

# **LIRA TOWN COLLEGE P.O. BOX 125 – LIRA**

## **SENIOR THREE ENGLISH CLASS WORK**

**READ THE PASSAGE BELOW AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS FOLLOWING IT.**

The Sudan, a desert country, has a very hot climate. The traditional way of life is well suited to minimize the discomfort of the environment.

The traditional house in the Sudan is built to suit all the climatic conditions of that country. It is constructed entirely from materials that are made of dried mud, which is either built up in layers or shaped into bricks for greater strength. Because timber is scarce in desert areas its use in construction is limited: most woods have to be used as fuel for cooking. It is essential though for beams to support the heavy clay roofs and these are usually made from split Palm tree trunks. The houses have very small windows which are fitted with timber shutters.

Since these clay buildings contain a lot of heavy material it takes a long time for them to heat up or cool down. Houses are often painted white to reflect the sun's rays. Consequently the houses remain cool during the heat of the day but houses would be uncomfortably hot during the night, people usually sleep out-doors. Meanwhile the shutters are opened so that the night breeze can cool the house in preparation for the next day.

*(Adopted from "What is development?", In Development in the Third World by Michael Morrish, C.U.P. 1983).*

In about 60 words write a summary of the description of traditional houses in the Sudan.