

**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: 2023**

**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 choose the correct answer from among the given or tentatives and write its writer beside the corresponding item number in the booklet provided

(i) A brief description about a book that is written at the back for promotion purposes is called:

- A. Preface
- B. Prelude
- C. Acknowledgement
- D. Autobiography
- E. Blurb

Answer: E. Blurb

Reason: A blurb is a short promotional piece accompanying a creative work, typically found on the back cover of a book, summarizing the content to entice readers.

(ii) The situation when some characters are speaking in turn in the literary work is called:

- A. Dialogue
- B. Soliloquy
- C. Monologue
- D. Aside
- E. Irony

Answer: A. Dialogue

Reason: Dialogue involves two or more characters engaging in conversation, taking turns to speak.

(iii) Which literary device refers to the expression, "Mtumikavu is a lion"?

- A. Symbolism
- B. Simile
- C. Apostrophe
- D. Metaphor
- E. Synecdoche

Answer: D. Metaphor

Reason: A metaphor directly compares two unlike things by stating one is the other, suggesting they share common characteristics.

(iv) How is the plot of the novel "Concubine" by Elechi Amadi arranged?

- A. Flashback style
- B. Chronological order
- C. Mixed style
- D. Flash-back-forward
- E. Fore-flashback

Answer: B. Chronological order

Reason: "The Concubine" unfolds its narrative in a linear, chronological sequence, presenting events in the order they occur.

(v) Identify the type of poetry which is composed to be sung for a dead person.

- A. Didactic poetry
- B. Epic poetry
- C. Ode poetry
- D. Elegy poetry
- E. Sonnet poetry

Answer: D. Elegy poetry

Reason: An elegy is a mournful poem written to lament and honor someone who has died.

(vi) Matundwe is a literary artist who composes plays. How is he called?

- A. A comedian
- B. An autobiographer
- C. A playwright
- D. A biographer
- E. A novelist

Answer: C. A playwright

Reason: A playwright is an individual who writes plays for the theater.

(vii) Identify the figure of speech which enables a reader to form a mental picture.

- A. Simile
- B. Personification
- C. Imagery
- D. Hyperbole
- E. Allusion

Answer: C. Imagery

Reason: Imagery involves descriptive language that appeals to the senses, creating vivid mental pictures for the reader.

(viii) Which literary term is used to denote a female artist who composes poems?

- A. Poet
- B. Singer
- C. Poetess
- D. Novella
- E. Playwright

Answer: C. Poetess

Reason: "Poetess" is a term used to refer to a female poet.

(ix) Which types of oral literature involve telling a short story about an interesting or amusing person or event?

- A. Anecdote
- B. Folk tale
- C. Parable
- D. Fable
- E. Myth

Answer: A. Anecdote

Reason: An anecdote is a brief, entertaining story about a real person or event, often humorous or interesting.

(x) Which literary term describes a situation where a concept or idea entails making reference to events, persons, or objects the audience/readers are familiar with?

- A. Off-stage voice
- B. Allusion
- C. Metonymy
- D. Personification
- E. Aside

Answer: B. Allusion

Reason: An allusion is an indirect reference to a person, event, or thing that is commonly known, enabling readers to make connections.

2. Match the descriptions of the stages of plot development in List A with the stages of plot in List B by writing the letter of the correct response beside the corresponding item number.

List A:

- (i) It occurs near the end of the story.
- (ii) The insertion of background information in a story.
- (iii) Part of the performance where the main problem is worked out.
- (iv) The highest point of tension in a narrative plot.
- (v) It occurs when the conflicts of the characters start.
- (vi) The events meant to be at the end to be found at the beginning of the performance.

List B:

- A. Exposition
- B. Climax
- C. Action
- D. Resolution
- E. Falling action
- F. Rising action
- G. Flashback

Answers:

- (i) D. Resolution
- (ii) A. Exposition
- (iii) C. Action
- (iv) B. Climax
- (v) F. Rising action
- (vi) G. Flashback

3. Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow:

He read medicine,  
Specializing in the tooth  
And graduated with honours  
With a new thesis  
To cure the aching malady.

"Our teeth shall be all right"  
People chanted, welcoming his service.  
And he started work, prompt and immediate.

They brought him all teeth they had -  
Decaying teeth, aching teeth, strong teeth.  
And he started working on their jaws  
Diligently pulling out every tooth  
From the jaws of every mouth.  
And they paid him with meat  
Which now they could not eat.

And so on went the dentist  
Making heaps and heaps of teeth  
Useless, laying them waste  
Without fear than soon  
Very soon indeed,  
He would have no teeth to attend to,  
No tooth for which to call himself a dentist.

Questions:

- (a) What is the poem about?
- (b) Briefly explain who is the persona in this poem?

- (c) Briefly explain two possible themes that are portrayed in this poem.
- (d) Explain briefly two poetic devices that have been used in this poem.
- (e) Why do you think that the poem is relevant to the contemporary society? Give two reasons.

Answers:

- (a) What is the poem about?

The poem is about a dentist who enthusiastically treats his patients by removing all their teeth, eventually leaving himself jobless because there are no more teeth to extract.

- (b) Briefly explain who is the persona in this poem?

The persona is an observer or narrator describing the dentist's actions and their consequences.

- (c) Briefly explain two possible themes that are portrayed in this poem.

1. Overexploitation: The dentist removes all the teeth without considering the future, symbolizing unsustainable practices.
2. Irony in professionalism: The dentist's dedication leads to his own redundancy as there are no teeth left to work on.

- (d) Explain briefly two poetic devices that have been used in this poem.

- Irony: The dentist becomes useless because of his thorough work.
- Imagery: The poem vividly describes the "heaps and heaps of teeth" and the process of tooth extraction.

- (e) Why do you think that the poem is relevant to the contemporary society? Give two reasons.

- It highlights the dangers of overexploitation and lack of foresight in resource use.
- It emphasizes the importance of sustainability in professional and societal practices.

4. How does each of the given oral presentation techniques in (a)–(f) help in improving oral storytelling to the audience?

- (a) Verbal techniques

Verbal techniques enhance storytelling by using appropriate tone, volume, and pacing to emphasize key points and engage the audience.

- (b) Facial expressions

Facial expressions convey emotions and help the audience understand the mood and tone of the story.

- (c) Mimicking

Mimicking helps bring characters to life by imitating their actions, voices, or behaviors, making the story more vivid.

(d) Singing and dancing

Singing and dancing add rhythm and entertainment, making the story more dynamic and captivating.

(e) Gestures

Gestures complement verbal storytelling by adding visual emphasis to key ideas and actions.

(f) Encouraging the audience's reactions

Encouraging reactions fosters interaction and keeps the audience engaged, making the storytelling experience more participatory.

5. How does poetry differ from prose? Give six points.

1. Poetry is written in verses and stanzas, while prose is written in sentences and paragraphs.
2. Poetry often uses rhyme and meter, while prose does not follow such patterns.
3. Poetry uses figurative language and symbolism, while prose tends to be more straightforward and descriptive.
4. Poetry evokes emotions through artistic expression, while prose focuses on clear communication of ideas.
5. Poetry often follows a structured form, whereas prose is more free-flowing.
6. Poetry is more condensed and relies on imagery, while prose provides detailed explanations.

6. For each of the expressions in (a)–(f), identify the genre of oral literature which is described.

(a) A long story often told in verse form involving heroes and gods.

Answer: Epic

(b) A puzzling question, statement, or description, especially one which intends to test the respondent's cleverness.

Answer: Riddle

(c) A soothing song, poem, or piece of music that is usually sung to make a baby sleep, to calm a baby down when they are crying or instill into them some morals.

Answer: Lullaby

(d) Displays of humor whose words in narratives or dialogues make the audience laugh.

Answer: Jokes

(e) A sentence or phrase which is difficult to articulate/pronounce quickly because of the sequence of nearly similar sounds.

Answer: Tongue twister

(f) A short interesting or amusing story about a real person or event.

Answer: Anecdote

7. Write the correct answer for each of the items (a) - (f) in the answer booklet provided.

(a) Why is poetic licence important when composing a poem?

Answer: Poetic licence allows poets to deviate from conventional rules of grammar, syntax, or structure to create desired effects, express creativity, and enhance the emotional impact of the poem.

(b) Why is irony used when creating a literary work?

Answer: Irony is used to create contrast between expectations and reality, adding depth, humor, or surprise to the narrative, and helping convey underlying messages effectively.

(c) When does literature become imaginary?

Answer: Literature becomes imaginary when it involves creative storytelling, fiction, or fantasy, where events, characters, and settings are products of the author's imagination rather than reality.

(d) How is the plot important to a novelist?

Answer: The plot provides the structure and sequence of events in a story, guiding the development of characters and themes while maintaining reader interest.

(e) Why do poets use metaphors in their works?

Answer: Poets use metaphors to create vivid imagery, simplify complex ideas, and evoke emotional responses by comparing two unrelated concepts in a creative way.

(f) Why is the title of a literary work important?

Answer: The title provides a hint of the theme, subject, or focus of the work, capturing the reader's interest and offering insight into the content.

8. For each of the items (a)–(f), fill in the blank space by choosing the correct answer from the box and write it in the answer booklet provided.

Box:

Tragic-comedy, Play, Lullaby, Comedy, Non-fiction, Poetry, Fiction, Genre, Historical Novel

(a) The class, form, kind, or type of literary work is called \_\_\_\_.

Answer: Genre



(b) The type of play that involves both humorous and funny elements is called \_\_\_\_.

Answer: Comedy

(c) A literary genre that is assumed to use more figures of speech than other genres is known as \_\_\_\_.

Answer: Poetry

(d) A narrative, especially in prose, created from imagination is called \_\_\_\_.

Answer: Fiction

(e) A piece of writing or a dramatic work designed for acting on the stage is known as \_\_\_\_.

Answer: Play

(f) A novel which narrates events that belong to a period prior to the time they are presented is known as \_\_\_\_.

Answer: Historical Novel

9. Using examples drawn from the two poems Ballad of the Land Lord by Langston Hughes and If We Must Die by Claude McKay, explain with examples the distinctive features of ballads and sonnets. Give three points for each poem.

Answer:

Ballad of the Land Lord.

1. Narrative form: The poem tells a story of racial injustice and oppression in a rhythmic style typical of ballads.
2. Repetition: Refrains like "Ten Bucks you say I owe you?" create emphasis and reinforce the themes of inequality.
3. Simple language: The poem uses straightforward language to appeal to a broader audience.

If We Must Die.

1. Sonnet structure: The poem follows a 14-line structure with a consistent rhyme scheme.
2. Call to action: The poem encourages courage and dignity in the face of death, typical of a sonnet's thematic focus.
3. Elevated language: The use of rich imagery and metaphor, such as comparing death to a noble battle, highlights the sonnet's formality.

10. Using two novels, show how writers have managed to use various literary devices to present their messages effectively. Give three points for each novel.

Answer:

A Walk in the Night:

1. Symbolism: The night symbolizes uncertainty and fear in a racially divided society.
2. Characterization: The protagonist's struggles reflect broader societal injustices.

3. Irony: The title contrasts with the protagonist's inability to find peace during the night.

Houseboy:

1. First-person narrative: Allows readers to connect deeply with the protagonist's experiences.
2. Satire: The book critiques colonialism and the exploitation of African labor.
3. Flashbacks: Provide background to the protagonist's actions and the injustices he endures.

11. "We get to learn various things from characters." Justify this statement by using two plays. Give three points from each play.

Answer:

The Lion and the Jewel

1. Gender roles: The play examines the role of women in traditional African society through characters like Sidi and Baroka.
2. Tradition vs. modernity: Lakunle represents modern ideas, while Baroka stands for tradition, highlighting societal conflicts.
3. Deception: Baroka's cunning schemes reveal the use of deception to achieve personal goals.

The Government Inspector

1. Corruption: Characters like the Mayor expose the rampant corruption in government institutions.
2. Foolishness: The townsfolk's gullibility highlights the absurdity of their fears and ambitions.
3. Satire: The play uses humor to critique bureaucracy and human greed.