

S.2 END OF TERM III EXAMS
ENGLISH P.2

TIME: 1 ½ HOURS

Attempt all questions in section A, section B and section C

SECTION A: Reading comprehension

The death of Nyoma

The people of Chiolu felt they were living in one large grave. They thought that if they lay down they would die.

One night, Nyoma went to Olumba's room. 'Olumba, my husband', she said. 'Your daughter is very ill.' Olumba jumped out of bed and went into Nyoma's room. Olumba's daughter was lying on the bed. Her little body was wet and cold. Olumba picked her up in his arms. He looked at his wife. She understood what his look meant. His little daughter was dead. Nyoma began to cry loudly. Olumba held her in his arms. 'Crying will not bring her back to life,' he said kindly. 'People are dying everywhere. I'll go and tell Eze Diali.'

Olumba arrived at Diali's compound and met Chituru's eldest son. 'What's the matter?' Olumba asked. 'My father is dead,' answered the boy. He stood there with tears in his eyes. 'And how are you?' The boy asked Olumba. 'My daughter is dead.'

They both woke up the chief. He knew why they had come before they told him. 'Who is it this time?' Diali asked. 'My daughter.' And Chituru, my father.' Suddenly Diali felt very lonely. Chituru, his most important elder was dead. 'Wash their bodies and get them ready to be buried,' he said. 'I'll send gravediggers to make their graves.'

Chituru was buried later that day. As he had been very important elder, the Ikoro sounded to call people to the funeral. Only a few people went. Those who did not go were either too ill or too sad.

Olumba went back to his compound. Nyoma was trying to cook a meal for the children. She was very thin and she was shivering. 'Nyoma, what is wrong?' Olumba asked. 'Nothing,' she replied. Suddenly she sat down and began to cry. Heavy tears ran down her cheeks. 'Crying cannot bring back our daughter,' Olumba said. He got up silently to leave Nyoma and then he saw a small body in wrappers lying behind her. It was his son Nchelem had the sickness, wonjo. Olumba was now afraid again. A few days before, he had felt happier. He had thought that Ogbunabali was punishing the people in both villages. But his son was ill now. Olumba knew that Ogbunabali still thought him a special person.

That night Olumba did not sleep. He got up before dawn and went outside. He looked at the sky. In a few days' time there would be a new moon and the six months would be over. 'I won't die before the six months are over,' Olumba said happily to himself. 'Yes, you will.' It was the voice again.

He had not heard it for a long time. 'I don't care if I do die,' Olumba heard himself say quietly. 'Your son Nchelem, will die too,' said the voice. 'But you have only one son,' answered the voice. Olumba bit his lips together and went back to bed, but he felt he was not alone. He rushed out and woke up his wives. 'I want to see Nchelem,' he said. 'He is here,' said Nyoma. Olumba sat down beside his son until daylight came. Then he went to see Eze Diali

The chief was a little better. He still coughed, but he felt stronger. 'My son is ill,' said Olumba. Diali did not answer. He just looked at Olumba. 'My son is sick,' Olumba said again. Diali stood up and asked Olumba to follow him. They went into a room with four children in it. All the children were sick. Diali quickly shut the door and they both returned to the reception hall. 'It is different for you, my lord,' said Olumba. 'You have many sons but I have only one.' 'I have nothing to say,' answered Diali. 'What kind of a world is this?' Asked Olumba sadly. 'It is a world of the dead and the dying,' Diali replied. He bit his teeth together in anger and sadness.

Olumba walked home like a man walking in a dream.

(From The Great Ponds by Elechi Amadi)

Questions:

- (a) Why did the people of Chiolu think that 'if they lay down they would die?

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- (b) How did Nyoma understand that her little daughter was dead?

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- (c) What did the chief know, before Olumba and the boy told him?

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- (d) Why did Eze Diali feel lonely when he heard about Chituru's death?

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- (e) What did Diali tell Olumba and Chituru's son to do with the bodies of the little girl and Chitiru?

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(f) Why did so few people go to Chituru's funeral?

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(g) What made Olumba think that he would not die?

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(h) Why was Olumba afraid that his son, Nchelem, would die?

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(i) How do we know that the chief, Eze Diali, had been sick?

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(j) Why did Diali show Olumba a room with four sick children in it?

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Q.1 (b) Choose the best meaning for each word as it is used in the text. Draw a ring round your choice.

(a) *graves*

- 1 places where dead bodies are washed
- 2 places where dead bodies are buried
- 3 places where dead bodies are prepared for burial

(b) *shivering*

- 1 shaking slightly from fear and cold
2. shaking slightly from hunger and physical labour
3. shaking slightly from sickness and pain

(c) *wrappers*

1. pieces of cloth
2. baby clothing
3. papers

(d) *punishing*

1. making someone sick, tired or sad about something
2. making someone feel happier and better about something

3. doing something unpleasant to someone, because they have done something wrong

(e) *reception hall*

1. an area in a house where people sleep and relax
2. an area in a house where people arrive or leave from
3. an area in a house where people eat.

SECTION B: 2. Choose the best option to complete each sentence.

1. Wego swimming if the weather is warm.
A. must B. can't C. may D. won't
2. Imy homework before my friends came to visit.
A. was finishing B. had finished
C. finis D. finished
3. He is really hot and tired, because hefootball.
A. has been playing B. had been playing
C. used to play D. is playing
4. She ishardworking that she is certain to pass all her exams.
A. such B. so C. very D. such a
5. Juma felt very bad about the argument with his girlfriend, so he tried to with her the following day.
A. make up B. make for C. make by D. make to
6. We have been waiting for the busseven o'clock.
A. until B. for C. since D. ago
7. It is one of the school rules that sports clothesbe worn in the classroom.
A. must not B. will not C. may not D. might not
8. Youdrink too may fizzy drinks.
A. must B. ought to C. shouldn't D. will
9. There isuseful information about malaria on the internet.
A. an B. a C. any D. some
10. If I could be a bird I
A. would be B. will be C. can be D. must be

3. *Rewrite each sentence according to the way indicated.*

1. The museum is an important building in the town. It was built in 1988.
(Write as one sentence – use which)

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2. Our East African ancestors traded gold, cowrie shells and beads.
(Begin: gold, Cowrie shells and beads)

.....
.....

3. Trees prevent soil erosion. They provide shade for humans, animals and plants.
(Begin: Not onlybut also)

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4. The sun is bright today. I am wearing a sunhat and sunglasses.
(Write as one sentence using sothat)

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5. “You should revise all the chapters for your examination,” said out teacher.
(start: Our teacher advised)

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6. These are delicious queen cakes. I must eat another one!
(Rewrite as one sentence)

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7. “Don’t play near the flower beds!” Their uncle shouted.
(Begin: Their uncle warned)

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8. If the men don't shoot an animal, the tribe goes hungry.
(Begin: Unless)
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9. The dictionary may teach us the meaning of a word but it does teach us how to use it. (Begin: Although)
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.....
10. They will promote you to senior four next year. (Begin: You)
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4. SECTION C VOCABULARY AND SPELLING (10 MARKS)

Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.

- Baton, ancestors, steady, ballot
- (a) Ouruse to live in that part of East Africa.
(b) There has been aincrease in temperature since March.
(c) When you vote, you must put your paper into thebox.
(d) In the firstof the composition, there should be an introduction.
(e) The athlete dropped thein the relay race.

(B) Give the correct spelling

- (a) Colleages (people who work with you)
(b) antena (part of an insect)
(c) rhythimn (the beat in a song)
(d) humourous (amusing or funny)
(e) verandaah (a part of a house)