

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
NATIONAL EXAMINATION COUNCIL OF TANZANIA
GRADE A TEACHERS' CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION**

691

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Time: 3 Hours.

ANSWER

Year: 2001

Instructions

1. This paper consists of sections **A**, **B** and **C**.
2. Answer **all** questions in sections A and **two (2)** questions from each sections B and C.
3. Mobile phones and unauthorized materials are **not allowed** in the examination room.
4. Write your **Examination Number** on every page of your answer **booklet(s)**.

maktaba.tetea.org



1. List four activities that help children develop early writing skills.

Drawing simple shapes such as circles, squares, and triangles helps children strengthen hand muscles and develop control, which is necessary for forming letters.

Tracing letters or patterns improves fine motor coordination and familiarizes children with the direction and flow of writing.

Coloring within defined areas enhances precision in hand movements, which is essential for neat handwriting.

Copying short words or names from a board builds familiarity with letter patterns and improves memory for spelling.
2. Mention four environmental factors that can encourage a child's interest in reading.

A classroom or home filled with colorful, age-appropriate books stimulates curiosity and motivates children to explore reading.

Having a quiet and comfortable reading corner with good lighting creates a welcoming space that makes reading more appealing.

Seeing adults or older children read regularly sets a positive example and shows that reading is a valued activity.

Displaying posters, charts, and labels in the environment exposes children to written words, encouraging them to read in everyday contexts.
3. Briefly explain four reasons for teaching English as a second language to pre-school children in Tanzania.

English is an official language used in secondary schools, so early exposure prepares children for future education.

It increases opportunities for communication in international contexts, both academically and socially.

English skills can open future career paths, as many professions in Tanzania require English proficiency.

It gives children access to a wider range of learning materials, including books and media produced in English.
4. Outline four ways of encouraging language development in young children.

Engaging children in daily conversations helps them learn new vocabulary and sentence structures.

Reading stories aloud introduces children to new words and enhances listening comprehension.

Singing songs and reciting rhymes improve pronunciation, rhythm, and memory for language patterns.

Providing opportunities for group play encourages peer interaction and the use of language in social situations.

5. Briefly describe four methods of teaching children to write sentences.

Using picture prompts helps children create sentences based on visual cues, making writing more meaningful.

Providing sentence starters guides children in structuring their ideas without having to think of the entire sentence from scratch.

Copying sentences from the board allows children to practice handwriting and spelling while learning sentence structure.

Encouraging oral sentence formation before writing ensures that children can express their ideas clearly before putting them on paper.

6. Identify four language activities that help to develop children's listening and responding skills. Storytelling sessions encourage children to listen attentively to details so they can answer questions afterward.

Listening to recorded songs or rhymes trains them to recognize patterns and respond appropriately through actions.

Following multi-step instructions in games improves their ability to process and respond to spoken directions.

Participating in class discussions gives children practice in listening to peers and replying in turn.

7. List four indicators which show that a child may have hearing difficulties.

Frequently asking for repetition may mean the child did not hear or understand the message the first time.

Turning one ear toward the speaker suggests the child is relying on the better-hearing ear.

Speaking with an unusual volume, either too loud or too soft, can indicate difficulty hearing one's own voice.

Delayed speech development may result from the child not clearly hearing sounds and words during the learning process.

8. Explain four barriers to effective communication in pre-primary classes.

Large class sizes make it difficult for teachers to give individual attention, reducing opportunities for meaningful interaction.

Background noise from other activities or environments can distract children and prevent them from hearing clearly.

Language differences between teacher and children may cause misunderstanding if the teacher uses unfamiliar vocabulary.

Lack of visual aids can make it harder for children to understand new concepts, especially in a language they are still learning.

9. Mention four skills that pre-school children should acquire before starting reading activities.

Phonemic awareness allows children to identify and manipulate sounds in words, which is essential for decoding.

Letter recognition helps them connect written symbols with their corresponding sounds.

Listening comprehension enables them to understand stories and instructions, forming a basis for reading comprehension.

Fine motor skills allow children to hold and control a pencil, which supports early writing alongside reading activities.

10. State four indicators of a child with well-developed speaking skills.

A child with well-developed speaking skills can express ideas clearly and logically, forming sentences that are complete and meaningful. They choose their words carefully to match the idea they want to share, making it easy for listeners to understand.

They use a wide vocabulary appropriate for their age, which allows them to describe events, express feelings, and participate in detailed conversations. This variety of words shows they have been exposed to and retained a lot of language input.

They pronounce words correctly and use proper intonation, making their speech pleasant and easy to follow. Correct articulation also helps listeners understand them without asking for repetition.

They participate actively in conversations by listening attentively, responding appropriately, and staying on topic. They can adapt their speech depending on the listener and situation, showing social awareness in communication.

11. Describe five factors that are necessary for effective listening.

A quiet environment is essential for effective listening because it reduces background noise and distractions. This allows children to focus on the speaker without competing sounds interfering with their understanding.

Clear speech from the speaker helps children catch every word and understand the message. Pronouncing words well, speaking at a moderate pace, and projecting the voice make listening easier.

Maintaining eye contact keeps children engaged and focused on the conversation. It also allows them to read the speaker's facial expressions and body language, which adds meaning to the spoken words.

Physical comfort, such as being seated in a comfortable position with proper lighting, allows children to concentrate without being distracted by discomfort.

Using engaging and age-appropriate content encourages children to listen more attentively. Stories, examples, and activities they can relate to help maintain their interest and attention.

12. Analyse five factors that may hinder a child from learning English in Tanzania.

Limited exposure to English outside the classroom is a major hindrance because children may not have the chance to practice what they learn. Without daily interaction in English, their skills develop more slowly.

A shortage of teaching materials such as books, visual aids, and audio resources limits the variety of ways teachers can present lessons. Without these tools, learning can become repetitive and less effective.

Inadequate teacher training in modern child-centered methods makes it harder to teach English in engaging ways. Teachers may rely on rote learning instead of interactive methods that encourage speaking and listening.

Negative attitudes toward English from parents or the community can discourage children from taking the subject seriously. If the environment does not value the language, children may lose motivation to learn it.

Overcrowded classrooms reduce the opportunities for children to speak and interact in English. Teachers may not be able to give enough individual attention to support each learner's progress.

13. Examine five factors which affect reading ability in pre-school children.

Vision problems make it difficult for children to see letters and words clearly, which can delay their ability to read. Without proper vision correction, they may avoid reading activities altogether.

Lack of pre-reading skills such as letter recognition and sound awareness prevents children from decoding words. These skills are necessary before they can progress to independent reading.

A poor home reading environment limits access to books and print materials. Without daily exposure to print, children have fewer opportunities to practice and develop reading habits.

Irregular school attendance interrupts the learning process and causes children to miss important lessons. This affects their ability to keep up with the class in reading progress.

Low interest or motivation in reading reduces the time children spend practicing. If they do not enjoy reading, they will avoid it, which slows improvement.

14. Explain five steps of teaching vowel sounds to pre-school children.

Introducing each vowel letter visually is the first step so children can recognize its shape and distinguish it from other letters. This forms the foundation for reading and writing vowels.

Demonstrating the correct pronunciation of each vowel sound helps children learn how to produce it accurately. Teachers can exaggerate mouth movements to make it easier for children to imitate.

Giving examples of familiar words containing the vowel sound connects the sound to meaning. This association makes it easier for children to remember and use the sound in speech.

Guided repetition allows children to practice the vowel sounds in isolation and in words. Repeating the sounds regularly strengthens memory and pronunciation accuracy.

Incorporating the vowel sounds into songs, rhymes, and games makes learning fun. This playful practice helps children remember the sounds more effectively.

15. Describe five methods of assessing a child's reading ability.

Asking the child to read aloud from a familiar text allows the teacher to observe fluency, pronunciation, and confidence in reading.

Using flashcards with words or short sentences tests quick recognition and understanding of printed language. This method checks how well the child can recall and pronounce words.

Asking comprehension questions after reading measures how well the child understood the meaning of the text. Comprehension is the ultimate goal of reading, beyond just decoding words.

Observing the child during silent reading can reveal habits such as losing track of words or skipping lines. This can help identify specific areas for improvement.

Having the child read unfamiliar words tests their phonics skills and problem-solving strategies. It shows how they handle new vocabulary without prior memorization.

16. Analyse five strategies a teacher may use to assess each child's listening ability. Giving children simple instructions to follow, such as "Stand up and touch your head," tests their ability to process and act on spoken language.

Playing short audio recordings and asking questions about them checks whether children can understand speech without visual cues.

Telling a short story and asking children to retell it measures memory, sequencing, and attention to detail, which are important aspects of listening.

Engaging children in group discussions and observing their responses shows whether they listen carefully to others before contributing their own ideas.

Using listening games like "Simon Says" tests quick response to specific commands, showing the child's ability to listen for key details in spoken language.