



FIRST TERM EXAMINATION 2025/2026 ACADEMIC SESSION

NAME					
SUBJECT	ENGLISH LANGUAGE	CLASS	SS2	DURATION	2 HOURS

PAPER 1

SECTION A: CONTINUOUS WRITING (50 MARKS)

You are required to answer only one question from this section.

Your answer should not be less than **450** words.

All questions carry equal marks. You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.



6. Write a short story inspired by the above image. Use your imagination to describe the scene, characters, and events that unfold.

SECTION B

COMPREHENSION (20 MARKS)

You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section.

Read the passage below carefully and answer the questions on it.

7. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions on it.

Although rural people needed kerosine for lighting, they relied on it more for cooking. However, **persistent** fuel scarcity had made the commodity hardly affordable where it was available. Fetching dry wood from the forest became **inevitably** the order of the day. Early one morning, Yetunde and I, armed with cutlasses and axes, joined other young people, who were more conversant

1. A general election was held in your country and a new government has been sworn into office. Now write a letter to your friend in another country, explaining at least three major changes that have taken place so far.

2. Write an article suitable for publication in your school magazine on the effects of subsidy removal on the masses.

3. Write your speech for or against the motion: Education cannot be free in Nigeria.

4. A valedictory service has been planned for the 2025/2026 set in your school. As the Senior Prefect, write a speech you would deliver on the valedictory day.

5. Write a story to illustrate the saying: He who never tries never wins.

with the forest, in search of dry wood. It soon dawned on us that this “essential commodity” had been driven so far away that we had to wander into **the heart of the forest** before we could find a huge branch of tree that looked dry. Convinced that it was, we went into action, each cutting from his own side.

Scarcely had we started when Yetunde suddenly jumped up from her position and exclaimed “Goodness!” When I inquired what had happened, she explained that the ground on which she was standing was lifting her up. This sounded **weird** and I went closer to examine the ground. It appeared level and was full of dry leaves. There was no sign of anything other than the bare ground. **Mockingly**, I asked her to return to work, adding that her phobia about the forest was changing changing into an illusion. Nevertheless, I struck the ground with my cutlass, cutting through it to reassure her that there was nothing to fear. But before I could leave, we noticed blood trickling out of the cut on the ground and we scampered away, developing goose-flesh.

As we watched from the distance, we observed that there was a writhing movement and gradually, a curly creature stretched into full length of about three and half feet. The earthly but **splendid** design of the skin became visible and it started what was like its last struggle away from the spot. Its pace was decreasing with every effort to crawl on while more blood was being lost as a result of the deep cut it had received.

Whether it was shock or fear that prevented me from finishing up what I started, I cannot say. Though we **accomplished** our aim of going to the forest that day, I was haunted

by the guilt of an unwilling murderer many days after.

a. Why was kerosene important to rural people?

b. State two reasons why the people sought an alternative to kerosene.

c. What lifted Yetunde up?

d. What did the narrator start that he could not finish?

e. “...the heart of the forest.”

(i) What figure of speech is contained in this expression?

(ii) What does it mean?

f. “As we watched from the distance...”

(i) What is the grammatical name given to this expression as it is used in the passage?

(ii) What is its function?

g. For each of the following words, find another word or phrase which means the same and which can replace it as it is used in the passage:

(i) persistent

(ii) inevitably

(iii) weird

(iv) mockingly

(v) splendid

(vi) accomplished

SECTION C: SUMMARY (30 MARKS)

You are advised to spend about 40 minutes on this section.

8. Read the passage below carefully and answer the questions on it.

When Nigeria returned from the London 2012 Olympic Games without a single medal, the refrain among the country's sports administrators was that the lessons of the bad outing would serve the nation well in going forward. Never again was the general cry from the Nigerian public, who felt that the country with a youth population of over 70 million deserved better than a barren show at the world's biggest stage. The London 2012 Olympic Games was the first competition since the 1988 Games in Seoul that Nigeria would participate in without winning a single medal. Following the outcry that trailed the poor performance, the then president convened a sports summit where all the experts pointed at poor preparation and low morale as the reasons for the country's shameful performance in London.

After the summit, the general consensus was that for Nigeria to get it right again, the country must drop the fire brigade approach to preparations for major competitions. There was also the agreement that preparations for future Olympic Games should start early and thus many youth programmes should be lined up by the National Sports Commission (NSC) to nurture and produce champions.

However, shortly after the summit, the then sports minister was replaced. Thus the programme and the path to success laid by experts at the summit were put aside. First to go was the Nigerian Academicals Sports Committee (NASCOM), which was supposed to champion the youth development programme expected to lead the country to the podium in subsequent international competitions.

Following that was the total blackout of the majority of the federations from international competitions which were supposed to help the athletes gauge their standard, as well as ease the upcoming stars on to the world stage. The reason for the neglect of the federations was lack of funds, but surprisingly, the resources always managed to be available whenever it is football programme. With the exit of the last administration, most of the sports federations heaved a sigh of relief, believing that the new regime would treat all the federations equally.

However, such expectations have been hampered by the continued apathy to the needs of the Nigerian sports in an Olympic year. To feature at the Olympic Games, athletes are expected to go through qualifiers with their mates from other countries. Absence from the qualifiers means that the athlete or team has automatically been ruled out of the games. So it has emerged that, Nigeria may not feature in some of its core events due to its athletes' inability to participate in some championships that served as qualifiers for the Olympics.

(a) In two sentences, one for each, state the reasons advanced at the sports summit for the poor performance of Nigeria at the London 2012 Olympic Games. (10 marks)

(b) In two sentences, one for each, state two resolutions that were reached at the sports summit. (10 marks)

SECTION D

LEXIS AND STRUCTURE

SECTION 1

Choose from the options lettered A-D the one that is **most nearly opposite in meaning** to the word or expression in italics.

1. The *indigent* man died of hunger.

A. generous

B. insolvent

C. poor

D. wealthy

2. She was in a *lamentable* condition when I met her last week.

A. cheering

B. perfect

C. pitiable

D. serious

3. Some migrants were arrested for *breaching* immigration laws.

A. breaking

B. contravening

(c) In two sentences, one for each, state the developments which hindered the implementation of the resolutions reached at the summit. (10 marks)

C. obeying

D. fulfilling

4. My mother *tolerated* my bad behaviour for a while.

A. detested

B. approved

C. considered

D. ignored

5. We had a *tumultuous* day at the office.

A. great

B. noisy

C. peaceful

D. riotous

6. His *royal* background makes him a good choice for a role in the play.

A. humble

B. low

C. mean

D. rich

7. The committee *quashed* their previous decision on the matter.

- A. affirmed
- B. overturned
- C. published
- D. rejected

8. It was *prudent* of you not to have asked her out.

- A. dangerous
- B. foolish
- C. immoral
- D. intelligent

9. The government eventually *approved* sixty-five years as the retirement age.

- A. albeit
- B. consequently
- C. finally
- D. initially

10. The old man advised his children to be *frugal*.

- A. wasteful
- B. mean
- C. sparing
- D. thrifty

SECTION 2

Complete each of the following sentences with the most appropriate of the options lettered A-D.

11. Ada a car back home as soon as she received the news.

- A. boarded

B. climbed

C. entered

D. followed

12. That edifice was designed by a renowned

A. architect

B. artist

C. contractor

D. engineer

13. The teacher asked the students to obtain the current__of the dictionary.

A. copy

B. design

C. edition

D. type

14. Obi kept himself busy after his examination by reading an__ of poems.

A anthology

B. encyclopaedia

C. essay

D. index

15. The voltage was so high that I had to__the computer.

A off

B. shut down

C. shut off

D. switch off

16. Moses was__of the crime and was set free

A. abreast

B. absolved

C. accused

D. indicted

17. The president___some Trade Unions in the country.

A. abrogated

B. acquitted

C discharged

D. ratified

18. The professor presented his inaugural lecture using a

A. magneto.

B. microphone.

C. microscope.

D. projector.

19. Most of the residents believe that only a new___can boost power supply in the area.

A. cable

B. fuse

C. insulator

D. transformer

20. As the plane was about to take-off, the___ informed the passengers to fasten their seat belts.

A. cabin crew

B. control tower

C. flight attendant

D. traffic controller

Choose from the options lettered A - D the one that is the **most appropriate interpretation** for each of the following statements.

21. Jones *ate his words* when he was cross-examined by the prosecuting counsel. This means he

A. answered the questions carefully.

B. denied what he had said earlier on.

C. re-affirmed what he had earlier said.

D. refused to talk.

22. What she said was *farther from the truth*. This means she

A. exaggerated the matter.

B. predicted an event.

C. re-affirmed what another person had said.

D. said what was in contrast to the reality on ground.

23. The management was *dragging its feet* on the need to employ new workers. This means that the management was ___ workers.

A. acting fast on employing new

B. furious with the

C. in a rush to employ new

D. slow in taking decision on employing new

24. Although Akin's parents are rich, he *flunked out* of school. This means he

A. flew out of the country to complete his studies.

B. left school due to poor performance.

C. moved to another school.

SECTION 3

D. was a truant in school.

25. The little boy was running around the compound in his *birthday suit*. This means he

A. could only run around the compound in suit.

B. wore his birthday suit.

C. was being pursued when he wore his birthday suit.

D. was not wearing clothes.

26. Our advertisement on the internet was a *bang for the buck*. This means we

A. budgeted for the money spent.

B. got better value for our efforts.

C. liquidated our company.

D. lost the money spent

27. The president said those who embezzled public funds must be prepared to *face the music*. This means they must

A. be embarrassed publicly.

B. face the consequences of their action.

C. dance to a music that will be played for them.

D. refund the money stolen.

28. Danjuma said he was not afraid of a probe because he did not have any *skeleton in his cupboard*. This means he

A. always kept his cupboard clean.

B. did not have a secret to hide.

C. did not trade in skeletons.

D. had a questionable character.

29. The woman's new dress *fits like a glove*.

This means that the dress

A. does not fit her.

B. fits her perfectly.

C. is too big.

D. is tight.

30. The teacher's question to the students about their plan for the weekend *drew a blank*. This means the teacher

A. drew a conclusion.

B. drew a line on a blank sheet.

C. got no response.

D. moved close to the students.

SECTION 4

Choose from the options lettered A - D the one that is ***nearest in meaning*** to the word or expression in italics.

31. Following the robbery incident in the bank, the security men were charged to always be *on the alert*.

A. armed

B. attentive

C. cautious

D. watchful

32. The maid was sacked because she was *slothful*.

A. lazy

B. diligent

C. dirty

D. rude

33. It is *mandatory* for every returning student to pay the fee.

- A. compulsory
- B. important
- C. optional
- D. voluntary

34. The man is of the same *lineage* as the king.

- A. breed
- B. clan
- C. folk
- D. progeny

35. There was no *evidence* that the man came early.

- A claim
- B. consensus
- C. proof
- D. information

36. The members of staff *conspired* to disgrace the principal.

- A. agreed
- B. combined
- C connived
- D. gathered

37. My mother is *industrious*.

- A. hardworking
- B. indolent
- C. lazy
- D. prudent

38. John's uncle lives in a *cosy* apartment.

- A. comfortable
- B. cramped
- C. large
- D. shabby

39. Minna is one of the *ancient* cities in Nigeria.

- A. beautiful
- B. biggest
- C. modern
- D. old

40. He is among the *distinguished* politicians in my state.

- A. notable
- B. generous
- C. good
- D. notorious

SECTION 5

Choose from the options lettered A-E the one that most appropriately completes each sentence.

41. The two friends have not spoken to each other ____ two weeks now.

- A. about
- B. for
- C. since
- D. until

42. The old man was advised to abstain ____ smoking.

- A. at
- B. from
- C. in
- D. off

43. Ade and ____ will represent the class in the quiz competition.

- A. I
- B. me
- C. myself
- D. us

44. If I were ____ I would have reported the matter to the police.

- A. him
- B. they
- C. them
- D. themselves

45. He lost the book he borrowed from

- A. I.
- B. me.
- C. myself.
- D. we.

46. He ____ to attend the meeting yesterday

- A. fail
- B. failed
- C. had fail
- D. has failed

47. Our tenant owe us several

- A. month rents.
- B. month's rent.

C. months rents.

D. months' rent.

48. My friends said that they ____ visit me tomorrow.

- A. can
- B. may
- C. shall
- D. would

49. After the principal's announcement, all the children marched ____ their classes.

- A. inside
- B. into
- C. onto
- D. out to

50. Which of the following words can be used together with the prefix 'en-' to form a new word?

- A. Camp
- B. Mortal
- C. Pede
- D. Ploy

51. He was dismissed due to

- A. incompetence.
- B. incompetence.
- C. incompetense.
- D. incompetitence.

52. He sick and that is why he is not in school today.

- A. had been
- B. has been

C. is

D. was

53. Mummy bought a pair of shoes each for Terseer and me.

A beautiful black skin

B. beautiful skin black

C. black skin beautiful

D. skin beautiful black

54. She lives in a __ house.

A. big new white

B. new big white

C. new white big

D. white big new

55. Direct Speech: "Who is the richest man in Africa?" the teacher asked.

Indirect Speech: The teacher asked who

A. is the richest man in Africa.

B. the richest men in Africa were.

C. the richest man in Africa is.

D. the richest man in Africa was.

56. Direct Speech: "I hate sleeping with my windows open," John said.

Indirect Speech: John said that he ____ sleeping with his windows open.

A. hates

B. has hated

C. hate

D. hated

57. I am responsible for his failure, ____ I?

A. ain't

B. am

C. aren't

D. wasn't

58. Children ought to respect their teachers, ____ they?

A. aren't

B. oughtn't

C. should

D. shouldn't

59. There is ____ furniture in the school dining hall

A. few

B. little

C. many

D. more

60. Neither his books nor mine ____ on the table.

A. are

B. have being

C. is

D. was

61. Mrs Abike is late to work today; she ____ have been here now.

A. could

B. must

C. need

D. should

62. The new student is ____ dull to be in that class

A. much

B. too

C. So

D. very

63. The sound of the gun shot scared him ____ much that he fainted.

A. very

B. quite

C. So

D. too

64. The student and his parents ____ asked to see the principal.

A. are

B. were

C. is being

D. was

65. She complains of pains around her

A. diafram.

B. diaphragm.

C. diaphram.

D. diaphrram.

66. 'Are there ____ mangoes left in the fridge?' mother asked.

A any

B. less

C. little

D. much

67. He gazed at a ____ through the window.

A. swarm of bee

B. swarm of bee's

C. swarm of bees

D. swarms of bee

68. Which of the following suffixes can be added to the word "moment" to form a new word?

A. -en

B. -ish

C. -ive

D -ous

69. The assignment has ____ mistakes in it.

A. a little

B. many

C. too many

D. much

70. He spent a whole day doing his holiday assignment, ____ he?

A. did

B. didn't

C. does

D. doesn't

REGISTER

SECTION 6

In the following passages, the numbered gaps indicate missing words. Against each number in the list below each passage, five options are offered in columns lettered A-D. Fill each

numbered gap with the most appropriate of the options (Nos. 71-80).

Mosunmola had a vision of travelling out of

With humour and enthusiasm, she talks

S/No.	A	B	C	D
71.	Flight	Passport	Permit	Photograph
72.	Agency	Airline	Airport	Embassy
73.	Captain	Driver	Hostess	Pilot
74.	Aisle	Elevator	Gangway	Rail
75.	Cabin	Chamber	Gall	Shack
76.	Express	Park	Pathway	Runway
77.	Flight	Jump	Take-off	Run
78.	Darted	Disappeared	Launched	Moved
79.	Crashed	Landed	Somersaulted	spoilt
80.	Chefs	Cooks	Hostesses	Loaders

the country many years ago. The opportunity eventually came and she had her first experience in the air when she travelled in a chartered jet from Murtala Mohammed Airport, Lagos to London.

She narrated how she obtained her international -71- and visa at the British -72-, Lagos. Since then, she has been narrating her plan to become a -73-, flying aircraft from one country to another. She talks about the check-in procedure, about the weighing in of her baggage, about how she climbed up the -74- and entered the beautiful -75- with well-arranged neat looking passengers' seats.

more on how the plane taxied along the -76-, gathered speed for the -77- and -78- into the clouds. She describes her throbbing heart when the plane developed engine problem in the air and appeared as if it had -79-.

She says that all the trouble the passengers were going through were re-assured by the smiling faces of - 80-. stewards and the calm voice and encouraging words of the captains which also allayed the fears of the passengers.

TEST OF ORALS

SECTION 1

From the words lettered A to D, choose the word that has the **same vowel sound** as the one represented by the letter(s) underlined.

81. bit

A. slip

B. pint

C. sleek

D. crime

82. heart

A. mark

B. bag

C. anger

D. carry

83. ready

A. stir

B. heat

C. bet

D. seed

84. occur

A. sure

B. bore

C. her

D. fork

85. ride

A. buy

B. lay

C. till

D. brim

8

6. more

A. stop

B. bother

C. doctor

D. bought

87. maize

A. step

B. what

C. whip

D. tray

88. coy

A. stole

B. howl

C. toil

D. throw

89. bare

A chair

B. deer

C. say

D. here

90. down

A sown

B. doubt

C. door

D. thrown

SECTION 2

From the words lettered A-D, choose the word that has the **same consonant sound(s)** as the one represented by the letter(s) underlined.

91. bat

A. limb

B. dumb

C. subtle

D. nimble
92. straight
A. state
B. first
C. struck
D. stir
13. anchor
A. cease
B. chaff
C. such
D. come
94. tea
A. though
B. antique
C. pith
D. latch
95. jingle
A. you
B. large
C. grip
D. lag
96. ask
A. tax
B. secure
C. scheme
D. axe
97. tease

A. prison
B. passion
C. cease
D. loose
98. exam
A. explain
B. excuse
C. exhaust
D. exhale
99. what
A. whom
B. whose
C. whole
D. where
100. patient
A. measure
B. seizure
C. sachet
D. patent

SECTION 3

From the words lettered A to D, choose the word that **rhymes** with the given word.

101. night
A. bite
B. strive

C. kind

D. catch

102. loan

A. storm

B. from

C. long

D. bone

103. grease

A. phrase

B. brace

C. fees

D. rinse

104. edge

A. seige

B. bled

C. pledge

D. judge

105. view

A. through

B. cue

C. route

D. tool

SECTION 4

In each of the following questions, the main primary stress is indicated by writing the syllable on which it occurs in capital letters.

From the words lettered A to D, choose the one that has the **correct stress**.

106. calculator

A. CAL-cu-la-tor

B. cal-CU-la-tor

C. cal-cu-LA-tor

D. cal-cu-la-TOR

107. circumstantial

A. CIR-cum-stan-tial

B. cir-CUM-stan-tial

C. cir-cum-STAN-tial

D. cir-cum-stan-TIAL

108. institution

A. IN-sti-tu-tion

B. in-STI-tu-tion

C. in-sti-TU-tion

D. in-sti-tu-TION

SECTION 5

In the following options lettered A to D, all the words except one have the **same stress pattern**. Identify the one with the different stress pattern.

109. A. create

B. donate

C. cement

D. courage

110. A. defer

B. harvest

C. success

D. extent

111. A. conducive

B. impressive

C. committee

D. interesting

SECTION 6

In each of the following sentences, the word that receives the **emphatic stress** is written in capital letters.

From the questions lettered A to D, choose the one to which the given sentence is the appropriate answer.

112. Mr. Jones ALWAYS locks the back door.

A. Does Mr. Jones always lock the front door?

B. Does Mr. Jones seldom lock the back door?

C. Does Mr. John always lock the back door?

D. Does Mr. Jones always open the back door?

113. ADE is my youngest brother.

A. Is Ade my youngest cousin?

B. Is Ade my oldest brother?

C. Is Abu my youngest brother?

D. Is Ade your youngest brother?

114. There are FOUR baskets in the room.

A. Were there four baskets in the room?

B. Are there two baskets in the room?

C. Are there four buckets in the room?

D. Are there four baskets in the store?

SECTION 7

From the words lettered A to D, choose the word that contains the **sound** represented by the given phonetic symbol.

115. /i:/

A. eve

B. busy

C. tip

D. shaded

116. /ɔ:/

A. copy

B. not

C. bore

D. rock

117. /3:/

A. firm

B. many

C. plate

D. hear

118. /n/

A. thing

B. solemn

C. sank

D. student

119. /f/

A. bough

B. tough

C. patent

D. brave

120. /0/

A. teeth

B. clothes

C. northern

D. worthy