

You have 40 minutes to write your composition.

The following is the beginning of a composition. Write it in your own words making it as interesting as possible.

The long awaited day was finally here. Kenyans were going to the polls yet again. My father was vying for the parliamentary seat in Masinga Constituency.....

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

There are only eight species of sea turtles 1 the world. Turtles rank high among the world's endangered species and, 2, their continued existence is very much 3. In many areas, people 4 turtle meat and eggs, and their oil is used in the cosmetic 5. Their shells are in 6 demand to make combs and spectacle frames. Many turtles also drown accidentally 7 they get entangled in fishing nets 8 by deep-sea trawlers or fishing boats. Bits of plastic are often mistaken 9 their favourite food, jellyfish, and they 10 the turtle's breathing and digestive passages when swallowed. Most species of sea turtles are much larger than their land relatives. Sea or marine turtles, 11 land turtles, cannot retract their heads completely into their shells. They have a compressed streamlined shell and broad flattened 12 for paddling. Turtles are found all around the world. Most migrate over long distances to reach their favourite breeding 13. Turtles can dive down to depths of over 1,500 metres. Turtles breathe air, but they 14 spend as much as three hours underwater. They 15 open water, but are occasionally encountered close to reefs.

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|-----|---------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1.  | A. in         | B. on         | C. over          | D. through     |
| 2.  | A. luckily    | B. fortunate  | C. unfortunately | D. undoubtedly |
| 3.  | A. assured    | B. threatened | C. promoted      | D. frightened  |
| 4.  | A. ate        | B. use        | C. prepare       | D. consume     |
| 5.  | A. company    | B. service    | C. industry      | D. factory     |
| 6.  | A. much       | B. a lot of   | C. more          | D. most        |
| 7.  | A. because    | B. while      | C. when          | D. yet         |
| 8.  | A. put out    | B. put off    | C. set off       | D. set out     |
| 9.  | A. with       | B. for        | C. over          | D. of          |
| 10. | A. block      | B. fill       | C. prevent       | D. protect     |
| 11. | A. as well as | B. like       | C. unlike        | D. also        |
| 12. | A. legs       | B. feet       | C. hooves        | D. forelimbs   |
| 13. | A. sights     | B. sites      | C. cites         | D. scenes      |
| 14. | A. could      | B. should     | C. can           | D. would       |
| 15. | A. prefer     | B. choose     | C. enjoy         | D. like        |

*For questions 16 to 18, choose the word that best fills in the blank space.*

16. If I went to the office now, I \_\_\_\_\_ the chief.
- A. will see
  - B. would see
  - C. would have seen
  - D. shall see
17. When he \_\_\_\_\_ the tea boiled over.
- A. reads
  - B. is reading
  - C. read
  - D. was reading
18. They realized when schools opened that we \_\_\_\_\_ have bought the books.
- A. must
  - B. mustn't
  - C. needn't
  - D. couldn't

*For questions 19 and 20, select the correct question tag.*

19. The elections were peaceful, \_\_\_\_\_?
- A. isn't it
  - B. weren't they
  - C. were they
  - D. is it

20. He pays the bills, \_\_\_\_\_?
- A. doesn't he
  - B. does he
  - C. don't he
  - D. do he

*For questions 21 and 22, choose the word that best replaces the underlined word.*

21. The heavy rains occur once every year.
- A. occasionally
  - B. biennially
  - C. annually
  - D. periodically
22. It is your duty to clean the house.
- A. opportunity
  - B. concern
  - C. chance
  - D. responsibility

*For questions 23 and 24, choose the sentence that means the same as the underlined*

23. The visitors were forbidden to pick the flowers.
- A. The visitors picked the flowers although they had been warned.
  - B. The visitors were not allowed to pick the flowers
  - C. The visitors were assisted to pick the flowers
  - D. The visitors were not stopped from picking the flowers

24. Musa said, "I am working in Mombasa."
- A. Musa said, "that he was working in Mombasa."
- B. Musa said that he worked in Mombasa.
- C. Musa works in Mombasa
- D. Musa said that he was working in Mombasa.

*For question 25, choose the word that is correctly spelt.*

- 25.
- A. until
- B. suprise
- C. wierd
- D. pastrolists

*Read the passage below and then answer questions 26 - 28*

Many great inventions are initially greeted with ridicule and disbelief. The invention of the airplane was no exception. Although many people who heard about the first powered flight on December 17, 1903 were excited and impressed, others reacted with peals of laughter. The idea of flying an aircraft was repulsive to some people. Such people called Wilbur and Orville Wright, the inventors of the first flying machine, impulsive fools. Negative reactions, however, did not stop the Wrights. Impelled by their desire to succeed, they continued their experiments in aviation.

Orville and Wilbur Wright had always had compelling interest in aeronautics and mechanics. As young boys they earned money by making and selling kites and mechanical toys. Later, they designed a newspaper-folding machine, built a printing press, and operated a bicycle-repair shop. In 1896, when they read about the death of Otto Lilienthal, the brothers' interest in flight grew into a compulsion. Lilienthal, a pioneer in hang-gliding, had controlled his gliders by shifting his body in the desired direction. This idea was repellent to the Wright brothers, however, and they searched for more efficient methods to control the balance of airborne vehicles. In 1900 and 1901, the Wrights tested numerous gliders and developed control techniques. The brothers' inability to obtain enough lift power for the gliders almost led them to abandon their efforts.

After further study, the Wright brothers concluded that the published tables of air pressure on curved surfaces must be wrong. They set up a wind tunnel and began a series of experiments with model wings. Because of their efforts, the old tables were repealed in time and replaced by the first reliable figures for air pressure on curved surfaces. This work, in turn, made it possible for the brothers to design a machine that would fly. In 1903 the Wrights built their first airplane, which cost less than \$1,000. They even designed and built their own source of propulsion—a lightweight gasoline engine. When they started the engine on December 17, the airplane pulsated wildly before taking off. The plane managed to stay aloft for 12 seconds, however, and it flew 120 feet.

By 1905, the Wrights had perfected the first airplane that could turn, circle, and remain airborne for half an hour at a time. Others had flown in balloons and hand gliders, but the Wright brothers were the first to build a full-size machine that could fly under its own power. As the contributors of one of the most outstanding engineering achievements in history, the Wright brothers are accurately called the fathers of aviation.

26. According to the first sentence in the passage many great inventions are met with
- admiration
  - ridicule
  - encouragement
  - repulsion
27. The word 'impelled' has been used in the first paragraph. Which of these words could best replace it in the passage?
- Encouraged
  - Dissuaded
  - Propelled
  - Forced
28. When the writer says others reacted with peals of laughter it means that
- they laughed secretly
  - they laughed uncontrollably
  - they giggled with pleasure
  - they laughed tentatively
29. According to the third paragraph Orville and Wilbur were
- siblings
  - cousins
  - kite makers
  - research partners
30. The idea of the hand glider was repellent to the Wright brothers. This means that
- they were eager to try out the idea
  - they thought it was a terrible idea
  - they ridiculed Otto for the idea
  - they were skeptical that it could work
31. What almost led Orville and Wilbur to abandon their efforts according to the third paragraph?
- Constant ridicule
  - Lack of funds
  - Inability to obtain enough lift for their gliders
  - They hit snags in acquiring research materials
32. From the passage you have just read, what is the best way to deal with people who do not believe in your innovations?
- Sue them in court
  - Laugh at them
  - Avoid them
  - Work hard and prove them wrong
33. What would you say was the biggest breakthrough for the Wright brothers on their aviation journey?
- Making the first reliable figures for air pressure on curved surfaces
  - Designing a lightweight engine
  - Finding Otto's work
  - Experimenting with model wings
34. Which of the following statements is true about the first plane by Orville and Wilbur?
- It was completed in 1905
  - It stayed airborne for 12 seconds
  - It cost 1000 dollars to make
  - It flew smoothly and gracefully from the beginning

35. The Wright brothers are known as the fathers of aviation. Which of the following options could also be used to describe them?
- Apprentices
  - Early adaptors
  - Pioneers
  - Trend setters
36. How did Orville and Wilbur make money as young boys?
- Making and selling kites
  - Selling newspapers
  - Repairing mechanical toys
  - Making bicycles
37. Which of these proverbs best describes the Wright brothers' experience?
- Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.
  - Hard work pays
  - The early bird catches the worm
  - A fool and his money are soon parted
38. Why was the Wright brothers' plane extraordinary from other flying inventions?
- It was the first to stay airborne
  - It was the first ever invention that could lift up a man
  - It could spin
  - It could fly under its own power

**Read the passage below then answer questions 39 to 50**

Since I am a high school student, somebody might say I have my entire life ahead of me, with all of its beautiful experiences. But despite being so young, I already have a personal breathtaking experience, which I am sure I will carry with me until my last days: my first hike to the mountains

Though traveling is not a big deal for me today, before my trip to the mountains, I used to be a homebody. I had friends to hang out with, several hobbies, and I felt completely comfortable spending weeks or even months in my hometown—or sometimes even on my block—without going anywhere. All my demands of novelty were satisfied by the Discovery and National Geographic channels, and I seriously thought there was no difference between seeing something on the TV or with one's own eyes.

The situation changed when one day David, my best pal who always has a couple of colorful bugs in his head (or, in other words, was always carrying out several crazy plans at once) tumbled into my room and proclaimed his disgust for civilization. I will not describe how he managed to persuade me to join him on his journey to the Rocky Mountains; all I will say is we departed in five days.

This was my first time in the mountains, so I was turning my head in all directions. Unfortunately, the weather was foggy most the time, and the higher we got into the mountains, the worse the visibility was. Even despite this fact, I still enjoyed the hike—I felt like I was Bear Grylls, whose show I used to watch with excitement: in the wild, with food and water in my backpack, carrying a flashlight and a knife. On the first day, we were making our way along the foothills; but the next day, we started to climb on one of the peaks. Though it was not that steep and high, I was still excited. I regularly hastened, and because of that, I ran out of energy long before we got to the top; David, on the other hand was more well-paced.

When we finally got to the top, nothing had changed. The same fog was covering the surroundings, and even though I was teeming with positive emotions, I felt disappointed, because I counted on seeing the view from above and perhaps being able to take some photos. We spent a couple of hours on the top, and decided to turn back, when the wind suddenly dispersed the clouds, and the plateau we were standing on became illuminated with the sun. I saw a fantastic panorama in front of me, and for some moments, I couldn't believe my eyes. Seeing all those mountain ridges, cliffs and edges on my own, not on TV, was like a revelation for me. The strong wind blew right into my face, and I stood there and watched shreds of fog gliding over the ground far beneath me. At that moment, I realized that I won't be able to live a life without visiting the mountains at least a few times a year.

The next day we returned—my legs started to hurt so bad that I could hardly walk. But every time as my face wrinkled because of an ache, I remembered the feeling of being high above, with my head touching the skies and the clouds swimming below.



39. When the writer says he has his entire life ahead of him in the first paragraph, what does he mean?
- He is young and has a lot left to experience
  - He had a chance to live life and missed it.
  - He is too young to do anything
  - He hasn't done anything of importance.
40. What kind of person was the writer before he went on his first mountain hike?
- He was a lazy person who only liked to climb hills
  - He was young and full of life
  - He was a homebody who did not care for travelling
  - He was a curious explorer
41. Which of the following statements is the best conclusion that can be drawn from the second last paragraph?
- Mountain climbing is unrewarding work
  - Hiking is a purely painful experience
  - Mountains are only beautiful when fog lifts
  - Nature is more breathtaking in person than on TV
42. Who was responsible for getting the writer to go hiking?
- The national geographic channel
  - Bear Grylls
  - His friend David
  - His tour guide
43. According to the fourth paragraph what made the writer feel like Bear Grylls?
- Cooking his own food
  - Being in the wild
  - Having his own show
  - Watching with excitement
44. Why was David well-paced in the third last paragraph?
- He wanted to get to the steeper hills
  - He was a more experienced climber
  - He was less excited than the writer
  - He wanted to take in his surroundings
45. The word hastened has been used in the passage. Which of the following choices best represents the meaning as used in the passage?
- To quicken one's pace
  - To jog a little
  - To walk longer strides
  - To sprint
46. What kept the writer going whenever he was in pain while coming down the mountain?
- The thought of going back home
  - His friend's encouragement
  - He had promised to come back to the mountains
  - His memory of his magical experience at the top of the mountain
47. How often did the narrator plan on visiting the mountains after his first hike?
- After every two years
  - A couple of times a year
  - Annually
  - Every month of the year
48. The following words have been used to describe the mountains in the passage except
- rocky
  - panoramic
  - a revelation
  - extremely high
49. According to the passage, the writer was carrying all of the following things except
- national geographic novels
  - a camera
  - food and water
  - a knife
50. What lesson can one learn from this passage?
- Young people have a lot to live for
  - The discovery channel is an **untrustworthy** source of information
  - Friends always have our best interests at heart
  - It can be beneficial to try new things