



THE CRISMA TRIAL EXAM

STD. EIGHT SERIES- YEAR 2020

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Time: 1 hour 40Min

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

1. You have been given this question booklet and a separate answer sheet. The question booklet contains 50 questions.
2. Do any necessary rough work in this booklet.
3. When you have chosen your answer mark it on the ANSWER SHEET, not in the question paper.

HOW TO USE THE ANSWER SHEET.

4. Use an ordinary pencil only.
5. Make sure that you have written on the answer sheet:-

YOUR INDEX NUMBER

YOUR NAME

NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL

6. By drawing a dark line inside the correct numbered boxes mark your full Index Number (i.e. School Code Number and the three-figure Candidate's Number) in the grid near the top of the answer sheet.
7. Do not make any marks outside the boxes.
8. Keep your answer sheet as clean as possible and **DO NOT FOLD IT.**
9. For each of the questions 1-50 four answers are given. The answers are lettered A, B, C, D. In each case only **ONE** of the four answers is correct. Choose the correct answer.
10. On the answer sheet show the correct answer by drawing a dark line inside the box in which the letter you have chosen is written.

Example

22. No sooner had Wambui fallen asleep than the baby began screaming.

- A. The baby screamed when Wambui fell asleep.
- B. Wambui fell asleep and the baby screamed.
- C. The baby began screaming as soon as Wambui fell asleep.
- D. Wambui had not really fallen asleep when the baby screamed.

The correct answer is C

On the answer sheet:

21. [A] [B] [C] [D] 22. [A] [B] [C] [D] 23. [A] [B] [C] [D] 24. [A] [B] [C] [D]

In the set of boxes number 22, the box with letter C printed in it is marked.

11. Your dark line **MUST BE** within the box.
12. For each question **ONLY ONE** box is to be marked in each set of four boxes.

This question paper consists of 8 printed pages.



TURN OVER

Read the passage below. It contains 15 blank spaces. For each blank space choose the correct answer.

____1____ father was ____2____ with the answer. He ____3____ my hand. We walked to my grandmother's compound ____4____ he spoke for a few minutes with ____5____ mother and then ____6____ her. "Where ____7____ the fish?"

My grandmother ____8____ that he ____9____ about part of the ____10____ that was traditionally ____11____ aside for the first son of ____12____ house. She fetched a tray of fish and gave them to me to carry. My father, ____13____ this, he was ____14____ satisfied, "For how long would I play ____15____ on them!" I wondered.

- | A. | B. | C. | D. |
|--------------|--------------|---------|--------------|
| 1. Her | Your | His | My |
| 2. content | sure | aware | ready |
| 3. picked | took | carried | held |
| 4. where | then | there | here |
| 5. her | his | your | their |
| 6. asked | talked to | talked | said to |
| 7. is | was | were | are |
| 8. decided | assumed | wished | imagined |
| 9. spoke | was speaking | thought | was thinking |
| 10. share | fishing | catch | fish |
| 11. held | left | put | kept |
| 12. a | the | my | her |
| 13. seeing | learning | knowing | finding |
| 14. actually | really | quite | quiet |
| 15. clever | smart | good | nice |

Choose the best preposition to complete questions 16 to 18

16. The drug addict turned _____ a new leaf.
A. up B. over
C. into D. off
17. Our football team went _____ after a stiff fight.
A. down B. up
C. with D. for
18. Contrary _____ common belief, girls are equally good at Mathematics.
A. for B. of
C. to D. under

For questions 19 and 20, choose the correct question tag.

19. A little help was necessary, _____
A. was it? B. is it?
C. wasn't it? D. isn't it?
20. He seldom visits his relatives, _____
A. will he? B. won't he?
C. doesn't he D. does he

In question 21, complete the statement using the correct alternative

21. It is not until the teacher comes
A. when we shall stand
B. that we shall stand
C. and we shall stand
D. so we shall stand

Choose the correct meanings of the following expressions in questions 22 - 23

22. To blow one's trumpet.
A. to boast
B. blowing a trumpet
C. playing music
D. to entertain oneself
23. To smell a rat
A. smelling something bad
B. be suspicious
C. smelling rat
D. a rat smelling at food

Choose the opposite of the underlined words in questions 24 - 25

24. The entrance was closed but the _____ was opened.
A. door B. gate
C. exit D. window
25. The man was arrested but as there was no proof he was _____ afterwards.
A. released B. discharged
C. acquitted D. let go

Read the following passage and answer questions 26 - 38.

Having woken up as usual, I did not expect anything abnormal. I did my usual chores like milking the cow and preparing breakfast. At around 8 p.m that day, I served my husband with food while Gacheri, my co- wife, served him his favourite brew. Minutes later another co- wife, Mbura, joined us. We ate dinner while the other wives, philomena, Nyakinyua and Muthoni were in their huts which were a few metres from each other.

Before retiring to bed, Gacheri's daughter, Wanjiku went outside and came back saying she had seen a big dog lying at the back of the house like a man. But we all ignored, only to learn later that it was a man who was listening and spying on us.

That night, I was disturbed and while others snored, I was being tormented by a ghost of fear. My spirit told me something was wrong.

When I woke up I heard the sound of gunshots. On looking outside through the window, I saw a group of men and alerted the others. Immediately there was a big bang followed by the loud sound of a breaking door. We could then see fire coming from the other huts. I realised the day had finally come for the Mau Mau to finish us as they had always bayed for our blood. My husband, being a colonial chief, was considered a traitor.

Immediately I took Mbura's one - year- old Wairimu on my back and squeezed through the door. The Mau Mau fighters slashed my hand and I suffered a deep cut. I tried to run but, due to the pain, I could not carry the little girl any more. She slipped off.

I managed to escape the wrath of the freedom fighters and hid at a nearby tree. The poor girl was cut into pieces. I watched with tears welling up in my eyes as Gacheri struggled to escape with three - year- old Wanjiku. But she could not make it as the house was already on fire, her hand was badly cut and she fell down. The angry attackers thought she had died, they sliced Wanjiku into pieces.

We all bore deep cuts and bled profusely. We ran to the river and nursed our cuts until dawn. Deep within our hearts, we knew our husband did not escape death. But none of us dared to speak about it. Our fears were confirmed in the morning when we went back to our homestead.

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26. According to the first paragraph when Wairimu woke up that day
- A. she was sure something unusual would happen
 - B. she did not expect something unusual to happen
 - C. she went through her work as though she expected something
 - D. she was able to achieve all her goals for the day.
27. Which of the following shows Wairimu's usual chores?
- A. Milking the cow, preparing breakfast and sweeping the compound
 - B. Milking, preparing breakfast, waking up and fetching water
 - C. Milking the cow and preparing breakfast
 - D. Waking up, serving breakfast and milking the cow
28. From the second paragraph we can tell that the chief had
- A. three wives and a co- wife
 - B. six wives
 - C. four wives
 - D. polygamous with many wives
29. Which one of the following statements is true?
- A. Each wife was expected to serve the husband with a meal
 - B. All wives sat with the husband to have dinner
 - C. Each wife had a separate husband they shared
 - D. Though polygamous, the family lived peacefully
30. Before retiring to bed
- A. the family said a common prayer
 - B. the family shared a meal together
 - C. one of the children reported a man lying at the back of the house
 - D. one of the children thought she had seen a dog lying at the back of the house.
31. Had the family listened to Gacheri's daughter
- A. they would have tried to stop the attack
 - B. they would not have been killed
 - C. they would have arrested the spy
 - D. they would not have given away the secrets
32. According to Wairimu, that night
- A. she was tormented by a ghost of fear
 - B. while she snoored others remained awake
 - C. she had slept for long when her sleep was interrupted
 - D. she could see ghostly figures that kept guard.
33. What awoke Wairimu?
- A. The loud sound of a breaking door
 - B. Foot prints of men running all over
 - C. The sound of gunshots
 - D. A group of men that alerted others

34. The phrase 'the day had finally come' as used in the passage means
 A. the long awaited day
 B. the D- day
 C. the promise had been fulfilled
 D. the most dreaded day
35. Why had the Mau Mau attacked them?
 A. They were fighting for their freedom
 B. The chief was treated with suspicion as he worked with the white man
 C. they had threatened to kill them
 D. The chief was a colonialist
36. How did the writer escape death?
 A. By screaming for help
 B. She managed to climb up a tree
 C. By sneaking behind the door
 D. She hid at a nearby tree
37. The following statements are true except
 A. two children were slashed to death
 B. none of the chief's wives was killed
 C. there was hardly any bloodshed in the attack
 D. the attackers set the houses on fire.
38. The phrase 'our fears were confirmed' as used in the passage means
 A. they learnt that their husband had been killed
 B. they were given a confirmation of their fears
 C. their husband had narrowly escaped death
 D. they were able to speak out their fears.

Read the following passage and answer questions 39 - 50

Positive thinking is not just the thoughts that one has but a whole approach to life. In almost every aspect of our life, we are drawn by the maxim of hardwork for success. But where does failure come in?

Failure is a delay not a default, it is a temporary detour not a dead end street, it takes time to succeed because success is merely a natural reward of taking time to do anything well. So more often we find ourselves in a desperate situation often failing at something we are doing. Thus, we end up giving up.

Look at the stone cutter hammering a way at the rock perhaps a hundred times without a crack showing on the rock. Yet, at the hundred and one blow it will split into two and I know it was not the last blow, that did it but all that had gone before; perseverance is the result of a strong will.

In essence, you can't travel the road to success without a puncture or two. After all is said and done, the road to success is always under construction. They say if you fall, dust up yourself and try again. Perfect work is seldom one does the first time. Repeating something shows you are a good learner, open minded and you value yourself. Practice makes perfect and a good idea slowly yields to a better one.

However, before you repeat a task, assess reasons for your failure, isolate strengths from your weaknesses and strategize to triumph. Avoid being angry whenever you fail to achieve your targets. Circumstances are the rulers of the weak but instruments of the wise. Thus, success is going from failure to failure without losing enthusiasm.

There are those who have this **imperative** demand for the best in their nature and those who will accept nothing short of it who hold the banners of progress that sets the standard for ideas of others. Don't give up yet, success beckons.

39. According to the first line positive thinking is
 A. just thoughts that one has
 B. a narrow approach of life
 C. a whole approach of life
 D. a wholistic living approach
40. It takes time to succeed because
 A. success is merely a reward of not doing something well
 B. it is a temporary detour to do some thing well
 C. it is a product of taking time to do something well
 D. it is delayed defeat for doing something well
41. Why do people often end up giving up?
 A. Being desperate of a situation
 B. Often failing at something they are doing
 C. Repeated success at doing something
 D. Overcoming a desperate situation
42. The stone cutter spits the rock into two due to
 A. a strong will
 B. open- mindedness
 C. consistency
 D. perserverance
43. According to the first line of the fourth paragraph
 A. to travel on a road you need a puncture
 B. the road to success is filled with pot- holes
 C. the road is ever under construction
 D. success is characterised by instances of failure
44. Repeating something shows you are
 A. a great fool who values oneself
 B. open minded and you value yourself
 C. accomodative, good learner and self worth
 D. a good learner, evil minded and self worth
45. According to the passage, if you fail
 A. dust up yourself and fall again
 B. know you are not the first one to fall
 C. dust up yourself and re- do the task
 D. know its part of life before repeating the task
46. The writer advises us to do the following except
 A. isolate our strengths from our weaknesses
 B. strategise to triumph
 C. avoid assess reasons for your success
 D. desist from being angry when you fail
47. 'Circumstances are the rulers of the weak but the instrument of the wise,' means
 A. we should not obey circumstances
 B. we should be victims of circumstances
 C. we should avoid being weak
 D. we shouldn't take advantage of our circumstances
48. To succeed, you need to
 A. overcome failure
 B. succumb to circumstances
 C. purchase good instruments
 D. loose enthusiasm
49. The word imperative has been underlined, it means
 A. mandatory
 B. important
 C. unnecessary
 D. optional
50. The best title for the passage would be
 A. The power of positive thinking
 B. How to succeed
 C. Strategies to triumph
 D. Overcoming the fail