

ENGLISH 1

005

05 Nov. 2009 14h00 - 17h00

RWANDA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL



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ORDINARY LEVEL NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS 2009

SUBJECT : ENGLISH I

DURATION : 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

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

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| SECTION A: Comprehension and Vocabulary | (30 marks) |
| SECTION B: Grammar and Phonology | (45 marks) |
| SECTION C: Summary | (10 marks) |
| SECTION D: Composition | (15 marks) |

Candidates must answer all the questions as instructed in sections A,B and C.

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

READ THE PASSAGE BELOW AND THEN ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW.

TRADITIONAL AFRICAN VALUES

The traditional community was an accepting and inclusive community. It did not take account of failure in an absolute sense. The slow, the less able, and the incapable were accepted as any other member in community life, provided that they were socially well-behaved. Social qualities weighed much heavier in the balance than individual achievement. In the best tribal society, people were valued not for what they could achieve but because they were there. Their contribution, however limited to the material welfare of the village was acceptable, but it was their presence not their achievement which was appreciated,

Take, for instance, the traditional African attitude to old people. Here it should be pointed out how horrified an African is, in most cases, on the first occasion of his acquaintance with the Western phenomenon of old people's homes. In traditional societies, old people are respected and it is regarded as a privilege to look after them. Their counsel is sought on many matters and however infirm they might be, they have a valued and constructive role to play in teaching and instructing their grandchildren. Indeed, to deny a grandparent the joy of the company of his grandchildren is a terrible sin. The fact that old people can no longer work or even have developed the handicaps of old age, in no way affects our regard for them. We cannot do enough to repay them for all they have done for us.

The experts have all kinds of standards by which they judge the degree of civilization of a people. In the African traditional society the test is this: How does that society treat its old people and, indeed, all its members who are not useful and productive in the narrowest sense? Judged by this standard, the so-called advanced societies have a lot to learn that the so-called backward societies could teach them.

The traditional society was an inclusive society. In other words, the web of relationships which involved some degree of mutual responsibility was widely spread. One could describe industrial society as an exclusive society because its members' responsibilities are often confined to the immediate family, and it may be noted that the family circle may be a self-entire little universe, preventing the acceptance of wider commitments.

Here is an example of inclusiveness of the traditional society. An African does not restrict the title 'father' to his male parent. He also addresses his father's brothers as 'father'. And he calls his mother's sisters 'mother'

also. Only his father's sisters would be addressed as 'aunt' and his mother's brothers as 'uncle'. 'Brothers' would include not only the male children of his father but also certain cousins and even members of the same clan who have no blood relationship in the Western sense. Now, to the Eastern mind, this confusing state of affairs is not merely a matter of terminology. These are not just courtesy titles. With the title of 'father', for example, goes all the responsibilities of parenthood and in return all the 'fathers' receive parental devotion. Hence, no child in a traditional society is likely to be orphaned. Should his literal parents die then others automatically assume the responsibility for his upbringing. By the same token, no old person is likely to end his days outside a family circle. If his own offspring cannot care for him then other 'children' will accept the duty and privilege.

The extended family provides for richness in knowledge and experience for those fortunate enough to be part of it. Granted, the characteristics of small-scale societies have been described and it could be argued that such a scheme would not work where hundreds of thousands of people are gathered together in cities and towns. But the attitudes to human beings as described above are not solely a function of social organization. They are now part of the African psychology.

From Kenneth Kaunda: *Humanism in Zambia*

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY (30 marks)

Comprehension (20 marks)

1. Choose the best answer to each of the questions. (8 marks)

- i. In paragraph 1, this 'accepting and inclusive' community regarded its less able members as:
 - a) equally valuable however they behaved
 - b) failures even if they fitted into society well
 - c) inferior because their contributions were limited
 - d) equals as long as they obeyed the rules of society.

- ii. The writer suggests in paragraph 1 that the members of a tribe:
 - a) believe that all members should make equal contributions to material welfare.
 - b) believed that all members were equal, and ought to be equally valued in every way.
 - c) did not have enough respect for individual achievement and undervalued success.
 - d) respected good members equally without regard to the size of their contributions.

- iii. In paragraph 2, the writer states that an African is horrified by the idea of old people's homes because Africans:
- a) think they are a Western idea
 - b) respect the old as valuable members of the community
 - c) find old people useful for educating their grandchildren
 - d) believe that people were wiser in the past than they are now.
- iv. It is clear that the writer believes that old people lead happier lives in:
- a) Western societies, where they are less infirm and do not develop the handicaps of age.
 - b) European societies, because they have no responsibilities and are provided with homes.
 - c) African societies, where their wisdom is respected and they play a useful part in family life.
 - d) African societies, provided they are well enough educated to teach and instruct their grandchildren.
- v. According to the writer, the degree of civilization of a society is best judged by:
- a) how useful and productive most of its members are.
 - b) experts who have all kinds of standards to judge by.
 - c) how many of its members are useful and productive.
 - d) how well it treats the young, the old and the handicapped.
- vi. The writer refers to so-called backward societies and so-called advanced ones because he:
- a) agrees with what the experts call them.
 - b) agrees that they are the right labels for them.
 - c) thinks that they are the wrong labels for them.
 - d) thinks that no societies should be labeled in this way.
- vii. No child in a traditional family is likely to be orphaned because:
- a) there were no orphans.
 - b) old persons lived alone.
 - c) a child calls their father's brothers 'uncle' and their mother's sisters 'aunt'.

- d) the title 'father' and 'mother' are not only used for the child's biological parents.
- viii. We may deduce from this text that the extended family social security scheme may be particularly appropriate:
 - a) in rural societies with rich governments.
 - b) in rural societies with poor governments.
 - c) in urban societies with rich governments.
 - d) in urban societies with poor governments.

2. Answer the following questions in your own words (12 marks)

- i. Why is it that in traditional African society a child who has lost a father doesn't feel orphaned?

 (1 mark)
- ii. Give three examples that show that the traditional community was an accepting and inclusive community.

 (3 marks)
- iii. What standards are used by Africans to judge the degree of civilization of the society?

 (2 marks)
- iv. Why is the industrial society said to be an exclusive society?

 (2 marks)
- v. What does the phrase 'literal parents' mean?

 (2 marks)
- vi. What does the author refer to in the phrase 'the so-called advanced societies'?

 (2 marks)

Vocabulary (10 marks)

Use from the list below an appropriate word or phrase to complete **the** following paragraph:

Meet, clubs, similar, ~~deal~~, ~~shy~~, imagine, a few, devoted, among, ~~least~~.

Britain is a land of **(i)**and societies and a large number of people belong to at **(ii)**.... one society. These organizations hold regular meetings, which take up a good **(iii)**.... of time; they make it very simple to **(iv)**others with **(v)**interests. The British, being rather **(vi)**, feel more at ease when they are **(vii)**....people with whom they have something in common. There are so many different societies that it is difficult to **(viii)**..... a person who could not find a single one to interest him. There are societies **(ix)**.... to music, art, discussion, photography, amateur drama, bridge, chess and bowling to name only **(x)**.....

SECTION B: GRAMMAR AND PHONOLOGY (45 marks)

Grammar (35 marks)

1. Select the best choice to complete each of the sentences.

(20 marks)

- i. Last week I read the novel you recommended.
a) who b) that c) whom d) whose
- ii. With over 1.4 billion people, China has population of any country in the world.
a) a far larger b) by far the largest
c) the largest by far d) far the larger
- iii. Nowadays, the journey to Kampala takes about five hours ... when I was a child it took us two days.
a) although b) nonetheless c) in spite of the fact
d) whereas
- iv. I a pineapple but I can't eat it now.
a) am used to like b) didn't used to like c) would like
d) used to like
- v. The ticket inspector requested our tickets.
a) us that we should produce b) to produce
c) that we produce d) us to produce

- vi. The police prohibitedthe building.
 a) the public from entering b) the public not to enter
 c) that the public enter d) entering
- vii. Juma asked me yesterday if I the night before.
 a) went out b) have gone out c) had gone out d) go out
- viii. Our houseten years ago.
 a) was built b) built c) would be built d) had been built
- ix. The boy deniedmoney from my bag.
 a) to have stolen b) stealing c) to steal d) steal
- x. The boys can't carry those heavy boxes,?
 a) can't they b) do they c) can they d) should they
- xi. When asked for his future plans, the film star said he
 Another film the following year.
 a) will make b) had been making
 c) will be making d) would be making
- xii. Florence said she had bought a scarf as a present for her
 mother.
 a) beautiful brand new silk b) silk beautiful brand new
 c) brand new beautiful silk d) brand new silk beautiful
- xiii. George knew he had to face up to hisresponsibilities.
 a) new moral heavy b) heavy moral new
 c) moral heavy new d) heavy new moral
- xiv.of my brothers lives at home any more.
 a) both b) either c) some d) neither
- xv. The speakerfor nearly an hour and I fell asleep for the
 last ten minutes.
 a) has spoken b) spoke c) has been speaking
 d) is speaking
- xvi. If I were you Ithose mangoes; they don't look ripe.
 a) didn't buy b) won't buy c) wouldn't buy
 d) don't buy
- xvii. How many people turnedat the meeting?
 a) out b) in c) up d) on

- xviii. It getscold here that we often need at least two blankets.
 a) so b) very c) too d) extremely
- xix. Amina said this morning that sheus tomorrow in front of the post office.
 a) will meet b) met c) will have met d) meets
- xx. you at Martha's wedding, so you can tell me all your news then.
 a) I am seeing b) I will have seen c) I see d) I'll be seeing

2. Select the best of the four choices given at the bottom of the text to fill in the gaps in the following passage. (5 marks)

John's brother, **(i)**on Sunday, is a very talented but disagreeable man. He is **(ii)**man that he can lift two bags of cement with ease. He is also a very good singer and doesn't mind **(iii)**in front of an audience. Unfortunately, he is one of those people who **(iv)**the world.

John, unlike his brother, is kind, considerate and modest. Last week, he went into a restaurant and **(v)**a good meal, and **(vi)**had he started his meal than he saw some children carelessly stepping in front of a speeding lorry. He jumped up and tried to rescue them but the driver failed to **(vii)**the brakes in time. John managed to save the children but unfortunately, he got **(viii)**by the lorry. He is now in hospital but, despite injuries, he is cheerful and never **(ix)**despair.

The doctors are certain that he will **(x)**his injuries soon.

- (i) a) you probably meet b) you will meet c) whom you will meet
 d) who you will meet
- ii) a) such a strong b) a very strong c) so strong
 d) strong enough
- iii) a) to be singing b) to sing c) singing d) himself
 singing
- iv) a) think they own b) are thought they own
 c) thinks they own d) thinks he owns
- v) a) ordered for b) placed orders for c) ordered himself
 d) put in an order for
- vi) a) as soon as b) almost c) sooner d) no sooner

- vii) a) jam b) apply c) run over d) run in
- viii) a) run off b) run up c) run over d) run in
- ix) a) gives up b) gives in to c) gives up to d) puts up with
- x) a) recover from b) revive from c) recover in d) revive with

3. Rewrite these sentences according to the instructions without changing the meaning. (1 mark each)

i. Nobody doubted that the doctor was very good.
(Rewrite using.....convinced....)

.....
.....
.....

ii. It's a pity there is no secondary school in my village.
(Rewrite using: I wish.....)

.....
.....
.....

iii. Many people use computers for typing letters.
(Rewrite in the passive)

.....
.....
.....

iv. He said she was behaving disgracefully towards her parents.
(Rewrite beginning with: He complained of her.....)

.....
.....

v. She tried harder and harder, but achieved less and less.
(Begin with: The harder.....)

.....
.....

vi. The beautiful girl was too proud to talk to anyone.
(Rewrite usingso...)

.....
.....

vii. We don't have enough time to prepare for the exam.
(Rewrite starting with: If only.....)

.....
.....

viii. I was foolish to expect him to repay the loan.
(Rewrite beginning with: What a fool.....)

.....
.....

.....
.....
ix. We shall put on the play even if no one wants to come and see it.

(Rewrite using.....whether.....)

.....
x. We need to come tomorrow.

(Rewrite using....no need.....)

.....
Phonology: 10 marks

1. One of the underlined sounds is pronounced differently from the three others. Write the letter corresponding to it.

(1 mark each)

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| i. a) <u>love</u> | b) <u>dove</u> | c) <u>glove</u> | d) <u>move</u> |
| ii. a) <u>leaf</u> | b) <u>deaf</u> | c) <u>beef</u> | d) <u>overleaf</u> |
| iii. a) <u>here</u> | b) <u>there</u> | c) <u>wear</u> | d) <u>fare</u> |
| iv. a) <u>days</u> | b) <u>pays</u> | c) <u>says</u> | d) <u>plays</u> |
| v. a) <u>mood</u> | b) <u>food</u> | c) <u>blood</u> | d) <u>rude</u> |
| vi. a) <u>cough</u> | b) <u>enough</u> | c) <u>tough</u> | d) <u>though</u> |

2. 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..

(1 mark each)

- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| i. a) deputy | b) permanent | c) district | d) community |
| ii. a) mention | b) selection | c) admission | d) addition |
| iii. a) management | b) interesting | c) applicable | d) efficient |
| iv. a) encourage | b) educate | c) understand | d) sensitize |

SECTION C: Summary (10 marks)

Write a summary of the advantages of traditional society mentioned in the reading text from pages two to three. Write a maximum of 100 words.

SECTION D: COMPOSITION (15 marks)

Choose one of the following topics and write a composition of about 200 words on it.

- i) 'Life in the countryside is better than in the city'. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?
- ii) Write a composition about a person you know: it might be someone at home or in your school or neighbourhood
- iii) Imagine that you have completed 'O' level and are unable to continue your education. You win Frw 1,000,000 in a lottery. Describe how you would use it to set up a business of your own.