

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**



**COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION**

**2009**

**ENGLISH**

**TEST CODE: 011B**

**Time allowed: 1 hour 15 minutes**

**Instructions:**

1. This examination has **only** multiple choice questions.
2. There are fifty (50) items. Each item has four possible answers: **A, B, C, or D**. Choose the correct answer.
3. On your answer sheet, shade the circle which has the letter **A, B, C, or D** that is next to the answer you have chosen. You have **seventy-five (75)** minutes to answer **all** the questions.

**Please use a No. 2 or HB pencil.**

4. **Do not take any paper out of the examination room.**  
Return this booklet, your answer sheet and all scrap paper to the invigilator before you leave the room.

# MULTIPLE CHOICE

**TIME ALLOWED: 75 minutes**

For items 1 to 5, choose the **preposition that best** completes the sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

1. The groceries are \_\_\_\_\_ the cupboard, near the kitchen sink.
  - A. in
  - B. over
  - C. down
  - D. across
2. Susan and Janice stood \_\_\_\_\_ the tree waiting for the rain to stop.
  - A. over
  - B. from
  - C. under
  - D. before
3. She lives \_\_\_\_\_ Prospect.
  - A. at
  - B. by
  - C. in
  - D. from
4. The war in Iraq has been going on \_\_\_\_\_ years.
  - A. since
  - B. over
  - C. for
  - D. in
5. They have been sitting in the waiting room \_\_\_\_\_ two thirty this afternoon.
  - A. between
  - B. since
  - C. for
  - D. by

For items 6-9, choose the **correct verb form** to complete each sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter you have chosen.

6. Suzette \_\_\_\_\_ the bouquet at Chantal's wedding last Saturday.

- A. catch
- B. caught
- C. catches
- D. catching

7. Our forefathers \_\_\_\_\_ much to build our country.

- A. will do
- B. has done
- C. have done
- D. will be doing

8. Kayla \_\_\_\_\_ to town.

- A. done gone
- B. is going
- C. going
- D. gone

9. The captain \_\_\_\_\_ in his cabin.

- A. is laying
- B. is lying
- C. laying
- D. lying

For items 10 to 12, choose the **option that is the best example of reported or indirect speech**. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

10. "I am playing cricket," said Jack.

- A. Jack said that he was playing cricket.
- B. Jack replied that "I am playing cricket."
- C. Jack said that "he was playing cricket."
- D. Jack said I am playing cricket.

11. "I was going to school every day before the accident took place", Janice told the teacher.
- A. I was going to school every day "before the accident took place", Janice told the teacher.
  - B. I was going to school every day before the accident took place Janice told the teacher.
  - C. Janice told the teacher that she was going to school every day before the accident took place.
  - D. Janice told the teacher that I was going to school every day before the accident took place.
12. "I have been teaching Language Arts for twenty years", the teacher told the reporter.
- A. The teacher told the reporter to teach Language Arts for twenty years.
  - B. The teacher told the teacher "I have been teaching Language Arts for twenty years."
  - C. The reporter asked the teacher if she could teach Language Arts for twenty years.
  - D. The teacher told the reporter that she had been teaching Language Arts for twenty years.

For items 13 to 18, **choose the option to replace the underlined group of words** in each sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

13. Beyonce's song *If I were a boy* is very well liked.
- A. practical
  - B. popular
  - C. praised
  - D. proud
14. Our school visited the place where beer is made.
- A. vestry
  - B. factory
  - C. brewery
  - D. granary
15. The hunters caught a female fox.
- A. mare
  - B. boar
  - C. vixen
  - D. hatchling

16. Jeremy was ready to take risks.

- A. coward
- B. frightened
- C. thoughtful
- D. adventurous

17. Be careful with that ornament, it is easily broken.

- A. valuable
- B. precious
- C. antique
- D. fragile

18. He came home for the first time in a period of ten years.

- A. quarter
- B. decade
- C. century
- D. score

Items 19 to 23 are based on the passage below. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

### **NO SUMMER SCHOOL**

The Johnny Test Government School says that next year all students should be in school all year-round, with no summer vacation. As a student of this school, I ask you the public, to reject the reasons the school has given to support their decision.

First, they claim that students do not learn anything during the summer. For me, this is not the case. Last summer, I learned many things although I wasn't in the classroom. For example, I learned how to run a business. I earned money by cutting lawns and doing yard work for my neighbours. I managed customers, kept records, and made my own bank deposits. That wasn't all I learned last summer. In August I went camping with other scouts and I learned how to pitch a tent and make a campfire. I spent the entire vacation learning so it certainly wasn't a waste. I sure would not have learnt all that if I had been in a classroom.

I am not the only one who learns during the summer. Many other children join the National Library Reading Programme. Those who were in the programme last summer read an average of twelve books! Most students don't read that many books in school. Other students attended the Cable and Wireless/LIME Summer Computer Programme and learnt many things about the Internet and how to use the computer.

The school's second reason for having school during summer is that it will help students to get better grades. I can't speak for everyone but if I am forced to be indoors on a beautiful sunny day, I am not going to want to learn anything. In fact, my grades may get worse because I'll be sick of going to school. Not being in school in July and August is a break I *really* need. By the way, if this is such a good idea, how come other schools are not doing it?

The third reason for having all year-round school is that parents could save money and not have to pay for their children to be entertained. That doesn't apply to all students. Some parents work from home. Some children have stay-at-home parents and grandparents who look after them when they are not in school. Besides, the school would need more money to pay cooks and janitors during the vacation time.

In summary, there are no good reasons for having school all year. Students will not learn more or get better grades. Parents will not save more money. This is a bad plan that students and parents should resist.

19. What is the message stated in this passage?

- A. Summer school is not a good plan.
- B. Summer school does not save money.
- C. The writer learned to manage a business.
- D. Some students have stay-at-home parents.

20. The Johnny Test Government school believes that when students are not in school,

- A. they are not learning.
- B. they read more library books.
- C. they get bored and cause trouble.
- D. they need to do something creative.

21. Based on the writer's attitude, which of the following is true?

- A. The writer gets poor grades.
- B. The writer does not like going to school.
- C. The writer does not care what happens to other students in the summer.
- D. The writer prefers being outdoors to being in school during the summer.

22. Unlike the school, the writer believes that

- A. spending more time in class does not result in better grades.
- B. it is healthier to be outside than inside on a sunny day.
- C. parents will be happier in the summer.
- D. making money is important.

23. What was the purpose of writing this article?
- A. To show how the writer's parents feel about summer school.
  - B. To impress the teachers at Johnny Test Government School
  - C. To present evidence to support summer school.
  - D. To protest against having summer school.

For items 24 to 28, choose the **correctly spelt word** to complete each sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter you have chosen.

24. Kyle is the best \_\_\_\_\_ in the race.
- A. athlete
  - B. athleat
  - C. atehlete
  - D. athelete
25. Mr. Charles said that the Sports \_\_\_\_\_ would meet tomorrow.
- A. comitee
  - B. comittee
  - C. commitee
  - D. committee
26. My friend likes to \_\_\_\_\_ about what a good cook he is.
- A. exaggerate
  - B. exagereate
  - C. exagereat
  - D. exegereat
27. My cousin likes to play \_\_\_\_\_ golf.
- A. minichure
  - B. minechure
  - C. miniature
  - D. miniture
28. You should always \_\_\_\_\_ your whites from your colours when doing the laundry.
- A. seperate
  - B. seporate
  - C. soperate
  - D. separate

Items 29 to 35 are based on the poem below. Read the poem carefully and answer the questions that follow. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

**My Obnoxious Brother**

My obnoxious brother, Bobby  
Has a most revolting hobby;  
There, behind the garden wall is  
Where he captures creepy-crawlies.

5           Grannies, aunts and baby cousins  
Come to our house in their dozens,  
But they disappear discreetly  
When they see him smiling sweetly.  
10           For they know, as he approaches,  
In his pockets are cockroaches,  
Spiders, centipedes and suchlike;  
All of which they do not much like.

15           As they head towards the lobby,  
Bidding fond farewells to Bobby  
How they wish he'd change his habits  
And keep guinea pigs or rabbits.

20           But their wishes are quite futile,  
For he thinks that bugs are cute. I'll  
Finish now, but just remind you:  
Bobby could be right behind you!

*Author Unknown*

29. Where does Bobby spend most of his time?

- A. At our home
- B. Right behind you
- C. Towards the lobby
- D. Behind the garden wall

30. What do you think the word 'futile' in *line 17* means?

- A. fruitful
- B. useless
- C. strange
- D. silly



31. Bobby's relatives would 'disappear discreetly' because

- A. Bobby is smelly.
- B. Bobby is smiling sweetly.
- C. They do not trust Bobby.
- D. They think Bobby is sick.

32. What does the speaker hope to do when she says 'Bobby is right behind you'?

- A. Show how Bobby likes to crawl
- B. Tell the reader Bobby is nearby
- C. Warn Bobby's relatives
- D. Scare the reader

33. Which of the following are examples of creepy crawlies?

- A. Cousins
- B. Rabbits
- C. Spiders
- D. Guinea pigs

34. Which of the following **are found** in the poem?

- A. Alliteration and rhyme
- B. Simile and alliteration
- C. Onomatopoeia and rhyme
- D. Personification and simile

35. Which of the following is true about Bobby's relatives?

- A. They do not like Bobby.
- B. They love to play with Bobby.
- C. They bought rabbits for Bobby.
- D. They hope that Bobby would act differently.

For items 36-38, **identify the error** in the sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter you have chosen.

36. The seamstress lost the girls' dress so she could not go to the party with her friends.

A                      B      C                      D

37. Miss Baptiste said she can't have none of that behaviour in her class.

A                      B                      C                      D

38. Tomatos, carrots and cherries are all healthier than the junk food at the tuck-shop.

A                      B                      C                      D

For items 39 to 43, choose the correct **antonym** (word *opposite in meaning*) to the underlined word to complete the sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

39. He was a dishonest man.

- A. rude
- B. deceitful
- C. disturbed
- D. trustworthy

40. Mathematics is a complicated subject.

- A. challenging
- B. interesting
- C. simple
- D. boring

41. The student is always behind in his work.

- A. happy
- B. ahead
- C. slow
- D. lazy

42. This day is full of sorrow.

- A. joy
- B. peace
- C. silence
- D. sadness

43. The government is going to demolish the library.

- A. build
- B. destroy
- C. purchase
- D. support

For items 44 to 47, choose the word to complete each sentence. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter you have chosen.

44. His mother showed \_\_\_\_\_ when he arrived late to the service.

- A. annoyingly
- B. annoyance
- C. annoying
- D. annoyed

45. Kevin opened his gift with \_\_\_\_\_ .

- A) please
- B) pleased
- C) pleasure
- D) pleasing

46. My grandmother smiled fondly when she remembered her \_\_\_\_\_ years.

- A) childhood
- B) childlike
- C) childish
- D) child

47. It takes \_\_\_\_\_ to stand up for what is right against your friends.

- A. encouraging
- B. courageous
- C. encourage
- D. courage

For items 48 to 50, **identify the part of speech** that is underlined. **ON YOUR ANSWER SHEET**, shade the circle which has the letter that you have chosen.

48. My mother baked an apple pie for dessert.

- A. noun
- B. adverb
- C. adjective
- D. conjunction

49. Of all the participants, Jim worked the most rapidly.

- A. verb
- B. adverb
- C. adjective
- D. conjunction

50. Wow! Your performance in the Common Entrance Exam was wonderful.

- A. verb
- B. adverb
- C. conjunction
- D. Interjection

**END OF TEST**