

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA

GRADE 12 EXAMS, 2017

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE



OFFICE OF EXAMINATIONS AND CERTIFICATION



Name.....

School .....

Roll Number.....

**Somali Federal Ministry of Education, Culture & Higher Education**

**Form Four National Standardized Examinations.**

**MAY / JUNE 2017**

**ENGLISH EXAMINATION**

**TIME 2 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- This paper consists of 12 printed pages
- There are 3 sections.
  - ⇒ **PART 1: Comprehension** (30 marks)
  - ⇒ **PART 2: Grammar** (50 marks)
  - ⇒ **PART 3: Composition** (20 Marks)
- TOTAL** (100 marks)
- Answer all the questions in the spaces provided.
- No extra paper is allowed.





**PART 1: READING COMPREHENSION.** Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow. (20 marks)

A long time ago there was a wealthy trader called Mustafa. He had a big office in town with thirty clerks. The clerks copied out everything by hand.

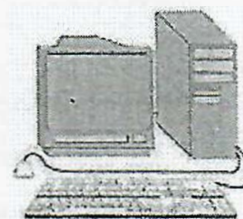
Twelve years later, his son Mohamed said, "Father, it takes too long for the twelve clerks to copy out everything. You need to have fewer clerks and some secretaries. The secretaries can use a typewriter. They can make several copies at one time. You don't need messengers because now we can send everything in the post". So Mohamed employed four secretaries and had five clerks. There was one messenger who took letters to the post office.



Four years later, one secretary said, "Mr. Mohamed, all the secretaries need phones because it is easier to make calls around the country. We need a photocopier, then we can make hundreds of copies in a few minutes. We also need a filing cabinet to keep the files.

Ten years later, Mohamed's son Mubarak came into the office. Secretaries were typing loudly on their typewriters. A clerk was opening and shutting the doors of the filing cabinet. Cash! Bang! Telephones were ringing, secretaries were saying, "Hello! Hello! Can I help you?" The messenger was shouting, "Where are the letters for the Post office? I must go now!" The photocopier was pushing out many papers.

"Hey, this is a noisy place!" Mubarak said. "We can make some changes. If we buy computers, we do not need so many people. We do not need to have so many huge filing cabinets because we can store all our files in the computer. We do not need a messenger because we can send most of our mail through e-mail."



"That sounds like a good idea," said his father.

One year later, Mubarak invited everyone to see the new office. Old Mustafa came in, leaning on his walking stick. He looked at the office and could not believe his eyes. He looked a little sad and scratched his head. There were only three people in the office in front of the three computers. There was only one telephone, which rang quietly at the reception desk. There was a lot of equipment in the office but there was no noise. The computers hummed quietly.

"Isn't this wonderful?" said Mubarak proudly. "We can buy and sell many different items without leaving the office. I can contact everyone through e-mail or through my mobile phone. We only need three members of staff now."

"Yes, I am sure this is very modern and very efficient, but I liked seeing all my staff. I used to employ fifty people," said the old Mustafa.



**Questions (1 Mark for questions 1-10)**

1. One of the three reasons why Mohamed's office was noisy was, there were:
  - a) Many people
  - b) Many type writers
  - c) Few employees
  - d) Few porters
2. The job of the clerks in Mustafa's office were:
  - a) Copying out everything by hand
  - b) Using computers
  - c) Using e-mails
  - d) Selling computers.
3. In the old days, the number of clerks that worked in Mustafa's office were :
 

a) 32	b) 33	c) 32	d) 30.
-------	-------	-------	--------
4. The filing cabinets of trader Mustafa's office were replaced by:
  - a) Telephones
  - b) Computers
  - c) Messengers
  - d) Photocopiers.

5. Old Mustafa became very sad when he visited his office because he used to employ:
- a) 60 people
  - b) 40 people
  - c) 50 people
  - d) 30 people.
6. Mr. Mubarak only needed members of staff instead of many people. He used:
- a) Mobile phones and e-mails
  - b) Mobile phones and filling cabinets
  - c) e-mails and post offices
  - d) Mobile phones and papers
7. In the old days, how was life without technology?
- a) Full of risks
  - b) Difficult
  - c) Full of interesting things
  - d) Life insurance
8. Mubarak was the grandson of :
- a) Mr. Mohamed
  - b) One of the clerks
  - c) Old Mustafa
  - d) One of the secretaries
9. The title of the passage can be:
- a) Mr. Mohamed's office
  - b) Mubarak's office
  - c) A huge office
  - d) A change in the office.



10. One of the secretaries mentioned that the office needed:

- a) Two things
- b) Three things
- c) Four things
- d) Five things

**Answer your questions in the space provided.**

11. What did the messenger in Mohamed's office do? (2 Marks)

.....

.....

12. Give three reasons why the office used to be noisy in the early days. (3 Marks)

.....

.....

.....

13. What kind of business did Mustafa have? (2Marks)

.....

.....

14. Why were the telephones ringing? (3 Marks)

.....

.....

.....

15. Give two reasons why you would like to work in an office. (2 Marks).

.....

.....

16. Give two reasons why you would NOT like to work in an office? (2 Marks)

.....

.....

**Section B: Vocabulary (1 Mark each)**

Choose the word or phrase that means the same as the word or phrase from the passage.

1. Wealthy (Paragraph 1) means

- a) healthy      b) rich      c) generous      d) happy

2. Cabinet (Paragraph 3) means

- a) box      b) bottle      c) cupboard      d) handbag

3. Loudly (Paragraph 4) means

- a) silently      b) angrily      c) quietly      d) noisy

4. Modern (paragraph 8) means:

- a) new      b) bright      c) clear      d) fashionable

5. Employ (paragraph 8) means

- a) accept      b) hire      c) enslave      d) sack

6. Store (paragraph 5) means

- a) hide      b) keep      c) close      d) lock

**Part 2: Grammar**

I. Pick out the adjectives from the following sentences and write them in the space provided. (5 Marks)

1. Has was wearing a torn shirt.....
2. It is an old and broken chair.....
3. This is a cheap and nice pen.....
4. Arawelo was a very powerful queen.....
5. He is the most handsome boy in the class.....



**II. Find out the adverbs in the following sentences and write them in the spaces given.**  
(10 marks)

1. We must behave properly towards others.....
2. We went to the airport twice.....
3. Have you ever gone there?.....
4. Let us have our breakfast now.....
5. How often do you see him?.....

**III. Change these sentences into reported speech. (7 Marks)**

1. The woman says, "I want to see my daughter."  
.....
2. The girls said, "It is my book."  
.....
3. The teacher said to Ali, "Go and get me a chair."  
.....
4. Leila says, "My father is a doctor."  
.....
5. Farah said, "The sun is round"  
.....
6. Halima says, "I am going out."  
.....
7. Ahmed said to his wife, "Did you see my car-keys?"  
.....

**IV. Change these sentences into the passive voice. (14 Marks)**

1. The gardener cleans the garden.  
.....
2. I have finished my work.  
.....

3. Did you return her umbrella?

.....

4. They will help you.

.....

5. They are digging holes.

.....

6. She bought a new dress.

.....

7. I shall bring a letter from him.

.....

V. Fill in the blanks spaces with the prepositions in the box below. Use each preposition once. (7 Marks)

among,	in,	to,	with,	at,	for,	on,	from,	of,	between
--------	-----	-----	-------	-----	------	-----	-------	-----	---------

1. This is a secret.....you and me.

2. Don't blame me.....nothing.

3. Many children came .....school on foot.

4. The poor lady is.....need.....money.

5. Our teacher suffers .....cold.

6. Can you cut this string..... a knife.

7. Distribute these sweets.....those five children.

VI. Opposites: What are the opposites of the following words/expressions? (7 Marks)

Word

Opposite

1. Generous

.....

2. Active

.....

3. Huge .....
4. Profit .....
5. Careful .....
6. Take off .....
7. Get on .....

### Part 3: Composition (20 Marks)

Write a composition between 200 and 250 words. Select one of the three topics below.

#### 1. Importance of peace

Write about the importance of peace. Include the following in your writing:-

- a) How without peace life is meaningless and miserable.
- b) How can we eradicate the causes of violence such as injustice, oppression, ignorance and discrimination.
- c) What steps should we take to prevent the obstacles of peace such as avarice, ambition, envy, anger and pride.
- d) The role of the community to introduce peace.

#### 2. Importance of saving time

Write about the importance of saving time. Include the following in your writing:

- a) How time is as expensive as gold
- b) Wasting your precious time is like expending your money foolishly.
- c) Utilizing your money wisely is like investing your money in a useful project that will give substantial profit.
- d) Neglecting your time will bring failure in life and regret.

#### 3. Prayers

Write about the importance of prayers. Include the following in your writing.

- a) A prayer is a set of expressions that people say when they are standing in front of Allah.
- b) The role of the five obligatory prayers in the five pillars of Islam.
- c) Differentiate between the five obligatory prayers e.g. sunrise prayer, noon prayer, afternoon prayer and evening prayer.





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