



EXAMINATION NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE MALAWI NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS BOARD****2020 PRIMARY SCHOOL LEAVING CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION****ENGLISH**

(100 marks)

**Subject Number: P052****Wednesday, 20 May****Time Allowed: 2 h 15 mins****8:00 – 10:15 am****Name of Candidate:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Surname First)**Name of School:** \_\_\_\_\_**Instructions**

1. This paper contains 12 printed pages. Please check.
2. Write your **Name** and **Name of your School** in the spaces provided above and your **Examination Number** on top of each page of the question paper.
3. This paper consists of 4 sections: **A, B, C, and D.**
4. You are expected to answer **one** question only from section **A**. Your composition/letter should be between **100** and **150** words. You should answer **all** questions in sections **B, C** and **D**.
5. The **first 10 minutes** are for reading the questions and choosing the question to answer from Section **A**.
6. Write **all** your answers to the questions in sections **A, B** and **C** in the spaces provided on the question paper. In section **D**, encircle the letter representing the right answer to each question.
7. In the table provided on this page, **tick** against the question number you have answered apart from questions **14** to **53**.
8. Hand in your worked question paper to the invigilator when time is called to stop writing.

| Question Number | Tick if answered | Do not write in these columns |  |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 1               |                  |                               |  |
| 2               |                  |                               |  |
| 3               |                  |                               |  |
| 4               |                  |                               |  |
| 5               |                  |                               |  |
| 6               |                  |                               |  |
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| 8               |                  |                               |  |
| 9               |                  |                               |  |
| 10              |                  |                               |  |
| 11              |                  |                               |  |
| 12              |                  |                               |  |
| 13              |                  |                               |  |
| 14-26           |                  |                               |  |
| 27-39           |                  |                               |  |
| 40-44           |                  |                               |  |
| 45-46           |                  |                               |  |
| 47-48           |                  |                               |  |
| 49-53           |                  |                               |  |



**Section A (30 marks)**

Answer **one** question only from this section on the lined answer sheets on **Pages 3 and 4.**

Write between **100** and **150** words.

**EITHER**

1. Imagine that you are absent from school because your mother is sick. Write a letter to your class teacher telling him or her about your being absent from school.

In your letter include the following points:

**Paragraph 1**

- when your mother fell sick
- what she is suffering from
- where you were when your mother fell sick

**Paragraph 2**

- what you did when you found out that your mother was sick
- **two** activities you are doing at home following your mother's sickness

**Paragraph 3**

- **one** way in which the sickness has affected you
- when you think you will come back to school

**OR**

2. Imagine that there is a problem of theft at your school. As a head boy or head girl, you have been asked to speak to your fellow learners about it. Write a speech which will be presented during the assembly.

In your speech, include the following points:

**Paragraph 1**

- things which are being stolen
- time when these things are being stolen
- how many people are affected by the problem

**Paragraph 2**

- problems which learners are facing because of the theft
- people that are involved in the theft
- how the thieves manage to steal these things

**Paragraph 3**

- any **two** things that have been done to stop the theft
- **two** pieces of advice to learners on how they should take care of their property.



# ANSWER SHEET

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

## ANSWER SHEET

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.



**Section B (20 marks)**

3. **Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

Tsala quickly ate all the mangoes which her grandmother gave her. However, she wanted to eat more mangoes. She looked at her grandmother. The old woman was deep in sleep. Tsala got up and walked very quietly to a mango tree. She looked up at the mangoes in the tree. Then she started to climb carefully.

Soon she was a long way up. She could see over the roof of their house and the next yard of Mr. Mpata. She picked many mangoes and threw them to the ground.

Tsala looked up and saw more mangoes in the branch over her head. She stood up on a branch and tried to get the mangoes but they were too far away. She tried to move towards them. However, she was looking at the mangoes and not at her feet. The branch she was standing on was too thin to support her. Suddenly it broke. She tried to stretch her hands in order to hold other branches but they slipped. She could not prevent herself from falling. She fell all the way down through the branches to the ground.

Tsala cried loudly, "Oh! My leg! It hurts!" Her leg hurt so much that she could not move it. "Oh, why didn't I listen to grandmother? Why did I climb the tree?"

Her grandmother woke up when she heard Tsala crying. She walked slowly towards the mango tree. "I'm sorry grandmother!" cried Tsala "I'm so sorry."

Her grandmother was very upset. "Why did you climb the tree?" She put her arms around the little girl.

It was a bad afternoon for Tsala. When her mother came home from work, she was very unhappy that Tsala had hurt her leg. She was angry when she heard that Tsala had climbed the tree. Tsala's mother went round to the next house to see Mr. Mpata. She asked him to take Tsala to the hospital in his car. Mr. Mpata accepted at once.



## 3. (Continued)

Tsala went to the hospital with her mother in Mr. Mpata's car. She was afraid. Tsala could not stop crying.

"Hello Tsala," said the nurse smiling. "How did you hurt your leg?" Tsala was too upset to speak. "Well Tsala," said the doctor smiling. "Your leg is broken but it will soon get better. We will put it in a plaster. She must stay here tonight. I want to look at her leg again in the morning. She fell a long way."

Tsala was really upset. She did not want to stay in the hospital. She was taken to a bed at the end of the ward. Two nurses put her in bed. Tsala had to lie on her back with her leg up in the air. The nurses smiled at Tsala but she did not smile back.

The next morning, the doctor looked at her leg and said to Tsala's mother, "Tsala can go home now."

Adapted from Longman. *Tshoganetso's grandmother*

**Questions**

a. Who gave mangoes to Tsala?

\_\_\_\_\_ (1mark)

b. Why did Tsala walk very quietly to a mango tree?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2marks)

c. State **one** way Tsala used to try to pick mangoes that were too far from her.

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)



## 3. (Continued)

d. Why did the branch on which Tsala was standing break suddenly?

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(2 marks)

e. How did Tsala try to prevent herself from falling?

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(2marks)

f. What caused grandmother to wake up?

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(2marks)

g. Why was Tsala's mother unhappy?

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(2 marks)

h. How did Tsala feel when she was at the hospital?

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(2 marks)

i. In what way were the doctor and nurses friendly to Tsala?

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(2 marks)

j. In the passage, find a word in

(i) **paragraph 9** which means 'once more'

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(1 mark)

(ii) **paragraph 10** which means 'angry'

---

(1 mark)



## 3. (Continued)

k. Give a title for the story.

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(2 marks)

Section C (10 marks)

Change the following sentences from direct to indirect speech.

4. Direct: "Mr Phiri likes bananas," Pempho said.

Indirect: \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

5. Direct: "The learners wrote good letters," the teacher said.

Indirect: \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

6. Direct: "What have you seen from this book," asked the pastor.

Indirect: \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

7. Direct: "My mother cooked the food," Moyo said.

Indirect: \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

8. Direct: "You must be in uniform every day," the teacher instructed.

Indirect: \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

Make a sentence using each of the following words to show that you understand its meaning.

9. before

\_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

10. popular

\_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

11. appear

\_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)



12. peace

13. complete

(1 mark)

(1 mark)

Section D (40 marks)

Questions 14 to 26

In each of the following questions choose the word (A, B, C or D) that best completes the sentence.

14. She lied \_\_\_\_\_ him about where she was going.

- A. at
- B. to
- C. for
- D. of

15. They were pleased \_\_\_\_\_ him.

- A. with
- B. on
- C. about
- D. at

16. The teacher advised them to abstain \_\_\_\_\_ premarital sex.

- A. for
- B. against
- C. about
- D. from

17. The competition was won \_\_\_\_\_ an African dancer.

- A. against
- B. by
- C. for
- D. with

18. I saw a \_\_\_\_\_ of bees in a hive.

- A. crowd
- B. collection
- C. swarm

19. Children must always be obedient \_\_\_\_\_ their parents.

- A. to
- B. at
- C. for
- D. from

20. He made it \_\_\_\_\_ his first attempt.

- A. in
- B. with
- C. on
- D. at

21. It was Mr. Phiri who presided \_\_\_\_\_ the initiation ceremony.

- A. on
- B. at
- C. with
- D. over

22. He passed the examinations \_\_\_\_\_ good grades.

- A. by
- B. with
- C. on
- D. at

23. The nurse always \_\_\_\_\_ in the hospital.

- A. work
- B. works
- C. has worked
- D. had worked



24. The dog \_\_\_\_\_ bitten me if I had not seen it.  
 A. should have  
 B. will have  
 C. may have  
 D. would have
25. By the time he comes, his mother \_\_\_\_\_ gone.  
 A. will have  
 B. would have  
 C. is  
 D. was
26. If I had money, I \_\_\_\_\_ buy a house.  
 A. would  
 B. could  
 C. will  
 D. can

### Questions 27 to 39

In each of the following questions, choose the **correct part of speech (A, B, C or D)** for each of the underlined words.

27. Though she was sick, she came to school.  
 A. adverb  
 B. preposition  
 C. conjunction  
 D. adjective
28. Atupele sits behind me in class.  
 A. preposition  
 B. adverb  
 C. adjective  
 D. conjunction
29. This dress is too big for my sister.  
 A. conjunction  
 B. adjective  
 C. adverb  
 D. preposition
30. He went to cheer the sick.  
 A. noun  
 B. article  
 C. adjective  
 D. preposition
31. Oh! I left my notebook at home.  
 A. adjective  
 B. preposition  
 C. pronoun  
 D. interjection
32. Some learners took part in the competition.  
 A. preposition  
 B. pronoun  
 C. adjective  
 D. adverb
33. I often meet him at the market.  
 A. adverb  
 B. adjective  
 C. verb  
 D. noun
34. All the men were asked to farm most of the arable land.  
 A. noun  
 B. verb  
 C. adverb  
 D. adjective
35. His uncle is a driver.  
 A. adjective  
 B. pronoun  
 C. adverb  
 D. preposition
36. They will air the programme tonight.  
 A. adverb  
 B. adjective  
 C. verb  
 D. noun

Continued/...



37. He saw a fleet of cars passing by.  
A. noun  
B. adjective  
C. verb  
D. adverb
38. You must go to the hospital today for a checkup.  
A. adjective  
B. noun  
C. preposition  
D. adverb
39. Someone has stolen my pen.  
A. pronoun  
B. noun  
C. conjunction  
D. preposition

**Questions 40 to 44**

In each of the following questions, choose the correct question tag (A, B, C or D) for the statement.

40. I am like a sister to her, \_\_\_\_\_?  
A. aren't I  
B. am I  
C. can I  
D. can't I
41. Our examination will start next week, \_\_\_\_\_?  
A. isn't  
B. is it  
C. will it  
D. won't it

42. He often preaches on the television, \_\_\_\_\_?  
A. does he  
B. doesn't he  
C. isn't he  
D. is he
43. I will never go there again, \_\_\_\_\_?  
A. will I  
B. would I  
C. wouldn't I  
D. won't I
44. You should have prepared breakfast earlier, \_\_\_\_\_?  
A. shouldn't you  
B. haven't you  
C. have you  
D. should you

**Questions 45 and 46**

In each of the following questions, choose the word (A, B, C or D) that best completes the simile.

45. It looked as huge as \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. an elephant  
B. a buffalo  
C. a giraffe  
D. a chimpanzee
46. The panga was as sharp as \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. a sickle  
B. a slasher  
C. a knife  
D. an axe



**Questions 47 and 48**

In each of the following questions, choose the word (A, B, C or D) that **best completes** the proverb.

47. An apple a day keeps the \_\_\_\_\_ away.  
A. doctor  
B. matron  
C. nurse  
D. patient
48. Once \_\_\_\_\_ twice shy.  
A. taken  
B. forgotten  
C. beaten  
D. shaken

**Questions 49 to 53**

In each of the following questions, choose the answer (A, B, C or D) that gives the **correct type of clause and its function**. The clause has been underlined.

49. We found the boy where he was hiding.  
A. adjective clause, qualifying 'boy'  
B. noun clause, object of 'found'  
C. adverb clause, modifying 'found'  
D. noun clause, in apposition to 'boy'
50. This is the place where Malango was born.  
A. adjective clause, qualifying 'place'  
B. adverb clause, modifying 'is'  
C. noun clause, object of 'is'  
D. noun clause, in apposition to 'place'
51. She did not tell us the reason why she was late.  
A. adjective clause, qualifying 'reason'  
B. adverb clause, modifying 'did not tell'  
C. noun clause, object of 'did not tell'  
D. noun clause, in apposition to 'reason'
52. This is the man I meant.  
A. noun clause, object of 'is'  
B. adjective clause, qualifying 'man'  
C. noun clause, complement of 'is'  
D. adverb clause, modifying 'is'
53. I have bought a dress so that I can give it to my mother.  
A. adjective clause, qualifying 'dress'  
B. adverb clause, modifying 'have bought'  
C. noun clause, object of 'have bought'  
D. noun clause, complement of 'have bought'

**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

**NB: This paper contains 12 printed pages.**

