



# CYCLE INGENIEUR

COMPETITIVE ENTRANCE  
EXAMINATION  
SERIE C, D, E, F 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. Use for, since, during, in, ago or while to complete the sentence. 2 marks.

- a) We ran into Wabo in the shopping mall months ..... but we haven't heard from him .....
- b) Many people left the village ..... the late 1970s.
- c) The machine refused to talk to anyone ..... he was repairing the car.

2. Complete with little, a little, few, a few. 1 mark.

- a) The guest speaker spoke inaudibly, consequently ..... students understood him.
- b) She's only two days old in the school she's ..... known.

**3. Use the verbs in brackets to answer the questions. 2 marks.**

- a) What's wrong with that car? (break) it's ..... down.
- b) How is Melanie feeling after her bout of malaria? (to recover) She ..... already.

**4. Rewrite each sentence beginning as shown so that the meaning stays the same. 5 marks.**

- a) It is possible that the robber hid his gun in a litter bin.

**The robber** .....

- b) The water was so cold that we couldn't swim in.

**The water was too** .....

- c) I couldn't sleep although I was tired.

**Despite** .....

- d) The remark was so unexpected that we didn't know what to say.

**It was such** .....

- e) I like travelling by train more than by air.

**I'd rather** .....

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

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**1. Complete each sentence with a word formed from the word in brackets. 5 marks.**

- a) There was no label on the bottle so I didn't know what the ..... were.  
(contain)
- b) The government is doing everything to cub ..... in our country.  
(employ)
- c) It says on the packet that two tablets will bring ..... from pain in a few minutes. (relieve)
- d) Answer the directive questions ..... and no-one will harm you. (truth)
- e) There is always a traffic jam here. The roads need ..... (wide)
- f) I don't know why you are afraid of spiders. They are completely .....  
(harm)
- g) Peter studied civil ..... at University. (engine)
- h) You can't open the top unless you ..... it first. (screw)
- i) Stephen was bitten by a ..... snake. (poison)
- j) Arnold is very tall and ..... (muscle)

**2. Choose the correct word in brackets to complete the sentence. 2.5 marks.**

- a) The scientists carried out their ..... in the new laboratory.  
(experiences, experiments, expertise)
- b) The student who won the first ..... was full of joy. (price, cost, prize)
- c) The Union leader urged his members to ..... their rights. (stand up to, stand, stand up, stand down, stand up down, stand up for)
- d) Oil is resource which is ..... (finishing, fishing, finite, infinite, ended)
- e) He was advised to ..... his trip to next week. (put off, put on, put out)

**3. Complete the following story with appropriate words chosen from the list provided. 2.5 marks.**

*famous, victorious, vigorous, anxious, vicious, silencious, courageous, furious, spacious*

The ..... hyena looked around hungrily. It smelled the blood of a prey in the ..... field, but it didn't sense the presence of two ..... hunters. These two men were not afraid of man-eating beasts. They were ..... for trapping lions and tigers.

When the hyena saw the bleeding goat under the tree, it was ..... to pounce on it. Quickly, it made a ..... leap and tore through the goat. Then suddenly, a strong net wrapped it up from the tree. The hyena was ..... It writhed; it struggled to break out and croaked in anger. It was trapped. The hunters from the village of Kaele were ..... again.

**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.**

**THE THING FROM SPACE**

One day, there came strange news. Everybody was talking about it. One of the stags of the night sky had begun to change. In all its time this tiny star had never changed in any way. Now, suddenly, it began to get bigger.

Till at last it hung there in the sky over the world, blazing down, the size of the moon, a deep, gloomy red. And now there could be only one explanation. That star was getting bigger because it was getting nearer.

It was rushing towards the world. Faster than a rocket. Faster even than a meteorite. And if it hit the world at that speed, the whole world simply be blasted to bits in the twinkling of an eye.

No wonder the people stared up with frightened faces. No wonder the astronomers watched it through their telescopes with worried frowns.

But all of a sudden, a strange thing! The star seemed to have stopped. There it hung, a deep and gloomy red, just the size of the moon. It got no bigger. It wasn't coming any nearer, but it wasn't going away, either.

Now everybody tried to explain why and how this was. What had happened? What was happening?, what was going to happen?

And now it was that the next strange thing occurred. In the middle of the giant star a tiny black speck appeared. The astronomers saw it first, with a telescope. On the second night this speck was seen to be wriggling, and much bigger. On the fifth night the astronomers saw that it seemed to be either a bat or a flying lizard, flying out of the centre of the giant star, straight towards the earth.

Each night, this black flying horror was bigger. Within a few more nights its shape had completely blotted out the red star. Then, for one awful night, its wings seemed to be filling most of the sky. All the people of the earth stayed up, gazing in fear at the huge black movement of wings that filled the night.

Next morning it landed ... on Australia. Barrump! The shock of its landing rolled round the Earth, like an earthquake, spilling teacups in California, cracking statues in Russia. The thing had actually landed- and it was a dragon.

What had come for? What was going to happen to the world now? Everybody waited. The newspapers spoke about nothing else. Aircraft flew near it, taking photographs. It lay over Australia higher than any mountains, and its head alone was the size of Italy.

For a whole day, while the people of the Earth trembled and wept and prayed to God to save them, the dragon lay resting, with its chin sunk in the Indian Ocean, the sea coming not quite up its bottom lip. But the next morning, voice early, its giant came rumbling, round the world. It wanted to be fed. And what it wanted to eat was- living things. People, animals, forests, it didn't care which, so long as the food was alive. But it had better be fed quickly; otherwise it would leave the world looking like a charred pebble.

Its voice shook and rumbled round the Earth for a whole hour as it delivered its message. Finally it ended, and lay waiting.

The people of the world got together. If they fed it, how could they ever satisfy it? It would never be full, and every new day it would be as hungry as ever. How can you feed a beast the size of Australia? No, they would not feed it. They would fight it. And so it was that all the peoples of the Earth declared war on the monster.

What a terrific attack! The noise of the battle shook the world almost as much as the dragon had done, and for much longer. Then the noise died down and the smoke cleared. And the peoples of the world cried in dismay. The dragon was actually smiling, smiling! Aircraft photographed the vast face smiling, and the picture was in all the papers. It was smiling as if it had been tickled.

**QUESTIONS**

a) Why were the people on Earth surprised when the star stopped advancing? 2mks

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b) Why did the Earth declare war on the monster? How? 2mks

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c) List five adjectives which best describe the “monster”. 2mks

1. ....  
2. ....  
3. ....  
4. ....  
5. ....

d) Did the people feed the monster? Why? Why not? 2mks

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e) How would you react in such situation? 2mks

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**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 money spent by the U.S.A., Russia and other great nations in space exploration and the development of ICTs is a waste. The money could help suffering and starving African nations.” Do you share this view?
2. Why do you think English is vital in engineering studies?
3. “Modern science and new technology does more harm than good to the youth”. Discuss this assertion in the affirmative, bringing out all the short-comings of this new age.



