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**Samara University**

**College of Social Sciences and Humanity**

**Department of English Language and Literature**

**Communicative English Skills I (EnLa 1011) Final Examination for First  
Year Students  
Semester I**



**Time Allowed: 1:00  
Maximum Weight: 50%**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ ID No. \_\_\_\_\_

**General Directions:**

- This booklet has **five** pages including the cover page.
- Keep your mobile switched off.
- Any attempt of cheating will result in automatic cancelation of your exam result.

February, 2024  
Samara, Ethiopia

### **Part I: Reading**

Imagine a time when there was no writing. For many thousands of years, people did not write things down. Instead, they memorized stories and important information. Writing was first discovered in Iraq more than 5,000 years ago. It developed when people began to grow their food instead of relying on hunting and gathering. **They** needed a way to document how much grain they had, so writing was a useful way to keep track of food supplies. **Writing** was also used to record past events and write about the gods.

In ancient Egypt, writing was highly **valued**. Writers were so special that their job had the title of “**scribe**.” Boys could become scribes by apprenticing themselves to older scribes. Apprentices began to learn writing when they were 12 years old. It was not easy to learn this craft since ancient Egyptians wrote using **hieroglyphics**. **Their** system of writing used pictures instead of letters. At first, young scribes wrote on pieces of clay. When they got better, they were allowed to write on **papyrus**, which was paper made from river reed plants. Despite the difficulty, many boys wanted to become scribes. It was seen as an important job. Scribes did not have to be soldiers or participate in growing food. Instead, they wrote important documents.

Writing was even more special for the ancient Egyptians than it is for us. Egyptians believed that writing had a kind of **magic**. There was even a god and a goddess of writing. The people of Egypt believed that scribes could **heal** disease just by writing down a prayer for someone to be cured. Imagine if people thought that you could do magic by writing! In a way, you can, because when you write, you create stories and share your imagination with others.

*Adapted from: Barbara Hoskins (PhD), Carol Seibert and Anna Osipova, 2014*

### **I.Choose the best answer and write the letter only in the separate answer sheet.**

1. The passage mainly tells about \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Early writing  
B. How to turn papyrus into paper  
C. How to grow food  
D. The god and goddess of writing
2. Writing started when people began to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Hunt  
B. pray to gods  
C. gather their food  
D. grow their own food
3. Hieroglyphics \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. are a secret code                      C. are picture writing  
B. are easy to learn                      D. are magic symbol
4. All are true about scribes except that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. they were also soldiers  
B. they wrote important documents  
C. boys became apprentices when they were 12 years' old  
D. many boys wanted to become scribes
5. Writing was highly valued in ancient Egypt because \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. people paid a lot of money to buy books  
B. all writing was done on clay  
C. very few people knew how to write  
D. people could only write about the gods
6. Which of the following is the possible title for the above passage?
- A. Ancient writing  
B. History of Egypt  
C. Form of writing  
D. Hunting and writing
7. ... **Their**... paragraph 2, line 4 refers \_\_\_\_\_
- A. 12 years' boys  
B. Egyptians  
C. Hieroglyphics  
D. young scribes
8. .... writing was highly **valued**. According to the passage, *valued* is to mean \_\_\_\_\_
- A. respected                      C. needed  
B. persisted                      D. preserved
9. .... They.... Paragraph 1, line 4 refers \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Iraq people                      C. People who began to use their food from farming  
B. Egyptians                      D. People who got their food from hunting

**II. Some words or phrases are underlined in the above passage so match these words with its definition below correctly.**

10. A title given for Egyptian boys when they can use and appreciate writing. \_\_\_\_\_
11. Ancient system of writing in which it was used pictures instead of letters. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Treating sick person. \_\_\_\_\_
13. Writing and painting material made from river reed plants. \_\_\_\_\_

**Part II: Grammar Part**

**II. Choose the best answer and write the letter only in the separate answer sheet.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. When the thief entered the house, the inmates \_\_\_\_\_ in the hall.
- A. were slept      B. were sleeping      C. slept      D. had been sleeping
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. The old man could not remember when he \_\_\_\_\_ his journey.
- A. deposits      B. is depositing      C. will deposit      D. had deposited
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Few people can \_\_\_\_\_ a secret.

- A. save            B. keep            C. take            D. forget
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. The doctor had examined him. The passive form of this sentence is  
A. He was examined by the doctor            C. he has been examined by the doctor  
B. He had been examined by the doctor    D. None of these
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. Which one of the following is written correctly?  
A. We will be late, if we walk so slowly.            C. If we walk so slowly, we will be late.  
B. We will be late if we walk so slowly.            D. All are the answer
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. The house was \_\_\_\_\_ my grandfather.  
A. Build for    B. build by    C. built for    D. built by
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. Unless you \_\_\_\_\_, you won't find out the truth.  
A. will ask    B. won't ask    C. ask    D. don't ask
- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. If I \_\_\_\_\_ your birth day, I would have bought a gift.  
A. Knew    B. would know    C. know    D. had known
- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. She hates bad people. The passive form of this sentence is  
A. Bad people were hated by her.            C. Bad people have hated by her.  
B. Bad people is hated by her.            D. Bad people are hated by her.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. If the weather \_\_\_\_\_ warmer, we would go out.  
A. will be            B. had been            C. were            D. is

### Communicative Part

#### III. Select the correct choice and complete the following dialogue.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. **Amin:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Hanan:** of course.  
A. Will you buy this dress if you have extra cash?  
B. What can you say about the current economic crisis?  
C. Who is responsible for our failures?            D. all
- \_\_\_\_\_ 25. **Milat:** What will you do if you win lottery that award 1 billion ETB?  
**Zena:** \_\_\_\_\_  
A. I build my own house.            C. I had given it to orphan  
B. . I would buy house            D. I will donate it for orphan
- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. **Abeba:** Nora, I was wondering if I can use your car for party this weakened.  
**Nora:** \_\_\_\_\_  
A. yes, you will buy new car.            C. you can't bring my car.  
B. Thank you very much            D. possible, you can use it carefully.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 27. **Askale:** Why don't you have dinner with us today night?  
**Kana:** \_\_\_\_\_  
A. It's not your business.            C. yes I'm ready to watch new movie today night.  
B. I'm afraid, I have another program.            D. yes, you can have dinner with me.

#### IV. Use the correct form of words in bracket and complete the next dialogue

- Aster: Hey, Helen, what's up?
- Helen: Nothing... you know, I really like this miniskirt, but I can't buy it.
- Aster: So, what's the problem? Why don't you ask your mother some money?

- Helen: Well, what will I do if I (28) \_\_\_\_\_ (ask) my mother and she says no?
- Aster: Why will she say no?
- Helen: Well, maybe if it (29) \_\_\_\_ (cost) too much, she will not get that amount of money. Can you ask her for me?
- Aster: No. I can't. You don't even have to think of it. That's crazy.
- Helen: Well, I think she has sent me 2000 birr recently. If she sent me 3000 birr, I (30) \_\_\_\_\_(buy) it.
- Aster: Don't worry! You're lucky to have such an incredible mother who gives you such amount of money. You have to be proud of her.
- Helen: I know. She's really generous. But now I am dreaming of this skirt. If I had gone out wearing this skirt last night, I (31) \_\_\_\_\_ (get) a prosperous man and collect money because I am a better looking girl.
- Aster: You look fine. You don't have to worry about that.
- Helen: In addition, if I (32) \_\_\_\_ (have) more money, I could take you to a really nice restaurant. Hey, could I borrow some money?

**V Complete the following sentences using the appropriate form of verb from the bracket.**

33. Dr. Jacobs \_\_\_\_\_ at this university for almost ten year, but he had never been such brilliant student. (teach)
34. He \_\_\_\_\_ off the ladder and broke his ankle. That's why he \_\_\_\_\_ (35) in school for a while. (fall, not be)
36. I'm so tired. I \_\_\_\_\_ all the way to the underground station. (walk)
37. She \_\_\_\_\_ thirsty cigarettes a day, but at the moment she \_\_\_\_\_ (38) to stop. (smoke, try).
39. How long \_\_\_\_\_ you to get to the office? It takes me about an hour. (it take).
40. The queen -----her two week tour through Canada last week. (start)

**VI. Write short paragraph with one of the following topic.**

- techniques to improve speaking skill