**BECE 2010**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

***ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS***

*Your composition should be about* **250** *words long*

**PART A - ESSAY WRITING**

*Answer* **one** *question* **only** *from this part.*

1. Write a letter to your father asking permission to join your school mates who are going on an excursion.
2. Write an article for publication in a local newspaper on the topic:  
   Every school should have a library.
3. Write a short story illustrating the saying:  
   All that glitters is not gold.

**PART B - COMPREHENSION**

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

When I was about eleven years old, I was unable to stay at one place for long; I was always on the move. Many people thought and said I was troublesome. Prominent among those who described me as such was my aunt, Araba Oboshea.

Aunt Araba was particularly mean. She would sit on her stool under the gum tree in front of the house and wait for me to return from wherever I had gone. As soon as I arrived she would call me and, without asking me any question or telling me anything, take my left ear between the forefinger and the thumb of her right hand and give my ear a silent, violent and painful twist. I cannot describe the pain I endured. She would do the same to my right ear. She explained that she was paying for my absence that I had sold to her! Aunt Araba would continue to twist both ears of mine simultaneously with her forefingers and thumbs.

I would scream silently, gritting my teeth so that I could not utter any sound because of pain. That way I was spared the next stage of being given countless strokes of any stick she could lay hands on. One strange thing about Aunt Araba was that she would never hit me with her hands.

Aunt Araba went on treating me this way because she could hardly understand why I was always on the move. I could also not have the courage to explain why it was so because I was afraid of her and began to hate her.

One Thursday evening when I was going through my usual ordeal, an elderly man, Agya Manu who usually visited her appeared on the scene. He pleaded with her to leave me, and asked for the reason for such punishment. After he had been told of my “sin”, Agya Manu, who knew me very well, explained to my auntie that I was always on the move not because I was in any bad company, but because I was favourite for any errand. I had been running several errands for him and many other people. Agya Manu then advised me not to spend all my time running errands for others but rather, do all my duties at home.

a) What was the writer’s behaviour when he was about eleven years old?

b) … *I was always on the move.* What is the meaning of this expression?

c) From the passage, what is the character of Aunt Araba?

d) Why did Aunt Araba keep punishing the writer

e) How did Agya Manu rescue the writer

f) For each of the following words, give one word or phrase which means the same:

(i) endured (ii) countless

**PART C: LITERATURE – COCKCROW**

AMA ATTA AIDOO: The Dilemma of a Ghost

Read the extract below and answer Questions 1 – 3.

Speaker X : Ah well, I don’t know the difference, and I don’t care neither coconut palms

palm – palms, aren’t they all the same?

And anyway. why should I not go to see your folks?

Speaker Y : You may not be impressed

1. X and Y are……………….
2. The setting of the extract is……………
3. What happened just before this conversation?

**KAAKYIRE A. NYANTAKYI: Tell my Son to Hold on to His Gun**

Read the extract below and answer Questions 4 – 5.

“I want to, Father, but to walk all the way to the village and back all by myself? What if I meat this killer beast which won’t spare the life of anyone who crossed his path?”

1. Who is been sent to the village?
2. Why was he afraid to go alone?
3. “A long loud roll of thunder broke the stillness of the after” is an example of……..
4. State a character trait of person in the story.

**MERRILL CORNEY**

Read the extract below and answer questions 8 – 10.

“We’d better find its nest and put it back”, she said. They searched every tree and bus in the garden, but there was no sign of a nest.

1. Whose nest was no sign of a nest?
2. What are the names of the characters searching for the nest?
3. What is the relationship between the characters?

**PART A**

**LEXIS AND STRUCTURE**

**SECTION A**

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

1. Our teacher was late for school because he ……..a flat tyre.
2. had
3. will have
4. is having
5. has
6. We had dinner at a Chinese restaurant where I ………….fried chicken.
7. am enjoying
8. will enjoy
9. enjoyed
10. would enjoy
11. Ama’s father asked her to choose …………John and William.
12. among
13. from
14. with
15. between
16. Willie has malaria and is not ………..enough to go to school.
17. good
18. well
19. fine
20. free
21. The school band …………two days a week.
22. practise
23. are practicing
24. practises
25. were practising
26. Philomena ………passed the examination if she had tried harder.
27. could have
28. will have
29. may have
30. could
31. The law was passed according to strict legal…
32. cases
33. principles
34. rules
35. issues
36. The book, as well as several others, ………..interesting reading.
37. makes
38. are to make
39. are making
40. make
41. ……………….. Joe scored the first goal, he was injured in the process.
42. But
43. Nevertheless
44. Although
45. Furthermore
46. Neither Kojo nor his friend ……… the issue clearly.
47. understands
48. have understood
49. understand
50. is understanding
51. The ………..centre is located on the hill.
52. womens’
53. woman
54. womans’
55. women’s
56. One of the cows …………from the herd.
57. has strayed
58. have strayed
59. have been strayed
60. has been strayed
61. At the party, the guests placed an order for a large…………of drinks.
62. count
63. total
64. quantity
65. sum
66. The hall was so small that it could …………contain all of us.
67. rarely
68. comfortably
69. conveniently
70. hardly
71. If I were a manager, I …………satisfy my customers.
72. will
73. shall
74. would
75. must

**SECTION B**

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

1. Florence performs creditably in all examinations.
2. fairly
3. well
4. graciously
5. good
6. The choir sang some melodious songs at the function.
7. loud
8. pleasant
9. soft
10. musical
11. Jane is always immaculately dressed.
12. modestly
13. correctly
14. neatly
15. scantily
16. The village was enveloped in a thick fog.
17. built
18. put
19. shaped
20. covered
21. The inquisitive stranger asked many questions.
22. curious
23. pompous
24. intelligent
25. cowardly

**SECTION C**

*In* **each** *of the following sentences a group of words has been underlined. Choose from the alternatives lettered* *A to D the one that* **best explains** *the underlined group of words.*

1. Whenever Kweku goes to Kumasi, he puts up with his uncle. This means that Kweku ……….
2. helps
3. stays with
4. converses with
5. avoids
6. I glanced over the papers as I walked home. This means that I quickly ……….the papers.
7. wrote
8. analysed
9. saw
10. read
11. The woman entered the room to find her daughter with her eyes glued to the television. This means that her daughter was …………the television.
12. smiling at
13. dismantling
14. intently watching
15. cleaning
16. Kojo was dragged to the farm like a lamb to the slaughter. This means that Kojo was dragged …….
17. with difficulty
18. without resistance
19. with a lamb on his shoulder
20. without anything on him
21. The bully was ordered to leave his younger brother alone. This means that the bully was told …….
22. not to accompany him anywhere
23. to accompany him everywhere
24. not to disturb him
25. to teach him well

**SECTION D**

*From the list of words lettered A to D, choose the one that is* **most nearly opposite in meaning** *to the word underlined in* **each** *sentence*

1. Some of the guests at the party were rude.
2. courteous
3. bold
4. friendly
5. shy
6. The lawyer supported his argument with copious evidence.
7. inconsistent
8. scanty
9. bad
10. unconvincing
11. If you want to be believed, you must be objective.
12. subjective
13. positive
14. active
15. emotive
16. In all boarding schools, going out in the night is prohibited.
17. advised
18. ignored
19. permitted
20. admitted
21. The surest way to avoid defeat is to strive for…
22. position
23. victory
24. knowledge
25. abilit

**BECE April 2010**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE 1**

ANSWERS

**OBJECTIVE TEST**

1. A. had

2. C. enjoyed

3. D. between

4. B. well

5. C. practises

6. A. could have

7. B. principles

8. A. makes

9. C. Although

10. A. understands

11. D. Women’s

12. A. has strayed

13. C. quantity

14. D. hardly

15. C. would

16. A. fairly

17. B. pleasant

18. B. correctly

19. D. covered

20. A. curious

21. B. stays with

22. D. read

23. C. intently watching

24. B. without resistance

25. C. not to disturb him

26. A. courteous

27. B. scanty

28. A. subjective

29. C. permitted

30. B. victor

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE 2**

**PART B**

**COMPREHENSION**

ANSWERS

1. **What was the writer’s behaviour when he was about eleven years old?**

The writer’s behavior when he was about eleven years old was that he was unable to stay at one place for long

OR

He was always on the move.

1. **…I was always on the move.**

What is the meaning of this expression?

This means that I was always moving from one place to the other.

OR

I was busy all the time.

1. **From the passage, what is the character of Aunt Araba?**

From the passage, the character of Aunt Araba is that of a mean **(or** unkind **or** intolerable **or** unjust **or** pre-judgmental**)** person.

1. **Why did Aunt Araba keep punishing the writer**

Aunt Araba kept punishing the writer because she could hardly understand why the writer was always on the move.

OR

She did not understand why the writer was out of the house most of the time.

OR

The writer had not had the courage to tell her because he was afraid of her.

1. **How did Agya Manu rescue the writer**

Agya Manu rescued the writer by pleading on behalf of the writer and explaining to Aunt Araba why the writer was always on the move.

OR

By explaining to Aunt Araba that the writer was always on the move because he was running errands for people.

1. **(i) endured -**

underwent

OR went through

OR felt

OR suffered

OR experienced

**(ii) countless -**

innumerable

OR uncountable

OR many

OR numerous