BEST BRAIN EXAMINATIONS KONSORTIUM

SPECIAL PRIVATE MOCK EXAMINATIONS FOR BECE CANDIDATES **– JUNE 2024**

MARKING SCHEME **– ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

PAPER 2 [60 MARKS]

PART A – WRITING [30 MARKS]

GENERAL PREAMBLE

1. **There are three parts- A, B** and **C**. Candidates are expected to answer three questions in all, ONE question from PART A and Questions 4 & 5. If a candidate attempts more than one question from PART A, mark BOTH and choose the better of the two.
2. The required length of each composition is **250 words.**
3. **Mark Allocation**: Each composition is to be marked out of a total of 30 marks distributed as follows:

   (a) CONTENT 10 MARKS

   Ensure that the candidate presents a set of relevant points or details that are central to the theme or essay topic.

   (b) ORGANIZATION 5 MARKS

   The writing must be judged as whatever it is intended to be: an article, a speech, a letter, a debate, etc. Look for suitable layout, suitable opening, adequate development, good paragraph, balance, coherence and a suitable conclusion.

   (c) EXPRESSION 10 MARKS

   Look out for correct usage of language, variation of sentence structure and type, judicious use of figurative language, and skillful use of punctuation. In arriving at the mark for expression, do not be unduly influenced by mechanical errors.

   (d) MECHANICAL ACCURACY 5 MARKS

   Look out for undeniable errors in grammar, punctuation and spelling.
4. If a candidate writes on a topic other than the one set, award zero (0) for Content and mark Expression out of 5. The allocations for organization and Mechanical Accuracy remain unchanged.
5. Each ring should attract a deduction of half a mark (½). Formal features of letters should have two rings only counted against Mechanical Accuracy. Subsequent errors in the formal features should be underlined only.
6. In general, the principle of positive marking should be applied, i.e., give credit for what the candidate has done right and then penalize for errors. These penalties are not, in all cases, numerical deductions but often the reward of a lower mark than would have been earned if there were no blemishes.
7. The candidate is expected to know the simple mechanics of the English Language. These include spelling, punctuation, subject-verb concord, noun-pronoun agreement and the use of the capital letter. He or she should also be able to control the use of determiners, quantifiers, prepositions, etc.
8. **Penalize**

   (i) ***Each Grammatical Error*****:** These include

   - the omission of essential sentence elements
   - wrong tense;
   - misuse or omission of the article;
   - misuse of modal operators (may/might, etc)
   - confusion/ambiguity in use of pronouns;
   - misuse of countable and uncountable nouns;
   - wrong prepositions;
   - misuse of subordinators/ conjunctions;
   - errors in concord;
   - intransitive verbs for transitive and vice versa;
   - active for passive and vice versa;
   - faulty construction.

   (ii) ***The wrong amalgamation or breaking up of words e.g.***

   "inspite" for in spite
   "infront" for in front
   ``every where" for everywhere
   "to day" for today
   "every body" for everybody
   ``ofcourse'' for of course
   ``infact'' for in fact
   ``never the less'' for nevertheless
   ``how ever'' for however
   ``more over'' for moreover
   ``now a days'' for nowadays,
   etc.

   (iii) ***Wrong Spelling*** – the wrong spelling of the same word should be penalized only once. American spelling, if consistent, should be accepted.

   (iv) ***Punctuation Error and the Wrong Use of the Capital Letter.***

   - Each full stop, question mark or exclamation mark omitted or wrongly used; the misuse or omission of quotation marks. Both single and double quotation marks are accepted, but consistency is to be demanded.
   - The insertion of a comma between subject and verb, subject and object, verb and complement, in simple structures only, i.e., where phrases or clauses do not intervene.
   - The insertion of comma between adjective and noun, or verb and adverb; the omission of a comma used to separate items in a list of words, phrases or clauses.

- The use of a small letter fore pronoun `I'; use of a small letter at the beginning of a proper noun or sentence.
- Where a proper noun consists of more than one element, each of which is expected to begin with a capital letter eg. Electricity Company of Ghana, there should be only one penalty for the group.
- Initials in abbreviations with or without full stop should be accepted, eg G.C.B or GCB, W.A.E.C or WAEC. First and last letters: both forms should be accepted, eg. Dr and Dr.; Mrs and Mrs.

NB: ***This list is not exhaustive. It is merely to indicate the type of undeniable errors to be penalized****.]*

9. Each of these errors should be ringed and half a mark (½) deducted up to a total of 5 marks

10. ASSESSMENT GUIDE

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Below Average	Illiterate
Content	9 – 10	7 - 8	6	5	3 - 4	0 - 2½
Organization	5	4 – 4½	3 - 3½	1½ - 2	1 - 1½	0 - 1
Expression	9 – 10	7 - 8	6	5	3 - 4	0 - 2½

Number of words

5 words on a line	=	50 lines
6 words on a line	=	42 lines
7 words on a line	=	36 lines
8 words on a line	=	31 lines
9 words on a line	=	28 lines
10 words on a line	=	25 lines
11 words on a line	=	23 lines
12 words on a line	=	21 lines
13 words on a line	=	19 lines

Number of Words		**Mechanical Accuracy**
250 words	=	5
225 words	=	4½
200 words	=	4
175 words	=	3½
150 words	=	3
100 words	=	2
75 words	=	1½
50 words	=	1
25 words	=	½

QUESTION 1

CONTENT – 10 MARKS

The question allows the candidate to give free play to his imagination. Accept anything convincing and relevant. A good such narration should score a good mark of 6 or more.

ORGANIZATION – 5 MARKS

This is a descriptive narrative essay. Any form of organization that is narrative and moves the story forward is acceptable. If the narrative lacks coherence or if the events are poorly organized mark Organization out of 3. Paragraphs should be good, well-developed and coherent.

EXPRESSION - 10 MARKS

This is a narrative/ descriptive composition. Therefore, the choice of vocabulary and expressions should aim at achieving this. We expect a mixture of varied sentences with and masterful use of punctuations. Use of simple and precise language, use of right tenses, figure of speech, rhetorical questions may be used. Exaggeration may be used for emphasis. We expect the appropriate vocabulary, clear and less winding sentences. Accept appropriate use of contracted form of the verb. The candidate must demonstrate a strong command of language.

MECHANICAL ACCURACY – 5 MARKS

Each of these errors should be ringed and **(½)** mark deducted up to a total of **5 marks**. The examiner, before imposing a ring, must be sure that the error is in grammar or spelling or punctuation. Otherwise, the error must be underlined and penalized under expression. Formal features should have only two rings counted against Mechanical Accuracy.

QUESTION 2

CONTENT – 10 MARKS

The candidate is expected to give a clear presentation of what actually caused the attack, how the attack actually happened and the number of casualties if any, some recommendations to prevent such occurrence in future. If the candidate does this well, award a good mark of 6 and above.

ORGANIZATION – 5 MARKS -All features of a report should be present and these are

1. Heading / Title (in block letters or capitalized)
2. Body with introductory paragraph and subsequent points developed in paragraphs. Points may be itemized/ numbered
3. Signature of the writer below the full name
4. Writer's name in full.
5. Position/ designation

Penalize any attempts to write a letter by marking organization out of 3. A report requires no features of a letter because it is different from a letter. Paragraphs should be well-developed, and ideas properly linked.

EXPRESSION – 10 MARKS

The candidate is expected to use vocabulary that is appropriate to the narrative. There should be variety of sentence types. Formal register is expected with no room for slangs. Contractions and jargons are not expected.

MECHANICAL ACCURACY – 5 MARKS

As for question 1

QUESTION 3

CONTENT – 10 MARKS

We expect the candidate to highlight the nature of the situation and clear effects. At least three suggestions of solutions to the problem must be discussed for a good mark. The candidate who dwells too much on anything other than suggested solutions should not score more than 3 marks under content.

ORGANIZATION - 5 MARKS

This essay is an article and must have the following features;

- A heading/caption
- Authentication (e.g. Name, Class, Position if any). This could come directly under heading or under the article.
- Body of article with good introduction and conclusion

Paragraphs should be well-developed and the material logically presented. If the candidate writes a letter, mark organization out of 2.

EXPRESSION – 10 MARKS

The language should be formal; slang or colloquialism are out of place here. Award use of right tenses, appropriate vocabulary, figure of speech and well outlined paragraphs. The candidate is expected to use a good blend of sentence patterns.

MECHANICAL ACCURACY - 5 MARKS

As for Question 1.

PART B - READING [20 marks]

PENALTIES FOR QUESTION 4

(a) Deduct half a mark for any grammatical/expression error(s) at each scoring point.

(b) Where a candidate gives two answers to a question and one of them is wrong, award zero. If, however, both answers are correct award full marks.

(c) Where words /expressions are expected to be given to replace words /expressions in the passage, they must fit in perfectly. Otherwise, award zero.

(d) Answers need not be written in sentences, unless otherwise stipulated.

(e) An answer, taken as a whole, must make sense before any part of it may be accepted for scoring.

QUESTION 4

COMPREHENSION

(a) - To keep the home clean.
- Tend for children.
-Cultivate farms for home consumption **1 each x 3 = [3 marks]**

(b) They thought it was a waste of time since girls' main role was to raise a family. **[2 marks]**

(c) - High birth
- Exceptional courage
- Great Ability **1½ each x 2 = [3 marks]**

(d) This is because they were responsible for defending their community against their enemy **[2 marks]**

(e) They were not expected to be very active or vocal. **[½ mark]**

(f) (i) *on account of* – because of/ due to/ as a result of/ in consequence of/ owing to/ by reason of/ attributable to **[½ mark]**

(ii) *on the grounds of sex*- based on sex/ as a result of gender/ due to gender differences/ due to sexual discrimination/ on gender discrimination **[½ mark]**

(iii) *by virtue of* – through/ because of/ as a result of/ by authority of **[½ mark]**

(g) (i) *advent* – coming/ arrival/ dawn/ appearance/ dominance/ influence **[½ mark]**

(ii) *disparity* – inequality / difference/ distinction / gap/ discrepancy/ disproportion **[½mark]**

(iii) *ultimate* – final/ utmost/ paramount/ significant/ eventual/ main/ dominant **[½ mark]**

(iv) *ignored*- disregarded/ took no notice of/ overlooked/ discounted/ downplayed **[½ mark]**

(v) *severely* – extremely/ sharply/ strongly/ seriously/ very/ tremendously **[½mark]**

(vii) *perpetuated* – continued/ spread/preserved/ kept/ sustained/ kept up **[½ mark]**

TOTAL = 15 MARKS

SUMMARISING

(h) - Girls leant home-keeping while boys learnt a vocation.
- Boys undertook vocations but girls were trained at home. ***Any correct answer*** = [**2 marks]**

(i) - Boys were sent to school but girls were not.
- Girls kept the home while boys went to school.
- Boys received Western education but girls were denied. ***Any correct answer* = [2 marks]**

(j) Discrimination against women/ Gender Discrimination/ Gender Inequality/ Male Domination/ Sexual Disparity **[1 mark]**

TOTAL = 5 MARKS

PART C- LITERATURE [10 marks]

PENALTIES FOR QUESTION 5

(a) Deduct half a mark for any grammatical/expression error(s) at each scoring point.
(b) Where a candidate gives two answers to a question and one of them is wrong, award zero (o). If, however, both answers are correct award full marks.
(c) An answer, taken as a whole, must make sense before any part of it may be accepted for scoring.
(d) Award zero if a candidate spells a name, a literary device, etc. wrongly

QUESTION 5

(a) (i) Anger/ frustration/ bitterness **[½ mark]**
(ii) She is feeling sleepy/ getting drowsy Accept any 1 correct **=[½ mark]**

(b) Rhetorical questions **[1 mark]**

(c) (i) Sadness/ bitterness [**½ mark]**
(ii) By pleading/ begging/ By showing the cruelty of Mr Gamfield [**½ mark]**

(d) **(i)** Flashback [**½ mark]**
(ii) Pain [**½ mark]**

(e) Simile [**1 mark]**

(f) Suspicion / superstition [**1 mark]**

(g) Alliteration, simile and onomatopoeia. ***Any 2 correct @ ½ each x 2*** =[**1 mark]**

(h) (i) Assonance [**½ mark]**
(ii) Protection / Covering [**½ mark]**

(i) Discontent/Greed/Ingratitude// Not appreciating what one has/Not being grateful. [**1 mark]**

(j) Racism/discrimination/racial discrimination [**1 mark]**

TOTAL = 10 MARKS

PAPER ONE (40 MARKS)

1. C	**21. C**
2. B	**22. A**
3. B	**23. D**
4. D	**24. A**
5. B	**25. B**
6. C	**26. B**
7. C	**27. B**
8. A	**28. C**
9. C	**29. D**
10. A	**30. B**
11. D	**31. B**
12. B	**32. A**
13. D	**33. D**
14. D	**34. C**
15. A	**35. A**
16. C	**36. B**
17. C	**37. C**
18. B	**38. B**
19. C	**39. B**
20. B	**40. C**

1 EACH X 40 = 40 MARKS