CANDIDATE – PLEASE NOTE!

PRINT your name on the line below and return this booklet with your answer sheet. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

**FORM TP 2020064**

TEST CODE **01218010**

MAY/JUNE 2020

# CARIBBEAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

## CARIBBEAN SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE® EXAMINATION

## ENGLISH A

### Paper 01 – General Proficiency

*1 hour 30 minutes*

**12 MAY 2020 (p.m.)**

READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

1. This test consists of 60 items. You will have 1 hour and 30 minutes to answer them.

2. In addition to this test booklet, you should have an answer sheet.

3. Each item in this test has four suggested answers lettered (A), (B), (C), (D). Read each item you are about to answer and decide which choice is best.

4. On your answer sheet, find the number which corresponds to your item and shade the space having the same letter as the answer you have chosen. Look at the sample item below.

Sample Item

Choose the word or set of words that BEST completes each sentence.

Someone who is suffering from influenza needs to be isolated as the disease is

(A) lasting
(B) serious
(C) contagious
(D) destructive

Sample Answer




The best answer to this item is "contagious", so (C) has been shaded.

5. If you want to change your answer, erase it completely before you fill in your new choice.

6. When you are told to begin, turn the page and work as quickly and as carefully as you can. If you cannot answer an item, go on to the next one. You may return to that item later.

**DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.**

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Items 1–5

**Instructions: Each sentence has either one or two words missing. Choose from the four options the word or pair of words which BEST completes the meaning of the sentence. Mark your choice on the answer sheet.**

1. Despite his short temper, his willingness to give of his wealth to help others to succeed led people to call him _____.

(A) hasty
(B) foolish
(C) benevolent
(D) old fashioned

2. The journalists were impressed by the _____ of the statesman whose speeches had a profound _____ on all who heard him.

(A) eloquence.....effect
(B) presence.....result
(C) emotion.....sensation
(D) appearance.....reaction

3. The new owners will be asked to start the plan as soon as possible and will be expected to _____ the policy of cost reduction approved by the board.

(A) state
(B) develop
(C) frustrate
(D) implement

4. Although it is possible to move the house, the cost of moving it makes the project _____.

(A) popular
(B) impractical
(C) worthwhile
(D) inconsiderate

5. To conceal his true activities, the spy quickly _____ a plausible excuse for his presence there.

(A) divulged
(B) disguised
(C) explained
(D) fabricated

Items 6–10

**Instructions: Choose the word or phrase that is most nearly OPPOSITE in meaning to the underlined word or words. Mark your choice on the answer sheet.**

6. She seems to be sensitive to the feelings of others.

(A) unaware of
(B) unsure about
(C) unaffected by
(D) appreciative of

7. Many teenagers and even some parents, do not agree with the level of restrictiveness in today's society.

(A) permissiveness
(B) unpleasantness
(C) longsightedness
(D) competitiveness

8. He was eager to share the news with his friends.

(A) worried
(B) reluctant
(C) displeased
(D) unavailable

9. The president of the students' association never mentioned the treasurer's integrity.

(A) skill
(B) loyalty
(C) inability
(D) dishonesty

10. While the employers approved of his work habits, they objected to his radical views.

(A) capitalist
(B) informed
(C) fashionable
(D) conventional

Items 11–15

**Instructions: Revise each of the following sentences according to the directions that follow it. Do not change the meaning of the original sentence. Look at the options, A to D, for the word or phrase that BEST suits the revised sentence and mark your choice on the answer sheet.**

**11.** People from crowded nations cannot get over the accessibility of Canadá's natural environment, in all of its magnificence.

**Begin the sentence with**

It is impossible for

(A) to be over
(B) to get over
(C) to have got over
(D) to getting over

**12.** On learning of the impending hurricane, many persons rushed to the supermarket.

**Begin the sentence with**

Many persons rushed

(A) as they learned
(B) while they learnt
(C) when they learnt
(D) for they were learning

**13.** More is experienced in one day of the life of a learned man than an ignorant man experiences in his whole lifetime.

**Begin the sentence with**

A learned man

(A) experiences more in one day
(B) more experienced in one day
(C) experienced more in one day
(D) has more experience in one day

**14.** During my time at school I was involved in extracurricular activities.

**Begin the sentence with**

I was involved in

(A) on staying
(B) while I was
(C) for my stay
(D) when staying

**15.** "It's going to be alright," Mum assured me.

**Begin the sentence with**

Mom assured me that

(A) it was
(B) there
(C) simply
(D) only just

Items 16–20

**Instructions: In the following sentences, one of the underlined words may be misspelt. Choose from the three options A, B, C the word that is misspelt. If no word is misspelt choose Option D.**

16. She is one of the thousands (A) of babies who are diagnosed (B) with that disease (C). No error (D)

17. The secretary (A) had made up a calendar (B) of events but there was not enough stationery (C) to give each member a copy. No error (D)

18. When the museum (A) purchased his paintings the artist received (B) many complements (C). No error (D)

19. After embarrassing (A) his colleague (B) his conscience (C) bothered him and he eventually apologized. No error (D)

20. It is my privilege (A) to give you some advise (B) concerning proper nutrition (C). No error (D)

Items 26–33

**Instructions: Read the following poem carefully and then answer Items 26–33 on the basis of what is stated or implied.**

**Flowers**

I have never learnt the names of flowers
From beginning, my world has been a place
Of pot-holed streets, where thick, sluggish gutters race
In slow time, away from garbage heaps and sewers
Past blanched old houses around which cowers
Stagnant earth. There scarce green things grew to chase
The dull-grey squalor of sick dust; no trace
Of plant save few sparse weeds; just these, no flowers.

One day they cleared a space and made a park
There in the city's slums; and suddenly
Came stark glory like lightning in the dark,
While perfume and dark petals thundered slowly.
I learnt no names, but hue, shape and scent mark
My mind, even now, with symbols holy.

*Dennis Craig*

**26.** The speaker in the poem is

(A) a child playing
(B) an adult dreaming
(C) a child remembering
(D) an adult remembering

**27.** How does the speaker feel about flowers in lines 11–14?

(A) Awed
(B) Indifferent
(C) Pessimistic
(D) Unappreciative

**28.** The mood of stanza 1 of the poem is

(A) bleak
(B) bland
(C) lonely
(D) desolate

**29.** What is the speaker's attitude to the environment in lines 2–8?

(A) Bitter
(B) Acceptance
(C) Contentment
(D) Contemplative

Items 21–25

**Instructions: Each sentence in this section is followed by four sentences A, B, C and D. Choose the one NEAREST IN MEANING to the original sentence.**

**21.** So engrossed was he in his task that he did not hear his sister enter the room.

(A) His task was so difficult that he did not observe his sister's entry.

(B) He did not hear his sister enter the room because of the job he was doing.

(C) His sister's entry did not attract his attention because he was enjoying what he was doing.

(D) He was so preoccupied with what he was doing that he was unaware of his sister's entry.

**22.** The news shocked me so much that I almost forgot what to say.

(A) The news was so shocking that I could not move.

(B) I could hardly remember my message after such shocking news.

(C) I nearly didn't speak again after the shock of the news.

(D) I was so shocked by the news that I could hardly speak.

**23.** Recent floods have made the roads impassable.

(A) People are unable to travel because of the floods.

(B) Because of heavy showers, commuters were forced to detour.

(C) The roads cannot be used as a result of the floods.

(D) Travelling has been brought to a standstill because of the floods.

**24.** The Europeans who were not well off were those who came to the West Indies in search of wealth.

(A) Europeans settled in the West Indies because they were told they would become richer.

(B) Unemployment at home caused Europeans to come to the West Indies to seek their fortune.

(C) Financial difficulties at home made Europeans who came to the West Indies decide to settle there.

(D) Europeans who came to the West Indies to seek their fortunes were the ones who were not wealthy.

**25.** Water pollution is a common problem because people thoughtlessly dump their garbage in water courses.

(A) People throw their garbage in water courses making this an unusual problem.

(B) If people did not dump their garbage in water, we would not have a pollution problem.

(C) Water pollution takes place because people negligently dump their garbage in water courses.

(D) Even though water pollution is a problem, people still dump their garbage in water courses.

30. What device is used in line 11 to describe the park?

(A) Simile
(B) Metaphor
(C) Oxymoron
(D) Personification

31. The use of "stark glory" (line 11) BEST suggests that the flowers

I. stimulated the speaker with their beauty
II. had a religious significance for the speaker
III. amazed the speaker with the difference they made

(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

32. The device used in line 12 compares the beauty of flowers to

(A) light
(B) storms
(C) thunder
(D) lightning

33. Which of the following BEST describes the theme of the poem?

(A) Nature is a vital part of human life.
(B) The impact of nature is positive and deep.
(C) The names of plants are unimportant.
(D) Nature, specifically parks, should be introduced in all slums.



GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

Items 34–41

**Instructions: Read the following extract carefully and then answer Items 34–41 on the basis of what is stated or implied.**

## The View from the Terrace

Marcus wheeled himself out to his accustomed place at the table on the terrace and the sight struck him immediately. How could it not? It was an abomination, a desecration, a heresy, a sight unbelievable. There was a house on the hillside! His hill, the one which overlooked the village and which his terrace faced. It was a small house to be sure; he estimated it to be no more than twenty feet by twelve, with one door and one window on the long side which faced him. From the distance, it was no more than a doll's house, or what a child might draw; a wooden hut similar to those which sprung up daily in the squatter settlements which everywhere littered the hillsides, ringing the city, visible evidence of society out of control. But his hillside wasn't a squatter settlement and no other house marred his view. His house sat on a slight rise above the village in the valley, and from there he had an uninterrupted view of the mountains on all sides. Far away there were houses, proper ones, that is; but none close enough to mar his vision.

It had never occurred to him that the hillside he gazed at every day would ever be defaced with human habitation. It was so steep and inhospitable. Few trees grew on it except for the occasional clump of mangoes, it was mostly covered with grass which burned every year in the dry months and agaves which from time to time flowered yellow. Half way up the hill and directly in front of his favourite seat on the terrace was the only tree of any size and this was a silk-cotton tree which would one day become a giant but which was still small as cotton trees go. Year after year he watched its progress as it shed its leaves in the winter months and turned a bright green in the spring. And now immediately behind this tree, as if sheltering in its arms, someone had built a house. On his hill. It wasn't really his hill, but who else was there to claim it, who else had gazed at it three hundred and sixty-five mornings every year for the past twelve years?

*Source unknown*

34. Which word BEST describes the homeowner's attitude towards the hillside near his house?

(A) Angry
(B) Proud
(C) Pleased
(D) Possessive

35. The words "struck him" (line 2) suggest that to the homeowner the sudden appearance of the squatter's house

(A) stirred disgust at the nature of the home
(B) awoke interest in how quickly it was built
(C) aroused shock at the unexpected neighbour
(D) stimulated pain because of the loss of privacy and control

36. The phrase "sat on" (line 9) tells us that the house is

(A) set into the hillside
(B) comfortably situated
(C) precariously located
(D) placed directly on the hill

37. Which of the following did the homeowner believe gave him the right to claim the hill?

(A) Its proximity to his home.
(B) It was not easily accessible.
(C) The length of time he lived there.
(D) No one had moved in for some time.

38. The word "littered" (line 7) suggests that the homeowner believes that squatter settlements are

(A) an eyesore
(B) unique to his area
(C) a necessary part of life
(D) a legitimate solution to the housing problem

39. Which of the following may be one of the homeowner's fears on seeing the house on the hillside?

(A) The silk-cotton tree would become gigantic.
(B) Proper houses would be built on the hillside.
(C) The hillside would become a squatters' settlement.
(D) Littering would become a problem on the hillside.

40. The repetition of "his hill" (lines 3, 20) by the narrator

(A) displays the depth of his disgust
(B) shows how persistent his shock was
(C) presents the homeowner's stubbornness
(D) emphasizes the passion behind his attitude

41. Which words BEST sum up the homeowner's view of squatter settlements?

(A) "sprung up daily" (line 7)
(B) "society out of control" (line 8)
(C) "marred his view" (line 9)
(D) "houses, proper ones" (line 11)

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE

Items 42–49

**Instructions: Read the following passage carefully and then answer Items 42–49 on the basis of what is stated or implied.**

When the traditional family unit is discussed, it is usually in terms of the external social changes that are threatening its existence as an institution. Little thought is given to the internal problems of normal homes. The central problem for most family members is, of course, how to get along with each other. This internal matter is not without its external implications; for only where there are orderly and peaceful families can there be an orderly and peaceful society.

Of all the social changes that have affected the family in recent years, by far the most significant has been the increase in the number of mothers of school-age children who have taken outside employment. In Canada, some 75 per cent of women in this category now have full-time or part-time jobs. For the most part, economic imperatives have left women no choice but to work for money. An income sufficient to maintain the lifestyle of an average family took one Canadian 48 hours a week to earn in the 1950s. It takes two people 65 to 75 hours a week to earn that income today.

The conflicts between work and family life and scarcity of time to devote to children have taken a personal toll on women in the form of stress and depression. Obviously, individuals under stress are harder to deal with than those who are not, so the tensions of work are carried over into tensions in mother–child relationships. Men, too, report feeling 'stressed out' and squeezed between work and family obligations. Males raised in the tradition of mothers doing everything in the home are inclined to be lax in doing housework and awkward in the unaccustomed role of actively nuturing children. But if a two-income family is to run smoothly and fairly, the household workload must be shared.

Another profound change in family relationships lies in the relatively high incidence of divorce and marital separations in Western society. The fact that so many couples feel they must go their separate ways illustrates just how difficult it is for people to live together satisfactorily at the best of times.

*Source unknown*

42. According to paragraph 1 (lines 1–5), which of the following results from conflict between family members?

(A) Disorder in societies
(B) Anxiety in the work place
(C) Disruptive behaviour in homes
(D) High levels of tension between parents

43. According to the passage, all of the following threaten the existence of the family EXCEPT

(A) the high divorce rate in Western society
(B) conflicts between employers and working parents
(C) problems family members experience in getting along
(D) the increase in the number of mothers of school-age children working outside of the home

44. The word that is closest in meaning to "imperatives" (line 9) is

(A) matters
(B) demands
(C) concerns
(D) guidelines

45. In paragraph 2 (lines 6–12), the writer compares income in the 1950s to income today to show that

(A) people today work longer hours for the same pay as in the 1950s
(B) people earned more in the 1950s than today
(C) people today do not work as hard as people in the 1950s
(D) a single income cannot adequately support an average family

46. The writer suggests in lines 12–15, that tensions in mother–child relationships can occur because mothers

I. are dealing with the stress of work
II. are unable to help children who are under stress
III. lack sufficient time to care for children

(A) I only
(B) II only
(C) I and III only
(D) II and III only

47. The writer's main purpose is to

(A) focus on the problems experienced by men
(B) reveal the problems experienced by men, women and children
(C) highlight some of the internal problems threatening the family
(D) show that single-income families function better than two-income families

48. Couples feel they must "go their separate ways" (line 23) because of

(A) high divorce rates
(B) inability to live harmoniously
(C) difficulty with Western societies
(D) changes in relations in good times

49. The tone of the passage may be BEST described as

(A) mocking
(B) indignant
(C) analytical
(D) complaining

Items **50–54**

**Instructions: Read the following advertisement carefully and then answer Items 50–54 on the basis of what is stated or implied.**

The tours we offer are truly unique and very much off the beaten track. We take you into the country to experience the historical, cultural and breathtaking scenic highlights of the island. Our rich heritage in farming over the centuries has produced grand plantation mansions surrounded by picturesque little copses with stately royal palms swaying majestically in the easterly tradewinds. The neat sugar cane fields sweep down the rolling hills towards the wild east coast where miles of untouched beaches are graced with the backdrop of rugged cliffs and the giant breakers of the Atlantic crashing ashore.

At Highland Outdoor Tours the choice is yours — whether you're the adventurous type or prefer a more laid-back tour, just give us a call and let us advise you.

**50.** The advertisement was most likely taken from a

(A) newspaper
(B) geography text
(C) tourism brochure
(D) naturalist magazine

**51.** Which of the following is nearest in meaning to "off the beaten track" (line 1)?

(A) On unpaved trails
(B) Into the wilderness
(C) Through dense vegetation
(D) Along routes not regularly traversed

**52.** Which of the following does the advertisement promise?

I. Scenic beauty
II. Sedate enjoyment
III. Outdoor adventure

(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

**53.** The phrase "The neat sugar cane fields sweep down the rolling hills" (line 5) contains an example of

(A) contrast
(B) repetition
(C) metaphor
(D) specific reference

**54.** This advertisement seeks to persuade the reader mainly through the use of

(A) imagery
(B) suspense
(C) alliteration
(D) exaggeration

Items **55–60**

**Instructions: Read the following advertisement carefully and then answer Items 55–60 on the bas of what is stated or implied.**

ACNE * BE * GONE * # * 1 * PRODUCT * IN * THE * WORLD

Teenagers across the Caribbean are all talking about it

**ACNE BE GONE!™**

**#1** product on the market




**Tested by Dermatologists**

**APPROVED**

Do you want to clear all unsightly blemishes?
Do you want your confidence back?
Do you want a date for graduation?
You can do all these things with

**ACNE BE GONE!™**

Now available in stores near you at this special introductory price of

~~$20.00~~
~~$15.00~~
$9.99
(while stocks last)

It really works!
Take the CHOCOLATE TEST!
You can eat anything you want and not break out with

**ACNE BE GONE!™**

Side effects include swelling and rashes. Consult your doctor.

ACNE * BE * GONE * # * 1 * PRODUCT * IN * THE * WORLD

55. One FACT contained in the advertisement is

(A) the price of the product
(B) expert approval of Acne Be Gone!
(C) the product's popularity and effectiveness
(D) that stores everywhere are selling the product

56. To whom is this product MAINLY targeted?

(A) People who suffer with acne
(B) Ambitious people with money
(C) Girls who want dates for graduation
(D) People who lack confidence because of their appearance

57. Which of the following techniques are used to persuade in this advertisement?

I. Financial enticement
II. Showing of the container
III. Appeal to fears and desires

(A) I and II only
(B) I and III only
(C) II and III only
(D) I, II and III

58. A language device used in the advertisement to persuade is

(A) paradox
(B) metaphor
(C) hyperbole
(D) rhetorical questions

59. What might be the purpose of the size of the font used to describe the side effects?

(A) It hides possible consequences of using the product.
(B) It suggests that the side effects are minor.
(C) It misdirects the reader and leads to erroneous conclusions about acne.
(D) It demonstrates that the problems are minor in comparison to the benefits.

60. The words "while stocks last" under the checked price MOST likely would have the effect of

(A) enticing the customers to save money
(B) persuading customers to buy the product quickly
(C) prompting Caribbean people to go in search of the product
(D) fooling the prospective buyers into thinking he/she needs the product

**END OF TEST**

**IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS TEST.**