

LIRA TOWN COLLEGE

MID-TERM II EXAMS S.2 ENGLISH LANGUAGE

TIME: 1 HOUR

Instruction: all questions are to be attempted.

1. *Read the following passage and then answer the questions that follow:*

The population of the world is increasing as the number of babies born each year is greater than the number of deaths. This is happening even in developing countries where a lot of babies die and many people don't live to old age. This is because healthcare has improved across the world, including developing countries, and so more babies survive and people live longer.

In developing countries families are often large. There are several reasons for this. Many children die at a young age. Also, families need a lot of children to help their parents and grandparents to work on the land, look after cattle, and gather wood and so on. Then, when they have jobs, children can earn money for their parents and younger brothers and sisters. Poor families, though, cannot afford to send a lot of children to school, to feed them and clothe them and provide good houses for them. The more children there are, the worse it is. On the other hand, in developed countries there is a different situation. As families get smaller and smaller there is a growing number of old people with no one to look after them.

If people generally have enough to eat, somewhere to live, go to school, find a job and are looked after when they are ill, then there is no population problem. However, there is a problem in countries where there is not enough food, houses, schools, hospitals or jobs for everyone. That is why overpopulation means many people live in poverty.

In some countries, couples are having fewer children and the population is growing more slowly. Why is this happening? Statistics show that the better educated women are, the fewer children they have. These days women stay at school, get jobs and don't start their families until they are older than their mothers and grandmothers. The more women work, the more money the family has. The more money there is in a country, the more schools and hospitals they can open. So education, economic development and population growth are very closely linked.

How a husband and wife limit the number of children they have is a question of family planning. This means using contraceptives such as condoms or oral contraceptive pills. These methods allow a couple to decide when they want to have their children. Other cheap and effective options are male or female sterilization. This is useful for couples who have decided that their families are big enough.

Although in general governments want to limit population growth, there are often cultural or religious issues which make it difficult. In some cultures girls don't go to secondary school or get a job; their role is to marry and bear children. Often, a large number of

children gives a family status. In addition, some religions are against the use of contraceptives.

If world population continues to increase at the same rate as at present, by 2050 it will have increased to 9 billion. Will there be enough food, enough water, enough energy? The experts don't know. However, the rate of growth is slowing down and this may continue as couples, supported by their governments and by international organizations, choose to have fewer children.

Questions:

(i). Why is the population of the world increasing?

.....
.....

(ii). Why do people in developing countries often have large families?

.....
.....

(iii). What population problems do developing countries face?

.....
.....
.....

(iv). What problems do developed countries face?

.....
.....
.....

(v). What is the major reason why a country's population growth slows down?

.....
.....
.....

2. *Read the following passage and then answer the questions that follow.*

I still remember- my hands and my finger tips still remember! – What used to be waiting for us on our return to school from the holidays. The guava trees in the school yard would be in full leaf again, and the old leaves would be lying in

scattered heaps. In places there were even more than just heaps of them: it would be a muddy sea of leaves.

‘Get all that swept up!’ the headmaster would tell us. ‘I want the whole place cleaned up at once!’

‘At once!’ There was enough work there, hard work, too, to last us for over a week. Especially since the only tools with which we were provided were our hands, our fingers, our nails.

‘Now let’s see that it’s done properly, and be quick about it,’ the headmaster would say to the older pupils, ‘or you’ll have to answer for it!’

So at an order from the older boys, we would line up like labourers about to reap a field, and we would set to work like slaves. In the school yard itself, it wasn’t too bad: the guava trees were fairly well spaced; but there was one part where the closely planted trees grew in a tangle of leaves and branches. The sun could not penetrate here, and there was a smell of decay even in fine weather.

If the work was not going as quickly as the headmaster expected, the big boys, instead of giving us a helping hand, used to whip us with branches pulled from the trees. Now guava wood is very flexible and the whips used to whistle as they moved through the air; our backs felt as though they were on fire. Our skin stung and tears fell from our eyes and splashed on the dead leaves at our feet.

In order to avoid these blows, we used to bribe our tyrants with the delicious corn cakes which we used to bring for our midday meal. Also, if we happened to have any money on us, the coins changed hands at once. If we did not do this because we were afraid of going home with an empty stomach or an empty purse, the blows would be even harder. They were administered with such violence that even a deaf man would have understood that we were being beaten not so much to speed up the work, but rather to make us give up our food and money.

Occasionally, one of us, worn out by such cruelty, would have courage to complain to the headmaster. He would, of course, be very angry, but the punishment he inflicted on the older boys was nothing compared to what they had done to us. And the fact is that however much we complained, our situation did not improve at all. Perhaps we should have told our parents what was going on, but somehow we never dreamed of doing so; I don’t know whether it was our pride or loyalty to the school that kept us silent, but I can see now that were foolish to keep quiet. Such beatings were utterly foreign to our people’s nature, and our passion for independence and equality.

From The African Child by Camara Laye

Questions:

- 2.1 The school yard was in a very undity condition because.....
- A. it had not been maintained during the holidays
 - B. the guava trees had lost their old leaves
 - C. the older boys had not done their work properly
 - D. both of the reasons given in a and b.

- 2.2 The headmaster saw that the work was done properly by.....
- A. providing tools
 - B. making the boys line up like labourers in a field about to be reaped
 - C. threatening the older boys with punishments if the work was not done
 - D. making the boys work like slaves
- 2.3 The main reason why the big boys beat the smaller ones so viciously was.....
- A. to make sure they did their work
 - B. to persuade them to hand over presents
 - C. to make sure that the headmaster would not punish them
 - D. because they liked doing it
- 2.4 We can understand that it was pointless to complain to the headmaster about the bullying because.....
- A. he would not believe the complaints
 - B. it only made the older boys behavior even worse
 - C. his punishments were not hard enough to stop their activities
 - D. he did not do anything to stop the older boys.
- 2.5 The younger boys didn't complain to their parents.....
- A. because they were loyal to their schoolmates
 - B. because they were too proud
 - C. because they were too frightened to do so
 - D. we don't really know.

Choose the correct definitions of these words as they are used in the text.

- 2.6 *scattered*
- A. dropped and spread over an area
 - B. placed in position
 - C. partly covered
 - D. cut up
- 2.7 *a tangle*
- A. a small quantity
 - B. a wall
 - C. a small forest
 - D. a thick mass
- 2.8 *penetrate*
- A. come out
 - B. shine on
 - C. enter
 - D. be seen
- 2.9 *decay*
- A. leaves lying on the ground
 - B. the soil
 - C. the fruit of the guava tree
 - D. what happens to plants and animals after they die
- 2.10. *tyrant*
- A. someone who uses their power over others in a cruel way
 - B. someone who steals things
 - C. someone who bribes people
 - D. Someone who does not care about other people.

3A. Rewrite each item (3.1 – 3.10) as instructed. Do not change the meaning.

- 3.1 My brother works in a bank. He is very good at maths.
(Combine these sentences using who)

.....
.....

- 3.2 We must sweep the classroom everyday. (Rewrite the sentence into the passive)

.....

- 3.3 Although I'm good at maths, I'm quite slow at counting money.
(Rewrite this sentence using but)

.....
.....

- 3.4 It is your friend's birthday. What do you say to him?

.....
.....

- 3.5 Mrs. Owala said to us, 'please don't walk on my shamba!'
(Begin: Mrs. Owala told.....)

.....
.....

- 3.6 'Are you (go) to the party next Saturday?
(Put the verb into the correct form)

.....
.....

- 3.7 You haven't seen rose today,? No, I'm afraid not.
[Add a question tag]

.....
.....

- 3.8 The elephant swallowed the bag. The elephant swallowed the buns.
[Rewrite using:both.....]

.....
.....

3.9 Elizabeth wrote this letter.....

[Put a suitable – self word]

.....

3.10 The window was open and a bird.....into the room. [fly]

[Complete the sentence by putting the verb into the correct form]

.....

.....

3B For items (3.11 – 3.20) put a ring round the letter of the correct answer.

3.11 My mothereye sight is poor, has difficulty crossing busy roads.

A. who B. where C. whose D. when

3.12 My sister is as tallme.

A. than B. more C. as D. that

3.13 Last year,we were in form 1, my favorite subject was history.

A. which B. where C. whose D. when

3.14 I passed the test last week becausethe week before.

A. I study hard B. I have studied hard
C. I have been studying hard D. I had studied hard

3.15 My feet are dirty because..... in the shamba.

A. I have worked B. I've been working
C. I worked D. I work

3.16 When he was accused of theft he.....everything.

A. rejected B. refused C. denied D. avoided

3.17 He had very little money but he agreed to.....me some.

A. present B. avail C. borrow D. lend

3.18 You don't know where Karen is,? Sorry, I've no idea?

A. don't you B. is she C. does she D. do you

3.19 Itelevision a lot but I don't any more.

A. was watching B. was used to watching
C. am used to watch D. used to watch

3.20 It was a boring weekend.anything.

A. I didn't B. I didn't do C. I didn't did D. I don't do

-END-