

LIRA TOWN COLLEGE

S.6 MID TERM I 2009. LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

Instructions: There are three sections in this paper. Attempt all questions in the three section given.

SECTION I

Read the passage below and answer the questions after it concisely as you can.

FORUWA

Efua Sutherland.

Shall we say
Shall we put in this way
Shall we say that the mind of Kyerefaso, Foruwa, daughter of the Queen mother, was a young deer graceful in limb? such was she, with head held high, eyes soft and wide with wonder. And she was hight of foot, light in all her moving.

Stepping springly along the water path like a deer that had strayed from the thicket, springly stepping along the water path, she was a picture to give the eye a feast. And no body passed her by but turned to look at her again.

Those of her village said that her voice in her speech was like murmur of a river quietly flowing beneath the shadows of bamboo leaves. They said her smiles would some times blossom like lily on her lips and sometimes rise like sunrise.

The butterflies do not fly away from the flowers, they draw near. Foruwa was the flower of her village.

So shall we say,
Shall we put in this way, that all the village butterflies, the men, tried to draw near her at every turn, crossed and crossed her path? Men said of her, 'she shall be my wife' and mine, and mine and mine.
But sun rose and set, moons slivered and died and as the days passed Foruwa grew more lovesome, yet and waved her hand hightly to greet them as she went swiftly about her daily work.

'Morning' Kweku
'Morning' Kwesi
'Morning' Kodow'
but that was all.

And so they said, even while their hearts thumped for her:

‘Proud!

Foruwa is proud ... and very strange”

And so the men when they gathered would say:

‘there goes a strange girl. She is not just stiff-in- the neck proud, not just breast-stuck-out –I-am-the-only- girl-in-the village proud. What kind of pride is hers?

The end of the year came round again, bringing the season of festivals. For the gathering of corn, were bride – meeting too. And so it came to the time when the Asafo companies should hold their festival. the village was full of many sounds, loud musketry and swelling choruses.

Note: This is the opening of a very well-known short story written by a Ghanaian writer and poet.

Foruwa is a princess, the daughter of the Queen-mother of Kyerefaso. All the men would like to marry her, but Foruwa is ... different.

Questions:

1. Do you think the writer likes or admires the village men? Quote from the passage to support your answer.
2. Write out and identify one metaphor and one simile not used in the previous answer. Show why these comparisons are effective.
3. Explain the following sentences:
 - (a). ‘Nobody passed her by but turned to look at her again
 - (b). ‘Men said of her” she shall be my and mine and mine and mine”
4. What impression do you think the writer wants to convey to us about Foruwa?

SECTION II

Read the passage below and respond to the questions after it.

LIGHT ON A DARK HORSE

Roy Campbell

The silver sands of the rivers, powdered quarts, served us daily as news sheets where we could read whatever had happened in the dark and where we could actually reconstruct the story of what we had heard in the night. Sand is a wonderful news

sheet. For instance, once near the Sabi river, I saw the spoor of three lions and a small hippo, with some blood. The hippo's spoor disappeared in to the water and that of two lions emerged from the water a few yards further downstream, telling of an unsuccessful attempt on their part to get the hippo before it reached its native element. In our camp by the Sabi we had heard all the splashing, the grunts and the general uproar as two of the lions had ridden their intended victim into the crocodile haunted water from which they were lucky to escape.

Up from these two streams which alternated between still acacia-shaded pools and rapids, going downwards as if in steps, steep mountain sides sheered up on each side covered with rocks and trees. Along the banks of the pools where the water-lilies and weeds were thick at the side of the rushes, ran those strange little birds, the lily trotters, with their outsize toes which keep the water-lily leaves from sinking beneath them. Sometimes one would see further down the river small groups of flamingos too beautiful to shoot, although they are great delicacy. There was also a great variety of other birds, from the handsome golden-crowned cranes and several varieties of herons and ibises down to the ubiquitous weavers which nested in the reeds or, being infallible weather prophets, in the surrounding trees, if heavy floods were due that year.

Questions:

1. In what way did the sun serve as a newspaper?
2. Explain the meaning of:
 - (i). intended victim
 - (ii). crocodile hunted
 - (iii). a great delicacy.
3. Quote the two words that give us a clear impression of sudden high mountains sides.
4. What impression does this short passage give of the writer?

SECTION III

Read the poem below very carefully and then give your answer to the questions asked after it.

THE HARLEM DANGER

Applauding youths laughed with young prostitutes
And watch her perfect, half-clothed body sway;
Her voice was like the sound of blended flutes
Blown by blank players upon a picnic day
She sang and danced on a gracefully and calm,

The light gauze hanging loose about her form;
To me she seems proudly-swaying palm,
Grown lovelier for passing through a storm.
Upon her swarthy neck black shiny curls
Luxuriant fell; and tossing coins in praise,
The wine flushed, bold, bold eyed boys, and even the girls,
Devoured her shape with eager, passionate gaze;
But looking at her falsely – smiling face,
I knew her-self was not in that strange place.

Questions:

1. In your own words, what is happening in this poem?
2. Pick out two words or expressions that convey the audience's attitude to the dancer.
3. Name the figure of speech used in the comparisons referring to the dancer's voice and figure. What does the writer achieve by these particular comparisons?

Good Luck