



GRADE 9

ENGLISH

School Level Examination (SLE) 2025

SUBJECT CODE

4	0	1
---	---	---

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. Replace the highlighted word with its synonym.
The manager's **callous** attitude towards the injured worker was condemned by the entire team.
(A) sensitive (B) inhumane (C) cautious (D) none of these
2. Pick the best way to rephrase the highlighted part in the sentence from the options.
The new boy at school was **a fish beyond water**.
(A) a fish without fins (B) a fish in a tub
(C) a fish out of water (D) a fish in a pond
3. Choose the best option to replace the highlighted words in the sentence.
The **sceneries of Kashmir are** soothing to the eye.
(A) scenery of Kashmir is (B) sceneries of Kashmir is
(C) scenery of Kashmir are (D) none of these
4. Fill in the blank by choosing the correct option.
My brother and I were looking for a tutor, and we finally found one who suits _____.
(A) ourselves (B) us (C) our (D) we
5. Choose the determiner in the sentence from the options: She has many ideas for the school picnic.
(A) many (B) school picnic (C) has (D) for
6. Choose the adjective(s) in the sentence from the options.
The curious cat cautiously approached the small, sleeping bird on the windowsill.
(A) curious, cautiously, small, sleeping (B) approached, windowsill
(C) curious, small, sleeping (D) cat, small, sleeping
7. Choose the option that can be substituted with the description.
To make something less severe or intense
(A) exacerbate (B) alleviate (C) aggravate (D) inflame
8. Identify the object of the verb in the sentence: We took the car to every corner of the country.
(A) the car (B) country (C) every corner (D) both (A) and (B)
9. Identify the part with an error in the sentence.
She performed (i) / exceptionally well (ii) / in the competition (iii) / despite her illness (iv).
(A) (iv) (B) (i) (C) (iii) (D) (ii)
10. Complete the sentence by choosing the most suitable option.
The government recently announced new policies aimed at reducing pollution, _____ various industries are expected to follow stricter guidelines to ensure a cleaner environment.
(A) while amidst that (B) not only that (C) although also (D) which means that

11. Which type of verb is the word in bold? Sneha **cried** all night after watching a sad movie.
(A) transitive (B) intransitive (C) both (D) neither of the two
12. Complete the sentence by choosing the correct option.
I _____ him for years before he finally responded to my letters.
(A) had contacted (B) was contacting (C) contacted (D) had been contacting
13. Select the option with the incorrect sentence.
(A) A group of students is waiting outside the coach's cabin.
(B) A group of students are waiting outside the coach's cabin.
(C) The students are waiting outside the coach's cabin.
(D) There is no incorrect sentence.
14. Identify the incorrect statement.
(A) Modals can be used in all the tenses.
(B) Modals don't have infinitive, past participle or present participle forms.
(C) Modals don't change with a change in the number of the subject.
(D) Modals are always followed by the main verb.
15. Choose the option that shows the correct way of expressing the sentence in the passive voice.
The old man walked slowly along the street under the dim streetlights.
(A) Walking was done slowly by the old man along the streets under the dim streetlights.
(B) Along the street under the dim streetlights, the old man walked slowly.
(C) Walked slowly did the old man along the street under the dim streetlights.
(D) Cannot be changed into passive voice.
16. Select the most appropriate option to substitute the highlighted words in the sentence. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'no substitution required'.
Mahima said that she **cannot complete** the project by Monday.
(A) will not complete (B) could not complete
(C) can't even complete (D) no substitution required
17. The professor's explanation was so _____ that even the most attentive students found it hard to follow.
(A) articulated (B) coherent (C) lucid (D) convoluted
18. Pick the option that forms a meaningful sentence from the jumbled words/group of words.
the ruins / of the castle / stood / that once echoed / on the cliff / with voices of laughter
(A) On the cliff stood the ruins of castle that once echoed with voices of laughter.
(B) Stood on the cliff the ruins of the castle that once echoed with voices of laughter.
(C) On the cliff with voices of laughter of castle stood the once echoed ruins.
(D) On the cliff stood the ruins of the castle that once echoed with voices of laughter.
19. Fill in the blank by choosing the appropriate question tag.
Let's meet near the cafeteria, _____?
(A) can we (B) won't we (C) shall we (D) should we

20. Which type of adjective is the word in bold?
Several people attended the art exhibition organised by the school authorities.
 (A) demonstrative (B) compound (C) indefinite (D) superlative
21. How many verbs are there in the sentence? After he had lunch, Ritesh walked to the bookstore and spent some time there, eventually buying a new novel.
 (A) 3 (B) 5 (C) 4 (D) 2
22. Identify the sentence with correct punctuation.
 (A) 'Honestly,' she said, 'I'm not sure what went wrong during the match.'
 (B) 'Honestly,' she said, 'I'm not sure what went wrong during the match.'
 (C) 'Honestly,' she said. 'I'm not sure what went wrong during the match.'
 (D) 'Honestly,' she said. 'I'm not sure what went wrong during the match.'
23. Choose the most suitable reporting verb to complete the sentence.
 The coach _____ the team that they needed to stay focused and not get overconfident.
 (A) exclaimed (B) recalled (C) praised (D) reminded
24. Complete the sentence by choosing the correct option.
 The ancient manuscripts _____ carefully by the researchers.
 (A) are examined (B) is examined (C) were examining (D) are being examined
25. In the following sentence, substitute the word in bold by choosing the most suitable preposition from the options. If there is no need to substitute it, select 'no substitution required'.
 The panel's decision was not acceptable **with** the majority of the members.
 (A) to (B) by (C) for (D) no substitution required
26. Select the most suitable option to complete the sentence.
 After years of disappointment, he became a _____, always doubting the goodness of others.
 (A) idealist (B) optimist (C) realist (D) cynic
27. Choose the sentence that avoids ambiguity in pronoun usage and improves coherence.
 (A) When Rishabh met Sahil, he seemed upset.
 (B) Sahil seemed upset when Rishabh met him.
 (C) Rishabh, when he met Sahil, he seemed upset.
 (D) He seemed upset when he met Rishabh.
28. Which of these sentences uses a collective noun most appropriately?
 (A) A crowd of bees flew past the trees. (B) A troupe of dancers performed on the stage.
 (C) A swarm of students was absent. (D) A herd of singers arrived late for practice.
29. Choose the part which is incorrect in the indirect speech of the sentence.
 She said, 'I may visit the temple tomorrow.'
 She said that she might visit the temple tomorrow.
 (A) She said that she (B) might visit
 (C) the temple tomorrow (D) no error

30. Identify the sentence that uses the determiner incorrectly.
- (A) There is little hope of her recovery.
 - (B) She gave me some interesting books to read.
 - (C) We saw a few monkeys on that road.
 - (D) I don't have many money in my bank account.
31. Fill in the blank with the correct option. Take a hint from the word in brackets.
We _____ go hiking tomorrow if the weather improves. (possibility)
- (A) should
 - (B) will
 - (C) might
 - (D) must
32. Arrange the lines to form a coherent paragraph.
- (i) The children grabbed their raincoats and got going.
 - (ii) As the sky turned dark, thunder echoed in the distance.
 - (iii) Drops of rain started to pitter-patter.
 - (iv) They had noticed the clouds looming about the sky since morning.
- (A) (iv), (ii), (iii), (i) (B) (iv), (iii), (ii), (i) (C) (ii), (iv), (iii), (i) (D) (ii), (iii), (iv), (i)
33. Fill in the blank using the correct option: Shreya wanted to go trekking, given the pleasant weather, but neither her family nor friends _____ of the idea.
- (A) was supportive
 - (B) were supportive
 - (C) wasn't supportive
 - (D) weren't supportive
34. Read the sentence and choose the part that contains a grammatical error.
Her voice was (i)/ softer and pleasant(ii)/ during the rehearsal, (iii)/ but she seemed nervous on stage.
- (A) (i)
 - (B) (iii)
 - (C) (ii)
 - (D) (iv)
35. Which of these words is not an antonym of **admonish**?
- (A) sanction
 - (B) endorse
 - (C) approve
 - (D) chide
36. Which of these sentences uses the idiom 'bite the bullet' in the most appropriate way?
- (A) Rohan bit the bullet and postponed his tooth surgery.
 - (B) Ridhima bit the bullet and finally learnt how to swim.
 - (C) The students bit the bullet and shouted at the teacher.
 - (D) Gagan bit the bullet and escaped the situation.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

In today's world, convenience is the new currency. With a few taps on a smartphone, groceries arrive at our door and cabs show up in minutes. Even relationships can start with a swipe. Technology has simplified tasks that once took effort. But we must ask—what are we giving up for this ease? Take shopping, for instance. It once meant walking to markets, comparing products, chatting with vendors, and even bargaining. It was a social experience. Now, we scroll, click, and wait. While online shopping saves time, it also weakens our ties to local communities and vendors.

Algorithms also shape what we see, hear, and read. They track and analyse our preferences to feed us more of the same, creating digital bubbles. Curiosity is replaced by comfort, and we are rarely exposed to unfamiliar ideas—resulting in intellectual stagnation.

Communication has also become shallow. Texts and emojis have replaced meaningful conversations and real expressions. Though we are always “connected,” true connections are fading.

This isn’t to say that technology is harmful. It has opened up education, improved healthcare, and connected the world like never before. But maybe it’s time to reflect: In choosing ease, are we also choosing isolation, impatience, or indifference? Are we trading the richness of real experience for speed and efficiency?

Convenience is a gift—but it must be used mindfully. Otherwise, we risk becoming passive receivers, not active participants, in our lives.

37. Which of these options best states a real-life consequence of relying heavily on convenience as described in the passage?
- (A) Spending more time at home improves the relationship with the family.
 - (B) Using technology saves time, money and energy.
 - (C) People may become disconnected from the local communities.
 - (D) Online shopping gives you more options to choose from.
38. Which statement best summarises what the passage conveys about technology?
- (A) It’s harmful and damaging to society in its entirety.
 - (B) It has positive aspects but requires mindful use.
 - (C) It is responsible for the loss of all human connection.
 - (D) It should be used only by younger generations.

Section B (Competency Based)

Directions: 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. Either the manager or the employees _____ responsible for the delay in production.
- (A) is (B) are (C) was (D) were
40. Choose the conjunctions in the sentence.
- Although it was raining, we decided to go out and enjoy the party.
- (A) Although (B) decided (C) to (D) and
41. Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate options.
- He has _____ books, but he reads _____ magazines.
- (A) many, few (B) some, few (C) little, much (D) many, less
42. Choose the sentences that have been correctly punctuated.
- (A) He wanted to travel to Asia, but didn’t have any money.
 - (B) He wanted to travel to Asia but didn’t, have any money.
 - (C) He wanted to travel to Asia, but he didn’t have any money.
 - (D) He wanted to travel to Asia but, he didn’t have any money.
43. Identify the sentences with correct question tags.
- (A) She sings beautifully, doesn’t she?
 - (B) They didn’t go there, didn’t they?
 - (C) He can’t drive, can’t he?
 - (D) We are late, aren’t we?

- Last week, our school organised an inter-house science exhibition. Students from all grades participated enthusiastically. Awards were given to the best projects by the principal. The models displayed by the students were appreciated by the judges. Everyone enjoyed the event and hoped it would be conducted again next year.

- Aryan loves to talk. He can carry on a conversation for hours without letting the other person speak a word and is sometimes scolded for such behaviour. Even during serious discussions, he often interrupts conversations just to share his own stories, regardless of whether they are relevant.

- Madhav was warned about the project's risks, but he decided to throw caution to the wind and proceed.

- If she _____ harder, she _____ the exam.

- He asked me, 'Do you like playing football?'

- (A) ambiguous (B) unequivocal (C) clear (D) esoteric

- (A) Neither the teacher nor the students was ready for the heavy rain.
(B) Each of the players is practising hard for the upcoming tournament.
(C) The team of doctors have decided to keep the patient in the hospital.
(D) Neither the dogs nor the cat is allowed inside the house.



SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK