

SC3021/B  
WASSCE 2021  
ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE 1  
Objective  
1 hour

- ❖ PAST QUESTIONS
- ❖ QUIZZES
- ❖ REVISION NOTES
- ❖ SYLLABUS / CHIEF EXAMINERS' REPORT
- ❖ LESSON NOTES
- ❖ FREE COURSES
- ❖ CAREER / SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
- ❖ STUDENT NEWS

THE WEST AFRICAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

West African Senior School Certificate Examination  
for School Candidates

SC 2021

ENGLISH LANGUAGE 1

1 hour

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so. While you are waiting, read and observe the following instructions carefully. Write your name and index number in the spaces provided above.

The paper is an Objective Test and carries 50 marks. Answer the questions on your objective answer sheet. The paper will last 1 hour

1. Use 2B pencil throughout.
2. On the pre-printed answer sheet, check that the following details are correctly printed:
  - (a) In the space marked *Name*, check your **surname** followed by your **other names**.
  - (b) In the spaces marked *Examination*, *Year*, *Subject* and *Paper*, check 'WASSCE', 'SC 2021', 'ENGLISH LANGUAGE', and '1' in that order.
  - (c) In the box marked *Index Number*, your **index number** has been printed vertically in the spaces on the left-hand side, and each numbered space has been shaded in line with each digit. **Reshade** each of the shaded spaces.
  - (d) In the box marked *Subject Code*, the digits 302113 are printed vertically in the spaces on the left-hand side. **Reshade** the corresponding numbered spaces as you did for your index number.
3. An example is given below. This is for a male candidate whose *name* is Adams Smith ACKAH. His *index number* is 7102143958 and he is offering *English Language* 1.

THE WEST AFRICAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL  
ANSWER SHEET

PRINTED IN BLOCK LETTERS.		GHA	
Name: ACKAH ADAMS SMITH		Year: SC 2021	
Examination: WASSCE		Paper: 1	
Subject: ENGLISH LANGUAGE			

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Use grade 2B pencil throughout.
2. Answer each question by choosing one letter and shading it like this:  A  B  C  D  E
3. Erase completely any answer you wish to change.
4. Leave extra spaces blank if the answer spaces provided are more than you need.
5. Do not make any markings across the heavy black marks at the right hand edge of your answer sheet.

INDEX NUMBER	
7	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
1	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
0	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
2	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
1	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
4	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
3	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
9	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
5	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
8	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

SUBJECT CODE	
3	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
0	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
2	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
1	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
1	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
3	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

**For Supervisors only**  
If candidate is absent shade this space.

Answer **all** the questions.

Each question is followed by **four** options lettered A to D. Find out the correct option for **each** question. Shade in **pencil** on your answer sheet the answer space which bears the same letter as the option you have chosen. Give only **one** answer to **each** question. Be sure you understand the instructions at the beginning of each section before you try to answer any of the questions that follow them. Do not spend too much time on a question. If you find a question difficult, leave it and go on and try it again later.

Use pencil throughout. If you wish to change an answer, erase your first answer completely and shade the appropriate space for the new answer.

An example is given below:

From the words lettered A to D, choose the word that **best completes** the sentence.

The three-month notice of resignation which the manager gave ..... in two weeks' time.

- A. expires
- B. lapses
- C. disrupts
- D. develops

The correct answer is expires which is lettered A and therefore answer space A would be shaded.

A  B  C  D  E

Now answer the following questions.

#### PART A

#### LEXIS AND STRUCTURE

#### SECTION 1

In **each** of the following sentences, there is a word underlined and one gap. From the list of words lettered A to D, choose the word that is **most nearly opposite** in meaning to the underlined word and that will, at the same time, **correctly fill** the gap in the sentence.

1. Hard work lifts one from poverty to .....
  - A. affluence
  - B. development
  - C. generosity
  - D. happiness
2. Koby's business which was flourishing up to last week is now .....
  - A. closing
  - B. declining
  - C. degrading
  - D. vanishing
3. Nowadays, computerized services are taking the place of ..... operations.
  - A. daily
  - B. efficient
  - C. electrical
  - D. manual
4. The king encouraged all his subjects not to be ..... by recent happenings.
  - A. cautioned
  - B. controlled
  - C. disheartened
  - D. surprised

5. The eyewitness's account is only superficial and not .....
- accurate
  - complex
  - instructive
  - profound
6. The advantages of reconciliation far outweigh living in .....
- disharmony
  - indifference
  - opposition
  - violence
7. The poor family cannot afford sumptuous meals, they have to make do with ..... ones.
- available
  - frugal
  - unpalatable
  - unbalanced
8. The sea which was turbulent an hour ago is now .....
- calm
  - cool
  - deep
  - motionless
9. It is advisable to avoid apathy and embrace .....
- bravery
  - enthusiasm
  - leniency
  - satisfaction
10. Ama seldom goes to school because she is ..... afraid of meeting her class teacher.
- always
  - never
  - quite
  - sometimes

## SECTION II

*From the words lettered A to D, choose the one that best completes each of the following sentences.*

11. Many people are prone ..... conflicting emotions.
- by
  - from
  - to
  - with
12. You were not supposed to ..... this secret to the police.
- discuss
  - display
  - divulge
  - disseminate
13. The project was ..... for lack of funds.
- abandoned
  - forgotten
  - downtrodden
  - rejected
14. The country produces oil in ..... quantities for export.
- abundant
  - commercial
  - profuse
  - trading

Turn over

15. There is no point in acquiring a gadget unless one means to use it, .....?  
 A. doesn't there  
 B. is there  
 C. isn't there  
 D. there is
16. Good businessmen have a keen eye ..... profit.  
 A. around  
 B. for  
 C. on  
 D. over
17. John, the king's eldest son, is indisputably the ..... to the throne.  
 A. claimant  
 B. guard  
 C. heir  
 D. owner
18. Poor feeding has caused children of this village to suffer from .....  
 A. convulsion  
 B. malaria  
 C. malnutrition  
 D. malfunction
19. I told you before the match started that my team would .....yours.  
 A. beat  
 B. lose  
 C. score  
 D. win
20. The teacher expects every student to respect .....  
 A. himself  
 B. oneself  
 C. ourselves  
 D. themselves

## SECTION III

Choose from the alternatives lettered **A** to **D** the one which is nearest in meaning to the underlined word or expression in each sentence.

21. Mary succeeded through perseverance.  
 A. accomplishment  
 B. inspiration  
 C. knowledge  
 D. persistence
22. The weather has been serene all day.  
 A. calm  
 B. great  
 C. friendly  
 D. intense
23. Bribery and corruption are inimical to Ghana's economic advancement.  
 A. unavoidable  
 B. negative  
 C. harmful  
 D. common

24. Mama is sceptical about Juli's story that she saw a snake at the kitchen.  
A. amazed  
B. concerned  
C. doubtful  
D. terrified
25. The student's response further infuriated his already angry teacher.  
A. challenged  
B. enraged  
C. frightened  
D. moved
26. The sale of drugs is restricted to adults.  
A. confined  
B. controlled  
C. extended  
D. limited
27. The thief's attempts to defend himself proved futile.  
A. abortive  
B. risky  
C. senseless  
D. uncertain
28. The headmaster reprimanded John for bullying the new boy.  
A. insulted  
B. rebuked  
C. reported  
D. punished
29. Many people were unable to cope with escalating medical expenses.  
A. expanding  
B. heightening  
C. rising  
D. striking
30. A swarm of locusts caused widespread damage to the crops.  
A. destruction  
B. deterioration  
C. spoilage  
D. wreckage

## SECTION IV

*After each of the following sentences, a list of possible interpretations of all or part of the sentence is given. Choose the interpretation you consider most appropriate for each sentence.*

31. In spite of severe criticisms, he stood his ground. This means that he  
A. made remarkable progress.  
B. reasoned sensibly.  
C. remained firm.  
D. remained on the ground.
32. The job seekers were told to keep their fingers crossed. This means they were to  
A. crosscheck their documents.  
B. hope for the best.  
C. pray for success.  
D. revise their notes thoroughly.

**Turn over**

33. Kofi had his heart in his mouth when he met the interview panel. This means that Kofi
- A. felt quite indifferent.
  - B. lost his voice completely.
  - C. was more than ready.
  - D. was very anxious.
34. The police's prompt intervention nipped last week's crisis in the bud. This means that
- A. no one was willing to be part of the crisis.
  - B. the demonstrators were chased away.
  - C. the crisis was averted.
  - D. the demonstrators decided to obey the police's orders.
35. The king's birthday party was attended by the cream of society. This means that
- A. all his subjects attended the party.
  - B. only invited guests attended the party.
  - C. all other kings attended the party.
  - D. the most important people were at the party.
36. Amina's friends decided to send her conventry. This means that
- A. Amina was sent to a convent.
  - B. her friends decided to forgive her.
  - C. her friends decided to ignore her.
  - D. she was to be sent away.
37. The headmaster played the ostrich when he got reports of malpractices in the examination hall. This means that he
- A. became vigilant.
  - B. behaved like an ostrich.
  - C. denied the reports.
  - D. ignored the problem.
38. Mavis said she would not attend the classes because she smelt a rat. This means that she
- A. felt insecure.
  - B. was disturbed by the smell of a rat.
  - C. was suspicious.
  - D. was very angry.
39. The criminals will be made to face the music. This means that they will be
- A. arrested and imprisoned.
  - B. brought before the law.
  - C. deprived of all music.
  - D. reconsidered on appeal.
40. The students were asked to obey the rules to the letter. This means that they were to obey the rules
- A. according to the letters.
  - B. as and when requested.
  - C. in every detail.
  - D. only in part.

## SECTION V

*In the following passage the numbered gaps indicate missing words. Against each number in the list below the passage, four choices are offered in columns lettered A to D. For each numbered gap, choose from the options provided for that number, the word that is most suitable to fill the gap.*

In international law and relations, —41— has come to be accepted as the most popular —42— of government. Therefore, other —43— types have gradually been seen as unacceptable. This affects —44— and—45— among nations.

Consequently, we have consultations with resultant —46— based on each government's primary —47—. Geographical, economic and political —48— are very seriously considered with a view to averting the debilitating impacts which —49— decisions of nations could cause.

Thus, this —50— is beneficial to all the nations.

	A.	B.	C.	D.
41.	autocracy	democracy	oligarchy	theocracy
42.	kind	process	system	variety
43.	non-aggressive	non-conforming	non-committal	non-governmental
44.	alliances	combinations	mergers	talks
45.	collaboration	conformity	consent	corroboration
46.	allowances	compensations	concessions	options
47.	aspirations	desires	interests	views
48.	factors	indices	points	reasons
49.	collaborative	singular	unilateral	unique
50.	avenue	method	process	rule

**Turn over**

PART B  
LITERATURE

Answer 30 questions in this part: 10 questions on Prose, 10 questions on Drama and 10 questions on Poetry.

PROSE

Answer any set of 10 questions numbered 51 to 60 in either Section I or Section II.

SECTION I

CHARLES DICKENS: *Great Expectations*

Read the following extract and answer questions 51 to 53.

It was when I stood before her avoiding her eyes, that I took notice of the surrounding objects in detail.

51. The word *her* in the extract refers to
- A. Mrs Havisham.
  - B. Mrs Huddle.
  - C. Mrs Joe.
  - D. Mrs Pumblechook.
52. Who made the observation?
- A. Jack
  - B. Joe
  - C. Pip
  - D. Mrs Havisham
53. The narrator noticed that
- A. her dress was not ironed.
  - B. her watch had stopped.
  - C. the chairs were old-fashioned.
  - D. the tables were old-fashioned.

Read the following extract and answer questions 54 to 56.

A man who had been soaked in water, and smothered in mud, and lamed by stones, and cut by flints and stung by nettles .... whose teeth chattered in his head as he seized me by the chin. The man, after looking at me for a moment, turned me upside down, and emptied my pockets.

54. The narrator is
- A. at the beach.
  - B. in the church yard.
  - C. in the garden.
  - D. in the kitchen.
55. The man in the extract refers to
- A. a convict.
  - B. Mr Joe.
  - C. Mr Pumblechook.
  - D. Mr Trabb.



56. What does the man find in the narrator's pocket?
- A. Bread
  - B. Ducats
  - C. Lozenges
  - D. Money

*Read the extract below and answer questions 57 to 59.*

Excuse me ladies and gentlemen; ..., but as I have mentioned at the door to this smart young shaver, ( which he hadn't), I am on a chase in the name of the King, and I want the ....

57. The speaker is
- A. Mrs Havisham.
  - B. the Barrister.
  - C. the Postman.
  - D. the Sergeant.
58. The remark (*which he hadn't*) suggests that the speaker is
- A. frivolous.
  - B. insistent.
  - C. honest.
  - D. lying.
59. The speaker is on a chase for
- A. Joe.
  - B. Pip.
  - C. the blacksmith.
  - D. the sentry.
60. Which point of view does the writer employ throughout the novel?
- A. First person
  - B. Second person
  - C. Omniscient
  - D. Singular

## SECTION II

*AMA ATA AIDOO: No Sweetness Here*

*Read the following extract and answer questions 51 to 55.*

At this point, tough though she was, tears would come into her eyes. Perhaps her people had really missed the boat of original thinking after all? And if Fiifi asked her what was wrong, she explained, telling the same story every time.

51. *She* in the extract refers to
- A. Sissie.
  - B. Mercy
  - C. Setu
  - D. Esi.
52. The underlined part of the extract is
- A. a hyperbole.
  - B. a euphemism.
  - C. an inversion.
  - D. a symbolism.

**Turn over**

53. The speaker is an advocate against
- foreign goods.
  - elitist education.
  - outmoded culture.
  - so-called modern trends.
54. Fiifi and the speaker are
- business partners.
  - siblings.
  - school mates.
  - husband and wife.
55. What made Kobina markedly different from the *big men* was his
- steadfastness.
  - high education.
  - humility.
  - discreteness.

Read the following extract and answer questions 56 to 59.

I called out to her. She did not move. I left her alone ... I went out, shutting the door behind me... The sun was sinking behind the coconut palms. I looked at my watch ....

56. The speaker is
- Chicha.
  - Kwesi's uncle.
  - Maami Ama.
  - the young aunt.
57. The speaker's words refer to
- Chicha.
  - a school girl.
  - an aunt.
  - Maami Ama.
58. The mood of the persona referred to is that of
- anger.
  - hesitance.
  - loneliness.
  - sadness.
59. The precise time according to the speaker's watch was
- midnight.
  - noon.
  - six o'clock p.m.
  - six o'clock a.m.
60. What caused Kwesi's death?
- Snake bite
  - Cholera
  - High pressure
  - Malaria

Answer any set of 10 questions numbered 61 to 70 in either Section I or Section II.

SECTION I  
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: *Merchant Of Venice*.

Read the following extract and answer questions 61 to 65.

If you prick us, do we not bleed? If you tickle us, do we not laugh? If you poison us, do we not die? and if you wrong us, shall we not revenge?

61. The speaker is  
A. Antonio.  
B. Salarino.  
C. Shylock.  
D. Bassanio.
62. The *we* in the extract refers to  
A. the Jews.  
B. married couples.  
C. the Morrocans.  
D. the Venetian Court.
63. The extract illustrates  
A. allegories.  
B. rhetorical questions.  
C. synonyms.  
D. verbal ironies.
64. The speech was provoked by the actions of  
A. Antonio.  
B. a judge.  
C. Bassanio.  
D. Nerissa.
65. Another character present at this scene was  
A. Bassanio.  
B. Portia.  
C. Prince of Morroco.  
D. Salarino.

Read the following extract and answer questions 66 to 70.

What demi-god  
Hath come so near creation? Move these eyes? Or whether riding on the balls of mine,  
Seem they in motion? Here are several lips,  
Parted with sugar breath:

66. The speaker is  
A. Antonio.  
B. Bassanio.  
C. Gratiano.  
D. Shylock.
67. What occasioned this speech?  
A. Portia herself  
B. Portia's image  
C. Portia's disguise as a judge  
D. The god Apollo

68. The speaker's mood is one of  
 A. hatred.  
 B. marvel.  
 C. sadness.  
 D. trauma.
69. The speaker has just finished  
 A. opening the leaden casket.  
 B. opening the silver casket.  
 C. opening the golden casket.  
 D. confronting his antagonist.
70. The expression, *riding on the balls of mine*, refers to the speaker's  
 A. eyes.  
 B. friends.  
 C. back.  
 D. horse.

## SECTION II

YAW ASARE: *Ananse In The Land Of Idiots*

Read the following extract and answer questions 61 to 64.

He went to fetch me some water to drink. I wonder what has kept him so long.  
 Aha! There he comes. Where is the water? What kept you so long?

61. The speaker is  
 A. Ananse.  
 B. Elder.  
 C. King.  
 D. Pootagyiri.
62. The addressee is  
 A. Sodziisa.  
 B. Ananse.  
 C. Odudu.  
 D. Akpala.
63. On what occasion were these words spoken?  
 A. When Ananse was to visit the King  
 B. When the princess and the maidens went to Ananse  
 C. When Pootagyiri went to have his measurement taken  
 D. When Pootagyiri was about to wed the princess
64. Who was the other character present?  
 A. Elder  
 B. Dossey  
 C. Akpala  
 D. Pootagyiri
65. One of the major issues discussed in the play is  
 A. blackmail.  
 B. intelligence.  
 C. kingship.  
 D. materialism.

Read the following extract and answer questions 66 to 70.

Whoever you are, or were, matters little now. The reality is that you've broken a prime taboo and, in so doing, put the destinies of a whole generation of worthy maidens to great risk.

66. The speaker is  
 A. Ananse.  
 B. the King.  
 C. Pootagiiri.  
 D. Elder.
67. The addressee is  
 A. Elder.  
 B. Ananse.  
 C. Maidens.  
 D. Pootagiiri.
68. Which character enters immediately after these words?  
 A. Ananse  
 B. the Priestess  
 C. Sodziisa  
 D. Elder
69. What taboo has been broken?  
 A. Defilement of ritual feast  
 B. Committing murder  
 C. Elopement with Pootagiiri  
 D. Insulting the King
70. The setting is a  
 A. royal court.  
 B. riverside.  
 C. forest grove.  
 D. village square.

POETRY

Answer any set of 10 questions numbered 71 to 80 in either Section I or Section II.

SECTION I  
 NON- AFRICAN POETRY

ANDREW MARVELL: *The Definition of Love*

71. *I was begotten by Despair* is an example of  
 A. allegory.  
 B. conceit.  
 C. contrast.  
 D. zeugma.
72. Where are the two lovers?  
 A. Beneath the earth  
 B. Close to each other physically  
 C. In a secluded grove  
 D. Poles apart

Turn over

PERCY B SHELLY: *Ozymandias*

73. The form of the poem is  
 A. blank verse.  
 B. elegy.  
 C. ode.  
 D. sonnet.
74. The setting of the story in the poem is  
 A. a desert.  
 B. an ocean.  
 C. the bank of a river.  
 D. middle of nowhere.

ROBERT FROST: *The Road Not Taken*

75. Who is the speaker in the poem?  
 A. A farmer  
 B. A madman  
 C. A traveller  
 D. A wood carver
76. Which road did the persona finally settle on?  
 A. The one frequently used.  
 B. The one less used.  
 C. Both roads.  
 D. He turned back.

JAMES STEPHENS: *What Tomas Said in a Pub*

*I saw God. Do you doubt it?  
 Do you dare to doubt it?*

77. The above lines from the poem illustrate  
 A. oxymoron.  
 B. dramatic monologue.  
 C. rhetorical question.  
 D. apostrophe.
78. What is God's attitude to the world?  
 A. Indifference  
 B. Hopelessness  
 C. Dissatisfaction  
 D. Anger

SYLVIA PLATH: *Mirror*

79. Which of the following is the theme of the poem?  
 A. A mirror's lamentation  
 B. Life is only a mirror  
 C. Mirror is the wall  
 D. The mirror is a reflection on man's life
80. *Like a terrible fish* is an example of  
 A. metaphor.  
 B. metonymy.  
 C. personification.  
 D. simile.

## SECTION II

## AFRICAN POETRY

KWESI BREW: *Lest We Should Be The Last*

71. From the poem, we learn that  
 A. the people have been deceived.  
 B. the movement of the people has been beneficial to them.  
 C. their lateness cost them everything.  
 D. their leader fulfilled his promises.

72. The reaction of the people towards their leader is one of  
 A. admiration.  
 B. enthusiasm.  
 C. praise.  
 D. disrespect.

LENRIE PETERS: *Lost Friends*

73. How does the speaker in the poem feel?  
 A. He feels cheated.  
 B. He feels happy.  
 C. He feels rejected.  
 D. He feels bitter.
74. The speaker in the poem has lost his friends to  
 A. greed.  
 B. education.  
 C. death.  
 D. sincerity.

THERESA ENNIN: *Makola*

75. Which of the following is true about the sachet water seller?  
 A. She is an elderly woman.  
 B. She is a market urchin.  
 C. She is a teenage mother.  
 D. The husband is a drunkard.
76. The dominant device used in the poem is  
 A. allusion.  
 B. rhetorical question.  
 C. metaphor.  
 D. verbal irony.

ABENA BUSIA: *Silver Wedding*

Read the following extract and answer questions 77 and 78.

After celebration,  
 Come the private moments when the guests have gone  
 So this morning early  
 You sneak downstairs  
 to tackle the abandoned dishes on the deserted table  
 where yesterday we gathered.

77. The mood in the extract is that of  
 A. excitement.  
 B. defiance.  
 C. abandonment.  
 D. enthusiasm.
78. The wedding ceremony took place  
 A. a 100 years ago.  
 B. 75 years ago.  
 C. 25 years ago.  
 D. 50 years ago.

KOFI ANYIDOHO: *They Hunt The Night*

79. *They* in the title of the poem refers to  
 A. ghosts.  
 B. naughty children.  
 C. the youth.  
 D. oppressors.

Turn over

80. *The forehead of their joy* is an example of
- A. paradox.
  - B. simile.
  - C. oxymoron.
  - D. personification.

***END OF PAPER***