

AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD

SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

CLASS IX EXAMINATION 2010

English Compulsory Paper I

Time allowed: 45 minutes Marks 25

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read each question carefully.
2. Answer the questions on the separate answer sheet provided. Do NOT write your answers on the question paper.
3. There are 100 answer numbers on the answer sheet. Use answer numbers 1 to 25 only.
4. In each question there are four choices A, B, C, D. Choose ONE. On the answer grid black out the box for your choice with a pencil as shown below.

Correct Way				Incorrect Way					
1	A	B	C	D	1	A	B	C	D
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
					2	A	B	C	D
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
					3	A	B	C	D
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
					4	A	B	C	D
						<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. If you want to change your answer, ERASE the first answer completely with a rubber, before blacking out a new box.
6. Do NOT write anything in the answer grid. The computer only records what is in the boxes.

Listening Comprehension Section

This section is 25 minutes long. In this section you will hear two recordings. Each one will be played twice.

Listen carefully to the first recording, then read the 6 questions. You will have two minutes' reading time.

The recording will then be replayed. You can make notes on your question paper.

When the recording has finished, enter your answers on your separate answer sheet. You will have three and a half minutes to pencil in your answers.

Follow the instructions on the front page of Paper I to show which of the options; A, B, C, or D you have selected for each question.

Listening Passage I

The passage is about cricket and its brief history as one of the most popular sports in Pakistan.

Source: www.stickiewicket.com

Now listen to the recording.

Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

1. According to the passage, the daily work of cricket enthusiasts
 - A. stops during the tournaments.
 - B. includes hitting their television sets.
 - C. involves learning about the sport.
 - D. started in the 16th century.

2. The materials used in the past for bat and ball were
 - A. curved sticks and stones.
 - B. stones and hand stitched leather.
 - C. cork and prime.
 - D. hockey sticks and cork.

3. Cricket spread to all of the following regions in the 17th century EXCEPT
 - A. Kent.
 - B. North America.
 - C. Sussex.
 - D. South Africa.

4. The rules and regulations of cricket were modified in
 - A. 1727.
 - B. 1730.
 - C. 1772.
 - D. 1774.

5. The document that determines the cricket rules of practice is called the
 - A. articles of agreement.
 - B. clauses of agreement.
 - C. rules of agreement.
 - D. deal of agreement.

6. What is the most suitable title for the passage?
 - A. Cricket
 - B. Complete History of Cricket
 - C. Origin of Cricket
 - D. Cricket History: A Glorious Past

PLEASE DO NOT TURN OVER THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD

Now, we will play the second recording. It will also be played twice.

Listen carefully to the first playing, then read Questions 7 to 12. You will have two minutes' reading time. The recording will then be replayed.

When the recording has finished, enter your answers on your separate answer sheet. You will have three and a half minutes to pencil in your answers.

Listening Passage II

The passage is a conversation between a hotel receptionist and a guest regarding the confusion about the wrong reservation for the guest.

Source: www.esl-lab.com

Now listen to the recording.

Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

7. What is the first problem with the man's reservation?
- A. The receptionist confuses him with another guest.
 - B. Rooms are overbooked for that evening.
 - C. There are no more rooms available for five people.
 - D. The price for the room is more than he expected.
8. For what day did Mr. Khalid make a hotel reservation?
- A. The seventeenth
 - B. The eighteenth
 - C. The nineteenth
 - D. The twentieth
9. What is taking place in the city that makes getting another room almost impossible?
- A. A marathon
 - B. An outdoor music festival
 - C. A conference
 - D. Building renovation
10. How much is the initial discount on the family suite after Mr. Khalid complains about the hotel service?
- A. 5%
 - B. 10 %
 - C. 15%
 - D. 20 %
11. How does Mr. Khalid respond when the receptionist offers to provide him with a free room on his next visit?
- A. He thinks it will take a long time for him to receive the free coupon for the room.
 - B. He feels he should first receive an apology from the manager for what has happened.
 - C. He suggests that the hotel should give guests an additional 15% discount in cases like his.
 - D. He implies that he might not visit again because of the problems he has had.
12. What is the mood of the conversation between the two persons?
- A. Problem-solving
 - B. Argumentative
 - C. Conversational
 - D. Persuasive

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Reading Comprehension Section

This section has two reading passages. This passage is followed by seven multiple choice questions. You have 20 minutes time for this section. You are advised to spend approximately 10 minutes on each of the given passages.

Read the passage carefully and then answer the seven multiple choice questions which follow:

Passage I

Death Valley is a land of beautiful yet dangerous extremes. There are mountains that reach more than three thousand metres into the sky. There is a place called Badwater that is the lowest area of land in the Western Hemisphere. If there were water there, it would be eighty-six metres below the level of the ocean. Death Valley can be dangerously cold during the winter months. Storms in
5 the mountains can produce sudden flooding on the floor of the Valley.

The air temperature during the summer has been as high as fifty-seven degrees Celsius. The sun can heat the ground so that the temperature of the rocks and soil can be as high as seventy-four degrees Celsius.

The extreme heat of Death Valley has killed people in the past. It will continue to kill those who
10 do not honour this extreme climate. Death Valley does not forgive those who are not careful.

Death Valley is a good example of the violence of nature. It contains evidence of several ancient volcanoes that caused huge explosions. Evidence of one of these explosions is called Ubehebe Crater. The explosion left a huge hole in the ground almost a kilometre and a half wide. In many areas of Death Valley it is easy to see where the ground has been pushed up violently by
15 movement deep in the Earth. This movement has created unusual and beautiful rock formations. Some are red. Others are dark brown, grey, yellow or black.

Other areas of rock look as if some huge creature violently broke and twisted the Earth to create unusual, sometimes frightening shapes. In other parts of Death Valley there are lines in the rock that show clearly that this area was deep under an ocean for many thousands of years. Much of
20 the Valley is flat and extremely dry. In fact, scientists believe it is the driest place in the United States. In some areas the ground is nothing but salt. Nothing grows in this salted ground.

However, it would be wrong to think that nothing lives in Death Valley. The Valley is full of life. Wild flowers grow very quickly after a little rain. Some desert plants can send their roots down more than eighteen metres to reach water deep in the ground.

Source: www.voanews.com

Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

13. The mountains of Death Valley range between
- A. 5,000 - 1,000 metres.
 - B. 2,000 metres above sea level.
 - C. 2,100- 2,900 metres.
 - D. minus 86 metres and a kilometre and a half.
14. Which of the following is not present in the valley?
- A. Water
 - B. Minerals
 - C. Meadows
 - D. Coal
15. What kind of weather conditions prevail in the valley?
- A. Extreme cold
 - B. Extreme heat
 - C. Moderate cold and hot weather
 - D. Extremes of hot and cold
16. How can the climate affect people?
- A. It causes frostbite.
 - B. It causes death.
 - C. It causes illnesses.
 - D. It causes heatstroke.
17. According to the passage, what is the 'violence of nature?'
- A. Volcanic eruption
 - B. Deep earth movement
 - C. Extreme temperatures
 - D. No presence of wildlife
18. The rocks of Death Valley prove that
- A. its ground had frightening shapes.
 - B. it was once flat and dry.
 - C. it was once under the sea.
 - D. it was inhabited by people.
19. What is the misconception about Death Valley?
- A. That there is no life in the valley.
 - B. That nobody has visited this place.
 - C. That it is a dangerous site to visit.
 - D. That it brings death to whoever visits it.

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Read the passage carefully and then answer the six multiple choice questions which follow:

Passage II

5 Most people prefer to travel by airplane or by car, but there are still some folks who prefer to use bus travel to see the sites on their vacations. Bus travel is not as popular as it once was, but one can still find routes to take a person just about anywhere in the country. Some use it because it costs less than a plane ticket, and they can see more of the countryside this way. We tend to miss a lot of things when concentrating on the road while driving, or worrying about driving directions.

10 If somebody is interested in bus travel, they can find a variety of routes depending on where they are going, and when they want to go. Some routes will have a lot of stops along the way, but they may not offer you a lot of time to explore the area. There are tour groups that use bus travel to host special tours. These tours may go through a certain part of the country to view the countryside, or may go to a specific destination like the Moen- jo- Daro, Murree or Nathiagali.

15 If anyone plans a trip to a large city nearby, and wants to make a family event out of it, he can use bus travel to get everyone there quickly and relatively hassle-free. Bus travel for groups can be arranged through almost any bus company, and the price may vary depending on how many people are going, and where they wish to go.

Most of the people find this the cheapest and easiest way to get from city to city. These aren't the average buses, however, and they offer many of the comforts of home. Many come with complete bathrooms, comfortable sleeping spaces, and a variety of electronic diversions. If anyone can afford this type of bus travel, it will be travelling in style.

20 No matter why we choose bus travel, when we do, we are choosing a classic form of travel. Bus and train travel used to be the main ways to move across the country.

Source: www.interestingarticles.net

Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

20. The writer is most enthusiastic about travel by
- A. air.
 - B. train.
 - C. private car.
 - D. bus.
21. Travelling by road is considered
- A. cheap.
 - B. expensive.
 - C. hectic.
 - D. unaffordable.
22. A bus journey gives a chance to
- A. explore one area only.
 - B. enjoy the sights and sounds.
 - C. stop at every place.
 - D. see a variety of sights.
23. Personalized group travel makes the journey
- A. risky.
 - B. adventurous.
 - C. hassle-free.
 - D. dull and boring.
24. The main topic of the passage is the
- A. variety of ways of travelling.
 - B. advantages of travel.
 - C. scope of bus travel.
 - D. delights of being driven.
25. What is the distinguishing feature of inter-city buses compared to local buses?
- A. They can be hired by groups.
 - B. They do not stop all the time.
 - C. They provide high levels of comfort.
 - D. They are intended for family use.

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