

AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD

SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

CLASS IX

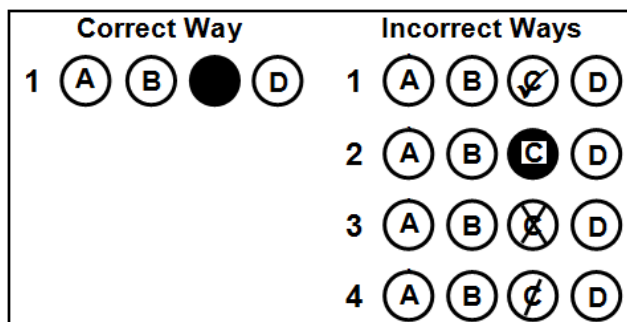
ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS (THEORY) 2024

English Compulsory Paper I

Time: 1 hour Marks: 30

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 30 only.
4. In each question, there are four choices A, B, C, D. Choose ONE. On the answer grid, black out the circle for your choice with a pencil as shown below.



Candidate's Signature

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

Listening Comprehension Section

In this section, you will hear two passages. Each one will be played two times.

Listen carefully to the first passage, and then read questions 1 to 6. You will have two minutes' reading time.

The passage will then be played again. You can make notes on your question paper.

When the passage has finished, enter your answers on your separate answer sheet. You will have three 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 a restaurant in Karachi, Pakistan.

Source: Adapted from '*Student Biryani*' by Hadi Bin Masood

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

1. In the beginning of the heard passage, the speaker describes Karachi to be
 - A. an ancient city.
 - B. the city of lights.
 - C. a metropolitan city.
 - D. the birthplace of Haji Mohammad Ali.

2. Initially, the biryani served at Student Biryani was prepared by
 - A. Haji Mohammad Ali only.
 - B. Haji Mohammad Ali's family.
 - C. Haji Mohammad Ali's students.
 - D. Haji Mohammad Ali's neighbourhood.

3. Which of the following sentences in the heard passage is the speaker's opinion?
 - A. 'Haji Mohammad Ali started his own business in the shape of a *rairhi*, a local cart'.
 - B. 'Biryani being one of the most popular dishes among the locals...'
 - C. '...dishes prepared in bulk, do not have a homemade feeling...'
 - D. 'Student Biryani...is actually called Café Student'.

4. The speaker mentions all of the following aspects of Student Biryani EXCEPT the
 - A. owner's personal life.
 - B. success of the restaurant.
 - C. importance of Karachi in Pakistan.
 - D. taste of the biryani served by the restaurant.

5. It can be inferred from the heard passage that
 - A. biryani is the best dish of Pakistan.
 - B. students in Karachi only eat biryani.
 - C. Student Biryani's success is a motivational story.
 - D. Haji Mohammad Ali is the pioneer of biryani in Pakistan.

6. The theme of the heard passage is on
 - A. family.
 - B. business.
 - C. nutrition.
 - D. education.

PLEASE DO NOT TURN OVER THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD

Now we will play the second passage. It will also be played two times.

Listen carefully to the first passage and then read questions 7 to 13. You will have two minutes' reading time.

The passage will then be played again. You can make notes on your question paper.

When the passage has finished, enter your answers on the separate answer sheet provided to you. You will have three minutes to pencil in your answers.

Listening Passage II

The speaker talks about a dog breed.

Source: Adapted from '*Can you handle a powerful dog named Bully Kutta?*' as published on <https://www.k9web.com/breeds/bully-kutta/>

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

7. The speaker begins the heard passage by
 - A. relating different animals.
 - B. mentioning various countries.
 - C. stating various names of a dog breed.
 - D. discussing the significance of Eastern countries.

8. Based on the information in the heard passage, the Mastiff's origins are
 - A. dated back to the early 16th century.
 - B. traced back to the late 1700s.
 - C. attributed to the Alan tribe.
 - D. still debatable.

9. Originally, the Bully Kutta was bred to fight
 - I. bears
 - II. wild boars
 - III. other dogs
 - A. I only.
 - B. III only.
 - C. I and II.
 - D. II and III.

10. The speaker mentions that one should only keep the Mastiff as a pet when the pet owner
 - A. has a large area at home for it to exercise.
 - B. is an animal rights activist.
 - C. is a qualified dog trainer.
 - D. has other pets.

11. The speaker does NOT mention the Mastiff's
 - A. appearance.
 - B. behaviour.
 - C. lifespan.
 - D. history.

12. Based on the information in the heard passage, the adjective that can BEST describe the Mastiff is
 - A. funny.
 - B. playful.
 - C. terrifying.
 - D. easy-to-train.

13. The text type of the heard passage is
 - A. narrative.
 - B. informative.
 - C. comparative.
 - D. communicative.

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Reading Comprehension Section

You have 25 minutes for the reading comprehension section. This section has two passages, each followed by multiple choice questions. You are advised to spend approximately 12.5 minutes on each of the given passages.

Read the following passage carefully and then answer the multiple choice questions which follow.

Reading Passage I

5 Making a presentation puts you on public display. An audience not only listens to your ideas, it also responds to the way you use your voice and your body. You need more than a well written presentation to make an impact. You will also need to deliver it in a lively, flexible and interesting way. In this leaflet, we suggest many ideas for invoking energy in your presentation style...

10 The more familiar you are with your material, the more you will be able to inspire your audience's trust and confidence. Do more than practise reading through your material to yourself. If possible, stand up in a room and deliver your presentation to the walls. Get used to hearing your own voice filling a room. Familiarise yourself with the words and phrases in your presentation...

15 It is important to appear confident at all times. Different postures create different moods. A very formal, upright and still posture will create a very different atmosphere from a relaxed and active one. Remember to match your physical behaviour to the objectives underpinning your presentation. If you want to be either formal or informal, make deliberate choices about your physical style and stick to these...

Use gestures to welcome your audience, to add emphasis to your main points or to indicate an ending. Make sure that all gestures are controlled and precise; too much movement will appear nervous and unfocussed.

20 Try using language that involves your audience. For example, asking questions such as "What can *we* learn from this?" or "How did *we* arrive at this conclusion?" involves your audience in an exploratory process or discussion.

25 Your voice is a very flexible and powerful tool. Play around with the volume, pace and pitch of your voice when practising your presentation. Find different ways of saying the same sentence. Explore different ways of adding emphasis to your main points. Always try to convey enthusiasm and energy through the use of your voice.

Source: Adapted from <https://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/ld/all-resources/presentations/delivering-presentation>

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

14. In line 20, the pronoun 'we' is used twice to create
- A. comparison.
 - B. emphasis.
 - C. repetition.
 - D. doubts.
15. The author discusses all the following techniques to use during a presentation EXCEPT
- A. controlling one's voice.
 - B. drinking water.
 - C. emphasising on one's objectives.
 - D. getting involved with the audience.
16. It can be inferred from the passage that during a presentation, one must be
- A. authoritative.
 - B. cautious.
 - C. engaging.
 - D. spontaneous.
17. The tone of the author is
- A. argumentative.
 - B. biased.
 - C. monotonous.
 - D. neutral.
18. The author's purpose is to describe
- A. how to be familiar with the contents of a presentation.
 - B. how to deliver a presentation.
 - C. the significance of a good posture.
 - D. ways to improve one's confidence.
19. The text type of the given passage is
- A. communicative.
 - B. argumentative.
 - C. informative.
 - D. narrative.

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Read the following passage carefully and then answer the multiple choice questions which follow.

Reading Passage II

When I woke up, there was only one thing on my mind: what to wear. A billion thoughts raced through my brain as wooden hangers shuffled back and forth in the cramped hotel closet...Not only was it my first day of high school, but it was my first day of school in a new state; first impressions are everything, and it was imperative for me to impress the people who I would
5 spend the next four years with. For the first time in my life, I thought about how convenient it would be to wear the horrendous matching plaid skirts that private schools enforce...

This was my third time [changing schools]. Moving so many times does something to a child's development...I struggled finding friends that I could trust would be there for me if I picked up and left again. But this time was different because my dad's company ensured that I would start
10 and finish high school in the same place...This time mattered, and that made me nervous.

After raiding my closet, I emerged proudly in a patterned dress...The soft cotton was comfortable...Yes, this outfit was the one. An hour later, I felt just as powerful as I stepped off the bus and headed towards [my classroom]. But as I turned the corner into my first class, my jaw
dropped to the floor.

15 Sitting at her desk was Mrs Hutfilz, my English teacher, sporting the exact same dress as I. I kept my head down and tiptoed to my seat, but the first day meant introductions in front of the whole class, and soon enough it was my turn. I made it through my speech unscathed, until Mrs Hutfilz stood up, jokingly adding that she liked my style. Although this was the moment, I had been dreading from the moment I walked in, all the anxiety that had accumulated throughout the
20 morning surprisingly melted away...My smile grew as I giggled with my peers, ending my speech with "and I am very stylish, much like my first period teacher." After class, I stayed behind and talked to Mrs Hutfilz...

This incident reminded me that it's only high school; these are the times to have fun, work hard, and make memories, not stress about the trivial details. Looking back four years later, the ten
25 minutes I spent dreading my speech were really not worth it...

Source: Taken from '*First Impressions*' by Isabel Hui, a student in an American high school

Note: Certain edits have been made for ease of students.

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

20. The first paragraph MAINLY focuses on the
- A. hotel closet.
 - B. author's intelligence.
 - C. uniform of private schools.
 - D. author's desire to be accepted.
21. The reason behind the author's lack of friends can be MAINLY attributed to her
- A. anxiety regarding social gatherings.
 - B. frequent change of schools.
 - C. preference of being alone.
 - D. low grades in studies.
22. The underlined term, 'my jaw dropped to the floor' in paragraph 3 means that the
- A. author was very surprised about something.
 - B. author's jaw broke as she fell on the floor.
 - C. author had some dental issues.
 - D. author found something funny.
23. Mrs Hutfilz can be described as
- A. witty and supportive.
 - B. strict and supportive.
 - C. strict and cautious.
 - D. witty and cautious.
24. The author can be BEST described as
- A. enthusiastic.
 - B. righteous.
 - C. sarcastic.
 - D. agitated.
25. The moral lesson we learn from the author's experience is that we should
- A. fear our teachers.
 - B. adapt to new situations.
 - C. develop our fashion sense.
 - D. dread the first day of school.
26. The text type of the given passage is a
- A. personal experience.
 - B. commentary.
 - C. news report.
 - D. biography.

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Cloze Passage Section

This section has a cloze passage, followed by multiple choice questions. You are advised to spend approximately 10 minutes on this section.

Though they are birds, penguins (1) _____ flippers instead of wings. They cannot fly and on land they waddle walking upright—though when snow conditions are right they will slide on (2) its bellies. In the water they are expert swimmers and divers, and some species can reach speeds of up to 15 miles per hour...

Penguins may not be able to fly across the sky, but they can fly underwater as well as any fish. (3) _____ of wings, these birds have flippers that can propel their streamlined bodies up to 15 miles per hour through the sea in pursuit of a meal.

Climate change is a growing concern for penguins that live (4) _____ Antarctica...These species depend on sea ice for access to food and for places to breed. But the sea ice has been disappearing, and penguin populations along with it.

Source: Adapted from an article ‘*Penguin*’ as published on <https://www.worldwildlife.org/>

27. The verb suited to fill blank (1) is
- A. had
 - B. has
 - C. have
 - D. having
28. The underlined word labelled as (2) should be replaced with
- A. her
 - B. his
 - C. their
 - D. them
29. The term BEST suited to fill blank (3) is
- A. Furthermore
 - B. Compared
 - C. Because
 - D. Instead
30. The preposition BEST suited to fill blank (4) is
- A. in
 - B. at
 - C. on
 - D. into

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