

KENYA JUNIOR SCHOOL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT**2026****ENGLISH LANGUAGE****Prediction 4****Reading Comprehension, Oral Skills and Grammar****901/1 Paper 1****Time: 1 hour 40 minutes 50 marks**

Name

Assessment number

School

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. This paper contains 50 multiple-choice questions. Answer all questions.
2. Each question carries 1 mark. Choose only ONE answer from A, B, C and D for each question.
3. Record your answers on the separate answer sheet. Use an ordinary HB pencil to shade the circle containing the letter you have chosen.
4. Keep the answer sheet clean and do not fold it. Keep all marks inside the circles.
5. Confirm that your name, assessment number and school are entered on the answer sheet.
6. Do any necessary rough work in this question paper.

Read the following passage and then answer questions 1 to 5.

A message on the village noticeboard announced that the Kito bridge would be closed for repairs. By lunchtime, traders were saying that the market would be unreachable for an entire week. Some had begun cancelling deliveries. Ms Wendo, who managed a small shop, decided to find out more before changing her plans.

She called the works supervisor. The bridge, he explained, would close only from ten in the morning until noon on Tuesday and Thursday. At other times it would remain open to pedestrians and light vehicles. A longer notice had included these details, but someone had copied only its first sentence onto a smaller sheet.

Ms Wendo wrote a corrected notice, including the dates, times and the supervisor's contact. Before displaying it, she read it back to him and verified every detail. Several traders then restored their delivery arrangements. Others were surprised that a message could be misleading without containing an entirely invented statement.

The incident changed how the traders handled notices. They began asking who had issued a message, when it had been written and whether any essential information was missing. A message did not become reliable merely because many people had repeated it.

1. Why was the first notice misleading?
 - A. It announced a football match.
 - B. It left out the times when the bridge would be closed.
 - C. It named a bridge that did not exist.
 - D. It had been written in several languages.
2. Why did Ms Wendo contact the works supervisor?
 - A. To prevent anyone from travelling to the market.
 - B. To confirm the details before sharing the notice.
 - C. To demand that the repair work be cancelled.
 - D. To ask for a new telephone.
3. The word verified means
 - A. sent to as many people as possible.
 - B. made shorter at random.
 - C. checked and confirmed as accurate.
 - D. copied without reading.
4. What does the passage suggest about a short message?
 - A. It should never include times or dates.
 - B. It is always more accurate than a long message.
 - C. It can mislead if essential details are removed.
 - D. It cannot be corrected once written.
5. Which saying best expresses the lesson of the passage?
 - A. Look before you leap.
 - B. A rolling stone gathers no moss.
 - C. Too many cooks spoil the broth.
 - D. Make hay while the sun shines.

Read the following passage and then answer questions 6 to 10.

Saying sorry is easy to describe but sometimes difficult to do well. A useful apology begins with recognising that another person has been hurt or inconvenienced. It does not require a long speech. It requires a clear acceptance of responsibility.

An explanation can help someone understand what happened. However, an explanation becomes an excuse when it is used to avoid responsibility. "I was in a hurry" may explain why a learner pushed past a classmate, but it does not remove the need to apologise or help pick up the books that fell.

An apology can be a bridge back to a damaged relationship. Like a bridge, it must be supported by something stronger than words alone. Returning a borrowed item, correcting a false statement or changing a repeated habit can show that the apology is sincere.

The person receiving an apology may still need time. Forgiveness cannot be demanded as proof that the apology has been accepted. Nor does a sincere apology promise that its speaker will never make another mistake. Its value lies in an honest effort to repair the harm and act more thoughtfully afterwards.

- 6.** According to the passage, what makes an apology useful?
- A. Repeating the word sorry as loudly as possible.
 - B. Taking responsibility and trying to repair the harm.
 - C. Avoiding any mention of what happened.
 - D. Proving that the hurt person has no feelings.
- 7.** Why does the writer compare an apology to a bridge?
- A. It makes people cross a river faster.
 - B. It prevents people from meeting again.
 - C. It can help restore a damaged relationship.
 - D. It should be built only by engineers.
- 8.** Which statement is supported by the passage?
- A. An explanation should not be used to avoid responsibility.
 - B. Every accident is a deliberate insult.
 - C. Only the injured person should change any behaviour.
 - D. An apology guarantees immediate forgiveness.
- 9.** The word sincere means
- A. honest and truly meant.
 - B. spoken extremely quickly.
 - C. expensive to make.
 - D. repeated by a large crowd.
- 10.** What is the writer's main purpose?
- A. To explain how an apology can help put a wrong right.
 - B. To prove that explanations are never useful.
 - C. To discourage people from discussing mistakes.
 - D. To show that saying sorry ends every disagreement immediately.

Read the following story and then answer questions 11 to 16.

Ndera slowed down as she and her grandmother approached the market. Around them, shoppers carried bright new bags. Her grandmother's basket had a faded handle and a frayed edge. Ndera wished she had offered to carry something else.

At a vegetable stall, a loose strip caught on a nail. Grandmother set the basket down, found the damaged end and began weaving it back into place. Ndera offered to buy a plastic bag instead.

"This basket still has work to do," Grandmother said. "My mother taught me this pattern when I was your age. The first basket I sold paid for my first school books."

Ndera looked at the narrow strips more closely. She had heard about her grandmother walking to school without shoes, but she had never connected those stories with the things around her. Grandmother explained that the basket she now carried was one she had made years later using the same pattern.

When the repair was finished, Ndera took the handle. The basket was no brighter and its faded colour had not changed. Yet she no longer felt embarrassed by it. On the journey home, she asked her grandmother to teach her the pattern.

11. Why did Ndera initially dislike carrying the basket?

- A. It belonged to a stranger at the market.
- B. She thought its worn appearance was embarrassing.
- C. Her grandmother had forbidden her to touch it.
- D. She could not find anything to put inside it.

12. What does the grandmother's repair of the basket show?

- A. She wants to sell every family possession.
- B. She believes that all new things are useless.
- C. She does not know how the basket was made.
- D. She values it and takes care to preserve it.

13. The word frayed describes material that is

- A. perfectly smooth and unmarked.
- B. too heavy to lift from the ground.
- C. worn and coming apart at the edges.
- D. freshly painted and glossy.

14. How had basket-making helped the grandmother as a child?

- A. Her teacher had filled it with examination papers.
- B. It had been used as a classroom desk.
- C. It had earned the money for her first school books.
- D. She had carried it instead of attending school.

15. How does Ndera feel about the basket at the end?

- A. Certain that it has no further use.
- B. Eager to hide every object made by hand.
- C. Angry that her grandmother repaired it.
- D. Respectful of the history it represents.

16. Which saying best captures the lesson of the story?

- A. Too many cooks spoil the broth.
- B. Out of sight, out of mind.
- C. The early bird catches the worm.
- D. Do not judge a book by its cover.

Read the information below and answer questions 17 to 20.

Four learners, Imani, Deka, Joel and Rono, are preparing for a field visit. All four are reliable. Imani and Joel are confident in calculations. Deka and Joel read maps accurately. Imani and Rono keep detailed written records. Deka is the only one who has completed basic first-aid training. Rono enjoys photography. The team plans to share duties according to these skills.

17. Who combines skill in reading maps with confidence in calculations?

- A. Joel.
- B. Rono.
- C. Imani.
- D. Deka.

18. Which learner combines accurate record-keeping with confidence in calculations?

- A. Joel.
- B. Deka.
- C. Rono.
- D. Imani.

19. Who is best qualified to help the teacher prepare the first-aid kit?

- A. Imani.
- B. Joel.
- C. Deka.
- D. All four equally.

20. Which quality do all four learners share?

- A. Map-reading skills.
- B. Photography skills.
- C. First-aid training.
- D. Reliability.

Read the dialogue below and then answer questions 21 to 23.

Chairperson: We shall now hear Wema's proposal about library opening hours.

Wema: I suggest that the library remain open for an extra hour on Wednesday.

Otis: But that will mean keeping the librarian late every day!

Chairperson: Please let Wema finish. You will have a turn to respond.

Wema: I propose one afternoon each week so that club members can read after their meeting.

Otis: If I understand you correctly, you are asking for one extra hour each week?

Wema: Exactly. I am not proposing a change for every day.

- 21.** Why does the chairperson ask Otis to wait?
- A. To give Wema an uninterrupted turn to finish.
 - B. To punish Otis for attending the meeting.
 - C. To make the meeting continue without any contributions.
 - D. To prevent anyone from questioning the proposal.
- 22.** What does Otis achieve by saying, "If I understand you correctly"?
- A. He declares that the meeting is over.
 - B. He changes the subject to an unrelated event.
 - C. He checks his interpretation before responding.
 - D. He insists that Wema must agree with him.
- 23.** Why is Wema's final reply helpful?
- A. It clarifies the part of her proposal that was misunderstood.
 - B. It refuses to explain any detail.
 - C. It repeats the chairperson's greeting only.
 - D. It insults everyone who disagrees.
- 24.** You are visiting a school and need directions to the science room. Which request is most appropriate?
- A. Why have you hidden your science room from me?
 - B. Excuse me, could you show me how to get to the science room?
 - C. I am going somewhere, so move quickly!
 - D. You must know where every room is, surely!
- 25.** A visitor has explained a complicated instruction. What best shows that you are checking your understanding?
- A. Repeat an unrelated story more loudly.
 - B. Pretend to agree even though you are confused.
 - C. Briefly state it in your own words and ask whether you understood correctly.
 - D. Start talking to someone else before the visitor finishes.

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 35. Choose the best word for each gap.

On Saturday, the new reading corner __26__ ready for visitors. The learners had changed __27__ old storeroom into a useful space. They sorted the books __28__ and repaired those __29__ had loose covers. A small table stood __30__ two windows. The room was not only tidy __31__ also welcoming. Although there was __32__ space, the learners arranged the shelves well. The shelves for younger readers were lower __33__ the others. By the time the guests arrived, every team __34__ finished its task. The learners felt proud of __35__.

- 26.** A. be B. are C. was D. were
- 27.** A. an B. some C. a D. many
- 28.** A. carefulness B. care C. careful D. carefully
- 29.** A. who B. whose C. which D. where

For questions 30 to 35, choose the best word for each gap in the passage on the previous page.

30. A. above B. inside C. among D. between
31. A. nor B. but C. so D. or
32. A. several B. little C. many D. few
33. A. than B. that C. as D. then
34. A. having B. have C. has D. had
35. A. itself B. ourselves C. himself D. themselves

For questions 36 to 42, select the best alternative to complete the sentence.

36. The two ____ approved the final newspaper pages.
A. editor-in-chief B. editors-in-chief C. editors-in-chiefs D. editor-in-chiefs
37. ____ the heavy rain, the visitors reached the hall on time.
A. Although
B. Despite
C. Unless
D. Because
38. The school invited a ____ to lead the band during rehearsal.
A. musician
B. music
C. musical
D. musically
39. The match was ____ until the following week because the field was flooded.
A. put on
B. put away
C. put out
D. put off
40. The room has ____ a radio ____ a television, so it is quiet.
A. neither, or
B. either, nor
C. both, nor
D. neither, nor
41. The guide ____ showed us the route was very patient.
A. which
B. whose
C. whom
D. who
42. Of the two designs, this one is the ____.
A. more better B. better C. most best D. best

43. Choose the opposite of the underlined word: Clean water was scarce during the dry season.

- A. limited
- B. abundant
- C. insufficient
- D. rare

44. Choose the pronouns that best replace the underlined words: The girls told Mrs Kendi that the girls would carry Mrs Kendi's equipment.

- A. they, her
- B. she, his
- C. they, our
- D. we, their

For questions 45 to 48, choose the alternative that means the same as the given sentence.

45. The team has repaired the bridge.

- A. The bridge has been repaired by the team.
- B. The bridge had been repaired by the team.
- C. The bridge will be repaired by the team.
- D. The bridge is being repaired by the team.

46. The learners said, "We are preparing our display now." Two days later, how should the teacher report their words?

- A. The learners said that they had prepared their display the previous day.
- B. The learners said that they were preparing their display then.
- C. The learners said that they would prepare their display the following day.
- D. The learners said that we were preparing our display then.

47. After several warnings, Kena turned over a new leaf.

- A. Kena forgot every warning immediately.
- B. Kena refused to consider any change.
- C. Kena changed her behaviour for the better.
- D. Kena planted a tree without permission.

48. Unless you wear protective gloves, you cannot handle the material.

- A. If you wear protective gloves, you cannot handle the material.
- B. Unless you remove your gloves, you can handle the material.
- C. You cannot wear gloves if you handle the material.
- D. If you do not wear protective gloves, you cannot handle the material.

49. Which sentence is correctly punctuated?

- A. "Where is my notebook?" asked Tola.
- B. "Where is my notebook," asked Tola?
- C. "Where is my notebook!" asked Tola?
- D. "Where is my notebook." Asked Tola?

50. The volunteers went the extra mile to welcome the visitors. This means that they

- A. left before the visitors arrived.
- B. refused to assist anyone at the gate.
- C. made more effort than was expected.
- D. walked exactly one mile and stopped.

THIS IS THE LAST PAGE OF THE QUESTION PAPER

ENGLISH LANGUAGE - Prediction 4
MULTIPLE-CHOICE ANSWER SHEET

Name

Assessment number

School

Use an HB pencil. Shade one circle for each question.

1	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	26	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
2	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	27	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
3	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	28	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
4	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	29	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
5	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	30	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
6	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	31	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
7	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	32	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
8	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	33	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
9	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	34	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
10	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	35	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
11	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	36	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
12	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	37	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
13	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	38	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
14	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	39	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
15	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	40	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
16	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	41	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
17	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	42	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
18	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	43	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
19	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	44	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
20	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	45	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
21	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	46	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
22	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	47	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
23	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	48	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
24	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	49	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D
25	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D	50	☐ A	☐ B	☐ C	☐ D