

# MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

## ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES



## COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

**2008**

**ENGLISH**

**TEST CODE: 011B**

**Time allowed: 1 Hour & 15 minutes**

**Instructions:**

1. This examination has **ONLY** multiple choice items.
2. There are **fifty (50)** items. Each item has four possible answers: **A, B, C or D**. **Choose the correct answer.**
3. On your answer sheet, shade the circle which has the letter **A, B, C or D** that is next to the answer you have chosen. You have **seventy-five (75)** minutes to answer **all** the questions.

**Please use a No. 2 or HB pencil.**

4. **Do not take any paper out of the examination room. Return this booklet, your answer sheet and all scrap paper to the invigilator before you leave the room.**

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

**TIME ALLOWED: 1 hour 15 minutes**

For items 1 to 5, choose the correctly spelt word to complete the sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

1. Noise \_\_\_\_\_ is becoming quite a nuisance in our country.
  - A. pollusion
  - B. pollution
  - C. polution
  - D. prolusion
  
2. We needed a pair of \_\_\_\_\_ to cut the ribbon.
  - A. scisors
  - B. scisers
  - C. scissers
  - D. scissors
  
3. Naseem and Delise had cheesecake for \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. dessert
  - B. desert
  - C. deserte
  - D. desserte
  
4. At prayers, all students were asked to \_\_\_\_\_ their lines.
  - A. straiten
  - B. streighten
  - C. straighten
  - D. strieghten
  
5. Candidates for elections must \_\_\_\_\_ to get support.
  - A. campaign
  - B. campiagn
  - C. campagne
  - D. campaigne

For items 6 to 8, choose the **correct pronoun** to complete the sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

6. The cats licked \_\_\_\_\_ paws in the afternoon shade.  
A. its  
B. it's  
C. their  
D. theirs
7. Kenneth bought \_\_\_\_\_ a lovely car after he won the lottery.  
A. he  
B. his  
C. hisself  
D. himself
8. This is the man \_\_\_\_\_ lost his wallet.  
A. who  
B. who's  
C. whom  
D. whose

For items 9 to 12, choose the **correct synonym** (word *nearest in meaning*) to replace the underlined word in each sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

9. The dog lay in agony after it was bitten by the snake.  
A. depression  
B. delight  
C. sorrow  
D. pain
10. The curious little boy often found himself in trouble.  
A. troublesome  
B. inquisitive  
C. angry  
D. tardy
11. Ortis was rewarded for the courageous way he helped the old woman.  
A. cowardly  
B. fearful  
C. heroic  
D. patient

12. The principal gave a reasonable response to Carol's complaint.

- A. weary
- B. slow
- C. silly
- D. fair

For items 13 to 16, choose the correct word to replace the underlined phrase in each sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

13. The baby's mother gently strokes her hair while she sings her to sleep.

- A. caresses
- B. washes
- C. shakes
- D. plaits

14. When writing your essay, remember your handwriting should be easy to read.

- A. legible
- B. literate
- C. illiterate
- D. ineligible

15. In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the apples and grapes that we sell are bought from other countries.

- A. exported
- B. imparted
- C. imported
- D. explored

16. The firemen quickly put out the fire on Halifax Street.

- A. distinguished
- B. extinguished
- C. examined
- D. controlled

Items 17-19

Read the TV GUIDE below and answer the questions that follow. ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

**SVG tv** Saturday, 7th June 2008

*Local Programme Guide*

**Afternoon**

1:30 The making of The Movie: Over the Hedge  
2:00 Movie: Rated G: *Over the Hedge*  
3:30 Movie: PG 13 Comedy *Bewitched*  
5:00 Movie: PG 13 Comedy *Guess Who*

**Evening**

6:15 *Cooking Caribbean Style*  
6:30 *Caribbean Keep Fit*  
7:00 *60 Minutes*  
8:00 *Living Water Ministries*  
8:30 *Caribbean News Line*  
9:00 To be announced  
10:00 Movie: PG 13 Comedy *Dr. Do-Little 2*  
12:00 Movie: PG 13 Comedy *...*

17. According to the Guide, which of the following programmes would **best** provide information about politics, sports and the weather in neighbouring islands?

- A. 60 Minutes
- B. Caribbean Keep Fit
- C. Caribbean News Line
- D. Cooking Caribbean Style

18. Which of the following statements is true?

- A. The movie *Over the Hedge* begins at 1:30
- B. *Cooking Caribbean Style* is half an hour long
- C. *Living Water Ministries* comes just before a movie
- D. Five movies can be seen on Saturday

19. Which of the following **best** explains the 9:00 schedule?

- A. A repeat programme will be shown.
- B. The Sports News will be announced.
- C. The programme has not yet been decided.
- D. The television station will close temporarily.

Items 20 to 23 are based on the passage below. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

### Amazing Ants

All ants are intelligent, but all ants are not the same. The *Lepothorax* ants are very tiny, jewel-like and peaceful. The bulldog ants, by contrast, are mean, dark and have bulging eyes and jaws with long knife-sharp teeth. Various ant species have different societies. Some are gatherers, eating seeds and vegetation. Others are hunters and kill other insects. Some species are ranchers, keeping herds of mealy bug "cattle".

Of all ant species, however, *leafcutter ants* are among the most interesting. These ants are farmers. They grow crops of fungi which are like mushrooms. Their nest, which is underground, is about 50 feet in diameter. As many as 8 million ants might live in a nest. Every ant in the nest's society has a specific job.

Every night, thousands of *field ants* and *soldier ants* leave the nest. They walk through the jungle in columns down tidy paths that have been cleared by *road-crew ants*. When they reach tall trees, the field ants scurry to the tops of the trees while the soldiers wait below. The field ants nibble out bits from leaves and then carry the bits - which weigh up to 8 times the ant's weight - back down the tree. On the jungle floor, the soldier ants escort the field ants back to the nest.

Back in the nest, small *chewer ants* chew the leaf bits into a paste. Still smaller ants roll the paste into pellets. The ants then tuck the pellets into sponge-like "gardens" in the chambers. Fungi, which look like bread mold, live on the nutrients in the garden; the ants eat the fungi garden when it's ripe. *Gardener ants* tend the gardens and remove any dead fungi. To complete the cycle, *garbage-worker ants* keep the waste products in an active state of decay.

20. The main idea of this passage is that

- A. there are too many ants.
- B. ants have tiny brains.
- C. people should not kill ants.
- D. ants are incredible creatures.

21. According the passage, which of the following ants prepare the way so others get to the trees?

- A. Road crew ants
- B. Gardener ants
- C. Chewer ants
- D. Soldier ants

22. How are bulldog ants different from *Leptothorax* ants?
- A. Bulldog ants bark like dogs.
  - B. Bulldog ants are more aggressive.
  - C. Bulldog ants look like jewels in the sun.
  - D. Bulldog ants do not like ants that are different.
23. Based on the passage, what is the purpose of soldier ants?
- A. To keep the field ants from running away
  - B. To keep the field ants from getting lost
  - C. To keep the field ants from getting attacked
  - D. To keep the field ants from lifting too much weight

For items 24 to 28, choose the **correct verb form** to complete each sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

24. I \_\_\_\_\_ a letter to the editor of the magazine yesterday.
- A) written
  - B) writing
  - C) write
  - D) wrote
25. When \_\_\_\_\_ it is important to pay attention to punctuation marks.
- A. read
  - B. reads
  - C. to read
  - D. reading
26. Mr. Samuel had \_\_\_\_\_ the girl for his neighbour.
- A. mistake
  - B. mistook
  - C. mistaken
  - D. mistaking
27. A frightening trick \_\_\_\_\_ by the magician at the party.
- A. was performing
  - B. was performed
  - C. did performed
  - D. is performing

28. He \_\_\_\_\_ her a red rose every time he comes from the garden.

- A. give
- B. gives
- C. giving
- D. did give

Items 29 to 35 are based on the poem below. Read the poem carefully and answer the questions that follow. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

*The Sprat and the Jackfish*

‘Who cares if it’s fair?’  
the jackfish said,  
flicking its fin  
flashing its head.

5           ‘It’s nothing to me  
that you found it first;  
it’s mine to keep  
though you cry till you burst.’

10          The small sprat flapped  
its silver tail  
and thought, ‘I wish  
I were a whale.

15          I’d swallow this jackfish  
with one gulp;  
its body I would  
turn to pulp.

20          Because you’re just that much  
bigger than me,  
you think you’re the ruler  
of the sea!

Well, take my worm  
it’s yours alright-  
in this unfair world  
it’s might that’s right.’



25           ‘It’s a juicy worm!’  
the jackfish said,  
flicking its fin  
flashing its head.

30           Then, choking and twisting,  
tormented, it sped  
along an invisible  
line overhead...

35           But the sprat did not see  
as it went on its way.  
‘It’s an unfair world,’  
was all it could say.

*Grace Walker Gordon*

29. What were the sprat and the jackfish arguing over?
- A. a worm
  - B. a ruler
  - C. a fish
  - D. a fin
30. Which of the following words best describes the jackfish’s attitude?
- A. controlling
  - B. generous
  - C. helpful
  - D. angry
31. What does the line ‘It’s might that’s right’ mean?
- A. All fish are different.
  - B. Size and power bring privileges.
  - C. Life is frightening for small people.
  - D. Big fish should not fight small fish.
32. What does the word *tormented* in line 30 mean?
- A. bleeding
  - B. excited
  - C. In severe pain
  - D. In amazement

33. Which of the following lines is an example of alliteration?

- A. 'Who cares if it's fair?'
- B. 'I wish I were a whale'
- C. I'd swallow this jackfish
- D. Its body I would turn to pulp

34. What happened to the jackfish in the end?

- A. He choked on what he was eating
- B. He returned what he had taken
- C. He became invisible
- D. He was caught

35. Which of the following lessons is taught by this poem?

- A. It pays to be invisible.
- B. Unfairness is never punished.
- C. It is better to fight for your right.
- D. It does not pay to use force over people.

For items 36-39, use the **correct adjective** to complete the sentences. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

36. There are some \_\_\_\_\_ elements in our society.

- A. criminal
- B. criminally
- C. crimes
- D. crime

37. The \_\_\_\_\_ teacher insisted that the noise was coming from our classroom.

- A. fury
- B. furious
- C. furiously
- D. furiousness

38. We met two very \_\_\_\_\_ children at the supermarket.

- A. obey
- B. obeying
- C. obedient
- D. obedience

39. Len's father is a \_\_\_\_\_ mechanic.
- A. skilfully
  - B. skillable
  - C. skilful
  - D. skill

For items 40-43, choose the **figure of speech** which best describes each sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

40. The eyes are the windows to the soul.
- A. Simile
  - B. Metaphor
  - C. Onomatopoeia
  - D. Personification

41. At midnight, the sky exploded with a crash, bang and a hissing of fireworks.
- A. Metaphor
  - B. Alliteration
  - C. Personification
  - D. Onomatopoeia

42. Rihanna, the singer, is not as wealthy as Bill Gates.
- A. Onomatopoeia
  - B. Personification
  - C. Simile
  - D. Metaphor

43. My dog winked at me after he ate his meal.
- A. Metaphor
  - B. Onomatopoeia
  - C. Personification
  - D. Simile

For items 44-46, choose **the conjunction** that **best** completes each sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

44. The frightened prisoner hid \_\_\_\_\_ the soldiers were passing.
- A. until
  - B. after
  - C. before
  - D. while

For items 49-50, read the sentences then choose the option which has the **correct punctuation**. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter you have chosen.

49.

- A. French, English and Spanish are some of the languages, spoken in Caribbean countries.
- B. French, English and Spanish are some of the languages spoken in Caribbean countries.
- C. French English and Spanish, are some of the languages, spoken in Caribbean countries.
- D. French, English and Spanish, are some of the languages, spoken in Caribbean countries.

50.

- A. There were several VIP's at the meeting of the Old Boys' Association.
- B. There were several V.I.P.s at the meeting of the Old Boys' Association.
- C. There were several V.I.P's at the meeting of the Old Boy's Association.
- D. There were several VIP.s at the meeting of the Old Boys' Association.

**END OF TEST**