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EMS Olympiad GRADE 9

DATE: 4 AUGUST 2026

TIME: 90 MINUTES

INFORMATION BOOKLET

NAME: _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. This booklet has 40 Multiple-choice Questions.
2. Use the answer sheet provided. Make sure that you have written both your name and surname in the applicable space on the answer sheet.
3. For Section A and Section B select the **MOST** appropriate answer to each question. Circle **ONLY** the letter of your choice, from the answers provided, below each question. (**The answers must be circled in the applicable places on the answer sheet)**
4. All working details must be done in the space provided.
5. Calculators are permitted.
6. Diagrams are not necessarily drawn to scale.
7. The first 30 questions carry 1 mark each and the next 10 carry 2 marks each.
8. You have 90 minutes for the paper which works out to an average of 2.25 minutes per question.
9. Read the questions carefully before answering.
10. Visit the website: www.saolympiads.co.za.

GOOD LUCK! ENJOY THE OLYMPIAD.

Grade Nine EMS Olympiad 2026

SECTION A

Select the most appropriate answer to each question.

Choose the letter of your choice, from the answers below each question. Circle the letter that you have chosen on the Answer Sheet provided.

Study the information in Source A to answer questions 1-3.

SOURCE A

Takealot Expands Same-Day Delivery in South Africa

Takealot has expanded its same-day delivery service to more cities in South Africa. The company invested heavily in warehouses, delivery vehicles, and digital systems to improve efficiency. The expansion has created new employment opportunities in both logistics and technology.

The CEO stated that faster delivery improves customer satisfaction and increases repeat purchases. However, competitors are now lowering prices to remain competitive.

1. Which sector of the economy does Takealot mainly operate in?

   A) Primary
   B) Secondary
   C) Tertiary
   D) Quaternary (1)

2. The investment that Takealot has made in warehouses and vehicles is an example of:

   A) Labour
   B) Capital
   C) Entrepreneurship
   D) Land (1)

3. Takealot's expansion to offer same-day delivery is mainly aimed at improving:

   A) Production
   B) Imports
   C) Customer satisfaction
   D) Tax compliance (1)

4. A firm with market power can increase its prices without losing many customers because demand is:

   A) Perfectly elastic
   B) Inelastic
   C) Elastic
   D) Unit elastic (1)

5. If productivity rises faster than wages, unit labour cost will:

   A) Increase
   B) Decrease
   C) Remain constant
   D) Double (1)

6. If the rand appreciates due to high interest rates:

   A) Exports become cheaper
   B) Inflation increases
   C) Trade deficit increases automatically
   D) Imports become cheaper (1)

7. Which of the following is **NOT** a cash transaction?

   A) Purchasing inventory with cash
   B) Paying rent with cash
   C) Selling goods to a customer on credit
   D) Withdrawing cash from the business bank account (1)

8. How does income received from services rendered affect the accounting equation?

A) Increases assets and decreases liabilities
B) Increases assets and increases owner's equity
C) Decreases assets and decreases liabilities
D) Decreases assets and increases owner's equity (1)

9. What is the purpose of a business plan?

A) To outline goals and strategies
B) To pay taxes
C) To hire employees
D) To calculate VAT (1)

10. What is the accounting equation?

A) Owner's Equity = Assets +Liabilities
B) Assets = Owner's Equity - Liabilities
C) Liabilities = Assets + Owner's Equity
D) Assets = Owner's Equity + Liabilities (1)

11. What is the role of the secondary sector?

A) Extract raw materials
B) Provide services
C) Manufacture goods
D) Sell products (1)

12. What is the difference between assets and liabilities?

A) Assets are debts; liabilities are income
B) Assets are owned; liabilities are owed
C) Assets are expenses; liabilities are profits
D) Assets are taxes; liabilities are savings

(1)

13. What is the purpose of the Creditors Journal?

A) To record all cash sales
B) To record all credit sales
C) To record all credit purchases
D) To record the allowance for doubtful debts

(1)

14. A regressive tax impacts equity because it:

A) Reduces inequality
B) Burdens low-income earners proportionally more
C) Taxes profit
D) Encourages saving (1)

15. When economies of scale are exhausted, the average cost will:

A) Decrease
B) Remain the same
C) Increase
D) Become zero (1)

16. If R10,000 is invested at 10% p/a. How much interest will be earned in a year?

A) R100
B) R10
C) R1,000
D) R10 000 (1)

17. If a business earns R15,000 and spends R12,000. How much profit would be made?

A) -R3,000
B) R3,000
C) R27,000
D) No profit (1)

Study the information in Source B below to answer questions 18-21.

SOURCE B:

Bright Tech is a technology company. The following information relates to Bright Tech:

Fixed Costs = R200 000
Selling Price = R500
Variable Cost = R300

18. The contribution per unit will be:

A) R200
B) R300
C) R500
D) R100 (1)

19. The break-even point in units will be:

A) 500 units
B) 1 000 units
C) 200 units
D) 400 units

(1)

20. If 2,500 units are sold, the profit will be:

A) R300,000
B) R100,000
C) R150,000
D) R200,000 (1)

21. If variable costs increase to R350, the break-even point will?

A) Increase
B) Decrease
C) Remain unchanged
D) Become zero

(1)

22. The SARB primarily uses which tool to control inflation?

A) VAT adjustments
B) Interest rates
C) Minimum wage laws
D) Import quotas (1)

23. An increase in customs duties is most likely to:

A) Protect local producers
B) Increase imports
C) Lower local prices
D) Increase foreign competition (1)

24. A shop offers a 20% discount on an item originally priced at R950. Calculate the discounted price.

A) R930
B) R760
C) R190
D) R1,140 (1)

25. Which document shows the financial position of a business?

A) Income Statement
B) General Ledger
C) Journals
D) Balance Sheet (1)

26. Which of the following factors can improve productivity in a business?

A) Increasing wages without training
B) Offering employee training and development programmes
C) Reducing the number of working hours
D) Limiting the use of technology in the workplace (1)

Study the information and the diagram below to answer questions 27-29.

A local market selling oranges.

At first, the demand and supply meet at equilibrium point E, where the price and quantity are stable. If more people suddenly want oranges (demand increases), the demand curve shifts right, leading to a higher price. If farmers harvest more oranges (supply increases), the supply curve shifts right, lowering the price.

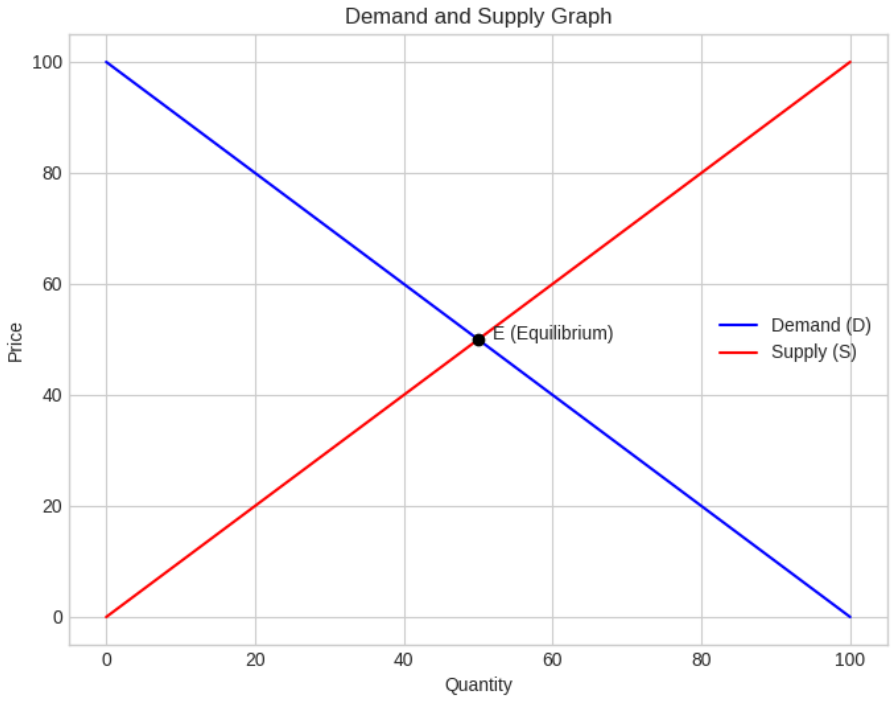

Figure: Demand (D) and Supply (S) curves showing the equilibrium point (E).

27. What happens when demand increases but supply stays the same?

A) Price decreases
B) Price increases
C) Quantity decreases
D) Supply increases (1)

28. What is the equilibrium point?

A) Where demand is greater than supply
B) Where supply is greater than demand
C) Where demand is equal to supply
D) Where prices are at their highest (1)

29. If supply increases while demand stays constant, what happens to equilibrium price?

A) It increases
B) It decreases
C) It stays the same
D) It disappears

(1)

30. Corporate governance failures most directly affect?

A) Fixed costs
B) Demand curve
C) Supply elasticity
D) Shareholder confidence (1)

[30]

SECTION B

Select the most appropriate answer for questions 31- 40.

Choose the letter of your choice, from the answers below each question. Circle the letter that you have chosen in the applicable space on the Answer Sheet provided.

31. A business has revenue of R150 000 and total costs of R120 000.
Its profit margin is:

A) 15%
B) 20%
C) 25%
D) 30%
E) 80% (2)

32. If price elasticity of demand is –3, demand is:

A) Perfectly inelastic
B) Inelastic
C) Elastic
D) Unit elastic
E) Perfectly elastic (2)

33. A leftward shift in supply that is greater than a leftward shift in demand will result in:

A) Higher price
B) Lower price
C) No change in price
D) Surplus
E) Shortage (2)

34. If fixed costs are R100 000 and contribution per unit is R25, break-even output is:

A) 2 500 units
B) 4 000 units
C) 5 000 units
D) 3 000 units
E) 1 000 units (2)

35. If productivity increases by 20% while wages increase by 5%, the firm will most likely:

A) Lose competitiveness
B) Gain cost advantage
C) Face bankruptcy
D) Reduce output
E) Increase imports (2)

36. Corporate income tax in South Africa is closest to:

A) 20%
B) 25%
C) 27%
D) 30%
E) 35% (2)

37. A contractionary monetary policy will:

A) Lower interest rates
B) Increase government spending
C) Raise interest rates
D) Increase imports
E) Lower taxes (2)

38. If total revenue increases while total cost remains constant, profit will:

A) Decrease
B) Remain constant
C) Increase
D) Become zero
E) Turn into loss (2)

39. A firm that can influence price because it controls supply is operating under:

A) Perfect competition
B) A Monopoly
C) A Cooperative
D) The Informal sector
E) The Price ceiling (2)

40. The primary goal of monetary policy in South Africa is to:

A) Maximise employment only
B) Control inflation and stabilise prices
C) Increase government revenue
D) Promote exports only
E) Reduce taxes (2)

[20]

Grand Total: 50 marks