



EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ZAMBIA

GRADE SEVEN COMPOSITE EXAMINATION – 2023



English Language


SUBJECT 1/1

90 MINUTES

TD/E1/G7/2023

- 1 Read these instructions carefully.
- 2 **Do not** turn this page before you are told to do so. Your teacher will tell you when to turn this page to begin answering the questions.
- 3 This paper is divided into 2 sections: A and B. Section A has 4 parts while Section B has 2 parts. There are **60** questions in this paper. **Answer all.**
- 4 For each question, four answers are given, but only one of the four is right. Work out which one is the **best** answer. Then, on your **Answer Sheet**, mark the box completely by shading the answer space of the letter of your choice. If you chose answer D for a question, you would show it like this:-



- 5 You must **SHADE** your answer spaces **completely** and **darkly** using an HB  pencil. If you have to change your answer, you must rub out the shading **very neatly** before shading the new one. **Use a clean rubber.**
- 6 When you have finished one page, go **straight** on without waiting to be told. If you have time left at the end of the Question Paper, use it to check your work carefully.
- 7 Look at your **Answer Sheet**. On the top left hand side are boxes which should **have**, Examination Year, your School Number and Examination Number. It should also say **Subject 1 Paper 1**.
- 8 Look at your **Answer Sheet** again. At the **bottom** left hand side, it should have your Surname, Forename, Subject – **English Language**, Name of Primary School and your Secondary School of choice.
- 9 **Put up your hand now if:** You have any question.
You have a wrong Answer Sheet.

You will **NOT** be able to ask questions once the examination has begun.

**DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD.
USE ONLY AN HB  PENCIL FOR YOUR ANSWERS.**



EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ZAMBIA

GRADE SEVEN COMPOSITE EXAMINATION – 2023



English Language

SUBJECT 1/1

90 MINUTES

TD/E1/G7/2023

- 1 Read these instructions carefully.
- 2 **Do not** turn this page before you are told to do so. Your teacher will tell you when to turn this page to begin answering the questions.
- 3 This paper is divided into 2 sections: A and B. Section A has 4 parts while Section B has 2 parts. There are **60** questions in this paper. **Answer all.**
- 4 For each question, four answers are given, but only one of the four is right. Work out which one is the **best** answer. Then, on your **Answer Sheet**, mark the box completely by shading the answer space of the letter of your choice. If you chose answer D for a question, you would show it like this:-



- 5 You must **SHADE** your answer spaces **completely** and **darkly** using an HB pencil. If you have to change your answer, you must rub out the shading **very neatly** before shading the new one. **Use a clean rubber.**
- 6 When you have finished one page, go **straight** on without waiting to be told. If you have time left at the end of the Question Paper, use it to check your work carefully.
- 7 Look at your **Answer Sheet**. On the top left hand side are boxes which should have, Examination Year, your School Number and Examination Number. It should also say **Subject 1 Paper 1**.
- 8 Look at your **Answer Sheet** again. At the **bottom** left hand side, it should have your Surname, Forename, Subject – **English Language**, Name of Primary School and your Secondary School of choice.
- 9 **Put up your hand now if:** You have any question.
You have a wrong Answer Sheet.

You will **NOT** be able to ask questions once the examination has begun.

**DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD.
USE ONLY AN HB PENCIL FOR YOUR ANSWERS.**

SECTION A

Part 1: Questions 1 – 20

Each question contains a sentence from which a word or group of words is missing in the space shown. Below each sentence are four words or groups of words. **Only one of the words or group of words will make the sentence right.** You have to choose it.

Example:

Algeria is the ... country in Africa.

- A more large
- B large
- C larger
- D largest

The answer **D** – largest – is the only one that can fit in the sentence. The complete sentence is: 'Algeria is the largest country in Africa.'

Now do questions 1 – 20.

- 1 Zacheaus climbed a tree to see Jesus ... he was short.
 - A and
 - B because
 - C but
 - D yet
- 2 The children are now old enough to look after ...
 - A himself.
 - B itself.
 - C ourselves.
 - D themselves.
- 3 The new learner ... came yesterday is in Grade 6.
 - A which
 - B who
 - C whom
 - D whose
- 4 Sibeso is not only pretty ... kind and friendly too.
 - A yet
 - B so
 - C but
 - D and

SECTION A

Part 1: Questions 1 – 20

Each question contains a sentence from which a word or group of words is missing in the space shown. Below each sentence are four words or groups of words. **Only one of the words or group of words will make the sentence right.** You have to choose it.

Example:

Algeria is the ... country in Africa.

- A more large
- B large
- C larger
- D largest

The answer **D** – largest – is the only one that can fit in the sentence. The complete sentence is: 'Algeria is the largest country in Africa.'

Now do questions 1 – 20.

1 Zacheaus climbed a tree to see Jesus ... he was short.

- A and
- B because
- C but
- D yet

2 The children are now old enough to look after ...

- A himself.
- B itself.
- C ourselves.
- D themselves.

3 The new learner ... came yesterday is in Grade 6.

- A which
- B who
- C whom
- D whose

4 Sibeso is not only pretty ... kind and friendly too.

- A yet
- B so
- C but
- D and

- 5 I will be helping my parents ... household chores during the holiday.
- A at
 - B of
 - C to
 - D with
- 6 Mrs Kasusu has formed a kitchen party ... for her daughter who will be getting married in the next three months.
- A board
 - B committee
 - C crowd
 - D mob
- 7 Moono is never late for classes. He is ... on time.
- A always
 - B rarely
 - C sometimes
 - D usually
- 8 I am sure that ... have a lot of fresh vegetables in the garden.
- A he
 - B it
 - C she
 - D we
- 9 Amongst the three patients, Zuba has the ... eyes.
- A paler
 - B palest
 - C more paler
 - D most palest
- 10 They are walking too fast and I cannot keep ... with them.
- A up
 - B on
 - C in
 - D by
- 11 Kateya and Kofya ... cattle last year.
- A are herding
 - B is herding
 - C was herding
 - D were herding

- 12 Kawang'u was ... than the other boys in class.
A more smarter
B most smart
C smarter
D smartest
- 13 One of the table manners is not to ... with food in the mouth.
A talks
B talking
C talked
D talk
- 14 The choir sang ... at the concert.
A smooth
B smoother
C smoothiest
D smoothly
- 15 By the time the wildlife officers got to the river, the boy who almost ... had been rescued.
A drown
B drowned
C drowning
D drowns
- 16 ... you like it or not, I will go to visit my friends.
A If
B Unless
C Until
D Whether
- 17 I sat ... the head boy during assembly.
A among
B beside
C besides
D between
- 18 Mr Mwale was attacked by a ... of thieves.
A bunch
B crowd
C gang
D team

- 19 We should work together like ... of ants.
- A an army
 - B a flock
 - C a pride
 - D a swarm
- 20 It was a ... game. Kamwala Secondary School beat Sioma Secondary School by two goals to nil.
- A one side
 - B one sided
 - C one sider
 - D one sides

Part 2: Questions 21 – 25

Each question has a sentence with one word missing. Below each sentence are four words. **Choose the word that is correctly spelt.**

Example:

The lunar eclipse which ... for about six hours occurred in July, 2018.

- A lastered
- B lasted
- C lusted
- D lustered

The answer **B** – lasted – is the only one that is correctly spelt. The complete sentence is: The lunar eclipse which lasted for about six hours occurred in July, 2018.

Now do questions 21 – 25.

- 21 "That snake is very ...!" exclaimed Peter.
- A dangerous
 - B danjerous
 - C dengerous
 - D denjorous
- 22 That pregnant women should not eat eggs is a ...
- A misconception
 - B misconception
 - C misconsepsion
 - D misconseption

- 23 Have you ever ... why some people wake up late in the morning?
A wandered
 B wondared
C wondered
D wondored
- 24 The police officers were given ... information on the expected robbery.
A adeqaute
 B adequate
C adequati
D adiquate
- 25 My parents often advise me not to ... with my friends.
A quarel
B quarell
 C quarrel
D quarrell

Part 3: Questions 26 – 30

In each question, there are four sentences that are almost the same, but only one has the correct punctuation marks. **Choose the sentence which is correctly punctuated.**

Example:

- A "Snake! Saboh yelled."
B "Snake!" Saboh yelled.
C Snake! Saboh yelled.
D "Snake." Saboh yelled.

The Answer **B** – "Snake!" Saboh yelled. – is the only sentence that is correctly punctuated.

Now do questions 26 – 30.

- 26 A The Bible was translated into Chitonga Cinyanja Luvale and Icibemba.
 B The Bible was translated into Chitonga, Cinyanja, Luvale and Icibemba.
C The Bible was translated into, Chitonga Cinyanja Luvale and Icibemba.
D The Bible, was translated, into Chitonga Cinyanja Luvale and, Icibemba.

- 27 A The First Lady's Independence Day attire was nice.
 B The First Ladys Independence Day attire was nice.
 C The First Lady's, Independence Day attire was nice.
 D The First Ladys' Independence Day attire was nice.
- 28 A take this map in case you lose your way.
 B Take this map in case you lose your way?
 C Take this map in case you lose your way.
 D take this map in case you lose your way!
- 29 A Your mother is very dear to you, isn't she?
 B Your mother is very dear, to you isn't she?
 C Your mother is very dear to you! isn't she?
 D Your mother is very dear to you. isn't she?
- 30 A "Aha! There comes our teacher!" said Patra.
 B Aha! There comes our teacher. "said Patra.
 C Aha! "There comes our teacher." said Patra.
 D "Aha! There comes our teacher," said Patra.

Part 4: Questions 31 – 38

Each question has a word, a group of words, or a sentence underlined. Below each question are four words or parts of a sentence. **Only one of these gives the right meaning of the word or group of words underlined.** You have to choose the correct meaning.

Example:

We travelled by bus on a stony road. The word **stony** means ...

- A blocked by stones.
 B covered by stones only.
 C made of stones.
 D plenty of stones.

The answer **D** – plenty of stones – is the only answer that gives the right meaning of the word 'stony'.

Now do questions 31 – 38.

- 31 Mary managed to attend the interview despite being late. The sentence means that Mary ... interview.
- A attended the
 B did not attend the
 C missed the
 D was not late for the

- 32 Commercial farming is growing crops and raising livestock mainly for sale. The word **livestock** means animals that are ...
- A kept on a farm.
 - B producers of milk.
 - C ready for sale.
 - D resistant to diseases.
- 33 The soldiers demolished some illegal structures built near the railway line. To **demolish** is to ...
- A modernise.
 - B improve.
 - C destroy.
 - D build.
- 34 John was not certain whether Susan was telling the truth. This sentence means ...
- A John doubted if Susan was telling the truth.
 - B John was sure that Susan was telling the truth.
 - C Susan was lying.
 - D Susan was telling the truth.
- 35 If it had not been for our goalkeeper's carelessness, we would have won the match. This sentence means ...
- A the goalkeeper helped us.
 - B the goalkeeper left the match.
 - C we lost the match.
 - D we won the match.
- 36 Scientists and engineers invent machines to make our work easier. To **invent** is to ...
- A change parts of the machines.
 - B design something new.
 - C improve on something.
 - D repair old machines.
- 37 The criminals were spotted at the river. The word **spotted** means ...
- A arrested.
 - B attacked.
 - C seen.
 - D shot.

- 38 "I would rather starve than steal," said Chiyembekezo. The sentence means Chiyembekezo would prefer ...
- A both starving and stealing.
 - B neither starving nor stealing.
 - C starving to stealing.
 - D stealing to starving.

SECTION B

Part 1: Questions 39 – 45

Each question has four paragraphs. You must choose the paragraph which has the **sentences in the best order.**

Example:

- A It was a heavy rainstorm. The boat moved away in complete darkness. The water became rough and shortly, it started raining. As it got away from the land, wind started blowing.
- B The boat moved away in complete darkness. As it got away from the land, wind started blowing. The water became rough and shortly, it started raining. It was a heavy rainstorm.
- C The boat moved away in complete darkness. It was a heavy rainstorm. As it got away from the land, wind started blowing. The water became rough and shortly, it started raining.
- D The boat moved away in complete darkness. The water became rough and shortly, it started raining. It was a heavy rainstorm. As it got away from the land, wind started blowing.

The best answer is **B** because the paragraph has all the sentences in the correct order.

Now do questions 39 – 45.

- 39 **A** Immediately, she ran out of the house to buy some biscuits. Yesterday, mother told Chikumbi to clean the house. Unfortunately, she lost the money on her way to the shop. While she was cleaning, she found a one kwacha coin under the table. This made her unhappy.
- B** While she was cleaning, she found a one kwacha coin under the table. Unfortunately, she lost the money on her way to the shop. This made her unhappy. Immediately, she ran out of the house to buy some biscuits. Yesterday, mother told Chikumbi to clean the house.
- C** Yesterday, mother told Chikumbi to clean the house. Unfortunately, she lost the money on her way to the shop. This made her unhappy. Immediately, she ran out of the house to buy some biscuits. While she was cleaning, she found a one kwacha coin under the table.
- D** Yesterday, mother told Chikumbi to clean the house. While she was cleaning, she found a one kwacha coin under the table. Immediately, she ran out of the house to buy some biscuits. Unfortunately, she lost the money on her way to the shop. This made her unhappy.
- 40 **A** Of the six, four are females while two are males. Taizya is the last born in a family of six. As for the females, only one is married while the other one is still at school. All the males are married and are in employment.
- B** Taizya is the last born in a family of six. All the males are married and are in employment. Of the six, four are females while two are males. As for the females, only one is married while the other one is still at school.
- C** Taizya is the last born in a family of six. All the males are married and are in employment. As for the females, only one is married while the other one is still at school. Of the six, four are females while two are males.
- D** Taizya is the last born in a family of six. Of the six, four are females while two are males. All the males are married and are in employment. As for the females, only one is married while the other one is still at school.
- 41 **A** One day, Shuko was very hungry. He went to the kitchen, cooked rice and ate. He sat outside waiting for his mother to come and cook for him. He then realised he could cook rice.
- B** One day, Shuko was very hungry. He sat outside waiting for his mother to come and cook for him. He went to the kitchen, cooked rice and ate. He then realised he could cook rice.

- C** One day, Shuko was very hungry. He sat outside waiting for his mother to come and cook for him. He then realised he could cook rice. He went to the kitchen, cooked rice and ate.
- D** He sat outside waiting for his mother to come and cook for him. One day, Shuko was very hungry. He went to the kitchen, cooked rice and ate. He then realised he could cook rice.
- 42 A** At times, they are forced to sell their property such as land cheaply to rich people. Poor people are easily exploited. This denies them the right to own property. They are usually made to do jobs which endanger their health.
- B** At times, they are forced to sell their property such as land cheaply to rich people. They are usually made to do jobs which endanger their health. This denies them the right to own property. Poor people are easily exploited.
- C** Poor people are easily exploited. They are usually made to do jobs which endanger their health. At times, they are forced to sell their property such as land cheaply to rich people. This denies them the right to own property.
- D** Poor people are easily exploited. This denies them the right to own property. At times, they are forced to sell their property such as land cheaply to rich people. They are usually made to do jobs which endanger their health.
- 43 A** Agriculture is one of the oldest occupations on earth. It is also a source of income for the majority of people. It is concerned with growing of crops and rearing of livestock. It provides food and raw materials for many industries.
- B** Agriculture is one of the oldest occupations on earth. It is concerned with growing of crops and rearing of livestock. It provides food and raw materials for many industries. It is also a source of income for the majority of people.
- C** It is concerned with growing of crops and rearing of livestock. It provides food and raw materials for many industries. It is also a source of income for the majority of people. Agriculture is one of the oldest occupations on earth.
- D** It provides food and raw materials for many industries. Agriculture is one of the oldest occupations on earth. It is also a source of income for the majority of people. It is concerned with growing of crops and rearing of livestock.

- 44 **A** As the canoe moved quickly over the water, we could hear the warriors singing their war-song. The paddlers put their paddles in the water and the great war canoe began to move towards us. Between the paddlers sat the warriors, each one holding a spear. We could see the points of spears shining as they were shaken by the approaching war boys.
- B** Between the paddlers sat the warriors, each one holding a spear. The paddlers put their paddles in the water and the great war canoe began to move towards us. As the canoe moved quickly over the water, we could hear the warriors singing their war-song. We could see the points of spears shining as they were shaken by the approaching war boys.
- C** The paddlers put their paddles in the water and the great war canoe began to move towards us. Between the paddlers sat the warriors, each one holding a spear. As the canoe moved quickly over the water, we could hear the warriors singing their war-song. We could see the points of spears shining as they were shaken by the approaching war boys.
- D** The paddlers put their paddles in the water and the great war canoe began to move towards us. We could see the points of spears shining as they were shaken by the approaching war boys. Between the paddlers sat the warriors, each holding a spear. As the canoe moved quickly over the water, we could hear the warriors singing their war-song.
- 45 **A** Football is played all over the world. The organisation that runs it is the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and it is based in Switzerland. The Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) has members in all ten provinces of Zambia. In Zambia, football is run by the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ).
- B** Football is played all over the world. The organisation that runs it is the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and it is based in Switzerland. In Zambia, football is run by the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ). The Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) has members in all the ten provinces of Zambia.
- C** In Zambia, football is run by the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ). The Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) has members in all the ten provinces of Zambia. Football is played all over the world. The organisation that runs it is the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and it is based in Switzerland.
- D** In Zambia, football is run by the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ). Football is played all over the world. The organisation that runs it is the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and it is based in Switzerland. The Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) has members in all the ten provinces of Zambia.

Part 2: (Questions 46 – 60)**Reading Comprehension**

This part has **three texts** with questions on each. Read each text carefully and then look at the questions which follow. For each question, four possible answers are given. By reading carefully, you will be able to choose which of the four is the **best** answer to the question.

Text 1

Once upon a time, the grandson of a headman developed a bad cough. The people saw that the boy's life was in danger and so, they called in a witchdoctor to cure him. He went into the parents' hut and carried the boy outside to where he had left the tail of a hyena and a small calabash. After laying the boy down on the ground, the witchdoctor chewed some roots and then began to dance round the child, spitting on his face and chest. Suddenly, he sat down beside him and whispered, "A witch" repeating it many times.

Then he picked the boy up, gave him back to the mother and took the small calabash balancing it in his left hand. He told the boy's parents that the calabash could speak and that it would tell him the cause of the illness. He shook it in his right hand and began to sing. As he sang, the people who watched him could see his left hand quivering. Then he asked the calabash to speak. To the astonishment of the onlookers, it did! The people did not understand what it said but they heard a sound apparently coming from the calabash. It was like the sound which is made by a young baby when it is learning to speak but cannot pronounce its words properly.

When the witchdoctor was satisfied that all the people believed him, he said, "What the calabash has told me is this, 'I am your ancestor, Kaulu. I am angry with you because you did not give me some beer. Give me some or I shall kill the boy. Yes, I want some beer'."

The people believed this, quickly produced the necessary beer and offered it on the grave of Kaulu. Almost immediately, the boy recovered and the people thought that this was because of their offering.

Now do questions 46 – 50.

46 According to the text, why was ancestor Kaulu angry with the villagers?

They ...

- A** bewitched the boy.
- B** did not give him some beer.
- C** did not understand what the calabash said.
- D** offered him some beer.

- 47 Which of the following was not done by the witchdoctor in the process of helping the boy?
- A Carrying him outside.
 - B Dancing around him.
 - C Giving him medicine.
 - D Spitting on his face.
- 48 According to the text, it can be concluded that the boy was sick because ...
- A he was bewitched.
 - B the ancestor was angry.
 - C the witchdoctor danced around him.
 - D they did not give him beer.
- 49 According to the text, the word **quivering** means ...
- A dancing fast.
 - B dancing slowly.
 - C shaking slightly.
 - D shaking very fast.
- 50 Traditionally, calabashes are often used as ...
- A containers.
 - B drums.
 - C plates.
 - D pots.

Text 2

Crocodiles are large semiaquatic reptiles that live throughout the tropics in Africa, Asia, the Americas and Australia. The crocodile has the most powerful bite ever measured for animals that are now living. For example, the saltwater crocodile found near Australia can bite nearly three times as hard as a lion or a tiger. Yet, the crocodile's jaw is also incredibly sensitive to touch even more sensitive than the human fingertip.

The crocodile's jaw is covered with thousands of sense organs. Each of the nerve endings comes out of a hole in the skull. This arrangement protects the nerve fibres in the jaw while providing sensitivity that in some spots is greater than instruments could measure. As a result, the crocodile can distinguish between food and debris in its mouth. That is also how a mother crocodile can carry her hatchlings in her mouth without accidentally crushing them. The crocodile's jaw is a surprising combination of power and sensitivity.

Now do questions 51 – 55.

51 According to the passage, the word **hatchlings** means young animals that have recently emerged from the ...

- A womb.
- B water.
- C leaves.
- D eggs.

52 The crocodile's jaw has a high sense of ...

- A touch.
- B taste.
- C smell.
- D sight.

53 To which group of animals does the crocodile belong?

- A Amphibians
- B Fish
- C Mammals
- D Reptiles

54 The text is about the crocodile's ...

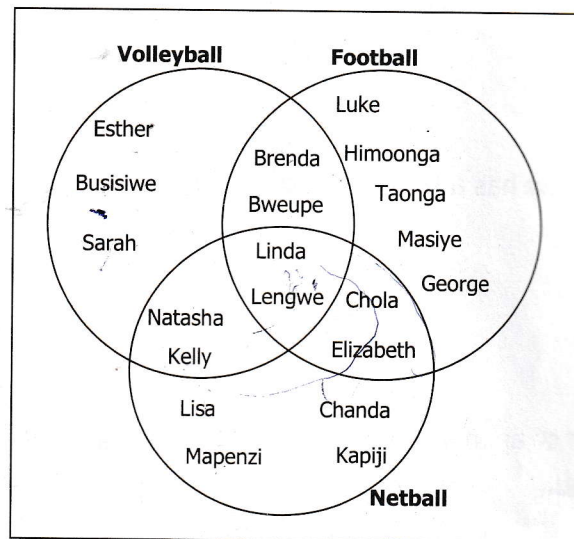
- A jaw.
- B mouth.
- C power.
- D teeth.

55 The prefix **semi** in the word 'semiaquatic' means ...

- A whole.
- B two.
- C one.
- D half.

Text 3

The diagram below shows members of a Grade 5 class and the games they play for extra-curricular activities. Study it carefully and then answer the questions that follow it.



Now do questions 56 – 60.

- 56** How many members are in this class?
- A** Eight
 - B** Nineteen
 - C** Twelve
 - D** Twenty
- 57** Which game is the most played by the members of this class?
- A** Basketball
 - B** Football
 - C** Netball
 - D** Volleyball
- 58** Which members of this class play all the three games?
- A** Brenda and Bweupe
 - B** Chola and Elizabeth
 - C** Linda and Lengwe
 - D** Natasha and Kelly

- 59 What is the difference between members who play netball only and those who play volleyball only?
- A Two
 - B One
 - C Nine
 - D Eleven
- 60 Which members play volleyball as well as netball for extra-curricular activities?
- A Chola, Elizabeth, Linda, Lengwe, Natasha and Kelly.
 - B Esther, Busisiwe, Sarah, Natasha, Kelly, Linda and Lengwe.
 - C Linda, Lengwe, Natasha and Kelly.
 - D Natasha, Kelly, Lisa, Mapenzi, Chanda and Kapiji.

END OF EXAMINATION.

PLEASE CHECK ALL YOUR WORK CAREFULLY.