ELIMU254 HOMEWORK SERIES

Kenya CBC | Junior School | Grade 8

Name		**Class**	
School		**Date given**	

HOMEWORK

GRADE 8 ENGLISH **TERM 1 2026**

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE LEARNER

1. Write your name, class and school in the spaces above.
2. This booklet has 25 homeworks that follow the topics taught this term, about one a week. Do each homework after your teacher has taught those lessons.
3. Answer ALL the questions in the spaces provided. Show your working where a question needs it.
4. For a multiple-choice question, circle the letter (A, B, C or D) of the correct answer.
5. The marks for each question are shown in brackets. Hand in each homework to be marked.

HOMEWORK RECORD

No.	Topic	Out of	Score	Sign
1	Polite Language: Telephone Etiquette	19		
2	Extensive Reading: Independent Reading	16		
3	Word classes: Compound Nouns	15		
4	Intensive Reading: Short Stories (Class Reader)	18		
5	Writing legibly and neatly	17		
6	Oral Presentations: Songs	19		
7	Intensive Reading: Simple poems	18		
8	Word classes: Collective Nouns	15		
9	Scientific innovations: Intensive Reading: Short story (Class Reader)	15		
10	Mechanics of Writing: Punctuation	16		
11	Listening Comprehension	18		
12	Pollution: Intensive Reading	16		
13	Word Classes: Primary Auxiliaries	14		
14	Pollution: Intensive reading: Poetry	17		
15	Paragraphing: Sequencing of Ideas	17		
16	Listening Comprehension: Selective Listening	14		

17	Consumer roles and responsibilities: Intensive Reading	13		
18	Verbs and Tense	16		
19	Consumer roles and responsibilities: Intensive Reading: Short story (Class Reader)	16		
20	Paragraphing: Connectors of sequence	21		
21	Pronunciation	13		
22	Study Skills-Reference Materials	14		
23	Word Classes: adjectives	15		
24	Relationships: peers: Intensive Reading: Short story (Class Reader)	17		
25	Functional Writing: Apology Letters	22		

Set by Elimu254 from the KICD curriculum design. The answers are sold separately for the teacher or parent. © 2026 Elimu254.

HOMEWORK 1: POLITE LANGUAGE: TELEPHONE ETIQUETTE (19 MARKS)

1. Make this polite: "Who are you?" (1 mark)

2. Why should you not eat while on the phone? (1 mark)

3. Why is etiquette important on the phone? (1 mark)

4. The most polite way to start a phone call is: (1 mark)

A "Hello, this is Amina. May I speak to Mr Otieno, please?"

B "Who is this?"

C "Give me Otieno."

D "Talk now."

5. When the person you want is not in, you should: (1 mark)

A hang up at once

B shout

C leave a message politely

D call ten times

6. Which is a polite way to end a phone call? (1 mark)

A "Bye!" and hang up mid-sentence

B "I'm done."

C "Stop calling."

D "Thank you for your time. Goodbye."

7. Write a telephone conversation of six lines in which you call your aunt to ask her to buy you a dictionary. Use polite language. (4 marks)

8. Rewrite each telephone expression politely: (a) "Who are you?" (b) "Give the phone to Mum." (c) "Speak louder!" (3 marks)

9. Give three rules of good telephone etiquette. (3 marks)

10. You answer your father's phone while he is away. Write the message you would take for him. (3 marks)

HOMEWORK 2: EXTENSIVE READING: INDEPENDENT READING (16 MARKS)

1. Why read the first page before choosing? (1 mark)

2. The short summary on the back cover of a book is the: (1 mark)

A index **B** contents

C glossary **D** blurb

3. Reading many books on your own for pleasure is: (1 mark)

A extensive reading **B** skimming

C dictation **D** proofreading

4. A record of books you have read is a: (1 mark)

A diary of others **B** reading log

C timetable **D** register

5. Give three things to look at when choosing a book to read on your own. (3 marks)

6. Write a reading log entry for a book you are reading: title, author, pages read this week and one new word with its meaning. (4 marks)

7. Give two benefits of reading independently every day. (2 marks)

8. Write three sentences recommending a book you enjoyed to a classmate. (3 marks)

HOMEWORK 3: WORD CLASSES: COMPOUND NOUNS (15 MARKS)

1. Which is a compound noun? (1 mark)

A quickly **B** happy

C classroom **D** run

2. "Bus stop" is written as: (1 mark)

A one word **B** two separate words

C a hyphenated word **D** a verb

3. The plural of "sister-in-law" is: (1 mark)

A sisters-in-law **B** sister-in-laws

C sisters-in-laws **D** sister-ins-law

4. Form compound nouns by joining a word from list A with one from list B. A: tooth, class, sun, black. B: board, room, brush, flower.

Write the four compound nouns. (4 marks)

5. Name the three ways compound nouns are written, with an example of each. (3 marks)

6. Write the plural of: (a) mother-in-law (b) passer-by (c) bus stop (3 marks)

7. Correct the errors: (a) "The two policemans helped the passer-bys." (b) "Both of my brother-in-laws came." (2 marks)

HOMEWORK 4: INTENSIVE READING: SHORT STORIES (CLASS READER) (18 MARKS)

1. How does reading help communication? (1 mark)

2. Read the story and answer the questions.
Every morning Mzee Kombo greeted his neighbours loudly, but nobody greeted him back. "People in this estate have no manners," he complained. One day his granddaughter Zawadi came to stay. She noticed that Mzee Kombo never waited for an answer; he shouted "Morning!" and walked on. The next day Zawadi walked with him. She stopped, smiled and asked the watchman about his children. The watchman smiled back and told them a long story. Mzee Kombo laughed. "So greeting is a conversation, not an announcement," he said.

(a) Why did Mzee Kombo think his neighbours had no manners? (1 mark)

(b) What did Zawadi notice about the way her grandfather greeted people? (1 mark)

(c) Explain: "greeting is a conversation, not an announcement". (2 marks)

(d) Give one trait of Zawadi with evidence. (2 marks)

3. Mzee Kombo complained because: (1 mark)

A he was sick
B nobody greeted him back
C he lost his phone
D the watchman left

4. Using the title to guess what a story is about is: (1 mark)

A summarising
B skimming
C editing
D predicting

5. The lesson of the story is that: (1 mark)

A greetings should involve both people
B old people are rude
C watchmen talk too much
D we should not greet

6. Give three things you can use to predict what a short story is about before reading it. (3 marks)

7. Write the title and author of your class reader and describe the main character in two sentences. (3 marks)

8. Give two ways reading short stories helps a learner. (2 marks)

HOMEWORK 5: WRITING LEGIBLY AND NEATLY (17 MARKS)

1. Which group does "o" belong to? (1 mark)

2. Write "justice for all" with correct heights. (1 mark)

3. Why does legibility matter in examinations? (1 mark)

4. Which letter goes below the line? (1 mark)

A g **B** h

C a **D** o

5. Legible handwriting is: (1 mark)

A very fast **B** decorated

C easy to read **D** very small

6. Leaving a margin on the page: (1 mark)

A wastes paper **B** is not allowed

C makes words smaller **D** keeps work neat

7. Copy this sentence neatly with correct letter heights and spacing: "Good manners open many doors, but rudeness closes them." (3 marks)

8. Sort these letters into three groups: those that go above the line (tall letters), those that stay between the lines, and those that go below: b, a, g, k, e, p, h, o, y. (3 marks)

9. Give three habits that make handwriting hard to read. (3 marks)

10. Why does legible handwriting matter in examinations and at work? Give two reasons. (2 marks)

HOMEWORK 6: ORAL PRESENTATIONS: SONGS (19 MARKS)

1. Give three performance techniques. (1 mark)

2. Name one instrument used in local songs. (1 mark)

3. Give one role of songs in society. (1 mark)

4. The part of a song repeated after each stanza is the: (1 mark)

A verse **B** chorus

C title **D** solo

5. Which helps a singer connect with the audience? (1 mark)

A Looking at the floor **B** Mumbling

C Turning away **D** Eye contact

6. Songs that pass on messages about health are useful because they: (1 mark)

A are easy to remember **B** are always long

C have no words **D** are only for children

7. Give four techniques a performer uses to present a song well. (4 marks)

8. Name two traditional musical instruments used in Kenyan songs. (2 marks)