

TARGETER WINGS

JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL ASSESSMENT



GRADE 8 - 2024



ENGLISH

TIME: 1hr 40mins

Name _____
School _____
Adm No: _____ Date _____

Instructions:

- (a) Write your name, school, admission number and date in the spaces provided above.
(b) Answer all questions in this question paper.

FOR EXAMINER'S USE ONLY			
Questions	Maximum score	Student's score	Performance scale
1 - 30	30		
Total	30		

SECTION: A

READING COMPREHENSION.

1. **Read the story below and answer questions (a) to (d)**

Dressed casually like any other town dweller, the young man walked along the street among other ordinary citizens. Suddenly, I heard some screaming and turned around to see a smartly-dressed lady running after someone. It happened as fast as lightning. The lady had been robbed of her handbag. The thief was the young man I had seen earlier. He had taken a different lane and was speeding with all his might.

I immediately joined a mob of chasers who were in hot pursuit of the thief. The chase took us through an open field and into a building under construction. He came upon a high wall which challenged his plan of escape. He threw the handbag over to the other side and quickly began to climb the wall. How unlucky he was! He tripped at last and landed with a thud. He lay down there helplessly looking at the approaching mob which was breathing fire. The furious mob descended on him mercilessly amid his attempt to seek for forgiveness. In the split of a second, he was bleeding heavily and no sound came out of his mouth.

Two policemen on patrol intervened after they heard the fracas. The angry mob was dispersed though after a shot in the air. The thief was arrested and the lady recovered her handbag. One of the policemen informed the mob against taking the law into their hands. He explained the importance of respecting life and the right to a fair trial in a court of law.

- (a) Why do you think the young man could not be suspected to be a thief?(1mk)

(b) What attracted the mob to chase after the thief? (1mk)

(c) How did the thief find himself in a dilemma? (1mk)

(d) Which important role did the policemen play? (1mk)

2. **Read the following story and then answer questions (a) to (d)**

Kalunde walked briskly with a basket in her hand. The huge pumpkin in the basket was very heavy forcing her to keep changing hands. She was going back home from her grandmother after spending the better part of the day helping her weed her garden.

Kalunde heard a sound of a motorcycle approaching from behind. She never gave it a thought until it stopped suddenly in front of her.

"Will you mind if I offer you a lift? I am headed for Awase village," the rider said to Kalunde. Since the passenger's seat was vacant, Kalunde agreed and hopped onto the motorcycle and off it roared. Getting a lift was very normal in the village so Kalunde had nothing to worry about.

"Your have taken a wrong route," Kalunde complained when the rider branched towards an unfamiliar rough road.

"It is only a shortcut. Don't worry," replied the rider whose identity was concealed by a heavy jacket and a helmet. Kalunde now began to worry. She was sure that the man had evil motives. She also noticed that the speed was too high to jump off. The motorcycle made a funny noise an indication that it had run out of fuel. The rider stopped to check which gave Kalunde a chance to think twice. She ran away as fast as her feeble legs could allow. She got into the next homestead where she explained her ordeal.

A tall strong man accompanied Kalunde where she had left the motorbike. It was not there!

"You're very lucky, young girl. That man was a kidnapper," the man told her. Kalunde gave her parent's contacts who were informed at once. They wasted no time and came to pick their already scared daughter. They thanked the man for his kind deed.

(a) How did Kalunde spend the day at her grandmother's place? (1mk)

(b) Why did Kalunde accept to be given a lift? (1mk)

(c) When did Kalunde realise that the man meant no good for her? (1mk)

(d) What made it possible for Kalunde to escape from the dangerous man? (1mk)

SECTION : B

GRAMMAR

3. **Fill in the blank spaces in the sentences below using the correct form of the word in brackets.**

(3mks)

(a) The good news _____ spreading fast everyday. (be)

(b) Have you _____ the book to the teacher? (take)

(c) She served me as if I _____ a VIP. (be)

4. **Use the suitable word to fill in the blank spaces (3mks)**

(a) The _____ was very stiff but they won. (compete)

(b) He was advised to make the right _____ (decide)

(c) We accepted the final _____ (judge)

5. **Use the given word to form a compound noun that best completes each sentence. (3mks)**
- (a) The old man carried his walking stick under his _____ (pit)
- (b) I peeped through the _____ and saw him dancing alone. (hole)
- (c) She put down the summary in a _____ (book)
6. **Fill in the blank spaces with the most suitable preposition in brackets (4mks)**
- (a) The children rested _____ the shade after playing. (on, in, under)
- (b) She will visit them _____ the afternoon. (at, on, in)
- (c) He waved _____ the excited crowd on his way to the state house. (for, at, to)
- (d) A fence was erected _____ the homestead. (through, round, across)
7. **Replace the given words with one word to fill in the blank spaces (3mks)**
- (a) My grandmother goes for medical checkup _____ (every month)
- (b) The teacher wants you to go _____ (at once)
- (c) He talked to the stranger _____ (with respect)

SECTION: C

ORAL LITERATURE AND POETRY

8. **In this section, answer all the following questions**

One sunny afternoon, a thirsty fox was looking for a well to quench himself. He found one but it was too deep. He craned his neck to try his luck but accidentally fell into the well. He tried with all his effort to get out but in vain. He remained in there helplessly. Meanwhile, a goat passed by the well and peeped inside. He saw the fox.

“What are you doing there, Mr. Fox?” asked concerned goat.

“I am enjoying the finest water in the whole world. Jump in and take a drink,” said the fox.

The goat did not hesitate but jumped into the well. He drank to his satisfaction but just like the fox, he got stranded on how to get out.

The fox finally suggested, “I have an idea. Why don’t you stand on your back legs, I climb on your back and then to your head and get out of the well. From there, I will easily help you.”

The goat agreed and did as the fox said. Once the fox was out of the well, he minded his own business and walked away saying, “Next time, poor goat, use your brain.”

(Adapted from ‘Aesop Fables’ by Aesop)

- (a) What kind of a friend is the fox? (2mks)

- (b) How are the two characters in the story similar to human beings? Explain (4mks)

- (c) What major lesson do we learn from the story? (2mks)

9 **Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow**

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here,
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bell a shake
To ask if there is some mistake
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake

The woods are lovely, dark and deep
But I have promises to keep
And miles to go before I sleep
And miles to go before I sleep.

By Robert Frost

- (a) How many stanzas are in this poem? _____ (2mks)
(b) According to the poem, what was the time of the year? _____ (2mks)

(c) Who is the persona in this poem? _____ (2mks)
(d) Identify and give any two pairs of rhyming words used in this poem. _____ (4mks)

CLASS READERS

10. **Read the extract below and then answer the questions that follow**

There was something wrong with Wanjala. He wore a sad face as he limped into the sitting room. His shirt was ripped. His loud footsteps caught his mother's attention while she was watching the news on television. She exclaimed the moment her gaze fell on him.

What has happened to my son? She wondered.

Wanjala was unable to control his emotions. He shook his head, tears streaming down his cheeks. His mother turned off the television and approached him. She gave him a pat on the back.

"What happened to you, son? Place your backpack on the table, then go to your room and change. I am waiting for you so that you can tell me what is bothering you," his mother said.

He nodded and limped to his room. He sat on his bed, stared blankly at the ceiling while in deep thought.

"I must take revenge," he said to himself.

- (a) Who are the main characters in the extract? _____ (2mks)
(b) Identify dialogue in this extract (2mks)

(c) Where did most of the conversation in this extract take place? (1mk)

(d) 'I am waiting for you so that you can tell me what is bothering you.' What does the statement reveal about the speaker? (3mks)

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TIME: 40mins

SECTION B:
ENGLISH : COMPOSITION

Name _____	
School _____	
Adm No: _____	Date _____

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

1. *Write your name, school, admission number and date in the spaces provided above.*
2. *Now open the page, read the instructions of the composition carefully and write your composition on the lines provided.*

This Question Paper consists of 4 printed pages.

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TURN OVER

Write an interesting composition beginning with the following words.

Halima ran away from home and went to

A series of horizontal lines for writing a composition.