

AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION BOARD

SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

CLASS X




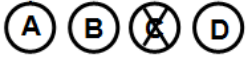

ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS (THEORY) 2023

English Compulsory Paper I

Time: 1 hour Marks: 30

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read each question carefully.
2. Answer the questions on the separate answer sheet provided. DO NOT write your answers on the question paper.
3. There are 100 answer numbers on the answer sheet. Use answer numbers 1 to 30 only.
4. In each question there are four choices A, B, C, D. Choose ONE. On the answer grid black out the circle for your choice with a pencil as shown below.

Correct Way		Incorrect Ways	
1		1	
		2	
		3	
		4	

Candidate's Signature

5. If you want to change your answer, ERASE the first answer completely with a rubber, before blacking out a new circle.
6. DO NOT write anything in the answer grid. The computer only records what is in the circles.

Listening Comprehension Section

In this section you will hear two passages. Each one will be played two times.

Listen carefully to the first passage, and then read questions 1 to 6. You will have two minutes' reading time.

The passage will then be played again. You can make notes on your question paper.

When the passage has finished, enter your answers on your separate answer sheet. You will have three minutes to pencil in your answers.

Follow the instructions on the front page of Paper I to show which of the options, A, B, C, or D, you have selected for each question.

Listening Passage I

The speaker talks about hiccups.

Source: Adapted from the article, '*How to Get Rid of Hiccups*' as published on academichelp.net

Note: Certain edits have been made for ease of students.

Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

1. 'You cannot do all these techniques simultaneously, but you can try them one by one and see which ones work best for you.'

The tone of the given sentence from the heard passage is

- A. authoritative.
 - B. suggestive.
 - C. insulting.
 - D. arrogant.
2. The second way to get rid of hiccups in the heard passage is to
- A. consume certain foods and liquids.
 - B. use your body's pressure points.
 - C. complete breathing exercises.
 - D. use some special remedies.
3. In the heard passage, the narrator states that hiccups can lead to an individual's
- A. mental health issues.
 - B. bad posture.
 - C. annoyance.
 - D. death.
4. The narrator concludes the heard passage by
- A. exploring the effect of various food substances.
 - B. suggesting alternative remedies for hiccups.
 - C. informing about certain pressure points.
 - D. describing the severity of hiccupping.
5. The information in the heard passage is given MAINLY through the use of
- A. analysis.
 - B. comparisons.
 - C. observations.
 - D. recommendations.
6. The heard passage is MOST likely to be included in a/ an
- A. magazine article.
 - B. advertisement.
 - C. book review.
 - D. diary.

PLEASE DO NOT TURN OVER THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD

Now we will play the second passage. It will also be played two times.

Listen carefully to the first passage and then read questions 7 to 13. You will have two minutes' reading time.

The passage will then be played again. You can make notes on your question paper.

When the passage has finished, enter your answers on the separate answer sheet provided to you. You will have three minutes to pencil in your answers.

Listening Passage II

The speaker describes her experience of being a photographer.

Source: Adapted from '*The Subject Not Photographed*' by John Berger and Jean Mohr

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Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

7. In the heard passage, which of the following types of storm had compelled the other group of climbers to spend the whole night a few metres from the summit?
 - A. Snowstorm
 - B. Sandstorm
 - C. Windstorm
 - D. Thunderstorm
8. Based on the information in the heard passage, the climbers from the northern face of the Alps were more exhausted than the narrator due to all of the following reasons EXCEPT the
 - A. severe weather.
 - B. steepness of the summit.
 - C. severity of the frostbites.
 - D. unavailability of food sources.
9. According to the narrator, which of the following actions was MOST urgent after meeting the other group of climbers?
 - A. To reach the summit
 - B. To send all climbers home
 - C. To capture photographs of the injured climbers
 - D. To take the injured to a place where they could get help
10. Which of the following actions led the narrator to a back operation?
 - A. Exposure to severe weather
 - B. Transporting the wounded mountaineers
 - C. Bearing the load of camera, lenses and films
 - D. Capturing photographs on top of a mountain
11. While lying on the hospital bed, the narrator was MOSTLY thinking about
 - A. travelling again.
 - B. her pain and anguish.
 - C. the photos she could take.
 - D. the World Health Organization.
12. The narrator finally decided that she would
 - A. relax for some more time as she liked it.
 - B. not take pictures of the hospital.
 - C. take pictures of the injured.
 - D. lie on her side in future.
13. The text type of the heard passage is a
 - A. personal experience.
 - B. commentary.
 - C. commercial.
 - D. biography.

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Reading Comprehension Section

You have 25 minutes for the reading comprehension section. This section has two passages, each followed by multiple choice questions. You are advised to spend 12.5 minutes on each of the given passages.

Read the passage carefully and then answer the multiple choice questions which follow.

Reading Passage I

For over four years, Andrzej Sapkowski has been one of those authors that has been dangled in front of me, mentioned in passing by Polish readers here and elsewhere, along with an occasional mention on a couple of non-English-language sites that I frequent on occasion. What I read was intriguing enough for me to want more. I looked into buying the Spanish-language editions, but the shipping costs were too prohibitive for me to import from Spain and I never could find any available in American online stores. So I waited. And waited some more, fearing that Sapkowski might never be published in English translation. Until last year, when I heard that Gollancz, perhaps influenced by the upcoming ‘*The Witcher*’ game, was to publish some of Sapkowski’s work in English translation for the United Kingdom (UK) market. ‘*The Last Wish*’ is the first of those works to be published in English.

‘*The Last Wish*’ is a slender, 280-page collection of six loosely-connected short stories and intervals starring Geralt. Originally released in 1993 in Poland as *Ostatnie Zyczenie*, ‘*The Last Wish*’ contains some of the oldest of the Geralt tales, although it was not the first Geralt book released in Poland. It is, however, an excellent introduction to the character and to the type of story that Sapkowski apparently wants to tell.

Although Geralt is trained as a killer and does have some impressive skills as a fighter, violence is not a staple of these stories. Each of these stories have moments like this, moments where Geralt shows that his greatest strength is not in how fast he can kill a monster or how quickly he can evade an attack, but rather in how he is able to take a keener look than his companions at what is truly at stake.

There are many elements of Slavic mythology*, from various creatures that do not have exact similarities in Western mythologies to codes of behaviour, that make this collection a bit more mysterious to me. I suspect there are a few elements that would be funny to a Polish or other Eastern European-reading audience, but which might be taken more literally by the likes of me, born and raised on Western European and Southern mythologies.

*Slavic mythology: a collection of myths belonging to the Slavs (Indo-European people)

Source: Adapted from an article by Holly Grimdragon

Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

14. Paragraph 1 MAINLY focuses on the author's
- A. economic state.
 - B. love for the Spanish language.
 - C. discontentment with publishers.
 - D. patience in acquiring '*The Last Wish*'.
15. In line 17, the word, 'staple' is used in the context of
- A. consumption.
 - B. production.
 - C. foundation.
 - D. condition.
16. The author expresses that '*The Last Wish*' MAINLY focuses on
- A. European mythology.
 - B. '*The Witcher*' game.
 - C. Geralt's adventures.
 - D. Slavic mythology.
17. The author describes Geralt to be
- I. brave
 - II. stubborn
 - III. skillful
 - IV. scary
- A. I and II.
 - B. II and IV.
 - C. I and III.
 - D. III and IV.
18. The narrative style of the given passage is
- A. first-person.
 - B. second-person.
 - C. third-person.
 - D. unreliable.
19. What is the text type of the given passage?
- A. Diary
 - B. News report
 - C. Book review
 - D. Journal entry

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Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Reading Passage II

There is research to suggest that what we eat may affect not just our physical health, but also our mental health and wellbeing. Eating well may be associated with feelings of wellbeing. A study, conducted in 2014, found high levels of wellbeing were reported by individuals who ate more fruits and vegetables.

- 5 A recent study found that a Mediterranean-style diet (a diet high in vegetables, fruits, legumes, nuts, beans, cereals, grains, fish and unsaturated fats such as olive oil) supplemented with fish oil led to a reduction in depression among participants, which was sustained six months after the intervention. The importance of good nutritional intake at an early age is explored in multiple studies, which found that a poor diet (with high levels of saturated fat, refined carbohydrates and
10 processed food products) is linked to poorer mental health in children and adolescents.

However, there are a range of inequalities that can contribute to the development of mental health problems and how these factors interact with each other to affect mental health can be complex. Factors such as poorer physical health and living in poverty, or deprived communities, have been found to be associated with poorer mental health and wellbeing. Both these inequality factors
15 have also been shown to have a complex relationship with poor nutrition.

Experience of a mental health problem may also be associated with poorer diet and physical health. There have been efforts to close the 'mortality gap' for people with severe mental health problems, who on average tend to die 10 to 25 years earlier than the general population. A number of factors may contribute to this premature mortality, including dietary and nutritional
20 factors, among other things.

Poor nutrition can lead to physical health problems such as obesity, though there are a number of demographic variables that could affect the direction and/ or strength of the association with mental health including severity of obesity, socioeconomic status and level of education, gender, age and ethnicity. While a healthy diet can help recovery, it should sit alongside other treatments
25 recommended by your doctor.

Source: Adapted from '*Diet and Mental Health*' as published on <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk>

Mark your responses to these questions on your multiple choice answer sheet.

20. The given passage begins by
- A. referring to various studies.
 - B. stating the benefits of eating fruits.
 - C. exploring a Mediterranean-style diet.
 - D. describing the effect of diet on health.
21. In line 7, the word, 'participants' could be replaced with
- A. doctors.
 - B. members.
 - C. witnesses.
 - D. competitors.
22. In line 11, the underlined word is used in the context of
- A. elaboration.
 - B. confusion.
 - C. similarity.
 - D. creativity.
23. In line 17, the author's purpose in using single quotation marks with mortality gap is to
- A. give title to the paragraph.
 - B. make a statement.
 - C. highlight the term.
 - D. quote a research.
24. If people do not eat healthy, chances are that it could lead to serious mental health issues.
- The given sentence BEST describes paragraph
- A. 1.
 - B. 2.
 - C. 3.
 - D. 4.
25. The author's purpose in the given passage is to
- A. compare obesity with mental health.
 - B. highlight the benefits of a balanced diet.
 - C. describe efforts to decrease mental issues.
 - D. discuss the relationship between nutrition and wellbeing.
26. The text type of the given passage is
- A. communicative.
 - B. comparative.
 - C. informative.
 - D. reflective.

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Cloze Passage Section

This section has a cloze passage, followed by multiple choice questions. You are advised to spend 10 minutes on this section.

Monopoly is a board game currently published by Hasbro. In the game, players roll two six-sided dice to move around the game board, buying and trading properties, and developing them (1) _____ houses and hotels. Players collect rent from their opponents, with the goal being to drive them into bankruptcy. Money can also be gained or lost through Chance and Community Chest cards, and tax squares; players can end up in jail, (2) _____ they cannot move from until they (3) **met** one of several conditions. The game has numerous house rules, and hundreds of different editions exist, as well as many spin-offs and related media. Monopoly has become a part of international popular culture, having been licensed locally in more than 103 countries and printed in (4) few 37 languages.

Source: Taken from the article, '*Monopoly (game)*' as published on en.wikipedia.com

27. The preposition BEST suited to fill **blank (1)** is
- A. into
 - B. from
 - C. within
 - D. towards
28. The word BEST suited to fill **blank (2)** is
- A. that
 - B. who
 - C. which
 - D. whom
29. The grammatical inaccuracy **labelled as (3)** could be corrected as
- A. has met
 - B. had met
 - C. have met
 - D. have been met
30. The grammatical inaccuracy **labelled as (4)** could be corrected as
- A. less
 - B. more
 - C. more than
 - D. fewer than

END OF PAPER

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