

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

**019**

**THEATRE ARTS**

(For School Candidates Only)

**Time: 3 Hours**

**ANSWERS**

**Year: 2019**

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**Instructions**

1. This paper consists of TEN questions.
2. Answer all questions in section A and B and two questions from section C.

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

(i) If you direct your subordinates to undertake a systematic examination of a project as it progresses, which term will be suitable to use for the direction?

- A Implementing
- B Exercising
- C Analysing
- D Monitoring
- E Collecting

Answer: D

Reason: Monitoring involves regular checking of a project's progress to ensure it stays on track.

(ii) Where would you place the musical instruments when setting a stage for a theatrical performance?

- A Auditorium
- B Proscenium
- C Platform
- D Backstage
- E Frontstage

Answer: D

Reason: Musical instruments are often kept backstage until needed to avoid interference with the performance.

(iii) What are the forms of African theatre?

- A Storytelling, dance, recitation and opera
- B Storytelling, music, drama and dance
- C Storytelling, tragedy, dance and rituals
- D Storytelling, recitation, dance and rituals
- E Storytelling, comedy, music and drama

Answer: D

Reason: These are core elements of traditional African theatre rooted in culture and rituals.

(iv) How would you call new collected information which was documented for the first time?

- A Secondary data
- B Primary data
- C Data analysis
- D Collection data
- E Summarising data

Answer: B

Reason: Primary data is first-hand information collected directly from the source.

(v) What are the major forms of recitations?

- A Ngonjera, funeral dirges and dances

- B Heroic recitation, funeral dirges and drama
- C Heroic Songs, funeral dirges and Ngonjera
- D Ngonjera, heroic recitation and funeral dirges
- E Ngonjera, recitation and heroic play

Answer: D

Reason: These are the commonly recognized forms of oral recitation in African dramatic tradition.

(vi) An audience watching performance automatically creates a picture in their minds to reflect what is performed on stage. How would you describe the picture created by the audience?

- A Symbolisation
- B Imagination
- C Improvisation
- D Fixation
- E Realisation

Answer: B

Reason: Imagination allows the audience to mentally visualize scenes and events being performed.

(vii) The founder of a community intervention has emphasized that they should track the implementation process of the activities outlined in the plan of action. How would you state the process?

- A Monitoring and evaluation
- B Data analysis and evaluation
- C Action plan and monitoring
- D Evaluation and taking action
- E Taking action and monitoring

Answer: A

Reason: Monitoring and evaluation are essential for checking progress and effectiveness of planned actions.

(viii) Which theatre experience engages its audience to the extent that they become participants of what is presented?

- A Eastern theatre
- B Western theatre
- C Asian theatre
- D Northern theatre
- E African theatre

Answer: E

Reason: African theatre is highly participatory, with audience involvement through song, response, or movement.

(ix) You have attended a theatre performance. The performance shows a woman as a half-separated and child snatcher. What would you recommend to avoid gender stereotypes in their practices?

- A Advocate for gender awareness among the artists
- B Enhance gender insensitivity among the artists

- C Bring gender inequality among the artists
- D Show gender characters among the actors
- E Influence discrimination among the artist

Answer: A

Reason: Gender awareness helps prevent harmful stereotypes and promotes equality in theatre portrayal.

(x) How do you describe a form of theatre which has space, time and intensity as major elements?

- A Recitation
- B Rituals
- C Dance
- D Storytelling
- E Music

Answer: B

Reason: Ritual theatre focuses on symbolic space and time, with structured intensity and meaning.

(xi) Those societies believe that some activities associated to worshipping and pleasing gods are a kind of theatre. Which form of theatre can be performed when pleasing the gods in African society?

- A Initiation
- B Rituals
- C Sacrifices
- D Circumcision
- E Dances

Answer: B

Reason: Rituals are dramatic forms with symbolic actions to appease spiritual powers.

(xii) You have been hired to conduct a theatre for social change in one of the remote villages. Your client has asked you to propose methods for collecting primary data. Which method(s) could be used to collect primary data?

- A Participant observation and survey
- B Archival documents and documentary data
- C Focus group discussion and use of Kubaki
- D Data analysis and analysis of historical records
- E Collection of mass primary data

Answer: A

Reason: Participant observation and surveys are direct methods of collecting first-hand primary data.

(xiii) Your District Cultural Officer is organizing "The Night of Arts" event at which a variety of theatre forms will be displayed. How do you call that event which is organized?

- A Festival
- B Exhibition
- C Presentation
- D Workshop
- E Talent show

Answer: A

Reason: A festival is an organized event featuring performances and cultural exhibitions.

(xiv) A theatrical genre which ends with happiness and laughing is classified as

A Tragedy

B Tragicomedy

C Comedy

D Melodrama

E Satire

Answer: C

Reason: Comedy is characterized by humorous content and happy endings.

(xv) Why is Tanzania a multicultural society?

A People speak Kiswahili and English

B Have many religious groups

C Shared names, beliefs and value

D It has formed by Tanzania and Zanzibar

E It involves many cultural groups

Answer: E

Reason: Tanzania consists of many ethnic groups, each with distinct languages and traditions.

2. Match the stage area in Column A with the corresponding name in Column B by writing the letter of the correct response beside the item number in your answer booklet.

Column A

(i) The area of stage for acting within the set, visible to the audience

(ii) The area of the stage not enclosed by the setting

(iii) The area of the stage behind the setting

(iv) The area of the stage which is offstage right and left in the acting area

(v) The area from the stage where the audience sit which is also called house.

Column B

A Backstage

B Offstage

C Cut stage

D Front stage

E On stage

F Wing stage

G Behind stage

Answers:

(i) E

(ii) C

- (iii) A
- (iv) B
- (v) D

3. In five points, differentiate arena stage from thrust stage.

Arena stage is surrounded by the audience on all four sides, while thrust stage has the audience on three sides only.

Arena stage limits the use of scenery and backdrops due to visibility from all angles, whereas thrust stage allows limited scenic design at the back.

In arena stage, performers must constantly rotate to engage all sides of the audience, while in thrust stage they can focus more forward.

Arena stage is ideal for intimate and interactive performances; thrust stage balances intimacy with scenic storytelling.

Arena stage has no distinct backstage; thrust stage typically has a backstage behind the platform.

4. Briefly explain five distinctive features of Noh theatre.

It uses stylized, slow, and symbolic movement where every gesture has meaning.

Noh actors wear masks to portray specific characters such as old men, women, demons, or ghosts.

The performance includes chanting and traditional instrumental music, such as flutes and drums.

Noh plays are based on themes of spirituality, ghosts, and moral reflection.

The stage is simple and unchanging with a polished wooden floor and a painted pine tree as the backdrop.

5. You are assigned to be a project set designer and you have already chosen your performance site and play. Describe the five functions of stage sets in the performance.

Stage sets establish the location of the scene, helping the audience understand where the action is taking place.

They support the mood and tone of the play, such as creating a gloomy setting for a tragedy.

Stage sets assist actors in movement and performance, providing platforms, stairs, and physical elements.

They enhance visual appeal and artistic style, making the performance more immersive.

Stage sets can provide symbolic meaning that supports the theme, such as a broken wall symbolizing conflict.

6. Briefly describe five purposes of a dance in the African community.

Dance is used during rituals and ceremonies to communicate with spiritual beings and ancestors.

It serves as a form of entertainment during social gatherings, festivals, and weddings.

Dance is used in storytelling and preserving oral traditions through movement.

It fosters unity and cooperation, as community members join together in communal dances.

Dance is used in rites of passage such as initiation, marking transitions from one stage of life to another.

7. Study the following picture, interpret its content and answer the questions that follow.

(a) What form of theatre arts is displayed in the picture?

Answer: Traditional African dance drama

(b) Identify any two visual effects common in theatre arts that are depicted in the picture.

Answer: Costume and body movement

(c) Suggest the use of visual effects identified in (b).

Answer: Costumes help define the character and theme, while body movement enhances emotional expression and rhythm in performance.

(d) With two evidences, name the environment in which the picture may be taken.

Answer: Rural village setting.

Evidence 1: Performers and audience are seated on the ground, typical of community gatherings.

Evidence 2: There is no formal stage or structure, only natural surroundings like trees and fire.

(e) What do you think might be the message of the performance?

Answer: The message could be about bravery, tradition, or celebration of victory based on the performer's energetic and commanding posture.

(f) What elements of theatre arts are included in the picture? Give three elements.

Answer: Movement, costume, audience

8. You are invited to explain "the relevance of theatre arts in Tanzanian society" today. Using examples, describe six functions of theatre arts in Tanzanian society.

Theatre is used for education, such as teaching about HIV prevention through school performances.

It preserves and promotes culture by showcasing traditional dances and stories at festivals.

Theatre provides entertainment during public events, reducing stress and enhancing social cohesion.

It raises awareness on social issues like gender violence through plays in communities.

Theatre is a tool for political education, used in voter awareness campaigns.

It promotes unity and identity, especially during national celebrations involving performances from various ethnic groups.

9. The Longeni village authorities are listening to your intervention plan using community theatre that aims at fighting against cholera outbreak in their village after every rain season. Present a plan involving only the first six stages of social changes before post-performance discussion.

Familiarization: Visit the village to understand local culture, language, and social structure.

Preliminary research: Meet local leaders and health officials to identify cholera-related challenges.

Data collection: Conduct interviews, focus groups, and observation to gather community-specific data.

Data analysis: Examine collected information to identify causes, beliefs, and gaps in cholera awareness.

Theatre creation: Develop a play based on findings that educates on prevention, hygiene, and proper water usage.

Performance planning: Prepare logistics including venue, casting, and scheduling for effective community reach.

10. Giving six points, describe the major elements of written stage plays according to Aristotle.

Plot: The structured sequence of events that forms the backbone of the story.

Character: Individuals who carry out actions and embody moral or psychological traits.

Theme: The central idea or message conveyed by the play.

Diction: The choice of language and style used in dialogues and monologues.

Music or melody: Rhythmic and tonal elements that support emotional expression.

Spectacle: The visual components like scenery, costumes, and movements that enhance presentation.