

00101/2&1 BECE  
June 2021  
ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE 2 & 1  
Essay and Objective  
1 hour 45 minutes

**2&1**

Name.....

Index Number.....

THE WEST AFRICAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL  
GHANA

**Basic Education Certificate Examination**

June 2021

ENGLISH LANGUAGE 2 & 1  
Essay and Objective

1 hour 45 minutes

*Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so. While you are waiting, read and observe the following instructions carefully. Write your name and index number in ink in the spaces provided above.*

*This booklet consists of two papers. Answer Paper 2 which comes first, in your answer booklet and Paper 1 on your Objective Test answer sheet. Paper 2 will last 1 hour 10 minutes after which the answer booklet will be collected. Do not start Paper 1 until you are told to do so. Paper 1 will last 35 minutes.*

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PAPER 2  
ESSAY

*This paper consists of three parts: A, B and C. Answer three questions in all; one question from Part A and all the questions in Part B and Part C. Answer all the questions in your answer booklet.*

*Credit will be given for clarity of expression and orderly presentation of material.*

PART A  
ESSAY WRITING  
[30 marks]

*Answer one question only from this part.*

*Your composition should be about 250 words long.*

1. Write a letter to the Minister of Transport suggesting two ways of improving the public road transport system in the country.
2. As the main speaker in a debate on the motion, *Students should not wear uniform to school*, write your speech for or against the motion.
3. Write a letter to invite your cousin to spend the holidays with your grandparents, giving two reasons why he/she should pay them a visit.

PART B  
COMPREHENSION  
[30 marks]

4. *Read the following passage carefully and answer all the questions which follow.*

The tiger, the cheetah and the cat belong to the same family. The tiger is the largest member of the family. Although it is a wild animal, it is sometimes trained to assist acrobats in entertaining people. The cheetah is the fastest animal on land. It can be trained to hunt other animals. Cats are found in many homes but there are wild ones too.

Although cats are found in homes, man did not intentionally domesticate them. Before man learnt to grow crops and rear animals, he used to depend on plants and animals in the bush for food. When he gathered grains which were the seeds of grass, he accidentally took away the food of rodents such as mice and rats. These followed their food indoors. The wild cat, the natural enemy of the rats and mice, also followed them into the domestic granaries.

Cats did not eat the grains that were becoming the main source of nourishment for man. Therefore, they were encouraged to remain at home in order to get rid of the rodents. Man also probably found out that cats were neater and quieter than dogs.

When ships were invented and man began to trade farther, grains were very important commodities. They were used not only as provisions but also as items of barter. The mice and the rats went along, once again followed by the cats. In this way, a food chain that began in the grasslands to the south and east of the Mediterranean Sea has spread to all corners of the world.

- (a) (i) What **two** types of cats are mentioned in the passage?  
(ii) How did the cat become a domestic animal?
- (b) For what **two** reasons did man prefer cats to dogs?
- (c) What human activity led to the spread of cats to all corners of the world?
- (d) (i) ... *a food chain*. What is referred to as *a food chain* in the passage?  
(ii) Why do you think grains were easily transported to all corners of the world?
- (e) Explain, in your own words, the following expressions as used in the passage:  
(i) the domestic granaries;  
(ii) items of barter;  
(iii) all corners of the world.
- (f) For each of the following words, give another word or a phrase that means **the same** and can fit into the passage:  
(i) sometimes;  
(ii) intentionally;  
(iii) gathered;  
(iv) nourishment;  
(v) probably.

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PART C  
LITERATURE  
[10 marks]

Answer all the questions in this part.

SACEY J.A. and DARMANI L.(COMP.): *The Cockcrow*

5. Questions 5(a) to 5(c) are based on the abridged and simplified version of Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*.

CHARLES DICKENS: *Oliver Twist*

"Mr Bumble made Oliver miserable and the boy couldn't wait to get away from the workhouse."

(Page 104)

- (a) Mr Bumble made Oliver miserable because ...
- (b) Who is Mr Bumble?
- (c) How did Mr Bumble try to get rid of Oliver?

Read the following extract carefully and answer Questions 5(d) and 5(e).

KEN SARD-WIWA: *Home Sweet Home*

"They came in the usual assortment of rags: gowns picked up from the stalls of second-hand clothes traders, singlets bearing the words, *Oxford University*, mildewed blouses. Some women wore shirts that were meant for men; one of them was in a printed cotton nightgown that had faded beyond recognition."

(Page 178)

- (d) *They* refers to ...
- (e) An imagery of ..... is created in the extract.

Read the following extract carefully and answer Questions 5(f) to 5(h).

AMA ATA AIDOO: *The Dilemma of a Ghost*

EULALIE: Ya, I remember I bought the idea, but I got the feeling ...

ATO: Heavens, women! They are always getting feelings. First, you got the feeling you needed a couple of years to settle down and now you are obviously getting a feeling.

(Act 2 , Page 46)

- (f) What *idea* did Eulalie buy?
- (g) What *feeling* has she got now?
- (h) How does Ato react to her *feeling*?

Read the following extract carefully and answer Questions 5(i) and 5(j).

V.B. AAKYE: *The Colour of God*

How silly man is, laughs the rose  
Why should He be black or white  
Or green or yellow or even red?

(Page 185)

- (i) The literary device used in *laughs the rose* is ...
- (j) According to the poem, what is the colour of God?

**END OF ESSAY TEST**

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

**YOU WILL BE PENALIZED SEVERELY IF YOU ARE  
FOUND LOOKING AT THE NEXT PAGE BEFORE  
YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.**

PAPER 1  
OBJECTIVE TEST

35 minutes

*Answer all the questions on your Objective Test answer sheet.*

1. Use 2B pencil throughout.
2. On the pre-printed answer sheet, check that the following details are **correctly** printed: Your **surname** followed by your **other names**, the *Subject Name*, your *Index Number*, *Centre Number* and the *Paper Code*.
3. In the boxes marked *Candidate Number*, *Centre Number* and *Paper Code*, **reshade** each of the shaded spaces.
4. An example is given below. This is for a female candidate whose name is Abena Aku DERY. Her *index number* is 772384188 and she is writing the examination at *Centre Number* 77234. She is offering *English Language* 1 and the *Paper Code* is 0011.

## THE WEST AFRICAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL, GHANA BASIC EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION OBJECTIVE ANSWER SHEET

CANDIDATE NAME: <b>DERY ABENA ABLAH</b>	SUBJECT: <b>ENGLISH LANGUAGE 1</b>
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|--|---|
| 1. Use 2B pencil. Press firmly.  | 4. your first mark completely.  |
| 2. Answer each question by choosing one letter and then, shade through the letter chosen like this = A = O = E = . | 5. If only four alternative answers are given for each question, ignore the letter E. |
| 3. If you want to change an answer, erase  | Your question paper may have fewer than 60 questions.                                 |

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Answer all the questions.

Each question is followed by four options lettered A to D. Find the correct option for each question and shade in pencil on your answer sheet the space which bears the same letter as the option you have chosen. Give only one answer to each question. An example is given below.

From the list of words lettered A to D choose the one which is closest in meaning to the underlined word in the sentence.

The pupils laughed at the story because they thought it was incredible.

- A. strange
- B. interesting
- C. unbelievable
- D. funny

The correct answer is unbelievable, which is lettered C and therefore answer space C would be shaded.

A  B  C  D  E

Be sure you understand the instructions at the beginning of each section before you try to answer any of the questions that follow them.

Do not spend too much time on a question. If you find a question difficult, leave it and go on and try it again later.

Use pencil throughout. If you wish to change an answer, erase your first answer completely and shade the appropriate space for the new answer.

Do all rough work on this question paper.

Now answer the following questions.

PART A  
LEXIS AND STRUCTURE

SECTION A

From the alternatives lettered A to D, choose the one which most suitably completes each sentence.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the challenges, we succeeded.
  - A. As such
  - B. However
  - C. In spite of
  - D. Nevertheless
  
2. My brother, with his wife and children, ..... travelling to Salaga next weekend.
  - A. are
  - B. is
  - C. was
  - D. were

3. You have seen them, ..... you?  
A. did  
B. didn't  
C. had  
D. haven't
4. It was done according ..... the rules.  
A. by  
B. of  
C. to  
D. with
5. You would be hungry if you ..... to eat.  
A. are refusing  
B. refuse  
C. refused  
D. were refusing
6. I prefer oranges ..... mangoes.  
A. on  
B. than  
C. to  
D. for
7. She does not like ..... letters.  
A. to be writing  
B. to write  
C. write  
D. writing
8. She will not give us ..... more money.  
A. any  
B. even  
C. much  
D. little
9. His aunt ..... spoke to us lives in Tamale.  
A. that  
B. which  
C. who  
D. whom
10. Can I borrow your ..... hat?  
A. blue new straw  
B. new blue straw  
C. new straw blue  
D. straw new blue
11. You will be ill if you ..... raw meat.  
A. ate  
B. eat  
C. had eaten  
D. have eaten



12. It is high time we ..... the journey.  
 A. are starting  
 B. shall start  
 C. start  
 D. started
13. My neighbour, ..... dog barks every night, has left town.  
 A. which  
 B. who  
 C. who's  
 D. whose
14. Aarab could not resist ..... the food while it was still on the fire.  
 A. by opening  
 B. open  
 C. to open  
 D. opening
15. Habib goes to school \_\_\_\_ train.  
 A. by  
 B. in  
 C. on  
 D. with

## SECTION B

Choose from the alternatives lettered A to D the one which is nearest in meaning to the underlined word in each sentence.

16. The chosen poems are very relatable.  
 A. preferred  
 B. selected  
 C. prescribed  
 D. given
17. All the lax rules have been cancelled.  
 A. mild  
 B. previous  
 C. weak  
 D. wrong
18. Arming the police does not halt crime.  
 A. avoid  
 B. prevent  
 C. stop  
 D. suspend
19. The youth should be ruled by the fundamental ideals of courtesy.  
 A. essential  
 B. known  
 C. popular  
 D. realistic

20. The porter could not endure his insults.
- A. accept
  - B. agree
  - C. approve
  - D. bear

## SECTION C

*In each of the following sentences a group of words has been underlined. Choose from the alternatives lettered A to D the one that best explains the underlined group of words.*

21. Gil held her tongue on sensitive political issues. This means that she
- A. bit her tongue.
  - B. kept silent.
  - C. maintained her stand.
  - D. refused to laugh.
22. Azara burnt her fingers when she took sides with her friend. This means that Azara
- A. got herself into trouble.
  - B. hated her friend.
  - C. showed how brave she was.
  - D. supported her friend.
23. Ammon has always kept his enemies at arm's length. This means that he
- A. abused them.
  - B. shunned them.
  - C. threatened them.
  - D. trusted them.
24. The project is in the pipeline. This means that it is
- A. being dealt with.
  - B. being suspended.
  - C. no longer pursued.
  - D. stuck in the pipe.
25. A desperate man may clutch at straws to save himself. This means that he may
- A. decide to act bravely.
  - B. seize any opportunity.
  - C. try all clever means.
  - D. use a secret strategy.

## SECTION D

From the list of words lettered A to D, choose the one that is **most nearly opposite in meaning** to the word underlined in **each** sentence.

- 26 That shop has been temporarily closed down.  
A. constantly  
B. deliberately  
C. legally  
D. permanently
- 27 He normally alights at the station.  
A. ascends  
B. boards  
C. enters  
D. joins
- 28 The audience laughed at his funny stories.  
A. cheerful  
B. humourless  
C. familiar  
D. peculiar
- 29 The prefect rebuked the student for his rude behaviour.  
A. defended  
B. justified  
C. pardoned  
D. praised
- 30 Abeiku feels unsafe in his house.  
A. afraid  
B. rejected  
C. secure  
D. unhappy

**END OF PAPER**