

English I

003

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REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



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**ORDINARY LEVEL NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS 2011**

**SUBJECT : ENGLISH I**

**DURATION: 3 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

This paper consists of **FOUR** Sections **A, B, C** and **D**.

<b>SECTION A:</b> Comprehension and Vocabulary	<b>(30 marks)</b>
<b>SECTION B:</b> Grammar and Phonology	<b>(45 marks)</b>
<b>SECTION C:</b> Summary	<b>(10 marks)</b>
<b>SECTION D:</b> Composition	<b>(15 marks)</b>

Answer questions as instructed in sections A, B and C.

Choose only **ONE** topic from Section **D**.

Read the text below and then answer the questions that follow it.

## The wedding

The wedding was in December and so I could attend it. Some dates stick out. December fifth. A week before Kenya's independence. Two great ceremonies for the neighbourhood to look forward to.

I was not to be left out. I polished my pointed shoes and put on my best jeans. I put on a hat and a scarf. Always dressed to kill, that was me. My dream girl was being married to a fellow whose face I did not like, but there were other birds to kill.

I joined the crowd at their home. Tradition said that she must wait in the house with her pretty little maids until he came for her. She was in there now, surrounded by them and waiting. I heard someone say that the bridegroom and his party were an hour late. Someone else replied that the distance from Murang'a to Kangeni was not like that from the nose to the eye. We must be patient. He would come for her.

What if he didn't turn up, I thought. The neighbourhood would just laugh and then go home. And she would kill herself from shame. The goat with a broken leg.

'Are these people from Murang'a coming or not? An impatient woman cried. She was dressed in traditional goatskins, dressed for her part, which was to bargain with the bridegroom's people. For a child does not leave her home just like that. Those people from Murang'a would have to pay dearly for being late. Kangeni people were very particular about time and did not like to be kept waiting.

Peter Mboca, who was going to give away the bride, paced around and looked at his watch. He was a grey old man in a smart suit, and he was one of the richer uncles. He paced around, his lips moving. He was rehearsing the speech he would make later. How good Liz was...and how very obedient, how hard-working, how bright in school...

At last they came. They announced their coming with the aggressive blare of car-horns. Popoooooooo. Pipeeeeeee. We were not very impressed. Although we could not see over the hedge and the tall maize, we could tell from their sound that it was a small procession.

I hurried to see them arrive. A Peugeot, a Toyota, a Volkswagen.  
A woman spat into the grass. Three filthy cars. Not even decorated.  
'It must have been raining in Murang'a,' someone said.

True to custom the Peugeot with the bridegroom stayed outside the gate while the other two cars came in. The bridegroom waits in dignity while his best man gets the bride for him.

The cars stopped their blaring and out of the Toyota shot a young man. He wore a three-piece suit and had a red flower sticking out from his breast pocket. Smart but muddy, we thought. The rain must have been terrible at Murang'a. This must be the best man. Very young chap. Very smart, but very muddy. We could see that he had done his best to wipe the mud off his new shoes.

Another fellow came out of the Volkswagen, leaving others inside. A murmur of astonishment passed through the crowd. This chap was so muddy he should have stayed in the car. He was short and solid-looking.

Our women close in and asked sarcastically what these muddy people wanted. The shy best man, trying to look as confident and as brave as a best man should, said they had come for the bride.

Two muddy brave warriors, come for the bride! So!  
'Is there no water where you come from?' our women shot back. 'Is our girl going to a place where there is no water?'

The short fellow said, 'This is mud, not just soil, mother. It means Murang'a is not as dry as people say, but full of water.'  
Smart answer. Some women nodded and approved. Murang'a was full of water and water was good.

The slender best man began to explain how 'in fact...'  
'Don't speak English to us. We are not Europeans.'

He coughed and smiled. He was quite a charming young fellow but this was obviously the first time he had got mixed up in these things. He started again. Without using English words like 'in fact' and 'actually' he explained that they had got stuck in the mud and had had to pay a tractor to drag the cars out of the mess.



**SECTION A: COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY**

**(30 marks)**

**1. Choose the best answer to these questions. (10 marks)**

- i. How did the writer feel about the marriage?
  - a) He was upset because the girl he liked was getting married to someone else.
  - b) He was happy to be there.
  - c) He had mixed feelings: he was losing the girl he liked, but he was sure to find someone else.
  - d) He wasn't excited about it.
  
- ii. How was the writer dressed?
  - a) In modern, stylish clothes.
  - b) In an elegant suit.
  - c) In old clothes.
  - d) In traditional clothes.
  
- iii. How far did the bridegroom have to travel that day?
  - a) A short distance.
  - b) Quite a long way.
  - c) We don't know.
  - d) Two miles in a car.
  
- iv. Why would the women make the groom suffer when he arrived?
  - a) It was traditional.
  - b) Because they didn't like him.
  - c) Because in their culture being late was not acceptable.
  - d) Because he was dirty.
  
- v. What was the bride's uncle going to do at the wedding?
  - a) Pay for it.
  - b) Make a speech.
  - c) Give the bride away and make a speech.
  - d) Take pictures.
  
- vi. How did the bride's family know that the groom's party was a small one?
  - a) Because of the sound made by cars.
  - b) Because they couldn't see them over the hedge.
  - c) Because they already knew they were small.
  - d) Because they knew how many people were coming.
  
- vii. Why did the bridegroom wait in the car?
  - a) It was traditional for the best man to go and get the bride.
  - b) He was feeling upset because of what had happened on the journey.
  - c) He was afraid of the women.
  - d) He was tired.

- viii. How did the women feel about the fact that the best man and his friend were covered in mud?
- a) They were very angry.
  - b) It made a bad impression.
  - c) They thought it was funny.
  - d) They didn't care.
- ix. What language did the best man speak when he started to explain why they were covered in mud?
- a) Their mother tongue.
  - b) English.
  - c) Their mother tongue with some English words.
  - d) Kikuyu
- x. According to you the style of the passage is...
- a) serious                      b) humorous                      c) sad                      d) critical

**2. Answer these questions in your own words. (10 marks)**

1. What date and year was the wedding?  
.....
2. How do you think the bride felt as she was waiting for the groom to arrive?  
.....
3. Why did the women ask if there was no water in Murang'a?  
.....
4. Do you think the two women were fair to the two men?  
.....
5. Were the women happy with what the two men said?  
.....

**3. In the following paragraph replace the underlined phrases with expressions taken from the text. (5 marks)**

The boy was dressed in a way that draws attention (a) and was looking forward to meeting his ideal girl (b). He was sure that in case his friend was not present he wasn't going to feel rejected (c) since there would be other girls to attract (d). He did not need to take a taxi since the distance to the place was very short (e).

near

**4. Choose the correct word in the box below to complete each sentence. (5 marks)**

Ramps, trowel, sterilization, intrigue, paces, strategies

- i. Male or female.....is a form of contraception used by many couples.
- ii. I love reading this book! It is filled with secrets, lies and.....
- iii. There are several useful..... you should use when planning and writing essays.
- iv. The builder used a..... to smooth the cement over the wall.
- v. She always..... around the room when she is worried.

**SECTION B: GRAMMAR AND PHONOLOGY**

**(45 marks)**

**GRAMMAR (35 marks)**

**5. Choose the best answer to complete the sentence. (15 marks)**

- i. How tall is Yvonne?  
"She is.....as I am."  
a) so tall      b) the same height      c) same height      d) tall
- ii. "Why are you buying all that food?"  
"Because a lot of people.....over for dinner."  
a) coming      b) are coming      c) comes      d) is coming
- iii. The children's bedroom .....upstairs on the second floor.  
a) is      b) are      c) there is      d) it is
- iv. "Do you like the colour of the new carpet?"  
"Yes, it is definitely nicer.....the others we looked at."  
a) then      b) as      c) than      d) that
- v. "You and Peter seem to be getting along well."  
"Yes, I ..... him better than before."  
a) liking      b) am liking      c) like      d) liked
- vi. "I can't see the stage very well from here."  
"....."  
a) Neither can I      b) neither can't I      c) neither I can      d) I can't  
neither

- vii. "Where were you yesterday?"  
 "It was .....hot day that I went to the beach."  
 a) such                                      b) so                                      c) such a      d) a very
- viii. "John and Jack both get good grades."  
 "Nonetheless, John is.....of the two."  
 a) more talented                      b) the most talented                      c) most talented  
 d) the more talented
- ix. "Can I help you?"  
 "Yes, do you know when.....?"  
 a) comes the bus                      b) does the bus come                      c) the bus comes  
 d) will come the bus
- x. "How are you feeling?"  
 "I've been feeling better since the doctor....."  
 a) has come                      b) come                                      c) comes                                      d) came
- xi. "Who ate the kids' food?"  
 "The cat....."  
 a) did                                      b) has                                      c) does                                      d) ate
- xii. Here is a map. Show me .....  
 a) where you were being    b) where you were    c) where were you  
 d) where you been
- xiii. Since I..... to him last week, I haven't seen him.  
 a) am speaking                      b) had been speaking                      c) had spoken  
 d) spoke
- xiv. He was looking very ill yesterday. I was glad he seemed ..... today.  
 a) more well                                      b) very better                                      c) much better  
 d) much well
- xv. Not only....., but he also plays the guitar and writes his own songs.  
 a) does Paul sing                      b) Paul sings                                      c) if Paul sings  
 d) Paul singing

**6. Use the correct tense of the verb in brackets. (10 marks)**

i) The trees in the garden are very small. I (feel) happier if they (be) taller. **(2 marks)**

.....

ii) The committee recommended that the company (invest) in new property. **(1 mark)**

.....



- iii) When he (place) his ear against the stick, he heard a strange noise. (1 mark)  
 .....
- iv) The valley would now be a desert if nothing (be) done. (1 mark)  
 .....
- v) Peter is not used to (fly) air planes. (1 mark)  
 .....
- vi) That part of the world was unknown in 1750 because no one (explore) it before then. (1 mark)  
 .....
- vii) After the man (be) brought in an ambulance, the doctor (operate) on him. (2 marks)  
 .....
- viii) He said that if he had had any money he....(buy) me a drink. (1 mark)  
 .....

**7. Correct the following sentences. (10 marks)**

- i) On the way home I met a dog being dead.  
 .....
- ii) Many people going to town this afternoon.  
 .....
- iii) They were sing beautiful songs.  
 .....
- iv) Why did they cried?  
 .....
- v) She do go to school everyday!  
 .....
- vi) How Mary did travel to Kigali?  
 .....
- vii) My uncle's cattle is very healthy.  
 .....
- viii) The news I heard this morning are very bad.  
 .....
- ix) Our teacher is absent today; he was sick since last Sunday.  
 .....
- x) Mobutu has been president of the Congo from 1961 to 1998.  
 .....



**PHONOLOGY (10 marks)**

8. One of the following words is stressed differently from the three others. Indicate it by writing the letter a, b, c or d corresponding to it.

(7 marks)

- i) a) economy    b) identity    c) employment    d) incident
- ii) a) consider    b) positive    c) continue    d) encourage
- iii) a) necessary    b) knowledge    c) police    d) benefit
- iv) a) difference    b) imagine    c) convention    d) performance
- v) a) literacy    b) purpose    c) engine    d) machine
- vi) a) produce (noun)    b) record (noun)    c) present (noun)    d) report (noun)
- vii) a) profit (verb)    b) promise (verb)    c) import (noun)    d) control (verb)

9. One of the four underlined sounds is pronounced differently from the three others. Write the letter corresponding to it. (3 marks)

- i) a) cough    b) thorough    c) enough    d) rough
- ii) a) says    b) days    c) pays    d) ways
- iii) a) lose    b) nose    c) toes    d) hoes

**SECTION C: SUMMARY**

**(10 marks)**

10. Read the following passage very carefully, and then in no more than 50 words summarize what the author says about the feeding and drinking habits of elephants.

**Malaria**

Many of you know what a terrible disease malaria is. Some of you have had it or have seen people in your family with it. It has a huge impact on the world's health. It affects as many as 200-300 million people every year. About a million of those people die. It affects people of all ages but most victims by far are babies and young children. Malaria is found in 90 countries in the hot regions of the world. However, 90 per cent of cases are found in Africa, where it is a major cause of death.

There are ways of preventing and treating the disease using drugs. Many of these are made from quinine, which comes from the cinchona tree, which is found in South America. However, in many areas the disease has developed resistance to these drugs which means that they do not work.

Scientists have been trying to develop a vaccine which can be given to people living in areas affected by malaria. So far, none have yet been developed that work on humans, although there are some that work on animals.

At the moment, the best way of preventing the disease is to control the Anopheles mosquito. The population of mosquitoes in an area where humans live can be reduced if the places where they can breed are removed. Mosquitoes breed in still water, so the local community can help by covering open ditches, and repairing holes in the road where rain water collects. But ordinary people can do a lot, too. Around your own house you can clean your yard when it has rained to make sure there are no puddles or containers full of water.

The Anopheles mosquito is most active between sunrise and sunset so you must take special care at night. In the evenings make sure your arms and legs are covered with long sleeves and long trousers. Doors and windows can be covered with nets. Members of the family can sleep under nets. These are particularly effective when they are soaked in insect repellent. For extra help bedrooms can be sprayed with mosquito killer before bedtime or a mosquito coil can be burnt next to the bed.

By taking these precautions we can prevent mosquitoes from breeding near our homes and prevent them from biting us while we sleep. This is the best way of reducing the risk of malaria.

**SECTION D: COMPOSITION**

**(15 marks)**

**11. Attempt only one of the following and write a composition of no more than 200 words.**

1. The road in your area has seriously deteriorated, and there have been several accidents. Write an article to be published in a newspaper inviting authorities to deal with the issue.
2. A friend of yours who lives in England wants to come to visit Rwanda. Describe to him/her your country, its beauty and places he/she should visit while in Rwanda.

