**KENYA JUNIOR SCHOOL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT (KJSEA)**

**2025 EXAMINATION**

**GRADE 9 - ENGLISH PAPER 1 (901/1)**

**(Reading Comprehension, Oral Skills, and Grammar)**

**Time Allowed:** **1 Hour 30 Minutes**  
**Date:** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**CANDIDATE DETAILS**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
**SCHOOL:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
**STREAM:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
**ADMISSION NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Write your name, school, stream, and admission number in the spaces provided above.  
2. This paper consists of 50 multiple-choice questions. Answer ALL questions.  
3. For each question, choose the correct answer from the four options (A, B, C, and D) and fill in the answer sheet provided.  
4. Ensure all rough work is done on this question paper.  
5. Confirm that all pages are correctly printed and no questions are missing.

**EXAM STRUCTURE**

| **Section** | **Description** | **Marks** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **A** | Reading Comprehension (Passages & Questions) | 20 Marks |
| **B** | Oral Skills (Listening & Speaking) | 10 Marks |
| **C** | Grammar and Vocabulary | 15 Marks |
| **D** | Cloze Test | 5 Marks |
| **Total Marks** | **50 Marks** |  |

**LEARNER’S SCORE**

**Total Score:** \_\_\_\_\_ /50

**EXAMINATION RULES & REGULATIONS**

DO NOT open this paper until instructed to do so.  
Any form of cheating will lead to automatic disqualification.  
Use only blue or black ink. No correction fluid is allowed.  
Maintain silence in the examination room.

Answer all questions

**Passage 1: The Abandoned House**



At the edge of the town, there stood an old, abandoned house. Its walls were cracked, the roof was covered in moss, and its windows were shattered. The townspeople often whispered stories about the house, claiming it was haunted. Children dared each other to step inside, but none ever did. The wind howled through its empty halls, creating eerie sounds at night. No one knew who had lived there before, and no one dared to find out.

**Question:**

1. Where was the abandoned house located?  
   A) In the middle of the town  
   B) At the edge of the town  
   C) Near the marketplace  
   D) Next to a school
2. What covered the roof of the house?  
   A) Snow  
   B) Leaves  
   C) Moss  
   D) Grass
3. What did the townspeople say about the house?  
   A) It was once a school  
   B) It was haunted  
   C) It belonged to a rich family  
   D) It was a museum
4. Why did children not enter the house?  
   A) The doors were locked  
   B) They were afraid  
   C) The police guarded it  
   D) It was too far
5. What sound was heard at night?  
   A) Birds chirping  
   B) The wind howling  
   C) Water dripping  
   D) Dogs barking

**Passage 2: Taxation in Kenya**

Taxation plays a crucial role in Kenya’s economy by funding public services such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure development. The government collects various types of taxes, including income tax, value-added tax (VAT), and corporate tax. However, tax evasion remains a challenge, with many individuals and businesses failing to comply with tax laws. To improve tax collection, the government has integrated digital platforms like M-Pesa, making it easier for citizens to pay taxes electronically.

**Questions:**

1. What is the purpose of taxation in Kenya?  
   A) To provide loans to businesses  
   B) To fund public services  
   C) To increase government wealth  
   D) To help foreign investors
2. Which of the following is NOT a type of tax in Kenya?  
   A) Income tax  
   B) Value-added tax (VAT)  
   C) Land ownership tax  
   D) Corporate tax
3. What is a major challenge in tax collection?  
   A) Citizens paying too much tax  
   B) Tax evasion  
   C) Lack of government workers  
   D) Businesses refusing to operate
4. How has the government improved tax collection?  
   A) By using digital platforms like M-Pesa  
   B) By reducing taxes for businesses  
   C) By increasing penalties for tax evasion  
   D) By removing income tax
5. What is the main advantage of electronic tax payment?  
   A) It allows people to avoid paying tax  
   B) It makes tax payment easier and more efficient  
   C) It increases government expenses  
   D) It allows businesses to avoid tax laws

**Passage 3: Education in Kenya**

Kenya has made significant progress in education over the years. In 2003, the government introduced free primary education, leading to a rise in school enrollment. However, challenges remain, especially in rural areas where resources and qualified teachers are scarce. The government continues to invest in education, ensuring that children across the country have access to quality learning. With advancements in technology, digital learning is being introduced in schools to bridge the gap between rural and urban education.

**Questions**

1. When did Kenya introduce free primary education?  
   A) 1995  
   B) 2003  
   C) 2010  
   D) 2015
2. What was the effect of free primary education?  
   A) More children enrolled in school  
   B) Schools became too expensive  
   C) Teachers stopped teaching  
   D) Schools were closed down
3. What is one major challenge in rural education?  
   A) Lack of school uniforms  
   B) Scarcity of teachers and resources  
   C) Too many students in class  
   D) Too much technology in schools
4. How is the government addressing education challenges?  
   A) By closing down rural schools  
   B) By investing in quality learning  
   C) By increasing school fees  
   D) By reducing the number of schools
5. What role does technology play in education?  
   A) It helps bridge the gap between urban and rural learning  
   B) It replaces teachers in classrooms  
   C) It increases school expenses  
   D) It discourages students from studying

**Passage 4: The Race**

The runners lined up at the starting line, their hearts pounding with anticipation. The whistle blew, and they sprinted forward, each step bringing them closer to victory. As the race progressed, some began to feel the strain, their muscles aching with fatigue. The crowd cheered wildly, pushing them to give their all. In the final moments, two runners were neck and neck. With one last burst of energy, the winner crossed the finish line just inches ahead of the rest. The crowd erupted in applause.

**Questions**

1. How did the runners feel before the race?  
   A) Calm and relaxed  
   B) Nervous and excited  
   C) Bored and tired  
   D) Angry and frustrated
2. What happened when the whistle blew?  
   A) The runners walked slowly  
   B) The runners sprinted forward  
   C) The crowd started running  
   D) The race was canceled
3. What challenge did the runners face during the race?  
   A) The track was too short  
   B) They started feeling tired  
   C) They had to stop halfway  
   D) The race was unfair
4. How did the crowd react at the end of the race?  
   A) They booed the winner  
   B) They ignored the race  
   C) They cheered loudly  
   D) They asked for another race
5. How did the winner cross the finish line?  
   A) He finished minutes ahead  
   B) He was carried by the crowd  
   C) He gave up before the finish line  
   D) He won by a small margin

**Passage 5: The Power of Friendship**

Friendship is one of life’s greatest treasures. A true friend offers support during difficult times and shares joy in moments of success. Unlike material wealth, friendship cannot be bought but is built on trust and loyalty. Good friends encourage and inspire one another, making challenges easier to overcome. In times of trouble, a friend’s kind words can provide great comfort. As the saying goes, “A friend in need is a friend indeed.”

**Passage 5: The Power of Friendship**

1. What is friendship described as?  
   A) A burden  
   B) A great treasure  
   C) A business transaction  
   D) A temporary feeling
2. What is an important quality of a good friend?  
   A) Being rich  
   B) Offering support and loyalty  
   C) Being famous  
   D) Always agreeing with you
3. How does friendship help people?  
   A) It makes people jealous  
   B) It encourages and inspires them  
   C) It prevents them from working hard  
   D) It forces people to be competitive
4. Why can’t friendship be bought?  
   A) It is too expensive  
   B) It is built on trust and loyalty  
   C) People don’t like making friends  
   D) It requires a lot of money
5. What is the meaning of the saying: **"A friend in need is a friend indeed"**?  
   A) A friend who helps you in difficult times is a true friend  
   B) Friends are only useful when they have money  
   C) True friendship is about borrowing money  
   D) Friends should never ask for help

**Synonyms and Antonyms**

1. Choose the correct synonym for **"generous"**:  
   A) Selfish  
   B) Kind  
   C) Rude  
   D) Greedy
2. Choose the correct antonym for **"victory"**:  
   A) Win  
   B) Triumph  
   C) Defeat  
   D) Success

**Prepositions**

1. She is afraid **\_\_\_** spiders.  
   A) of  
   B) with  
   C) to  
   D) for
2. The ball rolled **\_\_\_** the table.  
   A) on  
   B) under  
   C) between  
   D) above

**Tenses**

1. By this time next year, we **\_\_\_** our exams.  
   A) finish  
   B) will have finished  
   C) finished  
   D) will finish
2. I **\_\_\_** my homework when my friend called me.  
   A) do  
   B) was doing  
   C) did  
   D) have done

**Adjectives and Adverbs**

1. He ran **\_\_\_** to catch the bus.  
   A) quick  
   B) quicker  
   C) quickly  
   D) quickest
2. The cake tastes **\_\_\_**.  
   A) well  
   B) good  
   C) badly  
   D) happily

**Subject-Verb Agreement**

1. The group of students **\_\_\_** going on a trip.  
   A) is  
   B) are  
   C) were  
   D) be
2. Neither the teacher nor the students **\_\_\_** happy about the results.  
   A) was  
   B) were  
   C) is  
   D) be

**Articles**

1. He bought **\_\_\_** apple and a banana.  
   A) a  
   B) an  
   C) the  
   D) some
2. Nairobi is **\_\_\_** capital city of Kenya.  
   A) a  
   B) an  
   C) the  
   D) no article

**Conjunctions**

1. I wanted to go swimming, **\_\_\_** it started raining.  
   A) so  
   B) but  
   C) because  
   D) or
2. She went to the market **\_\_\_** bought some fruits.  
   A) or  
   B) but  
   C) and  
   D) although

**Idioms and Phrasal Verbs**

1. The teacher told us to **pull up our socks**. What does this mean?  
   A) Wear socks  
   B) Work harder  
   C) Rest for a while  
   D) Run quickly

**Cloze Test Questions**

(Choose the best word to fill in each blank.)

**Passage:**

A young boy named Kevin loved to play football. Every evening, he would go to the field with his friends. One day, while playing, he **(41)** \_\_\_ and hurt his leg. His friends helped him to **(42)** \_\_\_ on the bench. He was in pain, but he did not **(43)** \_\_\_ .

The coach rushed to check on him and told him to **(44)** \_\_\_ for a while. After a few minutes, Kevin felt **(45)** \_\_\_ and wanted to play again.

His coach advised him, **"You should always (46) \_\_\_ up before playing to avoid injuries."** Kevin nodded and promised to follow the advice.

After a few weeks, his leg had **(47)** \_\_\_ completely. He returned to the field and played **(48)** \_\_\_ with his teammates.

From that day, Kevin made sure to **(49)** \_\_\_ stretching exercises before every game. He knew that being careful and **(50)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** prepares well could help prevent injuries.

41. (A) fell (B) fall C) falling (D) falls

42. (A) sit (B) sat (C) sits (D) sitting

43. (A) cry (B) cried (C) cries (D) crying

44. (A) rest (B) resting (C) rested (D) rests

45. (A) worse (B) better (C) bad (D) worst

46. (A) warm (B) warming (C) warmed (D) warm

47. (A) heal (B) healed (C) healing (D) heals

48. (A) happily (B) happy (C) happier (D) happiest

49. (A) practice (B) practiced (C) practices (D) practicing

50. (A) preparing (B) prepare (C) prepared (D)Prepareder

Marking scheme

Passage 1: The Abandoned House

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   B) At the edge of the town
2. What covered the roof of the house?  
   C) Moss
3. What did the townspeople say about the house?  
   B) It was haunted
4. Why did children not enter the house?B) They were afraid
5. What sound was heard at night?  
   B) The wind howling

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   A) A friend who helps you in difficult times is a true friend

Grammar and Vocabulary Answers

1. B) Kind
2. C) Defeat
3. A) of
4. B) under
5. B) will have finished
6. B) was doing
7. C) quickly
8. B) good
9. A) is
10. B) were
11. B) an
12. C) the
13. B) but
14. C) and
15. B) Work harder

Cloze Test Answers

1. A) fell
2. A) sit
3. A) cry
4. A) rest
5. B) better
6. D) warm up
7. B) healed
8. A) happily
9. A) practice
10. C) prepared