

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF TANZANIA
CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION

024

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

(For Both School and Private Candidate)

Time: 3 Hours

ANSWERS

Year: 2021

Instructions

1. This paper consists of sections A, B, and C.
2. Answer **all** questions in section A and B and two (2) questions from section C
3. Section A carries **sixteen (16)** marks, section B carries **fifty four (54)** marks and section C carries **thirty (30)** marks
4. All writings must be in **blue** or **black** ink.
5. Communication devices and any unauthorized materials are **not** allowed in the assessment room.
6. Write your **Assessment Number** at the top right hand corner of every page.

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1. For each of the items (i)–(x), choose the correct answer from among the given alternatives and write its letter beside the item number in the answer booklet provided.

(i) Hyena and Leopard were best friends; their friendship ended when Leopard realized that his friend was mean, jealous, and a coward when hunting. In life, it is better to have a friend whom you share the same attitude with. This story may be classified as a

- A. myth
- B. legend
- C. proverb
- D. idiom
- E. fable

Answer: E. fable

Reason: A fable is a short story, typically with animals as characters, conveying a moral lesson.

(ii) What term refers to a word that occurs more than once in a verse?

- A. Refrain
- B. Repetition
- C. Parallelism
- D. Ellipsis
- E. Contrast

Answer: B. Repetition

Reason: Repetition is the repeated use of a word or phrase to emphasize an idea or theme in a poem or verse.

(iii) Which literary term is given to the major divisions of a play?

- A. Act
- B. Movement
- C. Narration
- D. Chapter
- E. Scene

Answer: A. Act

Reason: An act is a major division in a play, often containing several scenes.

(iv) How is the plot of the play, The Lion and the Jewel, arranged?

- A. Act and pages
- B. Act and setting
- C. Act and scenes
- D. Act and sections
- E. Act and chapter

Answer: C. Act and scenes

Reason: The plot of The Lion and the Jewel is divided into acts and scenes, which are common structural elements of a play.

(v) When composing a poem, one deliberately breaks some aspects of grammar to suit poetic purposes. How is this freedom called?

- A. Assonance
- B. Poetic language
- C. Consonance
- D. Poetic license
- E. Meter

Answer: D. Poetic license

Reason: Poetic license refers to the freedom poets have to break grammatical rules to achieve artistic effects.

(vi) Suppose you have been asked to write a story with the main character that bears heroic elements. How is this character identified?

- A. An antagonist
- B. A dynamic
- C. A round
- D. A static
- E. A protagonist

Answer: E. A protagonist

Reason: A protagonist is the main character in a story, often embodying heroic qualities.

(vii) A verse in a stanza reads, “sing a song, God is good.” The quoted verse is an example of

- A. refrain
- B. alliteration
- C. dissonant
- D. assonance
- E. parallelism

Answer: B. alliteration

Reason: Alliteration is the repetition of the same consonant sound at the beginning of words in close proximity.

(viii) Which element of plot in the work of art can you substitute with “resolution”?

- A. Denouement
- B. Climax
- C. Exposition
- D. Rising
- E. Oratory

Answer: A. Denouement

Reason: Denouement is the final resolution or conclusion of a story's plot.

(ix) Which point of view is to be considered when writing narratives?

- A. First person point of view
- B. Character point of view
- C. Omniscient point of view
- D. Second person point of view
- E. Narrator point of view

Answer: C. Omniscient point of view

Reason: The omniscient point of view allows the narrator to know and describe all characters' thoughts and actions.

(x) Which one is the advantage of science and technology to oral literature?

- A. Improve unity among the people
- B. Easy to access
- C. It is expensive
- D. Increase the participation of people
- E. Makes all people equal

Answer: B. Easy to access

Reason: Science and technology have made oral literature more accessible through recordings and digital media.

2. Match the descriptions of narratives in List A with the type of narratives in List B by writing the letter of the correct response beside the corresponding item number in the answer booklet(s) provided.

List A

- (i) A narrative style that interrupts the chronological order of events.
- (ii) A narrative that reveals the achievement of the hero.
- (iii) A narrative in which one writes about his or her own life history.
- (iv) A narrative in which one tells the history of another person.
- (v) A narrative about the creation of the world and supernatural forces.

List B

- A. Autobiography
- B. Myth
- C. Flashback
- D. Legend
- E. Biography
- F. Folk tale
- G. Foreshadowing

Answers:

- (i) C. Flashback
- (ii) D. Legend
- (iii) A. Autobiography
- (iv) E. Biography
- (v) B. Myth

3. Justify each of the following functions of literature by giving one example from the play *The Lion and the Jewel* by Soyinka, W.

(a) Literature criticizes the society.

Answer: In *The Lion and the Jewel*, Soyinka criticizes society through Lakunle, who rejects African traditions and blindly embraces Western values, portraying the negative impact of cultural alienation.

(b) Literature entertains the society.

Answer: The play entertains through humor, especially in the witty exchanges between Baroka and Sidi, as well as the dramatic conflict between tradition and modernity.

(c) Literature educates the society.

Answer: The play educates by showing the importance of preserving cultural heritage through Baroka's actions and his defense of traditional values.

(d) Literature warns the society.

Answer: The play warns about the dangers of abandoning cultural traditions, as seen in Lakunle's struggles to connect with his community due to his Westernized ideals.

(e) Literature reflects the culture.

Answer: The play reflects Yoruba culture through its use of proverbs, traditional songs, dances, and the depiction of the customs surrounding marriage.

4. Read the following poem and then answer the questions that follow.

A Baby is a European - By Ewe (Togo)

A baby is a European
He does not eat our food
He drinks from his own water pot.

A baby is a European
He does not speak our tongue
He cries when the mother understands him not.

A baby is a European

He cares very little for others
He forces his will upon his parents.

Questions:

(a) Briefly explain what the poem is about.

Answer: The poem compares a baby to a European, highlighting the baby's dependence, individuality, and the challenges parents face in understanding and meeting its needs.

(b) Briefly explain two literary devices found in the poem.

Answer:

- Metaphor: The baby is compared to a European, symbolizing its detachment and demands.
- Repetition: The phrase "A baby is a European" is repeated to emphasize the comparison.

(c) Which language does the baby speak? Give a reason for your answer.

Answer: The baby speaks no language as it is too young, but it communicates through crying, which the poem equates to a language that parents must interpret.

(d) How does the baby treat his own father and mother?

Answer: The baby dominates his parents, forcing them to cater to his needs and imposing his will upon them.

(e) Is the poem relevant to our society? Give a reason for your answer.

Answer: Yes, the poem is relevant because it reflects the universal challenges of parenting, emphasizing the sacrifices and adjustments parents make for their children.

5. Write the correct answer for each of the item (a)–(e) in the answer booklet provided.

(a) How is the plot arranged in a play?

Answer: The plot in a play is arranged in acts and scenes, which structure the story into clear segments for dramatic effect.

(b) When a playwright uses mime as one of the devices of literature, how are his or her characters expected to behave in the literary work?

Answer: The characters are expected to use gestures and body movements without speech to convey emotions and actions.

(c) Why is aesthetic appreciation in art of work important? Briefly explain.

Answer: Aesthetic appreciation is important because it allows the audience to enjoy and value the beauty and creativity of the artwork, enhancing its emotional and intellectual impact.

(d) How can the poet apply metaphor in a verse?

Answer: A poet can use metaphor by directly comparing two unlike things to suggest they share common qualities, creating vivid imagery.

(e) What is the major function of setting in a literary work?

Answer: The major function of setting is to provide context by establishing the time, place, and environment in which the story takes place.

6. Write short answers for each of the item (a)–(e) in the answer booklet provided.

(a) Why is foreshadowing used in drama or novels?

Answer: Foreshadowing is used to hint at future events, creating suspense and preparing the audience for what is to come.

(b) Why is the resolution important in the development of the plot of a literary work? Briefly explain.

Answer: The resolution is important because it concludes the story, resolves conflicts, and provides closure for the audience.

(c) How is the dynamic character developed?

Answer: A dynamic character is developed through experiences, challenges, and interactions that lead to personal growth or change throughout the story.

(d) Using the concept of characterization, briefly explain the statement that “the novelist is a creator.”

Answer: The novelist is a creator because they craft characters, settings, and plots, giving life to their stories through imagination and artistic expression.

(e) How can one use irony to convey a message? Briefly explain.

Answer: Irony can be used to convey a message by presenting a situation or statement that is the opposite of what is expected, encouraging the audience to reflect on the underlying meaning.

7. "Literature does not exist in a vacuum; it lives and talks about what is happening in the society." Defend this contention by referring to two plays: *The Dilemma of a Ghost* by Ama Ata Aidoo and *The Trials of Brother Jero* by Wole Soyinka. Give three points for each play.

Answer:

The Dilemma of a Ghost by Ama Ata Aidoo:

- Cultural conflict: The play highlights the tension between traditional African values and Western influences through the marriage of Ato and Eulalie.
- Generational differences: It explores the misunderstandings between older and younger generations, reflecting societal challenges.
- Responsibility and family: The play addresses the importance of familial obligations and respect in African communities.

The Trials of Brother Jero by Wole Soyinka:

- Religious hypocrisy: The play critiques religious leaders who exploit their followers for personal gain, reflecting societal corruption.
- Political satire: It mocks political leaders and their promises, highlighting the disconnection between leaders and citizens.
- Human weakness: The play examines human susceptibility to manipulation, emphasizing the need for self-awareness and critical thinking.

8. It is argued that poems are rich in the use of figures of speech. Support this argument with reference to two poems. Give three points for each poem.

Answer:

Building the Nation by Henry Barlow:

- Irony: The narrator contrasts the lavish meal of the politician with the narrator's meager portion, emphasizing inequality.
- Satire: The poem mocks the concept of "building the nation" while exposing corruption and selfishness.
- Imagery: Vivid descriptions of the politician's actions highlight the disparity between rhetoric and reality.

Song of Lawino by Okot p'Bitek:

- Metaphor: The poem uses metaphors to depict the erosion of African traditions under Western influence.
- Symbolism: Symbols like the "white man's ways" represent modernization and cultural conflict.
- Repetition: The repeated calls for the preservation of African traditions emphasize the urgency of the message.

9. Some characters are not accepted in their society. Justify this statement using two novels. Give three points for each novel.

Answer:

Houseboy by Ferdinand Oyono:

1. Toundi faces racial discrimination as a houseboy under colonial rule, highlighting societal rejection of Africans by colonial powers.
2. He is alienated for attempting to assimilate into the colonial system, which ultimately exploits him.
3. His tragic death reflects the lack of acceptance and value placed on African lives during the colonial period.

A Walk in the Night by Alex La Guma:

- Michael Adonis is rejected by society due to his involvement in crime, which stems from poverty and systemic oppression.
- He faces discrimination and prejudice as a marginalized individual in a racially segregated community.
- The novel portrays his struggles as emblematic of a society that fails to provide opportunities for its underprivileged members.

10. With reference to any two novels read, examine the social challenges which face characters in their daily life. Write three points from each novel.

Answer:

The Old Man and the Medal by Ferdinand Oyono:

- Racism: Meka faces systemic discrimination despite his loyalty and service to the colonial government.
- Betrayal: He is humiliated and betrayed by the same colonial officials he faithfully served.
- Poverty: Meka's financial struggles reflect the economic oppression of colonized Africans.

The Concubine by Elechi Amadi:

- Gender roles: Ihuoma is constrained by societal expectations of women, particularly in marriage.
- Superstition: Her life is plagued by traditional beliefs and fears, such as the curse surrounding her relationships.
- Tragic fate: The novel highlights the challenges of love and loss within a patriarchal and superstitious society.