

English Language 1

Instructions

530

CAMEROON GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION BOARD

General Certificate of Education Examination

JUNE 2010

ORDINARY LEVEL

Subject Title	English Language
Paper No./Title	Paper 1 - Section A - Listening Comprehension Test
Subject Code No	530

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, without opening the booklet, pull out their Answer Sheet carefully from inside the front cover of the booklet and fill in the information required. 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 stages. 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 will be allowed two minutes at the end of the test for final revision. 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 for about 4 seconds 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.

You now have the remainder of the 25 minutes for final revision.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE I

Listening Comprehension

SECTION I

My dear students, my talk to you today is on gossip. What is gossip all about? Gossip is in essence discussing someone else's business when he or she isn't present. It is human nature to wonder about what's going on in other people's lives. We speculate and guess about them, wonder about their personal life and work, successes or failures. We then discuss our thoughts about them, and the tidbits of knowledge we may have about their lives with other people.

Gossip has many characteristics. There are both harmful and harmless gossips. One of the characteristics is that it brings people together, which is essentially harmless. This type is less about the person being gossiped about, and more about the people gossiping. They use gossip to bond together in a mini-social group. This type focuses on mutual sharing of information, and is a form of relating to others. By gossiping together, they show a certain level of trust and the development of social connections.

Gossip spreads more than wild fire, and crosses over into harmful territories, even when not intended. This type of gossip is meant to harm the person who is being gossiped about. The harm intended can be about their person, work or reputation.

SECTION II

Gossip is harmful because lies and half-truths are told, as if they were true. It doesn't give the person a chance, as to whether or not they want to be discussed. It can go out of control, and create cliques in the community. Malicious gossip excludes the person being gossiped about from the group, in a negative way. The gossiped becomes an outsider. Some people get a type of malicious satisfaction from this. Others use unpleasant and nasty gossip to enhance their social position, and make themselves the dominant member of the group. Even when no harm is intended, the problem with gossip is, what starts as "harmless" gradually becomes "harmful". Apart from stars who want to be talked about, there is a lot of harm done by gossip.

SECTION III

My dear students, how would you react when faced with gossip? A lot is expected from you. If you are a victim of any gossip, the best policy is, "the less you react, the better." Judge whether what is said about you, your life, work or relationships, is worth facing head-on. Where appropriate, letting it go and moving on could be one of the best solutions. Questions like, was the gossip malicious? completely unfounded? or did it hurt you? - should help you decide whether to face it or not. Should you decide to take action, planning is crucial for your success. Discuss the problem with a trusted friend when confronted with gossip. Whichever way you decide to tackle it, remember that you have every right not to be gossiped about. Every person should be treated with respect, both at work and within their peer groups.