

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION

GRADE 12 EXAMS, 2008

ENGLISH



P/LAND NATIONAL EXAMINATION BOARD



Name .....

School .....

Roll Number.....

**Puntland State of Somalia**

**Ministry of Education**

**Puntland National Examination Board**

**Form 4**

**English Examination**

**2008**

**Time 2 hours**

Plus 10 minutes before the exam for reading through the paper

**TOTAL TIME 2 hours 10 minutes**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

This paper consists of pages including this one.  
Count them now. Inform the invigilator if there are any pages missing.

PART 1: Reading Comprehension	30 marks
PART 2: Vocabulary	20 marks
PART 3: Grammar	20 marks
PART 4: Composition Answer 2 question out of 4	marks 30 marks
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100 marks = 100%</b>

- Answer ALL questions in part 1 and 2 and two questions in part 3
- All answers must be written on this paper in the spaces provided immediately after each question. **ONLY WRITE ON THIS EXAM PAPER.**
- NO extra paper is allowed.
- If you make a mistake cross out the incorrect answer clearly and write your correct answer. Do not use white out.



## PART 1: Reading Comprehension

(28 marks)

Read this passage and answer the question that follow: (30 marks)

It is estimated that in the last two hundred years or so more than hundred species of mammals have been lost. A similar number of species of birds have also become extinct. The real significance of these figure, however lies in the fact that almost three quarters of all the losses have occurred during the past hundred years, chiefly as a direct result of human activities on this earth. It is of course essential for the whole process of evolution that the extinction of certain species should occur over a period of time. But, and this is of primary importance- extinction should occur by natures' design, through natures own methods- and not as a result of human activities.

Conservation is by no means limited to the preservation of rare species of animal life and plant life. Conservation means the preservation of a healthy environment as a whole. If conservation is ignored, then, within a relatively short time, our water supply will be found inadequate, our seas and rivers will contain fewer crops and the air we breathe will become poisonous. It becomes only a matter of time before our health deteriorates and before man, together with every other livening thing, disappears from the face of the earth.

The seas and rivers of the world are polluted daily with an increasing amount of industrial waste products and radioactive waste materials being dumped. Those deposits of waste products cause too many rivers to be coloured and be foul-smelling, with all kinds of poisonous chemicals. Thousands of tonnes of crude oil spill or leak into our seas and the waste products of industry are deposited on land in greater quantity every day.

In Somalia and its neighbouring countries are becoming the world major nuclear waste product dumping areas with thousands of tonnes deposited in the last two decades. This will eat into the countryside and create vast areas of waste land devoid of all forms of life. Farmers protect their crops using chemical sprays and cause further pollution by upsetting the balance of nature. Politicians give licenses to some nuclear industries to dump their chemical waste products in the long coast line of Somalia. This resulted from the loss of controls after the collapse of the central Somalia government.

Similarly, a great number of plants are burnt daily, because of their commercial value in markets both inside the country and for export to the Arabian Gulf for cooking and heating purposes. The practitioners who burn trees do not realise that burning plants will put their life and that of their family and their livestock at the risk of starving to death in the near future.

The seriousness of the problem is indeed obvious as is the need for legislation and for advocacy in almost every under developed country to take safety measures and establish a conservation system. But this is not enough. It is better to start with educating our children. It is important to raise the child's awareness and appreciation of the importance of conservation. For all the problems we face we should at last be aware that pollution is the most serious. (523 words)

**A. Multiple Choice Questions. 10 marks 2 marks for each correct answer  
Circle the correct answer based on information in the passage**

1. Which is the best title for this passage?
  - a). Extinction of different species
  - b). Our environment in danger
  - c). Two hundred years of conservation
  - d). Dangers of evolution
  
2. Which of the following is the most significant fact according to the passage
  - a) More than a hundred species have been lost in the last two hundred years
  - b) A similar number of birds have also become extinct
  - c) Three quarters of these were lost during the last hundred years
  - d) The whole process of extinction will occur over a period of time.
  
3. Which of the following is a necessary and healthy process of evolution
  - a) All species become extinct over time
  - b) No species become extinct over time
  - c) Species become extinct as a result of human activities
  - d) Species become extinct by a natural process
  
4. Which of the following is a dangerous process of evolution
  - a) Some species become extinct over time
  - b) No species become extinct as a result of man's intervention
  - c) Species become extinct as a result of human activities
  - d) Species become extinct by natural processes
  
5. Which of the following is a good definition of 'conservation'
  - a) Conservation is the preserving the health of our whole environment
  - b) Conservation maintaining our own health
  - c) Conservation is the preservation of rare species of animals and bird
  - d) Conservation is the preservation of our water supply and our rivers

6. What causes our health to deteriorate
- a) Pollution of water, land and air
  - b). Conservation measures
  - c). Only a matter of time before this happens
  - d). Fewer crops and less healthy air

7. Why are the rivers foul smelling and coloured? (2 marks)

.....

8. List four items that pollute our waters. (4 marks)
- a. ....
  - b. ....
  - c. ....
  - d. ....

9. 'This will eat into ..... What is 'This' (maximum of five words) (2 marks)

.....

10. Give one result of the loss of government control in Somalia (2 marks)

.....

11. What product is referred to as by 'burning plants'? (1 mark)

.....

12. Where is this product sold? (2 marks)

.....

13. What, according to the passage, is the best way of solving the problem in the long run? (2 marks)

.....

14. List any three causes of pollution in the area you live. (You will not find the answers in the passage) (3 marks)

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## Part 2

## General Vocabulary

16 marks

### A. Vocabulary from the passage

(6 marks)

Choose the word or phrase that means the same as the word or phrase found in the passage.

1. extinct (paragraph 1)  
A. exist                                      B. cease to exist                                      C. endangered                                      D. rare
  
2. Inadequate (paragraph 2)  
A. Not enough                                      B. In excess                                      C. Enough                                      D. Not able to do things
  
3. Deteriorates (paragraph 2)  
A. Getting worse                                      B. Getting better                                      C. Improves                                      D. Dies
  
4. Dumping area (paragraph 4)  
A. Markets and places where things are sold  
B. Place for storage and or burial  
C. Rivers, seas and coastline  
D. Places where things are thrown away
  
5. Commercial value (paragraph 5)  
A. Already to somebody sold                                      B. Of value because they can be sold  
C. Of value because they are industrial                                      D. Of value if kept at home
  
6. Advocacy (paragraph 6)  
A. Use argument to persuade people to change  
B. Use the law to enforce a policy change  
C. Uses force to persuade others to change  
D. To listen to the opinions of others
  
7. Care giver (paragraph 4)  
A. Needs care or nursing                                      B. Is cared for  
C. Cares or nurses others                                      D. Pays or gives to the carer or nurse

8. HIV testing. This is a test (paragraph 6)

- A. that everyone is forced to take after being exposed to HIV
- B. that can prevent one being infected
- C. to find out if one is vulnerable to infection
- D. to find out if one is HIV infected

**B. General Vocabulary** (10 marks)

a. *Circle the word that means the same as that in the questions.*

1. Last year the USA had a surplus of grain. Surplus means

- A. Shortage
- B. Excess
- C. Sufficient
- D. Storage problems

2. Ali has always shown great determination to succeed. Determination means

- A. ability
- B. Intelligence
- C. Resolution
- D. Good fortune

3. The man they arrested said he was innocent. Innocent means

- A. Foolish
- B. Honest, trustworthy
- C. Knew nothing
- D. Not guilty

4. The scientist had made many important discoveries. Discoveries means

- A. Inventions
- B. creating new things
- C. Finding something no one knew about
- D. Making something new or unusual

5. He uses too many abbreviations when he writes. Abbreviations means

- A. Difficult words
- B. Short forms
- C. Few words
- D. Capital letters

**b. Which is the general word that could describe the other three? Circle your answer.**

- 1. A. Ants                      B. Grasshoppers                      C. Insects                      D. Termites
- 2. A. Poems                      B. Novels                      C. Play                      D. Literature
- 3. A. Fear                      B. Emotion                      C. Hatred                      D. Contempt
- 4. A. Wildlife                      B. Lions                      D. Antelope                      D. Warthog



5.        A. Media                      B. Radio                      C. Television                      D. Newspapers

**Part 3                                      Grammar Use                                      (24 marks)**

**A. Multiple Choice Questions** (18 marks – 1 for each correct answer)

1.        Last year my brother was in the school football team and he..... very well.  
          A. play            B.    is playing                      C. played                      D will play
  
2.        In the first match his team .....their opponents five nil.  
          A.    beat                      B.    are beating                      C. beated                      D. will beat
  
3.        Now he has left school the team will be much weaker. I know they.....to lose  
          A.    go                      B.    are going                      C. must                      D. will go
  
4.        Which is ..... town, Galkayo or Bossaso?  
          A.    the larger                      B.    the largest                      C. large                      D. largest
  
5.        If Ahmed hadn't passed in mathematics he ..... a job as an accountant.  
          A.    will never get                      B.    would never get  
          C.    will never have got                      D.    would never have got
  
6.        Which of the following are correctly punctuated?  
          A.    The speaker's first words were tonight, you are all welcome.  
          B.    The speaker's first words were, "tonight, you are all welcome."  
          C.    The speaker's first words were, "Tonight, you are all welcome?"  
          D.    The speaker's first words were, "Tonight, you are all welcome."
  
7.        Which is the correct question?  
          A.    When we will receive the results of these exams?  
          B.    When the results we will receive of these exams?  
          C.    When will we receive the results of these exams?  
          D.    When the results of these exams are we receiving?

8. And which is the correct answer?
- A. I don't know for sure but I want that it will be before the end of September.  
B. I don't know for sure but I hope it will be before the end of September.  
C. I don't know for sure but I am thinking it will be before end of September.  
D. I don't know for sure but I wish it will be before the end of September.
9. My uncle has three children. Two daughters and .....son.
- A. the B. some C. a D. an
10. That is the student ..... father gave the school the new furniture.
- A. whose B. who C. which D. whom
11. This is my nephew. We have agreed to look ..... him as his parents are away.
- A. after B. up to C. out of D. back on
12. He lost his textbooks and then accused ..... stealing them.
- A. of me B. me by C. by me D. me of
13. We don't have any bikes or cars so we all go to school ..... foot.
- A. by B. with C. on D. under
14. Ali couldn't read anything on the blackboard so he was advised ..... glasses.
- A. wear B. wore C. wearing D. to wear
15. .... I have given him all the money I have he is still asking for more..
- A. However B. Although C. Despite D. If
16. My parents love ..... wild life programmes so I have to watch them as well.
- A. watch B. watches C. watching D. watched
17. That is a very ..... dress you are wearing. How much did it cost?
- A. attract B. attraction C. attracted D. attractive

18. My parents gave me .....money for the journey, but it wasn't enough for food.  
A. a little      B. little      C. a few      D. few

**B. Rewrite the following sentences starting with the words given. Do not change the meaning. (6 marks- 2 marks for each correct answer)**

1. "Your exam results have been posted on the school notice board" shouted Sarah  
Sarah told us .....
2. Both Safia and Abdi failed their mathematics exams.  
Neither .....
3. Ismail asked us to buy him some sugar at the market.  
Ismail said, " ....."

**PART THREE**

**Written composition**

**(30 marks)**

You should write two compositions each of between **200-250 words**. You will be penalised if the composition is too short. Choose one topic from question 1 and one topic from question 2.

**Question 1**

**(15 marks)**

**EITHER**

'Everyone in Somalia should be given the chance to learn to read and write.' Do you agree with this statement? Explain why you agree or disagree and then discuss how it could be achieved.

**OR**

Write an article for a newspaper or magazine aimed at young people giving your opinion about how sports should be strengthened in schools in your country. Explain why you think

- a. Sports are important for all youth
- b. How the country needs to develop a stronger and better football and athletics teams internationally
- c. How Somalia used to have a strong tradition of sports in the past
- d. How sports can also be developed outside the schools for the community



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## Question 2

### Either

Select your favourite song. Describe the song and explain why you like it so much. Make sure you describe what the song says as well as the way it sounds.

### OR

Look at the advertisement below. Write a letter of application for the job in which you:

- Describe yourself and your qualifications
- Say why you think you are suitable and why you want the job
- Say when you are available for an interview and when you would be free to start work

### Vacancy

Are you aged 20-25 with school leaving certificate?  
Want to become a journalist?

#### Job requirements

- The applicant must be 20-35 years old
- Have secondary school leaving certificate or equivalent
- Have a very good command of written English and Somali
- Be a creative person able to persuade and influence others through the pen
- Be interested in current affairs and be knowledgeable about world affairs
- Have a strong commitment to serving others and to serving a free and strong media
- Be willing to travel in difficult places.

NOTE that the successful applicant will be given a one year training programme at a reputable university at our expense.

For more details please contact AlJazira Broadcasting  
PO 43234 Nairobi Tel: 524260  
Email: [alja@hotmail.com](mailto:alja@hotmail.com)





A series of horizontal dotted lines spanning the width of the page, intended for students to write their answers during the examination.

**END**