

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

**ST. VINCENT AND THE
GRENADINES**



**COMMON ENTRANCE
EXAMINATION**

2007

ENGLISH

TEST CODE: 011B

Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes

Instructions:

1. This examination has **only** multiple choice questions.
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: 75 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. I am going to _____ a house.

- A. bild
- B. build
- C. biuld
- D. billd

2. Paul _____ a gift after he passed the Common Entrance exams.

- A. receive
- B. recieve
- C. received

D. recieved

3. I enjoy _____ with my friends.

A. shupping

B. shopping

C. shoping

D. shaping

4. The teacher was forced to _____
the twins because they were causing
trouble.

A. separate

B. seperate

C. sepperate

D. sepparate

5. The flood forced us to pass _____ a very muddy area to get to school.

- A. through
- B. though
- C. thought
- D. throught

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. _____ are my favourite friends.

- A. She
- B. Them
- C. They
- D. Their

7. Between you and _____, he is wrong.

- A. I
- B. me
- C. we
- D. she

8. It is _____ pen.

- A. she's
- B. hers
- C. she
- D. her

For items 9 to 12, choose the correct **synonym** (word *nearest in meaning*) to the underlined word to complete the sentence.

ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

9. He was a lazy boy.

- A. indolent
- B. willing
- C. insolent
- D. helpful

10. The quick response of the police prevented the burglars from escaping.

- A. reckless
- B. prompt
- C. sudden

D. slow

11. Johnny Depp in *Pirates of the Caribbean* is known for his weird clothes.

- A. pretty
- B. special
- C. strange
- D. usual

12. Donkeys are known to be stubborn animals.

- A. obstinate
- B. angry
- C. rude
- D. easy

Items 13-15 are based on the following information.

Jennifer wants to apply for a job as a teacher. She decides to write a letter to the Chief Education Officer.

13. What type of letter must Jennifer write?

- A. thank you
- B. friendly
- C. invitation
- D. formal

14. Which piece of information should **NOT** be found in the body of the letter?

- A. I attended the Community College.
- B. I have long hair and bold eyes.
- C. I passed eight subjects at CXC.
- D. My telephone number is 532-9876.

15. How should Jennifer end the letter?

- A. Your best friend
- B. Dear Sir/Madam
- C. Yours respectfully
- D. Bye Sir/Madam

Items 16 to 20 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.

Sea Horses

Sea horses are a strange-looking kind of fish. They have a horse-shaped head and a curled tail. Sea horses are unusual in another way. The female sea horses lay the eggs, but unlike other creatures, it's the male that gives birth to the young. Male sea horses have a fold of skin on their bellies that forms a pocket, much like a kangaroo's pouch, called a brood pouch. During breeding season, the female sea horse deposits up to 200 eggs into her mate's pouch and swims

off leaving her male partner to give birth to their young sea horses. The female will return every day to check on the eggs.

It takes from two to six weeks for the eggs in the male's pouch to develop. During this time the male avoids open water and hides in the sea grass. His bulging pouch makes it difficult for him to swim so he uses his tail to *grasp* a piece of sea grass so he can stay perfectly still. The male sea horse often changes colour to blend with his surroundings and avoid being seen by *predators*, who will try to eat him or poke holes in his pouch to get the eggs.

The eggs hatch inside the male's pouch. When the babies begin moving around, the male sea horse knows it's time for them to be born. He grabs a sea grass stem with his tail and begins rocking. This causes the baby sea horses to shoot out. Sea horse babies are born in batches of five or more. Sea horses

like being fathers so much that they will have from 4 to 12 broods of babies during breeding season which lasts at least six months.

16. Why did the author write this article?

- A. To show that female seahorses are bad mothers.
- B. To persuade people to become scientists.
- C. To get readers to admire sea horses.
- D. To provide information about sea horses.

17. What fact does the writer want you to remember *most*?

- A. The male sea horse gives birth to the young.
- B. The female sea horse lays up to 200 eggs at a time.

- C. Baby sea horses stay six weeks in the pouch.
 - D. The female sea horse will return every day to check her eggs.
18. What does the word “*grasp*” in paragraph two mean?

- A. Able to reach
- B. Understand
- C. Show eagerness
- D. Take hold of

19. According to paragraph two, what are “*predators*”?

- A. The female sea horses that would lay the eggs.
- B. The area surrounding the male sea horse and the eggs.
- C. Sea creatures that can harm the male sea horse and the babies.

D. Types of sea grass that protect the male sea horse and the eggs.

20. Why does the male avoid open water?

- A. To be closer to the female.
- B. To protect himself and the eggs.
- C. To get a chance to rest.
- D. To feel less pain during birth.

For items 21 to 23, choose the correct **word** to complete each sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter you have chosen.

21. The teacher said that with a little more _____ we would have won the competition.

- A. confident
- B. confidence
- C. confiding

D. confided

22. There is no _____ in that statement.

A. true

B. truly

C. truth

D. truths

23. _____ is strength.

A. Unity

B. Unite

C. Unify

D. Unites

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 you have chosen.

24. The principal _____ the class on its excellent performance at the concert.

- A. do compliment
- B. are complimented
- C. has complimented
- D. is compliment

25. _____ you _____ the bell?

- A. Did..... rang
- B. Have rung
- C. Will rang
- D. Will rung

26. My uncle _____ for five hours without stopping once.

- A. drove
- B. drive
- C. driving
- D. driven

27. They _____ a picnic.

- A. been planning
- B. is planning
- C. are planning
- D. was planning

28. The sun _____ everyday.

- A. risen
- B. rise
- C. rises
- D. rising

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 Fox and the Grapes

One summer's day a fox was passing through

A vineyard, faint he was and hungry too.

When suddenly his keen eye chanced to fall
Upon a bunch of grapes above the wall.

“Ha! Just the thing!” he said. “Who could resist it!”

He eyed the purple cluster - jumped - and missed it

“Ahem!” he coughed. “I’ll take more careful aim,”

And sprang again. **Results were much the same,**

Although his leaps were *desperate* and high.

At length he paused to wipe a tearful eye,

And shrug a shoulder. **“I am not so dry,**

And lunch is bound to come within the hour...

Besides," he said, "I am sure these grapes are sour."

The moral is: we seem to want the peach
That always dangles beyond our reach.
Yet, like the fox, we must not be upset
When sometimes things are just too hard to
get.

Joseph Lauren

29. This story is taking place

- A. In a vineyard.
- B. Within the hour.
- C. In a crowd.
- D. Where the fox had a fall.

30. What was the fox trying to reach?

- A. Peaches
- B. Water
- C. Grapes

D. Lunch

31. Which of the following words in the poem is an example of a collective noun?

- A. Faint
- B. Summer
- C. Bound
- D. Cluster

32. What does the word “**desperate**” in the second stanza mean?

- A. Calm
- B. Strange
- C. Careful
- D. Frantic

33. Why does the fox say “I am not so dry and lunch is bound to come within the hour?”

- A. he is not very hungry any more
- B. he is upset because he got wet
- C. he believes he would get something better soon
- D. he believes that the grapes are much too sour

34. What does the expression “**results were much the same**” suggest?

- A. Some things will never change.
- B. The fox took a more careful aim.
- C. The fox still could not reach the fruit.
- D. Good results are hard to get.

35. What is the lesson that is being taught in this poem?

- A. We should avoid eating peaches and grapes before lunch.

- B. We should not be disappointed when we do not get what we want.
- C. We should only reach for things that are quite close to us.
- D. We should only want the things that are not too difficult to get.

For items 36-39, only **ONE** of the sentences given is **CORRECTLY PUNCTUATED**. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter you have chosen.

36. A. Mangoes, Pineapples oranges and bananas are found at the market.
- B. Mangoes, pineapples, oranges and bananas are found at the market.
- C. mangoes, pineapples, oranges and bananas are found at the market.
- D. Mangoes, pineapples oranges and bananas are found at the market.

37. A. Cricket is the game of the people?
yelled Brian Lara.

B. “Cricket is the game of the people!”
yelled Brian Lara.

C. Cricket is the game of the people.
yelled Brian Lara.

D. “Cricket is the game of the people!”
yelled Brian Lara.

38. A. Kyron Baptiste song won the Rising
Star’s competition.

B. Kyron Baptiste’s song won the Rising
Stars competition.

C. kyron baptiste song won the Rising
Stars competition.

D. Kyron Baptiste’s song won the rising
stars competition.

39. A. The teacher as well as his students
was injured in the accident.

B. The Teacher, as well as his students, was injured in the accident.

C. The teacher, as well as his students, was injured in the accident.

D. The teacher as well as his students' was injured in the accident.

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 you have chosen.

40. "The little dog laughed to see such a sport and the dish ran away with the spoon."

- A. Simile
- B. Metaphor
- C. Onomatopoeia
- D. Personification

41. Tasty tomatoes and leafy lettuce make satisfying sandwiches.

- A. Personification
- B. Alliteration
- C. Metaphor
- D. Onomatopoeia

42. “I love the pit-pit- patter of the raindrops.”

- A. Onomatopoeia
- B. Personification
- C. Metaphor
- D. Simile

43. His eyes were like saucers when he saw his Christmas present.

- A. Onomatopoeia
- B. Metaphor
- 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 you have chosen.

44. His mother will not stop worrying _____ his Common Entrance exams are over.

- A. until
- B. after
- C. before
- D. while

45. Kevin left in a hurry _____ his friends had not yet arrived.

- A. where
- B. because

C. before

D. while

46. We will go to the beach tomorrow
_____ it does not rain.

A. if

B. since

C. unless

D. as

For items 47-50, choose the option that best describes the type of sentence below. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter you have chosen.

47. The waiter served the hot meal.

A. Simple

B. Compound

C. Complex

D. Compound-complex

48. While the students marched, the judges looked closely at their uniforms.

- A. Simple
- B. Complex
- C. Compound-complex
- D. Compound

49. Are you feeling better, or should I call the doctor?

- A. Simple
- B. Complex
- C. Compound
- D. Compound-complex

50. Since he was unable to attend earlier, the principal explained his absence and promised to come at a later date.

- A. Simple
- B. Complex
- C. Compound
- D. Compound-complex

END OF TEST

