

N.S.S.S
END OF TERM ONE EXAMS 2013
S1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE

TIME: 1½ hours

Name:..... Stream:.....

Instructions:

Answer all questions.

1. Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

Lang ago, in ancient seas that covered a primitive world that you and I can scarcely imagine, very small shelled organisms floated in the surface waters. As they died in enormous number in these original oceans, they settled down into the lower levels of the water. they hardened gradually to form massive layers of rocks, rocks that now comprise part of our modern world.

Volcanoes burst, pouring their gases and ashes and hot molten lava over the world. As this material slowly cooled, it solidified into hard and shining rocks.

Slowly from these ancient rocks, some formed millions of years ago, small particles have been broken through the process known as weathering. By the rock-shattering effects of ice, by the heating of the sun, and by the eroding force of running water, wind and rain, tiny pieces of rock broke off, and accumulated slowly to form the skeleton of the soil. Particles are still being broken off in this way to form the basis of the soil we have today. Decomposition is also brought about by chemical reactions in the soil.

Slowly these rock fragments were invaded by living things, by microbes, by fungi, by algae and by insects, to form the living soil that we need so much today.

Human beings rely ultimately on plants for all their food. Even when we eat meat, or milk or cheese, this has come from animals that need plants. Plants need soil for their growth, and for their health and development. Soil is, therefore, a resource of the utmost importance and value to mankind. It is the substance in which plants anchor themselves to grow, that retains moisture for plants to use, and provides nutrients for their growth and development. Plants provide mankind with food, and also produce oxygen, which is needed to sustain life.

Man's population is growing in many parts of the world at an alarming rate. Land suitable for agriculture is running out. a lot of pressure is being put on soil to produce more and more crops. Bad agricultural practices are causing losses of soil in many parts of the world.

People remove the natural vegetation of an area, so that the soil, lying unprotected, is washed away by rain or dried out and blown away by wind. Forests are cut down, leaving the precious soil exposed. People do not terrace their hillsides so that water flows downhill carrying the

vulnerable top soil with it. People plant crop after crop, allowing no time for the soil to recover. It becomes impoverished and infertile. It can then be more easily lost.

For man's continued survival, this alarming loss of precious top soil must be immediately controlled. The disastrous destruction of a vital, life-sustaining resource must be stopped. If the process of soil destruction continues at its present critical level, then starvation and death will confront a large number of people on the earth.

Only if the disastrous loss of soil that we see occurring around us can be checked with the large scale starvation of man likewise be averted. We must remember without soil, there can be no food. Without food, there can be no life.

Questions:

1.1 What was the first stage in the formation of soil?

.....
.....

1.2 Write the correct order of stages in which rocks were formed in the primitive world by the tiny shelled organisms.

.....
.....

1.3 Give one cause of weathering described in the passage.

.....
.....

1.4 "Human being rely ultimately on plants from their food." What is the meaning of this phrase?

.....
.....

1.5 Give one compound that the soil provides to the plants.

.....
.....

1.6 Why is land suitable for agricultural use running out in many parts of the world?

.....
.....

1.7 Show one method used to prevent loss of soil.

.....
.....

1.8 What causes soil infertility according to the passage?

body. its head towered above his, while its eyes flashed threateningly, and its tongue vibrated with a hissing sound as it gazed at Tom; its tail was wound round the trunk of the tree.

‘Ned was powerless, for his arms were fastened to his side by the coils of the reptile. It was but a moment that Tom stood there, shocked. He knew that at any instant by the tightening of its folds the great boa could crush every bone of Ned’s body; while the very closeness of its embrace made it impossible for him to strike at it for fear of injuring its captive. There was not a moment to be lost. Already the coils were tightening, and a hoarse cry broke from Ned. With a rapid spring Tom leaped beyond his friend, and with a blow, delivered with all his strength, cut the portion of the boa’s tail which was coiled around the tree from the rest of its body.

‘As swiftly as they had enclosed him the coils fell from Ned, and a second blow from Tom’s sword cut off the head from the body.

‘Then Tom, throwing down his cutlass, lifted Ned, who, upon being released from the embrace of the boa, had fallen senseless.’

Questions:

- 2.1 Why was the vegetation becoming tropical in character?
 - A. The boys were nearing the equator.
 - B. They had climbed five thousand feet up from the sea.
 - C. They were nearing a dense forest.
 - D. They were coming to the lower ground, which is always warmer.
 - E. It was growing dark and they could not see the vegetation clearly.

- 2.2 How far had they gone that morning before they saw the deer?
 - A. As far as they could walk in about two hours.
 - B. Only a short distance off through the trees.
 - C. A couple of miles.
 - D. They had proceeded far upon their journey.
 - E. They had descended five thousand feet.

- 2.3 Why was the deer staring at the tree, according to Tom?
 - A. It had not heard their approach.
 - B. It was waiting to catch something for its dinner.
 - C. It was terrified to see them only a short distance off.
 - D. There was some wild beast in the tree.
 - E. It had been killed.

- 2.4 ‘A sharp twang’ stands for which of these sounds?
 - A. The cry of the wounded animal.
 - B. Ned’s hunting cry.
 - C. The striking of the arrow on the deer’s skin.
 - D. The striking of the arrow on the deer’s skin.
 - E. The thud of the animal falling to the ground.

- 2.5 Why did they approach the tree with caution?

- A. They thought that the deer was not yet dead.
 - B. They feared that other hunters with arrows might be about.
 - C. They thought the deer had been watching some animal in the tree.
 - D. There was a strange sound coming from the tree.
 - E. They knew that there were many snakes in that place.
- 2.6 Where was the boa hiding?
- A. Beneath the dead deer.
 - B. In the creeping plants which encircled the tree.
 - C. In the long grass surrounding the tree trunks.
 - D. In a hole in the ground.
 - E. We do not know, because we are not told where it came from.
- 2.7 How big was the boa?
- A. It was a head taller than Ned, because its head came above his.
 - B. It was just long enough to encircle the tree trunk.
 - C. It was of an enormous size.
 - D. It was as long as Ned's arms.
 - E. Its body was as thick as Ned's.
- 2.8 How does a boa kill its prey?
- A. It stings with its vibrating tongue.
 - B. It bites, like a dog, with its teeth.
 - C. It paralyzes its victim with its flashing eyes.
 - D. It knocks an animal to the ground the beats it, to break its bones.
 - E. It crushes its prey by squeezing it tightly.
- 2.9 Why did Tom attack the boa's tail instead of its head?
- A. He was afraid of being bitten.
 - B. He did not want to wound Ned when he struck the snake.
 - C. He thought the boa might coil its tail around him too.
 - D. The tail was much closer to him than the head.
- 2.10 Which of the following would be the best title for this extract?
- A. Hunting deer in the tropics.
 - B. A struggle between a deer and a boa.
 - C. Ned's courage in the face of danger.
 - D. A rescue in the nick of time.
 - E. Two friends on a picnic.
3. ***Rewrite the following as instructed without changing the meaning.***
- 3.1 If I had had the opportunity I would have attended the party. (Begin: Had.....)
-

.....
3.2 Did you give me this box or it was somebody else? (Begin: Was.....)
.....

.....
3.3 Anyone who disobeys will be punished. (Begin: Whoever.....)
.....

.....
3.4 Busulwa does not know the girl. He lent his set to her. (Join using 'whom')
.....

.....
3.5 Neither of the brothers forgot to send her a letter or condolence. (Begin: Both.....)
.....

.....
3.6 The tall man is my uncle. He has a grey moustache. (Join beginning: The tall man....)
.....

.....
3.7 Paul left for Gulu. Paul put his clothes in a safe square box. He wanted to protect them from robbers. (Join beginning: To protect.....)
.....

.....
3.8 The games-master asked the trader to supply the school with ten balls. (Rewrite using 'ordered')
.....

.....
3.9. The headteacher spoke very fast. The teacher did not understand what he meant. (Join beginning: So.....)
.....

.....
3.10 Boniface is good at basketball. Olwenyi is equally good at basketball. (Join using '...as...as.....')
.....
.....

4. *Circle the correct alternative among those given in each case.*

- 4.1 Alex.....tennis once or twice a week.
A. is playing usually
B. usually plays
C. is usually playing
D. plays usually
- 4.2 Prossy has been working here.....
A. for six months.
B. six months ago.
C. since six months.
D. six months back
- 4.3 He thought she was wrong, but was.....polite to say to.
A. too
B. so
C. very
D. not
- 4.4 If we take his job, it will mean.....two extra people.
A. employ
B. to employ
C. employing
D. the employment
- 4.5 The car broke down and we had to.....to the next village.
A. foot
B. leg
C. step
D. walk
- 4.6 I am afraid he is one of those who.....that the more anything costs, the more desirable it is.
A. is thinking
B. are thinking
C. think
D. thinks
- 4.7 He has always had a tendency.....faultless lies.
A. of talking
B. for telling
C. to tell
D. tell
- 4.8 I am expecting to.....from him any day now.
A. receive
B. read
C. get
D. hear
- 4.9 He is as cunning as a.....
A. dog
B. fox

- C. wolf
- D. jackal

- 4.10 He died.....in the year 1980.
- A. someday
 - B. sometimes
 - C. sometime
 - D. somewhere

END