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Answer all the questions.

Each question is followed by four options lettered A to D. Find the correct option for each question and shade in pencil on your answer sheet, the answer space which bears the same letter as the option you have chosen.

Give only one answer to each question.

Be sure you understand the instructions at the beginning of each section before you try to answer any of the questions that follow them.

Do not spend too much time on a question. If you find a question difficult, leave it and go on and try it again later.

Use HB pencil throughout. If you wish to change an answer, erase your first answer completely and shade the appropriate space for the new answer.

An example is given below.

He got into trouble in an attempt to conceal the truth me.

- A. to
- B. against
- C. from
- D. for

The correct answer is from, which is lettered C and therefore answer space C would be shaded.

[A] [B] [C] [D]

Think carefully before you shade the answer spaces; erase completely any answer(s) you wish to change.

Now answer the following questions.

SECTION 1

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.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Obi's family is known for their <u>audacity</u>, so one is surprised at his</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. cowardiceB. irritabilityC. moodinessD. insolence <p>2. Bayo is <u>careless</u> in his ways while Tayo is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. lovableB. meticulousC. difficultD. reserved <p>3. In this country, the law against armed robbery is <u>stringent</u> whereas that against smoking in public places is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. accurateB. complexC. laxD. easy | <p>4. The purpose of education is to <u>facilitate</u> progress, not to it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. preventB. impedeC. stampedeD. restrain <p>5. These days, many people concentrate on <u>temporal</u> things to the detriment of the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. tangibleB. durableC. unchangingD. spiritual <p>6. While your parents are, mine are <u>liberal</u> in their views.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. strictB. intimidatingC. conservativeD. discerning |
|--|--|

7. The judge expected direct answers but the accused was
 A. illusive
 B. secretive
 C. delusive
 D. evasive
8. Kofi is generous, whereas his wife is
 A. sparing
 B. stingy
 C. unkind
 D. harsh
9. His manners are uncouth, while his wife's are
 A. clever
 B. classic
 C. refined
 D. purified
10. The peak of Mount Everest is about six miles from its
 A. base
 B. depth
 C. source
 D. root
13. The reviewer did an excellent job at the book
 A. launch
 B. premiere
 C. session
 D. briefing
14. The governor filed an against the ruling of the tribunal.
 A. injunction
 B. objection
 C. application
 D. appeal
15. At the terminus, all passengers on the train will have to
 A. alight
 B. disembark
 C. descend
 D. dismount
16. Reading the of the famous king, one would see that he had many things to hide.
 A. memoirs
 B. chronicles
 C. life
 D. monument
17. The smaller boys had always drawn back in fear when the bully raised a fist, but this time they did not
 A. advance
 B. agree
 C. retaliate
 D. recoil
18. The old man prayed for the of his sins before he died.
 A. omission
 B. commission
 C. permission
 D. remission
19. Inflation has caused the cost of goods to
 A. escalate
 B. ascend
 C. intensify
 D. progress

SECTION 2

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

11. The recent floods in some countries have many lives.
 A. claimed
 B. drowned
 C. buried
 D. injured
12. He does not smoke so the gift of an ashtray will not be quite
 A. admirable
 B. applicable
 C. appropriate
 D. attractive

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20. The economy of the country has remained despite the crisis.
- strong
 - realistic
 - tough
 - firm

SECTION 3

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

21. The principal raised eyebrows at the student's explanation. This means that the principal
- was unhappy about the explanation.
 - rejected the explanation.
 - considered the explanation.
 - was surprised by the explanation.
22. Mary made a clean breast of everything. This means that Mary
- won everyone over.
 - told the whole truth.
 - did everything efficiently.
 - changed the way things were done.
23. Had it not rained, I would have visited you. This means that
- I visited you even though it rained.
 - it did not rain and so I visited you.
 - it rained so I did not visit you.
 - because it did not rain I visited you.
24. I hadn't finished talking to Halima, when she snapped my head off. This means that she
- gave me a sharp slap.
 - rudely interrupted me.
 - hissed at me.
 - ordered me to stop talking.
25. Franca's behaviour towards Edward leaves much to be desired. This means that Franca's behaviour was
- unsatisfactory.
 - appreciated.
 - commendable.
 - unexpected.
26. The teacher truly had his heart in the right place. This means that he was
- kind and considerate.
 - sharp and thorough.
 - simple and modest.
 - focused and direct.

27. Only teachers could afford a car. This means that
- teachers could afford a car and nothing else.
 - teachers and nobody else could afford a car.
 - teachers and others could afford a car.
 - few teachers could afford a car.

28. The night watchman was given the marching orders because of his negligence. This means that he was
- promoted.
 - dismissed.
 - counselled.
 - suspended.

29. My friend is as dull as ditchwater. This means that my friend is
- dark in complexion.
 - extremely boring.
 - not intelligent.
 - not a troublemaker.

30. The director sees Tim as the joker in the pack. This means that the director considers Tim to be
- unpredictable.
 - humourous.
 - nonchalant.
 - unimportant.

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 sentence.

31. The president of the student union said it was strategic to boycott classes to press home their demands.
- acceptable
 - ethical
 - practical
 - tactical
32. The proscription of the political parties was one of the steps taken by the military.
- launching
 - expulsion
 - banning
 - removal

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33. Farmers sometimes go through the frustrating experience of having to watch their produce rot.
 A. disheartening
 B. dismaying
 C. annoying
 D. frightening
34. The acrobatic displays left the spectators stunned.
 A. amused
 B. enticed
 C. astonished
 D. elated
35. Binetou looked quite resplendent in that red dress.
 A. expensive
 B. stunning
 C. respectable
 D. conspicuous
36. It is foolish to depend entirely on mundane things.
 A. imported
 B. material
 C. attractive
 D. expensive
37. Only a pragmatic approach will solve this problem.
 A. constant
 B. careful
 C. practical
 D. drastic
38. The governor rebutted all the allegations against him.
 A. rejected
 B. removed
 C. revoked
 D. refuted
39. He was jailed for failing to obey the court injunction.
 A. law
 B. order
 C. fine
 D. proceedings
40. The World Bank made funds available to the government for poverty alleviation.
 A. reduction
 B. removal
 C. termination
 D. elimination

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. The two players protested against the
 A. fitness twice-weekly practice
 B. practice fitness twice-weekly
 C. twice-weekly practice fitness
 D. twice-weekly fitness practice
42. If I what actually happened, I would have punished him.
 A. had heard
 B. have had
 C. had had
 D. have heard
43. She was certainly going to the cinema, ?
 A. isn't she
 B. isn't it
 C. wasn't it
 D. wasn't she
44. Their house is by the side of the road.
 A. father-in-law's
 B. father's-in-law
 C. fathers'-in-law
 D. father-in-laws
45. He his ideas very clearly at meetings.
 A. puts out
 B. puts across
 C. puts away
 D. puts in
46. Remember to return it to Ruth; hers.
 A. is
 B. it's
 C. it
 D. its
47. I want to know your religious
 A. believe
 B. believing
 C. beliefs
 D. believes
48. The student did the assignment, but not the way I had expected.
 A. just
 B. quite
 C. hardly
 D. as

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Answer **three** questions in all; **one** questions from Section **A** and **all** the questions in Section **B** and **C**

SECTION A
ESSAY

[50 marks]

Answer **one** question only from this section.

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. Write a letter to your friend in another school telling him or her about your future career and how it will be beneficial to your country.
2. The National Scholarship Secretariat is organizing an essay competition on the topic: *The menace of fake drugs in the society*. Write your entry.
3. As a former senior prefect, write a letter to the principal of your school on the occasion of its 60th anniversary celebration, congratulating him and offering **three** suggestions for the improvement of the school.
4. A new principal has just been posted to your school. As the senior prefect, write a welcome address on behalf of the students, pointing out **three** areas of need in the school.
5. Write a story which illustrates the saying: *Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown*.

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SECTION B
COMPREHENSION
[20 mark]

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

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

Alani was the seventh child of his family. When he was growing up, there was scarcely enough to go round. His mother was a petty trader while his father worked as a clerk in one of the ministries. But Alani was an intelligent child and performed brilliantly at school. This endeared him to his teachers. He represented the school at all competitions and won many laurels. While he was in Basic Six, he won a scholarship to study at any school of his choice to university level. The future was indeed bright for him. However, having to constantly struggle with his siblings for the little sustenance provided by their parents turned him into an aggressive child.

After graduation, Alani got a job with a reputable accounting firm. He travelled far and wide and was trained extensively. He rose through the ranks and became one of the top executives. After a while, he decided to establish his own firm. His firm flourished because of his hard work, dedication and the huge amount of money and time he invested in the venture. After just a few years, the firm became a household name.

However, things took a bad turn. Alani's success went to his head. He became pompous. He would get angry at the slightest provocation. He refused to take the advice of his employees, considering them all beneath him. Even when his workers had good suggestions for improvement, he would not listen. Often times, he would treat even his clients shabbily. He began to lose clients one by one and his profits dwindled. His firm was on the rocks and he started to blame his employees for the downturn in his business. He became suspicious of every move made and action taken by his workers. Soon, Alani became a bitter man. He lost the respect of his workers because he often quarrelled with them.

However, Alani's secretary, who was his pioneer staff, did not give up on him. She tried to talk to him and refused to resign when other members of staff were putting in their letters. When five of his workers resigned on the same day, that decided it! He realized that he just had to turn his life around. He went for counselling and began to turn over a new leaf. It was during one of the counselling sessions that he met a business mogul. They got talking and the man was impressed with Alani's knowledge and expertise. They formed a partnership and Alani's business began to grow again. Alani had learnt a useful lesson: those who are endowed with success should nurture it with humility.

- (a) What endeared Alani to his teachers?
(b) Mention **two** factors that accounted for Alani's success in business.
(c) Why did Alani's business almost collapse?
(d) What was ironical in Alani's blaming his employees for the downturn in his business?
(e) What incident made Alani have a rethink?
(f) *on the rocks*
What is the meaning of this expression?
(g) *who was his pioneer staff*
(i) What grammatical name is given to this expression as it is used in the passage?
(ii) What is its function?
(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. laurels; ii. sustenance iii. reputable
iv. venture; v. pompous vi. dwindled

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SECTION C
SUMMARY
[30 mark]

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

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

Armed robbery is one of the most condemnable crimes in contemporary society. People have been maimed or killed for their money or belongings in the past, but never has robbery with violence been experienced on such a large scale as observed recently. Armed robbery is typically motivated by the desire to obtain money and valuables. However, some armed robbers engage in the crime with the intention of boosting their status. Whatever the motivation, the act is inhumane and can result in injury and sometimes the death of the victims.

It is rather unfortunate that in almost all modern societies there are always groups of unemployed young people. Some are unemployable because they have little or no education and lack skills.

What is even worse, these young people are often unprepared for and unwilling to do any manual work to earn an honest living. They tend to blame society for their plight and retaliate by indulging in acts of crime and lawlessness. They grab money and valuable properties of their victims to enable them to survive in a society which seems to ignore them. To reduce the instances of armed robbers, parents should do their best to nurture their children in the right way because charity begins at home. They should instill good values in them and should not hesitate to correct them early in life when they bring home something that does not belong in them.

The rich, on the other hand, who are mostly the target of armed robbers provide another cause. Some show off their wealth ostentatiously, live flamboyantly, go about in flashy and sophisticated cars, hop from one exotic island to another on holidays, and brag about all their escapades on social media much to the annoyance and envy of the unemployed youth. To bridge the gap between the haves and the have-nots, the government should provide the basic necessities for its citizens. Social services should be made available to those without jobs. The provision of such amenities to cater for the entire populace would help to improve the living conditions of the unemployed and underemployed. The adequate provision of infrastructure would ensure that every individual has access to the basic comforts of life.

The breakdown of traditional systems, resulting in the loss of moral and spiritual values, has made wealth the only thing of value in the eyes of the youth. The ostentatious display of ill-gotten wealth is applauded and the society hardly questions its source. Many young people therefore engage in all manner of nefarious activities including armed robbery to make money in order to enjoy the delights and comforts of modern life and above all, be celebrated by their society. Law enforcement authorities can further reduce the spate of armed robberies by monitoring places known for high incidence of the crime. Constant and intrusive patrols of crime-prone areas can deter potential offenders.

- (a) In **three** sentences, **one** for **each**, summarize the factors that make some youths go into armed robbery.
- (b) In **three** sentences, **one** for **each**, summarize how armed robbery' can be reduced.

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