

RWANDA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL



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NATIONAL EXAMINATION 2002/2003

SUBJECT : ENGLISH I

**OPTIONS : - LITTERAIRE
- LITTERAIRE-LATIN**

DURATION : 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS :

Candidates must answer **ALL** questions according to instructions given in each Section.

This paper has **FOUR** Sections :

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|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| A : Comprehension and Vocabulary. | /20 Marks |
| B : Grammar and Phonology. | /20 Marks |
| C : Novels and Plays. | /30 Marks |
| D : Poetry and Summary. | /30 Marks |

SECTION A: COMPREHENSION AND VOCABULARY

PART ONE:

COMPREHENSION

/10 Marks

Read the following passage carefully and then answer the questions that follow.

THE PASSAGE

The French philosopher Jean Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778) was quite wrong when he declared, 'Man is born free...' Man is not born free. At birth he is firmly tied to his mother through the umbilical cord. He is physically cut free from her. 'But this cutting
5 free is not merely a biological act. It is symbolic and most significant. Henceforth, he is an individual, who through *up-bringing* is prepared to play his full role as a member of society.

Rousseau was most correct when he added, 'But everywhere he is in chains'. Man is not born free. He cannot be free. He is
10 incapable of being free. For only by being in *chains* can he be and remain 'human'. What constitutes these chains? Man has a bundle of *duties* which are expected from him by society, as well as a bundle of *rights* and *privileges* that the society owes him. In African belief, even death does not free him. If he had been an
15 important member of society while he lived, his ghost continues to be revered and fed; and he, in turn, is expected to guide and protect the living. This is the essence of what is wrongly called 'ancestor worship'. Should he die a shameful death, his haunting ghost has to be laid. In some cases his ghost has to be 'killed'. 'Till
20 death do us part,' the Christian vow made between man and woman at the wedding ritual sounds hollow, in that at the death of the man, the woman does not walk out of the 'home', she is *inherited* by one of the brothers of the dead man. Should the woman die, her death does not extinguish the bonds between the
25 man and his in-laws...

Man cannot, and must not be free. 'Son', 'mother', 'daughter', 'father', 'uncle', 'husband', 'grandfather', 'wife', 'clansman', 'mother-in-law', 'chief', 'medicine-man', and many other such terms, are the stamps of man's unfreedom. It is by such complex
30 terms that a person is defined and identified. They order and determine human behaviour in society. The central question, 'Who am I?' cannot be answered in any meaningful way, unless the relationship in question is known. Because 'I' is not only one relationship, but numerous relationships: 'I' has a clan, and a
35 shrine, a country, a job; 'I' may or may not be married, may or may not have children.

Is T' a chief? Then he has subjects or followers, etc.

Permanent bondage seems to be man's fate. Because he cannot escape he cannot be liberated, freed. This so-called 'outcast' is not
40 a free agent. Being 'cast out' from society, for a while, does not sever the chains that bind a man to society. The act is a judgement, punishment and a lesson, not only for the victim, but for all members of the society. But the outcast, the refugee, the exile soon joins another society and becomes in a defined way, a
45 member of that group.

The African tradition, lived and lives in the thick of battle of life, here and now. The African is totally this-worldly and not at all other-worldly. His religion, for which he has no term, is the full participation of all sectors of the community: Man, Nature
50 and Spirits in the life-process. In the rituals at birth and death, at marriage, at the commencement and at the end of battle, at the beginning of the rains, at harvest and during the hunt, etc... the philosophy of life of the people are sung and danced. The world-view is celebrated and confirmed.

(From Artist The Ruler by Okot p'Bitek)

QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following would be the most suitable title for this passage? (2marks)
 - (a) Man's shameful death after birth.
 - (b) The bond between man and Christianity.
 - (c) The permanent chains of man in society.
 - (d) Man and his punishment by society.

2. State clearly why the author does not agree with Jean-Jacques Rousseau. (2marks)

3. By saying that the "outcast is not a free agent", the author means that:- (2marks)
 - (a) Man cannot consider himself free even when he is punished.
 - (b) Man can do whatever he wants when he has been declared an "outcast."
 - (c) The "outcast" is no longer a member of his society.
 - (d) Man breaks his social chains the moment he is punished.

4. Briefly explain why man is "incapable of being free". (2marks)

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

5. According to the author, even the chief is not "free" because:-
(2marks)

- (a) He has no ancestors superior to him.
- (b) He is not superior to his subjects.
- (c) He has obligations to his ancestors.
- (d) He is linked to subjects or followers.

**Total: 10marks.
/10 Marks**

PART TWO: VOCABULARY

From the four suggested answers, choose only **ONE** which gives the meaning of the words which have been underline here for you.
(2marks each)

6. Ancestor Worship:

- (a) An African religious practice which links the dead with those living.
- (b) A very useless African feeding habit practiced by both the dead and the living.
- (c) An essential Christian vow that kills the ghost of the living Africans.
- (d) A privilege the Africans give to protect their dead ancestors.

7. Constitutes:

- (a) Makes a national constitution for the living and the dead
- (b) That which forms the bonds between the people, whether dead or not.
- (c) A man who makes metallic chains.
- (d) Makes up invisible and imaginary chains.

8. Sever

- (a) Part of a Computer that saves.
- (b) Name of a person in a particular society.
- (c) Break bonds that tie man to society.
- (d) Short form for the word severity.

9. "Who am I?"

- (a) An easy question to answer.
- (b) A simple question for anybody.
- (c) A question that means only one relationship.
- (d) A difficult question as it implies many relationships.

10. "The African is totally this worldly".... This means that the African:-

- (a) is born to live in this world and nowhere else.
- (b) will always be happy whether he is alive or dead.
- (c) is waiting to live happily when he goes to heaven.
- (d) will have no other religion apart from that of his ancestors.

SECTION B: GRAMMAR AND PHONOLOGY

PART ONE: SENTENCE STRUCTURES / 15 Marks

11. Re-write the following sentences according to instructions given.
Do not change the meanings of the original sentences.

(1 mark each)

- (i) "Would you be kind enough to tell me what the last paragraph means?"
(Re-write using "..... the meaning".....)
The meaning of the last paragraph
- (ii) She spoke so fast that I could not follow what she was saying
(.....use "too fast".....)
- (iii) Murenzi is not very good at playing football, but he is in our team.
(Start: Although.....)
- (iv) When we entered the Cinema hall, the lights went off immediately.
(Re-write using No sooner.....)
- (v) Alice did not make a good impression on her new employer because she was very worried.
(Start: Alice was so.....)

Question 1: Total 5 marks

12. Choose the best answer to complete the following:-

(1 mark each)

- (a) African nationalists.....their countries in the struggle for political freedom.
(i) took (ii) followed (iii) conducted (iv) led
- (b) Air, water, food and shelter are man's..... needs.
(i) ideal (ii) elementary (iii) basic (iv) superfluous
- (c) The President..... the audience by his argumentative speech that he was right.
(i) convinced (ii) persuaded (iii) compelled (iv) urged
- (d) Mary will always be indebted her parents for their Kindness.
(i) about (ii) with (iii) at (iv) to

(e) Kayitesi: You are stepping on my toes.

James: Oh,.....

- (i) I'm sorry, dear!
- (ii) good for you!
- (iii) how nice of you!
- (iv) with pleasure!

Question 2: Total 5marks

13. From the words suggested for you below this story, choose the most appropriate word to fill in each of the blank spaces. (½mark each)

(i) Story:

180 die in fire horror at a night club

Last October, more than one hundred and eighty people (a)..... in a massive night club blaze. Many victims(b)..... behind fire doors. Flames and thick Smoke (c)..... through the massive building hall which was packed with foreign tourists and locals. Hundreds of others who had been injured (d)..... to safety by firemen. The fire, it was suspected, had been started by a Car bomb which exploded at the night club.

Words to choose: Spread; were trapped; perished; were taken;

Answers: (a)..... (c).....
 (b)..... (d).....

(ii) Replace the underlined word(s) by the word or expression which is closest in meaning as used in each of the following sentences. (1mark each)

- The match did not start on time as one of the players arrived late.
 (a) turned out (b) turned up (c) turned down (d) turned over.

Answer:

- The regular time for the school morning session is 8 o'clock.
 (a) special (b) particular (c) earliest (d) usual

Answer:.....

- The tall, black woman came into the room.
 (a) entered (b) reached (c) arrived at (d) went outside

Answer:.....

Question 3: Total 5marks

14. **PART B: PHONOLOGY** /5 Marks

Each of the five groups of words has one word which has different vowel sound. Underline or write out that word.

(1mark each)

- Group: (i) Skip, Skirt, Slip, Slit
(ii) Hungry, Hustle, Purple, Punch
(iii) South, Out, Round, Though
(iv) Mate, Made, Great, Greet
(v) Use, Tub, Rude, Tube

SECTION C: NOVELS AND PLAYS /30 Marks

PART ONE: Animal Farm by George ORWELL

Read the following passage from the novel and then answer the questions on it:

THE PASSAGE

(Old Major, the prize male pig, is addressing all the animals.)

- ‘Comrades, you have heard already about the strange dream that I had last night. But I will come to the dream later. I have something else to say first. I do not think, comrades, that I shall be with you for many months longer, and before I die, I feel it my duty to pass on to you such wisdom as I have acquired. I have had a long life, I have had much time for thought as I lay alone in my stall, and I think I may say I understand the nature of life on this earth as well as any animal now living. It is about this that I wish to speak to you.
- 5
- 10 Now, comrades, what is the nature of this life of ours? Let us face it: our lives are miserable, laborious, and short. We are born, we are given just so much food as will keep the breath in our bodies, and those of us who are capable of it are forced to work to the last atom of our strength, and the very instant that our usefulness has come to an end we are
- 15 slaughtered with hideous cruelty. No animal in England knows the meaning of happiness or leisure after he is a year old. No animal in England is free. The life of an animal is misery and slavery: that is the plain truth.’
- 20 ‘But is this simply a part of the order of nature? Is it because this land of ours is so poor that it cannot afford a decent life to those who dwell upon it? No, comrades, a thousand time no! The soil of England is fertile, its climate

- is good, it is capable of affording food in abundance to an enormously greater number of animals than now inhabit it. The single farm of ours would support a dozen horses, twenty cows, hundreds of sheep-and all of them living in a comfort and a dignity that are now almost beyond our imagining. Why then do we continue in this miserable condition? Because nearly the whole of the produce of our labour is stolen from us by human beings. There, comrades, is the answer to all our problems. It is summed up in a single word-Man. Man is the only enemy we have. Remove Man from the scene, and the root cause of hunger and overwork is abolished for ever.'

QUESTIONS

15. (a) How many types of animals are mentioned in this passage?
Name them. *(cows and sheep)* (1mark)
(b) What is the overall or total number of those animals? (2marks)
(1mark)
16. Old Major has something to tell his comrades before he dies. From what he says in lines 5-9, one would describe him as:-
(Choose the best answer) (2marks)
- (a) A wise, thoughtful and lonely person/character.
(b) An old, selfish, but wise and careless character.
(c) A considerate, wise, thoughtful and old character.
(d) An old, lonely, wise but arrogant and selfish character.
17. Briefly explain the nature of the lives of animals as described by Old Major. Give reasons to support your answer. (3marks)
18. Old Major is not convinced about "the order of nature" as far as animals are concerned. Why? (4marks)
19. What, according to Old Major, is the ideal solution to their problems? Of what benefit would this solution be? (2marks)

Total : 15 marks

PART TWO: BETRAYAL IN THE CITY by Francis IMBUGA

Read the following extract from the play and then answer the questions on it.

(Nina and others kneel in front of Adika's grave and sing.)

All **(Sing)**: Trust and obey
For there is no other way
To be happy in Jesus
But to trust and obey

Nina **(Praying)** Father, Maker of all that Crawl and all that fly, we are dry of words, but we put this day in your hands. We ask this through Jesus Christ our saviour, Amen. **(Jere and Mulili enter, the latter carries a bottle of beer, from which he will drink every now and then.)**

Jere : Old people, you waste your time. There is to be no ceremony.

Doga: Is it to us you speak?

Mulili: No ceremony! That the final.

Doga: A shaving ceremony is no child's play.

Mulili: Who you call child, eeh? Jere, you tell him. Tell him what I does with stubborn old mens.

Jere: The ceremony is cancelled in the interest of peace.

Doga: In the interest of peace? Whose peace?

Mulili: We wants no anymore bloody bloodshed. We have seen enough. Just who you want to murder next?

Doga: Murder? Me? Young man, have you nothing.

QUESTIONS

20. By giving some examples to support your answer, briefly comment on Nina's prayer. (4marks)
21. Who, in your opinion, do you think Jere and Mulili are? Give reasons to support your answer. (2marks)
22. Doga and Jere are talking about the ceremony that is almost taking place. What ceremony is this? (1mark)
In what way is this ceremony contrary to the song at the beginning of the extract? (3marks)
23. Briefly explain why Doga questions the concept/idea of peace as mentioned by Jere. (1mark)
What mood do you think Doga is in, and why? (2marks)
24. Mulili's language is "un-grammatical". What effect does it have on people listening to him? (1mark)
Why do you think that language affects them so? (1mark)

Total: 15 Marks

SECTION D: POETRY AND SUMMARY

PART ONE: POETRY /15 Marks

Read the following poem carefully and then answer questions on it:

REPORT ON EXPERIENCE by Edmund BLUNDEN

I HAVE been young, and now am not too old;
And I have seen the righteous forsaken,
His health, his honour and his quality taken.
 This is not what we were formerly told.

I have seen a green country, useful to the race,
Knocked silly with guns and mines, its villages vanished,
Even the last rat and the last kestrel banished-
 God bless us all, this was peculiar grace.

I knew Seraphina; Nature gave her hue,
Glance, sympathy, note, like one from Eden.
I saw her smile warp, heard lyric deaden.
 She turned to harlotry;- this I took to be new.

Say what you will, our God sees how they run.
These disillusion are His curious proving.
That He loves humanity and will go on loving;
Over there are faith, life, virtue in the sun.

25. Briefly mention the poet's message in each of the four stanzas. **(4marks)**
26. Whom do you think the poet is talking to and why? **(2marks)**
27. In stanza 2, the poet talks about "a green country.... knocked silly.....". What does he mean by that ? In what way does line 3 in the same stanza reinforce or strengthen his idea? **(3marks)**
- Kestrel: a bird of prey like a falcon or Kite.
 - Hue : shades of colours which exclude black and white.
28. In Stanza 3, Seraphina is compared to some one else. Who is this person? What, according to lines 1 and 2 of the same stanza, do you think Seraphina looks like? Does she still look the same at the end of stanza 3? Justify your answers. **(3marks)**
29. By giving some examples, comment on one obvious poetic technique used in this poem. **(2marks)**
The last line of each of the 4 stanzas reveal the nature of the poet. Which of the following, do you think brings out this nature clearly? **(1mark)**
- (a) The poet is not intelligent as he believes in everything he is told.
 - (b) The poet is critical of what he has been told about god.
 - (c) The poet is a strong believer in spite of the contradictions he has observed in real life.
 - (d) The poet is quite indifferent to religion and human experience in life.

Total: 15marks

30. **PART TWO: SUMMARY** /15 Marks

Read the following passage and then, **using your own words as much as possible, summarise it in NOT MORE THAN 50 words.** Use the simple narrative technique and find a suitable title for your summary.

It is difficult to believe that the High Schools can make their proper contribution to national development if their pupils are not taught how to think. Secondary education should be a social and intellectual experience. It is a stage at which young people should begin to accept responsibility for their own progress; when intellectual disciplines are acquired and mental initiative encouraged; when honest opinions are formed within a framework of independent thinking and not from unexamined assumptions and emotional pressures. It is a state when good work-habits can easily be acquired, and likewise when bad habits can be established for a lifetime. The essence of effective learning at this crucial period is that the student should learn to make knowledge his own..... The most dangerous habit he can form is to preserve knowledge and ideas in other people's words and thought forms, in the words of the text-book and the teacher's notes. The lack of this habit of real assimilation is that major cause of failure at the university, in all higher examinations and in the upper reaches of managerial responsibility.

40/12/16