CHERCHER SECONDARY SCHOOL

ENGLISH GRADE 12th 2nd SEMESTER MOCK EXAM, 2018 E.C

Exam Center : Chercher Secondary School **Number of items: 100** **Time allowed 2:00**

Section I: READING COMPREHENSION

DIRECTIONS: There are two passages in this section. Read each of them carefully and answer questions **1 - 20** according to the information given. From the four choices **A-D** given for each question, choose the correct answer and **blacken** the letter of your choice on the separate answer sheet provided..

Passage I

The Benefits of Bilingualism

Bilingualism, the ability to speak two languages, offers a range of cognitive, social, and professional advantages. Far from simply being able to switch between two tongues, a bilingual brain often exhibits enhanced executive functions, which are the mental processes that allow us to plan, focus attention, remember instructions, and juggle multiple tasks successfully. Studies have shown that bilingual individuals tend to perform better on tasks requiring problem-solving and multitasking, and they often demonstrate greater **cognitive flexibility** compared to **monolinguals**. This 'bilingual advantage' is thought to stem from the constant mental negotiation involved in managing two language systems simultaneously, which strengthens the brain's executive control.

Beyond cognitive benefits, bilingualism can also foster greater cultural understanding and empathy. By engaging with different linguistic frameworks, individuals gain deeper insights into diverse ways of thinking and perceiving the world. This exposure can lead to increased open-mindedness and a broader worldview. Socially, it allows for richer interactions with a wider array of people, strengthening community ties and personal relationships across cultural divides.

Professionally, bilingualism is an invaluable asset in an increasingly globalized world. It opens doors to a wider range of job opportunities in international business, diplomacy, healthcare, and education. Employers often seek candidates who can communicate effectively with a diverse client base and navigate multicultural work environments. The economic benefits are tangible, with bilingual employees often commanding higher salaries and enjoying better career progression. In sum, the advantages of bilingualism are **pervasive**, influencing individuals' mental prowess, social acumen, and career trajectories.

1. What is the primary focus of the passage?
   A. How to become bilingual.
   B. The challenges of learning a second language.
   C. The various benefits associated with bilingualism.
   D. The differences between online and traditional language learning.

2. Which of the following is NOT listed as an enhanced executive function in bilingual individuals?
   A. Planning **B.** Physical strength **C.** Focusing attention **D.** Remembering instructions

3. The 'bilingual advantage' is believed to originate from:
   A. Having access to more educational resources.
   B. The constant mental management of two language systems.
   C. A natural predisposition to language learning.
   D. Higher social status in multicultural communities.

4. According to the passage, how does bilingualism contribute to cultural understanding?
   A. By forcing individuals to live in foreign countries.
   B. By allowing deeper insights into diverse ways of thinking and perceiving the world.
   C. By solely focusing on the grammar of different languages.
   D. By improving one's ability to travel frequently.

5. In which professional fields are bilingual individuals explicitly stated to have increased opportunities?
   A. International business, diplomacy, healthcare, and education.
   B. Agriculture, manufacturing, construction, and retail.
   C. Sports, entertainment, fashion, and culinary arts.
   D. Mining, forestry, fishing, and utilities.

6. The word "**pervasive**" in the last sentence most nearly means:
   A. limited **B.** widespread **C.** confusing **D.** occasional
7. What does "**monolinguals**" refer to in the first paragraph?
   A. People who speak multiple languages.
   B. People who speak only one language.
   C. People who study linguistics.
   D. People who teach languages.
8. The phrase "**cognitive flexibility**" in the first paragraph suggests the ability to:
   A. perform physical exercises easily.
   B. adapt one's thinking to new situations or information.
   C. remember a lot of vocabulary
   D. speak fluently without effort.
9. What is a "tangible" economic benefit mentioned for bilingual employees?
   A. The ability to travel more often.
   B. Commanding higher salaries.
   C. Greater cognitive flexibility.
   D. Better cultural understanding.
10. Which statement best summarizes the social benefits of bilingualism as described in the passage?
   A. It improves personal health and well-being.
   B. It primarily helps in finding romantic partners.
   C. It fosters richer interactions and strengthens community ties across cultures.
   D. It reduces the need for international travel.

Passage II

The Remarkable Life of Octopuses

Octopuses are fascinating creatures of the deep, renowned for their intelligence, unique anatomy, and **elusive** behaviors. Belonging to the class Cephalopoda, which also includes squids and cuttlefish, octopuses are invertebrates characterized by their eight arms, bulbous heads, and highly developed nervous systems. Unlike most invertebrates, they possess complex brains, capable of problem-solving, learning, and even using tools. Scientists have observed octopuses unscrewing jars to get food, navigating mazes, and camouflaging themselves with astonishing precision to avoid predators.

Their anatomy is as remarkable as their intelligence. Each of their eight arms is equipped with hundreds of suckers, allowing for powerful grip and incredibly precise manipulation. They also have three hearts: two pump blood through the gills, and one circulates it to the rest of the body. Furthermore, their blood is copper-based, making it blue, a characteristic shared with other cephalopods. This copper-based blood is more efficient at transporting oxygen in cold, low-oxygen environments typical of deep-sea habitats.

Perhaps one of their most extraordinary abilities is their mastery of camouflage. Octopuses can change the color, pattern, and even texture of their skin in milliseconds. They achieve this using specialized pigment sacs called chromatophores, which they can expand or contract at will. This allows them to blend seamlessly with their surroundings, whether mimicking rocks, sand, or even coral. Beyond defense, camouflage is also used for hunting prey and communicating with other octopuses.

Despite their sophisticated capabilities, octopuses have relatively short lifespans, typically ranging from six months to five years, depending on the species. Their lives are characterized by rapid growth, intense reproduction, and then senescence. Female octopuses, in particular, exhibit an extreme form of maternal care; they lay thousands of eggs and then guard them constantly, ceasing to eat, which ultimately leads to their death shortly after the eggs hatch. This high-investment reproductive strategy, combined with their intelligence and unique adaptations, makes octopuses a constant source of wonder and study for marine biologists.

11. What class of animals do octopuses belong to?
   A. Invertebrates **B.** Cephalopoda **C.** Mollusca **D.** Vertebrates
12. According to the passage, which of the following is *not* a characteristic of an octopus's anatomy?
   A. Eight arms
   B. Three hearts
   C. Red, iron-based blood
   D. Hundreds of suckers on each arm
13. What evidence is provided in the passage to support the claim that octopuses are intelligent?
   A. Their ability to reproduce rapidly.
   B. Their complex camouflage techniques.
   C. Observations of them solving problems like unscrewing jars.
   D. Their short lifespans.

14. Why is an octopus's blood blue?
A. It contains a high concentration of oxygen.
B. It is copper-based, which helps transport oxygen efficiently in specific environments.
C. It lacks red blood cells found in other animals.
D. It is a defense mechanism to deter predators.

15. What is the primary purpose of chromatophores in octopuses?
A. To produce ink for defense.
B. To expand and contract for movement.
C. To allow for rapid changes in skin color, pattern, and texture.
D. To circulate blood through the gills.

16. Besides defense, for what other purposes do octopuses use camouflage?
A. Hibernation and migration.
B. Cleaning their habitats and building shelters.
C. Hunting prey and communicating with other octopuses.
D. Protecting their eggs and young.

17. What is the typical lifespan of an octopus?
A. Over 10 years.
B. From six months to five years.
C. Exactly one year.
D. Lifespans vary too greatly to generalize.

18. The passage describes female octopuses' maternal care as "extreme." What action is highlighted as part of this extreme care?
A. They find the safest possible location for their eggs.
B. They eat a lot to gain energy for guarding their eggs.
C. They stop eating while guarding their eggs, leading to their death.
D. They teach their hatchlings how to hunt and camouflage.

19. The word "**elusive**" in the first paragraph most closely means:
A. Easy to find.
B. Difficult to catch or observe.
C. Very common.
D. Aggressive and dangerous.

20. Which of the following best summarizes the main characteristic highlighted throughout the passage about octopuses?
A. Their vulnerability to deep-sea predators.
B. Their unique and highly adaptive biological features and behaviors.
C. Their importance in the marine food chain.
D. Their recent discovery by marine biologists.

SECTION TWO: VOCABULARY

A. Completion

DIRECTIONS: Questions from **21-28** are incomplete sentences. There are four alternative words or phrases, **A-D**, given below each question. Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence and **blacken** the letter of your choice on the separate answer sheet provided.

21. The criminals told the clerk to put his hands in the air and threatened to _____ the store.
A. stick to **B.** stick up **C.** stick on **D.** stick around

22. You should not be so_____ to these late comers, once punished, they should be allowed to attend class.
A. generous **B.** cruel **C.** modest **D.** kind

23. I need to check my _____ to see if I have any meetings planned for this afternoon.
A. Deadline **B.** Due date **C.** Schedule **D.** Threshold

24. The company's total revenue is calculated _____, meaning they review their profits once every year.
A. Per-annum **B.** Deadline **C.** Due date **D.** Prevalence

25. Engines _____ a lot of fuel and energy in order to function properly.
A. Constitute **B.** Halve **C.** Consume **D.** Degrade

26. The students were told to quickly _____ their notes before the final exam.
A. look up **B.** look through **C.** look for **D.** look to

27. Water and minerals _____ the essential elements found in the soil.
A. Halve **B.** Consume **C.** Constitute **D.** Prioritize

28. Ethiopia will enjoy a period of peace and_____ in the next few years, this happens if the country ensures law and gives priority to science, technology and innovation.
A. prosperity **B.** nationality **C.** protest **D.** disparity

B. Substitution

DIRECTIONS: For questions **25-30**, each sentence has an underlined word or phrase followed by alternatives **A-D**. Choose the word or phrase that best corresponds with the meaning of the underlined word or phrase and **blacken** the letter of your choice on the separate answer sheet provided.

29. Quality of education is a major influencing factor for a country's future success.
A. Threshold **B.** Determinant **C.** Prevalence **D.** Inhabitant

30. Houses in cities are not affordable for the great majority of the people in Ethiopia.
A. comfortable **B.** cheap **C.** available **D.** suitable

31. Every permanent resident of the village was required to vote on the new land policy.
A. Determinant **B.** Inhabitant **C.** Prevalence **D.** Threshold

32. The teacher announced that the mathematics examination has been put off for next week.
A. forgotten **B.** postponed **C.** prepared **D.** cancelled

33. Researchers are studying the frequency of the disease in urban areas.
A. Prevalence **B.** Fatality **C.** Determinant **D.** Infrastructure

34. I need to sort out my finances.
A. Ruin **B.** Ignore **C.** Organize **D.** Spend

C. Antonyms

DIRECTIONS: For questions **35 - 37**, Choose the best antonym for the underlined word in each question**.**

35. The witness appeared credible to the jury.
A. Believable **B.** Reliable **C.** Untrustworthy **D.** Convincing

36. The speaker was quite eloquent in their delivery.
A. Articulate **B.** Fluent **C.** Incoherent **D.** Persuasive

37. The general was known for his benevolent leadership.
A. Kind **B.** Cruel **C.** Generous **D.** Compassionate

D. Analogy

DIRECTIONS: For questions **38 - 40**, two pairs of words are given. Look at the relationship between the two words in each pair and choose the word which forms a similar relationship with the word given next to each pair and then **blacken** the letter of your choice on the separate answer sheet provided.

38. Mouse is to computer as steering wheel is to_____
A. thermo-flask **B.** refrigerator **C.** vehicle **D.** television

39. Bed: Sleep:: Stove:_____
A. Clean **B.** Wash **C.** Cook **D.** Utensil

40. Actor : Stage :: Lawyer : _____
A. Client **B.** Courtroom **C.** Lawsuit **D.** Judge

SECTION THREE: GRAMMAR

DIRECTIONS: Questions from **41 - 62** are incomplete sentences. Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence accurately and blacken the letter of your choice on the separate answer sheet provided.

41. The View was wonderful. If I _____ a camera with me, I would have taken some photographs.
A. had **B.** would have **C.** would have had **D.** had had

42. The weather is horrible. I wish it _____ raining.
A. Would stop **B.** stopped **C.** stops **D.** will stop

43. I wish I _____ have to work tomorrow, but unfortunately, I do.
A. Don't **B.** didn't **C.** wouldn't **D.** won't

44. Wakuma doesn't enjoy his job anymore. She's _____ because every day he does exactly the same thing.
A. Boring **B.** bored **C.** exciting **D.** fascinating

45. Mozart _____ more than 600 pieces of music.
A. Write **B.** wrote **C.** is writing **D.** are writing

46. I will phone you _____ I get home from work.
A. When **B.** while **C.** after **D.** before

47. You have been travelling all a day. You _____ tired.
A. Can **B.** may **C.** might **D.** must be

48. The farmers installed an irrigation system _____ their crops would receive enough water during dry seasons.
A. to **B.** for **C.** so as to **D.** so that

49. I told Meron that her boyfriend had phoned _____ she came.
A. As soon as **B.** where **C.** while **D.** until

50. By the time the presentation starts, we_____ all the necessary data.
A. Will prepared **B.** prepare **C.** will have prepared **D.** had prepared

51. He can solve complex problems_____ Her class mates do.
A. More efficient **B.** efficiently **C.** most efficiently **D.** more efficiently

52. He made _____ compelling argument _____ everyone agreed with him immediately.
A. Too / to **B.** so / that **C.** such /to **D.** such a / that

53. If this road is said to be a short cut to save some miles, I will certainly be the first _____ use it.
A. Make **B.** to make **C.** making **D.** to make

54. The streets are dangerous at night so you should avoid _____ alone at night.
A. To walk **B.** talk **C.** for walking **D.** walking

55. It is a pity that his monthly income is_____ small_____ save any money at all. His life is from hand to mouth.
A. So/to **B.** so/that **C.** too/to **D.** too/took

56. _____ his lack of experience, he performed exceptionally well in the interview.
A. Due to **B.** Despite **C.** Consequently **D.** Because

57. _____ carefully, they will do fifteen km to the litter of petrol.
A. Having drive **B.** if driven **C.** Driving **D.** having driven

58. The book, _____ I borrowed from the library, was very interesting.
A. that **B.** who **C.** which **D.** where

59. He wasn't able to finish his work, _____ he tried as hard as he could.
A. Even though **B.** But **C.** If **D.** Besides

60. _____ by a dust storm, they fell into dis order.
A. blinding **B.** blinded **C.** having blinded **D.** blindness

61. The person _____ car was parked illegally received a fine.
A. who **B.** whom **C.** whose **D.** which

62. Had I known that, I _____ married her.
A. would be **B.** would have **C.** have had **D.** will have

SECTION FOUR: COMMUNICATION

DIRECTIONS: Questions from **63-82** are presented in the form of conversation. The part said by one of the speakers is given, and a blank space is left for the other. Choose the alternative that is most appropriate to complete the dialogue and write the letter of your choice on the separate answer sheet provided.

63. **Naol**: _____ I have won a scholarship to Sweden.
Beza: Are you serious? That is like a lottery.
A. I have been trying for long. **C.** I like Sweden Universities
B. What a scholarship! **D.** You won't believe this but

64. **You**: I am going to sell my car. What is your advice?
Friend: I _____. The price of used cars has tremendously declined.
A. disagree **B.** agree **C.** argue **D.** I don't care

65. **You**: Can I use your laptop this afternoon?
Friend: Yes, of course, but _____
A. We're close friends, in any case. **C.** don't ask me for it again.
B. I bought it just over a month ago. **D.** Keep it safely with you forever.

66. **Teacher**: _____
Student: He has gone to Arba Minch University to attend his sister's graduation.
A. Do you know much about your friend? **C.** Can you tell me why your friend is absent?
B. Can you tell me where Firaol is sitting? **D.** Did your friend do the assignment?

67. Patient: _____.
Doctor: That is what I told you several times to stay health.
A. How about eating a lot of fat every day? **C.** I should have avoided caffeine and sugar.
B. Sometimes, I don't know the best foods. **D.** It is okay to drink alcohol at weekends.

68. Abdi: My father has been experiencing a severe common cold. What shall I do?
Jalata: _____
A. I suggest you take it easy he will recover after a time.
B. Why don't you take him to hospital?
C. This was happened to my father last week and I took him to hospital.
D. Common cold is common for older people, so don't worry about it

69. Firaol: The film wasn't good, _____?
Nahom: _____.
A. Wasn't it/ No, it wasn't **B.** Was it/ No, it wasn't **C.** Isn't it/ Yes, it is **D.** Is it/ Yes, it is

70. Tigist: Are you ready to go?
Keneni: _____ .
Tigist: When will you ready?
Keneni: _____ .
Tigist: Hurry up! I am waiting for you.
A. Not yet/ in five minutes. **C.** Yes, I think/ why, I have no time to go
B. Yes, of course/ I don't know. **D.** I am afraid I can't/ tomorrow morning

71. Abel: Can you help me with this work?
Guta: I am afraid, I can't I'm very busy now.
Abel: _____ .
Guta: Yes, certainly. I think I will be free an hour.
A. Can you help me tomorrow? **C.** When will you be free?
B. Can I come a little later? **D.** What are you busy with?

72. Biruk: _____ .
Bulcha: No, I am waiting for Teddy.
Biruk: _____ .
Bulcha: I'm not in a hurry. I will wait till he is ready.
A. Who are you waiting for/ He is out.
B. You are waiting for Teddy, aren't you? / He had just left
C. Aren't you coming with us? / But he won't be ready for some time.
D. Would like to wait for Teddy? / He will be ready in a minute.

73. Mr. Kaleb: Could I see you on Monday?
Miss Biftu: _____ . When can you come?
Mr. Kaleb: At 10 in the morning.
Miss Biftu: _____. See you on Monday then. Good bye.
A. I am sorry, I can't/ That won't do. **C.** No, you can't/Why?
B. Yes, / No, I am busy at 10. **D.** Certainly/ Very good

74. Hayu: In my opinion Manchester United is the best football club in the world.
Naol: Excuse me, _____ Manchester United is the best. Arsenal is.
A. I think. **B.** I agree. **C.** I don't think. **D.** In my opinion

75. Azeb: My parents have just come back from Washington DC. They say it's a very beautiful city, _____ ?
Megersa: Never, it is my dream. I hope it will come true.
A. Do you go there? **B.** Were they there last year? **C.** Have you ever been there? **D.** Will you go there?

76. **Bahru**: By the way, I have two books of yours. I should like to return them.
Milkessa: Have you finished reading them?
Bahiru: _____
Milkessa: Would you care to have another book to read?
A. All right, I will it again, well, I must be off.
B. Yes, enjoyed them very much, especially the one about Adwa victory.
C. Of course, I thought it was time I paid a visit.
D. I haven't free time. I will bring it next time.

77. **Reception**: May I help you sir?
Customer: _____ .
A. I am in room 240.
B. All the rooms are occupied.
C. There is no light in my room
D. My room is on the first floor room number 20.

78. **Mosisa**: Are still living in Chiro?
Kemer: _____.
A. Yes, i have been living in Chiro before I moved to Adama.
B. Frankly speaking, Chiro is a nice place for living.
C. No, I moved to Adama about years ago.
D. This is my 10th year in Adama.

79. Student: Excuse me, sir. may I go out and give this text book for my fr, Bona?
Teacher: _____
A. I am sorry, you can. **B.** No, mayn't. **C.** Not at all. You can. **D.** Yes, I am sorry with pleasure

80. **Student A:** Constant use of social media leads to low reading habits.
Student B: _____.
A. I don't have reading habits.
B. I agree with you entirely.
C. I have the right to say that
D. I won't say that

81. **Customer**: I would like to withdraw 100,000 Birr, please.
Cashier: _____.
A. What is the interest rate on your account?
B. Could you write your name there, please?
C. How would you like the money?
D. Do you want make a withdrawal?

82. **Mulu**: Have you finished your assignment?
Telile: Not yet. I need _____ more time.
A. a few **B.** several **C.** a little **D.** many

SECTION FIVE: WRITING

A. Word Order Questions

DIRECTIONS: For questions **83 - 87**, the words are given in the wrong order. When put the right order, the words form a correct sentence. From the given alternatives, choose the one with correct order and blacken the letter of your choice on the separate answer sheet**.**

83. store quickly to the Biftu went
A. To the store quickly Biftu went.
B. Biftu went quickly to the store.
C. Went Biftu to the store quickly.
D. Quickly to the store Biftu went.

84. going Trump tonight to the party is
A. Trump is going to the party tonight?
B. Is Trump going to the party tonight?
C. Going to the party tonight is Trump?
D. Trump going to the party tonight is?

85. yesterday with his to the museum Putin went friends
A. Yesterday, Putin to the museum went with his friends.
B. Putin went to the museum yesterday with his friends.
C. Putin went yesterday with his friends to the museum.
D. With his friends to the museum Putin went yesterday.

86. weekdays never Zinash to the cinema on goes
A. Zinash goes never to the cinema on weekdays.
B. Zinash never goes to the cinema on weekdays.
C. Zinash goes to the cinema never on weekdays.
D. Never Zinash goes to the cinema on weekdays.

87. considered the student English very bright our teacher
A. Our English teacher considered the student very bright.
B. Very bright our English teacher considered the student.
C. Our English teacher considered very bright the student.
D. The student very bright our English teacher considered.

B. Paragraph coherence

DIRECTIONS: For questions **88 - 90**, when put in the correct order, the sentences make complete and coherent paragraph. Then, choose the letter that shows the correct order of the sentences and blacken the letter of your choice in the space provided on the separate answer sheet**.**

88. a. He dislikes the idea of always being available.
b. They want him to keep it on all the time.
c. Alemu's company has bought him a mobile phone.
d. He also hates the way some people talk loudly on their mobile.
e. He usually is impatient with them.
A. c b a d e **B.** a b c d e **C.** b c a d e **D.** a c d b e

89. a. But some people think this is not so.
b. This is a blessing we should proud of it.
c. Ethiopia is a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural country.
d. These people must be told that their fear is unjustified.
e. They say the diversity may tear the country apart.
A. c b a d e **B.** c a b e d **C.** c b a e d **D.** c b e a d

90. a. Perhaps this is because they don't know the benefit of doing so.
b. Many of the diseases could be prevented by boiling the water to kill the germs in it.
c. Water-borne diseases claim many lives in poor countries.
d. But, many people don't follow this advice.
e. This is because the water they drink is contaminated.
A. b c e a d **B.** d b c a e **C.** c e b d a **D.** a d b e c

C. Essay writing/Writing Styles

DIRECTIONS: The next questions **91 - 95** are about essay writing. Read each question carefully and choose the best answer according to the context. Then blacken the letter of your choice on the separate answer sheet.

91. "Well, I believe that education should expand our consciousness, capabilities, sensitivities, and cultural understanding..." This is taken from a piece of writing that is most likely _____ writing.
A. narrative **B.** expository **C.** argumentative **D.** descriptive

92. "Learning is the process of acquiring new skills and understanding..." This is taken from a piece of writing that is most likely _____ writing.
A. expository **B.** argumentative **C.** descriptive **D.** narrative

93. "One afternoon, the crocodile was resting beside a stone near the pond, when two fishermen stopped there to drink water...This extract most likely taken from _____
A. argumentative **B.** expository **C.** descriptive **D.** narrative

94. Which one of the following sentences that can't be example of descriptive writing?
A. This made the villager dull and sleepy.
B. The weather was hot and extremely scorching.
C. There were rumors that the enemy was approaching.
D. Unfriendly as the situation was, not a soul was to be seen anywhere.

95. Which of the following sentences could be taken from narrative type of writing?
A. I was surprised to see this girl with beautiful long hair trying to talk to me.
B. I saw a crowd of people some of who were aimlessly wandering around.
C. First, he snatched her purse and in no time vanished into the village.
D. The scene was full of people as usual. It seems they don't have anything to do.

D. Letter writing

DIRECTIONS: The next questions **96 - 100** are about letter writing. Read each question carefully and choose the best answer according to the context. Then blacken the letter of your choice on the separate answer sheet.

96. Which salutation is most appropriate for a formal letter when you do not know the recipient's name?
A. Dear Sir, **B.** To Whom It May Concern, **C.** Hello, **D.** Greetings,

97. Which of these is a standard complimentary close for a formal business letter?
A. Yours truly, **B.** Love, **C.** See you soon, **D.** Cheers,

98. In a personal letter, which element is often included but is typically omitted in a formal business letter?
A. Date **B.** Return Address **C.** Postscript (P.S.) **D.** Recipient's Address

99. Which of the following is the best example of an effective opening sentence for a formal complaint letter?
A. "I am writing to express my dissatisfaction with a product I purchased from your company."
B. "You guys really messed up my order!"
C. "I think maybe there might be a problem with something I bought."
D. "This letter is about a complaint."

100. What is the primary purpose of the body of a letter?
A. To list the sender's qualifications **C.** To state the recipient's address
B. To provide the main message, information, or request **D.** To formally close the communication