

Uganda Certificate of Education

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

Paper 1

SECTION A:

Subsection (i):

Select **one** of the passages 1-4, read it carefully and answer the questions after it as concisely as possible.

Either 1. FRANCIS IMBUGA: *Betrayal in the City:*

ASKARI: You are not fit to live above the ground, you mole!
And just in case you didn't know, I have once killed
A man in this very cell.

JERE: Congratulations! How did you manage?

ASKARI: I am now more convinced that you are insane. Give me
That mug and sleep. (*Jere hands the mug to him.*)
Thank you. And remember what I have just told
you. Don't disturb him. (*He turns and goes off. Jere
begins to organize where to sleep. Suddenly Mosese
utters a terrible war-cry. He wriggles violently as if
in a fight and then stops suddenly. Now he stands
up slowly as if in a slow motion picture. His eyes
are wide open and unblinking. He walks round the
cell greeting old friends and relatives. Jere, now
frightened, edges against the wall. At some stage
they are so close to each other that when Mosese
stretches the hand, Jere has no alternative but to
shake it.*)

MOSESE: Yes I was. All of us were scared that it would go on
and on. Pardon? ... No, I have no immediate plans
... Well, yes, I guess I will take up this job they
are offering me ... it is my conviction that the
majority will have to go. No point in hiding what
has got to be ... Yes, in the hands of the people
... Exactly, you've put it better than I could ever
have ... That is a difficult one. Let's just say that I
got a certain amount of satisfaction from it. You
see there is a kind of satisfaction you get out of
knowing that you are honest with yourself and
with the people ... No, I don't exactly mean that.
I would find it difficult to take pride in what I had
Not helped to build. Of course I am referring to

those things we could have done ourselves. Yes,
yes.

JERE: Mosese, are you sick?

MOSESE: Yes, that's why I am accepting the post ... No,
I will forgive but I will always remember that I
Forgave them.

JERE: Mosese, can you hear me?

MOSESE: I don't know about that. I suppose I will marry
yes ... That was inevitable In such a struggle,
sacrifice is necessary. Thank you. I am glad you
think so ... I wonder if you would have said the
same thing last evening ... Yes, thank you. See
you at the celebrations. *(He shakes a few hands and
waves to all well-wishers, then enters a car; quietly goes
back; lies down and covers himself as before. Jere
tiptoes to where Mosese now lies, bends over him for
a moment, then slowly moves down-stage and looks
intensely at the audience.)*

JERE: When the madness of an entire nation disturbs a
solitary mind, it is not enough to say the man is
mad. *(Fade lights.)*

Questions:

- a) What leads to this passage? (04 Marks)
- b) Explain what is happening to Mosese in the passage. (06 Marks)
- c) 'When the madness of an entire nation disturbs a solitary mind, it is not enough to say the man is mad.' What does Jere mean by this statement? (04 marks)
- d) Which human hardships are revealed in this passage? (06 Marks)

Or 2. WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: *The Merchant of Venice*:

Portia

By my troth, Nerissa, my little body is aweary of this
great world.

Nerissa

You would be, sweet Madam, if your miseries went in
the same abundance as your good fortunes are; and yet
for aught I see, they are sick that surfeit with too
much as they that starve with nothing. It is no mean
happiness, therefore, to be seated in the mean-
superfluity comes sooner by white hairs, but
competency lasts longer.

Portia

Good sentences, and well pronounced.

Nerissa

They would be better if well followed.

Portia

If to do were as easy as to know what were good to do,
Chapels had been churches, and poor men's cottages
Princes' palaces. It is a good divine that follows his own
Instructions; I can easier teach twenty what were good
to be done, than be one of the twenty to follow

mine own teaching. The brain may devise laws for the blood,
but hot temper leaps o'er a cold decree – such a hare is

counsel the cripple, But this reasoning is not in the
fashion to choose a husband. O me, the word
'choose'! I may neither choose who I would, nor refuse
Who I dislike, so is the will of a living daughter curbed
By the will of a dead father, Is it not hard, Nerissa, that I
Cannot choose one, nor refuse none?

Questions:

- a) Why is Portia unhappy in this passage? (04 Marks)
- b) Describe Portia's character as shown in the passage. (06 Marks)
- c) What does Portia mean when he says '*The brain may devise laws for the blood, but a hot temper leaps o'er a cold decree...*'? (05 Marks)
- d) Explain what happens after this passage. (05 Marks)

Or. 3. LAURY LAWRENCE OCEN: *The Alien Woman*:

Opito stumbled several times along the narrow path that led towards Ogang's home. In that soothing humid air he felt good, and despite some light mist that still sailed and blurred the atmosphere, he felt the warmth of his heartbeat and breathing. As he shuffled on the damp bloated path, the spongy earth tendered his feet and gave him a fresh urge to walk. Then he started imagining a clear possibility of success in his mission to the old man. The replete picture of his sleek animals rooted itself in his mind assuringly and this suffused his face with the primal smiles of his childhood.

Opito reached the old man's house and found him swallowing the last bit of dry meat that had been served to him for his breakfast. He smoothed his throat with a noisy gulp of water and then looked up examiningly at the visitor as if he were a stranger.

'You are very early, you must be coming for a purpose,' said Ogang inquisitively.

'Good morning Mr. Apur,' Opito greeted him.

'I am peaceful, how are you?' Ogang Apur responded.

'I am all right, Chief.' Ogang was always very pleased when called 'Chief' because of the great fame he held as the wealthiest man in the village of Abela. Therefore he was the chief of riches. But also one of his famous ancestors had been a renowned chief and Ogang would feel grateful if he was called his praise name.

'How is your father?'

'He was a little feverish when I left.'

'Did he know you were coming here?'

'Yes,' Opito lied. Although he knew that Ogang and his father were bitter enemies, Ogang was the nearest man who could solve the problem he had.

'Well, I am in a hurry, I want to go and see my oxen but I hope you wouldn't mind telling me about our visit.'

Although it was true that he was going to inspect his oxen, Ogang never enjoyed talking to children or those whom he referred to as children. He was proud, his cattle were of good breed, and he always mocked those with lean skinny stock. Perhaps one of the great things he enjoyed in his life was to see prosperity of his stock against the frailty of the others.

'I have come to you because I know you can help me,' said Opito. 'We have a saying that a dog only goes where he is always given a bone.'

Questions:

- a) Why has Opito come to visit Ogang Apur? (04 Marks)

- b) Describe Opito's feelings on this occasion. (04 Marks)
- c) Basing on the events in this passage, describe the character of Ogang Apur. (06 Marks)
- d) What follows this passage? (06 Marks)

Or 4. MEJA MWANGI: *Carcase for Hounds*:

In two files the eighty-man army followed the general out of the warm bamboo camp into the cold, windy forest. It was getting darker every minute and the rain birds called hysterically. The general led the men quickly through the familiar routes, none of them a game trail or path of any kind. Just bush and jungle and the paths that only existed in his and his follower's minds. He knew exactly which way to use. They were North of the Liki and Acacia lay south of Nanyuki river which in itself lay south of the Liki. To get to the ranch they had to cross the two rivers, both of which were bursting their banks with seasonal floods. The nearest crossing place was Kangaita bridge seven miles down Liki river. The next crossing-point on Nanyuki river was three miles due south-west from the first. After that it would be smooth sailing to the plains.

They hugged Liki river on their trek down the mountain. All the time the furious roar of the cold dirty flood waters was in their ears. The jungle became colder. Darkness found them about two miles from Kangaita bridge. At the same time as the darkness a light rain started falling; a cold, silent drizzle that was only felt where the foliage thinned out or they came to a clearing. Kangaita bridge was overflowing. A thick smoggy raincloud hung low, shutting out even the meagre starlight. The forest as well as the bridge was pitch dark. Water could be heard lapping on the bridge railings and thus they were sure the bridge was still intact. They had no problem finding the bridge. By linking hands with his followers, the general ventured further on to the bridge until he found the railing. The overflow on the bridge was knee-high. After finding it the general guided the next fighter to the railing and crossed. In a short time they were all across.

The rain increased to a heavy downpour. He led the fighters in the dark along the rivulet that fed the generators at the power station down river. There was no fear of losing anyone in the dark. They all knew the way. The lights from the 7th K.A.R. camp to their left showed coldly dim in the heavy rain. Past the camp they turned south by the dark, quiet P.W.D. refuse-disposal unit and across the Mawingo road on to the golf course. At the club house not three hundred yards away the dogs barked dismally.

Within a few minutes they had traversed the rain- and wind-swept golf lawns and were passing near the Black Watch dogs' camp, where the dogs in their kennels howled at the scent of the bush men. Nanyuki bridge was overflowing and they repeated the crossing procedure they had used at the earlier crossing.

The rain stopped falling then, but the sky was still heavily laden and the earth below very dark.

Questions:

- a) Describe the events that come before this passage. (06 Marks)
- b) How does the weather affect the movement of the group? (04 Marks)
- c) What is revealed about the character of the whole group? (06 Marks)
- d) What happens shortly after the passage? (06 Marks)

Subsection (ii)

Attempt only **one** question from this Subsection. If your answer in subsection (i) was on play, now select a novel; but if your answer in Subsection (i) was on a novel, now you **must** select a play.

FRANCIS IMBUGA: *Betrayal in the City*:

Either 5. Referring closely to the play *Betrayal in the City*, explain the problems the people face in the post-independence Kafira. (20 Marks)

Or 6. What human evils in the play *Betrayal in the City* do you find common in your country today? (20 Marks)

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: *The Merchant of Venice*:

Either 7. Giving examples from the play *The Merchant of Venice*, discuss the effect of money and material possessions on human character. (20 Marks)

Or 8. Describe the character of Shylock and show his importance in the play *The Merchant Of Venice*. (20 Marks)

LAURY LAWRENCE OCEN: *The Alien Woman* :

Either 9. Explain how Margaret Nagawa succeeds in proving that the power of love can overcome all obstacles in its way. (20 Marks)

Or 10. What problems do the people of Bungatira face in the novel *The Alien Woman*? (20 Marks)

MEJA MWANGI: *Carcase for Hounds*:

Either 11. Describe the relationship between General Haraka and Kimamo. How do the events in the novel affect this relationship? (20 Marks)

Or 12. What challenges does General Haraka face in the struggle for liberation in the novel *Carcase for Hounds*? (20 Marks)

SECTION B:

Attempt **three** questions on **three** books from this section. One question **must be** on poetry. No more than **one** question should be attempted on any one text:

NICHOLAI GOGOL: *The Government Inspector*:

Either 13. What lessons do you learn from the experience of the town officials with Hlestakov? (20 Marks)

Or. 14. Relate the contents of Hlestakov's letter to Tryapitchkin towards the end of the play. What are your feelings about the people it describes and why? (20 Marks)

BINWELL SHINYANGWE: *A Cowrie of Hope*:

Either 15. How does the loss of Nasula's bag of beans influence the events in the novel *A Cowrie of Hope*? (20 Marks)

Or 16. Describe the character of Nasula in the novel *A Cowrie of Hope*. (20 Marks)

OKIYA OMTATAH OKOITI: *Voice of the People*:

Either 17. Discuss the theme of corruption and greed in the play *Voice of the People*. (20 Marks)

Or 18. Mention the arguments given by both Boss and Nasirumbi on Simbi forest. Which of the two do you find more convincing and why? (20 Marks)

MARY KAROORO OKURUT: *The Curse of the Sacred Cow*:

Either 19. How is the African traditional culture shown in the play *The Curse of the Sacred Cow*? (20 Marks)

Or 20. Referring closely to the play *The Curse of the Sacred Cow*, describe the relationship between the co-wives. (20 Marks)

DANIEL MENGARA: *Mema:*

Either 21. Describe the process of asking a woman to return to her marital home as shown in the novel *Mema*. (20 Marks)

Or 22. Do you find the story in *Mema* relevant to your society today? Give reasons. (20 Marks)

DAVID RUBADIRI: *Growing Up With Poetry:*

Either 23. *Read the poem below and answer the questions after it:*

Yet another song

Yet another song 1
I have to sing:
In the early wake
Of a colonial dusk
I sang the song of fire. 5

The church doors opened
To the clang
Of new anthems
And colourful banners.

Like the beetles, 10
The evangelical hymns
Of conversion
Rocked the world and me.

I knelt before the new totems
I had helped to raise, 15
Watered them with tears of ecstasy.

They grew
Taller than life,
Grimacing and breathing fire.

Today 20
I sing yet another song
A song of exile.

Questions:

- a) i) What is this poem about? (05 Marks)
ii) Who is the speaker in the poem? (02 Marks)
- b) What are the feelings of the speaker about the change he describes? (04 Marks)
- c) What makes this poem appealing to you? (05 Marks)
- d) Explain what is meant by the following in the context of the poem:
- i) ...song of fire... (line 5) (01 Mark)
- ii) ...Rocked the world and me... (line 13) (01 Mark)

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|------|------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| iii) | ...With tears of ecstasy... | (line 16) | (01 Mark) |
| iv) | ...grew taller than life ... | (line 17-18) | (01 Mark) |

Or 24. Select any poem you have read from *Growing Up With Poetry* by David Rubadiri on the theme of *Separation* other than the one in question 23 above and use it to answer the following questions:

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| a) | i) State the name of the poet and the title of the poem. | (04 Marks) |
| | ii) What does the poem say about <i>Separation</i> ? | (06 Marks) |
| b) | What makes the poem appealing to you? | (06 Marks) |
| c) | Give the relevance of the poem to your community. | (04 Marks) |

A.D. AMATESHE: *An Anthology of East African Poetry*:

Either 25. *Read the poem below and answer the questions after it:*

Beloved

E. H. S. Barlow

So long as you are there
For the love that we share
I'll take my shield and spear
And life's battle continue without fear
When battleweary
Peace will I find always
In your love and quiet ways.

Remember our dawn of love
Our struggles and how we grew
Through the entangled growth below
That abounds on the dark forest floor
Our vines have reached the light
Behold our golden fruits
True love's gracious gifts divine

So long as we are together
Your hands in mine again
We'll brave life's rough terrain
All set for exciting horizons
After the noon of day
We'll travel the sunset way
Behold the glory of a fulfilled day.

Questions:

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|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| a) | What is the subject matter of this poem? | (05 Marks) |
| b) | What is the attitude of the speaker about the person being addressed? | (04 Marks) |
| c) | Explain what makes this poem appealing to you. | (06 Marks) |
| d) | How does the poem make you feel and why? | (05 Marks) |

Or 26. Select any poem you have read from *An Anthology of East African Poetry* A.D Amateshe on the theme of *Love* other than the one in question 25 above and use it to answer the following questions:

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|----|-------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| a) | State the name of the poet and the title of the poem. | (04 Marks) |
| b) | What does the poem say about <i>Love</i> ? | (06 Marks) |

- c) What makes the poem appealing to you?
- d) Write a short poem to a person you love dearly.

(06 Marks)

(04 Marks)