

Names:.....Index. No:.....

School Exam Number.....Signature:.....

*Candidates should **NOT** write their Centre Name
or Centre Number anywhere on this booklet*

**112/1
ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
Paper 1
July 2024
2 hours**



ENTEBBE JOINT EXAMINATION BUREAU
Uganda Lower Secondary Certificate of Education

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 1

2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

*This paper consists of **two** Sections: **A** and **B**. It has **four** examination items.*

*Section **A** is compulsory.*

*Answer **one** item from Section **B***

Answer three items in all.

*Answers to Section **A** and **B** must be written in the spaces provided.*

Any additional items answered will not be scored.

Section / Question		Score
A	1	
	2	
B	Either 3	
	Or 4	
TOTAL		

SECTION A

Item 1: Read the text below.

To hell with the law! We shall circumcise the girls

Elders in Bukwo and Kapchorwa districts are preparing to circumcise over 200 girls next month despite a new law banning the practice.

They say that the whole tribe would rather go to prison than abolish a custom they inherited from their ancestors. The United Nations categorises it as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) because it damages a woman's sexuality and leads to various complications. FGM refers to the removal of the external female genitalia.

Accordingly, in December 2009, parliament passed a law banning female circumcision. President Yoweri Museveni signed it into law on 17th March, 2010 and it took effect on April 9, 2010.

The law argues that FGM infringes on the rights of the woman and also leads to health hazards, including excessive bleeding, death, birth complications and exposure to illnesses.

But the Sabiny are unfazed by this law. The men like it because circumcised women are less interested in sex and are, therefore, less likely to have extramarital affairs. The girls do not want to be considered outcasts, so they go for the knife.

"This is a very sensitive period and no politician will talk about abolishing FGM because we shall lose votes. For me, I will not talk about FGM because I know this will land me into the political dustbin," says Chelangat.

"They came to me in January and I have been training them on how to go through the ritual. They told me they want to become women like others because they are tired of being scolded by the community that still calls them girls because they are not cut," a mentor said.

Alice Kokop, 65, another mentor, has also received about 15 applications from girls in Kabei Sub county wishing to be cut. Other girls were to come from Chesower and Bukwo. "I have already taken them through a series of trainings and they are about to be ready. We shall cut the first group in the first week of December," Kokop explains. Asked about the law prohibiting FGM, the two said the law cannot stop the cultural rite of the Sabiny people unless the community agrees with it.

Twenty-year old Ana Chebet is a resident of Matibeyi village. Married with three children, Chebet had always been scolded by the community for not undergoing circumcision that passes her from childhood to adulthood. "I cannot milk a cow or climb into a family granary. Whenever I go to the well, other women throw scorn at me because I am not cut," added Chebet, who would be one of the candidates that December. She said mentors trained her on how to dance when preparing for the ritual, the kind of food to eat, including posho, beans, honey and fermented milk to replace lost energy and blood.

Alice Chemutai, 17, another resident of Matebeyi, was convinced by her aunt to undergo female circumcision. But because she is educated, she refused and her father supported her. She could write an endless list of young girls who had dropped out of school to get married after the ritual and those who had birth complication, bleeding and infections thereafter.

“I will never get circumcised because this will not only infringe on my rights of womanhood but also exposes me to long-term health hazards. I am happy my father and mother support me against other relatives,” added Chemutai, a senior three student at Amananga High School in Sudan. According to the law, a person commits aggravated FGM in situations where death occurs or where the victim is disabled or is infected with HIV and AIDS. A person also commits aggravated FGM where the offender is a parent, guardian or a person having control over the victim or where the act is done by a health worker.

The law stipulates that a person who commits aggravated FGM shall be imprisoned for a period not exceeding 10 years. People who participate or aid FGM shall be jailed. The Sabiny people claim they do not fear the law initiated or brought by the people of Sebei. “It was brought by people who do not understand why we carry out circumcision,” said Alice Kokop.

According to Sabiny customs and traditions, female circumcision had been around for over 2,000 years and it is carried out to convert females from childhood to adulthood. Females who are not circumcised are not called women and they are not supposed to carry out certain home activities like milking a cow, climbing into a family granary and talking with the elders.

(Adapted from: The Saturday Vision, 6th November, 2010)

Task

You are the chairperson of the Youth Club in your community. Prepare what you will share with the youth giving reasons why the Sabiny people have insisted on female circumcision and the negative effects it brings. Your summary should be in about 100 words.

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Item 2: Read the text below.

Recently, I visited my sister who lives in Jinja. I arrived at about 3.00 o'clock in the afternoon. After asking around I was directed to her house. I knocked on the door for quite some time but no one answered. However, I could hear some music playing inside the house. I got frustrated, and being very tired, I decided to sit on the beautiful lawn that made up the large compound. I must have dosed off because the next thing I heard was my sister's voice waking me up. 'Mukisa, how can you travel all the way from Kagulu to come and sleep on the lawn? Let's go inside,' she said as she led me into the house. I was surprised when we got inside the house only to find four children glued to the TV. My greetings were answered with sullen grunts. Only one or two looked up briefly to see who the stranger was. My sister excitedly introduced me to the children as their uncle. They shouted and screamed, but I was scandalised to realise that I was not the cause of their excitement. Their pop star had just taken the stage in the music program they were watching, causing all the excitement. This infuriated me.

For the next three days I witnessed the children wake up early in the morning and watch TV till late into the night. I observed that during prayers for meals, all the children did was to mute the sound on the TV and then pretend to be praying while they continued to watch the TV. I heard very little conversation either among themselves or their mother. These children had become 'TV zombies'. On the last evening of my visit I decided to intervene. After supper I demanded that they switch off the TV. This was met with disbelief and open hostility. Nobody made any effort to switch off the TV, but I was not going to relent. So I took the remote control unit and switched off the TV. 'What is wrong with watching TV?' the eldest girl protested, looking at me with murderous eyes.

'The Television itself is not the problem,' I said firmly, 'but the way one uses it'. At least I now had their attention. The house was deadly silent. This was the first time in three days that the children were talking with me, albeit in a hostile environment. I explained to them that television was a positive tool only to a certain extent. First, it is certainly a good source of education. There are many well researched documentary programmes which viewers can benefit from. Second, TV is a good source of entertainment. There are numerous sports and drama programmes which are quite entertaining. On the other hand, TV can be a negative force. When you sit for hours on end watching every programme without discrimination, this is very dangerous. Some of the programmes may not be appropriate and may corrupt your morals. You also run the risk of becoming a zombie. 'Since I came here three days ago none of you has had time to talk with me, yet I am your only maternal uncle.' I reasoned with now attentive children. 'I am leaving tomorrow morning but none of you even knows my name!' I continued. 'I am sorry, uncle,' the youngest child pleaded. 'I am not against your watching TV, but you need to plan your time properly so that you don't end up

watching TV the whole day. You must select the programmes you are going to watch carefully; otherwise you'll end up watching all the programmes, including those meant for adults only!' I concluded.

As I went to sleep that evening, all the children followed suit. The next morning, as my sister and her four children escorted me to the bus station, I told her that she needed to create time to discuss with the children what they watched on TV.

Respond to each of the following tasks above.

- (a) 'The television itself is not the problem,' I said firmly, 'but the way one uses it.' Rewrite without using quotation marks.

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- (b) In life, we understand people's character by what they say, do or what others say about them. Describe the character of the following;

(i) the children

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(ii) their uncle

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- (c) Advice is one of those special things we need but many people never want to listen to it. What advice would you give regarding the appropriate use of the television?

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- (d) Learning never stops. What are some of the lessons you learn after reading the passage?

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- (e) Describe what might happen to growing children like those in the passage if the trend in the passage does not change.

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SECTION B

Either 3

You are the chairperson of the writer's club in your school. A writers' contest has been organized among the schools in your zone. In order to prepare for that contest, you need to organize rehearsals at your school and you want the whole school to attend. Write to the school administration to allow you conduct this activity.

Or 4

There are growing cases of ill-discipline in your class; some students dodge lessons, disrespect teachers and constantly make funny jokes when lessons are going on. You were mentioned as the leader of that group of students. Write what you said when you met the head teacher in her office to respond to her accusations.

No

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