

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENT
GRADE 8
September 2026
Agriculture Scoring Guide
1 hour 30 minutes



THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENT
Agriculture Scoring Guide

Task	Task 1 (Agriculture)					Task 2 (Home Science)				Total
Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Maximum score	7	4	6	7	6	3	4	4	4	45
Total	30					15				

Performance levels

Performance level	Task 1 (Agriculture)	Task 2 (Home Science)
Exceeding Expectation	24-30	13-15
Meeting Expectation	17-23	9-12
Approaching Expectation	9-16	5-8
Below Expectation	0-8	0-4

1.

a) **Environmental problem:**

- Soil erosion (gully erosion). (1 mark)

b) **Two effects of soil erosion on crop production:**

- Loss of fertile topsoil, reducing soil fertility.
- Reduced crop yields due to poor plant growth.

(2 marks)

c)

Measure	Justification
Construct bench terraces	Reduces runoff speed and prevents soil erosion.
Practice contour farming	Slows water movement down the slope and conserves soil.
Build check dams/stone barriers	Traps soil particles and reduces gully formation.

(2 × 2 = 2 marks)

2.

a) **Benefits of a backyard garden:**

- Provides food for the family.
- Reduces expenditure on vegetables.
- Improves household nutrition.

(2 x 1 = 2 marks)

b) **Likely causes of poor harvest:**

- Poor-quality seeds/seedlings.
- Inadequate watering.
- Pest infestation.
- Disease attack.

(Any two points × 1 mark = 2 marks)

3.

a) **Management mistakes:**

- Failure to provide adequate feed.
- Failure to provide clean drinking water.
- Poor sanitation in the fold.
- Overcrowding of birds.

(2 x 1 = 2 marks)

b)

(i) **Moving the fold regularly**

- Provides birds with fresh forage and insects.
- Prevents accumulation of waste and disease-causing organisms.

(1 mark)

(ii) **Maintaining sanitation in the fold**

- Prevents disease outbreaks.
 - Promotes healthy growth and high production.
- (1 mark)

c) **Reasons for using a fold:**

- Protects birds from predators and theft.
 - Makes feeding, watering and disease control easier.
- (2 x 1 = 2 marks)

4.

a)

Observation	Classification
Holes on leaves	Pest damage
Curled leaves	Pest damage
Wilting plants	Disease symptom
Brown spots	Disease symptom

(4 x 1 = 4 marks)

b) **Environmentally friendly control methods:**

- Crop rotation.
 - Hand picking and destroying pests.
 - Use of biological control agents/natural predators.
- (2 x 1 = 2 marks)

c) Heavily infected crops should be uprooted and destroyed to:

- Prevent spread of pests and diseases.
 - Protect healthy crops from infestation.
- (1 x 1 = 1 mark)

5.

a) **Correct sequence of poultry dressing:**

1. Beheading
2. Defeathering
3. Removal of offal
4. Cleaning

(1 mark)

b) **Reasons for processing fish immediately after harvesting:**

- Fish spoils very quickly.
 - Preserves quality and nutritional value.
 - Reduces microbial contamination and losses.
- (2 x 1 = 2 marks)

c)

Method	How it increases shelf life
Refrigeration	Low temperature slows growth of spoilage microorganisms.
Pasteurization/Boiling	Destroys microorganisms that cause spoilage.

(2 x 2 = 2 marks)

d) **One advantage of smoking over boiling:**

- Smoking preserves meat for a longer period by reducing moisture content.

(1 mark)

6. **Food groups (3 × 1 = 3 marks)**

- Energy-giving foods
- Body-building foods
- Protective foods (vitamin-rich foods)
- Mineral-rich foods
- Fibre-rich foods

Award **1 mark** for each correct food group.

7.

- **Family service** (also called family-style service) is a method of serving meals in which food is placed in serving dishes on the dining table, and each family member serves themselves or pass the dishes to others. (2 marks)
- **Blue plate service** is a method of serving meals in which food is portioned and arranged on individual plates in the kitchen before being served directly to each person at the table. The server or host brings the prepared plate to each diner, so there is no need for people to serve themselves. (2 marks)

8. **Daily cleaning practices in the kitchen (4 × 1 = 4 marks)**

- Sweep the kitchen floor.
- Mop the floor.
- Wash and dry dishes, utensils, and equipment.
- Wipe and disinfect work surfaces.
- Clean the sink and drain.
- Empty and clean the dustbin.
- Wipe cupboards, shelves, and appliances.
- Remove food spills immediately.
- Arrange and store utensils properly.
- Open windows to air the kitchen.

9. **Difference between weekly cleaning and special cleaning (4 marks)**

- **Weekly cleaning** is the routine cleaning carried out **once every week** to maintain cleanliness and hygiene; (2 marks)
- **Special cleaning** is thorough or deep cleaning carried out **occasionally** (e.g., at the end of the term, before special occasions, or when necessary) to remove accumulated dirt and maintain the condition of the home or room. (2 marks)



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KENYA JUNIOR SCHOOL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT

SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENT

2026 GRADE 8 WRITTEN AGRICULTURE

SCORE SHEET

SCHOOL CODE _____ SCHOOL NAME _____

No.	Assessment number	Learner Name	Task 1 score	Performance level	Task 2 score	Performance level
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						

	NAME	TSC NO.	SIGNATURE	DATE
Agriculture teacher				
School Principal				

Official school stamp