

122/2

ENGLISH LANGUAGE 2

(for both School and Private Candidates)

Time: 3 Hours

ANSWERS

Friday, 10th May 2019

Instructions

1. This paper consists of section A, B, C and D.
2. Answer **five (5)** questions, choosing **one (1)** question from each section. Question **two (2)** is compulsory.
3. Each question weighs **twenty (20)** marks.
4. Communication devices and any unauthorized materials are **not** allowed in the assessment room.
5. Write your **Examination Number** every page of your answer booklet(s)

1. (a) Briefly explain five factors that account for variation in language use.

Geographical Location: Language varies significantly based on where it is spoken. Different regions develop unique dialects or accents due to isolation, migration, and local influences. For example, British English differs from American English in terms of vocabulary, pronunciation, and spelling.

Social Class: Socioeconomic status can influence language use. Higher social classes might use more standardized forms of language, while lower classes might employ more regional or colloquial variations, reflecting different levels of education and social interaction.

Age: Different generations often use language differently. Younger speakers might adopt slang or new linguistic trends, while older speakers might retain older forms of speech, leading to generational variation in language.

Gender: Studies have shown that men and women sometimes use language differently, with women often being more conservative in language use, adhering to standard forms, whereas men might use more slang or non-standard forms to assert identity or group membership.

Context or Situation: The setting in which language is used affects its form. Formal situations like legal proceedings or academic presentations require a formal register, while casual conversations among friends might use informal language, including slang and colloquialisms.

(b) Distinguish the following linguistic concepts:

(i) Idiolect and Dialect:

Idiolect refers to the unique linguistic characteristics of an individual, including their personal vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar patterns. It's like a personal dialect.

Dialect is a variety of a language that is characteristic of a particular group of speakers, often defined by regional or social factors. It is shared by a community rather than an individual.

(ii) Consultative style and casual style:

Consultative Style: This is used in professional or semi-formal settings where there's an expectation of politeness and clarity, often involving some level of explanation or consultation, like in a doctor-patient interaction.

Casual Style: This style is used among friends or in very relaxed settings, characterized by informal language, slang, and sometimes incomplete sentences, lacking the structure of formal or consultative styles.

(iii) Style and Stylistics:

Style: Refers to the manner of expression in language, how someone uses language in a particular context, which can include choices in vocabulary, sentence structure, and tone.

Stylistics: The study of styles in language, examining how choices in language contribute to meaning, effect, and context in literature or communication.

(iv) Phonological level and graphological level:

Phonological Level: This pertains to the sound system of a language, including how sounds are organized, articulated, and perceived.

Graphological Level: This relates to the written form of language, focusing on aspects like spelling, punctuation, and typography.

(v) Common core English and colloquial English:

Common Core English: This is the standard form of English that is taught in schools and used in formal contexts, understood widely across different English-speaking regions.

Colloquial English: Refers to informal language used in everyday conversation, often including regional slang, idiomatic expressions, and phrases not typically found in formal or standard English.

2. (a) Write the technical terms for the following stylistic concepts:

(i) A language style used to preserve certain aesthetics (beauty): Poetic Language or Literary Style

(ii) Variety of language according to use: Register

(iii) Specialized language concerned with a particular subject, culture or profession: Jargon

(iv) An area of specialization to which language is put into use: Domain

(v) Regionally determined variation of language: Regional Dialect

(b) Outline five characteristics of a formal style of presentation.

Structured and Organized: Formal presentations follow a clear structure with an introduction, body, and conclusion, often with headings or bullet points for clarity.

Standard Language: Uses standard, formal English, avoiding slang, colloquialisms, and regional dialects unless relevant to the context.

Impersonal Tone: Maintains an objective, impersonal tone, focusing on facts and avoiding personal anecdotes or emotional language.

Complex Sentence Structures: Often employs complex and compound sentences to convey detailed information in a precise manner.

Formal Vocabulary: Utilizes a higher register of vocabulary, including technical terms appropriate to the subject matter, and avoids contractions.

3. (a) Mention five important aspects to consider when taking notes.

Clarity: Ensure notes are clear and legible, using abbreviations and symbols where necessary but keeping them understandable.

Conciseness: Focus on capturing key points rather than trying to write everything down verbatim, which helps in quick reference later.

Organization: Use headings, bullet points, or numbering to structure notes, making it easier to find information later.

Relevance: Only note down information that is pertinent to your purpose or the main topic, avoiding irrelevant details.

Review: Regularly review and revise notes to ensure understanding and retention, adding any additional insights or questions.

(b) (i) Why do people advertise? Give five reasons.

To Inform: Advertisements inform potential customers about new products, services, or changes in existing offerings.

To Persuade: The primary goal is often to persuade consumers to choose one product over another by highlighting benefits or unique selling points.

To Increase Brand Awareness: Advertising helps in building and maintaining brand recognition in the marketplace.

To Increase Sales: Ultimately, advertising aims to boost sales by attracting new customers or encouraging repeat purchases.

To Build Customer Loyalty: Through consistent messaging and branding, advertisements can foster loyalty among existing customers.

(ii) List five characteristics of the language of advertising.

Persuasive Language: Uses persuasive techniques like emotional appeals, superlatives, and compelling calls to action.

Repetition: Key phrases or brand names are often repeated to reinforce memory and recognition.

Catchy Slogans: Short, memorable phrases that encapsulate the brand or product's essence.

Use of Imperatives: Commands like "Buy now!" or "Call today!" to prompt immediate action.

Emotive Vocabulary: Language that evokes emotions, like excitement, happiness, or fear of missing out, to connect with the audience on a personal level.

4. Plays do not just reflect what is happening in the society; they also show what ought to have happened. Using any two plays you have read under this program, show how the playwrights have been able to do that. (Use four points from each play).

Answer

The first play I will use is "Betrayal in the City" by Francis Imbuga.

Francis Imbuga reflects the political oppression and corruption in Kafira while presenting a vision of what ought to have happened—a society where justice and accountability prevail. For instance, the play critiques Boss's oppressive rule and shows that a more transparent and democratic government could have prevented the chaos.

The characters of Jere and Mosese demonstrate resistance to the regime's brutality, suggesting that ordinary citizens ought to have stood united against oppression. Their courage symbolizes the potential for collective action to bring about change.

The play also highlights the betrayal among leaders, as seen in Mulili's actions, and implies that loyalty to ethical principles rather than personal gain should have guided those in power. This shows what leadership ought to be—rooted in integrity.

Finally, Imbuga shows that dialogue and reconciliation, rather than violence, could have resolved conflicts. The prisoners' discussions about the future of Kafira point to the importance of peaceful solutions in addressing societal problems.

The second play I will use is "An Enemy of the People" by Henrik Ibsen.

Ibsen reflects the ignorance and self-interest of the townspeople while suggesting that they ought to have prioritized public health over short-term economic gains. Dr. Stockmann's discovery of the contaminated baths represents the need for communities to value truth and scientific knowledge.

The play shows that leaders like Peter Stockmann ought to have supported reform rather than suppressing the truth to protect their positions. This highlights the importance of ethical leadership in fostering progress.

The townspeople's betrayal of Dr. Stockmann reveals the dangers of mob mentality. The play implies that individuals ought to think critically and independently rather than blindly following authority or popular opinion.

Finally, Dr. Stockmann's resilience shows that society ought to celebrate and protect whistleblowers who work for the common good. His statement, "The strongest man is he who stands most alone," emphasizes the value of standing up for what is right despite opposition.

5. When playwrights compose their work of art focusing on social struggle, they always build courageous characters to face danger for the wellbeing of their society. Justify this assertion with reference to two plays you have read. (Use four points for each character).

Answer

The first play I will use is "Betrayal in the City" by Francis Imbuga (Character: Jere).

Jere is a courageous character who challenges the oppressive regime of Kafira. His refusal to arrest Doga and Nina during their traditional rituals reflects his bravery in standing up against unjust orders, even at the risk of punishment.

Jere's decision to side with Mosese and the other prisoners shows his commitment to fighting for justice and freedom. Despite the personal danger, he chooses to align himself with the oppressed rather than the oppressors.

His confrontation with Mulili demonstrates his moral strength. By questioning Mulili's betrayal and unethical actions, Jere exposes the corruption and hypocrisy within the regime.

Finally, Jere's participation in the prison play symbolizes his belief in the power of art and dialogue to bring about social change. His courage inspires others to envision a better future for Kafira.

The second play I will use is "An Enemy of the People" by Henrik Ibsen (Character: Dr. Stockmann).

Dr. Stockmann is a courageous character who risks his reputation and safety to expose the truth about the contaminated baths. Despite knowing the consequences, he prioritizes public health over personal comfort. His refusal to compromise with the town's leaders, including his brother Peter, highlights his integrity and determination. He declares, "The strongest man is he who stands most alone," showing his resilience in the face of adversity.

Dr. Stockmann's defiance of the mob mentality further emphasizes his bravery. Even when the townspeople label him as an "enemy of the people," he remains steadfast in his mission to protect the public.

Finally, his commitment to truth and justice inspires his family and a few supporters to stand with him. Dr. Stockmann's courage serves as a reminder of the importance of fighting for what is right, even when the odds are against you.

6. Analyse the relevance of two novels you have studied under this section to the contemporary world using four points each.

In *A Man of the People* by Chinua Achebe:

- i. Corruption in leadership: The novel mirrors contemporary issues where public officials misuse power for personal gain, as seen with Chief Nanga's blatant embezzlement of resources.
- ii. Electoral malpractice: The manipulation of voters and use of bribery in the novel reflect the flawed democratic processes still present in many countries.
- iii. The struggle between tradition and modernity: Odili's conflict with traditional societal norms highlights ongoing generational tensions in adapting to modern values.
- iv. The power of education: The story emphasizes the importance of education in challenging societal ills, encouraging modern societies to prioritize learning.

In *The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born* by Ayi Kwei Armah:

- i. Moral decay and corruption: The novel depicts a society plagued by dishonesty, which resonates with contemporary issues of integrity in governance.
- ii. Materialism and social decay: Characters' obsession with wealth and status reflects modern societies' prioritization of material gains over ethical principles.
- iii. Economic inequality: The disparity between the rich and poor depicted in the story is a global issue that persists today.
- iv. Resistance to corruption: The protagonist's refusal to succumb to corruption highlights the need for moral fortitude in addressing societal challenges.

7. Take any four characters, two from each of the two readings you have read under this section, and show how they differ in terms of their views and how they handle circumstances.

From *A Man of the People*:

- i. Chief Nanga: He is opportunistic, using his power for personal enrichment and manipulating the public for his gain.
- ii. Odili Samalu: In contrast, Odili represents resistance and the desire for reform, choosing to challenge the corrupt system despite personal risks.

From *The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born*:

- i. The man (protagonist): He upholds integrity, refusing to participate in corrupt activities despite societal pressures.
- ii. Koomson: Koomson, on the other hand, thrives in the corrupt system, using his position to amass wealth, representing the morally compromised elite.

8. Poems not only entertain but also educate. Support this statement using four poems you have studied under this section.

From *The Wonderful Surgeon and Other Poems* by Charles Mloka:

- i. *The Wonderful Surgeon*: The metaphor of the surgeon cutting away societal ills educates on the need for moral and social reforms.
- ii. *The Cry of the Poor*: The vivid imagery of poverty invokes empathy and educates on the plight of marginalized communities, urging action.

From *Selected Poems* by the Institute of Education:

- i. *Chains of Freedom*: This poem educates on the paradox of independence, showing how liberation can still entail struggles, especially with corrupt leadership.
- ii. *Hope Rising*: Through uplifting imagery and symbolism, the poem teaches resilience and optimism in overcoming challenges.

9. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow

Thin and red,
Skinny and bald,
The boy groans on the ground.

Swollen stomach
Full of waste,
Thin legs,
Thin arms,
Twitch
As the boy
Fights with flies
Over the empty plate.

Ten years old,
He looks older than ten
And younger than young,
And so small
As he wriggles,
Prisoner
Of his unproportioned body.

‘Mother,’ shouted the boy,
‘When I grow up
I will carry a gun
And not a pen!’

‘My son,’ shouted the mother,
‘My son,’ cries the mother,
‘You will never live to carry a gun,
There is no meat for us.’

Questions:

(a) Suggest the title of the poem.

A suggested title for the poem could be "The Malnourished Child" or "Hunger's Prisoner". These titles reflect the central image of the poem, which is a young boy suffering from malnutrition, and they encapsulate the themes of poverty and survival.

(b) What are the possible themes?

Poverty and Malnutrition: The poem vividly describes the physical effects of hunger and malnutrition on the child, highlighting the dire economic conditions.

Childhood Lost: The boy, at ten years old, looks both older and younger, symbolizing the loss of a normal childhood due to hardship.

Hopelessness and Despair: The dialogue between the boy and his mother reflects a sense of hopelessness about the future, with the mother's response indicating a lack of resources for survival.

Violence vs. Education: The boy's aspiration to carry a gun instead of a pen suggests a theme where the harsh realities of life push towards violence rather than education or peace.

Survival Struggle: The imagery of fighting with flies over an empty plate underscores the struggle for basic survival.

(c) Identify the poetic devices used by the poet.

Imagery: The poem uses vivid imagery to paint a picture of the boy's physical condition and his environment, like "Swollen stomach full of waste" and "Fights with flies over the empty plate."

Personification: Hunger and poverty are personified through the boy's condition, making these abstract concepts more tangible.

Contrast: There's a contrast between the boy's age and his appearance ("He looks older than ten and younger than young"), emphasizing the abnormal development due to malnutrition.

Repetition: The repetition of "My son" by the mother adds emphasis to her despair and the gravity of her statement about their situation.

Irony: The irony in the boy's ambition to carry a gun rather than a pen, juxtaposed with his mother's bleak reality check, highlights the grim irony of their circumstances.

(d) What is the tone of the persona?

The tone of the persona in this poem is somber, despairing, and critical. The persona presents a bleak picture of the boy's condition, using descriptive language that evokes sympathy and highlights the injustice of the

situation. The dialogue between the boy and his mother adds a layer of urgency and sadness, reflecting the dire reality they face.

(e) How is the poem relevant to Tanzania of today?

The poem is highly relevant to Tanzania today due to several ongoing issues:

- **Poverty and Malnutrition:** Tanzania, like many developing countries, still faces significant challenges with poverty, which often leads to malnutrition, especially among children. The depiction of the boy's physical state could resonate with the reality of many Tanzanian children suffering from similar conditions due to food insecurity.
- **Child Labor and Education:** The boy's wish to carry a gun rather than a pen might reflect the choice many children in Tanzania face between education and survival or work, often leading to school dropouts or involvement in activities that are not conducive to a peaceful future.
- **Urban vs. Rural Disparities:** While the poem doesn't specify location, the themes could be particularly poignant in rural areas of Tanzania where access to resources might be more limited, highlighting the disparities between urban and rural life.
- **Conflict and Violence:** The mention of carrying a gun could also be seen as relevant in contexts where conflict, whether political or resource-based, affects young lives, drawing parallels with regions in Tanzania or neighboring countries experiencing unrest.
- **Government and NGO Efforts:** The poem can serve as a critique or a call to action for ongoing efforts by the Tanzanian government and NGOs to address malnutrition, poverty, and education, emphasizing the need for continued focus on these issues to prevent such scenarios.