

**LUMEN CHRISTI SECONDARY SCHOOL, UROMI  
AND  
PRESENTATION NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, BENIN CITY  
COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION INTO J.S.S. I  
2004-2005 ACADEMIC SESSION**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**TIME: 1½ H**

**INSTRUCTION:** Write your name and number on the answer sheet. Write whether you are a girl. Write your centre. Make sure you shade your "mathematics" answers in the side mathematics and "English" answers in the side marked English on your answer sheet. Use it throughout. Do not ask questions as soon as the examination begins.

**SECTION A: COMPREHENSION  
PASSAGE A**

**Read the following passages carefully & then choose the best answer to each question**

**A successful Cocoa Farmer**

I grow all my own plants from seed. First of all I prepare shelters over the nursery beds, which are situated near a stream. Too much sun harms young Cocoa plants. I usually make the shelters from branches and palm fronds.

Then I plant my seeds. I usually have a few extra seeds which I sell to other farmers. I sell them regularly. After six months, when the plants are about 35 centimeters high, I move them from the nursery beds to the main farm. I usually do this in about April or May, after the March rains.

Protecting the young trees from the sun is a major problem and I usually plant coconut or plantain or Cocoa-yam around them. We eat most of the food, but some I sell.

Some farmers allow their trees to flower after three years, to get a quick harvest. But it is better to remove the flowers, to allow the young trees to grow stronger. I expect my first harvest after five years. I find that most of my trees produce fruit for 30 years or more.

**Questions**

**Read the special skills box at the foot of the page. Then choose the best answers.**

- (1) Tunde prepares shelters for his cocoa seeds.....
  - A. To stop rain from washing them away.
  - B. To keep the sun off them.
  - C. So he can rest in the shade.
  - D. So he can shelter from the rain
- (2) Tunde plants .....
  - A. All his seeds.
  - B. Some of his seeds.
  - C. A few of his seeds.
  - D. Most of his seeds
- (3) He plants food crops around the young trees because .....
  - A. he wants to protect them from the sun.
  - B. he wants to sell them in the market.
  - C. he wants to eat them.
  - D. All the reasons mentioned in A and C
- (4) Tunde removes the flowers from the young trees to .....
  - A. Get more cocoa seeds.
  - B. Stop them from taking sun from his food crops.
  - C. Sell them.
  - D. Allow the trees to grow stronger
- (5) How does Tunde make money?
  - A. By selling his extra seeds.
  - B. By selling some food crops.
  - C. By selling his food crops.
  - D. By selling his food crops.

## PASSAGE B

### Crossing the Twin River

At Bakanta, the boys prepared to cross the Twin River. The river was in fact the union of two, flowing from opposite directions, parallel to the beach. The two rushed together for a few yards before joining the sea. Kojo watched the rough Ocean, brown with silt and dead leaves. 'Look at the sea!' he said to his elder brother. 'Dangerous!' The boat may turn over! He tried to sound brave.

'God will see us across,' said Kwesi piously.

Kojo was scared, but he was even more scared to show it. The others hardly glance at the rough water. They were swarming towards the food being prepared by some women, and gulping down big lumps of the steamed Casava powder called mpopore. His own mouth was now too dry for mpopore.

'Hey!' shouted Kwamena Otoo. 'Come on and eat! Aren't you hungry?' Kojo did not move. 'Hey!'

Kwesi! Look at your little brother! He's shaking!'

Ashamed, the poor boy began to walk away from Bakanta, and homewards, to mother. 'Where are you going?' yelled Kwesi. There was a short chase. They caught him easily. The boys were laughing and shouting. The women's faces were smiling, understanding, Kojo felt like sinking into the earth.

'Look here, Kojo, this is disgraceful!' said Kwesi, heatedly. I know you're not a coward. At home you're a little devil, always fighting. Pull yourself together.

'All right,' said Kojo, in a small voice 'Look!' cried Kwesi. A little Canoe darted across the swiftly flowing river. In it, sat a boy as small as Kojo. With the skill of an expert, he paddled the Canoe to the beach, and jumped out.

## QUESTIONS

- (6) At the beginning of the passage, Kojo was scared.....  
 A. of his brother.  
 B. of the other boys.  
 C. of the water.  
 D. to show his fear of the water to the others.
- (7) Why didn't Kojo eat any mpopore?  
 A. It was too hot to eat.  
 B. He was too scared to eat.  
 C. He was too thirsty to eat.  
 D. He wasn't hungry.
- (8) Why did Kojo try to go home?  
 A. He was scared of the examination.  
 B. He felt ashamed.  
 C. He hated the other boys.  
 D. He didn't like the mpopore
- (9) Kojo was .....  
 A. a complete coward.  
 B. very brave.  
 C. usually brave, but on this occasion he panicked.  
 D. usually cowardly, but on this occasion he was suddenly very brave
- (10) What is the main lesson we can learn from this story?  
 A. It is bad to feel afraid.  
 B. It is bad to show fear.  
 C. Water isn't really very dangerous.  
 D. Look before you leap.

## PASSAGE C

Nearly all of us who are school children between the ages of six and twelve love to tell and hear simple stories. Most of the stories are fables teaching us particular morals. If the morals are good, they can make us become good citizens, but if the morals are bad they may make us grow into evil men and women. It is therefore necessary for a teacher in charge of young ones to make sure that only fables with good morals are in his class. Also, the books which we read at this stage should not contain immoral stories. This means that the reading texts should be chosen with care to exclude any undesirable information from our young mind which can be easily influenced.

- (11) Which of the following statements is nearest to that of the author?  
 A. All children between the ages of six and twelve

D. All school children are between the ages of six and twelve therefore tell and hear simple stories.

- (12) Does the author say that  
 A. all fables have a good influence on us?  
 B. Morals from all stories make us grow into evil men and women?  
 C. tales with good morals influence us to become good citizens?  
 D. we should tell or hear no stories because they will make us bad in the future?
- (13) What should the teacher do?  
 A. Beat any child who tells immoral stories.  
 B. Help children to grow into evil men and women.  
 C. Cancel all story-telling by school children so that they may become good men and women.  
 D. make sure that immoral stories are not told in the class.
- (14) Which of the following statements is implied in the passage?  
 A. Pupils books should contain no stories.  
 B. no book ever contains bad stories.  
 C. Books read by children should contain no bad stories.  
 D. pupils books may contain any kind of story.
- (15) Does the author say that.  
 A. All information from books is undesirable?  
 B. pupils text should not include any information?  
 C. care should be taken to cut out all information from pupils books?  
 D. Undesirable information should not appear in pupils books?

## PASSAGE D

When night came, the thieves came out of their hiding taking care to see that they were not discovered. They carried several carpenter's tools with which they hoped to break the door open. They also wore masks so that they might not be recognized if anyone saw them. As soon as they had all come out, they surrounded the house. Two of them went to the front door and began to force it open with the tools. Meanwhile, some men in a nearby house had seen the thieves and had sent for the police. While the thieves were still trying to break the door open, the police arrived with rifles and batons which they intended to use if the thieves resisted arrest.

As soon as the thieves realized that the police were present, they became afraid and would have run away. One of them shot at a policeman. Immediately the police rounded them up and arrested them all. Then they led them to the police van close-by and carried them away. By now the tenants had awakened and raised an alarm.

- (16) The thieves came out of their hiding carefully because.  
 A. night had come.  
 B. they were hiding.  
 C. they saw police hiding.  
 D. they wanted to avoid being discovered. E. they had been warned.
- (17) Which of these statements is correct?  
 A. the thieves did not break the door open.  
 B. the thieves broke the door open.  
 C. The door was not locked, so the thieves easily entered the house.  
 D. the door was too strong to be broken open
- (18) Why did the police carry rifles and batons?  
 A. Because the thieves were many.  
 B. To help in over-powering the thieves if necessary.  
 C. the batons and rifles were gifts for the thieves.  
 D. every policeman had to carry a rifle and a baton in order to fight thieves.  
 E. they wanted to kill the thieves.
- (19) Why did the thieves become afraid?  
 A. people in the nearby house had sent for the police.  
 B. the police had brought rifles and batons to kill them.  
 C. the police had come and discovered them.  
 D. Tenants in the house had awakened and raised an alarm.  
 E. one of them had been shot by a policeman.

- C. the thieves shot a policeman dead.  
D. some of the thieves escaped.  
E. the thieves were arrested.

## SECTION II

**INSTRUCTION:** Choose the number of the correct word or groups of words which most suitably fills the blank space in each of the following sentences.

- (21) The child is sleeping in her  
A. Court  
B. Cut  
C. Cot  
D. Colt  
E. Curt
- (22) Aduke usually ..... the news on the television.  
A. washes  
B. was  
C. wish  
D. witch  
E. watches
- (23) My father is rather .....  
A. stern  
B. storm  
C. stall  
D. stalk  
E. stole
- (24) Please, don't let the vicious dog  
A. lose  
B. lost  
C. Loosen  
D. loose  
E. losing
- (25) The angry headmaster spoke.....words.  
A. hash  
B. harsh  
C. hatch  
D. has  
E. had
- (26) You may ....the food between Akanbi and Dada.  
A. chair  
B. sheer  
C. cheer  
D. share  
E. shook
- (27) The walls are made of .....  
A. mude  
B. maid  
C. mud  
D. mad  
E. marred

## SECTION III

**INSTRUCTION:** Choose the best of the words A - E to complete each of the following sentences

- (a) much (b) many (c) plenty (d) any (e) one
- (28) We stored ..... of water in our tank during the rainy season
- (29) The Priest tells the congregation that there is only .....God
- (30) It doesn't take .....time to work through these exercises.
- (31) ..... Labourers will be needed to finish the work in one day
- (32) I shall send you some rice tomorrow. I haven't got .....at present

- (33) This is the most attractive of all the girls.  
A. prettier  
B. ugliest  
C. prettiest  
D. handsome

- (34) We need stronger boys to heave the heavy stone over the wall.  
A. powerful  
B. the most powerful  
C. extremely powerful  
D. very powerful  
E. more powerful

- (35) **Complete this sentence with the best alternative**  
Going by his bad record, Jude is the ..... husband for Mary.  
(a) least suitable (b) very suitable (c) first suitable (d) most suitable (e) only suitable

**INSTRUCTION:** Replace the word or group of words underlined in each of the following sentence with the word or group of words taken from the options A - D

- (36) Most of the cars used in Nigeria are brought in from foreign countries.  
A. exported  
B. imported  
C. departed  
D. manufactured
- (37) If you behave in a bad way you may be sent away from school.  
A. compelled by the  
B. impelled by the  
C. propelled by the  
D. expelled from
- (38) Mary looks forward to seeing us here again before the end of the year.  
A. sees  
B. expects  
C. looks  
D. invites
- (39) You will be given permission to go out next Saturday.  
A. allowed  
B. asked  
C. told  
D. forced
- (40) Some of the railway engines are driven by water in the form of gas.  
A. stream  
B. steam  
C. waterfoam  
D. boiling water

**Choose from the list of words or group of words lettered A to E, the word or group of words which correctly and most suitably fills the gap in the sentence.**

- (41) I ..... before Obi came in.  
A. an eating  
B. have been eating  
C. had eaten.  
D. have to eat.  
E. Will eat
- (42) .....James and John are guilty of the offence.  
A All.  
B Both  
C. As well as  
D. Both of  
E. Most tallest
- (43) Ada is the ..... of the two girls.  
A. tallest

- D. tall  
E. most tallest  
..... I had asked her to come, I refused to see her.  
A. Even  
B. If  
C. Although  
D. If even  
E. As though  
She left for the market an hour .....  
A. since  
B. before  
C. long since  
D. ago  
E. long ago  
Kofi..... to see us yesterday and brought his sister with him.  
A. was coming  
B. has come  
C. had been coning  
D. came  
E. come  
The whole school ..... for the football match next Saturday.  
A. went  
B. go  
C. has gone  
D. are going  
E. is going  
Johnson is the ..... of the three brothers.  
A. youngest of  
B. younger than  
C. younger of  
D. young of  
E. young in  
There were paintings and craft work in the school's .....  
A. exhibition  
B. expedition  
C. explanation  
D. excursion  
E. exposition  
The boy was taught to treat his elders with .....  
A. value  
B. manners  
C. rewards  
D. regard  
E. greetings

#### VERBAL APTITUDE

Choose from the alternatives the word which is missing from the pairs:

1. Swarm and bee; flock and .....  
A. bird  
B. mouse  
C. fly  
D. monkey  
E. ant  
2. Eat and plump; thin and .....  
A. fine  
B. weak  
C. tall  
D. narrow

- B. ocean  
C. park  
D. sea  
E. seaside  
(54) Illness and Doctor; toothache and .....  
A. nurse  
B. dentist  
C. surgeon  
D. optician  
E. barber  
(55) Bread and baker; meat and .....  
A. market  
B. grocer  
C. butcher  
D. cattle  
E. farmer

Choose the word which does not belong to each of the following groups:

- (56) A. sentence B. page C. chapter D. library E. paragraph  
(57) A. age B. old C. ancient D. antique E. time-worm  
(58) A. shirt B. blouse C. skirt D. jacket E. short  
(59) A. cup B. mug C. glass D. coffee E. plate  
(60) A. grass B. tree C. bush D. flower E. house  
(61) A. nail B. hammer C. chisel D. screwdriver E. saw  
(62) A. clothes B. cotton C. silk D. nylon E. wool  
(63) A. tea B. pawpaw C. coffee D. milk E. water  
(64) A. sleeve B. cuff C. collar D. collar E. dress

From the alternatives, choose the word which best fills the gap:

- (65) Rod, door, den, need, lot..... A. loot B. took C. told D. tool D. tone  
(66) Team, tame, meat, mate, bear..... A. rub B. bent C. bar D. brat E. bare  
(67) Ham, match, tin, night, hop..... A. porch B. pitch C. plight D. patch E. pinch  
(68) Spin pinch, spat, patch, spurn..... A. purse B. punch C. punish D. puncture E. pulse  
(69) Boat, Abbot, Seat, Asset; Deer ..... A. reader B. dread C. adder D. read E. deer  
(70) Pill, spill, bend tall..... A. ball B. shall C. hall D. stall E. tale  
(71) Lever, cleaver, tamer, steamer, later..... A. letter B. leader C. taller D. flatters E. floater  
(72) All, raid, aim ..... A. main B. man C. name D. amid E. moon  
(73) Lit, light, fit, fight sit..... A. silent B. sight C. salt D. stall E. past  
(74) Part, rept, sent, nest, last..... A. sale B. silt C. salt D. stall E. past  
(75) Pail, pale bale mali..... A. mile B. maid C. lame D. male E. mill

Read the following sentences and then choose the alternative which gives the correct order for them showing which should come first, which second and which third.

- (76) 1. She cut it out and sewed it carefully  
2. She bought a pattern and some pretty material  
3. Anike wanted to make a new dress and decided to make one herself  
A. 1,2,3 B. 2,3,1 C. 3,2,1 D. 1,3,2 E. 3,2,1  
(77) 1. Then he painted the ceiling.  
2. Mr Adewale decided to decorate his bedroom.  
3. He covered the furniture so it wouldn't be spoilt  
A. 1,2,3 B. 2,3,1 C. 3,1,2 D. 1,3,2 E. 2,1,3  
(78) 1. Turn the dough unto a board.  
2. Mix thoroughly with a knife.  
3. Put the flour, margarine and water into a bowl  
A. 1,2,3 B. 2,1,3 C. 1,2,3 D. 2,3,1 E. 3,2,1  
(79) 1. The students were waiting quietly outside the hall.  
2. Each student went in to his own place.  
3. Suddenly the door opened and a man told them to go in  
A. 2,3,1 B. 3,2,1 C. 1,2,3 D. 1,3,2 E. 2,1,3

3. The pot was good and strong.  
A. 2,3,1 B. 3,2,1 C. 3,1,2 D. 1,3,2 E. 2,1,3
- 1) 1. The librarian told James he could keep the book for two weeks.  
2. James finished it in a week. 3. He took it back and look for another by the same author.  
A. 3,2,1 B. 2,3,1 C. 2,1,3 D. 1,3,2 E. 1,2,3
- 2) 1. It hurt badly and he couldn't walk.  
2. The doctor set his leg in plaster so he could walk with the help of a stick.  
3. When Sonie fell out of a tree, he broke his leg.  
A. 3,2,1 B. 1,3,2 C. 1,2,3 D. 2,3,1 E. 2,1,3
- 3) 1. On Monday the teacher was angry with Ann because he couldn't answer the questions.  
2. The girls were told to finish reading the story for home work over the week-end.  
3. Ann left her book at school.  
A. 1,3,2 B. 2,1,3 C. 1,2,3 D. 2,3,1 E. 3,1,2
- 4) 1. Momoh used to be afraid of water.  
2. Now, Momoh isn't afraid of water.  
3. Then, he went to stay with his cousins at Lagos and learnt how to swim.  
A. 2,1,3 B. 1,2,3 C. 1,2,3 D. 3,1,2 E. 1,3,2

**From the alternatives, choose the word which cannot be formed by rearranging some or all of the letters. Do not use any letter more often than it appears.**

- |                 |            |            |          |                    |
|-----------------|------------|------------|----------|--------------------|
| (82) PERCENTAGE | (A) recent | B. cage    | C. perch | D. parent E. cage  |
| (83) SHELVES    | (A) elves  | B. she     | C. less  | D. shells E. heel  |
| (84) BROTHER    | (A) birth  | B. both    | C. both  | D. the E. robe     |
| (85) DEFINITE   | (A) define | B. deaf    | C. herb  | D. end E. tired    |
| (86) UNUSUAL    | (A) sun    | B. unusual | C. snail | D. us E. an        |
| (87) STATION    | (A) State  | B. toast   | C. tint  | D. stain E. tons   |
| (88) CINEMA     | (A) mince  | B. remain  | C. china | D. mined E. nicer  |
| (89) SHUTTER    | (A) trash  | B. truth   | C. shout | D. shirt E. share  |
| (90) DELIGHT    | (A) thing  | B. guilt   | C. glide | D. rice E. child   |
| (91) OFFICER    | (A) Cliff  | B. four    | C. croft | D. rice E. nice    |
| (92) FRIENDLY   | (A) windy  | B. brief   | C. brief | D. dinner E. rifle |
| (93) WHISTLE    | (A) style  | B. wishes  | C. while | D. when E. slate   |
| (94) HISTORY    | (A) rich   | B. shirt   | C. shurt | D. youth E. ratio  |
| (95) CAREFULLY  | (A) Flair  | B. clear   | C. cream | D. place E. loaf   |
| (96) SPECIAL    | (A) Speak  | B. palace  | C. sleep | D. places E. piece |
| (97) PORTRAIT   | (A) report | B. troupe  | C. poor  | D. party E. parrot |