



THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENT ENGLISH

Grade 4 2026

MARKING SCHEME

SECTION A

TASK 1: LISTENING AND SPEAKING RUBRICS

Criteria	Exceeding Expectation (Level 4)	Meeting Expectation (Level 3)	Approaching Expectation (Level 2)	Below Expectation (Level 1)
Communication (<i>pronunciation, intonation and audibility</i>)	Almost perfect/error-free pronunciation and intonation. There is effort to sound like a native speaker. The learner is clearly heard as the response is logical and very easy to follow.	Good pronunciation and intonation with few errors but the learner is clearly heard and can be judged as the response is logical and easy to follow.	Hesitates with frequent errors of pronunciation and intonation. Meaning can be guessed from the responses. Not audible and difficult to follow.	Weak pronunciation skills and intonation and many errors. Lacks sequence and inaudible. No meaning can be derived from the responses. So, it is difficult to follow.
Comprehension (<i>correct responses and appropriate vocabulary</i>)	Interprets all questions in context. Responds to all questions appropriately. Uses a variety of vocabulary in response to questions.	Interprets most questions in context. Responds to most questions appropriately. Uses the appropriate vocabulary in response to questions.	Interprets some questions in context. Responds to some questions appropriately. Use limited vocabulary in response to questions.	Exhibits lack of understanding of the questions or does not respond to questions at all.

Use of Non-Verbal Cues (<i>confidence, facial expressions, body posture, eye contact, gestures</i>)	Uses a variety of non verbal cues: appropriate facial expressions, body postures, gestures, pauses, poise and meaningful eye contact with the teacher at all times and speaks with confidence.	Uses non verbal cues appropriately: facial expressions, body postures and gestures. Maintains meaningful eye contact with the teacher most of the times and speaks with confidence.	Occasionally uses some non verbal cues and some times and speaks with confidence.	Hardly uses non verbal cues. Makes no eye contact with the teacher, keeps looking down and away while speaking.
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Note: Use the assessment rubric to assess Listening and Speaking (for Part 1 and Part 2, assess the learner on both, and award once).

Suggested Responses

Part 1

1. Are you feeling well? What is wrong?
2. I will help my classmate to sit down and tell the teacher.
3. Teacher, my classmate is not feeling well.
4. I will feel happy that my classmate is better. (*Consider any relevant response*)

Part 2

1. Amina visited Jane on Saturday.
2. Jane welcomed Amina at the gate.
3. They went outside to play.
4. Jane's mother called them to come inside. (*Consider any relevant response*)

Listening and Speaking (8 marks)

Conversion Table

Performance Levels	Marks
Level 4 (responds to all the 8 prompts plausibly in accordance with the rubrics)	8
Level 3 (responds to 6- 7 prompts plausibly in accordance with the rubrics)	6-7
Level 2 (responds to 4 - 5 prompts plausibly in accordance with the rubrics)	4-5
Level 1 (responds to 1 - 3 prompts plausibly in accordance with the rubrics)	1-3

TASK II: READING ALOUD RUBRICS

Criteria	Exceeding Expectation (Level 4)	Meeting Expectation (Level 3)	Approaching Expectation (Level 2)	Below Expectation (Level 1)
Speed (<i>number of words read correctly per minute</i>)	Reads correctly more than 90 words within 1 minute. Reading is consistently smooth and natural; pauses are consistently where they should be throughout the reading time.	Reads correctly at least 90 words within 1 minute. Reading is smooth and natural; pauses are where they should be most of the reading time.	Reads correctly between 45 to 89 words. Reading is sometimes halted and the reader does not pause effectively at sentence ends and commas.	Reads correctly below 45 words in a minute. Reading proceeds with difficulty and many words are repeated. There are many stops and starts that make the reading hard to follow.
Volume and Accuracy (<i>loudness, pronunciation and grouping of words</i>)	Reads clearly and loudly. Pronounces correctly more than 90 words in the passage. Groups words logically throughout when reading.	Reads clearly and loudly enough, correctly pronounces all the 90 words. Groups many words logically when reading.	Reads clearly and loudly some parts of the passage. Pronounces correctly 45 to 89 words. Groups some words logically when reading.	Often mumbles and cannot be understood. Pronounces below 45 words. Volume is too soft to be heard; reads word by word and must be assisted.
Reading with Expression (<i>intonation, mood and facial expressions</i>)	The voice carries appropriate inflection (rising and falling) and the tone changes to capture the mood of the text throughout. The voice varies according to characters and uses appropriate pitch (loudness and softness) throughout. Uses facial expressions throughout.	The voice carries appropriate inflection (rising and falling) and the tone changes to capture the mood of the text most of the time. The voice varies according to characters and uses appropriate pitch (loudness and softness) most of the time. Uses facial expressions most of the time.	The voice sometimes carries appropriate inflection and the tone sometimes changes to capture the mood of the text. The voice does not vary according to characters and monotone is common. Sometimes uses facial expressions most of the time.	The voice is monotone throughout and carries no inflection and the tone does not change to carry the mood of the text.

Reading Aloud: Volume, Accuracy and Reading with Expression (4 marks)

Conversion Table

Performance Levels	Marks
Level 4	4
Level 3	3
Level 2	2
Level 1	1

Number of Words Read Correctly Per Minute (4 marks)

Conversion Table

Performance Levels	Number of words	Marks
Level 4	91 and above	4
Level 3	90	3
Level 2	45-89	2
Level 1	0-44	1

TASK III: WRITING RUBRICS

Criteria	Exceeding Expectation (Level 4)	Meeting Expectation (Level 3)	Approaching Expectation (Level 2)	Below Expectation (Level 1)
Grammar and Mechanics of Writing	Almost excellent use of grammar, variety of punctuation marks, spelling and capitalization. Errors are so few and minor that they do not impede reading.	Good use of grammar, punctuation, spelling and capitalization. There are a few errors but they do not impede reading.	There are moderate errors of grammar, punctuation, spelling and capitalization. But some errors can impede reading and meaning.	There are many errors throughout in the sue of grammar, punctuation, spelling and capitalization and the reader can only guess meaning
Handwriting	Neat and easily readable throughout, many letters are correctly spaced and sized within lines; spaces between words are the correct size throughout.	Neat and easily readable, many letters are correctly spaced and sized within lines; many spaces between words are the correct size.	Untidy but readable; some letters are correctly spaced and sized within lines; some spaces between words are not the correct size.	Not easily readable, many letters are not correctly spaced and not sized within lines; many spaces between words are not the correct size.
Vocabulary	Almost free of errors of subject-verb agreement, very good choice of words, and wide range of vocabulary and use of varied expressions.	Few errors of subject-verb agreement that do not impede communication, Selection of vocabulary is appropriate to the context.	Frequent errors of subject verb agreement, range of vocabulary is limited and there is no attempt to vary expressions.	Many errors of subject-verb agreement, most structures are incorrect vocabulary repeated and communication is difficult.
Organization	Exhibits an exceptionally clear sense of unity and order throughout, there is a clear sense of beginning, middle and ending and makes smooth transition between ideas.	Exhibits a logical sequence, there is a sense of unity and order, there is a sense of beginning, middle and ending and makes smooth transition between ideas.	Attempts to provide a logical sequence, there is some sense of beginning, middle and ending and some smooth transition between ideas.	Exhibits no sense of order and provided a series of separate sentences and disconnected ideas and it is difficult to follow.

Writing (10 marks)

Conversion Table

Performance Levels	Marks
Level 4	8-10
Level 3	5-7
Level 2	3-4
Level 1	1-2

SECTION B

READING COMPREHENSION

- 1. They use water for drinking, cooking, washing and watering crops.
- 2. They decided to clean the river bank because it was polluted with plastic bottles and polythene bags.
- 3. The rivers, lakes and ponds will remain cleaner and safer for people, animals and plants.
- 4. Get rid of safely.
- 5. Kioko was worried because he had forgotten his textbook at home.
- 6. Responsible.
- 7. It helps them to learn, complete their work and solve problems together.
- 8. Pleased.
- 9. Vitamins help our bodies to grow and remain healthy.
- 10. A. Carrots.
- 11. Our eyes may become unhealthy or our eyesight may become poor.
- 12. B. different types of fruits.
- 13. Discipline helps us to behave well and live peacefully with other people.
- 14. They can learn to be disciplined, helpful and responsible.
- 15. Neatly.
- 16. The teacher probably felt pleased or proud of Jebet.

Reading Comprehension (16 marks)

Conversion Table

Performance Levels	Marks
Level 4	13-16
Level 3	9-12
Level 2	5-8
Level 1	1-4

GRAMMAR

- 1. an
- 2. the
- 3. calves
- 4. birds
- 5. boxes
- 6. because
- 7. or
- 8. yet
- 9. sleeping
- 10. playing
- 11. What

- 12. Where
- 13. can't
- 14. don't

Grammar (14 marks)
Conversion Table

Performance Levels	Marks
Level 4	13-14
Level 3	9-12
Level 2	5-8
Level 1	1-4