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**UniLaSalle**  
Terre & Sciences

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# CYCLE INGENIEUR AGRONOMIE ENVIRONNEMENT GEOLOGIE

COMPETITIVE ENTRANCE  
EXAMINATION  
SERIE C, D, E, F, TI and GCE/AL

ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
TIME: TWO 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. Put the verbs in the brackets in their appropriate form to fill in the gaps. 2,5 marks.
  - a. Do you think that students will never get used to \_\_\_\_\_ English language? (to love)
  - b. My mother purchased a new car and it had an accident, I would mother she \_\_\_\_\_ not \_\_\_\_\_ it. (to buy)
  - c. The woman \_\_\_\_\_ her children when husband died. (to look after)
  - d. The doctor asked the patient if he \_\_\_\_\_ help in any way. (can)
  - e. Since you noticed that the compound was clean. Why did you \_\_\_\_\_ it (to sweep)

2. Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the list below.

5,0 marks.

- a. He made a good excuse, but didn't \_\_\_\_\_ succeed in convincing me.
- b. He's gone to the bank. He wants to \_\_\_\_\_ a cheque
- c. If we \_\_\_\_\_ more money we shan't be able to go away on holiday?
- d. Tom says he is going to resign if he doesn't get a \_\_\_\_\_ salary.
- e. How much did the bookseller think that the last book \_\_\_\_\_
- f. The supplier's shop was full of \_\_\_\_\_ wares.
- g. We've used plenty of soap and hot water, but, we \_\_\_\_\_ to wash the carpet clean.
- h. She could \_\_\_\_\_ believe that the baby could walk already.
- i. As he put his parcel on the counter, Fred asked the cashier \_\_\_\_\_ been given a discount.
- j. Mary wants to become either a secretary or a nurse when she \_\_\_\_\_ school.

***Still haven't managed – lives – quiet – outdated – more – quite – leaves – hard – whether he has – outmode – night be cost – don't save – might be worth – higher – cash- didn't save – hardly – whether he had – pay – still have managed.***

3. Write the correct answer following the instructions given.

2,5 marks.

- a. People in Cameroon speak English and French (***change into the passive voice***)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. An increase in population growth means a decrease in food production. (***question tag***) \_\_\_\_\_
- c. I have been teaching English for three years. (***Ask a question beginning with***)  
How \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Drugs are not good. They will harm you (***join by, using "for"***)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- e. Many people who are poor live in horrible conditions (***give the noun form of the underlined word***) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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**1. Provide the synonyms of the underlined words in the blanks** **5,0 marks.**

- a. The rain this afternoon fell on us and our school bags were all wet \_\_\_\_\_
- b. The thief was severely beaten by the crowd \_\_\_\_\_
- c. The forests are threatened by human activities. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. The indigenous do not face a lot of pollution \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Young people are shocked when ever they are scolded by elders. \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Choose the best alternative in the brackets to fill in the blanks** **5,0 marks.**

- a. The \_\_\_\_\_ of honour at my birthday were beautifully dressed.  
(invitees, guests, invites)
- b. What is the main \_\_\_\_\_ of transmission of HIV? (reason, means, cause)
- c. The workman came to repairs, but he brought no \_\_\_\_\_, so he couldn't do the work. (utility, tools, furniture)
- d. We had to call a \_\_\_\_\_ because the kitchen tap was leaking. (cook, builder, plumber)
- e. I want to iron some clothes, please could you \_\_\_\_\_ this electric iron for me? (branch in, light on, plug in)

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

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**Read the following passage carefully before answering the questions that follow it. Use good English sentences and as far as possible your own words.**

**A TASTE OF FREEDOM**

To survive in prison, one must develop ways to take satisfaction in one's daily life. One can feel fulfilled by washing one's clothes so that they are particularly clean, by sweeping a hallway so that this empty of dust, by organizaing one's cell to conserve as much space as possible. The same pride one takes in more consequential tasks outside of prison one can find in doing small things inside prison.

Almost from my arrival on Robben Island, I asked the authorities for permission to start a garden in the courtyard. For years they refused without offering a reason. But eventually they relented, and we were able to cut out a small garden. The soil in the courtyard was dry, and I had to excavate a great many rocks: some of my comrades jested that I was a miner at heart, for I spent my days at the quarry and my free time digging in the courtyard.

The authorities supplied me with seed. I initially planted tomatoes, chilies and onions, hardy plants that did not require rich earth or constant care. The early harvests were poor, but they soon improved. The authorities did not regret giving permission, for once the garden began to flourish, I often provided the warders with some of my best tomatoes and onions.

A garden was one of the few things in prison that one could control. To plant a seed, watch it grow, then harvest it offered a simple but enduring satisfaction. The sense of being the custodian of this small patch of earth offered a small taste of freedom. In some way, I saw the garden as a metaphor for certain aspects of my life. A leader must also tend his garden; he too plants seeds and then watches, cultivates and harvests the result. Like the gardener, a leader must mind his work, try to repel enemies, preserve what can be preserved and eliminate what cannot succeed.

I wrote Winnie two letters about a particularly beautiful tomato plant, how I coaxed it from a tender seedling to a robust plant that produced deep red fruit. But then, either through some mistake or lack of care, the plant began to wither and decline, and nothing I did would bring it back to health. When it finally died, I removed the roots from the soil, washed them and buried them in a corner of the garden.

I narrated this small story at great length. I do not know what she read into that letter, but when I wrote it I had a mixture of feelings: I did not want our relationship to go the way of that plant, and yet I felt that I had been unable to nourish many of the most important relationships in my life. Sometimes there is nothing one can do to save something that must die.

Nelson Mandela, *Long Walk to Freedom*,  
Little Wood, 1994

### Questions

1. What request did the narrator repeatedly make? Was it accepted or ejected? Explain. 2 mks

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2. According to the passage, list any four natural resources you have discovered in the text. 1,5 mks

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3. According to the narrator what helps a prisoner survive in prison? Give two examples from the text 1,5 mks

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4. What benefits did he draw from gardening and who benefited from it? 1,5 mks

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5. Did the narrator feel responsible for what was happening to his relationships with Winnie? Quote from the text 1,5 mks

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6. If you were to send nearly thirty years in prison, how would you treat your jailers when you become their president later? 2 mks

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D) SECTION FOUR: ESSAY – 10 MARKS

Write an essay of between 250 - 300 words on any one of the following topics.

1. As a journalist, you have interviewed a young student called Macksinner who has got difficulty in preparing for his examination. Write down your dialogue including the pieces of advice you have given him.
2. Some people think that the study of science is not relevant to poor countries. What do you think? Do you think that your science lessons are beneficial to you and your village or town?
3. Some politicians in Cameroon are happy to say their country is a self food-sufficient one, whereas the reality on the field is something else. What would you do to eradicate famine in Cameroon if you were the President of the Republic?

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