

LIRA TOWN COLLEGE

S.4 PRE-MOCK EXAMS 2011
ENGLISH LANGUAGE 112 / 2

TIME: 2 HOURS

Instructions to candidates:

- All questions are to be answered
- All answers must be written on this question paper.

Q.1 Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow: -

The Trans Africa Highway

The proposed route of the highway has long been in existence, though the actual roads are often of deplorable standards. The idea for a Trans-Africa Highway came from Japan in 1969 when Japanese economic mission to Africa formulated a plan which was formally put to Kenya by the Japanese ambassador. The original proposal was for a road passing through and linking seven countries – Kenya, Uganda, Zaire, the Central African Republic, Chad, Cameroon and Nigeria. The giant Mitsubishi Corporation was prepared to build the road; the Japanese government signified its willingness to give aid to the project. Such Japanese enthusiasm led to African suspicions: just what were Japanese intentions? From Tokyo's point of view there was much for Japan to gain from building a road: increased influence and trade on a continent where she sought ever greater quantities of raw materials for her rapidly expanding industries.

In these early stages there of the countries – Kenya, Nigeria and Zaire – were in principle in favour of the idea. Chad opted out. So it was that by July 1st 1971 Robert Gardiner, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa established a Trans-Africa Highway Bureau, on which representatives of the six countries served. Three months later nine industrialized countries agreed to offer help, and feasibility studies were commenced.

The total length of the Highway is to be over 7000kms. Most of the route is already covered by existing roads, many of them of very poor quality. Only about 5% of the route requires completely new roads to be built. If the starting point is taken to be Mombassa in Kenya, then the first part of the road, through Kenya and Uganda to the edge of the Ruwenzori mountains, is already virtually complete and in good condition. Most of the Nigerian stretch, from Lagos eastwards through Benin and Onitsha is similar. The rest of the proposed road is in poor condition, however, and the 1600kms. Through Zaire are especially bad. Parts of the Central African Republic and the Cameroon are not much better.

The coming of the road must bring other reforms and co-ordination for the countries the highway passes through. Five main measures will need to be carried out. All participating countries will need to agree to allow commercial vehicles free access across frontiers: there will have to be integrated traffic, vehicle and highways standards and regulations; foreign exchange facilities will need to be established close to isolated

borders and road crossings; immigration formalities, visas, etc. – will have to be minimized; and a ‘green card’ vehicle insurance system should be accepted by the participating countries.

Such measures will overcome some of the minor problems; the major problems remain much more serious. The main problem is of course that of cost: by early 1974 the costs were estimated to be between £200 and £300 million. Grants and soft loans have been promised by a number of industrialized countries and international organizations; but a significant proportion of the cost will still have to be borne by the participating countries.

There are other serious problems, too. Little intra-African trade exists in the area. Furthermore, there is little active commerce in the area covered by the road outside Nigeria, Kenya and Uganda. The most isolated regions of the Central African Republic and Zaire are especially backward economically. These two economic factors inevitably throw doubt on the viability of the road. Another related problem is that no real research has yet been carried out to show what the economic impact of the road is likely to be.

The road also has to face political problems. Relationships between adjoining states are not always friendly, and there is always a risk that borders might be closed. As Robert Gardner has said, “When you have a road crossing different countries, there may be periods of misunderstanding, and a decision not to allow vehicles to pass from one of the member states.” This is surely an understatement.

On the other hand, overcoming the problems and fears provides the justifications for the road. These can be sought under a number of different headings: greater trade; greater movement of people and so greater unity and understanding; more economic growth not just between the countries, but within them, too, along the line of the road; all this would eventually lead to an eventual sense of greater African strength, of an ability to act as one.

Slowly, the road is coming into being; it has been pushed as an instrument of African unity by the idealists, and no doubt, can and will play a unifying role. But it remains true that the road is still seen as more of a political deal, one which perhaps runs ahead of the economic and political realities on the spot in the various countries concerned.

Questions:

- (a) In one sentence: What countries will the Trans-African Highway pass through?

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- (b) In not more than 75 words, what major problems must be overcome if the highway is to be built?

Rough copy

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- (c) In one sentence of not more than 30 words; state what the Trans-African Highway would achieve.

Rough copy

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Q.2A Read the following passage.

Floor making was also a special occupation among the Baganda; the earthen floor was first dug up and leveled; next good earth was carried in; trodden down and stamped, then beaten with short sticks, and rubbed and beaten from time to time with young shoots of plantain-trees, so that the sap from the stem moistened the earth, and enabled the men to obtain a perfectly hard and smooth surface. On the outside of the house, all round it, a ridge of earth was made, twelve inches high, and ten inches thick at the base, tapering to a thin edge at the top. These ridges were beaten by men who stood on one foot and stamped with the other, until the earth was beaten well against the thatch where it came to the ground, and formed a hard substance to carry off the water from the roof and prevent it from running into the house. The workmen made a polished surface to the beaten earth with their iron hoes, used as trowels, and at the doorway they made a ridge, which tapered from both sides upwards, so that it was a high rim to a saucer, and kept any water from running into the house during rainstorms. As soon as the earth of the floor dried and cracked, the men beat it again until all the cracks were filled up and finally they smeared the whole with a mixture of clay and cow dung, which made an excellent floor. The thatch over the door-way was neatly cut back by the Thatcher; it was the custom to cut the under part long and the upper part shorter, the exact opposite to the English method. The floor-beaters for the king each received a hoe when the work was finished; but if they had also to level the courtyard in which a house stood the king gave them a goat in addition to the hoe; this they killed and ate on the spot before anyone went to live in the house. When chiefs wanted these men to work for them, they paid them heavily, the price being sometimes as high as a cow for making one floor.

The door was made of reeds by another set of workmen who were the king's door makers. The door-maker measured the height and breadth of the doorway with a reed, and then carried the measurements to his own house, where he made the door. He used three and sometimes four strong sticks which he placed one near the top of the door, another near the bottom and one between them; to these he stitched reeds of the necessary length, and when he had completed one side with one layer of reeds, he turned the door over and stitched a second layer to the opposite side. When the door was made for the king, the stitching had to be done

with cane, but for ordinary houses bark was used. The reeds were trimmed off at the ends when the door was finished, so that it might be the right length; these doors were always made larger than the opening, so that, when they were put up, the opening was well covered both at the top and on either side.

Questions:

- 2.1 This passage is about
A. traditional customs of the Baganda
B. building houses
C. building traditional Bagandan houses
D. traditional architecture
- 2.2 The reason plantain shoots were used to beat the new floor was
A. to moisten the earth
B. to make the earth hard
C. to obtain smooth surface
D. to obtain a perfectly hard surface
- 2.3 The thatching of the building
A. formed a hard substance to carry off the water
B. was only made by men
C. touched the ground to prevent water going in the house
D. was made by men other than those who stamped the earth
- 2.4 What kept water from running into the house during rain-storms?
A. iron hoes, used as trowels
B. thatch
C. a polished surface made by workmen
D. an earth ridge
- 2.5 In what way was the method of cutting thatch over the door different from the English method?
A. there was no difference
B. the thatch over the doorway was neatly cut back
C. the upper part was shorter and the under part was longer
D. the under part was longer and the upper part shorter
- 2.6 Cane doors were made
A. where bark could not be used
B. where the door was to be stitched on both sides
C. for the king's house
D. where two layers were required

Q.2B Read the following passages very carefully and answer the questions below.

That morning, two streams, four villages, three forests and three rivers away from Duom in the little village where Kelara was born at the foot of a banana palm during a peal of thunder, her brother Engamba was just finishing his breakfast. It

consisted of two very crisp maize cakes, cucumber paste and a scrap of left-over viper, cooked to perfection. His khaki-coloured dog watched him eat; keeping as far as he could out of the range of his master's kick. His master had thrown him few burnt crusts, but when he came on to the piece of the viper, all red with palm oil, Djoltan the dog knew from the look in his master's eye that he would never get the opportunity to swallow the least fibre of the snake meat. Still he was proceeding with a strange gymnastic exercise with his head. It went down when the master's hand was in the plate, then it gradually rose following the lifting of Engamba's hand up to his mouth. The journey of each fragment of viper was thus repeated twice over. When Engamba licked his fingers, the dog went off towards the hearth.

"What a greedy dog!" said Engamba between two belches. He raised his arm and pointed towards the bamboo dresser where there was a slop pail which had now been put to a less humble use.

His wife, who was moving about in the house, gave a little groan and went over submissively to the dresser, picked up a calabash which had been shaped to serve as a cup and dipped it into the pail. She came back, her hand dripping with water up to the wrist, holding the tropical cup between her thumb and finger. She walked with small steps keeping the hand holding the cup straight out in front of her.

Her husband watched her coming without seeing her. He took the calabash-cup between his coarse hands and emptied it with three gurgling sounds in time with the to and fro movement of his Adam's apple. His wife waited until he had finished. He held out the cup for her and wiped his mouth with the back of his hand. He belched again, this time scratching his belly with his little finger. This was the sign that he had eaten well.

"Bieng didn't make a very fair division of the viper, he only sent me enough for a mouthful," Engamba muttered to himself.

"You have only yourself to blame," his wife told him, "Since you saw the viper first you should have got Bieng to agree that you should do the sharing."

"I don't like losing friends over things like that," said Engamba, getting to his feet. His wife shook her head. These last words of Engamba did not seem to fit in with the way he had had his breakfast. He had eaten near the door, almost behind the door itself. Every now and then he had leant over to watch the village waking up.

Questions:

2.6 How far was Djoltan from Engamba during breakfast?

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- 2.7 Explain why “the dog went off towards the hearth”.
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- 2.8 “What a greedy dog!” what is ironical about this comment by Engamba?
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- 2.9 Explain “which had now been put a less humble use” as it is used in the second paragraph.
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- 2.10 Explain why, according to his wife, Engamba should have had a larger helping of viper than he did.
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3A Re-write the following sentences according to instructions after each.

- 3.1 I did not see Agnes at the party and no one else saw her there either.
Rewrite using:neither
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- 3.2 That fashion was very popular when it first appeared on the market.
Begin: At.....
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- 3.3 It is time for us to stop complaining and start doing something about the problem. [Rewrite: It’s time we]
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- 3.4 The only reason Akello wouldn't buy the dress was that it was too expensive. [Begin: If only the dress]
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- 3.5 She said, "Unless you tell me the truth, I shall not forgive you."
[She said that]
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- 3.6 As Joseph couldn't mend his motor cycle himself, he had it done by the local garage.
[R-write: Joseph couldn'tso he got]
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- 3.7 The results of the floods have been felt more in the west than anywhere else in the country. [Begin: Nowhere]
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- 3.8 Everyone agreed to the plans. [Use: Objected.]
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- 3.9 The police prevented everyone from going near the accident.
[Re-write using: would not let]
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- 3.10 We are sensible enough to realize that we will not achieve anything unless we work hard.
[Begin: We are too]
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3B Draw a ring round the best answer to complete the following sentences.

- 3.11 It getscrowded here that we often need at least a fan.
A. so B. very C. too D. extremely

- 3.12 My brother is going towhen I go to town next weekend.
 A. put me up B. put on me
 C. put me in D. put off me
- 3.13 The students bring phones to the school,?
 A. do they B. don't they
 C. can they D. should they
- 3.14 I don't think it is a very good idea tothe bush.
 A. set fire on B. put fire on
 C. set fire to D. put fire to
- 3.15 The regulations requiredhis application before September.
 A. his submission of B. him to submit
 C. him that he should submit D. him submitting
- 3.16 When asked for his future plans, the film star said heanother film the following year.
 A. will make B. had been making
 C. would be making D. will be making
- 3.17 Look, if you pay for my drink,you one tomorrow.
 A. I buy B. I am buying
 C. I'll be buying D. I'll buy
- 3.18 During the investigations the police camea lot of new information about the waited man.
 A. across B. up C. out D. around
- 3.19 There has been a conflict.....land between the two families for many years.
 A. between B. among C. over D. of
- 3.20 The councilor said that in her view, criminal chargesagainst dangerous drivers.
 A. shall be brought B. should be brought
 C. should bring D. should brought

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