LIRA TOWN COLLEGE

END OF TERM III EXAMS

S.3 ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 2

TIME: 2 HOURS

A high speed tree for Africa?

For most people in the world, energy doe not mean coal or oil, but firewood. In the tropics and sub-tropics, half the available timber has already been used up. An average user in Africa burns as much as one ton of firewood a year.

Every day, the peasant must go a little further away from the village to find firewood. Every day the charcoal burner charges a little more. Every day more forests are felled and soil erosion grows worse. The trees simply cannot grow fast enough to meet the villagers' demands.

A remarkable species called Leucaena may provide the answer. Leucaena matures in less than eight years, burns well, and needs little attention. It has the persistence of a weed with few of the drawbacks. The long tap root digs deep, allowing the tree to survive periods of drought. After felling, the peasant need not worry about replanting: new shoots sprout rapidly from the old stump.

In the Philippines, growing Leucaena for firewood is well-established. In one mountainous area, Leucaena trees have been harvested continuously for 60 years without depletion. And three large companies, attracted by its remarkably short harvesting cycle of three to ten years, have planted thousands of hectares for commercial use. Experience in the Philippines has shown that Leucaena plantations have yielded higher annual quantities of wood than any other species yet measured, while the smallholder has found that it makes extremely good charcoal.

Leucaena's success in the Philippines has been repeated in other humid tropical countries, notably Hawaii and Indonesia, where it deep roots help prevent soil erosion. It is being used to stabilize slopes in Zanzibar where other species have failed. Extensive Leucaena reforestation is already under way in Indonesia and India. Plans are under consideration in parts of East and Central Africa, though a major limiting factor is a failure to grow properly above 460m.

Leucaena is an evergreen, native to Central America, and comes in all shapes and sizes. There are three major types ranging from a square bush to a 25 metre tree. Over a hundred varieties are now grown. Leucaena's hallmark is adaptability, and it can even thrive in semi-arid conditions, where it could play a vital role in keeping the desert at bay. The long straight trunk of the Salvador species, for instance, is ideal for roundwood uses, like railway sleepers, rafters, and fenceposts. The medium hard wood is easily machined, and makes excellent lumber. Leucaena wood is also easily pulped, and although paper made from the wood tears easily, it is good for newsprint.

Leucaena is a member of the legume (pear and bean) family, related to the Acacia thorn trees of Africa and Asia. Like most legumes, Leucaena produces highly nutritious seed pods, and its roots have the ability to 'fix' nitrogen from the air. This means that it increases the nitrate content of the soil it is grown in, making it more fertile. Its aggressive root system can improve the soil by breaking up impervious subsoil layers, thus improving moisture penetration, and decreasing surface runoff.

Leucaena, however, is not without its shortcomings. Chief among these is poor growth on the acidic and aluminous soils commonly found in the tropics. Where the soil is suitable, the bushy variety can get out of hand if it is not cropped regularly. This has happened in some parts of Tanzania, where it has turned into a chocking weed and a favorite breeding ground for the tsetse fly.

The offending bush, though, is excellent forage for livestock. Leucaena foliage provides a high protein, vitamin-rich diet. Thailand and Malawi have found a ready export market for animal feedstuffs made from Leucaena.

Leuccaena is normally fed to cattle, because they are immune to one nasty side effect: hair loss. This can happen among humans as well as sheep and goats – an amino acid called mimosine is responsible.

In Malawi, maize and Leucaena are grown together. The legume is shaded by the maize. Later the soil is enriched with humus as the legume's leaves drop. More often it is the bushy Leucaena which provides the precious shade. Leucaena has been used as a 'nurse' plant protecting numerous crops from the sun, including coffee, tea, teak and bananas.

The poor peasant could supplement his income by harvesting the plant for gum. Experiments in South Africa have produced high yields of gum for use as food emulsifiers. It could be a viable alternative for the Sahel area of West Africa, where recent droughts have decimated the gum-Arabic tree.

Some experts are so enthusiastic about the Leucaena that they make it sound like a magic solution to every problem. It is not. It has its drawbacks: milk or meat from animals fed on Leucaena tastes and smells strange, for instance. But the friends of Leucaena can point to its proven success in lowland tropical and sub-tropical areas of countries all over Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Some African countries could well find the prolific and adaptable Leucaena as valuable as it has been in the Philippines, where Leucaena has helped the national fuel bill, the logging companies, and the poor peasant alike.

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In a paragraph of not more than 45 words, summarize the advantages (NOT USES) of Leucaena.

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2. In not more than 75 words summarize the uses of Leucaena.

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3. There are countless books on how to deal with the population increase in the world – the so-called population explosion. Economists, agricultural scientists, and geographers vie with each other to provide comforting details of the world's enormous food potential, and all kinds of calculations are being made and publicized as to how many billions the world can feed, but these estimates stop at twelve, fifteen or twenty billion. This does not take into account visionary speculations about transforming the Arctic and Anatarctic into giant food-producing hot-houses heated by atomic power. None of these fantasts seem to be worried by the fact that the melted ice would submerge most of our capitals and drown a major portion of the human race.

As a rule the fact is completely overlooked that- despite the enormous sums invested, the impressive technical progress we have made, an extraordinary efforts by governments, by international bodies, and by scientific and technical communities – mankind has by and large failed in its supreme effort to feed adequately those billions of people now living on earth. Of these, around one and a half billion are under-nourished, and the diets of an additional one billion are deficient in one or several key nutrients.

The warning voices that have been raised have gone unheeded. Dreams and unrealistic planning have been favoured over reality: the enormous and constantly widening gap separating the 500 million well-nourished inhabitants of the globe from these, 500 million who are underfed or malnourished and in addition are short of water and many more life's necessaries. Another 700 million are on a low but nonetheless adequate diet – an intermediary group.

In 1960 the world population passed the three billion mark (in 1970, 3,632 million). Few have clearly visualized the consequences of having an addition to the world's population of what amounts to more than a new Nigeria every year (73 million in 1970) and almost a new Soviet Union every fourth year. In the first sixty years of this century the world's population doubled, and we can look forward to a second doubling before year 2000.

The rising flood of people threatens to deprive the human race of its future. The increase is not the result of any magical rise in fertility. Since the turn of the century most countries show a decline in this respect. Very few countries show a true increase in fertility (measured in births per 1000 women in procreative age: 15 – 44 years) in the postwar period. But the birthrate, sometimes called the crude birthrate, is calculated on 1000 of the population. As infant mortality is reduced, more young people appear in the population and eventually become parents. This renders as a result in an increase in the birthrate despite the paradox of a dropping fertility rate. A further drastic reduction in fertility is important in order to save mankind as well as civilization, or on the whole any values, including religion.

Questions

1. What does the writer think of the "economists, agricultural scientists and geographers" he refers to in the first paragraph?

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2. What does the author think of the suggestion that the Arctic and Anatrctic regions could be used for growing more food?

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3. In your own words, explain why the population of the world is increasing.

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4. What is the meaning of the following words as they are used in the passage?

   (i) *vie with*……..

   (ii) *fantasts*……..

   (iii) *nutrients*……

   (iv) *paradox* …….

5. Explain in your own words what the author sees as necessary if mankind is to be saved.

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4. Ahmed warned me that almost certainly I would have to begin my journey elsewhere, for in Nouakshott, he said, there were very few camels to be had, and they were of extremely poor quality. Mauritania was now entering its fourth year of drought, the desert was littered with carcasses , and beasts strong enough for a long passage into the interior were more likely to be found further north, at Akjoujt, where there was still good grazing. Moreover, I should not expect to get away before the middle of November, for Islam had just entered Ramdan, the month in which the Koran was revealed to Mohammed and Ahmed's kinsman

would not wish to leave his encampment until the great feast was over. In the meantime, it might be an advantage if I spent a few days out of town, in camp with some nomads, where I could learn how to ride camels and begin to pick up a little Hassaniya, the local dialet of Arabic, of which I so far knew nothing.

Questions:

1. Where were the write and Ahmed?
   - A. In Nouakshott
   - B. in Ahmed's encampment
   - C. in the desert
   - D. in camp with some nomads

2. Why did Ahmed advise the writer to go Akjoujt?
   - A. to avoid the drought
   - B. to get some strong camels
   - C. because Ramadan had just started
   - D. to learn a little Hassaniya

3. Why was there a better chance of finding strong camels at Akjoujt?
   - A. Because the whole of Mauritania was suffering from drought
   - B. Because the desert was littered with camels
   - C. Because there was still some good grazing there.
   - D. Because it was further north.

4. We can infer that the writer wanted to make his journey
   - A. with Ahmed
   - B. with Ahmed's kinsman
   - C. with both Ahmed and his kinsman
   - D. with neither Ahmed nor his kinsman

2. *Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.*

One Saturday afternoon, after filling my last story for my paper, two friends and I decided to drive to Pretoria, the administrative capital of South Africa which lies some miles north of Johannesburg. We were visiting a German couple whom we knew.

We left Johannesburg at two and arrived in Pretoria shortly after three. We stayed until nine o'clock in the evening then decided it was time to drive back to Johannesburg. No African is allowed on the streets after eleven o'clock in South Africa. It is curfew hour. On our way out of the apartment, a white policeman and two black ones were lying in wait for us. Not knowing what the matter was, but being accustomed to the vagaries of South Africa police, we offered little protest. Then we were hustled onto a rum-shackled police station around the corner.

In the charge office, the air was foul with swearing and hatred as prisoners poured in. a burly policeman with a thick neck demanded to see out "passes". All Africans are required by law to carry documents baring witness that they do live and work somewhere, these also prove that they have paid the annual tax and show the monthly signature of the employer.

The police officer flipped through all the books, and finding nothing amiss, seemed a bit irritated.

Presently he grabbed a telephone a called up a local prosecutor whom he briefly informed that he had arrested some Johannesburg "Kaffirs" in a building where blacks are excluded. "What can I charge them with?" He casually inquired. This conversation continued for a while and our host kept nodding his head, then suddenly he slammed down the receiver and inquired dramatically.

"Alright where are your permits to enter the city or Pretoria?"

The whole thing was no longer funny. We tried as best as we could to explain that the law required Africans to obtain permits only if they intended to remain a way from home for more than three days. Our host became agitated and insisted we had been in Pretoria for more than three days.

All explanations proved futile and the indictment was written out.

At my trial I brought a staff colleague to testify that he had been with me in the newspapers office in the morning of the day on which we were arrested, and then I couldn't have been in Pretoria for more than three days. The commissioners listened patiently to the story and then found me guilty anyway, and fined me. The man who had driven me to Pretoria for more than three days and so my friend, was found not guilty.

In South Africa to be or not be in Pretoria is the sort of question that can drive a man to insanity, unless of course he has a sense of humour.
What intrigued me most about the incident was that in South Africa any overzealous policeman can arrest an African and take him down to the station house without the vaguest idea what charges to prefer against him. If he is diligent enough, he can later find something with which to charge him. There are a hundred and one laws in the country controlling the lives of the blacks, and at any particular time there is a fat chance that one of them is being broken.
(From Home and Exile by Lewis Nkosi)

Questions

2.1. What was the writer's job?

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2.2. Explain in your own words what is meant by curfew hour.

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2.3. How can you tell that the policemen were trying to victimize the writer and his friend after they arrived at the police station?

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2.4. Explain the following words as they are used in the passage:

(i) Vagaries

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(ii) Rum-shackle

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(iii) Futile

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2.5. "There are hundred and one laws in the country controlling the lives of the black people ……." In your words explain three of the oppressive rules mentioned in the passage.

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3 ***A*** ***Rewrite each according to instructions.***

3.1. She has been in this school for three years.
Rewrite using …….since …….

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3.2. While he was touring in Uganda, my pen friend saw may wild animals.
Begin: During …….

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3.3. When John arrived at the meeting she couldn't find a seat.
Rewrite ending ……..left

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3.4. Opoto is quite clever but he doesn't work very hard.
Begin: In spite of ……

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3.5. Peter would have got a job in the garage. Unfortunately, he was very rude to the foreman.
Rewrite as one sentence: Begin: If ……..

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3.6. As soon as she was taken to the hospital, he moved out of the house.
Begin: He …….immediately …….

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3.7. He returned to find his garden covered with weeds.
Begin: When ……

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3.8. Muthoni is as rich as a president.
Begin: No one could …….

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3.9. Jane was very busy, her friends could not get off duty and so she postponed the party.
Begin: Jane postponed her party partly because ……

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3.10. The teacher said to him "you have until next term to find the book; otherwise you will have to pay for it."
Begin: The teacher told him that unless …….

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3 B Select the best to complete each blank

3.11. Ogwok said that if he ……he would hate not to be educated.
A. was a woman C. was woman
B. were a woman D. were women

3.12. The students thought the questions were …….than they had expected.
A. more easy C. more easier than
B. more easily D. too easy

3.13. The accused said that he had had no intention …….the taxi driver.
A. to hit B. of hitting C. for hitting D. to have hit

3.14. Mary did not know who to turn to, but at last she went to my uncle for
A. some advice B. an advice C. advices D. advises

3.15. Mr. Aruk said that criminal charges …….against dangerous drivers.
A. should bring C. should be brought
B. shall be brought D. should brought

3.16. My sister …….in Kampala.
A. is schooling C. goes to school
B. schools D. does school

3.17. Michael …….to buy a house.
A. had no enough money C. had no any money
B. didn't have enough money D. hadn't some money

318. The boy said it was ……a fire engine.
A. the first time he had seen C. his first time to see
B. his first time to have seen D. the first time for him to see

3.19. She said she had brought …….that had been stolen from the duka that morning.
A. a trouser C. trousers
B. the trousers D. a trousers

3.20. Which is correct?
A. The dog can be dangerous creature
B. A dog can be dangerous creature
C. dog can be a dangerous creature
D. the dog can be a dangerous creature.