

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

019

23/11/2018

8.30 AM -11.30 AM



Rwanda Education Board

ADVANCED LEVEL NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS, 2018

SUBJECT: LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

COMBINATIONS:

- HISTORY-ECONOMICS-LITERATURE (HEL)
- LITERATURE-ECONOMICS-GEOGRAPHY (LEG)
- HISTORY-GEOGRAPHY-LITERATURE (HGL)
- LITERATURE -FRENCH-KINYARWANDA (LFK)
- LITERATURE -KISWAHILI-KINYARWANDA (LKK)

DURATION: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do not open this question paper until you are told to do so.
2. Write your names and index number on your answer booklet as they appear on your registration form and **DO NOT** write your names and index number on additional sheets of paper if provided.
3. This paper consists of **THREE** Sections: **A**, **B** and **C**.
 - Section A:** Prose and Poetry (40 marks)
 - Section B:** Plays (30 marks)
 - Section C:** Novels (30 marks)
4. Use only a **blue** or **black** pen.

SECTION A: Prose and Poetry. (40 Marks)

- 1) **Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.**
(25 marks)

Maureen stole a glance at Kanja. The poor man was fidgeting and sweating. She rose and opened the window. She served several glasses of fruit juice and passed them round. Kanja held the glass cautiously, his fingers shaking like an alcoholic's. "Welcome Kanja. It is great to have you visit," she said.

"Kanja has no idea how good it was for him to come. When you are suffering from AIDS, one good friend is all you need to make life less suffocating. A person is only a person through other persons," Steve observed.

"You too? Suffering from AIDS?" Kanja breathed the one question he had been afraid to ask. He sounded perplexed.

Steve smiled vaguely. But before he could speak, Maureen weighed in. The story, she seemed to suggest, was hers to tell. "I remember I had gone for a routine prenatal check when the doctor broke the news. When I was diagnosed with AIDS, I had only one prayer. In that moment when the sun seemed to set on my life, I prayed that my unborn child will be free of the virus. I prayed that somehow Steve would be free of the virus too. Oh, how intently I prayed. When my son was born and he turned out negative, my night suddenly went ablaze with a thousand stars. But there was one problem. Steve would not take the test. When he finally acquiesced, he was positive. I was devastated. My stars waned....."

Steve knew the signs all too well. The clouds were gathering and soon there would be a storm, a deluge, he knew. He did not like the way she spoke. Her earnestness sounded almost unnatural. And why must she try to sanitise him?

"I have forbidden you to blame yourself for anything!" Steve growled.

"Oh, you don't know how it feels seeing you suffer and knowing that I brought this pestilence on you. But I swear I have been a faithful woman... I was faithful to my husband. I was faithful to you, Steve...," her voice broke and she burst into tears.

"Listen Maureen," Steve spoke with a tenderness that surprised Kanja. A strange light played in his eyes. "Never cry when the sun goes down for if you do, the tears will not let you see the stars," he pleaded.

She heaved and gasped painfully, trying to get hold of her emotions. Finally, she wiped her tears and looked at her son, playing innocently on his father's lap. She had two daughters from her first marriage but this boy, the fruit of the only true love she had ever known in her thirty and five years under the sun, was the crown of her life. Still, a fear tugged at her heart leaving her belly feeling an airy hollowness. Would she live to see him grow up into a man? And if she died, would Steve care for him or would he let the boy to wander unloved, unwanted on the harsh streets of life? Maureen had no doubt that Steve would live: he had the will. She wished

she too could summon up that kind of spirit. She looked at Steve and their son again, the way a seer peers at the contents of his diviner-gourd to read the secrets of life and she smiled wearily. These were her men. She could die but these two, father and son, would always be together. Nothing could separate them. She could see that in the way the boy sat and played so snugly with his father, in the way Steve held him as if he would never let go. It was such a perfect picture. Just as if the whole world was just the two of them. Still, she wanted reassurance but when she tried to speak, the words would not form. Steve held her eyes in his in that judicious manner of his and she knew he knew what she wanted to ask. And the answer was in his eyes- a more profound answer than any words could speak. In that moment, Maureen felt strangely relaxed and her heart sang:

Ngumbuka nyume thii, Magegania meekwo thii, matari mekwo! Yes, she would fly out of this world and wonders hitherto unseen would be performed on earth.....

(Extract from When the Sun Goes Down and other stories from Africa and Beyond)

Questions

- (a) According to the passage above, why is Maureen worried? **(4 marks)**
 - (b) Why do you think it is important to get tested for HIV? **(4 marks)**
 - (c) "A person is only a person through other persons." What does this mean in the context of the story **(10 marks)**
 - (d) One of the greatest challenges to HIV and AIDS is the issue of stigma. How does this affect Maureen in the story and what can we do to eliminate stigma in our society? **(7 marks)**
- 2) **Read the Poem below and answer the questions that follow**
(15 marks)

Pedestrian, to passing Benz-man

You man, lifted gently
out of poverty and suffering
We so recently shared; I say-
why splash the muddy puddle on to
my bare legs, as if, still unsatisfied
with your seated opulence
you must sully the unwashed
with your diesel-smoke and mud-water
and force him buy, beyond his means
a bar of soap from your shop?
a few years back we shared a master
today you have none, while I have
exchanged a parasite for something worse.
But may be a few years is too long a time.

Albert Ojuka

Questions

- (a) What kind of person is being addressed in this poem? (3 marks)
(b) Explain how the person talking in this poem feels (3 marks)
(c) In your view, what changes would the speaker like to see? (4 marks)
(d) Compare the two people in the poem. (5marks)

SECTION B: PLAYS (30 Marks).

- 3) Choose ONE of the two passages below, read it carefully and then answer the questions that follow as concisely as possible.

(15 marks)

Either: (A) WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: *Julius Caesar*

BRUTUS: Our course will seem too bloody, Caius Cassius,
To cut the head off and then hack the limbs,
Like wrath in death and envy afterwards;
For Antony is but a limb of Caesar:
Let us be sacrificers, but not butcher's, Caius
We all stand up against the spirit of Caesar,
And in the spirit of men there is no blood:
O, that we then could come by Caesar's spirit,
And not dismember Caesar! But, alas,
Caesar must bleed for it! And, gentle friends,
Let's kill him boldly, but not wrathfully;
Let's carve him as a dish fit for the gods,
Not hew him as a carcass fit for hounds:
And let our hearts, as subtle masters do,
Stir up their servants to an act of rage
And after seem to chide 'em. This shall make
Our purpose necessary and not envious:
Which so appearing to the common eyes,
We shall be called purgers, not murderers.
And for Mark Antony, think not of him;
For he can do no more than Caesar's arm
When Caesar's head is off.

Questions

- (a) What does Brutus mean by 'our course'? (line 1) (2 marks)
(b) What has Cassius suggested, which Brutus is opposed to? (2 marks)
(c) Why is Brutus opposed to Cassius's suggestion? (2 marks)
(d) Were the conspirators **afterwards** called 'purgers, not murderers'? Give two references to support your opinion. (3 marks)
(e) Do you think Brutus's advice was wise? Why? (3 marks)
(f) Was Brutus's purpose envious? (3 marks)
Give reasons for your opinions.

Or: (B) ARTHUR MILLER: *The crucible*

PUTNAM: This woman must be hanged! She must be taken and hanged.

TITUBA (*terrified, falls to her knees*):

No, no, don't hang Tituba! I tell him I don't desire to work for him, sir.

PARRIS: The devil?

HALE: Then you saw him! (*Tituba weeps*) Now Tituba, I know that when we bind ourselves to Hell it is very hard to break with it. We are going to help you tear yourself free-

TITUBA (*frightened by the coming process*):

Mister Reverend, I do believe somebody else be witchin' these children.

HALE: Who?

TITUBA: I don't know, sir, but the Devil got him numerous witches.

HALE: Does he! (*It is a clue.*) Tituba, look into my eyes. Come look into me. (*She raises her eyes to his fearfully.*) You would be a good Christian woman, would you not, Tituba?

TITUBA: Aye, sir, a good Christian woman.

HALE: And you love these little children?

TITUBA: Oh, yes, sir, I don't desire to hurt little children.

HALE: And you love God, Tituba?

TITUBA: I love God with all my bein'.

HALE: Now, in God's holy name—

TITUBA: Bless Him. Bless Him. (*She is rocking on her knees, sobbing in terror.*)

HALE: And to His Glory-

TITUBA: Eternal glory. Bless Him- bless God...

HALE: Open yourself, Tituba - open yourself and let God's holy light shine on you.

HITUBA: Oh, bless the Lord.

HALE: When the devil comes to you does he ever come-with another person? (*She stares up into his face.*) Perhaps another person in the village? Someone you know.

PARRIS: Who came with him?

PUTNAM: Sarah Good? Did you ever see Sarah Good with him? Or Osburn?

PARRIS: Was it man or woman came with him?

TITUBA: Man or woman. Was-was woman.

PARRIS: What woman? A woman, you said. What woman?

TITUBA: It was black dark, and I-

PARRIS: You could see him. Why could you not see her?

TITUBA: Well, they was always talking; they was always runnin' round and carryin' on-

PARRIS: You mean out of Salem? Salem witches?

TITUBA: I believe so, yes, sir.

Questions:

- (a) What precedes the events in this scene? (3 marks)
- (b) How does this passage show that the witchcraft cry was a fraud? (4 marks)
- (c) You would be a good Christian woman...? What does this statement reveal about the portrayal of religion in the play? (5 marks)
- (d) What role according to the passage does Hale play in the arrest and execution of innocent people? (3 marks)

4) Choose ONE play and answer the question on it. (15 marks)

Either: (A) BERTOLT BRECHT: *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*

In which ways is the Caucasian Chalk Circle a reflection of your society? (15 marks)

Or: (B) HENRIK IBSEN: *An Enemy of the People*

Compare the character of Thomas Stockman with that of Peter Stockman showing who is the enemy of the People. (15 marks)

SECTION C: NOVELS (30 Marks)

- 5) Choose ONE of the two passages below; read it carefully and then answer the questions that follow as concisely as possible.**

Either: (A) PETER ABRAHAMS: *Mine Boy*

'Here,' Leah said, going into a little room, 'this is where the teacher lives but she will not come till day after tomorrow so you can sleep here. When she comes we will think of something else.' She struck a match and lit the candle. She went to the door. 'And listen to me Xuma from the north, don't think because I do this I am soft or easy and you can cheat me, because if you do, I will cut you up so that your own mother will not want you...'

Xuma laughed. 'You are a strange woman. I don't understand you. The only thing I can understand is your kindness.'

'You're all right,' she said softly. 'But the city is a strange place. Good night.'

She went out and shut the door.

Slowly Xuma undressed. He felt better now that he had eaten, but he was very tired. Yet he found it hard to sleep when he got into bed.

A strange group of people, these, he thought. Nothing tied them down. They seem to believe in nothing. But well, they had given him a bed. She had given it to him. She who was the strangest of them all. And in the other room the old one they call Daddy was sleeping against a wall with an

open mouth and with nothing to cover him. But life is strange. Yes, and these people are life.....Of course.....

Questions

- (a) What leads to this passage? (2 marks)
- (b) What aspects of Leah's character are revealed in this passage? (4 marks)
- (c) What makes Xuma conclude that the people he has just met are strange? (5 marks)
- (d) Leah says, 'This is where the teacher lives.....' What happens between Xuma and 'the teacher' later on? (4 marks)

Or: (B) JOHN STEINBECK: *The Pearl*

"Kino, this pearl is evil. Let us destroy it before it destroys us. Let us crush it between two stones. Let us-let us throw it back in the sea where it belongs. Kino, it is evil, it is evil!

And as she spoke the light came back in Kino's eyes so that they glowed fiercely and his muscles hardened and his will hardened.

No, "he said. "I will fight this thing, I will win over it. We will have our chance." His fist pounded the sleeping mat. "No one shall take our good fortune from us, "he said. His eyes softened then and he raised a gentle hand to Juana's shoulder. "Believe me," he said. "I am a man." And his face grew crafty.

"In the morning we will take our canoe and we will go over the sea and over the mountains to the capital, you and I. We will not be cheated. I am a man."

"Kino," she said huskily, I am afraid. A man can be killed. Let us throw the pearl back into the sea."

"Hush, "he said fiercely. "I am a man. Hush." And she was silent, for his voice was command. "Let us sleep a little," he said. In the first light we will start. You are not afraid to go with me?"

"No, my husband."

His eyes were soft and warm on her then, his hand touched her cheek. "Let us sleep a little, he said.

Questions

- (a) What happens just before this passage? (3 marks)
- (b) Describe Kino's character as shown in this passage. (4 marks)

(c) Why does Kino insist on keeping the pearl? Refer to the passage. (4 marks)

(d) Juana says, "this pearl is evil. Let us destroy it before it destroys us. Show the truth of Juana's statement by the end of the novel (4 marks)

6) Choose one novel and answer the question on it. (15 marks)

Either: (A) GEORGE ORWELL: *Animal Farm*

Describe how Napoleon slowly increased his power in Animal Farm.

Or:

(B) CHINUA ACHEBE: *A Man of the People*

Discuss the three (3) major themes depicted in the novel *A Man of the People*.

END...