

# PREPAVOGT

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COMPETITIVE ENTRANCE  
EXAMINATION  
SERIE C, D, E, F, CI et GCE/AL

ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
TIME : THREE HOURS

*Warning!!!*

All questions must be answered on this question paper. The answer paper given to you should serve as a file jacket only.

Don't write your name on this question paper!

Failure to heed to this instruction will attract serious sanctions.

## A) SECTION ONE: GRAMMAR – 10 MARKS

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1. Complete the following sentences so that the new ones have the same meaning as the original ones. 2,5 marks.

- a) "Last week I bought a new insurance for my car.", John informed his friends.  
John .....
- b) "This is the first time I have ever driven through this part of the city", my school mate said.  
My school mate said that he ..... through that part of the city before. (Use never)
- c) "Do you always drive in the night?" My grandfather asked me.  
My grandfather .....

2. Complete the following sentences with the correct item chosen from the brackets. 2,5 marks.

- a) I can see Mbarga, that's ..... (his, him, he) arriving.  
b) Amougou's voice is so loud, it's ..... (her, she, hers) talking.  
c) Amadou and ..... (us, we, our) sold the cows in the cattle market.  
d) The police officers gave their opinions and the accused gave ..... (theirs, him, his, we, us) too.  
e) John's ..... (advice, advices, piece of advise) was very useful to the students.

3. Complete the following sentences with the correct forms of the verbs chosen from the given list. 5 marks.

*Begin, dig, fall, buy, break, describe, grow, bring, leave, blow, throw, tear, tell, speak, take, think, set*

- a) Thieves ..... into my office had the night watch man been present.
- b) The widow looked after the twins single-handed because her husband died. The kids ..... now ..... and can now take care of her.
- c) The grave ..... before the corpse arrived. Burial ..... place almost immediately.
- d) The ..... up of children is a difficult task; one has to ..... his hair just ..... of what they will eat.
- e) Before the test ..... the invigilators ..... a loud whistle.

B) SECTION TWO : **VOCABULARY** – 10 MARKS

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1. Form new words from the underlined words as indicated in brackets. 5 marks.

- a) Mastering English gives a broad horizon. (verb)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b) When will the new minister be installed? (noun)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c) European policy always tends to render Africans continuously poor. (verb)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d) The film “Titanic” is a thriller. (adjective)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- e) Deforestation threatens the livelihood of local communities. (noun)  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Underline the word closest in meaning to the word in bold. 2,5 marks.

- a) Instead of studying their lesson, the young girls keep **bickering over** their handsome classmates. (dreaming, murmuring, arguing)
- b) When Habiba fell ill her friends **peddled** the news that she had HIV/AIDS. (heard, spread, hid)
- c) The armed robber **stalked** his victim in a dark street corner before attacking him. (held tightly, tied firmly, followed quietly)
- d) The trading company has made a lot of profits since its **inception**. (creation, production, modernization)
- e) Some friends are good **buffers** in times of difficulties. (protector, manipulators, enemies)

**3. Give the antonyms of the words underlined in the following sentences. 2,5 marks.**

a) The evidence that we got from the experiments contradicted the theory.

\_\_\_\_\_

b) The supporter of our party attended the political rally

\_\_\_\_\_

c) He turned down my invitation to dinner and went to a restaurant instead.

\_\_\_\_\_

d) Scientists are supposed to be hardworking and reliable.

\_\_\_\_\_

e) The spectators booed when the player missed an easy goal.

**C) SECTION THREE: READING COMPREHENSION – 10 MARKS.**

**Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions below it. You have to choose the right answer.**

From the very earliest times Man has watched the birds and tried to imitate them. Their swooping and soaring, taking off and alighting puzzled him. How do they do it? Their bodies are solid, heavy objects, just like our own. Most insects, too, can fly; in fact, more than half of the nearly 500,000 species of creatures on our planet have wings. In the old myths and legends, gods and angels are described as superhuman beings endowed with the gift of flight; or at least they use celestial vehicles on their aerial travels-chariots drawn by winged horses or dragons, clouds, magic carpets. Occasionally humans are allowed to share this great adventure: Etana, a Babylonian queen, travels on the back of an eagle; Alexander the Great makes a flock of hungry birds convey him through the air by holding a horse's liver on a spear in front of their beaks (like a carrot in front of a donkey's nose); Sinbad the Sailor, in the Arabian Nights, travels by means of the giant bird roc. In Germanic mythology, Wieland the Smith makes a gown of feathers and flies with it to spite his enemies, and the most famous of all ancient sagas of flight tells of the Greek inventor, Daedalus, who made for himself and his son, Icarus, pairs of wings with which they flew from Crete. Daedalus reached the mainland, but Icarus flew too near the sun, the wax with which his wings were fastened melted, and he fell into the sea.

Strangely enough, while indulging in his dreams and fantasies Man never realized that he was holding the key to the problem of mechanical flight in his hands: the kite. Traditionally, the invention of this plaything is ascribed to one Archytas of Tarentum in the fourth century B.C., but the Chinese, the Koreans, and other Far Eastern nations have known it for much longer. The origin of kite-flying may have been religious, and it still plays a ritual part among the Maoris. Even when scientists such as Benjamin Franklin used kites in their research work it was not really understood that these fragile toys made of silk or paper could teach them the secret of heavier-than-air flight. Yet every little boy flying his kite knows that he can get it off the ground by pulling it by its cord against the wind so that the pressure of the rushing air gives it a lift; he also knows that a kite with a tail will keep a better balance in the air than a kite without one. In fact, there are four forces in action when an aeroplane flies: the lift, or upward force of the moving air acting on the lower surface of the aircraft wing; the drag, or backward pull the aircraft down; and the thrust, which pulls it forward: in the kite this is the function of the cord, in an aeroplane it is done by the propeller, the jet or rocket engine. It is clear that the thrust must be stronger than the drag, and the lift greater than the weight, to allow the aircraft to move forward.

If the innumerable inventors who tried to tackle the problem in past centuries had studied the kite they would have understood the action of at least some of these forces. Yet nearly all of them, including Leonardo da Vinci (who, however, made a valuable contribution to the theory of the helicopter), believed that the solution lay in “flapping-wings” flight, in imitating the birds. But Man’s muscles-and these were the only “engine” available in those days-are just not strong enough for the job of flapping artificial wings capable of lifting his heavy body into the air; besides, the birds have an intricate mechanism for altering the angle at which their wings attack the air, a mechanism which even today would be extremely difficult to construct artificially. Yet flap-wing machines are still being built and tried out by inventors although the principal development of aeronautics has been in a different direction.

### *QUESTIONS*

1. “From the very earliest times” (line 1) means starting:
  - A. from the morning hours
  - B. from the time Christ came to the earth
  - C. from the ancient period
  - D. from when man started watching birdsAnswer: .....
  
2. The vowel sound in the first syllable of ‘soaring’ is similar to the one in
  - A. source
  - B. sow
  - C. souse
  - D. sourAnswer: .....
  
3. How many insects are said to be capable of flying?
  - A. 200,000
  - B. 250,000
  - C. 500,000
  - D. none of the aboveAnswer: .....
  
4. Why do the myths and legends consider gods and angels as being superhuman?
  - A. because they are higher than man
  - B. because they can fly
  - C. because they travel round with chariots
  - D. because they are endowed with wings.Answer: .....
  
5. How many humans are mentioned to have been assisted by birds to fly?
  - A. two
  - B. three
  - C. four
  - D. five.Answer: .....
  
6. What do you think probably caused Icarus to fly too close to the sun?
  - A. pride
  - B. the gravity of the sun
  - C. the wax
  - D. evil forcesAnswer: .....
  
7. How many persons are mentioned in paragraph 1 as having shared the great adventures of the superhuman?
  - A. four
  - B. five
  - C. six
  - D. sevenAnswer: .....

8. The expression, holding the key to the problem (line 22) means
- A. was the cause of the problem  
 B. was pointing to the problem with the key      Answer: .....  
 C. was so forgetful about the problem of the key  
 D. was having a way forward
9. The first persons to know of the kite were
- A. the gods  
 B. Archytas      Answer: .....  
 C. Chinese  
 D. Benjamin Franklin
10. Which of these words is closest to the opposite of the word fragile (line 29)
- A. weak  
 B. tough      Answer: .....  
 C. turgid  
 D. violent
11. Where does the secret of a kite's balance in the air lie?
- A. in its tail  
 B. in the Child's pulling the cord      Answer: .....  
 C. in the wind  
 D. in the rushing air
12. Man's effort to use wings failed because
- A. he did not attach an engine  
 B. his muscles were not strong enough for flapping wings      Answer: .....  
 C. his wings were not strong enough for flapping artificially.  
 D. he did not flap his wings and jump to lift his heavy body into the air.
13. What part of speech is aeronautics (line 53) as used in the passage?
- A. noun  
 B. adjective      Answer: .....  
 C. adverb  
 D. pronoun

**D) SECTION FOUR: ESSAY – 10 MARKS**

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**Write an essay of not less than 300 words on any one of the following. Your essay must be coherent and must be written in the appropriate tense of the topic chosen.**

1. The future of my country depends on the systematic development of science. Discuss
2. Write a letter to the Editor of “Cameroon Post.” Discuss the corruption, impunity and embezzlement of state funds rampant in Cameroon. What is the way forward? Your name is Leslie Kamga and your address is Saker Baptist College, P.O Box 29, Limbe, South West Region.
3. Imagine that there have been many tribal disturbances at your school, G.H.S Tiko. You have been called to give a talk about the importance of peace and co-operation among students. Write your speech in which you clearly outline the importance of discipline and respect for college rules and regulations.



