



EXAMINATION NO.: _____
THE MALAWI NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS BOARD

2023 JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

ENGLISH

Subject Number: J052/I

Time Allowed: 1 h 30 min

11:00 – 12:30 pm

Monday, 5 June

PAPER I

(50 marks)

Instructions

1. This paper contains 8 printed pages. Please check.
2. Answer **all** questions in Sections A and B and **one** question in Section C.
3. Write your **Examination Number** at the top of each answer sheet.
4. In the table provided on this page, tick against the question number you have answered.
5. When time is called to stop writing, hand in your completed question paper to the invigilator.

Question Number	Tick Questions 21 to 27 if answered	Do not write in these columns	
1 - 5			
6 - 10			
11 - 15			
16 - 20			
21 - 25			
26			
27			
Total			

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Turn over



Section A (20 marks)

Answer **all** questions in this section by **encircling** the letter corresponding to the correct answer for each question.

Questions 1 to 6

Choose the answer (A, B, C or D) which **best completes** each of the following sentences.

1. Khoswe _____ beans at Bembeke every day.
A. would sell
B. has been selling
C. sells
D. sold
2. When we arrived, we noticed that the visitors _____.
A. have already gone
B. had already gone
C. were already going
D. had already been going
3. Lusungu _____ netball when the rain started.
A. was playing
B. played
C. had been playing
D. had played
4. Pilirani went to the _____ to have her blood tested.
A. laboratory
B. pharmacy
C. theatre
D. ward
5. His mother _____ him for breaking the window.
A. judged
B. charged
C. accused
D. blamed

6. The new coach has started _____ the athletes.

A. teaching
B. drilling
C. training
D. mentoring

Questions 7 to 10

In each of the following questions, choose the part of speech (A, B, C or D) that **best describes** each of the underlined word in the sentences.

7. He was imprisoned for stealing a goat.
A. verb
B. noun
C. conjunction
D. preposition
8. She met him when she was coming from school.
A. adverb
B. adjective
C. conjunction
D. preposition
9. Any of the plates will do.
A. adjective
B. conjunction
C. pronoun
D. preposition
10. Mphatso is the youngest boy in our class.
A. conjunction
B. pronoun
C. adverb
D. adjective

Continued/...

2023

Questions 11 to 14

Choose the answer (A, B, C or D) that **best** gives the meaning of the underlined expression in each of the following sentences.

11. The boy was caught red-handed.
A. immediately
B. while doing the act
C. in the company of others
D. in strange circumstances
12. The demonstrations got out of hand after lunch.
A. started
B. ended
C. became uncontrollable
D. became intense
13. Mary finished writing the paper in a wink.
A. very quickly
B. with difficulties
C. very late
D. without any complaints
14. It was clear that we escaped the collision by a hair's breadth.
A. amazingly
B. quickly
C. smartly
D. narrowly

Questions 15 to 17

Choose the word or phrase (A, B, C or D) which **means almost the same** as the underlined word in the following sentences.

15. The forest has indigenous trees.
A. exotic
B. foreign
C. strong
D. local

16. Dalitso is liked by all because he is a descent boy.

A. kind
B. smart
C. clever
D. disciplined

17. The forest resources were depleted within a month of their coming.

A. restored
B. removed
C. abused
D. exhausted

Questions 18 to 20

Choose the **best** word (A, B, C or D) that has the **opposite meaning** to the underlined words.

18. She found her bedroom messy.

A. tidy
B. dirty
C. dark
D. strange

19. She ordered the troops to advance immediately.

A. withdraw
B. retreat
C. ran
D. shoot

20. The president has appointed four ministers this year.

A. hired
B. nominated
C. dismissed
D. confirmed

Continued/...



Section B (10 marks)

Answer all questions in this section in the spaces provided.

Rewrite each of the following sentences or pair of sentences **using the beginning given**.

21. Kondwani does not like mangoes. Chimwemwe does not like mangoes too.

Neither _____

(2 marks)

22. The birthday party started after the heavy rains had stopped.

No sooner _____

(2 marks)

23. They woke up early but they still missed the function.

Despite _____

(2 marks)

24. You will be allowed to attend classes when you pay school fees.

Until _____

(2 marks)

25. Towera was naturally intelligent. She read her books now and again.

Regardless _____

(2 marks)

Continued/...



Section C (20 marks)

Answer **one** question only from this section on the lined answer sheets on **pages 6 to 8**. Write between **150** and **200** words.

EITHER

26. Imagine that you have passed the Junior Certificate Examination and that you have been selected to start Form 3. Your parents have told you to drop out of school because they do not have money to support you. Write a letter to your uncle or aunt asking for money.

In your letter you may include the following points:

- a. any **three** reasons why you do not want to drop out of school
- b. any **two** other ways in which your uncle or aunt can help you
- c. any **two** ways you want to spend money that your uncle or aunt will give you.

(20 marks)

OR

27. Imagine that people in your area are suffering due to a severe drought that occurred last season. Write a composition describing how the problem is affecting people in your area.

In your composition you may include the following points:

- a. any **three** ways in which people in your area are suffering
- b. any **two** ways in which well-wishers can help people in your area
- c. any **three** things that people in your area can do to reduce the effects of drought

(20 marks)

Continued/...



2023

EXAMINATION NO.:
Page 6 of 8

J052/1

Lined area for writing answers, consisting of approximately 25 horizontal lines.



2023

EXAMINATION NO.: _____
Page 7 of 8

J052/I

Lined area for writing answers.



2023

EXAMINATION NO.:

Page 8 of 8

J052/I

164

1018

END OF QUESTION PAPER

NB: This paper contains 8 printed pages.

