



GRADE 10

ENGLISH

School Level Examination (SLE) 2025

SUBJECT CODE

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Total Questions: 50

Total Marks: 50

Time: 1 Hour

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO

- Carefully fill in your **Name, Class, Roll Number**, and other required details on the **OMR Answer Sheet**.
- Use **only an HB pencil** to fill the OMR Answer Sheet.
- All questions are **compulsory** and carry **one mark** each.
- Only **OMR Answer Sheets** will be evaluated.
- There is **no negative marking** for incorrect answers.
- You may use the **last page** of the question paper for **rough work**.
- **Digital devices** like calculators, smart watches, or mobile phones are **not allowed**.
- After the exam, **submit** both the **OMR Answer Sheet** and the **Question Paper** to the invigilator.

This question paper contains a total of 50 questions, divided into two sections: A and B.

Section A (Skills Based)

1. Choose the antonym of the word in bold in the sentence from the options.
Plastic pollution is so **ubiquitous** that even remote beaches are littered with waste.
(A) ordinary (B) seldom (C) sporadically (D) both (B) and (C)
2. Choose the correct meaning of the idiom from the options.
the squeaky wheel gets the grease
(A) greasing wheels helps avoid accidents
(B) attention is paid to noticeable problems
(C) noise indicates problems in machines
(D) life is uncertain and one must be ready for the problems
3. Fill in the blank with the correct option.
The actor's _____ speech at the award ceremony brought tears to many eyes.
(A) insipid (B) garish (C) poignant (D) stoic
4. Fill in the blank with the correct relative pronoun.
The soldiers _____ everyone thought to be dead, brought glory to the nation in a secret mission.
(A) who (B) whom (C) whose (D) which
5. Fill in the blank with the correct option: There is very _____ hope of her recovery.
(A) little (B) few (C) some (D) small
6. Read the sentence and choose the part that contains an error. If the sentence is correct, select the option 'no error'.
The more elder (i)/ students were given (ii)/ preference in the (iii)/ leadership workshop. (iv)
(A) (ii) (B) (iii) (C) (i) (D) no error
7. Replace the phrase in bold with the correct option to make the sentence grammatically correct. If the sentence is correct, select the option 'no error'.
Farhan **insisted to go** with his mother for grocery shopping.
(A) insisted on going (B) insisted to be (C) insisted for going (D) no error
8. Replace the highlighted word with the most suitable option for making the sentence grammatically coherent.
The teacher looked **angry** at the class.
(A) anger (B) angrily (C) angered (D) angry with
9. Replace the highlighted word with the most suitable option for making the sentence grammatically coherent.
The headmaster asked the students to **look into** their books for the answer.
(A) refer with (B) look for (C) refer to (D) look at

10. Read the sentence and choose the part that contains an error. If the sentence is correct, select the option 'no error'. He is both intelligent (i)/ or hardworking (ii)/ which makes him successful. (iii)
 (A) (i) (B) (iii) (C) (ii) (D) no error
11. Identify the tense of the verb in the sentence.
 By the time we reached the theatre, the movie **had already started**.
 (A) past continuous (B) simple past (C) past perfect (D) simple present
12. Complete the sentence keeping in mind the rules of subject-verb agreement.
 People have always loved to criticise change. It is when the results show, that they _____.
 (A) is convinced of its effectiveness (B) has be convinced of its effectiveness
 (C) were convinced of its effectiveness (D) will convinced of its effectiveness
13. Fill in the blank with the most suitable option by following the directions in the bracket.
 The guests _____ arrive any moment; please be ready. (Strong possibility/ future expectation)
 (A) can (B) shall (C) might (D) could
14. Select the option that creates grammatically correct passive voice construction for the sentence.
 The stadium _____ with fans during the final match.
 (A) has filled (B) was being filled (C) was filling (D) had being filled
15. Choose the most appropriate reporting verb to complete the sentence.
 She _____ that she had never seen anything like it before.
 (A) suggested (B) ordered (C) exclaimed (D) explained
16. Choose the option that arranges the phrases into a coherent sentence.
 (i) for a new planet / (ii) scientists are exploring / (iii) that could support life / (iv) beyond our solar system /
 (v) with similar atmospheric conditions
 (A) ii-i-iii-v-iv (B) ii-i-iii-iv-v (C) ii-i-iv-iii-v (D) i-ii-iii-iv-v
17. Choose the option with the most appropriate punctuation for the sentence.
 My father who is a retired army officer now works as a school administrator.
 (A) My father who is a retired army officer, now works as a school administrator.
 (B) My father, who is a retired army officer, now works as a school administrator.
 (C) My father, who is a retired army officer now, works as a school administrator.
 (D) My father who is a retired army officer now, works as a school administrator.
18. Identify the case of the noun in bold in the sentence: Children, it's time to line up for lunch!
 (A) vocative case (B) dative case (C) accusative case (D) none of these
19. Read the sentence and choose the part that contains an error.
 He didn't make (i)/ any efforts (ii)/ to resolve (iii)/ the issue at hand. (iv)
 (A) (iii) (B) (i) (C) (iv) (D) (ii)
20. If the adjectives 'beautiful' and 'old' are used in the same sentence, which adjective would generally be used first?
 (A) 'Old' should be used before 'beautiful'. (B) 'Beautiful' should be used before 'old'.
 (C) Both can be used in any order. (D) 'Beautiful' is not an adjective.

21. Identify the sentence that demonstrates incorrect subject-verb agreement.
- (A) Neither of the girls is responsible.
 - (B) The team are practising hard for the upcoming tournament.
 - (C) Each student has turned in their answer sheets.
 - (D) The dogs bark loudly when it rains.
22. Identify the sentence that is not grammatically coherent.
- (A) He almost drove the car too fast.
 - (B) She nearly always arrives late.
 - (C) They barely managed to complete the project on time.
 - (D) He completely finished the assignment fast.
23. Fill in the blank with the most suitable option.
- The new policy differs significantly _____ the previous one in terms of execution.
- (A) by (B) to (C) from (D) with
24. Choose the best version of the sentence from the options.
- (A) I wanted to join the photography club, although I wasn't sure whether I could manage the extra workload, or if my parents would agree.
 - (B) I wanted to join the photography club, but I wasn't sure whether I could manage the extra workload and my parents agree.
 - (C) I wanted to join the photography club, so I wasn't sure whether I could manage the extra workload and convince my parents too.
 - (D) I wanted to join the photography club although I wasn't sure, so I could convince my parents.
25. Replace the words in bold by choosing the most appropriate idiom.
- After losing the bet on a football trivia question, he was forced to **drink orange juice**.
- (A) eat humble pie (B) cook his ego (C) fry his words (D) swallow red sauce
26. Identify the sentence in which the word '**perilous**' has been correctly used.
- (A) The trek through the jungle was perilous due to wild animals and rough terrain.
 - (B) He bought a perilous pair of shoes for his college farewell.
 - (C) Radha felt perilous after seeing the exam results.
 - (D) Their relationship grew more perilous and romantic over time.
27. Choose the option that represents the synonym of the highlighted word.
- Despite the chaos around him, Sameer remained **unflappable**, refusing to show any emotion.
- (A) composed (B) indifferent (C) passive (D) alert
28. Which of these sentences uses a transitive verb correctly?
- (A) The baby cried the whole night.
 - (B) She kicked the football really hard.
 - (C) They played till after dark.
 - (D) We arrived late due to traffic.
29. Which of these statements is true?
- (A) The past participle form is used with auxiliary verbs to form perfect tenses.
 - (B) Transitive verbs do not take objects.
 - (C) Linking verbs connect the subject to additional information.
 - (D) both (A) and (C)

30. Replace the highlighted word with the correct option to make the sentence grammatically coherent. Despite the rain, the athletes trained **rigorous**, showing great determination.
(A) rigor (B) rigorism (C) rigorously (D) rigatoni
31. Choose the sentence that maintains tense consistency throughout.
(A) She was walking down the street when she sees a familiar face.
(B) She had been walking down the street when she saw a familiar face.
(C) She walks down the street and saw a familiar face.
(D) She was walking down the street and sees a familiar face.
32. Select the correct reasoning regarding the subject-verb agreement for the sentence. Each of the players was given a medal.
(A) The verb 'was' is incorrect, since 'players' is plural.
(B) 'Each' is considered plural, so the verb should be 'were'.
(C) The verb agrees with 'players', which is the nearest noun.
(D) 'Each' is singular, so the singular verb 'was' is correctly used.
33. Choose the correct replacement for the phrasal verb from the options, keeping the sentence contextually accurate: She finally **came around** and accepted the proposal after much persuasion.
(A) came off (B) came through (C) came over (D) gave in
34. Complete the sentence with the most appropriate option.
The students were _____ writing the exam even _____ the final bell rang.
(A) busy, before (B) still, after (C) not, though (D) none of these
35. Which of these sentences expresses a possibility?
(A) She will visit us next week. (B) She may visit us next week.
(C) She must visit us next week. (D) She shall visit us next week.
36. Identify the sentence where the placement of the adverb changes the intended meaning or causes ambiguity.
(A) She has carefully and consistently completed all her assignments before the deadline every single time this semester.
(B) She has completed all her assignments carefully and consistently before the deadline every single time this semester.
(C) She has completed all her assignments before the deadline carefully and consistently every single time this semester.
(D) All the options convey the exact same meaning.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Reena always felt a little out of place in her rather small town. While most of her friends dreamt of mainstream jobs and early marriage, she found herself sketching unique dress designs on the back of her notebook and watching fashion shows late into the night. Her mother often reminded her, 'Designing clothes won't pay the bills. Be practical.' But Reena's heart wasn't wired for practicality.

One afternoon, while scrolling through an app on her phone, she came across an advertisement that said, 'Nationwide search for flamboyant designers who shoot for the stars'. The winner was to get a chance to learn the tricks of the trade and even work at a prestigious design firm in Mumbai. Her heartbeat jumped

up a bit in excitement. She had never participated in anything nearly this significant. Self-doubt crept in. 'What if all of this isn't meant for me? What if all the other participants and judges mock my submission?' But then, a more sensible voice inside her whispered, 'What if you blow everyone away with your designs?' After some thought, the brave decision was made. Reena wanted to showcase her skills to the rest of the nation. Using a few old sarees her grandmother had given her, she stitched something that oozed originality. It wasn't the perfect dress—the right sleeve hung a little longer, and the finish wasn't as neat as she would've liked. But it reflected honesty, after all, it was her creation.

The day she submitted her entry, all the Gods she could think of were addressed in her prayers. A week passed. Then another. Finally, an email notification popped up, 'Congratulations! You've been shortlisted for the finals in Mumbai!' Frozen in disbelief for a moment, Reena almost dropped her phone.

The days leading up to the finals saw nervousness and excitement take the front seats. Though she didn't get the trophy, one of the judges, an established designer, offered to mentor her.

Today, Reena stays in Mumbai, working on her own fashion line. Her days are tiring, sometimes frustrating, but deeply fulfilling. She still thinks of her small town every now and then—the narrow lanes where she used to ride on her bicycle, her friends and her sceptical but loving mother who now proudly tells everyone, 'My Reena designs clothes for famous movie stars!'

She often says, 'Taking that chance didn't just change the course of my life—it helped me believe I could pave one however I liked it.'

37. What does Reena's decision to use her grandmother's old sarees to create her dress most clearly suggest about her?
- (A) She wanted to save money on materials and hence used the sarees.
 - (B) She lacked access to professional tools and experience.
 - (C) She was emotionally connected to her roots and wanted the sarees to be a part of her submission.
 - (D) She preferred traditional fashion over modern trends.
38. Which of these opinions about the judge who mentored Reena is most supported by the passage?
- (A) The judge recognised potential beyond technical perfection
 - (B) The judge wanted someone to work under them.
 - (C) The judge felt guilty that she could not win the trophy.
 - (D) The judge was required to pick a local contestant.

Section B (Competency Based)

Direction: Questions 39-50 have four options A, B, C and D out of which TWO are correct. Pick out the correct options from these questions.

39. Choose the correct options to fill in the blanks.
There _____ an issue with the electricity supply in the city.
(A) is (B) are (C) has been (D) were
40. The guest speaker addressed _____ students in the hall, but only _____ of them seemed truly attentive.
(A) the, a few (B) all, some (C) many, each (D) several, little

41. Choose the options that represent the correct order for these sentences to form a coherent paragraph.
- (i) She had trained for months, often skipping meals and sleep.
 - (ii) The crowd held its breath as she began her performance.
 - (iii) All her sacrifices led to this moment.
 - (iv) The music started and the spotlight found her.
- (A) (i)-(iii)-(iv)-(ii) (B) (i)-(ii)-(iv)-(iii) (C) (iii)-(i)-(ii)-(iv) (D) (i)-(iv)-(ii)-(iii)
42. Select the correct one word-substitutions for 'a person who fears or dislikes strangers or foreigners'.
- (A) xenophile (B) racist (C) xenophobe (D) philanthropist
43. Choose the options that represent the sentence in indirect speech.
- Ramesh said, 'I will not attend the meeting today, as it is Sunday.'
- (A) Ramesh said that he would not attend the meeting that day as it was Sunday.
 - (B) Ramesh said that he will not attend the meeting that day because it was Sunday.
 - (C) Ramesh said that he would not attend the meeting that day, since it was Sunday.
 - (D) Ramesh said that he would not attend the meeting today as it is Sunday.
44. She bought a pair of _____ boots for the trek.
- (A) old, brown (B) leather, old (C) beautiful, ankle (D) sturdy, leather
45. Select the options that correctly represent the sentence in passive voice.
- Close the window at once.
- (A) Let the window be closed at once. (B) The window must be closed.
 - (C) You should close the window at once. (D) The window should be closed by you immediately.
46. Complete the sentence using the correct compound noun and relative pronoun from the options.
- A _____ is an underwater vehicle _____ explores deep-sea ecosystems.
- (A) ship (B) submarine (C) where (D) which
47. Complete the sentence with suitable options.
- After _____ the email, Ruhana _____ that the meeting had been rescheduled.
- (A) realises (B) read (C) reading (D) realised
48. The sentence is divided into four parts. Identify the parts with mistakes.
- Rekha has been (i)/ out from town (ii)/ for work (iii)/ with two months. (iv)
- (A) (ii) (B) (i) (C) (iii) (D) (iv)
49. Choose the options in which the idiom is correctly used.
- (A) She spilled the beans about the surprise birthday party.
 - (B) He bent over backwards to finish the project on time.
 - (C) He put all his eggs in one basket and ended up baking an omelette.
 - (D) They cut corners to make the presentation longer.
50. Choose the most suitable options that represent antonyms of the highlighted word in the sentence.
- Despite the **reluctant** start, Sheetal soon gained confidence and performed well.
- (A) eager (B) enthusiastic (C) determined (D) hesitant



SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK