

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

019

THEATRE ARTS

(For Both School Candidates Only)

Time: 3 Hours

ANSWERS

Year: 2023

Instructions

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

maktaba.tetea.org



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

(i) Identify the mostly used theatre forms in some African communities to facilitate production activities.

A Recitation and storytelling

B Dance and Storytelling

C Dance and Songs

D Myths and dance

E Poems and Ngonjera

Answer: C

Reason: Dance and songs are deeply rooted in African traditions and are widely used to pass messages, celebrate events, and facilitate various production activities.

(ii) In the African context, some theatrical performances are staged for the purpose of worshipping and cleansing. Which one is done for that purpose?

A Rituals

B Norms

C Songs

D Storytelling

E Recitations

Answer: A

Reason: Rituals are traditional ceremonies performed for purposes such as worship, initiation, healing, and spiritual cleansing.

(iii) It is NaneNane festival and there are various groups performing traditional dances. You have noticed that in most of the performing spaces the audiences are surrounding the dancers while sitting or standing. What is the appropriate name used for this type of performing space?

A Proscenium stage

B Centre stage

C Back stage

D Arena stage

E Thrust stage

Answer: D

Reason: An arena stage is surrounded by the audience on all sides, suitable for traditional and interactive performances.

(iv) Which instrument must always be found in the dance performance?

A Shakers

B Drums

C Zeze

D Rattles

E Flute

Answer: B

Reason: Drums are central in African dance performances for rhythm and coordination.

(v) You were privileged to visit a group of performers before the actual performance, you observed a director and the crew conduct some preparations step by step where everything is organised and tested. Choose the name that describes better the process:

- A Casting
- B Rehearsal
- C Directing
- D Blocking
- E Audition

Answer: B

Reason: Rehearsal is the practice session where the crew tests and organizes scenes before the actual performance.

(vi) What is the name given to the theatre performance which is characterized by uses of high voice and tone to perform?

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

Answer: D

Reason: Recitation involves performance with emphasis on vocal projection and tone variation.

(vii) Storytelling among ethnic groups in Tanzania is mostly done to a certain group of people. Which among the following groups is a primary target?

- A Infants
- B Elders
- C Warriors
- D Children
- E Youth

Answer: D

Reason: Children are the main recipients of traditional storytelling aimed at passing moral lessons and history.

(viii) Theatre for social change is an artistic approach which also involves non-artistic activities in its implementations. Which among the following list is the suitable approach for the implementation?

- A Communication, creation, performance
- B Evaluation, creation, performance
- C Evaluation, communication, performance
- D Evaluation, performance, data collection
- E Creation, data collection, communication

Answer: C

Reason: Evaluation, communication, and performance are key stages in applying theatre for social change effectively.

(ix) You have been sent to a village to conduct a participatory artistic research but before getting into the actual research you go around the village to see the area and its facilities. How would you call this stage of your research in your reporting?

- A Data counting
- B Data collection
- C Familiarization
- D Preliminaries
- E Monitoring

Answer: C

Reason: Familiarization is the stage where researchers explore the environment before actual data collection.

(x) Recently many artists are creative hence involved in selling their theatre performances like any other products in the market. Identify the term that describe that creativity.

- A Theatre entrepreneurship
- B Theatre vending
- C Theatre marketing
- D Theatre trade
- E Theatre business

Answer: A

Reason: Theatre entrepreneurship refers to using innovation and business skills to commercialize theatre products.

2. Match the meaning of the types of performing space in List A with the corresponding name in List B by writing the letter of the correct response beside the item number in your answer booklet.

List A

- (i) The performing space which is open, flexible and adaptable.
- (ii) The performing space with stage being surrounded by the audience.
- (iii) The kind of performing space which is intended for theatre production.
- (iv) The performing space with an elevated stage without proscenium.
- (v) The performing space that has three sides surrounded by the audience.
- (vi) The performing space with the stage opening in a picture frame.

List B

- A Arena stage
- B Proscenium stage
- C Thrust stage
- D Black box stage
- E Flexible stage
- F Found space

G Platform stage
H Wagon stage

Answers:

- (i) E
- (ii) A
- (iii) D
- (iv) G
- (v) C
- (vi) B

3. Script is among important aspects of western drama that defines a well organised performance. By using six points, support this statement.

The script provides the structure of the performance by outlining the storyline, dialogue, and actions, enabling proper coordination among the cast and crew.

It helps actors memorize and rehearse their lines, ensuring consistency and accuracy in performance delivery.

The script guides the director in organizing scenes and managing stage movements, leading to smooth transitions.

It gives the technical team a reference for designing sound, lighting, and scenery, enhancing the production quality.

A script allows for effective timing and pacing of the drama, avoiding confusion and ensuring clarity.

It serves as a reference point for evaluation, critique, and possible improvements during or after production.

4. In six points, briefly explain the characteristics of African drama which distinguish it from other forms of dramas.

African drama integrates traditional cultural elements such as songs, dances, rituals, and myths, making it unique.

It involves audience participation through call-and-response, clapping, or direct interaction.

The performances are mostly held in open spaces like market grounds or village centers instead of formal theatres.

African drama often conveys moral, political, or educational messages rooted in community experiences.

It uses indigenous languages, local proverbs, and storytelling techniques that reflect African identity.

Costumes, masks, and body paintings are heavily used to represent different roles, spirits, or characters.

5. In six points, briefly explain the functions of costumes in any theatre performance.

Costumes help identify and distinguish characters, including their age, gender, status, or profession.

They enhance the visual appeal and realism of the performance, helping the audience immerse into the story.

Costumes symbolize culture, period, or setting of the play, helping contextualize the drama.

They assist in character transformation, allowing actors to fit into different roles effectively.

Costumes can help communicate the emotional or psychological state of a character. They may support symbolic meaning or themes being conveyed in the performance.

6. Briefly describe the following terms as they are used in a theatre for social change process:

(i) Data collection

This is the process of gathering information from relevant sources through methods like interviews, observation, or questionnaires to support theatre-based interventions.

(ii) Data analysis

It involves examining and interpreting the collected data to identify themes, patterns, or problems which can be translated into dramatic performances.

(iii) Observation

This is the process of watching and recording behaviours, events, or conditions within a community to understand their needs and challenges before staging a performance.

(iv) Interview

A method of collecting qualitative data by asking individuals structured or open-ended questions to get personal insights and opinions.

(v) Primary data

This is first-hand information collected directly from the source, such as through interviews, focus groups, or surveys in the target community.

(vi) Secondary data

This is information obtained from existing sources like books, reports, or articles that were previously collected by others.

7. Briefly explain six elements that should be unfold before the spectators in a theatre performance.

Plot: The storyline or sequence of events that drives the drama forward and engages the audience.

Character: Individuals in the performance whose roles reflect human behavior, emotions, or social positions.

Dialogue: The spoken words used by characters to communicate, reveal conflict, and convey themes.

Setting: The time and place where the action occurs, contributing to the mood and context.

Theme: The central idea, message, or lesson conveyed through the performance.

Conflict: The tension or struggle between opposing forces that creates interest and progression in the story.

8. Differentiate the following theatre arts forms:

(i) Ngonjera and Vichekesho

Ngonjera is a poetic dialogue performance that involves argument or debate in verse form, usually serious or educative in nature. Vichekesho refers to comic skits meant to entertain by provoking laughter, often featuring humorous characters and situations.

(ii) Storytelling and theatrical ritual

Storytelling is the oral narration of tales, myths, or real-life experiences often meant to teach, entertain, or preserve culture. Theatrical ritual involves symbolic, spiritual, or traditional performances often used in ceremonies for religious or social purposes.

(iii) Dance and recitation

Dance is a performance art involving rhythmic body movements often accompanied by music, used to express ideas or emotions. Recitation involves the delivery of poems or written texts aloud with clarity, tone, and emotion, often to inform or inspire.

9. Rubi was employed by the radio station to produce radio drama. Elaborate six steps Rubi was supposed to follow in producing a drama.

Script writing: Rubi would begin by writing a well-structured script that contains dialogue, sound effects, and directions suited for audio performance. The script must be adapted specifically for radio, emphasizing strong dialogue and descriptive narration since visuals are absent.

Casting: After the script is finalized, Rubi would select suitable voice actors to perform different characters. The actors must have expressive voices that can convey emotion, tone, and clarity suitable for radio listening.

Rehearsal: Rubi would organize rehearsals where the actors practice their parts together to ensure fluency, timing, and effective interaction. This helps identify and correct errors or misinterpretations in the script or delivery.

Recording: The next step involves recording the performance in a soundproof studio using quality microphones and equipment. Rubi ensures that each scene is captured clearly, including all voice lines and sound effects.

Editing and mixing: Rubi would then edit the recorded material by cutting errors, adjusting volume levels, and adding sound effects or background music. This stage polishes the drama for clarity and listener engagement.

Broadcasting: Finally, Rubi would schedule and broadcast the drama through the radio station. The drama would be transmitted to listeners, and Rubi may also collect feedback to assess audience response and improve future productions.

10. You have been invited by a neighbouring school to talk about the functions of dance to students in the digital age. Analyse six functions that you would include in your presentation.

Cultural preservation: Dance serves as a tool for preserving and passing on traditional values, rituals, and cultural identity even in the digital age. Through videos and online platforms, cultural dances can be documented and shared widely.

Education: Dance can be used to teach various academic subjects through creative expression, such as using movement to understand mathematics or literature. Educational dances are increasingly integrated with digital learning tools.

Communication: In the digital era, dance is a universal language used to express feelings, stories, and social messages. It is widely shared on social media platforms like TikTok and YouTube to reach global audiences.

Entertainment: Dance remains a major source of entertainment across digital platforms. Students engage in watching, learning, or performing dances for fun and relaxation, often participating in global trends.

Social change: Dance can be used to raise awareness and advocate for change on issues such as gender, climate, and health. Through online campaigns, dancers can deliver powerful messages to millions instantly.

Physical fitness and mental health: Dance promotes physical health by improving flexibility, strength, and coordination. In the digital age, students can access online dance classes, which also help reduce stress and improve mental wellness.

11. Storytelling is a theatre form which teaches using fiction and non-fiction events happened in the past, but it's essential to be performed today to children. Justify the statement by using six points.

Moral instruction: Storytelling helps children learn moral values such as honesty, respect, and kindness. Through fictional and real-life scenarios, children grasp the importance of good behavior in a relatable way.

Cultural awareness: Performing stories helps children understand their cultural roots, traditions, and history. Storytelling ensures that this knowledge is passed down through generations, preserving identity.

Language development: Listening to and participating in storytelling enriches children's vocabulary, comprehension, and speaking skills. It enhances communication ability, especially when stories are told interactively.

Imagination and creativity: Storytelling stimulates children's imagination by allowing them to visualize characters, settings, and actions. This helps in the development of creative thinking and problem-solving abilities.

Emotional development: Stories allow children to explore emotions like fear, joy, and sadness in a safe environment. This helps them understand their feelings and develop empathy for others.

Entertainment and engagement: Storytelling captures children's attention and keeps them entertained. It serves as a healthy, educational alternative to digital distractions while promoting active listening and focus.