

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**  
**NATIONAL EXAMINATION COUNCIL OF TANZANIA**  
**FORM TWO NATIONAL ASSESSMENT**

**019**

**THEATRE ARTS**

**Time: 2:30 Hours.**

**ANSWERS**

**Year: 2022**

**Instructions**

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1. This paper consists of sections **A, B** and **C**.
2. Answer **all** questions.
3. Section A carries **15** marks, section B  
Carries **70** marks and section C carries **15** marks each.
4. Cellular phones and unauthorized materials  
are **not allowed** in the examination room.
5. Write your **Examination Number** on every page of your answer booklet(s).

FOR EXAMINER'S USE ONLY		
QUESTION NUMBER	SCORE	EXAMINER'S INITIALS
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
<b>TOTAL</b>		
<b>CHECKER'S INITIALS</b>		

## SECTION A (15 Marks)

Answer **all** questions from this section.

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

- (i) The combination of words and symbols used within the society for communication is:
- A. Culture
  - B. Sign
  - C. Language
  - D. Art

**The correct answer is C. language is one of the components of culture.**

- (ii) The traditional dance used in agricultural activities exercised by the Sukuma people is:
- A. Bugobogobo and Mdumange
  - B. Bugobogobo and Bulabuka
  - C. Sindimba and Bulabuka
  - D. Bugobogobo and sindimba.

**The correct answer is B. *Mdumange* is a dance performed by the Sambaa people in occasions related to celebrations not in agricultural activities.**

- (iii) The name given to a person working on blocking plot, noting all scripts changes and working with actors to help them learn their lines.
- A. Costumer designer
  - B. Properties manager
  - C. Lighting designer
  - D. Assistant director

**The correct answer is D. name given to a person working on blocking plot, noting all scripts changes and working with actors to help them learn their lines.**

- (iv) The theatre arts practices (periodization) before colonialism in Africa is:
- A. Colonial theatre
  - B. Pre-colonial theatre
  - C. Inter-colonial theatre

D. Post-colonial

**The correct answer is B. Pre-colonial theatre refers to the traditional forms of performance that existed in African societies before the arrival of European colonial influence.**

(v) What is the country where theatre originated in the western part of the world?

A. Ancient Russian

B. Ancient Ireland

C. Ancient Greek

D. Ancient England

**The correct answer is C. Ancient Greek theatre refers to the dramatic performances that developed in Greece around the 5th century BCE. It originated from religious festivals honoring the god Dionysus, the god of wine and fertility, and became a structured art form with significant influence on modern Western theatre.**

(vi) The kind of drama which its story has excited twists and its action underscored by thrilling music is

A. Comedy

B. Melodrama

C. Tragedy

D. Tragicomedy

**The correct answer is B. the prefix “Melo” derives from the word “melody” which means music sounds.**

(vii) The theatrical form characterised by collective creativity, improvisation and audience participation is:

A. Heroic recitation

B. Theatrical ritual

C. Storytelling

D. Dance

**The correct answer is C. Storytelling is the art of narrating stories orally to entertain, educate, preserve culture, and communicate moral lessons. It is one of**

**the oldest forms of theatre and remains a central feature in many African and global cultural traditions.**

- (viii) A theatrical form characterized by the component of drama that provides visibility, establishes time, places and creates visual composition o the stage is:
- A. Spectacles
  - B. Makeup
  - C. Setting
  - D. Lighting

**The correct answer is D. theatrical form characterized by the component of drama that provides visibility, establishes time, places and creates visual composition o the stage.**

- (ix) The plays combined with Kabuki theatre is:
- A. Comic and serious
  - B. Music and clowning
  - C. Music and farce
  - D. Violence and death

**The correct answer is A. Comic and serious theatre are two contrasting forms of dramatic performance that serve different purposes in entertainment, education, and social commentary.**

- (x) The person responsible for defining characters, help performers and audience to understand the characters and how they relate to one another is:
- A. Sound designer
  - B. Costumer designer
  - C. Lighting designer
  - D. Properties designer

**The correct answer is B. A costume designer is a key member of a theatre production team responsible for creating and selecting clothing and accessories worn by performers. Their work helps define characters, indicate social status, period, and personality, and enhance the overall visual storytelling of the performance**

2. Match the description of theatrical forms in **List A** with the respective theatrical forms in **List B** by writing the letter of the correct response to the corresponding item number in each case as shown in the table below:

<b>List A</b>	<b>List B</b>
(i) The oldest continuously performed drama in the world.	A. punk
(ii) An originally comedic music dance-drama.	B. Kabuki
(iii) A drama made with genre based on heroic stones of kings or sages.	C. Opera
(iv) An originally erotic dance and fashion that turned to drama.	D. Ramayana
(v) A set of epic stories from which Kathakali draws inspiration.	E. Dance
	F. No
	G. Sanskrit

### Answers

<b>List A</b>	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
<b>List B</b>	F	C	G	B	D

### SECTION B (70 Marks)

Answer **all** questions from this section.

3. Kathakali is the dance-drama which is widely known among the Indian theatre forms. Briefly describe five features of the Kathakali dance.

Kathakali is one of the most famous classical dance-drama traditions of India, originating from the state of Kerala. It combines dance, drama, music, and elaborate costumes to tell stories, mainly drawn from Hindu epics such as the *Ramayana* and *Mahabharata*.

#### **(i) Elaborate Costumes and Makeup**

One of the most striking features of Kathakali is its colorful and detailed costumes. Performers wear large headdresses, bright garments, and heavy ornaments. The makeup is symbolic, using colors like green for heroes, red for villains, and black for evil spirits, helping the audience identify each character easily.

#### **(ii) Facial Expressions (Navarasas)**

Kathakali heavily relies on facial expressions to convey emotions and meaning. The actors train to master the *Navarasas*, which are the nine basic emotions such as love, anger, fear, joy, and sorrow. This expressive art allows the story to be understood even without words.

#### **(iii) Gesture Language (Mudras)**

Instead of spoken dialogue, Kathakali uses a complex system of hand gestures known as *mudras*. These gestures represent words, ideas, or emotions, forming a complete visual language that communicates the story to the audience.

#### **(iv) Accompanied by Music and Drums**

The performance is supported by traditional musical instruments such as the *chenda* (drum), *maddalam*, *cymbals*, and vocalists who narrate the story in rhythm with the dancer's movements. The music sets the mood and pace of the performance.

#### **(v) Mythological Themes**

Kathakali draws its stories from ancient Hindu epics and legends. The performances depict the battle between good and evil, highlighting moral lessons and divine justice. Each act carries a spiritual or ethical message, making Kathakali both entertaining and educative.

### **4. Briefly describe five elements of the forms of Theatre art that are indigenous to African society.**

#### **(i) Rituals**

Rituals are one of the main elements of indigenous African theatre. They are performed to honor ancestors, gods, or spirits and often mark important life events such as birth, initiation, marriage, or death. These rituals involve singing, dancing, and symbolic actions that connect the community with the spiritual world.

**(ii) Dance**

Dance is a key part of African theatre art. It is used to express emotions, celebrate achievements, and communicate stories without the use of words. Each dance has meaning and rhythm, often accompanied by traditional drums or songs that engage both performers and the audience.

**(iii) Music and Drumming**

Music gives life to African theatre performances. Drums, rattles, and flutes are used to set the rhythm and mood of the performance. Songs are used to narrate stories, praise heroes, or convey messages, making music an essential tool for communication and unity.

**(iv) Storytelling**

Storytelling in African theatre serves to educate, entertain, and preserve culture. It is done by skilled narrators who use gestures, voice variation, and audience interaction. Through stories, moral lessons, traditions, and historical events are passed from one generation to another.

**(v) Costumes and Masks**

Costumes and masks are used to represent different characters, spirits, or animals during performances. They help to create a visual identity for each role and add beauty and meaning to the theatre. Masks, in particular, often symbolize the presence of supernatural beings or ancestors during rituals and performances.

5. Briefly explain five types of theatrical rituals that is performed in African continent.

**(i) Initiation Rituals**

These rituals are performed to mark the transition from childhood to adulthood. They usually involve teaching moral values, cultural traditions, and responsibilities expected in adulthood. Examples include circumcision ceremonies and other rites of passage found among many African communities.

**(ii) Marriage Rituals**

Marriage rituals celebrate the union between two individuals and their families. They include dances, songs, blessings, and gift exchanges to ensure fertility, harmony, and mutual respect between the couple. Such rituals strengthen family and community ties.

**(iii) Funeral Rituals**

Funeral rituals are conducted to honor the dead and ensure a peaceful journey of the spirit to the ancestral world. They involve mourning songs, drumming, and symbolic acts that show respect to the deceased while comforting the living.

#### **(iv) Harvest Rituals**

These rituals are performed to thank the gods or ancestors for a good harvest and to pray for future abundance. Communities gather for singing, dancing, and offering a portion of the harvest to the spirits as a sign of gratitude.

#### **(v) Healing Rituals**

Healing rituals are conducted to restore health and spiritual balance to an individual or the community. They often involve the use of herbs, chants, and drumming performed by traditional healers or spiritual leaders who communicate with ancestral spirits to remove illness or misfortune.

### **6. Explain in brief the functions of**

#### **(i) Actor**

The actor is responsible for bringing characters to life on stage. They interpret the script and use voice, movement, and emotion to communicate the story to the audience. A good actor helps the audience connect with the play by portraying realistic feelings and actions.

#### **(ii) Playwright**

The playwright is the writer of the play. They create the story, develop characters, and write dialogue that expresses the theme and message of the performance. The playwright provides the foundation for the entire production through their script.

#### **(iii) Scene Designer**

The scene designer creates the physical environment in which the play takes place. They design sets, backgrounds, and stage props that reflect the location, time period, and mood of the story. A well-designed scene helps the audience understand the setting and enhances the visual appeal of the performance.

#### **(iv) Costume Designer**

The costume designer plans and creates the clothing worn by the actors. Costumes reflect each character's role, status, culture, and personality. They also help in setting the play's time period and contribute to the overall visual style of the production.

**(v) Light Designer**

The light designer controls the use of lighting to create mood, focus attention, and enhance the atmosphere of the play. Lighting helps show the time of day, change of scenes, and emotional tone. It also ensures the visibility of actors and stage elements during the performance.

7. Briefly explain the five elements that are important in performing the recitation.

**(i) Voice Control**

A good recitation requires clear and well-controlled voice projection. The performer must adjust their tone, pitch, and volume to express emotions and ensure that the audience hears and understands every word clearly.

**(ii) Pronunciation and Clarity**

Correct pronunciation of words is very important in recitation. Each word should be spoken clearly and distinctly so that the meaning of the poem or piece is easily understood by the audience.

**(iii) Facial Expression**

Facial expressions help to communicate the emotions and mood of the recited piece. The performer's face should reflect the feelings of joy, sadness, anger, or fear that are being expressed in the words.

**(iv) Gestures and Body Movement**

Appropriate hand gestures and body movements add life to the recitation. They help emphasize certain words or ideas and make the performance more engaging and expressive.

**(v) Emotion and Interpretation**

A successful recitation shows the performer's understanding and emotional connection to the piece. The performer must interpret the meaning behind the words and express the right emotions to make the audience feel the message being conveyed.

8. Explain the five functions of Theatre arts in the community at large.

**(i) Education**

Theatre arts educate the community by teaching moral values, social norms, and cultural traditions. Through plays, stories, and performances, people learn about history, social issues, and acceptable behavior in society. It serves as a tool for passing knowledge from one generation to another.

**(ii) Entertainment**

Theatre provides enjoyment and relaxation to the community. People attend performances to laugh, cry, or reflect on life, which helps relieve stress and brings happiness. Entertainment through theatre strengthens social bonds as people come together to share experiences.

**(iii) Cultural Preservation**

Theatre arts help preserve and promote cultural heritage. Traditional songs, dances, stories, and rituals performed on stage remind people of their roots and keep their cultural identity alive for future generations.

**(iv) Social Criticism and Awareness**

Through drama and performance, theatre highlights social, political, and economic issues affecting the community. It encourages people to reflect, discuss, and find solutions to problems such as corruption, inequality, and injustice.

**(v) Unity and Social Cohesion**

Theatre brings people together regardless of their background. During performances, audiences share emotions and experiences that promote understanding, cooperation, and unity among community members. It strengthens relationships and builds a sense of belonging.

9. Explain the forms of Western theatre.

**(i) Tragedy**

Tragedy is a serious form of Western theatre that deals with profound themes such as human suffering, moral conflict, and fate. It often ends sadly, with the downfall or death of the main character, who usually has a tragic flaw. Famous examples include Oedipus Rex by Sophocles and Hamlet by William Shakespeare.

**(ii) Comedy**

Comedy focuses on humor and aims to entertain by showing human weaknesses, social mistakes, or everyday situations in a funny way. It often ends happily and may involve misunderstandings,

clever dialogue, or exaggerated characters. Examples include *The Comedy of Errors* by Shakespeare and *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde.

**(iii) Tragicomedy**

Tragicomedy combines elements of both tragedy and comedy. It includes serious situations that may have humorous moments or a hopeful ending. It reflects the complexity of real life, where joy and sorrow often exist together.

**(iv) Melodrama**

Melodrama emphasizes strong emotions, moral conflict, and exaggerated characters. It usually portrays the struggle between good and evil, where virtue triumphs in the end. Music is often used to heighten the emotional effect.

**(v) Farce**

Farce is a form of comedy that uses exaggerated actions, absurd situations, and fast-paced humor to provoke laughter. It often includes mistaken identities, physical comedy, and ridiculous behavior. Examples include *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* and *A Flea in Her Ear*.

**SECTION A (15 Marks)**

Answer question **ten (10)**

10. Describe the importance of storytelling to the society.

**(i) Preservation of Culture and Traditions**

Storytelling helps to preserve the culture, beliefs, and traditions of a community. Through stories, people pass on important customs, values, and historical events from one generation to another, keeping their cultural identity alive.

**(ii) Education and Moral Teaching**

Stories are used to teach lessons about right and wrong, courage, honesty, and respect. By listening to stories, both children and adults learn about moral behavior and how to live responsibly in society.

**(iii) Entertainment**

Storytelling provides enjoyment and relaxation. It entertains people through humor, suspense, and imagination, bringing joy and unity among community members during gatherings or celebrations.

**(iv) Promotion of Social Unity**

When stories are told, people come together to listen, share ideas, and interact. This promotes togetherness, understanding, and peace among members of the community.

**(v) Preservation of Language and Oral Skills**

Storytelling helps to preserve local languages and improve communication skills. It keeps native languages alive and encourages creativity, expression, and the use of rich vocabulary.

**(vi) Transmission of History and Knowledge**

Stories act as a record of past events and experiences. They help people understand their origins, struggles, and achievements, providing knowledge that guides the community in facing present and future challenges.