English and Foreign Languages Branch, Ministry of Education

General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination 2026

Support Paper

ENGLISH LANGUAGE I | **One hour**

Index No. ……..

Q. No.	Marks
1	
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3	
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8	
Paper I Total	

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS ON THIS PAPER ITSELF.

For examiner's use only

○ Test 1

Match the following pictures with the statements given below. Write the letter of the most suitable picture in the box. *The first one is done for you.*



a **b** **c** **d** **e** **f**

1. A utensil used for straining tea. **c**
2. An instrument used for seeing distant objects. ☐
3. A flat stick one foot long for measuring length. ☐
4. A strong and hard head cover that protects your head. ☐
5. A small time piece worn around the wrist. ☐
6. An object flown with a string. ☐

Q.1

1×

Total 5

○ Test 2

Fill in the blanks of the following text using the words given in the box. Write the letter of the correct word in the space given. *The first one is done for you.*

Maintaining a home library is a way to develop a love for reading. Books should be arranged neatly on (1) **f** according to their subjects or sizes. It is important to keep the shelves (2) …….. and free from dust. Books should be handled carefully, and (3) …….. should not be folded or torn. A record can be kept to remember which (4) …….. are owned and which have been borrowed. (5) …….. books should be repaired as soon as possible. The library should have enough light and (6) …….. air. Finally, valuable books can be donated to schools or community libraries.

(a) books
(b) clean
(c) damaged
(d) fresh
(e) pages
(f) ~~shelves~~

Q.2

1×

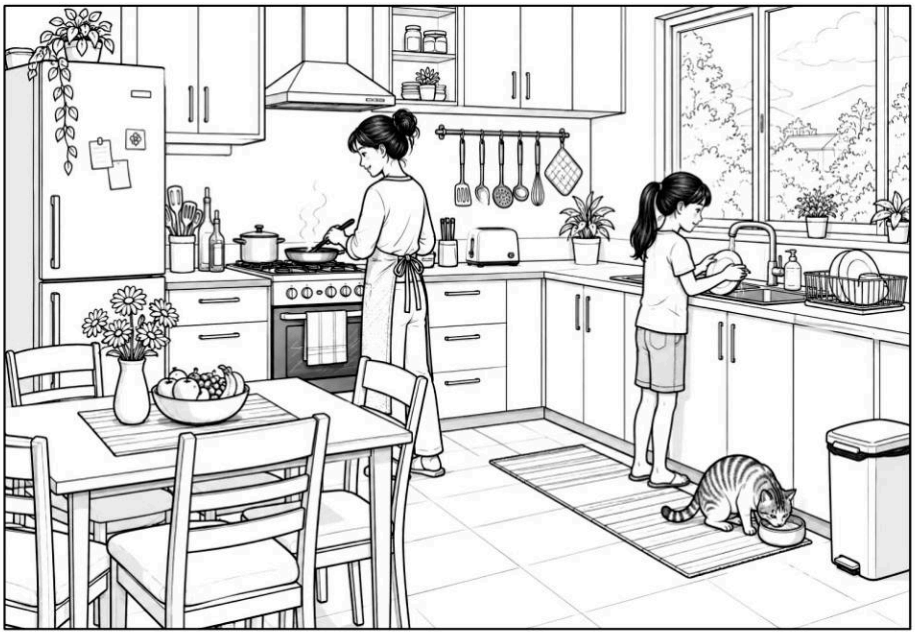
Total 5

Past Papers Wiki

○ **Test 3**

Study the picture and fill in the blanks in the paragraph using the words given in the box. Write the letter of the correct word in the blank. *The first one is done for you.*

For examiner's use only



a)	arranged
b)	bright
c)	chairs
d)	cooker
e)	~~cooking~~
f)	dining
g)	dustbin
h)	drinking
i)	kitchen
j)	table
k)	wall

The picture shows a modern kitchen with several useful kitchen utensils and pieces of furniture. A housewife is 1)..... **e** ..... a meal on the stove. There is a girl washing some plates at the sink and a cat is sitting near her 2) ..... milk. The kitchen has a large window that makes the room 3) ..... and airy. A cupboard is fixed to the 4)..... , and cooking utensils are hung just below it. The 5)..... is well equipped with appliances such as a refrigerator, a 6)..... and a toaster. There is also a small 7) ..... area with a table and 8) ..... A bowl of fruit and a neatly 9) ..... vase can be seen on the 10)..... There is a 11) ..... next to the mat. The kitchen looks clean, organized and pleasant.

Q.3

1/2×

Total 5

○ **Test 4**

Fill in the blanks in the following dialogue with the words given in the box. *The first one is done for you.*

yours	her	~~she~~	it	my	mine

Nimal: Hi, Sahan! Why are you in such a hurry?
Sahan: I want to meet our dancing teacher.
1) .....**She**..... asked me to meet 2) ..... before going for dancing practicals.
Nimal: Don't panic. I saw the teacher talking to some students near the main hall.
Do you have practicals today?
Sahan: Yes, have you finished 3) .....?
Nimal: Of course, I managed to do 4) ..... well. Good Luck Sahan!
Sahan: Thanks. By the way, Have you got a costume? I have left it at home.
Nimal: Yes. It's here in 5) ..... bag. You can use 6) ..... .
Sahan: Thanks a lot. I must leave now.
Nimal: Okay, do your best.

Q.4

1×

Total 5

○ **Test 5**

Read the following text and complete the table given below with information from the text. *The first one is done for you.*

For examiner's use only

AI : A New Kind of Helper

Artificial Intelligence, or AI, refers to computer systems designed to perform tasks that normally require human thinking. AI is gradually becoming a part of everyday life with its constant advancements.

For students, AI can be a useful learning companion. It can provide explanations when a lesson is difficult, offer suggestions when they are preparing a piece of writing, and create opportunities to practise a language. However, using AI does not mean that learners can stop thinking for themselves. Sometimes AI may provide unreliable information. Therefore, learners should examine the information produced by AI and make sure that it is reliable before using it. The influence of AI is not limited to classrooms. In medical centers, AI can assist professionals. Farmers can also benefit from technology that detects signs of disease in crops. AI has even entered smart homes. For example, a smart speaker can respond to spoken requests, while a robot vacuum cleaner can move around a house and clean the floor with little human assistance. These devices are designed to make everyday tasks more convenient.

1. AI stands for	a). **Artificial Intelligence**
2. One use of AI in education	b) ……
3. One problem related to AI	c)……
4. What students should do when using AI	d). ……
5. A field AI is used other than education	e). ……
6. An AI-powered device used in smart homes	f). …….

Q.5

1×

Total

5

○ **Test 6**

Your English teacher informed you about an English drama practice session which will be held for the students in your class. Write a note to your friend who was absent from school, informing him/her about it. Use about **40–50** words.

Include:

- date, time and venue of the practice session
- what your friend should bring
- ask him/her to participate in it

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Q.6

C

L

Total

5

○ **Test 7**

Read the text and **underline** the most suitable answer to complete the sentences given below.

For examiner's use only

Spring had just begun to arrive in the Big Woods, and papa announced that it was time to make maple sugar. Laura and Mary were so excited because they enjoyed watching the whole process. Papa went into the woods and made small openings in the maple trees so that the sweet sap could flow out. The girls helped papa to collect the sap in buckets. The big buckets were full to the top, so they carried them carefully to the sugar camp, where mama was waiting.

The sap was then poured into a large iron kettle over a hot fire. Everyone worked together while **the sweet smell filled the air**. Laura watched the bubbling sap with great interest. She knew that it would take many hours of boiling before the thin sap became thick, sweet maple syrup. Although the work was tiring, the family enjoyed being together. At the end of the day, Laura was happy to taste the fresh maple sugar that they had made themselves.

(Adapted from 'Little House in the Big Woods' by Laura Ingalls Wilder)

(1) The story took place in

(a) a city (b) a forest (c) an island

(2) Laura and Mary were thrilled

(a) to help papa throughout the process.

(b) to taste the maple syrup

(c) to see the process of making maple sugar.

(3) Laura and Mary had to carry the buckets carefully as

(a) the buckets could easily break.

(b) they were full of sap collected.

(c) papa warned them not to spill the sap.

(4)The sap was poured into

(a) big buckets (b) small glass bottles (c) an iron kettle

(5) The phrase **'the sweet smell filled the air**' suggests

(a) the smell of the boiling sap was noticeable during preparation.

(b) the maple trees had begun producing sweet flowers in spring.

(c)The sap had a good smell with artificial essence added by papa.

Q.7

1×

Total

5

○ **Test 8**

Write a paragraph on ONE of the following topics. Use about **50–60** words.

(a) A useful extra-curricular activity in school

(b) How I plan to celebrate my next birthday

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……

Q.8

C

L

Total

5

English and Foreign Languages Branch, Ministry of Education

General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination

2026

Support Paper

ENGLISH LANGUAGE II | **Two hours**

Index No. ……..

Q. No.	Marks
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
Paper II Total	

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS ON THIS PAPER ITSELF.

For examiner's use only

○ **Test 9**

Select a word from the box which has a similar meaning to the word/phrase given within brackets and write it in the space provided. There are **two** extra words.

.

conserve,	vital,	peaceful,	reduce,
surroundings,	unnecessary,	waste,	

A Home Garden

A home garden can be highly beneficial to a family. Apart from creating a (1) ..... (calm and quiet) environment, a garden can improve the appearance of the (2)..... (area around a place). Plants play a (3) ..... (very important and necessary) role in keeping the environment healthy. By collecting rainwater, families can (4) ..... (use water carefully so that it is not wasted) water for gardening. In addition, fallen leaves and vegetable peels can be used as compost instead of being thrown away as (5) ..... (unwanted materials). Growing vegetables at home can also minimize the amount of food a family needs to buy.

Q.9

1×

Total 5

○ **Test 10**

Complete the following passage using the correct form of the verb given within each bracket.

Last Sunday, I went to a photography workshop organized by our school. When I arrived, several students (1)……..…. (take) photographs of the school garden. Our instructor first explained how a camera (2)……..…. (can-use) correctly and showed us some interesting photographs.
After the short lesson, we went outside to practise. I tried to (3)……. (capture) a butterfly that was sitting on a flower. Later, we photographed some colourful flowers and trees. At the end of the workshop, our best photographs (4)……. (display) on the school notice board. I enjoyed the experience so much that I (5)…….(decide) to learn more about photography. Taking photographs is an exciting experience.

Q.10

1×

Total 5

For examiner's use only

○ **Test 11**

Fill in the blanks of the following passage with the words given in the box. There is **one** extra word.

and, another, body, calm, correct, helps, important, improve, increased, injuries, of, people, physical, practised, strengthen

Yoga is a gentle form of exercise that can benefit both the body and the mind. Regular yoga practice can (1)……. physical fitness and help (2)……. feel more energetic. One (3)……. its main benefits is (4)……. flexibility, which allows the (5)……. to move more freely (6)……. comfortably. It can also (7)……. the muscles making everyday (8)……. activities easier. Maintaining the (9)……. posture during yoga is (10)……. as it helps prevent (11)…….. Breathing exercises also play (12)……. essential part in yoga. It (13)……. people relax and remain (14)……., especially when they are feeling stressed. Yoga does not require expensive equipment, and many poses can be practised at home for free.

Q.11

1/2×

Total 7

○ **Test 12**

Read the text given below and **underline** the correct answer from the options provided within each bracket.

As Anjali was looking through some photographs, her friend Minoli came into the room carrying a travel brochure. "Anjali, you won't believe where I'm planning to go during the school vacation!" Minoli said excitedly. "Really? Where are you going?" Anjali asked. Minoli smiled and replied, "My parents told me that (1)……. . [(a) we are going (b) we were going (c) we had gone] to Ella for a few days. My father said that he (2)……. [(a) had booked (b) is booking (c) has booked] the train tickets the previous day." "That's great. What are you planning to do there?" asked Anjali. "My mother suggested that we (3)……. . [(a) should visit (b) visited (c) had visited] some of the less crowded places instead of staying in the town. My parents also told me to take only the things that I (4)……. . [(a) would need (b) had needed (c) will need] during the journey because we would be travelling by train. And my father warned us that the weather in the hills (5)……. [(a) could change (b) can change (c) had changed] suddenly, and therefore we should take some warm clothes." She added. "That's good." Anjali smiled and wished her friend a safe and enjoyable journey.

Q.12

1×

Total 5

For examiner's use only

○ **Test 13**

Read the following job vacancies posted on an online employment platform. Match the descriptions with the job titles given below. Write the relevant letter of the job title in the box given against each description. There is **one** extra job title.

Job Titles

(A) Part-time Cafe Assistant **(B)** Gym Assistant **(C)** Junior IT Support Assistant
(D) Content Writing Intern **(E)** Part-time Driver **(F)** Weekend Bookshop Assistant

Descriptions

(1)	TechNova Solutions, a local technology firm, is seeking a trainee to join its customer service team. Duties include helping customers with simple technical problems and setting up devices. Applicants need not have professional experience, but they should possess a sound understanding on operating devices. A school-leaving qualification is required.	☐
(2)	A newly opened outlet of a reputed food chain is looking for a temporary employee to support its daily operations. The person appointed will greet visitors, record their orders and ensure that tables are ready for the next customers. Applicants must be able to work during busy periods, particularly after normal working hours and on Saturdays and Sundays.	☐
(3)	A growing business is seeking someone to transport its products to customers living in different parts of the city. The successful applicant should be dependable, manage delivery schedules carefully and find suitable routes without unnecessary delays. Familiarity with the Colombo suburbs is important, and candidates must possess the appropriate legal qualification required for this position.	☐
(4)	A recreational centre is looking for an enthusiastic individual to support its daily activities. Responsibilities include welcoming new members, helping visitors understand the facilities, arranging group sessions and reporting problems with the equipment. Applicants should be comfortable interacting with people, managing workouts and have a genuine interest in maintaining an active lifestyle.	☐
(5)	A digital media organization is offering an opportunity to someone who wishes to develop professional communication skills. The selected candidate will contribute to the company's online presence by preparing brief informative texts, developing ideas for public-facing posts and checking written material before publication. Applicants should demonstrate creativity, accuracy in written English and the ability to use basic digital tools.	☐

Q.13

1×

Total 5

For

examiner's use only

○ **Test 14**

Write on **one** of the following. Use the space provided.

a) Imagine that you are the Secretary of the English Literary Association of your school. The association is planning to organize an English Week to improve students' English language skills. As part of this programme, you hope to arrange an educational visit to a media station that broadcasts programmes in English. Write a letter to the Station Manager requesting permission to visit the media station with a group of students. Use about **100 words**.

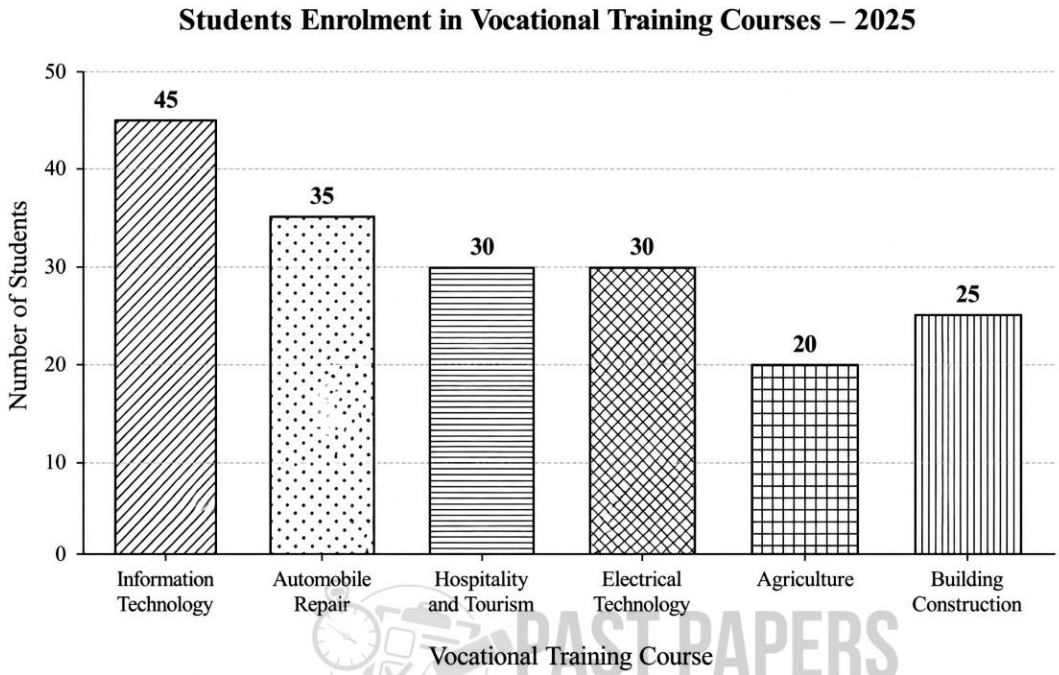
Include the following:

- The purpose of the visit
- The proposed date, time and the number of students participating
- Request for a guide to help students

OR

b) The following bar graph shows the number of students who enrolled in different vocational training courses in Future Path Skills Training Centre in 2025. Write a description about the students enrolment based on the information given in the graph. Use about **100** words. The following words and phrases will help you.

Total number of / highest / lowest / equal / while / more than / less than



PAST PAPERS WIKI

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⑮ However, his success did not continue without difficulties. In 1985, following disagreements about the company's direction, Jobs left Apple. Instead of giving up, he founded another computer company, NeXT, and became involved with Pixar.

When Jobs returned to Apple in 1997, the company was struggling. He helped simplify its product range and focused on developing innovative products. The iMac, iPod, iPhone and iPad later became widely known. Jobs died in 2011, but his approach to technology continues to influence the industry.

(Adapted from Biography.com and Encyclopaedia Britannica)

(1) . State whether the following statements are **True** or **False.** Put a tick **(√)** in the relevant cage.

Statement	**True**	**False**
a) Steve Jobs' interest in technology began when he was an adult.		
b) Jobs continued learning about subjects that interested him even after leaving college.		
c) In 1976 Jobs started Apple alone, without any support.		
d) Jobs never returned to Apple after leaving the company.		

Underline the most appropriate answer.

(2). What happened to Jobs in 1985?
a) He became the CEO of Apple.
b) He founded first Apple computer.
c) He left Apple after disagreements.
d) He invented the first iPhone.

(3). Which statement best describes Jobs' response to leaving Apple?
a) He stopped working in the technology industry.
b) He immediately apologized and returned to Apple.
c) He continued developing his ideas through other projects.
d) He started only struggling with his work on new innovations.

(4). Write the sentence that shows that Apple company was successful with Steve's contribution?

……

(5). What does the following word in line 10 refer to? Write your answer in the space given.

'Their' - ……

(6) . Find a word from the text that is closest in meaning to the following.
a). easy for ordinary people to use, reach or obtain - ……..
b). new and original, especially in a way that improves something - ……

Q.15

1-
2-
3-
4-
5-
6-

Total 08

For examiner's use only

○ **Test 16**

Write ONE of the following. Use about **200** words.

a) Write an article for your school magazine on the topic, "**Towards a Polythene Free Environment**". Include the following:

- Common uses and types of polythene waste (plastic cups/bags, food wrappers etc.)
- Harmful effects of polythene on the environment and living beings
  (pollutes the environment - blocks drains - do not decay - health problems)
- Measures that can be taken to reduce the use of polythene
  (reduce/ recycle/ reuse - educate youth - strict government laws)

b) Write an essay on the topic, "**A World Without Smart Phones."**
Include the following:

- Uses of smart phones (easy communication, easy access to information, online shopping, online learning)
- Difficulties people might face without smart phones (less opportunities, no quick updates, low communication)
- Your views

c) Imagine that you have been selected to deliver a speech at the school assembly on the topic, "**Setting Personal Goals with the Right Focus**". Write the speech you would make on the occasion.
Include the following:

- The importance of having clear personal goals(give proper directions, become responsible, understand strengths and weaknesses)
- How to stay focused and overcome distractions(self-discipline, manage time, keep smart phones away)
- Practical ways of achieving goals (set realistic goals, action plan, improve skills, have patience and believe in yourself)

d) Imagine that you met a friend who has been abroad for studies and come back on a short holiday. Write the dialogue you would have with him/her.

Roshan: What a surprise! I didn't expect to see you here. When did you come?
Vinod : Just three days ago. It's good to see you again.

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For examiner's use only

Q.16

C	
L	
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M	
Total	15

English and Foreign Languages Branch, Ministry of Education

General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination 2026

Support Paper

ENGLISH LANGUAGE I | **One hour**

Index No. ……..

Q. No.	Marks
1	
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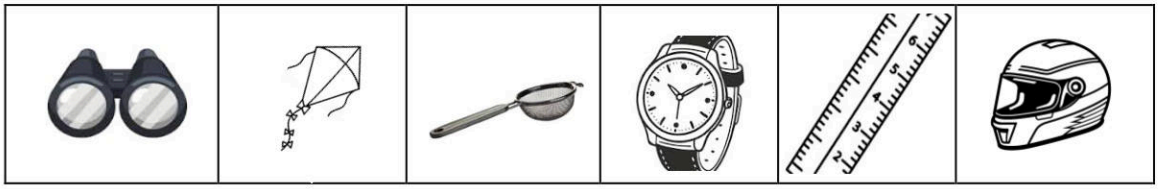
Paper I Total	

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS ON THIS PAPER ITSELF.

For examiner's use only

○ **Test 1**

Match the following pictures with the statements given below. Write the letter of the most suitable picture in the box. *The first one is done for you.*



a **b** **c** **d** **e** **f**

1. A utensil used for straining tea. **c**
2. An instrument used for seeing distant objects. **a**
3. A flat stick one foot long for measuring length. **e**
4. A strong and hard head cover that protects your head. **f**
5. A small time piece worn around the wrist. **d**
6. An object flown with a string. **b**

Q.1

1×

Total 5

○ **Test 2**

Fill in the blanks of the following text using the words given in the box. Write the letter of the correct word in the space given. *The first one is done for you.*

Maintaining a home library is a way to develop a love for reading. Books should be arranged neatly on (1) **f** according to their subjects or sizes. It is important to keep the shelves (2) **b** and free from dust. Books should be handled carefully, and (3) **e** should not be folded or torn. A record can be kept to remember which (4) **a** are owned and which have been borrowed. (5) **c** books should be repaired as soon as possible. The library should have enough light and (6) **d** air. Finally, valuable books can be donated to schools or community libraries.

(a) books
(b) clean
(c) damaged
(d) fresh
(e) pages
(f) ~~shelves~~

Q.2

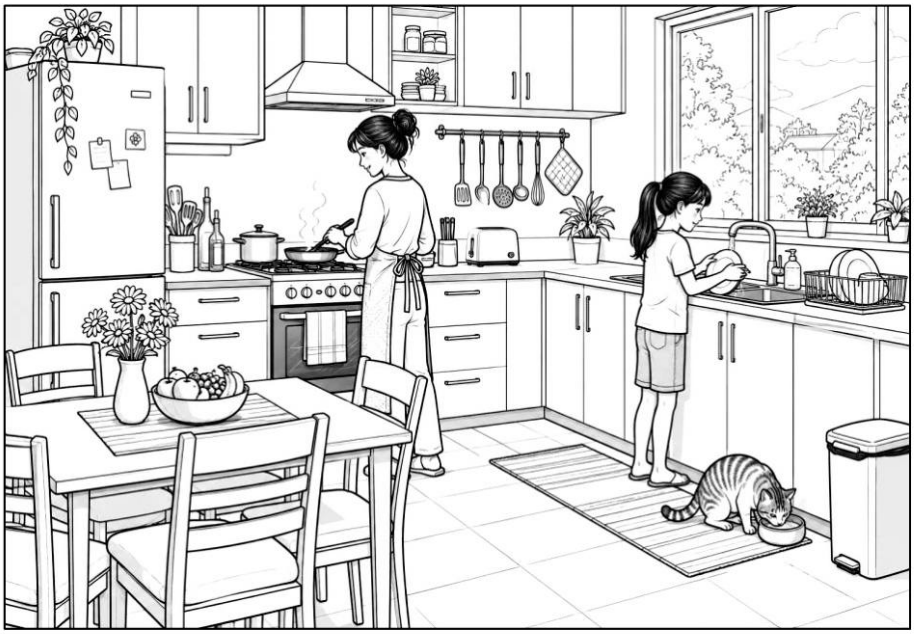
1×

Total 5

○ **Test 3**

For examiner's use only

Study the picture and fill in the blanks in the paragraph using the words given in the box. Write the letter of the correct word in the blank. *The first one is done for you.*



a)	arranged
b)	bright
c)	chairs
d)	cooker
e)	~~cooking~~
f)	dining
g)	dustbin
h)	drinking
i)	kitchen
j)	table
k)	wall

The picture shows a modern kitchen with several useful kitchen utensils and pieces of furniture. A housewife is 1) .....**e**..... a meal on the stove. There is a girl washing some plates at the sink and a cat is sitting near her 2) .....**h**..... milk. The kitchen has a large window that makes the room 3) .....**b**..... and airy. A cupboard is fixed to the 4) .....**k**..... , and cooking utensils are hung just below it. The 5) .....**i**..... is well equipped with appliances such as a refrigerator, a 6) .....**d**..... and a toaster. There is also a small 7) .....**f**..... area with a table and 8) .....**c**..... . A bowl of fruit and a neatly 9) .....**a**..... vase can be seen on the 10) .....**j**..... There is a 11) .....**g**.....next to the mat. The kitchen looks clean, organized and pleasant.

Q.3

1/2×
Total
5

○ **Test 4**

Fill in the blanks in the following dialogue with the words given in the box. *The first one is done for you.*

yours	her	~~she~~	it	my	mine

Nimal: Hi, Sahan! Why are you in such a hurry?
Sahan: I want to meet our dancing teacher.
1) .....**She**……. asked me to meet 2) .....**her**……. before going for dancing practicals.
Nimal: Don't panic. I saw the teacher talking to some students near the main hall.
Do you have practicals today?
Sahan: Yes, have you finished 3).....**yours**…….?
Nimal: Of course, I managed to do 4) .....**mine**……. well. Good Luck Sahan!
Sahan: Thanks. By the way, Have you got a costume? I have left it at home.
Nimal: Yes. It's here in 5) .....**my**……. bag. You can use 6) **.....it…….**
Sahan: Thanks a lot. I must leave now.
Nimal: Okay, do your best.

Q.4

1×
Total
5

○ **Test 5**

Read the following text and complete the table given below with information from the text. *The first one is done for you.*

For examiner's use only

AI : A New Kind of Helper

Artificial Intelligence, or AI, refers to computer systems designed to perform tasks that normally require human thinking. AI is gradually becoming a part of everyday life with its constant advancements.

For students, AI can be a useful learning companion. It can provide explanations when a lesson is difficult, offer suggestions when they are preparing a piece of writing, and create opportunities to practise a language. However, using AI does not mean that learners can stop thinking for themselves. Sometimes AI may provide unreliable information. Therefore, learners should examine the information produced by AI and make sure that it is reliable before using it. The influence of AI is not limited to classrooms. In medical centers, AI can assist professionals. Farmers can also benefit from technology that detects signs of disease in crops. AI has even entered smart homes. For example, a smart speaker can respond to spoken requests, while a robot vacuum cleaner can move around a house and clean the floor with little human assistance. These devices are designed to make everyday tasks more convenient.

1. AI stands for	a). **Artificial Intelligence**
2. One use of AI in education	**b) A useful learning companion/ provide explanations for lessons / offer suggestions for writing / create opportunities to practise languages (Accept any one of the above)**
3. One problem related to AI	**c) may provide unreliable information**
4. What students should do when using AI	**d). should examine the information before using / make sure its reliability**
5. A field AI is used other than education	**e). medicine / professionals in medical centers/ farming / farmers (Accept any one of the above)**
6. An AI-powered device used in smart homes	**f). smart speaker/ robot vacuum cleaner**

Q.5

1×

Total

5

○ **Test 6**

Your English teacher informed you about an English drama practice session which will be held for the students in your class. Write a note to your friend who was absent from school, informing him/her about it. Use about **40–50** words.

Include:

- date, time and venue of the practice session
- what your friend should bring
- ask him/her to participate in it

Q.6

C

L

Total

5

Dear Mahela,

Our English teacher informed us about an English drama practice session which will be held on 3rd December from 1.30 pm onwards at the school main hall. The teacher asked us to bring a pair of jeans and a T-shirt. Please join it.

Kasun

** (Please note that the marking criteria and banding are attached at the last page)*

For examiner's use only

○ **Test 7**

Read the text and **underline** the most suitable answer to complete the sentences given below.

Spring had just begun to arrive in the Big Woods, and papa announced that it was time to make maple sugar. Laura and Mary were so excited because they enjoyed watching the whole process. Papa went into the woods and made small openings in the maple trees so that the sweet sap could flow out. The girls helped papa to collect the sap in buckets. The big buckets were full to the top, so they carried them carefully to the sugar camp, where mama was waiting.

The sap was then poured into a large iron kettle over a hot fire. Everyone worked together while **the sweet smell filled the air**. Laura watched the bubbling sap with great interest. She knew that it would take many hours of boiling before the thin sap became thick, sweet maple syrup.

Although the work was tiring, the family enjoyed being together. At the end of the day, Laura was happy to taste the fresh maple sugar that they had made themselves.

(Adapted from 'Little House in the Big Woods' by Laura Ingalls Wilder)

(1) The story took place in

(a) a city (b) a forest (c) an island

(2) Laura and Mary were thrilled

(a) to help papa throughout the process.

(b) to taste the maple syrup

(c) to see the process of making maple sugar.

(3) Laura and Mary had to carry the buckets carefully as

(a) the buckets could easily break.

(b) they were full of sap collected.

(c)Papa warned them not to spill the sap.

(4)The sap was poured into

(a) big buckets (b) small glass bottles (c) an iron kettle

(5) The phrase '**the sweet smell filled the air**' suggests

(a) the smell of the boiling sap was noticeable during preparation.

(b) the maple trees had begun producing sweet flowers in spring.

(c) the sap had a good smell with artificial essence added by papa.

Q.7

1×

Total 5

○ **Test 8**

Write a paragraph on ONE of the following topics. Use about 50–60 words.

(a) A useful extra-curricular activity in school

(b) How I plan to celebrate my next birthday

(a) A Useful Extra-curricular Activity in School One of the most useful extra-curricular activities in my school is the English Literary Association. It helps students improve their English knowledge and speaking skills. We organize debates, speeches, dramas and quizzes. These activities help us to develop our talents and build self-confidence. I enjoy taking part in them because they are both educational and enjoyable. **(b) How I Plan to Celebrate My Next Birthday** I have planned to celebrate my next birthday in a special way. First, I will invite my close friends and relatives to my home. My family and I will decorate the house with balloons and colourful lights. I will ask my mother to prepare delicious food, and we will cut a birthday cake together. I also hope to donate some food to needy people.	Q.8 C L Total 5

Test 6 and 8

Content - 2
Language - 3
Total - 5

Content

Marks	Test 6	Test 8
2	If all 3 points are mentioned in the note, award full marks. - date, time, venue - what the friend should bring - asking the friend to participate	Meaningful paragraph with required length and minimum of three points according to the topic.
1	If only one or two points are mentioned	At least one point is included
0	Question copied/ points copied without any additions	Question copied / not attempted and an irrelevant answer

Language

3	Almost no errors in language, well connected sentences in the paragraph and correct format of the note, correct spelling and punctuation
2	Some errors in language, well connected sentences and correct format in the note, some errors in spelling and punctuation
1	Only one or two correct sentences, errors in spelling and punctuation
0	All sentences are incorrect

* If 0 (zero) mark is awarded for language, do not award full marks for content.

English and Foreign Languages Branch, Ministry of Education

General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination

2026

Support Paper

ENGLISH LANGUAGE II | **Two hours**

Index No. ……..

No.	Marks
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
Paper II Total	

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS ON THIS PAPER ITSELF.

For examiner's use only

○ **Test 9**

Select a word from the box which has a similar meaning to the word/phrase given within brackets and write it in the space provided. There are **two** extra words.

.

conserve, vital, peaceful, reduce, surroundings, unnecessary, waste,

A Home Garden

A home garden can be highly beneficial to a family. Apart from creating a (1) **peaceful** (calm and quiet) environment, a garden can improve the appearance of the (2) **surroundings** (area around a place). Plants play a (3) **vital** (very important and necessary) role in keeping the environment healthy. By collecting rainwater, families can (4) **conserve** (use water carefully so that it is not wasted) water for gardening. In addition, fallen leaves and vegetable peels can be used as compost instead of being thrown away as (5) **waste** . (unwanted materials). Growing vegetables at home can also minimize the amount of food a family needs to buy.

Q.9

1×

Total 5

○ **Test 10**

Complete the following passage using the correct form of the verb given within each bracket.

Last Sunday, I went to a photography workshop organized by our school. When I arrived, several students (1) **were taking** (take) photographs of the school garden. Our instructor first explained how a camera (2) **can be used** (can-use) correctly and showed us some interesting photographs.
After the short lesson, we went outside to practise. I tried to (3) **capture** (capture) a butterfly that was sitting on a flower. Later, we photographed some colourful flowers and trees. At the end of the workshop, our best photographs (4) **were displayed** (display) on the school notice board. I enjoyed the experience so much that I (5) **decided** (decide) to learn more about photography. Taking photographs is an exciting experience.

Q.10

1×

Total 5

For examiner's use only

○ **Test 11**

Fill in the blanks of the following passage with the words given in the box. There is **one** extra word.

and, another, body, calm, correct, helps, important, improve, increased, injuries, of, people, physical, practised, strengthen

Yoga is a gentle form of exercise that can benefit both the body and the mind. Regular yoga practice can (1) **improve** physical fitness and help (2) **people** feel more energetic. One (3) **of** its main benefits is (4) **increased** flexibility, which allows the (5) **body** to move more freely (6) **and** comfortably. It can also (7) **strengthen** the muscles making everyday (8) **physical** activities easier. Maintaining the (9) **correct** posture during yoga is (10) **important** as it helps prevent (11) **injuries**. Breathing exercises also play (12) **another** essential part in yoga. It (13) **helps** people relax and remain (14) **calm**, especially when they are feeling stressed. Yoga does not require expensive equipment, and many poses can be practised at home for free.

Q.11

1/2×

Total

7

○ **Test 12**

Read the text given below and **underline** the correct answer from the options provided within each bracket.

As Anjali was looking through some photographs, her friend Minoli came into the room carrying a travel brochure. "Anjali, you won't believe where I'm planning to go during the school vacation!" Minoli said excitedly. "Really? Where are you going?" Anjali asked. Minoli smiled and replied, "My parents told me that (1)…… . [(a) we are going (b) we were going (c) we had gone] to Ella for a few days. My father said that he (2)…… [(a) had booked (b) is booking (c) has booked] the train tickets the previous day." "That's great. What are you planning to do there?" asked Anjali. "My mother suggested that we (3)…… . [(a) should visit (b) visited (c) had visited] some of the less crowded places instead of staying in the town. My parents also told me to take only the things that I (4)…… . [(a) would need (b) had needed (c) will need] during the journey because we would be travelling by train. And my father warned us that the weather in the hills (5)……. [(a) could change (b) can change (c) had changed] suddenly, and therefore we should take some warm clothes." She added. "That's good." Anjali smiled and wished her friend a safe and enjoyable journey.

Q.12

1×

Total

5

○ **Test 13**

Read the following job vacancies posted on an online employment platform. Match the descriptions with the job titles given below. Write the relevant letter of the job title in the box given against each description. There is **one** extra job title.

For examiner's use only

Job Titles

(A) Part-time Café Assistant **(B)** Gym Assistant **(C)** Junior IT Support Assistant
(D) Content Writing Intern **(E)** Part-time Driver **(F)** Weekend Bookshop Assistant

Descriptions

(1)	TechNova Solutions, a local technology firm, is seeking a trainee to join its customer service team. Duties include helping customers with simple technical problems and setting up devices. Applicants need not have professional experience, but they should possess a sound understanding on operating devices. A school-leaving qualification is required.	**C**
(2)	A newly opened outlet of a reputed food chain is looking for a temporary employee to support its daily operations. The person appointed will greet visitors, record their orders and ensure that tables are ready for the next customers. Applicants must be able to work during busy periods, particularly after normal working hours and on Saturdays and Sundays.	**A**
(3)	A growing business is seeking someone to transport its products to customers living in different parts of the city. The successful applicant should be dependable, manage delivery schedules carefully and find suitable routes without unnecessary delays. Familiarity with the Colombo suburbs is important, and candidates must possess the appropriate legal qualification required for this position.	**E**
(4)	A recreational centre is looking for an enthusiastic individual to support its daily activities. Responsibilities include welcoming new members, helping them understand the facilities, arranging group sessions and reporting problems with the equipment. Applicants should be comfortable interacting with people, managing workouts and have a genuine interest in maintaining an active lifestyle.	**B**
(5)	A digital media organization is offering an opportunity to someone who wishes to develop professional communication skills. The selected candidate will contribute to the company's online presence by preparing brief informative texts, developing ideas for public-facing posts and checking written material before publication. Applicants should demonstrate creativity, accuracy in written English and the ability to use basic digital tools.	**D**

Q.13

1×

Total

5

For

examiner's use only

○ **Test 14**

Write on **one** of the following. Use the space provided.

a) Imagine that you are the Secretary of the English Literary Association of your school. The association is planning to organize an English Week to improve students' English language skills. As part of this programme, you hope to arrange an educational visit to a media station that broadcasts programmes in English. Write a letter to the Station Manager requesting permission to visit the media station with a group of students. Use about **100 words**.

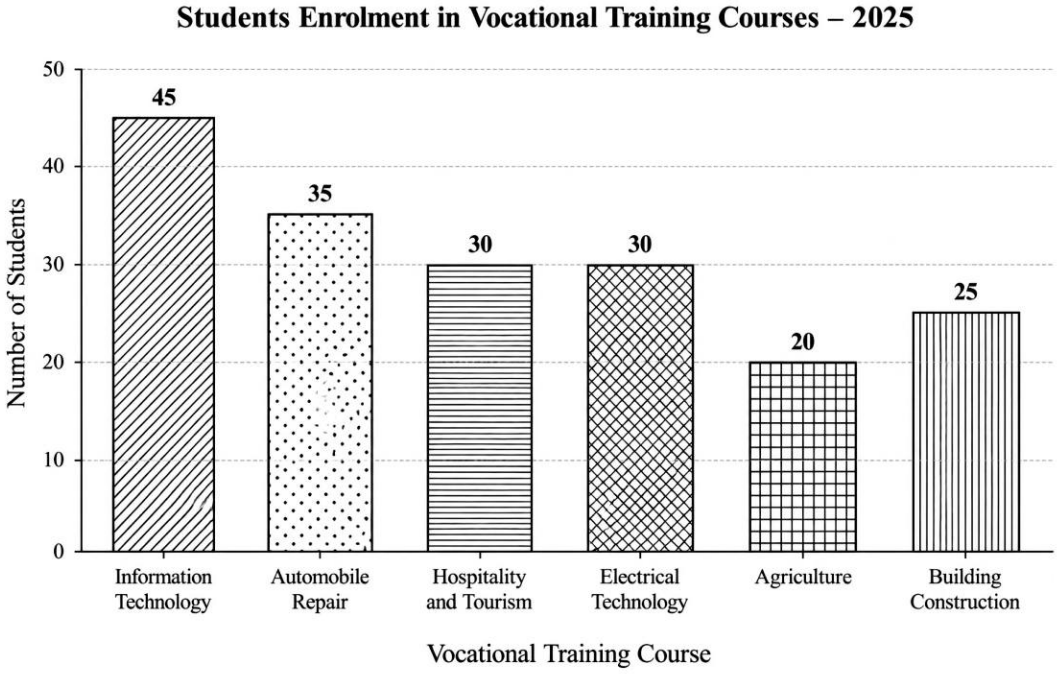
Include the following:

- The purpose of the visit
- The proposed date, time and the number of students participating
- Request for a guide to help students

OR

b) The following bar graph shows the number of students who enrolled in different vocational training courses in Future Path Skills Training Centre in 2025. Write a description about the students enrolment based on the information given in the graph. Use about **100** words. The following words and phrases will help you.

Total number of / highest / lowest / equal / while / more than / less than



Test 14 a).

English Literary Association
Vidyawardena Vidyalaya, Colombo.
15th November 2026.

The Station Manager,
ABC Media Station,
Colombo.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Request for Permission to Visit the Media Station

I am writing on behalf of the English Literary Association of our school to request permission to visit your media station.

We are planning to organize an English Week to improve students' English language skills. We believe that this visit will help students improve their listening and speaking skills and learn how English programmes are produced and broadcast.

We hope to visit your station on 25th November 2026, at 9.00 a.m., with a group of 30 students and two teachers. We would be grateful if you could arrange a guide to explain the activities and introduce the students to your work.

Thank you for your kind consideration. We look forward for a favourable reply.

Yours faithfully,

The Secretary,
English Literary Association

Test 14 b).

This bar graph shows the number of students enrolled in different vocational training courses in Future Path Skills Training Centre in 2025. The vertical axis represents the number of students while the horizontal axis depicts the training courses. There are 6 courses. The total number of students who have enrolled in these courses is 185.

The highest number of students have enrolled in information technology while the least number of students have selected agriculture. That is as 45 and 20 respectively. An equal number of students have enrolled in electrical technology and hospitality and tourism, with 30 students for each. Students have selected Building construction less than automobile repair.

Q.14

C
L
O
M

Total
10

For examiner's use only

According to this bar graph, the most popular training course is information technology.

* *(Please note that the marking criteria and banding are attached at the last page)*

○ **Test 15**

Read the following text and answer the questions given below.

① Steve Jobs was born in California in 1955 and was adopted as a baby and grew up in California. As a child, he became interested in electronics and spent time working on projects with his father. This early curiosity later influenced the way he approached technology.

⑤ Jobs attended Reed College in Oregon but left after only one semester. Although he was no longer a regular student, he continued attending classes that interested him. One of these was a calligraphy course. At the time, he could not imagine how this knowledge would be useful in his future career. Years later, however, he realized that what he had learned about fonts and design had influenced the appearance of Apple computers.

⑩ In 1976, Jobs and Steve Wozniak founded Apple. **Their** first computer was developed at a time when computers were mainly used by specialists. Jobs believed that technology should be accessible and attractive to ordinary people. His ideas helped Apple become a rapidly growing company.

⑮ However, his success did not continue without difficulties. In 1985, following disagreements about the company's direction, Jobs left Apple. Instead of giving up, he founded another computer company, NeXT, and became involved with Pixar.

When Jobs returned to Apple in 1997, the company was struggling. He helped simplify its product range and focused on developing innovative products. The iMac, iPod, iPhone and iPad later became widely known. Jobs died in 2011, but his approach to technology continues to influence the industry.

(Adapted from Biography.com and Encyclopaedia Britannica)

(1) . State whether the following statements are **True** or **False.** Put a tick **(√)** in the relevant cage.

Statement	**True**	**False**
a) Steve Jobs' interest in technology began when he was an adult.		√
b) Jobs continued learning about subjects that interested him even after leaving college.	√	
c) In 1976 Jobs started Apple alone, without any support.		√
d) Jobs never returned to Apple after leaving the company.		√

For examiner's use only

Underline the most appropriate answer.

(2). What happened to Jobs in 1985?

a) He became the CEO of Apple.
b) He founded first Apple computer.
c) He left Apple after disagreements.
d) He invented the first iPhone.

(3). Which statement best describes Jobs' response to leaving Apple?

a) He stopped working in the technology industry.
b) He immediately apologized and returned to Apple.
c) He continued developing his ideas through other projects.
d) He started only struggling with his work on new innovations.

(4). Write the sentence that shows that Apple company was successful with Steve's contribution?

His ideas helped Apple become a rapidly growing company.

(5). What does the following word in line 10 refer to? Write your answer in the space given.

'Their' - Jobs and Steve Wozniak

(6). Find a word from the text that is closest in meaning to the following.

a). easy for ordinary people to use, reach or obtain - accessible

b). new and original, especially in a way that improves something - innovative

Q.15

1-
2-
3-
4-
5-
6-

Total 08

○ **Test 16**

Write ONE of the following. Use about **200** words.

a) Write an article for your school magazine on the topic, "**Towards a Polythene Free Environment**". Include the following:

- Common uses and types of polythene waste (plastic cups/bags, food wrappers etc.)
- Harmful effects of polythene on the environment and living beings
  (pollutes the environment - blocks drains - do not decay - health problems)
- Measures that can be taken to reduce the use of polythene
  (reduce/ recycle/ reuse - educate youth - strict government laws)

b) Write an essay on the topic, "**A World Without Smart Phones."**
Include the following:

- Uses of smart phones (easy communication, easy access to information, online shopping, online learning)
- Difficulties people might face without smart phones (less opportunities, no quick updates, low communication)
- Your views

c) Imagine that you have been selected to deliver a speech at the school assembly on the topic, "**Setting Personal Goals with the Right Focus**". Write the speech you would make on the occasion.
Include the following:

- The importance of having clear personal goals (give proper directions, become responsible, understand strengths and weaknesses)
- How to stay focused and overcome distractions (self-discipline, manage time, keep smart phones away)
- Practical ways of achieving goals (set realistic goals, action plan, improve skills, have patience and believe in yourself)

d) Imagine that you met a friend who has been abroad for studies and come back on a short holiday. Write the dialogue you would have with him/her.

Roshan: What a surprise! I didn't expect to see you here. When did you come?
Vinod : Just three days ago. It's good to see you again.

Test a).

Polythene has become part and parcel of our daily lives. We use polythene bags, plastic cups, food wrappers and shopping bags for different purposes. Although these items are convenient to use, they cause serious environmental problems.

One of the main problems with polythene is that it does not decay easily. It remains in the environment for many years and pollutes our surroundings. Polythene waste blocks drains and causes floods during rainy seasons. Moreover, animals may eat polythene and become sick or die. Burning polythene releases harmful gases that pollute the air and cause health problems.

Therefore, we must take action to reduce the use of polythene. First, we should follow the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. We can carry cloth bags when shopping and use reusable bottles and lunch boxes instead of disposable plastic items. We should also separate polythene waste and send it for recycling. Furthermore, schools should educate students about the harmful effects of polythene. The government should introduce strict laws against the unnecessary use of polythene and encourage people to use environmentally friendly alternatives.

Protecting the environment is everyone's responsibility. Even small actions can make a big difference when we work together. Let us join hands to reduce polythene waste and protect our planet for future generations.

Q.16

C
L
O
M

Total
15

Paper II -Test 14

Content - 3
Language - 3
Organization - 2
Mechanics of writing - 2
Total - 10

Content - Test 14 (a) Formal Letter

3	If all three points with sufficient facts included -the purpose of the visit -date, time and the number of students participating -request for a guide to help students
2	Only two points included with sufficient facts
1	Only one point included
0	Question copied / totally irrelevant content

Content - Test 14 (b) Bar Graph

3	Correct interpretation of the bar graph that shows student enrolment in different training courses
2	Has written on most of the information with the correct interpretation of the bar graph
1	Has written some inadequate information about the bar graph, interpretation not sufficient
0	Question copied / points copied

Language - Test 14 (a) & (b)

3	Almost no errors in language(with one or two negligible mistakes), well connected sentences in paragraphs, good range of vocabulary
2	Some errors in language, well connected sentences, good range of vocabulary
1	Only a few correct sentences
0	All sentences are incorrect

Organization - Test 14 (a) & (b)

2	Appropriate format, well organized ideas, connected meaningful paragraphs
1	Ideas not well connected, errors in format
0	No organization at all

Mechanics - Test 14 (a) & (b)

2	No spelling errors, correct punctuation, clear handwriting
1	Handwriting clear but errors in spelling and punctuation
0	Unintelligible writing

Past Papers Wiki

Test 16

Content - 5
Language - 5
Organization - 2
Mechanics of writing - 3
Total - 15

Content - Test 16 (a) article, (b) essay & (c) speech

4-5	Has written the article/essay or the speech including all three points.
2-3	Has written on 1-2 points relevant to the topic. Information and facts given are not adequate. Is of required length.
1	Has attempted to write on the topic. Content and descriptions not sufficient
0	Question copied / points written are totally irrelevant

Content - Test 16 (d) Dialogue

4-5	The dialogue is fully developed and relevant to the given clues. Has a complete beginning and ending and meets the required length
2-3	The dialogue is partially developed but relevant to the clues. Incomplete or does not meet the required length.
1	Has attempted to write the dialogue.
0	Question copied / response is totally irrelevant

Language - Test 16 (a), (b) & (c)

4-5	Almost no errors in language(with one or two negligible mistakes), well connected sentences in paragraphs, good range of vocabulary, Style of language is suitable for an essay/an article or the speech.
2-3	Some errors, meaning is not clear at times due to language problems, good range of vocabulary
1	Only a few correct sentences
0	All sentences are incorrect

Language - Test 16 (d) Dialogue

4-5	Almost no errors, well-connected exchanges, a good range of vocabulary, language appropriate for an informal dialogue.
2-3	Some errors, meaning is not clear at times due to language problems, good range of vocabulary
1	Only a few correct exchanges
0	All sentences are incorrect

Organization- Test 16 (a), (b), (c) & (d)

2	-Article & Essay - Well organized ideas, connected meaningful paragraphs -Speech - Appropriate beginning and ending of the speech, well organized I connected ideas -Dialogue - Appropriate beginning and ending of a dialogue, well organized I connected ideas/exchanges
1	Some ideas not well connected and not meaningful
0	No organization at all

Mechanics of Writing- Test 16 (a), (b), (c) & (d)

3	No spelling errors, correct punctuation, clear handwriting
2	A few errors in spelling and punctuation, clear handwriting
1	Handwriting clear but errors in spelling and punctuation
0	Unintelligible writing

* If the word count is less than 50, overall mark of the answer should not exceed 5 marks.

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