

Instructions for the Language Arts Test

There are THREE sections in this test with a total of 50 questions.

You have 75 minutes for this test.

SECTION I has 22 questions (Questions 1–22).

SECTION II has 13 questions (Questions 23–35).

SECTION III has 15 questions (Questions 36–50).

For each part of the test, there will be a different set of instructions.
Read the instructions carefully before attempting to answer the questions.

Read each question carefully before attempting to answer it.

Answer all questions.

Work carefully but do not spend too much time on any one question.

DO NOT BEGIN UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

SECTION I – GRAMMAR SKILLS

- A. (i) Complete the sentences below by changing the noun in brackets to the plural form.

EXAMPLE: Alex found the missing keys on the floor.
(key)

Now do these:

1. The old man used a whole box of _____ to light the damp wood.
(match) (1 mark)
2. Bina got invitations to four _____ during the holidays.
(party) (1 mark)

- (ii) Write a word from the box below to name the type of noun underlined in EACH sentence. Use each word ONCE only.

abstract collective common proper

EXAMPLE: A swarm of bees attacked the hikers. (collective)

Now do these:

3. Many young doctors now work at the General Hospital. _____
(1 mark)

4. The student's face shone with happiness when the winner was announced.

(1 mark)

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B. Write a word from the box below to name the part of speech of the word underlined in EACH sentence. Use a word ONCE only.

pronoun conjunction adverb adjective

EXAMPLE: We saw many colourful birds at the zoo. (adjective)

Now do these:

5. This is the child whose project won the Science prize. _____ (1 mark)

6. Akeem is a better runner than Javon. _____ (1 mark)

7. When my mother came to collect me, I rushed out. _____ (1 mark)

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C. Write the correct form of the verb in brackets to complete EACH sentence.

EXAMPLE: On Thursday she waited for two hours before the bus finally came. (wait)

Now do these:

8. Last week Daddy _____ to the supermarket and _____ the items for the party. (go) (buy) (2 marks)

9. Kamal _____ the books yesterday when he _____. (carry) (fall) (2 marks)

10. Neither the boy nor his friend _____ chess but they both _____ it. (like) (play) (2 marks)

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D. Write a suitable preposition in EACH space to complete the sentence.

EXAMPLE: The neighbours complained about the loud noise coming from that house.

Now do these:

11. The students were inspired _____ the athlete's motivating words. (1 mark)

12. The neighbour's children were accused _____ breaking the window. (1 mark)

E. Rewrite the following sentences using the PASSIVE voice.

EXAMPLE: The vendors are not to sell bottled drinks.

Bottled drinks are not to be sold by the vendors.

Now do these:

13. A member of the club donated a piano to the school.

(2 marks)

14. The bus is taking the swimmers home after the competition.

(2 marks)

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F. Rewrite the following sentences using DIRECT speech.

EXAMPLE: The children asked their teacher if they could go outside.

"May we go outside?" the children asked their teacher.

Now do these:

15. My uncle said that he would buy me a bicycle for my birthday.

(3 marks)

16. Leah asked Kiana if she was coming to her house.

(3 marks)

G. Write the correct form of the word in brackets to complete the following sentences.

EXAMPLE: The cricket team played better this year than last year.
(good)

Now do these:

17. Some persons have a _____ reaction to bee stings than others.
(bad) (1 mark)

18. In my opinion, the rose is the _____ of all flowers.
(beautiful) (1 mark)

19. Aamin spoke _____ than all the other students in the debate.
(quickly) (1 mark)

H. Underline the error in grammar in EACH sentence and write the correction on the line provided.

EXAMPLE: She lose her money on the way to the shop. lost

Now do these:

20. The student responded correctly when the teacher ask a question.

(2 marks)

21. The plums were shared between the five friends.

(2 marks)

22. Five tables was bought at the furniture sale.

(2 marks)

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SECTION II - VOCABULARY/SPELLING/PUNCTUATION

A. For EACH of the words underlined, write a word or phrase which has a similar meaning on the line provided. Be sure to spell correctly.

EXAMPLE: Are you scared of dogs? afraid

Now do these:

23. A pleasant aroma fills the house whenever Chen cooks.

_____ (2 marks)

24. All the students and their parents sat comfortably in the spacious ballroom.

_____ (2 marks)

25. The number of prizes was adequate for all the children.

_____ (2 marks)

B. In the spaces below, write the APPROPRIATE form of the word in CAPITAL LETTERS to correctly complete EACH sentence. Remember to spell correctly.

EXAMPLE: PURE Water should be purified before it is drunk.

Now do these:

26. PERSON Salima placed all her _____ belongings in her desk. (2 marks)

27. LAZY Amiya stretched out _____ on the bed after cleaning her room. (2 marks)

C. Underline the word that is incorrectly spelt in EACH sentence and write the correct spelling on the line provided.

EXAMPLE: Every minite must be used carefully to succeed. minute

Now do these:

28. Protein makes our organs and muscles grow strong and healthy. _____
(2 marks)

29. She checked on the Internet for a suitable discription of an eagle.

(2 marks)

30. The customer walked down every isle of the supermarket looking for the item.

(2 marks)

D. Insert TWO punctuation marks in EACH sentence to correctly complete the following. YOU DO NOT NEED TO REWRITE THE SENTENCE.

EXAMPLE: Why did you take your fathers lunch
Why did you take your father's lunch?

Now do these:

31. The child shouted excitedly, "The bus is here to
take us to the zoo (2 marks)

32. As we stood by the harbour we saw sailboats
fishing boats and an oil tanker coming into port.
(2 marks)

33. She asked if he was the person who found Adams
bag (2 marks)

34. The vendor filled the lady's basket with tomatoes
sweet peppers carrots and beans. (2 marks)

35. "Grandmother, isnt there really a Tooth Fairy"
the little boy asked. (2 marks)

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SECTION III - COMPREHENSION

- A. Read the passage below carefully, then answer Questions 36-40 which are based on it. Use complete sentences, correct grammar and spelling.

Have you ever heard someone use the phrase "once in a blue moon"? People use this expression to describe something that they do not do very often. For example, someone may say that he tries to avoid eating sweets because they are unhealthy, but will eat chocolate
5 "once in a blue moon". Someone who does not usually like to go to the beach might say "I visit the beach once in a blue moon". While many people use this phrase, not everyone knows the meaning behind it.

The first thing to know is that the moon itself is never actually blue. This is just an expression. The phrase "blue moon" actually has
10 to do with the shape of the moon, not the colour.

As the moon travels around the earth, it appears to change shape. We associate certain names with certain shapes of the moon. For example, when we can see a small part of the moon, it is called a crescent moon. A crescent is a shape that looks like the tip of a
15 fingernail. When we cannot see the moon at all, it is called a new moon. When we can see the entire moon, it is called a full moon. Usually, there is only one full moon every month. Sometimes, however, there will be two full moons in one month. When this happens, the second full moon is called a "blue moon".

20 Over the next 20 years, there will only be 15 blue moons. As you can see, a blue moon is a very rare event.

Retrieved at <http://www.englishforeveryone.com/Topics/Reading%20Comprehension.htm>.

36. (a) What does the expression "once in a blue moon" (lines 1-2) describe?

(1 mark)

- (b) Give TWO examples from the passage when this expression might be used.

(i) _____

(ii) _____

(2 marks)

37. (a) According to the passage, what is the difference between a new moon and a full moon?

(2 marks)

(b) How many full moons are expected in a month?

(1 mark)

38. (a) What word in paragraph 3 suggests that the moon does not actually change its shape?

(1 mark)

(b) Describe a crescent moon.

(2 marks)

39. (a) What word in paragraph 4 suggests that a "blue moon" is very unusual?

(1 mark)

(b) Explain why a "blue moon" is not often seen.

(2 marks)

40. Suggest a suitable title for the passage.

(2 marks)

Total 14 marks

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- B. Read the poem below carefully, then answer Questions 41–45 which are based on it. Use complete sentences and correct grammar and spelling.

The Kitten

He's nothing much but fur
With two round eyes of blue,
He has a giant purr
And a midget mew.

5 He darts and pats the air,
He starts and cocks his ear,
When there is nothing there
For him to see and hear.

10 He runs around in rings
But why we cannot tell;
With sideway leaps he springs
At things invisible —

15 Then half-way through a leap
His startled eyeballs close,
And he drops off to sleep
With one paw on his nose.

Eleanor Farjeon, "A Kitten"
Poems of A Child's World,
An Anthology for the Caribbean,
Longman Caribbean, 1970, p. 31.

41. (a) What does the poet mean by the words "He's nothing much but fur" (line 1)?

(1 mark)

- (b) Write TWO words from the poem that describe the kitten's eyes.

(i) _____

(ii) _____

(2 marks)

42. (a) Write the TWO words from stanza 1 that are OPPOSITE in meaning.

(2 marks)

(b) What does the word "darts" (line 5) tell about how the kitten moves?

(1 mark)

43. Write TWO actions in stanza 2 that show that the kitten seems to hear a sound.

(2 marks)

44. Why does the kitten's actions in stanza 3 puzzle the person in the poem?

(2 marks)

45. (a) What TWO actions show that the kitten's behaviour changes in stanza 4?

(i) _____

(ii) _____

(2 marks)

(b) How does the person in the poem feel about the kitten? Give a reason for your answer:

(2 marks)

Total 14 marks

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C. Study the Table of Contents below carefully, then answer Questions 46–50 which are based on it. Use complete sentences and correct grammar and spelling.

Chapter	Table of Contents	Page
1.	Introduction	4
2.	The Aquarium	8
	• Aquarium Equipment	20
	• Contents of the Aquarium	28
3.	The Fishes	42
	• Families	
	(i) live bearing: guppies, mollies, swordfish	
	(ii) egg bearing: pearl fish, angel fish, barbs, panchax	
	• Features of Fish	
4.	Nutrition	120
5.	Diseases of Fishes	128
6.	Setting up the Home Aquarium	138
7.	Index	157

46. (a) On which page of the book does the information on aquarium equipment begin and on which page does it end?

_____ (2 marks)

(b) Which chapter of the book is MOST likely to contain pictures of snails and aquarium plants?

_____ (1 mark)

47. Name TWO types of fish families that are discussed in the book.

_____ (2 marks)

48. (a) On which pages of the book can a reader find information on food for fish?

(2 marks)

(b) In which chapter would a reader MOST likely find the sentence: "Fish sometimes develop heart and kidney failure."?

(1 mark)

49. Write ONE example of the information that a reader might find in Chapter 6.

(1 mark)

50. (a) If Akil wants to find an alphabetical list of subjects in the book, where should he look?

(1 mark)

(b) Suggest a title for a book in which this Table of Contents is MOST likely to be found.

(2 marks)

Total 12 marks

END OF TEST

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