. The other hand, their female counterparts often proceed for higher degrees while waiting to get married. This is one of the reasons why more females register for postgraduate programmes in various disciplines.

In addition, it appears that female students now perform better in academics than males. They are often more on the list of the best students in a class, just as more girls obtain first-class honours than boys in the universities. At a dinner for new dental surgeons in one prominent university, the guest lecturer asked the male students to stand up for recognition. Two men stood up; the other nineteen surgeons were female!

More girls seem to show greater commitment to education by staying to learn during school hours, unlike a good number of boys who absent themselves from school for all manner of reasons. They attend parties when lessons are on, hide in various locations to commit cybercrimes or engage in other nefarious activities. Therefore, boys have higher cases of truancy, resulting in a decline in their academic performance.

Certain consequences may result from this present situation. Most top positions in public and private establishments might eventually be occupied by women who have the required academic qualifications. Companies and industries are in constant patronage and will engage only the topmost brains with the necessary experience to occupy leadership positions. Thus, more female graduates and award-winners will qualify for these positions over men.

The effect will most likely be felt in homes where women are married to men who have lower academic qualifications. When rich senior school certificate holders are husbands of graduates or Ph.D. holders, misunderstandings and conflicts are bound to occur. The wives are likely to view issues from a broader perspective, while their husbands may consider their opinions as confrontational. Peace and harmony may become elusive in such homes.

Nevertheless, the development so far should make women very proud. But with more women than men as managers and policymakers, the downside is that there may be instances when women will use their higher number in positions of authority to formulate policies that will favour them and possibly dominate the males.

In conclusion, while the campaign for the educational progress of women should be sustained, efforts should be intensified to arrest the current decline in the interest of young men in education. Abundant benefits await society if there is a balance in the educational attainment of both genders.

- (a) In **three** sentences, **one** for **each**, summarize **three** indicators of the decline in the education of males according to the passage.
- (b) In **three** sentences, **one** for **each**, summarize **three** likely consequences of the decline in the education of males according to the passage.

### 2024 WAEC ENGLISH OBJECTIVE SOLUTIONS

1. **B: useless**  
**Explanation:**  
Useless: This fits the context because it directly contrasts with "invaluable." If something is invaluable, it means it's very valuable. Saying it's useless is a direct negation.  
Insincere: This suggests dishonesty, which doesn't directly oppose the value of the contribution.  
Impossible: This describes something that cannot happen, which is not relevant to the value of the contribution.  
Preposterous: This means absurd or ridiculous, which, while negative, does not directly contrast with "invaluable" as effectively as "useless" does.
2. **A: innocent**  
**Explanation:**  
Innocent: This is the best choice because "culpable" means guilty, and "innocent" is the direct opposite.  
Ignorant: This means lacking knowledge, which is not directly related to

being guilty or innocent.

Accountable: This means responsible, which does not provide a contrast to "culpable" in the same way "innocent" does.

Honest: While positive, it doesn't directly contrast with "culpable."

3. **D: tolerant**

**Explanation:**

Tolerant: This means accepting and open-minded, which is the opposite of being rigid.

Wary: This means cautious or suspicious, which doesn't fit as an opposite of rigid.

Critical: This means finding fault, which doesn't contrast with being rigid in the same way.

Apprise: This means to inform, which is not relevant in this context.

4. **D: antagonistic**

**Explanation:**

Antagonistic: This means hostile, which is the opposite of being friendly (affable).

Guarded: This means cautious, which is not as strong a contrast to affable.

Caution: This is a noun, while the sentence requires an adjective.

Suspicious: This means mistrustful, which is not directly the opposite of affable.

5. **C: commended**

**Explanation:**

Commended: This means praised, which is the opposite of castigated (scolded).

Encouraged: This means given support, which is positive but not as strong a contrast to castigated.

Exonerated: This means declared not guilty, which doesn't contrast with being castigated in the same way.

Released: This means set free, which doesn't fit the context of being criticized or praised.

6. **B: criticized**

**Explanation:**

• "Eulogized" means to be praised highly, especially in a formal manner. The contrasting action here would be to receive negative feedback. Therefore, "criticized" is the correct choice.

• "Discourage" does not fit the context as it doesn't describe a form of feedback for a speech.

• "Appraised" means evaluated, which is neutral and not necessarily negative.

• "Denounced" means to publicly declare to be wrong or evil, which is more severe than "criticized" but not the most common contrast to "eulogized."

7. **A: indifferent**

**Explanation:**

• "Generous" indicates a willingness to give more than necessary or expected. The opposite would be someone who doesn't care much, hence "indifferent" fits well.

• "Sympathetic" is a positive attribute and does not provide a contrast to "generous."

• "Nasty" and "mean" both imply negative attitudes that are not direct opposites of "generous" as they suggest active unkindness rather than a lack of concern.

8. **A: restless**

**Explanation:**

• "Calm" implies a state of tranquility. The opposite of this would be a state of agitation or inability to remain still, which is "restless."

• "Hungry" and "angry" do not directly oppose "calm" as they describe specific needs or emotions.

• "Cheerful" is a positive state of happiness, not necessarily the opposite of "calm."

9. **C: conceited**

**Explanation:**

• "Self-effacing" means not claiming attention for oneself; retiring and modest. The opposite would be someone who has an exaggerated sense of self-importance, which is "conceited."

• "Aggressive" suggests a forceful or competitive nature but doesn't contrast directly with "self-effacing."

• "Lousy" is a slang term for something bad or poor in quality.

• "Unfriendly" describes a lack of warmth or kindness but not in direct opposition to being self-effacing.

10. **B: extravagant**

**Explanation:**

• "Prudent" implies being wise and careful, especially in financial matters. The opposite would be someone who spends money recklessly, which is "extravagant."

• "Mean" suggests being unkind or miserly but does not specifically contrast with being prudent.

• "Thoughtful" is a positive trait but not an opposite of prudent.

• "Mindless" implies a lack of thought, which is not directly related to financial prudence.

**SECTION 2**

*Choosing the word that best complete each of the following sentences.*

11. **D: margin**

**Explanation:**

• "Margin" is the correct term used to describe the difference by which an election is won.

• "Surplus" refers to an excess amount.

• "Consensus" means general agreement.

• "Space" is unrelated to election results.

12. **C: adjourned**

**Explanation:**

• "Adjourned" means to suspend pro-

ceedings to another time or place.

• "Dismissed" means to send away.

• "Suspended" means temporarily halted.

• "Dissolved" means to officially end.

13. **A: redress**

**Explanation:**

• "Redress" means to remedy or set right.

• "Litigation" refers to the process of taking legal action.

• "Address" means to speak to.

• "Restoration" means returning something to a former condition.

14. **B: herd**

**Explanation:**

• "Herd" is the collective term for cows.

• "Gang" is used for criminals or a group of people.

• "Skein" refers to a length of yarn.

• "Flock" is used for birds or sheep.

15. **C: monument**

**Explanation:**

• "Monument" refers to a structure erected to commemorate a person or event.

• "Effigy" is a model of a person.

• "Artefact" is an object made by humans.

• "Edifice" is a large building.

16. **A: rejuvenated**

**Explanation:**

• "Rejuvenated" means to feel young and energetic again.

• "Revived" means to bring back to life or consciousness.

• "Reloaded" means to load again (usually refers to ammunition).

• "Remodeled" means to change the structure.

17. **B: dermatologist**

**Explanation:**

• A "dermatologist" is a doctor who specializes in skin conditions.

• A "cardiologist" specializes in heart conditions.

• A "gynaecologist" in female reproductive systems.

• An "ophthalmologist" in eye conditions.

18. **C: diagnosis**

**Explanation:**

• "Diagnosis" is the identification of the nature of an illness.

• "Prediction" is a forecast.

• "Prescription" is a doctor's order for medicine.

• "Analysis" is a detailed examination.

19. **A: incentive**

**Explanation:**

• "Incentive" means something that motivates or encourages someone to do something.

• "Attraction" is something that draws interest.

• "Interest" is curiosity.

• "Offer" is a proposal.

20. **A: forecast**

**Explanation:**

• "Forecast" refers to a prediction of future weather conditions.

• "Broadcast" is a transmission of a program.

- "Prediction" is a general forecast.
- "Announcement" is a public statement.

### SECTION 3

*Choosing the interpretation that is most appropriate for each sentence.*

#### 21. B: annoy the old man

**Explanation:**

- "Jangle the nerves" means to irritate or annoy someone.
- "Harass" implies aggressive pressure.
- "Disturb" means to interrupt.
- "Tease" means to make fun of.

#### 22. A: fell deeply in love

**Explanation:**

- "Swept off her feet" means to fall in love quickly.
- "Pleasantly surprised" is a different emotion.
- "Trusted him completely" means to have faith.
- "Utterly confused" means to be bewildered.

#### 23. C: well-informed about events

**Explanation:**

- "Kept abreast" means to stay informed.
- "Mindful" means aware but not necessarily informed.
- "Involved" means actively participating.
- "Curious" means wanting to know more.

#### 24. D: the one before the last

**Explanation:**

- "Last but one" means the penultimate or second to last.

#### 25. C: attractive

**Explanation:**

- "Easy on the eye" means visually pleasing.
- "Grandiose" means impressive but in a way that may be excessive.
- "Cool" is informal for good but not specific to appearance.
- "Expensive" refers to cost.

#### 26. B: irritates me

**Explanation:**

- "Nonchalant" means indifferent or unconcerned, which can be irritating.
- "Baffles" means confuses.
- "Amazes" means astonishes.
- "Amuses" means entertains.

#### 27. B: stand by you in good and bad times

**Explanation:**

- "Through thick and thin" means during good and bad times.
- "Prepared for any eventually" means ready for anything.
- "Accompany you anywhere" means go with you.
- "Always advise you" means to give counsel.

#### 28. B: ill

**Explanation:**

- "Under the weather" means feeling sick.
- "Sad" is an emotion.
- "In the rain" is literal.
- "Outside the country" refers to location.

#### 29. D: Taya's methods were used to de-

feat him

**Explanation:**

- "Beaten at his own game" means defeated using his own methods.
- "Strategies were leaked" implies betrayal.
- "Missed the target" means failed an objective.
- "Forgot his own tactics" means failed to remember.

#### 30. A: recover from the sickness

**Explanation:**

- "Pull through" means to recover.
- "Acquire immunity" means to become resistant.
- "Die from the sickness" is the opposite.
- "Suffer so long" means to endure for a long time.

### SECTION 4

*Choosing the word or group of words that is nearest in meaning to the underlined word as it is used in the sentences.*

#### 31. B: evident

**Explanation:**

- "Apparent" means clearly visible or understood; evident.
- "Noticed" means to become aware of something.
- "Recognized" means to identify someone or something from having encountered them before.
- "Acknowledged" means to accept or admit the existence or truth of something.

#### 32. C: confiscated

**Explanation:**

- "Impounded" means seized and taken legal custody of.
- "Intercepted" means to stop or catch something in progress.
- "Delayed" means to make something happen later than planned.
- "Screened" means to examine or test.

#### 33. D: decrease

**Explanation:**

- "Wane" means to decrease in vigor, power, or extent; become weaker.
- "Dissipate" means to disappear or cause to disappear.
- "Disappear" means to cease to be visible.
- "Deteriorate" means to become progressively worse.

#### 34. B: portentous

**Explanation:**

- "Ominous" means giving the impression that something bad is going to happen; threatening.
- "Forbidden" means not allowed.
- "Portentous" means giving a sign or warning that something usually bad or unpleasant is going to happen.
- "Prophetic" means accurately describing or predicting what will happen in the future.
- "Suspicious" means having or showing a cautious distrust of someone or something.

#### 35. D: edge

**Explanation:**

- "Fringe" means the outer, marginal, or extreme part of an area or group.

- "Limit" means the point or level beyond which something does not or may not extend or pass.
- "Outside" means the external side or surface of something.
- "Middle" means the center.
- "Edge" means the outside limit of an object, area, or surface.

#### 36. A: rebuffed

**Explanation:**

- "Spurned" means rejected with disdain or contempt.
- "Rebuffed" means rejected in an abrupt or ungracious manner.
- "Denied" means to state that something is not true.
- "Defied" means to openly resist or refuse to obey.
- "Refuted" means to prove a statement or theory to be wrong or false.

#### 37. D: finally

**Explanation:**

- "Eventually" means in the end, especially after a long delay, dispute, or series of problems.
- "Actually" means as the truth or facts of a situation; really.
- "Lately" means recently; not long ago.
- "Presently" means at the present time; now.
- "Finally" means after a long time, typically involving difficulty or delay.

#### 38. C: curious

**Explanation:**

- "Inquisitive" means having or showing an interest in learning things; curious.
- "Naughty" means badly behaved.
- "Playful" means fond of games and amusement; lighthearted.
- "Curious" means eager to know or learn something.
- "Troublesome" means causing difficulty or annoyance.

#### 39. A: daring

**Explanation:**

- "Audacious" means showing a willingness to take surprisingly bold risks.
- "Daring" means adventurous or audaciously bold.
- "Smart" means having or showing a quick-witted intelligence.
- "Active" means engaging or ready to engage in physically energetic pursuits.
- "Agile" means able to move quickly and easily.

#### 40. D: threateningly

**Explanation:**

- "Menacingly" means in a way that suggests the presence of danger; threateningly.
- "Stealthily" means in a cautious and surreptitious manner, so as not to be seen or heard.
- "Cunningly" means in a clever and deceitful way.
- "Calculatedly" means in a planned or intentional way.
- "Threateningly" means in a way that shows intent to cause harm or danger.

## SECTION 5

Choosing the word or group of words that best completes each of the following sentences.

### 41. B: would have finished

#### Explanation:

- "Would have finished" indicates a future action completed before a specific time, fitting the context of reported speech.
- "Will have finished" is incorrect because it is not used in reported speech.
- "Will finish" and "would finish" do not imply completion by a specific time.

### 42. C: new blue silk

#### Explanation:

- "New blue silk" follows the correct adjective order: opinion, size, age, shape, color, origin, material, purpose.
- "Blue silk new," "blue new silk," and "silk blue new" do not follow the proper adjective order.

### 43. B: were

#### Explanation:

- "Were" is used in the subjunctive mood for hypothetical situations.
- "Was," "am," and "be" are not used in the subjunctive mood for hypothetical conditions.

### 44. C: some chalk

#### Explanation:

- "Some chalk" is correct for an uncountable noun.
- "Chalks," "a chalk," and "many chalks" are incorrect because "chalk" is typically uncountable.

### 45. A: had eaten there the previous day

#### Explanation:

- "Had eaten there the previous day" correctly shifts the tense for reported speech.
- "Ate here yesterday" and "had eaten there yesterday" use incorrect tense and pronoun forms.
- "Has eaten there before" does not specify a time frame relevant to the context.

### 46. A: balanced

#### Explanation:

- "Balanced" diet refers to a diet with all necessary nutrients.
- "Complete," "mixed," and "delicious" do not convey the same nutritional adequacy.

### 47. B: up

#### Explanation:

- "Rustle up" means to prepare quickly.
- "Rustle out," "rustle on," and "rustle off" are not idiomatic expressions related to cooking.

### 48. A: very

#### Explanation:

- "Very" emphasizes the degree of unhappiness.
- "Too" implies excessiveness, "much" needs an intensifier, and "such" is grammatically incorrect.

### 49. B: considerably

#### Explanation:

- "Considerably" means significantly,

suitable for discussing price reductions.

- "Greatly," "strongly," and "most" do not fit the context as well.

### 50. B: dented

#### Explanation:

- "Dented" fits the context of car damage.
- "Cracked," "chipped," and "marked" describe different types of damage.

### 51. A: in which

#### Explanation:

- "In which" is the correct relative pronoun phrase.
- "What," "from where," and "in that" are incorrect relative pronouns/phrases.

### 52. D: however

#### Explanation:

- "However" contrasts with the shortcomings mentioned.
- "Yet" and "though" do not fit the sentence structure, and "from where" is irrelevant.

### 53. C: fell through

#### Explanation:

- "Fell through" means failed to happen.
- "Fell down," "fell on," and "fell off" do not convey plan failure.

### 54. C: aren't I

#### Explanation:

- In English, tag questions are formed using the auxiliary verb from the main sentence and the subject pronoun.
- When the statement is positive, the tag is usually negative, and vice versa.
- The statement "You think I am hungry" is positive, so the tag should be negative.
- "Aren't I" is the standard form used for the first-person singular (I) in tag questions.
- Even though "I am" uses the auxiliary verb "am," the tag question form is "aren't I," not "am I."
- "Am I" is incorrect because it doesn't form a proper tag question.
- "Don't I" and "isn't I" are incorrect because they don't match the subject-verb agreement needed for the tag question in this context.

### 55. D: broke into

#### Explanation:

- "Broke into tears" means suddenly began to cry.
- "Broke to," "broke up," and "broke with" are incorrect collocations.

### 56. B: had eaten

#### Explanation:

- "Had eaten" is correct past perfect tense.
- "Could have eat," "must had eaten," and "have eaten" are grammatically incorrect.

### 57. B: nothing

#### Explanation:

- "Next to nothing" means almost nothing.
- "Everything," "something," and "anything" do not fit the idiomatic expression.

### 58. B: Having bought

#### Explanation:

- "Having bought" is the correct participle phrase.
- "Having being to buy," "having buying," and "having been bought" are grammatically incorrect.

### 59. B: in

#### Explanation:

- "Deficiency in" is the correct prepositional phrase.
- "On," "from," and "for" are incorrect prepositions.

### 60. C: earliest

#### Explanation:

- "Earliest" is the correct superlative form.
- "Early," "later," and "lately" are incorrect in this context.

### 61. C: make do

#### Explanation:

- "Make do" means to manage with limited resources.
- "Make up," "make out," and "make over" have different meanings.

### 62. D: somewhat

#### Explanation:

- "Somewhat" means to a moderate extent.
- "More," "much," and "scarcely" do not fit the context.

### 63. B: shouldn't they

#### Explanation:

- "Everybody" is an indefinite pronoun that is grammatically singular but refers to a group of people.
- In tag questions, the pronoun used should reflect the logical plural meaning, hence "they."
- The statement "Everybody should treat their parents with respect" is positive, so the tag should be negative.
- "Shouldn't they" is the correct tag question form because:
- "Everybody" refers to all people, so the pronoun "they" is used.
- "Shouldn't" is the negative form of the auxiliary verb "should," making the tag question correctly negative.
- "Should they" is incorrect because it is not a negative tag.
- "Shouldn't we" and "should we" are incorrect because "we" does not agree with the indefinite pronoun "everybody."

### 64. C: a crossroads

#### Explanation:

- The phrase "at a crossroads" is an idiomatic expression in English. It typically means that someone is at a point where they must make a significant decision or choose between different directions or options in life.
- C. a crossroads: This is the correct answer because it adheres to the idiomatic expression. "A crossroads" captures the essence of the phrase, indicating a significant decision point without implying multiple locations or choices. It is grammatically and contextually appropriate in this usage.
- A. a crossroad: While "crossroad"

can refer to a single point where two roads meet, it is not commonly used in the idiomatic sense. In everyday English, the expression is "at a crossroads," and "crossroads" is pluralized to convey the idea of multiple choices or directions.

- B. some crossroads: This option implies the existence of several crossroads, which doesn't fit the idiomatic expression. "Some crossroads" suggests more than one location or decision point, which is not what the idiom conveys. The phrase "at a crossroads" refers to being at a specific decision point rather than multiple places.

- D. the crossroad: This option uses the singular form "crossroad," which is not idiomatic in this context. It may imply a specific location but lacks the idiomatic meaning associated with decision-making that "crossroads" conveys.

- The correct answer, C. a crossroads, is the only option that aligns with the commonly accepted idiomatic expression in English, indicating a crucial moment for decision-making. The other options either misrepresent the idiomatic usage or fail to convey the intended meaning of the phrase.

Thus, in context, the phrase emphasizes that the clerk is at a pivotal point in her career or life where important decisions must be made, making "at a crossroads" the appropriate choice.

65. D: down

**Explanation:**

\* "Playing down" means minimizing the importance.  
\* "Playing off," "playing up," and "playing out" do not fit the context.

66. C: ought not to

**Explanation:**

- C "Ought not to" is used to indicate that something is not advisable or is a bad idea. The sentence is advising someone that it was unwise to walk home alone late at night.  
- A. "Would not" is incorrect because it implies a decision or a habitual action, not advice.  
- B. "Might not" suggests possibility, which does not fit the context of giving advice.  
- D. "Need not to" is grammatically incorrect; the correct form is "need not," and even that does not fit the context of giving advice.

67. B: price tag

**Explanation:**

- B. "Price tag" is the correct term for the label indicating the price of an item.  
- A. "Price's tag" incorrectly uses the possessive form.  
- C. "Prices tag" suggests multiple prices for one tag, which does not make sense.  
- D. "Prices' tag" also incorrectly uses the possessive form for multiple prices.

68. D: one's

**- Explanation:**

D - "One's" is the correct possessive form to match the subject "one," ensuring consistency in pronoun usage.

- A. "His" implies gender specificity, which is not suitable for the neutral subject "one."

- B. "Their" is plural and does not match the singular subject "one."

- C. "Your" changes the subject from "one" to "you," which is inconsistent.

69. A: sell - by

**Explanation:**

A - "Sell-by date" is the term used for the date by which a product should be sold.

- B. "Sell-out" means all items have been sold, not related to dates.

- C. "Sell-off" refers to selling items at reduced prices, not related to dates.

- D. "Sell-on" is not a standard term used for dates.

70. C: by

**Explanation:**

C - "By" is the correct preposition used to indicate the criteria for judgment.

- A. "From" is used to indicate the origin of something, not the criteria for judgment.

- B. "At" is used to indicate a location or time, not criteria.

- D. "For" is used to indicate a reason or purpose, but not in the context of judgment criteria.

## SECTION 6

*Choosing the word that is the most suitable to fill the numbered gaps in the passage.*

71. C: tenure

**Explanation:**

C - "Tenure" refers to the period during which someone holds a particular office or position, making it the most appropriate term here.

A - Period: Too generic and not specific to holding an office.

B - Reign: Typically used for monarchs, not government officials.

D - Era: Refers to a significant period in history, not specifically to holding an office.

72. A: candidates

**Explanation:**

A - "Candidates" are people who are nominated to run for a political office.

B - Aspirants: Refers to people who aspire or aim to achieve something, but not specifically those who are officially running.

C - Applicants: Typically refers to people applying for a job or position, not necessarily elected office.

D - Competitor: Generally used in the context of a competition or contest, not specifically elections.

73. D: manifestoes

**Explanation:**

D - "Manifestoes" are public declarations of intentions, motives, or views, especially those of a political party or candidate.

A - Promise: Too vague and not typically a formal presentation of intentions.

B - Speech: Can be part of a manifesto but does not encompass the whole declaration.

C - Mandate: Refers to an official order or commission, not a declaration of intentions.

74. B: canvassing

**Explanation:**

B - "Canvassing" refers to soliciting votes from electors.

A - Lobbying: Refers to seeking to influence legislators or officials.

C - Buying: Implies corruption and illegal practices.

D - Driving: Not related to the process of seeking votes.

75. A: suffrage

**Explanation:**

A - "Suffrage" refers to the right to vote in political elections.

B - Right: Too generic.

C - Charter: Refers to a formal statement or document, not specifically voting.

D - Declaration: Refers to a formal announcement, not the right to vote.

76. C: eligible

**Explanation:**

C - "Eligible" means qualified to participate or be chosen.

A - Recommended: Suggests endorsement, not qualification.

B - Approved: Suggests authorization, not qualification.

D - Suitable: Refers to being appropriate, not necessarily qualified to vote.

77. C: stations

**Explanation:**

C - "Polling stations" are places where voting takes place.

A - Booths: Part of the polling station where voters cast their ballots.

B - Boxes: Refers to containers for ballots, not the location.

D - Compartments: Too vague and not specific to polling locations.

78. B: accreditation

**Explanation:**

B - "Accreditation" refers to the process of verifying and validating eligibility.

A - Endorsement: Refers to public support, not verification.

C - Validation: A part of accreditation but too broad.

D - Approval: General consent, not the process of verifying eligibility.

79. B: returning officer

**Explanation:**

B - "Returning officer" is responsible for overseeing the counting of votes and declaring results.

A - Presiding officer: Oversees the voting process at a polling station.

C - Registration officer: Handles voter registration, not vote counting.

D - Electoral agent: Represents candidates, not responsible for counting.

80. C: announced

**Explanation:**

- C - "Announced" refers to officially declaring the winner.  
 A - Chosen: Implies selection, not the formal declaration.  
 B - Appointed: Refers to being assigned a position, not winning an election.  
 D - Called: Too vague and does not specifically refer to declaring a winner.

## 2024 TEST OF ORAL SECTION 1

*Choosing the word that has the same vowel sound as the one represented by the letter(s) underlined*

1. **B: rid**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /ɪ/ in "women" /'wɪmɪn/ is the same as in "rid" /rɪd/.  
 - "red" /rɛd/ has a short "e" sound /ɛ/.  
 - "bead" /bi:d/ has a long "e" sound /i:/.  
 - "cool" /ku:l/ has a long "oo" sound /u:/.
2. **A: curtain**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /ɜ:r/ in "pearl" /pɜ:rl/ is the same as in "curtain" /'kɜ:rtən/.  
 - "fear" /fɪər/ has a different vowel sound /ɪər/.  
 - "care" /kɛər/ has a long "a" sound /ɛər/.  
 - "sergeant" /'sɜ:rdʒənt/ has a different vowel sound /ɑ:r/.
3. **A: many**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /ɛ/ in "edit" /'ɛdɪt/ is the same as in "many" /'meni/.  
 - "earthy" /'ɜ:θi/ has a different vowel sound /ɜ:r/.  
 - "forte" /'fɔ:rtɛ/ has a different vowel sound /ɔ:r/.  
 - "meaty" /'mi:ti/ has a long "e" sound /i:/.
4. **C: receipt**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /i:/ in "penal" /'pi:nəl/ is the same as in "receipt" /rɪ'si:t/.  
 - "penalty" /'penəlti/ has a short "e" sound /ɛ/.  
 - "reality" /ri'ælɪti/ has a short "e" sound /ɛ/.  
 - "pleasant" /'plezənt/ has a different vowel sound /ɛ/.
5. **B: package**  
**Explanation:**  
 The vowel sound /æ/ in "passage" /'pæsɪdʒ/ is the same as in "package" /'pækɪdʒ/.  
 "message" /'mesɪdʒ/ has a different vowel sound /ɛ/.  
 "mortar" /'mɔ:rtər/ has a different vowel sound /ɔ:/.  
 "partner" /'pɑ:rtnər/ has a different vowel sound /ɑ:/.
6. **B: chore**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /ɔ:r/ in "coarse" /kɔ:rs/ is the same as in "chore" /tʃɔ:r/.  
 - "coax" /kouks/ has a long "o" sound /o:/.

- "road" /roud/ has a long "o" sound /o:/.  
 - "rod" /rɒd/ has a short "o" sound /ɒ/.  
 7. **D: kite**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /aɪ/ in "stipend" /'staɪpɛnd/ is the same as in "kite" /kaɪt/.  
 - "still" /stɪl/ has a short "i" sound /ɪ/.  
 - "free" /fri:/ has a long "e" sound /i:/.  
 - "bear" /bɛər/ has a different vowel sound /ɛər/.
8. **A: comb**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /ʌ/ in "dumb" /dʌm/ is the same as in "comb" /kəʊm/.  
 - "pupil" /'pjʊ:pɪl/ has a different vowel sound /u:/.  
 - "urban" /'ɜ:rbən/ has a different vowel sound /ɜ:r/.  
 - "month" /mʌnθ/ has a different vowel sound /ʌ/.
  9. **D: wood**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /ʊ/ in "wolf" /wʊlf/ is the same as in "wood" /wʊd/.  
 - "golf" /gɒlf/ has a short "o" sound /ɒ/.  
 - "scold" /skəʊld/ has a long "o" sound /o:/.  
 - "crude" /kru:d/ has a long "u" sound /u:/.
  10. **C: again**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /ə/ in "manure" /mə'njʊər/ is the same as in "again" /ə'gen/.  
 - "party" /'pɑ:rti/ has a different vowel sound /ɑ:r/.  
 - "search" /sɜ:rtʃ/ has a different vowel sound /ɜ:r/.  
 - "bad" /bæd/ has a different vowel sound /æ/.
  11. **D: known**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /oʊ/ in "host" /hoʊst/ is the same as in "known" /noʊn/.  
 - "now" /naʊ/ has a different vowel sound /aʊ/.  
 - "hoarse" /hɔ:rs/ has a different vowel sound /ɔ:r/.  
 - "thought" /θɔ:t/ has a different vowel sound /ɔ:/.
  12. **A: stake**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /eɪ/ in "steak" /steɪk/ is the same as in "stake" /steɪk/.  
 - "mead" /mi:d/ has a different vowel sound /i:/.  
 - "meadow" /'mɛdɒw/ has a different vowel sound /ɛ/.  
 - "bellow" /'beləʊ/ has a different vowel sound /ɛ/.
  13. **C: lose**  
**Explanation:**  
 - The vowel sound /u:/ in "brute" /bru:t/ is the same as in "lose" /lu:z/.  
 - "should" /ʃʊd/ has a different vowel sound /ʊ/.  
 - "stood" /stʊd/ has a different vowel sound /ʊ/.  
 - "brought" /brɔ:t/ has a different vowel sound /ɔ:/.

## 14. A: drought

### Explanation:

- The vowel sound /aʊ/ in "south" /saʊθ/ is the same as in "drought" /draʊt/.
- "foal" /fəʊl/ has a different vowel sound /oʊ/.
- "southern" /'sʌðən/ has a different vowel sound /ʌ/.
- "doughy" /'dɒvi/ has a different vowel sound /oʊ/.

## 15. C: noise

### Explanation:

- The vowel sound /ɔɪ/ in "ploy" /plɔɪ/ is the same as in "noise" /nɔɪz/.
- "plough" /plau/ has a different vowel sound /aʊ/.
- "law" /lɔ:/ has a different vowel sound /ɔ:/.  
 - "sort" /sɔ:rt/ has a different vowel sound /ɔ:r/.

## SECTION 2

*Choosing the word that has the same consonant sound(s) as the one represented by the letter(s) underlined.*

## 16. D: school

### Explanation:

- The "sc" /sk/ in "escape" /ɪ'skeɪp/ is the same sound as in "school" /sku:l/.
- "lacks" /læks/ has a different consonant sound /ks/.
- "exact" /ɪg'zækt/ has a different consonant sound /gz/.
- "scene" /si:n/ has a different consonant sound /s/.

## 17. C: sugar

### Explanation:

- The "sh" /ʃ/ sound in "chute" /ʃu:t/ is the same as in "sugar" /'ʃʊgər/.
- "loch" /lɒx/ has a different consonant sound /x/.
- "usual" /'ju:ʒuəl/ has a different consonant sound /ʒ/.
- "choose" /tʃu:z/ has a different consonant sound /tʃ/.

## 18. B: barks

### Explanation:

- The "sc" in "scion" /'saɪən/ produces the /s/ sound, similar to "barks" /bɔ:ks/.  
 "cars" /kɑ:rz/ has a different consonant sound /z/.  
 "sure" /ʃʊr/ has a different consonant sound /ʃ/.  
 "zoo" /zu:/ has a different consonant sound /z/.

## 19. C: chalk

### Explanation:

- The "ture" /tʃər/ in "suture" /'su:tʃər/ produces the same "ch" /tʃ/ sound as in "chalk" /tʃɔ:k/.
- "chalet" /'ʃælɪt/ has a different consonant sound /ʃ/.
- "badge" /bædʒ/ has a different consonant sound /dʒ/.
- "city" /'sɪti/ has a different consonant sound /t/.

## 20. D: sword

### Explanation:

- The "wh" /h/ in "whole" /hoʊl/ produces a silent "h", similar to "sword" /sɔ:rd/.

- "white" /waɪt/ has a different consonant sound /w/.
- "ewe" /ju:/ has a different consonant sound /j/.
- "house" /haʊs/ has a different consonant sound /h/.

## 21. D: fold

### Explanation:

- The "ld" /ld/ in "sold" /sould/ produces the same sound as in "fold" /foʊld/.
- "could" /kʊd/ has a different consonant sound /d/.
- "fodder" /fɒdər/ has a different consonant sound /d/.
- "soldier" /souldʒər/ has a different consonant sound /dʒ/.

## 22. B: straight

### Explanation:

- The "st" /st/ in "lustre" /lʌstər/ produces the same sound as in "straight" /streɪt/.
- "stay" /steɪ/ has a different consonant sound /s/.
- "treat" /tri:t/ has a different consonant sound /t/.
- "castle" /kæsl/ has a different consonant sound /s/ and the "t" is silent.

## 23. C: risked

### Explanation:

- The "ed" /t/ in "helped" /helpt/ produces a "t" sound, similar to "risked" /rɪskt/.
- "moved" /mu:vɪd/ has a different consonant sound /d/.
- "banded" /bændɪd/ has a different consonant sound /d/.
- "begged" /beggd/ has a different consonant sound /d/.

## 24. B: car

### Explanation:

- The "sc" /k/ in "viscount" /vaɪkaʊnt/ produces the same sound as in "car" /kɑ:r/.
- "scent" /sent/ has a different consonant sound /s/.
- "race" /reɪs/ has a different consonant sound /r/.
- "vital" /vaɪtəl/ has a different consonant sound /v/.

## 25. A: ankle

### Explanation:

- The "n" /ŋ/ sound in "punctual" /pʌŋktʃuəl/ is similar to the "n" /ŋ/ sound in "ankle" /æŋkəl/.
- "funny" /fʌni/ has a different "n" /n/ sound.
- "damn" /dæm/ has a different "n" sound.
- "thin" /θɪn/ has a different "n" sound.

## 26. D: carry

### Explanation:

- The "r" /r/ sound in "rest" /rest/ is similar to the "r" /r/ sound in "carry" /kæri/.
- "near" /nɪər/ has a different vowel sound /ɪə/.
- "survey" /sər'veɪ/ has a different consonant sound /s/.
- "choir" /kwɪər/ has a different consonant sound /k/.

## 27. D: whose

### Explanation:

- The "wh" /w/ in "what" /wɒt/ produces

a "h" sound, similar to "whose" /hu:z/.

- "who" /hu:/ has a different "wh" sound.

- "write" /raɪt/ has a different "wh" sound.

- "one" /wʌn/ has a different "wh" sound.

## 28. A: league

### Explanation:

- The "gg" /g/ sound in "giggle" /gɪɡəl/ produces a hard "g" sound, similar to "league" /li:g/.
- "ensign" /'ensam/ has a different "g" sound.
- "genre" /'ʒɑ:nə/ has a different "g" sound.
- "gesture" /'dʒestʃər/ has a different "g" sound.

## 29. C: loser

### Explanation:

- The "s" /z/ sound in "peasant" /'pezənt/ is similar to the "s" /z/ sound in "loser" /'lɔ:zər/.
- "lacy" /'leɪsi/ has a different "s" sound /s/.
- "passion" /'pæʃən/ has a different "s" sound /ʃ/.
- "leisure" /'li:ʒər/ has a different "s" sound /ʒ/.

## 30. B: listen

### Explanation:

- The "c" /k/ in "indict" /ɪn'daɪt/ is silent, similar to the "t" /s/ in "listen" /lɪsn/.
- "pack" /pæk/ has a different "c" sound.
- "fiction" /fɪkʃən/ has a different "c" sound.
- "till" /tɪl/ has a different "c" sound.

## SECTION 3

Choosing the word that rhymes with the given word:

## 31. C: tussle

Explanation: "Muscle" rhymes with "tussle" because they have the same ending sound.

## 32. A: browser

Explanation: "Trouser" rhymes with "browser" because they have the same ending sound.

## 33. A: isle

Explanation: "Aisle" rhymes with "isle" because they have the same ending sound.

## 34. C: otter

Explanation: "Potter" rhymes with "otter" because they have the same ending sound.

## 35. D: plague

Explanation: "Plaque" rhymes with "plague" because they have the same ending sound.

## SECTION 4

Choosing the one that has the correct stress:

## 36. C: le-gum-IN-ous

Explanation: The primary stress in "leguminous" falls on the third syllable.

## 37. C: mah-i-FES-to

Explanation: The primary stress in

"manifesto" falls on the third syllable.

## 38. D: coll-o-ca-TION

Explanation: The primary stress in "collocation" falls on the last syllable.

## 39. B: de-PEND-a-ble

Explanation: The primary stress in "dependable" falls on the second syllable.

## 40. B: em-BOD-i-ment

Explanation: The primary stress in "embodiment" falls on the second syllable.

## SECTION 5

Identifying the one with the different stress pattern and shade your answer in the usual way:

## 41. A: couture

Explanation: "Couture" has stress on the second syllable, while the other words have stress on the first syllable.

## 42. C: hotel

Explanation: "Hotel" has stress on the second syllable, while the other words have stress on the first syllable.

## 43. B: harmony

Explanation: "Harmony" has stress on the first syllable, while the other words have stress on the second syllable.

## 44. C: gainsay

Explanation: "Gainsay" has stress on the second syllable, while the other words have stress on the first syllable.

## 45. A: elephant

Explanation: "Elephant" has stress on the first syllable, while the other words have stress on the second syllable.

## SECTION 6

Choosing the one to which the given sentence is the appropriate answer

## 46. B: Will Nigeria host the next FIFA football competition?

Explanation: The emphasis is on "The United States," indicating that another country might have been considered as the host.

## 47. B: Does Bisi's mother hate cooking?

Explanation: The emphasis is on "ENJOYS," indicating the opposite (hate) is in question.

## 48. A: Did we leave for Lagos yesterday?

Explanation: The emphasis is on "MAKURDI," indicating a different destination (Lagos) is in question.

## 49. C: Did Ahmed greet James at the party?

Explanation: The emphasis is on "AKIN," indicating another person (James) is in question.

## 50. C: Was Bimpe the last to submit the assignment?

Explanation: The emphasis is on "FIRST," indicating the opposite (last) is in question.

## SECTION 7

From the words lettered A to D, choose the word that contains the sound represented by the given phonetic symbol.

## 51. A: comfort

Explanation:

- The /ʌ/ sound is found in the first syllable of "comfort" /'kʌmfɜ:t/.
- music /'mju:zɪk/ contains the /ju:/ sound, not the /ʌ/ sound.
- ozone /'oʊzəʊn/ contains the /oʊ/ sound, not the /ʌ/ sound.
- food /fu:d/ contains the /u:/ sound, not the /ʌ/ sound.

**52. A: howl**

**Explanation:**

- The /aʊ/ sound is found in "howl" /haʊl/.
- law /lɔ:/ contains the /ɔ:/ sound, not the /aʊ/ sound.
- flow /fləʊ/ contains the /oʊ/ sound, not the /aʊ/ sound.
- note /nəʊt/ contains the /oʊ/ sound, not the /aʊ/ sound.

**53. A: of**

**Explanation:**

- The /v/ sound is found in "of" /əv/.
- few /fju:/ contains the /f/ sound, not the /v/ sound.
- off /ɔ:f/ contains the /f/ sound, not the /v/ sound.
- photo /'fəʊtəʊ/ contains the /f/ sound, not the /v/ sound.

**54. C: about**

**Explanation:**

- The /ə/ sound is found in the first syllable of "about" /ə'baʊt/.
- age /eɪdʒ/ contains the /eɪ/ sound, not the /ə/ sound.
- argue /'ɑ:ɡju:/ contains the /ɑ:/ sound, not the /ə/ sound.
- active /'æktɪv/ contains the /æ/ sound, not the /ə/ sound.

**55. A: these**

**Explanation:**

- The /ð/ sound is found in "these" /ði:z/.
- thanks /θæŋks/ contains the /θ/ sound, not the /ð/ sound.
- thyme /taɪm/ contains the /t/ sound, not the /ð/ sound.
- moth /mʌθ/ contains the /θ/ sound, not the /ð/ sound.

**56. C: few**

**Explanation:**

- The /j/ sound is found in "few" /fju:/.
- jet /dʒet/ contains the /dʒ/ sound, not the /j/ sound.
- flew /flu:/ does not contain the /j/ sound.
- just /dʒʌst/ contains the /dʒ/ sound, not the /j/ sound.

**57. C: herb**

**Explanation:**

- The /ɜ:/ sound is found in "herb" /hɜ:rb/.
- heart /hɑ:rt/ contains the /ɑ:/ sound, not the /ɜ:/ sound.
- floor /flɔ:r/ contains the /ɔ:/ sound, not the /ɜ:/ sound.
- fork /fɔ:rk/ contains the /ɔ:/ sound, not the /ɜ:/ sound.

**58. D: piety**

**Explanation:**

- The /ai/ sound is found in the first syllable of "piety" /'pi:ti/.
- freight /freɪt/ contains the /eɪ/ sound, not the /ai/ sound.
- faith /feɪθ/ contains the /eɪ/ sound, not the /ai/ sound.

- said /sed/ contains the /e/ sound, not the /ai/ sound.

**59. C: regal**

**Explanation:**

- The /i:/ sound is found in the first syllable of "regal" /ri:gəl/.
- pit /pɪt/ contains the /ɪ/ sound, not the /i:/ sound.
- exile /'egzail/ contains the /e/ sound, not the /i:/ sound.
- serve /sɜ:rv/ contains the /ɜ:/ sound, not the /i:/ sound.

**60. C: gender**

**Explanation:**

- The /dʒ/ sound is found in "gender" /'dʒendər/.
- regime /rei'ʒi:m/ contains the /ʒ/ sound, not the /dʒ/ sound.
- gutter /'ɡʌtər/ contains the /g/ sound, not the /dʒ/ sound.
- design /dɪ'zain/ contains the /z/ sound, not the /dʒ/ sound.

(1)

Jome Secondary School,  
Line 2, Irebami Street,  
Modakeke, Ile - Ife,  
Osun State.  
24th of May, 2024.

The Chairman,  
Ife East Local Government,

Dear Sir,

### LETTER OF APPRECIATION AND THE REQUIREMENT FOR ASSISTANCE

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation on behalf of the student body and school community for the magnificent hall recently built by the Old Students' Association. Your visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to our alma mater have resulted in a world-class facility that will have a profound impact on our educational journey.

This iconic hall has already become a hub of activity, hosting various events, gatherings, and celebrations. Its modern design, state-of-the-art amenities, and comfortable seating have created an inspiring and welcoming environment that fosters collaboration, creativity, and community building.

As we bask in the glory of this outstanding achievement, I would like to respectfully bring to your attention three critical areas that require further development to ensure our school's continued growth and excellence:

1. **Science Laboratory Modernization:** Upgrading our science labs with cutting-edge equipment, technology, and facilities is crucial for providing a 21st-century STEM education that prepares us for an increasingly complex and competitive world.
2. **Library Expansion and Digitalization:** Enhancing our library's resources, collections, and digital infrastructure is essential for fostering a culture of reading, research, and critical thinking that supports our academic success and personal growth.
3. **Sports Facility Improvement and Expansion:** Renovating and expanding our sports facilities will provide a safer, more enjoyable, and inclusive environment that promotes physical activity, wellness, and teamwork, essential for our overall development and well-being.

Your continued support, guidance, and investment in our school will have a lasting impact on our lives and the future of our community. We are grateful for your unwavering commitment to our success.

Thank you for your leadership, vision, and generosity.

Sincerely,

A.O Moses  
Senior Prefect

(2)

### Addressing the Demonstrations: A call to action for our government

Our nation has witnessed a surge in demonstrations, with citizens expressing grievances and demanding change. The government's response will be crucial in addressing the underlying issues and restoring public trust.

The demonstrations are driven by economic inequality, political disenfranchisement, and social injustice. Citizens feel marginalized and excluded from decision-making, leading to frustration and anger. To address this, the government must adopt a three-pronged approach:

Firstly, establish a National Dialogue Commission to engage in open communication with protest leaders, civil society, and citizens. This commission should facilitate constructive dialogue and develop solutions.

Secondly, implement economic reforms to reduce income inequality, promote job creation, and enhance social welfare programs. This includes progressive taxation, labor market reforms, and investing in education and skills development.

Thirdly, strengthen democratic institutions to ensure transparency, accountability, and citizen participation. This includes electoral reforms, anti-corruption measures, and empowering independent oversight bodies.

By adopting this approach, the government can address the demonstrations' underlying causes, restore public trust, and foster a more inclusive society. We urge the government to engage with citizens, address economic inequality, and strengthen democratic institutions. Together, we can build a brighter future for our nation.

(3)

### Pros and Cons of living in one's country vs abroad

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed judges, and fellow debaters, I am honored to stand before you today to argue in favor of the motion: "Living in one's country is more advantageous than living abroad."

First and foremost, living in one's own country provides a sense of belonging and connection to one's roots. This sense of belonging is essential for our emotional and mental well-being, as it allows us to feel grounded and secure. When we live in

our own country, we are surrounded by familiar customs, traditions, and values that shape our identity and give us a sense of purpose.

Secondly, living in one's own country offers unparalleled access to our cultural heritage. We can immerse ourselves in our language, literature, art, music, and history, and pass them down to future generations. This cultural heritage is a vital part of our identity and provides a sense of continuity and tradition.

Thirdly, living in one's own country provides numerous economic benefits. We have access to local job market opportunities, and government support for entrepreneurs. We are also more likely to invest in our local communities, contributing to economic growth and development.

Fourthly, living in one's own country allows us to contribute to our nation's growth and development. We can participate in the political process, engage in community service, and help shape our country's future. This sense of civic engagement and responsibility is essential for building a better society.

Fifthly, living in one's own country provides a sense of stability and permanence. We are not subject to the uncertainty and unpredictability of immigration laws, work permits, and cultural adjustments that come with living abroad. We can put down roots, build a lasting legacy, and create a sense of continuity for future generations.

Sixthly, living in one's own country allows us to develop a deeper understanding of our own identity and culture. By immersing ourselves in our own culture, we can gain a better understanding of our values, beliefs, and traditions. This self-awareness is essential for personal growth and development.

Lastly, living in one's own country provides a sense of pride and patriotism. We can celebrate our national holidays, honor our national heroes, and appreciate our country's achievements. This sense of pride and patriotism is essential for building a cohesive and harmonious society.

In conclusion, living in one's own country offers numerous advantages that cannot be replicated abroad. It provides a sense of belonging, cultural heritage, economic benefits, civic engagement, stability, self-awareness, and pride. I urge you all to support the motion and recognize the benefits of living in one's own country. Thank you.

(4)

Dear friend,

I was saddened to hear that you're feeling anxious about your upcoming examinations. I completely understand the pressure and stress that comes with it, but I want you to know that you're not alone. We've all been in your shoes before, and I'm here to offer some words of encouragement and advice.

Firstly, take a deep breath and acknowledge that it's normal to feel nervous. It's natural to feel some level of anxiety when facing a challenge, but don't let it consume you. Instead, focus on what you can control – your preparation and attitude.

Here are three things you can do to manage examination jitters:

1. **Make a study plan:** Break down your study material into manageable chunks, and create a schedule that allows you to cover everything before the exams. Having a plan will help you feel more in control and confident. Set realistic goals and reward yourself when you achieve them.
2. **Practice relaxation techniques:** Regular exercise, meditation, and deep breathing can help calm your nerves and reduce stress. Try to incorporate some relaxation techniques into your daily routine, such as taking a short walk or doing some yoga. This will help you stay focused and composed under pressure.
3. **Visualize success:** Close your eyes and imagine yourself acing the exams. Visualize the feeling of confidence and accomplishment. See yourself answering questions with ease and feeling proud of your hard work. This might sound silly, but visualization can be a powerful tool to boost your confidence and reduce anxiety.

Additionally, remember that it's okay to ask for help. Talk to your teachers, classmates, or even me about your concerns. We can offer guidance, support, and valuable advice to help you prepare.

Remember, exams are not a defining moment in your life. They are just a stepping stone to your future success. Keep things in perspective, and don't be too hard on yourself.

You've got this! You've prepared well, and you have the potential to excel. Trust yourself, stay positive, and go out there and give it your best shot.

If you need someone to talk to or want to study together, I'm just a phone call away. Keep me updated on your progress, and let's celebrate your success together.

Best of luck, my friend!

Sincerely,  
[Your Name]

(5)

The sun had set over the small town of Willow Creek, casting a warm orange glow over the quaint streets and homes. I had spent the day working in my garden, tending to my flowers and vegetables, and was looking forward to a peaceful night's rest.

As I walked back to my house, I noticed a sense of calm in the air. The birds were singing their evening songs, and the crickets were chirping in harmony. I felt a sense of contentment wash over me, thinking that this night would be like all the others.

I made myself a cup of tea and sat down on the porch, watching the stars begin to twinkle in the night sky. The world seemed at peace, and I felt grateful to be a part of it.

As I sat there, I noticed a strange car parked down the street. It was an old sedan, with tinted windows and a faded paint job. I didn't think much of it, assuming it belonged to a visitor or a new neighbor.

But as the night wore on, I began to notice strange noises coming from the direction of the car. At first, it was just a faint humming, but it soon grew louder and more intense. I couldn't quite place the sound, but it sent a shiver down my spine.

I tried to brush it off as mere paranoia, but the noise continued to grow louder and more persistent. I could feel my heart beating faster, and my senses became heightened.

Suddenly, the car's headlights flickered on, casting an eerie glow over the street. I felt a surge of adrenaline as the car began to move, slowly crawling down the street towards my house.

I was frozen in fear, unsure of what to do. The car stopped right in front of my house, and the engine died. The silence that followed was deafening.

And then, the doors opened.

A group of shadowy figures emerged from the car, their faces obscured by the darkness. They moved with a sense of purpose, their footsteps echoing through the night air.

I was paralyzed with fear, unable to move or speak. The figures approached my house, their intentions unknown.

And then, chaos erupted.

The figures began to smash windows and kick in doors, their actions frenzied and violent. I was caught in the midst of the mayhem, unable to escape.

I was mistaken to have thought the night would be like other peaceful nights.

## SECTION B COMPREHENSION

- 6(a) The writer's plan was to use the party as an incentive for his son to make him improve (significantly) in his studies.  
(b) He knew his son had the potential/ability to top his class.  
(c) He was a product of a broken home.  
(i) He suffered maltreatment from his stepmother.  
(ii) He had to work at an early age to pay his school fees.  
(d) He was optimistic  
(e) They attended one of the best schools.  
(ii) They were always well-groomed.  
(f) Noun phrase  
(ii) It is the object of the verb phrase "had spared".  
(g) Metaphor  
(i) scuttled - disrupted, ruined, thwarted, shattered, spoilt, upset, wrecked, destroyed, foiled, put paid to.  
(ii) ostentatiously - flamboyantly, flashily, extravagantly, showily, lavishly.  
(iii) reputable - famous, well-known, highly esteemed, prestigious, popular, well-recognized.  
(iv) sprang - originated, stemmed, derived, emanated, emerged, came.  
(v) well-groomed - well dressed, neat, clean, presentable, kempt.  
(vi) reminiscences - recollections, memories, flashbacks, reflections, thoughts.

## SECTION C SUMMARY SOLUTIONS

- 7(a) More females (girls) than males (boys) enroll for secondary and tertiary education  
(i) Females perform better in academics than males do.  
(ii) Truancy is higher among male students than female students.  
(b) Most top positions in public and private establishments may be occupied by women.  
(iv) Homes may lose their peace and harmony.  
(iii) Women may make policies that favour themselves.