

# BECE ENGLISH LANGUAGE 2017

## Questions & Answers Preview

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## NAVIGATION MENU

PAPER 1

PART A – LEXIS AND STRUCTURE

[SECTION A](#)

[SECTION B](#)

[SECTION C](#)

[SECTION D](#)

[PAPER 1 – ANSWERED](#)

[PAPER 2, PART A – ESSAY](#)

[PAPER 2, PART B – COMPREHENSION](#)

[PAPER 2, PART C – LITERATURE](#)

PAPER 2 – ANSWERED:

[ESSAY WRITING – ANSWERED](#)

[COMPREHENSION – ANSWERED](#)

[LITERATURE – ANSWERED](#)

## JUNE 2017

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

# PAPER 1

## OBJECTIVE TEST

45 MINUTES

## PAPER 1 – PART A (LEXIS AND STRUCTURE)

[\[BACK TO TOP\]](#)

### SECTION A

*From the alternatives lettered A to D,*

**Upper Primary & JHS**

**1**

*choose the one which most suitably completes each sentence.*

1. John has given..... smoking

- A. in
- B. off
- C. out
- D. up

2. The crowd was..... large that the Director became frightened.

- A. quite
- B. so
- C. too
- D. very

3. When we got there, the buses..... left.

- A. are
- B. had
- C. have
- D. were

4. The book was..... to me.

- A. gave
- B. given
- C. giving
- D. to give

5. Auntie is the lady to..... I gave the list.

- A. who
- B. whom
- C. which
- D. whose

6. He's your friend, .....?

- A. doesn't he
- B. does he
- C. isn't he
- D. isn't it

7. Kay: You didn't go to Accra did you?  
Lee: .....

- A. No, I did
- B. No, I didn't
- C. Yes, did I
- D. Yes, I didn't

8. You had better..... now.

- A. left
- B. leave
- C. be leaving
- D. to leave

9. Kwame asked his friend to..... him a pen.
- A. borrow
  - B. excuse
  - C. lend
  - D. spare
10. She ended the letter, .....
- A. 'Yours sincerely'
  - B. 'Your's sincerely'
  - C. 'Yours' sincerely'
  - D. 'Your sincerely'
11. The woman refused to sell me..... kerosene.
- A. any
  - B. little
  - C. plenty
  - D. some
12. 'Yes, ..... a book,' he said.
- A. is
  - B. its
  - C. it's
  - D. it
13. I know you are much..... than Esi.
- A. tall
  - B. taller
  - C. tallest
  - D. the taller
14. Neither John nor his friend, ..... a play to the end.
- A. watch
  - B. watches
  - C. was watching
  - D. were watching
15. Araba and Osei are a devoted couple who love.....
- A. each other
  - B. one another
  - C. themselves
  - D. the other

[\[BACK TO TOP\]](#)

## **SECTION B**

*Choose from the alternatives lettered A to D the one which is nearest in meaning to the underlined word in each sentence.*

Choose from the alternatives lettered A to D the one which is nearest in meaning to

the underlined word in each sentence.

16. The welfare of students should be the concern of teachers.

- A. growth
- B. joy
- C. wealth
- D. well-being

17. He said the practice was alien to him.

- A. boring
- B. new
- C. modern
- D. unfamiliar

18. He said the story was fictitious.

- A. artificial
- B. false
- C. interesting
- D. real

19. The man placed an order for rice and stew at the restaurant.

- A. a command
- B. a demand
- C. a request
- D. a directive

20. There is nothing with which to compare the infinite knowledge and power of Providence.

- A. endless
- B. immeasurable
- C. incomplete
- D. inconstant

[\[BACK TO TOP\]](#)

## **SECTION A – ANSWERED**

*From the alternatives lettered A to D, choose the one which most suitably completes each sentence.*

1. John has given..... smoking

- A. in
- B. off
- C. out
- D. up

D

2. The crowd was..... large that the Director became frightened.

- A. quite
- B. so
- C. too
- D. very

B

3. When we got there, the buses..... left.

- A. are
- B. had
- C. have
- D. were

B

4. The book was..... to me.

- A. gave
- B. given
- C. giving
- D. to give

D

5. Auntie is the lady to..... I gave the list.

- A. who
- B. whom
- C. which
- D. whose

B

6. He's your friend, .....?

- A. doesn't he
- B. does he
- C. isn't he
- D. isn't it

C

7. Kay: You didn't go to Accra did you?  
Lee: .....

- A. No, I did
- B. No, I didn't
- C. Yes, did I
- D. Yes, I didn't

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- B. leave
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9. Kwame asked his friend to..... him a pen.

- A. borrow
- B. excuse
- C. lend
- D. spare

C

10. She ended the letter, .....

- A. 'Yours sincerely'
- B. 'Your's sincerely'
- C. 'Yours' sincerely'
- D. 'Your sincerely'

A

11. The woman refused to sell me..... kerosene.

- A. any
- B. little
- C. plenty
- D. some

A

12. 'Yes, ..... a book,' he said.

- A. is
- B. its
- C. it's
- D. it

C

13. I know you are much..... than Esi.

- A. tall
- B. taller
- C. tallest
- D. the taller

B

14. Neither John nor his friend, ..... a play to the end.

- A. watch
- B. watches
- C. was watching
- D. were watching

B

15. Araba and Osei are a devoted couple who love.....

- A. each other
- B. one another

- C. themselves
- D. the other

A

[\[BACK TO TOP\]](#)

## SECTION B – ANSWERED

*Choose from the alternatives lettered A to D the one which is nearest in meaning to the underlined word in each sentence.*

16. The welfare of students should be the concern of teachers.

- A. growth
- B. joy
- C. wealth
- D. well-being

D

17. He said the practice was alien to him.

- A. boring
- B. new
- C. modern
- D. unfamiliar

D

18. He said the story was fictitious.

- A. artificial
- B. false
- C. interesting
- D. real

B

19. The man placed an order for rice and stew at the restaurant.

- A. a command
- B. a demand
- C. a request
- D. a directive

C

20. There is nothing with which to compare the infinite knowledge and power of Providence.

- A. endless
- B. immeasurable
- C. incomplete
- D. inconstant

B

[\[BACK TO TOP\]](#)

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE

## PAPER 2

### ESSAY-WRITING, COMPREHENSION AND LITERATURE

1 HOUR

*This paper consists of three parts: A, B and C. Answer **three** questions in all; one question from Part A and all the questions in Part B and Part C.*

### PAPER 2, PART A (ESSAY WRITING) [30 MARKS]

*Answer one question only from this part. Your composition should be about **250** words long.*

*Credit will be given for clarity of expression and orderly presentation of material.*

1. You have been installed a chief in your hometown. Write a letter to your friend in another school telling him, at least, two things you intend doing to develop the town.
2. Write an article for publication in one of the national newspapers on the topic: The usefulness of the mobile phone.
3. Write a story that ends with the expression: So it pays to be kind to strangers.

[\[BACK TO TOP\]](#)

### PAPER 2 – PART B (COMPREHENSION) [30 MARKS]

4. *Read the following passage carefully and answer all the questions which follow.*

My desire to win gold and also see the sea drove me to a small coastal village. Though I had little food and drink, I covered a great distance. Towards dusk, I



could sight the sea from a distance. I was really excited. Its immense size stretched as far as the eyes could see.

As the stars appeared in the sky, I ascended the hill and saw the village of my quest. I was dead with fatigue. To worsen my plight, there were blisters on my heel so I had to take a rest. But as I descended the hill, I was welcomed by the quietness of the place.

The villagers were enjoying the cool evening air. From the lagoon came the croaking of frogs. Children played and ran about excitedly. The village life was natural and simple. I sat on a bench close by. How good it was to rest!

I resolved to rest on the bench. As I lay there, a sheet of mist rolled from the sea and settled upon the village. In a few minutes, the village was filled with mist and everybody was running helter-skelter. I was drenched to the skin. I had decided to move to the next village when a woman suddenly walked up to me. For some time I had seen her gazing at me with pity. Now, as if she read my thoughts, she said, "If you would accept my hospitality, you will be sheltered till the morning. Just charity." She was about thirty years of age, dressed in black with a pale face and dark eyes.

Papaye hut held special appeal for me for its serene environment. For many days, I was well catered for and this enabled me to replenish my energy. It was with a heavy heart, when the time for departure arrived, that I bade farewell to my benefactress.

[\[BACK TO TOP\]](#)

a) State why the writer went to the coast.

b) (i) How did the writer find life in the village?

(ii) Why did the writer decide to go to the next village?

c) (i) "..... my plight." What does this refer to?

(ii) "..... everybody was running helter-skelter." What do you think had happened?

d) (i) What two adjectives would you use to describe the character of the woman?

(ii) What does the appearance of the

woman suggest?

e) Explain the following expressions in your own words:

(i) drenched to the skin;

(ii) she read my thoughts;

(iii) with a heavy heart.

f) For each of the following words, give another word or a phrase that means the same, and can fit into the passage:

(i) immense;

(ii) ascended;

(iii) resolved;

(iv) serene;

(v) replenish.

[\[BACK TO TOP\]](#)

## **PAPER 2 – PART C (LITERATURE)**

[10 MARKS]

*Answer all the questions in this part.*

SACKEY J. A. and DARMANI L.  
(COMP.): *The Cockcrow*

5. Questions **5(a)** to **5(c)** are based on one of the prescribed short stories for your study. Provide short answers to them.

**MERRILL CORNEY:** *Debbie, Sandy and Pepe*

(a) What is referred to as Poor little thing in the story?

(b) What is the setting of the story?

(c) The attitude of the girls to the baby bird is that of.....

*Read the following extract carefully and answer Questions 5(d) and 5(e)*

**KAAKYIRE AKOSOMO NYANTAKYI:**  
*Tell My Son to Hold On to His Gun*

“Be courageous, be

courageous, Kwame, be courageous!"

"I will be, Father, I will be," I answered, and entered the thick forest.....

(Page 93)

(d) Be courageous, be courageous, Kwame, be courageous is an example of the use of a literary device termed.....

(e) How did Kwame show that he was courageous at the end of the story?

~ END OF PREVIEW ~

[\[BACK TO TOP\]](#)

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**..by the name of  
Jesus Christ ..  
whom you crucified,  
whom God raised  
from the dead..**

**Acts 4: 10**