

SEC – English A

T042

Monday, 03/11/2014

1:30 - 4:30 PM

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



P.O. BOX 2707 Kigali, Rwanda Tel: (+250) 255113365

**ADVANCED LEVEL NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS, 2014
TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL TRADES**

EXAM TITLE: English A

OPTION: Secretarial (SEC)

DURATION: 3hours

INSTRUCTIONS:

This paper consists of **three (3)** Sections:

Section A: Comprehension and Vocabulary **30marks**

Section B: Grammar and Phonology **40marks**

Section C: Literature and Summary **30marks**

Candidates must answer all the questions according to instructions given in each section.

TEXT: PROPAGATION

A signal from a transmitter may be propagated in three ways: by ground waves, by space waves and sky waves. Ground waves travel round the surface of the earth for short distances. As they travel, they lose energy. This loss of power, or attenuation, depends on the nature of the surface. Attenuation also varies with the frequency of the signal: the higher the frequency, the greater the ground wave attenuation. At frequencies above 20 MHz the range is reduced to line of sight.

Propagation by space waves applies mainly to very high frequencies. Part of the transmitted signal travels in a direct line from transmitting antenna to receiving antenna. Partly the signal is reflected from the ground. The higher the frequency, the greater the possible ground wave reflection. The range of space wave propagation is restricted to approximately twice the direct optical path.

The range covered by ground waves and space waves is limited. Greater distances can be achieved using sky waves. Sky wave propagation depends on the ionosphere.

A signal transmitted from point A would not be received at B because of the curvature of the earth if it were not for the ionosphere. This consists of a number of layers of ionized gas in the upper atmosphere. If a transmission is directed towards these layers, it will be reflected back to earth. The wave may then be reflected back from the earth to the ionosphere. Indeed it may be carried right round the earth by successive reflections although it will lose power both in the earth and in the ionosphere at each bounce. A receiver at point C, which is outside ground wave range yet closer than B, will not receive the transmission.

The bending effect of the ionosphere depends on the frequency of the signal and the angle of radiation. The higher the frequency, the less the bending. At a certain frequency, signals will pass straight through the layers and lost in space. The smaller the angle of radiation, the greater the distance which can be covered in one reflection.

At any time there is a maximum usable frequency for transmissions from a given site over a particular path. This frequency depends on the state of the ionosphere which varies according to many factors including the time of day and the season of the year. The lower the frequency of a transmission, the greater the number of reflections needed to cover the required distance and hence the weaker the signal will be. For this reason, it is best to use a frequency as high as possible without exceeding the maximum usable frequency as this will cover the required distance with the smallest number of reflections and hence the least attenuation.

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY **30marks**

A. Comprehension:

Read the above passage and answer the questions below.

- 01.** List three types of propagation. **3marks**
- 02.** How do ground waves travel? **1mark**
- 03.** What is attenuation? **2marks**
- 04.** Name two factors which affect the attenuation of ground waves. **2marks**
- 05.** What frequencies are propagated by space waves? **2marks**
- 06.** Name two ways in which space waves travel. **2marks**
- 07.** What range has space waves? **2marks**
- 08.** What controls sky wave propagation? **2marks**
- 09.** How do sky waves cover great distances? **2marks**
- 10.** What is the maximum usable frequency? **2marks**

B. Vocabulary

11. Complete the following passage with these words:

(Sailing; continents; adventure; discovering; sea; navigation; overland; parts; places; across).

10marks

(1)new lands have always been the fascination of men. Voyages (2) land and seas made it easy to reach other (3). People like Marco Polo travelled (4) while others like Christopher Columbus preferred to go by (5). Long distance (6) ships were built and new (7) instruments were installed on them. Men with the spirit of (8) such as Marco Polo were able to sail to (9) unknown before. That is how America and other (10) of the world were discovered.

SECTION B: GRAMMAR AND PHONOLOGY **40marks**

A. Grammar

12. Complete each of the following sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

10marks

- a) Could anyone.....(come in) from outside without being heard or seen?
- b) By this time next year, she..... (teach) for five years.
- c) You..... (get) wet if you had gone out in the rain.
- d) I don't think we should wait any longer. They..... (forget) that we are expecting them here.
- e) If only you..... (not tell) Jackie what I said, everything would have been all right.

13. Join the following sentences together.

5marks

- a. Gilbert works very hard. You met him last Friday.....
- b. Ibrahim is going to be a goal keeper of the Police team. His father won a gold ball in the 1989.....
- c. Karisimbi is located in the northern part of the country. It is one of the most important volcanos in Rwanda

14. Rewrite the following sentences using the word given in brackets.

Do not change the meaning.

5marks

- a) She was poor but she was honest. (*though*)
- b) He could not find the word in the dictionary so he asked the teacher. (*since*)
- c) Last year the rains failed and crops did not grow. (*because*)
- d) Defeat is inevitable if you play him at chess. (*bound*)
- e) It's a pity she died so young. (*wish*)

15. Fill in the following sentences with the right prepositions.

5marks

- a) A few friends came last night, which was a pleasant surprise.
- b) There is no need.....further discussion. Let's conclude.
- c) Come on- hurry! You should have finished ages ago!
- d) She wasn't given enough anesthetic and came.....during the operation, which was very frightening.
- e) This is differentyour previous explanation.

16. Correct the following sentences.

5marks

- a) Many people going to town this afternoon.
- b) They were sing many songs.
- c) Why did they cried?
- d) She do go to school everyday!
- e) How Mary did travel to Kigali?

B. PHONOLOGY

17. From each group, choose two words that have similar pronunciation but different meaning. 4marks

- a. Herd, heard, heart, hate
- b. Mist, must, muscle, mussel
- c. vain, vale, van, vail
- d. meat, beat, meet, bit

18. Which of the following underlined sounds is pronounced differently from the three others? 6marks

- 1) a) ocean b) city c) nice d) circle
- 2) a) guita b) build c) guilt d) guide
- 3) a) buyer b) higher c) gear d) tire

SECTION C : LITERATURE AND SUMMARY

30 marks

A. LITERATURE: NOVELS

None can deny that Chief the Honourable M.A. Nanga, M.P., was the most approachable politician in the country. Whether you asked in the city or in his home village, Anata, they would tell you he was a man of the people. I have to admit this from the outset or else the story I am going to tell you will make no sense.

That afternoon he was due to address the staff and students of the Anata Grammar School where I was teaching at the time. But as usual in those highly political times the villagers moved in and virtually took over. The assembly Hall must have carried well over thrice its capacity. Many villagers sat on the floor, right up to the foot of the dais. I took one look and decided it was just as well we had to stay outside-at least for the moment.

Five or six dancing groups were performing at different points in the compound. The popular 'Ego Women's party' wore a new uniform of expensive Accra cloth. In spite of the din you could still hear as clear as a bird the high-powered voice of their soloist, whom they admiringly nicknamed "Grammar-phone". Personally I don't care too much for our women's dancing but you just had to listen whenever Grammar-phone sang. She was now praising Micah's handsomeness, which she likened to the perfect, sculpted beauty of a curved eagle, and his popularity which would be the envy of the proverbial traveller-to-distant- places who must not cultivate enmity on his route. Micah was of course Chief the Honourable M. A. Nanga, M.P.

The arrival of the members of the hunters' guild in full regalia caused a great stir. Even Grammar-phone stopped-at least for a while. These people never came out except at the funeral of one of their members, or during some very special and outstanding event. I couldn't recall when I last saw them. They wielded their loaded guns as though they were playthings. Now and again two of them would meet in warriors' salute and knock the barrel of their guns together from left to right and again from right to left. Mothers grabbed their children and hurriedly dragged them away. Occasionally a hunter would take aim at a distant palm branch and break its mid-rib. The crowd applauded. But there were very few such shots. Most of the hunters reserved their precious powder to greet the Minister's arrival- the price of gunpowder like everything else having doubled again and again in the four years since.

19. Read the passage very carefully and answer the questions below:

- a) When people of Anata called Chief the Honourable M.A. Nanga, M.P "a man of the people" what would they want to mean? **4marks**
- b) Which event was expected to take place in this passage? **4marks**
- c) Why could everybody listen to "Grammar-phone" whenever she sang? **4marks**
- d) Who was Micah in the passage? **2marks**
- e) The crowd applauded. Why did they do so? **4marks**
- f) Why did hunters reserve their precious powder? **2marks**

B. SUMMARY

20. Read the following passage and summarize it in not more than 40 words.

8marks

One day, a young student caught a bus from the centre of Nairobi to Mathare. It was the height of the rush hour, and the bus was as tightly packed as a sardine can. As the bus approached the Pangani roundabout, a middle-aged man standing in the bus suddenly collapsed.

The passengers started to shout immediately. Hearing this, the driver pulled to the side. As soon as the bus stopped, most of the passengers jumped off and ran away. Only five stayed on the bus.

"Don't touch him!" said one. "He may be suffering from a contagious disease!"

In that case we may be stuck here for hours!" said another, and left.

"Or we may be placed in quarantine in hospital for days!" said a third passenger, also getting off.

The student ignored them. Calmly he knelt down beside the man, and put his ear against he man's chest.

"He's breathing!" he announced, "Are all the windows open? He needs fresh air."

The student loosened the man's collar and tie, and slowly he began to revive.

It was very lucky for the man that one person at least knew about first aid.

21. Propose the title of the above story.

2marks