CARRIBBEAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL
CARRIBBEAN PRIMARY EXIT ASSESSMENT
LANGUAGE SPECIMEN PAPER

1 hour and 15 minutes

READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

1. This test has 50 questions. You have 1 hour and 15 minutes to answer them.

2. Each question has three possible answers: (A), (B), (C). Read each question carefully then choose the correct answer.

3. **On your answer sheet**, find the number that corresponds to the question you intend to answer.

4. Shade the circle which has the same letter, A, B or C next to the answer you have chosen.

**Sample Question**

Choose the word that is spelt correctly to complete the sentence.

The ______________ ended abruptly when the principal arrived.

(A) argument
(B) argument
(C) arguement

The correct answer to this question is “argument”, so answer space (B) has been shaded.

5. If you want to change your answer, be sure to erase your old answer completely before you fill in your new choice.

6. When the supervisor tells you to begin, turn the page and work as quickly and as carefully as you can.

7. If you try a question and find that you cannot answer it, leave it and go on to the next one. You can go back to that question later.

8. The answer sheet has more spaces than there are questions on this test. Do NOT shade any of the extra spaces.

DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

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Questions 1–5: SPELLING

Choose the correct spelling of the word to complete EACH sentence below.

1. Pauline placed the five ____________________ on the table.
   (A) tomatoes
   (B) tomatoes
   (C) tomato’s

2. The actor exclaimed, “We may not _______________ all our plans for today!”
   (A) achieve
   (B) acheive
   (C) acheve

3. “I ____________________ believe you can do better,” the teacher said.
   (A) truly
   (B) truely
   (C) trueley

4. The accident ____________________ at exactly 9:15 p.m.
   (A) occured
   (B) occurred
   (C) occurred

5. You cannot move this rock; it is ____________________.
   (A) immovable
   (B) immovable
   (C) imoveable
Questions 6–10: VOCABULARY

For Questions 6 – 8, choose the MOST suitable word to complete EACH sentence.

6. Everyone read Ann-Marie’s story easily because it was __________________ .
   (A) legible
   (B) illegible
   (C) eligible

7. As he walked in the park, Joey refused to put the __________________ on his pet dog.
   (A) leash
   (B) saddle
   (C) hurdle

8. Anna played the guitar well. She was a good tennis player. Her friends admired the beautiful drawings in her science project. She was ______________ .
   (A) bold
   (B) jovial
   (C) talented

Choose the word that is CLOSEST IN MEANING to the underlined word.

9. Some teachers have the ____________ for recognizing their students’ abilities.
   (A) joy
   (B) love
   (C) skill

Choose the word that is OPPOSITE IN MEANING to the underlined word.

10. Shadin _____________ the cell phone after the bell rang.
    (A) hid
    (B) showed
    (C) denied
Questions 11–15: CAPITALIZATION AND PUNCTUATION

Choose the sentence in which the capital letters and punctuation marks are ALL correctly used.

11. (A) The accident was reported in the *Trinidad Guardian* newspaper.
    (B) The accident was reported in the *trinidad guardian* newspaper.
    (C) The accident was reported in the *Trinidad guardian* newspaper.

12. (A) The children collected their pencils: crayons drawing books and bags.
    (B) The children collected their pencils crayons, drawing books and bags.
    (C) The children collected their pencils, crayons, drawing books and bags.

13. (A) “Why are you so active?” Shouted Shai’s mother!
    (B) “Why are you so active?” shouted Shai’s mother.
    (C) “Why are you so active? shouted Shai’s mother”

14. (A) “Who has the teacher’s bag?” asked Mr Joseph.
    (B) “Who has the teachers bag, asked Mr Joseph?”
    (C) “Who has the teachers’s bag?” asked Mr Joseph.

15. (A) “I will come with you, said Tony, but I must eat first.”
    (B) “I will come with you,” said Tony, “but I must eat first.”
    (C) “I will come with you” said Tony, but I must eat first.”
Questions 16–30: GRAMMAR

Choose the MOST suitable word or words to complete EACH of the following sentences.

16. All the children in my class __________________ well.

   (A) read
   (B) reads
   (C) reading

17. The pineapple was shared between Lianna and ________________.

   (A) I
   (B) he
   (C) me

18. The damage caused by the hurricane this year was ______________ than the damage by the one last year.

   (A) bad
   (B) worse
   (C) worst

19. He had to walk home yesterday because he ________________ his bus fare.

   (A) lost
   (B) lose
   (C) loss

20. The students always stand _________________________ the teachers enter the room.

   (A) whenever
   (B) since
   (C) for
21. Joanna, along with Khadine, ________________ to participate in the cultural show.
   
   (A) were asking  
   (B) was asked  
   (C) were asked  

22. All the teams ________________ participated in the competition were invited to the ceremony.
   
   (A) who  
   (B) whom  
   (C) which  

23. The driver lost control of his car ________________ he was speeding.
   
   (A) but  
   (B) because  
   (C) although  

24. My sisters each ________________ outfits and now their band ________________ ready to jump and wave.
   
   (A) has ..... is  
   (B) have ..... is  
   (C) have ..... are  

25. One of my uncles ________________ abroad but ________________ often.
   
   (A) work ..... visit  
   (B) work ..... visits  
   (C) works ..... visits
26. Neither the boys nor their sister __________________ tennis, so they ________________ early on Mondays.

(A) plays ..... leave
(B) play ..... leaves
(C) play ..... leave

27. __________________ after the bell was rung, the principal appeared.

(A) Soon
(B) Nearly
(C) Almost

28. The boys shared the fruits among ____________________.

(A) themself
(B) themselves
(C) theirselves

29. Are you going to the show with __________________ and ________________?

(A) they ..... we
(B) we ..... them
(C) them ..... us

30. The footballers were furious __________________ the referee because of his decision.

(A) for
(B) with
(C) about
Questions 31–35: READING

Study the following invitation carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Hi, Grade 6
Hero’s Park comes alive on
2nd July
Hooray!

Games

Food

Prizes

Music

I’m 12 years like you now!
Enjoy our last time together as
Grade 6
1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Reply by: 20th June

31. Where will the event take place?
   (A) At Mali’s home
   (B) At Hero’s Park
   (C) At the school

32. The expression “comes alive” suggests that there will be
   (A) performances and prizes
   (B) a lot of bands
   (C) a lot of fun and excitement
33. This event is a celebration of
   (A) Mali’s birthday only
   (B) Mali’s birthday and a Grade 6 get together
   (C) the end of the term and a Grade 6 get-together

34. When will the event take place?
   (A) 20\textsuperscript{th} June
   (B) 30\textsuperscript{th} June
   (C) 2\textsuperscript{nd} July

35. At the time of the event, Mali will be
   (A) the same age as his friends in Grade 6
   (B) older than his friends in Grade 6
   (C) younger than his friends in Grade 6
Questions 36–40: READING

Read the following poem carefully and answer the questions that follow.

I saw a donkey
One day old,
His head was too big
For his neck to hold;

His legs were shaky
And long and loose,
They rocked and staggered
And weren't much use.

He tried to gambol*
And frisk a bit,
But he wasn't sure
Of the trick of it.

His queer little coat
Was soft and grey
And curled at his neck
In a lovely way.

His face was wistful
And left no doubt
That he felt life needed
Some thinking out.

He looked so little
And weak and slim
I prayed the world
Might be good to him.

* skip and leap about playfully

Adapted from Gertrude Hinds in Bite In Stage 1, Cecil Grey, Nelson Caribbean (1997), p. 31.

36. This poem is about a donkey that is
   (A) newly born
   (B) treated badly
   (C) feeling unwell
37. The word “staggered” in line 7 means
   (A) trembled
   (B) tripped
   (C) wobbled

38. The speaker’s feelings towards the donkey are of
   (A) fear and scorn
   (B) sympathy and scorn
   (C) sympathy and admiration

39. To what sense does the poem MOST appeal?
   (A) Sight
   (B) Touch
   (C) Hearing

40. Which TWO lines in the poem make the donkey seem like a person?
   (A) Lines 5 and 6
   (B) Lines 13 and 14
   (C) Lines 19 and 20
Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Huckleberry was cordially hated and dreaded by all the mothers of the town because he was idle, and lawless, and vulgar, and bad—and because all their children admired him so, and delighted in his forbidden company, and wished they dared to be like him.

Tom was like the rest of the respectable boys because he envied Huckleberry’s outcast condition, and was under strict orders not to play with him. So he played with him every time he got a chance.

Huckleberry was always dressed in the cast-off clothes of full-grown men, and they were always fluttering rags. His hat was a vast ruin with a wide piece cut out of its brim; his coat, when he wore one, hung nearly to his heels, and had the buttons far down the back; only one suspender supported his trousers; the seat of the trousers bagged low and contained nothing; the fringed legs dragged in the dirt when not rolled up.

Huckleberry came and went at his own free will. He slept on doorsteps in fine weather, and in empty hogsheads in wet; he did not have to go to school or church, or call any being master, or obey anybody; he could go fishing or swimming when and where he chose, and stay as long as it suited him; nobody forbade him to fight; he could sit up as late as he pleased; he was always the first boy who went barefoot in the spring. He never had to wash, nor put on clean clothes; he could swear wonderfully. In a word, everything that goes to make life precious, that boy had. So thought every hampered, harassed, respectable boy in St. Petersburg.


41. The mothers of the town disliked Huckleberry because they thought he was

(A) daring and noisy
(B) idle and wicked
(C) admirable and lawless
42. The boys envied Huckleberry because
   (A) he was respectable to others
   (B) he was allowed to roam freely
   (C) he had to go to school everyday

43. When Tom played with Huckleberry it showed that he
   (A) liked respectable boys
   (B) loved to wear cut-off clothes
   (C) did not agree with the mothers

44. The expression “the seat of the trouser bagged low and contained nothing” (lines 12–13) suggests that his pants were
   (A) empty
   (B) oversized and not well supported
   (C) baggy at the bottom and loose

45. The “respectable” boys (line 24) thought that their lives were
   (A) happy
   (B) enjoyable
   (C) miserable
Questions 46–50: READING

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Perhaps the most colourful and popular of all insects are the butterflies and moths. You can see butterflies flitting around in the daytime, feeding on nectar from flowers. Moths are generally active at night, and are usually observed when they enter a room or are attracted by an electric light.

The life of a butterfly or moth is remarkable because the adult, which we see fluttering around the garden, develops from a long cylindrical creature called a caterpillar. Caterpillars can be seen crawling over the leaves of trees and other plants. But where do caterpillars come from?

Adult butterflies and moths lay eggs. These are typically white or yellow, resembling tiny beads, and are usually found in clusters or rafts. You may find them stuck to the underside of leaves of plants, such as the croton or citrus trees (e.g. orange or lime). The egg hatches into a larva, a stage in an animal’s life that is unlike the adult. The larva of butterflies and moths is called a caterpillar. This is the feeding stage for the organism. The caterpillars eat a diet of green leaves, and then they settle and change into a pupa (also called a chrysalis).

The pupa might look like the ‘resting stage’, but inside the pupa a lot is happening: the cells, tissues and organs are being rearranged to form the adult. Finally, the adult butterfly or moth emerges from the pupa.


46. Butterflies feed mostly on

(A) nectar
(B) leaves
(C) flowers
47. Which of the following BEST shows the stages of butterfly’s life cycle?
   (A) Eggs → pupa → chrysalis → butterfly
   (B) Eggs → caterpillar → pupa → butterfly
   (C) Eggs → pupa → caterpillar → butterfly

48. Butterflies are different from moths because they
   (A) lay eggs but moths do not
   (B) settle and change into pupa
   (C) are more active during daylight

49. Why is the pupa stage not really a “resting stage”?
   (A) This is when several changes take place.
   (B) This is when the chrysalis emerges.
   (C) This is when eggs are being hatched.

50. Which of the following is the BEST title for this passage?
   (A) The life cycle of the butterfly
   (B) The growth of moths
   (C) The similarity of the life cycle of moths and butterflies

END OF TEST

IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS TEST.

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