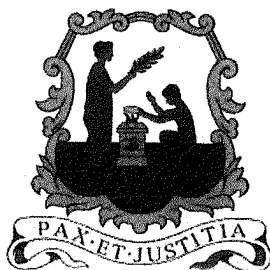


MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES



COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

2012

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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.

In items **1** to **7** choose the correct **PART OF SPEECH** for each of the underlined words.

1 I have a pet turtle named Speedy.

- A. adjective
- B. adverb
- C. noun
- D. verb

2 Have the girls in that room finished their revision for the test?

- A. adjective
- B. adverb
- C. conjunction
- D. preposition

3 We scored as many goals as they.

- A. noun
- B. preposition
- C. pronoun
- D. verb

4 Practise writing or you will never improve.

- A. conjunction
- B. noun
- C. preposition
- D. pronoun

5 Wow! He won five thousand dollars!

- A. adjective
- B. adverb
- C. interjection
- D. preposition

6 My neighbour's dog likes to bark at his own reflection in the mirror.

- A. noun
- B. preposition
- C. pronoun
- D. verb

7 I always do my homework.

- A. adjective
- B. adverb
- C. interjection
- D. preposition

For items **8** to **13**, choose the **FIGURE OF SPEECH** that *best* describes the sentence.

8 Michael was as pleased as punch when he won the bet.

- A. alliteration
- B. metaphor
- C. personification
- D. simile

9 My teacher always says that books are food for the brain.

- A. alliteration
- B. metaphor
- C. personification
- D. simile

10 Shelly heard the last piece of cheesecake in the refrigerator calling her name.

- A. alliteration
- B. metaphor
- C. personification
- D. simile

11 A flower is a bee's dining-room, so take care of the flowers.

- A. alliteration
- B. metaphor
- C. personification
- D. simile

12 Cathy's cat clawed her couch, creating chaos.

- A. alliteration
- B. metaphor
- C. personification
- D. simile

13 Like sand through the hourglass, so are the days of our lives.

- A. alliteration
- B. metaphor
- C. personification
- D. simile

Items **14** to **19** are based on the passage below. **Read** the passage and then answer the questions that follow.

Passage

(1) It was a sultry night and the air was thick as soup (2) Suddenly, a bolt of lightning criss-crossed its way through the sky? (3) I heard someone yell loudly for help. (4) Had something terrible happened! (5) The lightning had started a brush fire and there was still no rain to put it out. (6) I ran to the telephone to alert the fire department. (7) There was not a minute to waste!

14 **Sentence 1: It was a sultry night and the air was thick as soup**

This sentence should end with

- A. an exclamation mark
- B. a question mark
- C. a full stop
- D. a comma

15 Sentence 2: **Suddenly, a bolt of lightning criss-crossed its way through the sky?**

What correction should be made to this sentence?

- A. Change the comma to an exclamation mark.
- B. Put an exclamation mark after *lightning*.
- C. Change the question mark to a full stop.
- D. Change the comma to a full stop.

16 Sentence 3: **I heard someone yell loudly for help.**

How can this sentence be corrected?

- A. Place a comma after *yell*.
- B. Change the full stop to a comma.
- C. Put an exclamation mark after yell.
- D. No correction should be made to the sentence.

17 Sentence 4: **Had something terrible happened!**

How can this sentence be corrected?

- A. Change the exclamation mark to a question mark.
- B. Change the exclamation mark to a full stop.
- C. Place an exclamation mark after *terrible*.
- D. Leave the sentence as it is.

18 Sentence 5: **The lightning had started a brush fire and there was still no rain to put it out.**

Why does this sentence end with a full stop?

- A. It shows strong emotion.
- B. It makes a statement.
- C. It asks a question.
- D. It is a command.

19 Sentence 7: There was not a minute to waste!

Why does this sentence end with an exclamation mark?

- A. It contains a request.
- B. It makes a statement.
- C. It contains a command.
- D. It shows strong emotion.

Items **20** to **26** are based on the passage below. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Why the Sky is Far Away

Brian looked at the food on his tray. "Macaroni and cheese again, they never serve anything good for lunch at this school," he grumbled to his friend Jayson. **Jayson gave his own lunch a critical look and frowned.** "You think that's bad," he said, "I've got peanut butter and jelly again. It's the third time this week!" They pushed the food aside. "We can get something at the new pizza place after school," Brian said as they hurried off to Mr. John's English class. Ten minutes before the class was finished, Mr. John said, "Class, before we leave today, I'd like to share an old African folktale with you. It's called *Why the Sky is Far Away.*"

Long ago the sky was very close to the Earth. Men and women did not have to plant their own food. Instead, when they were hungry, they just reached up and broke off a piece of the sky to eat. Sometimes the sky tasted like ripe bananas. Other times it tasted like roasted potatoes. The sky was always delicious. It provided everything the people needed but when they took more than they could eat, the sky became angry.

Each morning the angry sky turned dark. Black clouds hung over the land and a great sky voice said to all the people, "You are wasting my gift of food. Do not take more than you can eat. I don't want to see pieces of me in the garbage anymore or I will take my gift away."

The king and the people trembled with fear. King Oba said, "Let's be careful about how much food we take." For a long time, all the people were careful. But one named Adami wasn't careful. At festival time he took so many delicious pieces of sky that he couldn't eat them all. He knew he must not throw them away. He tried to give the extra pieces to his wife and children but they refused because they were too full. So Adami tried to hide

the pieces at the bottom of the garbage pile. Suddenly, the sky became angry and the clouds turned black. "You have wasted my gift of food again!" yelled the sky. "This time I will go away so you cannot waste me anymore. You will have to learn how to plant crops in the ground and hunt in the forests. If you work hard, you may learn not to waste the gifts of nature."

Everyone watched as the sky sailed far away.

The bell rang for the next period and Mr. John said "Class, that's the end. What did you think of the story?" He looked at the two boys. **They slouched in their chairs and looked apologetic.** "We get the message," they said, smiling.

20 According to the folktale, Adami is

- A. thankful
- B. honest
- C. obedient
- D. greedy

21 Why does the sky become angry with the villagers?

- A. They don't take care of the environment
- B. They don't pay attention
- C. They don't like to share
- D. They waste food

22 Read this sentence from the story. **Jayson gave his own lunch a critical look and frowned.**

What does the word **critical** mean?

- A. judgmental
- B. sarcastic
- C. painful
- D. hungry

23 What happens when Adami cannot finish all the food he has taken?

- A. He asks King Oba to help him finish eating the food.
- B. He tries to make sure no one finds out that he didn't eat all.
- C. He saves some of the pieces of food for his meal the next day.
- D. His wife and children offer to eat the rest of the pieces for him.

24 The beginning of the story most likely takes place in

- A. Africa
- B. Mr. John's class
- C. the school library
- D. the school lunchroom

25 Read this sentence from the story. **They slouched in their chairs and looked apologetic.**

Which of the following words is an antonym for the word 'slouched'?

- A. ran
- B. leaned
- C. drooped
- D. straightened

26 Based on the end of the story, what do you think Brian and Jayson will do next?

- A. Be more careful not to waste food
- B. Stop bringing their lunches to school
- C. Eat lunch at the pizza place more often
- D. Share their food with the other students

For items **27** to **31**, choose the correct VERB FORM to complete each sentence.

27 A jury of twelve people _____ chosen to listen to the case yesterday.

- A. is
- B. are
- C. was
- D. were

28 The audience _____ loudly after the performance.

- A. applaud
- B. applauded
- C. applauding
- D. does applaud

29 Carrots and broccoli _____ ingredients in this soup.

- A. is
- B. are
- C. make
- D. makes

30 They _____ a surprise party for her birthday on Saturday.

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

31 Susan's doctor and nutritionist _____ her to lose weight.

- A. have advised
- B. has advised
- C. did advise
- D. advising

Items **32** to **39** are based on the poem below. Read the poem carefully and answer the questions that follow.

TWO VIEWS

*Tumult means – uproar or disorder *Throng means – a large crowd of people

I.

An old farmhouse with meadows wide,
And sweet with clover on either side;
A bright-eyed boy who looks from out
The door with flowers wreathed about,
And wishes his one thought all day:
“Oh! If I could but fly away
From this dull spot the world to see,
How very happy I should be!”

II.

Amid the city's constant **din**
A man who round the world has been.
Who, 'mid the **tumult* and the **throng*
Is thinking, thinking all day long;
"Oh could I only **tread** once more
The field-path to the farmhouse door.
The old green-meadow could I see,
How very happy I should be!"

Adapted from Annie Douglas Robinson

32 What is the overall feeling in the poem?

- A. humourous
- B. suspenseful
- C. confused
- D. longing

33 Which phrase best describes the dream of the boy?

- A. Leaving the farm
- B. Living in the city
- C. Enjoying the countryside
- D. Finding a way to be happy

34 Which phrase best describes the man's feelings?

- A. Curious about city life
- B. Bored with country life
- C. Eager to travel around the world
- D. Interested in returning to the farm

35 Which of the following words means the same as '**din**'?

- A. Trouble
- B. Clutter
- C. Noise
- D. Dirt

36 What wishes do the boy and the man share?

- A. Escaping from everyday tasks
- B. Finding a peaceful place
- C. Being somewhere else
- D. Seeing the world

37 What is a possible connection between verse 1 and verse 2?

- A. The boy in verse 1 is a grown up man in verse 2.
- B. The boy in verse 1 wants to know the man in verse 2.
- C. In both verses the people are happy where they are living.
- D. In both verses the people wish to travel the world together.

38 Which of the following experiences is *most similar* to the one described in this poem?

- A. Forgetting to do something that was important
- B. Wanting to go someplace that is different
- C. Making a decision about where to work
- D. Staying overnight with a friend

39 What does the word **tread** in verse 2 mean?

- A. see
- B. sew
- C. walk
- D. cross

Items **40** to **43** are based on the passage below. Read the passage and then answer the questions that follow.

Passage

(1) The first day of school can be as hard for a parent as it is four the child. (2) Before that first day comes, parents have scene to it that the child has received all the required books and instructions. (3) Perhaps there has been a visit to meat the class teacher before school actually starts. (4) When the big day comes, the child is ready and eager to go, but the parents are seldom prepared to see a sun or daughter begin this next stage of life.

40 **Sentence 1: The first day of school can be as hard for a parent as it is four the child.**

What correction should be made to this sentence?

- A. Change *parent* to *apparent*.
- B. Change *for* to *four*.
- C. Change *be* to *bee*.
- D. Change *four* to *for*.

41 **Sentence 2: Before that first day comes, parents have scene to it that the child has received all the required books and instructions.**

What correction should be made to this sentence?

- A. Change *scene* to *seen*.
- B. Change *to* to *too*.
- C. Change *child* to *children*.
- D. Change *have* to *half*.

42 **Sentence 3: Perhaps there has been a visit to meat the class teacher before school actually starts.**

What correction should be made to this sentence?

- A. Change *to* to *two*.
- B. Change *been* to *bin*.
- C. Change *meat* to *meet*.
- D. Change *there* to *their*.

43 **Sentence 4:** When the big day comes, the child is ready and eager to go, but the parents are seldom prepared to see a sun or daughter begin this next stage of life.

What correction should be made to this sentence?

- A. Change *to* to *too*.
- B. Change *see* to *sea*.
- C. Change *sun* to *son*.
- D. Change *are* to *our*.

For items **44** to **50**, choose the CORRECTLY SPELT word to complete the sentence.

44 The ____ for the graduation ceremony begins at 4 pm today.

- A. rehearsal
- B. reheresal
- C. rehursal
- D. rehersal

45 I really don't like the taste of ____ in my food.

- A. tymme
- B. thyme
- C. tyme
- D. time

46 The young man has ____ charm.

- A. erisistible
- B. irresistibile
- C. irresistable
- D. errisistable

47 Flossing and brushing your teeth after meals is good dental _____.

- A. higene
- B. higiene
- C. hygene
- D. hygiene

48 It's your ____, the choice is really yours.

- A. perogative
- B. perogetive
- C. perrogative
- D. prerogative

49 The _____ is all mine, I am really happy to meet you.

- A. privilege
- B. privalege
- C. priviledge
- D. priveledge

50 I am sure I will pass this exam because of my _____.

- A. persivrance
- B. preservance
- C. percivrance
- D. perseverance