

**GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION BOARD**  
General Certificate of Education Examination

**JUNE 2024**

**ORDINARY/INTERMEDIATE LEVELS**

<b>Subject Title</b>	<b>English Language</b>
<b>Subject Code No.</b>	<b>0530</b>
<b>Paper No./ Title</b>	<b>Paper 1 - Section A - Listening Comprehension Test</b>

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE 1**

**Instructions for the conduct of Section A**  
**(Listening Comprehension Test - 5 marks)**

**These instructions are for the use of the Teacher ONLY and must not be shown to the candidates.**

The question paper for the Listening Comprehension test should be distributed to the candidates. Candidates should be instructed to enter the details required on the front cover of the question booklet. They should then be told to fill in the information required on the answer sheet. Ensure that candidates do NOT open the question paper until they are told to do so after the first reading of the Listening Comprehension passage (see below).

The complete test should take 25 minutes. The timing commences at the beginning of the first reading of the passage. The short time allowed to candidates for reading the questions should be two minutes.

If the teacher considers it desirable to give an extra reading of any group of words because of some noise from outside or for any other good cause, this can be done. If this is found necessary, the cause must be reported to the Board on the Special Report Form.

The procedure for giving the Listening Comprehension test is explained in the following announcement which the teacher should read to the candidates immediately before the test:

**I shall read a passage to you once. You are not allowed to write anything during this first reading. Do not look at your question paper.** (First reading)

The timing of the test (25 minutes) commences at this point. The teacher should read the passage through at normal reading speed, avoiding any distortion of features of spoken language. The teacher then announces:

**Now open your question paper. I shall give you two minutes to look at the questions on the paper. They are grouped into three sections. Do not write anything.**

The teacher allows an interval of two minutes and then announces:

**I shall now read the passage through again but this time in three sections. When I have finished reading the first section you will be given two minutes in which to provide answers to the first section of the questions. Your answers must be given as instructed in the booklet. This procedure will then be repeated for the other sections. You may still look at the questions and you may make notes on the blank spaces in the booklet, if you wish, as I read. First section.**

The teacher should read each section aloud, pausing at each slant line. A two-minute interval should be respected after each section. Two minutes after reading the third section the teacher should make the following announcement:  
**Now do your final revision and go to the next section.**

## **LISTENING COMPREHENSION PASSAGE**

### **COMPETITION CAN BE DESTRUCTIVE**

#### **SECTION ONE**

The cock and the hare were once friends./ Sooner, /they became great rivals /given that they were both rich/ and boastful./ They both lived in the same neighbourhood/ and possessed much livestock./ As was the fashion of the time,/ they both had many wives./ Each kept their wives in separate huts/. The entire community accepted this kind of family life/ and the job of each wife was to look after their husband/ and make their families and farms prosper./

The cock and the hare suddenly became very jealous of each other /and feared greatly/ that each could lure the other's wives away./ Like birds of a feather, /each person wanted an opportunity to snatch the other's wife./ This attitude developed more because /the cock wanted to show that /he had more money than the hare./ The hare in turn/ wanted to prove stronger than the cock./ Above all,/ he wanted to show that he was smatter./ One day, the proud hare visited the cock /to steal one of his wives.

#### **SECTION TWO**

When the hare entered the cock's compound,/ he saw that the cock was asleep/ in the shade, with his head tucked under his wings./ In amazement at this sight,/ he cried out in alarm,/ "Cock,/ where is your head?" / "Oh, I instructed one of my wives to cut it off and place on a high pole/ in the middle of my compound/ so that even if I should go on a trip/ or fall asleep, /I can still watch all my wives at once /and be satisfied that they do not run off with a lover/ or with anyone."/

He listened to this with rapt attention /and decided to move back to his compound and implement what the cock had said/ because he saw that as a wonderful strategy to protect his wives./ He went home and met his eldest wife. / The others had gone to the fields for work and to visit friends.

#### **SECTION THREE**

"Dear wife,/ take a sharp knife and cut off my head /and place it on a pole /in the middle of the compound." / She was embarrassed /and shocked beyond reason./ "What is wrong with you /and why do you ask me to kill you?" / the wife fired back./ "Do as I instruct you madam!/ The cock has tried it /and it is working perfectly./ Why can't it work with me?" / She rightly suspected that /the cock could have tricked her husband into committing suicide./ "Do as I command, you faithless wretch!" /the hare came in again./ The wife was caught between respect for husband /and fear of murder./ She went for a very sharp knife /and was ready to perform the act./ At that moment,/ a crow came from the back of his house./ To the hare's amazement,/ he saw the cock complete with his head and seemed to smile./ "Stop!/ Don't cut off his head;/ I wanted to prove to him that birds are wiser animals./ I would have allowed him to be killed/ so that I have access to his wives"/. In shame, the hare walked into the hut/ and thought about his foolishness.