

COMPETITIVE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION INTO THE FIRST YEAR OF THE SECOND CYCLE ENS BAMBILI	
<u>CYCLE:</u> 2nd CYCLE <u>LEVEL:</u> 2nd YEAR <u>OPTION:</u> ENGLISH MODERN LETTER	Session: 2010
DURATION: 3hrs	

A. COMPREHENSION

Read the text below and answer all the questions that follow it.

LETTER FROM A NEIGHBOUR

Wall Cottage,

Watter Field

Monday, February 7th 2008

Dear Mr. Jones,

I expect you may be slightly surprised to receive a letter from someone living as near as your next-door neighbor, but I have to **raise* a subject that it will be easier for me to discuss in writing.

You may have noticed that I have a line of apple trees running alongside the fence that *separates* our two gardens. You may also have taken pleasure in the frequent sight of your two children sitting on your lawn directly by the fence. And you may also have remarked that my apple trees, so to speak, **bend* over the fence and seem to look down at your children with interest.

It is only natural that your children should sometimes seem to return that interest. And it is not only natural, but, I *acknowledge*, quite *legal*, for them occasionally to show that interest by picking all the apples that hang over on your side of the fence. But to be plain with you, **Mr. Jones* – I am tired of seeing your children, day after day, tear the branches off the side of every one of my apple trees, and leave my trees looking as though a battle had been fought on one side of them. I am, if anything, **even* more the apples on my side of the fence much *diminished* in

number. I know this too to be the work of your children, since last night I was woken at midnight by the noise they were making climbing one of my trees, and (as they may have told you) chased them home.

While I am on the subject,* I am at least* grateful to you for keeping your bonfires on the far side of your garden this year. Last year neither I nor your children had any apples, because the smoke from your bonfires destroyed all the flowers before the apples had time to form, I very much hope that next year-for the first time since I have been in this village-I shall have my apples, your children will have their applies, and that the sight of the line of apple trees will be a pride to us both.

Otherwise I shall not express my annoyance simply in writing to you, but shall have to refer the matter to those capable of taking stronger action.

Yours sincerely,

J. GARDINER

(About 400 words)

QUESTIONS

The following words are printed above in *italic*. Give for each another expression of similar meaning to that in which it is found in the passage.

Raise diminished

Separates since

Acknowledge far

Legal destroyed

Occasionally annoyance

Give brief answers to the following questions, using ONE COMPLETE sentence for each.

Why does the writer think that Mr. Jones may be surprised to receive a letter from him?

What have Mr. Jones's children been doing to the branches of the apple trees on their side of the fence?

How did Mr. Gardiner know that Mr. Jone's children stole from the branches on his side of the fence?

Why did Mr. Gardiner get no apples last year?

3. In several places in this letter (lines 1,5,7,9 and 25) Mr. Gardiner uses the auxiliary 'may'. This auxiliary usually indicates possibility. (A) In which of these cases is the happening described only a possibility, and in which cases is it in fact a certainty? (b) In which cases is it, on the other hand, unlikely? (C) Where it is a certainty, or where it is unlikely, why do you think that Mr. Gardiner uses the auxiliary 'may'? (d) Where is he being polite? (e) Where is he being ironical? (f) What is irony?

4. Answer the following questions:

(a) Are there any other examples of irony in this letter other than those in which may is used? (b) Does Mr. Gardiner really think that the apple trees look at the children with interest? (c) Who, in fact, looks at what with interest? (d) Does Mr. Gardiner really think that these are 'fine' autumn mornings? (e) Is Mr. Gardiner really 'grateful' to Mr. Jones because the latter has not spoiled his apple trees with smoke this year? (f) Explain the significance of the phrase 'a pride to us both'.

B. GRAMMAR

Choose A, B, C or D in front of the most suitable word or expression which correctly completes each sentence below. Write number of the sentence and the letter in your answer sheet.

1. Among the most important crops – in the North are guinea corn and maize.
a. Grow b. grew c. grown d. were grown.
2. The main market here _____ on Sundays.
a. Holds b. is held c. is holding d. has held
3. How many languages _____ in East Africa?
a. They speak b. are speaking c. are spoken d. have spoken.

4. At last the aircraft was able to take off. It ____ for tow hours by a fault in the electrical system.
a. Has been delayed b. delayed c. lead been delayed d. is delayed.
5. The new school building is ____
a. High six floors b. six high floors c. six floors high d. six floors height.
6. The river here is ____
a. Wide by over a mile b. wide over a mile c. wide past one mile d. over a mile wide.
7. Ngu was a ____ boy.
a. Big strong tall young b. young strong tall big c. tall young big strong.
8. The old man lost more than ____ savings.
a. His half well-earned cash b. half his cash well-earned b. half is well-earned cash c. his well-earned cash half.
9. The captain of the aircraft was accompanied by ____ members.
a. Three flying well-trained crew b. three well-trained flying crew c. three flying frew well-trained d. three well-trained crew flying.
10. Everyone looked ____ Peter to give a lead.
a. To b. on c. for d. up
11. At the beginning of the period the geography master fired ____ a series of questions about Indonesia.
a. Up b. on c. away d. off
12. Henry was late for school because he ____ for his sister.
a. Must have to wait b. had to wait c. could have waited d. must have waited.
13. If I had known I ____ a new dress for the party.
a. Will buy b. buy c. would buy d. would have bought.
14. The teacher wanted to know what ____.
a. Is the matter b. was the matter c. the matter d. the matter was.

15. It is high time you ____ that I am your boss.

- a. Know b. knew c. knowing d. known.

16. Neither he nor I ____ ill.

- a. Is b. are c. am d. none of these.

17. A good many ____ prepared to come and help.

- a. Is b. are c. would d. will

18. He walks as though he ____.

- a. Is drinking b. are drunk c. were drunk d. drank.

19. John asked him when ____ that his book was missing.

- a. He notice b. he had noticed c. had he noticed d. he notices.

20. John said that he was not lucky ____

- a. Today b. this day c. now d. that day

C. DIRECTED WRITING

Your name is Abu Hasan. You are a student at the University of Yaounde I. your best friend Peter who is a student in the University of Buea has failed his exams. You learnt from reliable source sthat he drinks heavily, has bad friends and spends his time attending parties. Write him a letter of advice and opinion. (not more than 150 words)