

2025 END OF SEMESTER EXAMS – ENGLISH LANGUAGE 2

FORM TWO

SECTION A

[50 marks]

Answer *three* questions in all: **one** question in **Section A**, and **all** questions in **Sections B** and **C**.

Your essay must not be less than 450 words.

1. You have received an information that your brother, who is schooling in another part of the country, is playing truancy and keeping bad company. Write a letter warning him of the consequences of such behaviour and urging him to turn a new leaf.
2. Write an article to be published in your school magazine on how teenagers should control their anger at schools.
3. Your school is in dire need of some urgent facilities that would augment teaching and learning. Write a letter to the Municipal Director of Education, enumerate **three** of such facilities and ask for his/her immediate assistance.
4. As the principal speaker in a debate team on the topic: the Free SHS has done more harm than good. Write your argument for or against the motion.
5. Write a story to illustrate the saying: “half loaf is better than none.”

SECTION B

COMPREHENSION

[20 marks]

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

I saw the two old men sitting under the tree at the centre of the square. I was not surprised to find them there. All the townsfolk knew where the two would be at that time of day. There they sat silently drinking calabash after calabash of palm wine and puffing at their pipes, apparently lost in thought.

A sudden burst of laughter from one of them startled most of us around; it was so unusual. Then I heard one of them say, “Now Jim Window, for as long as I’ve known you, people have been calling you ‘Window.’ Why? That’s definitely a strange name, isn’t it?”

Jim took another sip of his drink and smiled. “It’s a long story, you know,” He said. “It started at the first day I went to school. I was then about eighteen years old; that must be sixty-five years ago. Yes, that’s how old I was when I started school in the second term of the year.”

“The head teacher took one look at me and shook his head. I was too old and big for Class One, he must have thought, the class was already full and there was no spare furniture.”

‘Sir,’ I said pleadingly, ‘my age should not be an impediment to my coming to school. On the contrary, at my age, I can learn faster, be more serious and reason better. At home, I keep my younger brother and sister in line, so I can assist you look after these small boys and girls. Sir, I have a table, which I can bring and pitch somewhere in the classroom. Please, I want to be in school.’

This must have decided the head teacher to change his mind. The next day found me in Class Two, sitting behind my table next to the window that opened on to the bush behind the school. The head teacher made me understand that my name wouldn’t be in the class register. I was officially not a pupil and so I had to disappear whenever a School Inspector made his rounds to the school.

It happened sooner than I expected. The very next week, a school inspector showed up in the school unannounced. He stood at the only door next to the classroom thus effectively cutting off my exit. I had no option but to dive through the window into the bush.

When I returned later that afternoon, those kids and even the head teacher had a good laugh at me. I couldn’t resist the temptation to join in. You could hear of my mates shout of ‘Window! Window!!’ miles away. As you can see, the name has stuck!!”

Questions

- a) For each of the following words underlined in the passage, give another word or phrase, which means the same, and can replace it in the passage.
 - i. apparently
 - ii. definitely
 - iii. an impediment
 - iv. pitch
 - v. decided
 - vi. option
- b) About how old was Jim at the time of his narration?
- c) Why did the head teacher finally admit Jim?
- d) What was Jim’s attitude towards his classmates?
- e) Why did Jim have to jump through the window?
- f) What did Jim do when the others were laughing at him?
- g) ... *so I can assist you*.....
 - i. What is the grammatical name for this construction?
 - ii. What is its grammatical function?
- h) *Sudden burst of laughter* ...
What figure of speech is used in this expression?

SECTION B

SUMMARY

[30 marks]

7. *Read the following passage carefully and answer in your own words as far as possible, the questions that follow.*

A diet that is rich in vegetable is crucial to man's life. Vegetables do not only serve as food but also play a medical role by supporting the proper functioning of different parts of the body. Some cultures take vegetables as their staple food while others take them as supplement. Either way, vegetables provide human cells with vitamins, minerals, fibre, essential oils and phytonutrients. All these combine to make the body function well. Vegetables are either cooked or eaten raw. As soups, juice or salads.

While eating cooked vegetables is healthy, it is more beneficial when eaten raw. However, this is rare in many African cultures. Cooking not only destroys the essential nutrients such as vitamin C, it also kills the enzymes that help the body to digest food. Digestion is the breakdown of large molecules of food into smaller particles for effective use by the body. It should be noted that raw vegetables contain a lot of nutrients that help the body maintain its system so that a healthy body is built.

Vegetables contain low amounts of fats and calories. This makes them a perfect substitute for foods with high calorie content such as carbohydrates and proteins. Researchers recommend substituting high calorie foods such as egg with raw vegetables, which are a good source of dietary fibre. They leave man feeling full of energy for long and hence reduce craving because of their fibre contents.

Eating food that are rich in fibre is associated with a lower risk of developing heart ailments. Soluble fibres found in vegetables absorb bile acid and cholesterol, which they eliminate from the body. Researchers have shown that water-soluble fibres lower the amount of low density 'bad cholesterol' in the bloodstream. This cholesterol is 'bad' because it sticks to the walls of blood vessels and makes them narrow. The narrowness of the blood vessels creates a passage problem for the flow of blood. The results is that the blood struggles to flow thus leading to cardiovascular diseases.

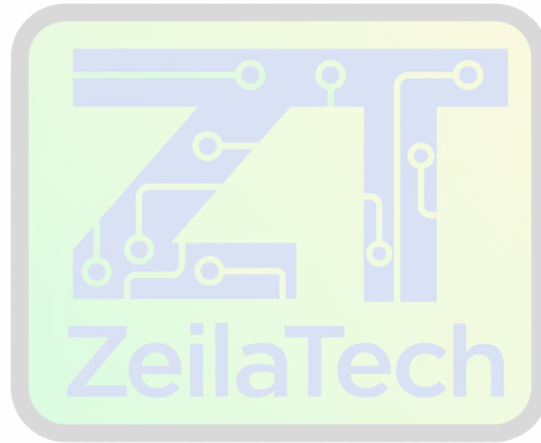
Another study has shown that the cooking of vegetables does not only lower the volume of anti-cancer compounds in the family of vegetables but also makes less potent all other positive aspects of the vegetable to man. Thus, to lower the risk of developing cancer, eating raw vegetables is preferred.

Furthermore, it has been established that raw vegetables contain higher amounts of antioxidants such as vitamins C and E, folic acid, lycopene, alpha-carotene and beta-carotene. Vitamin C and E are known to neutralize free radicals and protect the body cells. Lycopene boosts the immune system and also lowers the risk of cardio-vascular diseases. Folic acid is essential for the formation of blood cells and proper

functioning of the brain and nervous system. Beta-carotene is found in large quantities in many bright-coloured vegetables. Beta-carotene, among other functions, protects the skin from the sun's ultra-violet rays. Since this vegetable's by-product slow the aging process, it is equally germane to state that it reduces the risk of many diseases associated with old age.

Questions

- a) In **two** sentences, one for **each**, state the disadvantage of cooking vegetables.
- b) In **four** sentences, one for **each**, state the advantages of eating raw vegetables.



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