

OPENER STD 8 TERM 2 2020

ENGLISH

NAME.....

Learner's Number

Gender Boy

Girl

County name County code

Sub county name Sub county code

School name School code

The grid below is to be filled by the teacher after marking the learner's work

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Numbers 1-15				
Measurement 16-23				
Geometry 24-25				

Read the passage below. It contains blank spaces numbered 1 to 15. For each blank space, choose the best answer from the choices given.

My heart sank 1 I tried to collect myself 2 . I 3 believe this was happening to me. I 4 off my sleep. I sat 5 and wrapped my angelic gown all 6 me. I was 7 sleepy though.

I had 8 thinking straight in to my life, I 9 my senses and realised that 10 happened when I had an accident. I 11 on the roadside. My head bled 12 and I couldn't 13 my limbs. I wept bitterly. 14 prompted my mother to come into my room. She was amused to realise that it was 15 but a dream.

- | | A. | B. | C. | D. |
|-----|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. | when | as | while | for |
| 2. | together | well | alone | close |
| 3. | wouldn't | shouldn't | couldn't | oughtn't |
| 4. | woke | rose | ran | jerked |
| 5. | straight | upright | well | there |
| 6. | allover | around | round | over |
| 7. | still | even | also | so |
| 8. | begin | began | begins | begun |
| 9. | came to | got to | came by | came in |
| 10. | a lot | alot | lots | lot |
| 11. | lay | lied | lain | laid |
| 12. | dangerously | heavy | sincerely | profusely |
| 13. | touch | feel | rise | see |
| 14. | These | That | This | It |
| 15. | just | only | truly | somehow |

For questions 16 and 17, choose the alternative word that means the same as the underlined expression.

16. Njambi works very hard in spite of the fact that she is very old.
A. although B. but
C. moreover D. despite
17. Mboloki advised his son to avoid being extravagant.
A. wasteful B. careless
C. expensive D. generous

For questions 18 and 19, choose one of the four sentences that means much the same as the original sentence- and is grammatically correct.

18. I am told Ali is the tallest boy in the school.
A. Ali, they tell me, he is tallest of the boys.
B. Of all the boys in the school, Ali is said to be the tallest.
C. They are telling me that no one in the school is so tall like Ali.
D. Set beside every other boy in the school, Ali can be described being tall.
19. "I haven't lost my handkerchief," Rhoda said.
A. Rhoda denied losing her handkerchief.
B. Rhoda said she wasn't missing her handkerchief.
C. Rhoda denied that she was not having her handkerchief.
D. Rhoda said that she was still having her handkerchief.

For questions 20 and 21, choose the sentence that is correctly punctuated.

20. A. Have you read, "the poem I too speak America.
B. Have you read the poem 'I too speak America'?"
C. Have you read the poem 'I Too Speak America'?"
D. Have you read the poem I too Speak America?
21. A. "Which book is mine?" asked Thomas.
B. "Which book is mine?," asked Thomas.
C. "Which book is mine," asked Thomas

D. "Which book is mine?" Asked Thomas.

For questions 22 and 23, select the best answer.

22. If you count the letters of the English Alphabet backwards from Z, taking three letters at a time five times, what will be the second letter to the last one counted?
A. J B. L
C. M D. K
23. Our grandfather comes home to see us every now and again. The underlined words can be replaced by
A. daily B. occasionally
C. nowadays D. always

For questions 24 and 25, choose the best arrangement of the given sentences to make a sensible paragraph.

24. i) Pupils who pass examinations are those who are both diligent and disciplined.
ii) Studying involves both discipline and diligence.
iii) Discipline, on the other hand, requires planned, regular and persistent preparation for lessons as well as continuous revision of work covered.
iv) Diligence refers to the care, determination and hard work a pupil puts into the study.
- A. (ii) (iii) (i) (iv)
B. (ii) (i) (iii) (iv)
C. (ii) (iv) (iii) (i)
D. (ii) (i) (iv) (iii)
25. i) Chances are high that they will cease.
ii) No one likes to be pitied.
iii) If this continues, gently ask them to stop.
iv) You may get annoyed at friends who seem to pity you.
- A. (iv) (i) (ii) (iii)
B. (iii) (iv) (ii) (i)
C. (iv) (ii) (iii) (i)
D. (ii) (i) (iv) (iii)

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 37.

All over the world today, there is great emphasis on the establishment of common markets to foster trade between member states. This has taken on a new look with the **mushrooming** of trade blocs, some of which exist only in name.

Respected common markets like the European Union have attained their ideals, with their economies becoming even more vibrant through integration. But the growing economies of Africa have led to the sprouting of regional markets that have tended to **curtail** their intended purposes.

The many advantages derived from this type of partnership cannot be gainsaid. However, there is some evidence of overlapping and duplication of roles. It is for this reason that some observers have expressed grave misgivings about the future of the East Africa Community. They argue that COMESA, the Southern African Development Community and Inter-Governmental Authority on Development are enough to handle the needs of the three East African states.

Those who say so have a point which shouldn't be ignored. Terming their sentiments mere nonsense, is ill-advised. It is a fact that the EAC had never been on a firm footing. Its high ideals will remain elusive unless there is a marked reversal of the growing trend towards business with countries outside the region, notably Mauritius, South Africa and Egypt.

Allegations that a former Kenyan minister for Constitutional Affairs, Mr Charles Njonjo, engineered the collapse of the EAC in 1977 are not only misplaced, but unnecessarily centred on personalities.

What were the real reasons? Kenya was the most cherished colony of Britain in East Africa. It therefore, achieved a dominant position in the region. Tanzania and Uganda rightly claimed that apart from Nairobi being the hub of commercial activities, the concentration of several East African parastatals in Kenya favoured the country.

As a result, the first hurdle in the EAC's path was erected by leaders from Tanzania and Uganda. The misunderstandings and different political alignments during the Cold War contributed to the winding up of the E.A.C. So this unity was doomed to fail from the onset.

Since the 1970's when the EAC ran into problems much **has taken place**. With the new generation of leaders on the scene, even stronger East African unity is envisaged. However, the proposal to form a political federation with one president and a single currency is far-fetched.

26. According to the first paragraph, the great focus is on
- mushrooming of trade blocs between states
 - fostering business between states
 - formation of common markets to boost business between states
 - establishment of common markets to hinder trade between states.
27. The expression "mushrooming of trade blocs" suggests that
- trade blocs have the resemblance of mushrooms.
 - trade blocs are developed at a very fast pace.
 - trade blocs are as weak as mushrooms.
 - trade blocs are found everywhere in the region
28. Why have some observers expressed misgivings about the East African Community?
- It is not as strong as COMESA, SADC and IGAD
 - Existence of duplication and overlapping of roles
 - It does not have a strong support.
 - It is a regional trade bloc that exists in name.
29. The expression "some of which exist only in name." suggest that some trade blocs
- have more memorable names.
 - do not exist at all.
 - have no tangible benefit to trade.
 - have many tangible benefits to trade.
30. Which one of the following statements is true according to the passage?
- The European Union is a distinguished common market.
 - Integration of economies in European Union has hindered trade.
 - Sprouting of regional markets has enhanced trade.
 - Members of the European Union were not vibrant before integration.
31. According to the passage, the following countries can boost trade with EAC **except**
- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| A. European Union | B. Egypt |
| C. South Africa | D. Mauritius |
32. Which of the following is **true** according to the passage?
- The sentiments of observers about EAC is utter nonsense.
 - It is known that there was a time EAC was very strong.
 - Without trade with states outside the bloc, EAC will remain unsuccessful.
 - The ideals of EAC will not be achieved unless it joins Egypt and Mauritius.
33. According to the passage, Mr Charles Njonjo
- is the Kenyan Minister for Constitutional affairs.
 - is guilty as charged about the collapse of EAC.
 - became the Minister for Constitutional Affairs in 1977.
 - was once a Minister for Constitutional Affairs in Kenya.
34. The following reasons made Kenya the dominant member of EAC, except that
- Kenya was the headquarters of EAC.
 - Kenya was the most favoured British colony in East Africa.
 - it was correctly alleged that Kenya was the hub of trading activities.
 - Kenya had more parastatals than other East African countries.
35. The word "curtail" has been used in the passage. Which of the following would **not** replace it in the passage?
- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| A. Improve | B. Curb |
| C. Inhibit | D. Hold back |
36. According to the passage, what failed the unity of the East African Community?
- Misunderstanding between the leaders of Tanzania and Uganda.
 - Different political alignment during the world war.
 - Misunderstanding and different political positions during the cold war.
 - Doomed unity from the onset.
37. Which one of the following is the **best** title for the passage?
- Mushrooming of trade blocs in East Africa.
 - Challenges of trade blocs in the world.
 - Formation of common markets in East Africa.
 - Strengthening the East African Community

Read the passage below and answer questions 38 to 50.

As I grew up, our home was near some bushes and the mongoose menace was rife. **To unravel this mystery** that reduced our chicken gradually every day, I transformed into a detective and made myself a suitable hide out from where I could see everything that happened around the chicken coop. From there, I watched in fascination and terror as mongooses killed and devoured our chicken one after another. Chicks provided the least resistance and became the prime targets. In fact, some walked themselves to the predators in sheer ignorance only to realize that it was too late to flee for dear life.

As I watched closely, I realized the mongooses were not the same. There was this particular breed that killed its prey through suffocation. This type is a little bigger and heavier than the typical mongoose. It has an ingenious way of enticing the chicken into their demise. It hides in the bushes with its body in the bush but its rear end exposed. Its anal opening has a rough place that gives the impression that some millet is strewn on it. It relaxes the muscles to spread this surface wide.

The unsuspecting chicken think their lucky day for free delicious millet had dawned. They run towards the 'millet' and begin pecking on the free food. Two pecks later, the trap comes alive and captures the poor helpless chicken's head cutting off their air supply. Not even a sound is heard. The chicken suffocates.

Many times we encounter people who behave just like this type of mongoose. Once they realize they are not able to compete fairly with the rest of the people, they devise attractive traps then lay in and wait to capture other people and destroy them without being found out. By employing plastic smiles, hugs and flattery, they lure their victims to their trap with great mastery. They show no regrets when their victims suffer.

By the time the victims **smells a rat** and try to steer clear of the traps, they realise they are time barred. To some victims, it takes a while to get off the hook. Others become too traumatized by the realization that the people they valued as friends were actually wolves in sheep clothing, to do anything. Suffocation happens swiftly and painfully.

These predatory friends are found everywhere: in work places, schools, neighbourhoods and even in religious places. They go green with envy on learning of your good standing among your peers. They go ahead and spread damaging lies about you. In work places, they damage your reputation and nip in the bud your chances of promotion. They make you lose self-esteem and self-worth. Surprisingly, they are the first to shed crocodile tears and offer hollow sympathies.

It is an uphill task to pick out these mongoose friends from good friends. This is what makes their deceit to thrive. They camouflage so well among good friends and operate with high secrecy covering their tracks very well. The solution is to first test people's character, intentions and loyalty to you. Compare their values with yours and mind their reputation too. If they talk to you about others, they will also backbite you with others.

38. From the first paragraph, we can learn that
- mongooses were a constant and serious problem.
 - the writer's chicken reduced rapidly.
 - the writer's home was in a forest infested with dangerous animals.
 - the writer kept mongooses as pets together with chicken.
39. The expression 'to unravel this mystery' as used in the passage means
- to lay a trap in order to stop the disappearance of chicken.
 - to watch the disappearance of chicken.
 - to catch the mongoose that took away the chicken.
 - to resolve the problem of unexplained disappearance of chicken.
40. Why did the writer look for a suitable hiding place?
- He didn't want the chicken to see him.
 - He was afraid of the mongoose.
 - To watch the incidents around the coop without being noticed.
 - He had become a detective and needed a hiding place.
41. According to the passage, the chicks were the main targets of the mongooses because
- they were smaller in size thus easy to swallow.
 - they were unaware of the presence of the mongooses and fell victims.
 - they were not as fast to run away as the mature chicken.
 - they didn't fight for their lives as strongly as the grown up chicken.
42. Compared to the normal mongoose, the one described in the passage
- is slightly lighter and bigger.
 - is slightly weightier and larger.
 - is quite heavy and big
 - is much bigger and weightier.
43. It is true to say that the mongoose exposes its rear end and spreads it
- to force the unsuspecting chicken into a trap.
 - to feed the unsuspecting chicken with free millet.
 - to lure the gullible chicken into the trap.
 - to confuse the chicken then pounce on them.
44. According to the passage, the trapped chicken dies due to
- being swallowed alive.
 - having its head chopped off.
 - inability to make a sound.
 - inability to breath.
45. Which one of the following is **not true** about friends who behave like the mongoose?
- They formulate clever traps to destroy their competitors.
 - They work out their evil scheme in secrecy.
 - They exhibit remorse when their victims are in trouble.
 - They use a false attitude of friendliness towards their victims.
46. The idiom 'smells a rat' as used in the passage means
- sensing a very horrible smell .
 - feeling depressed because of the betrayal.
 - becoming fully aware of evil schemes.
 - becoming suspicious of evil plans.
47. What traumatises people according to the passage?
- The realisation that they are already trapped and suffocating.
 - The awareness that the people they trusted were not real friends.
 - The realisation that even close friends can betray us sometimes.
 - The realisation that nobody can be fully trusted.
48. From the passage, we can conclude that
- it is difficult to differentiate good friends from bad ones.
 - it is impossible to differentiate good friends from bad ones.
 - it is easy to differentiate good friends from bad ones.
 - it is easier to stay without any friends.
49. How can we identify friends who will talk about us with other people?
- They talk to us about other people.
 - They don't mind their reputation.
 - They don't show much loyalty to us.
 - They are always lying about other people.
50. Which one of the following proverbs best summarises the passage?
- Birds of the same feather flock together.
 - One good turn deserves another.
 - Not all that glitters is gold.
 - Penny wise pound foolish.