

NAME: ..... STREAM: .....

112

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

November, 2023

2 Hours

## THE EL-TABLAZ BOOKS

### *END OF YEAR ASSESSMENT 2023*

S.2 ENGLISH LANGUAGE

2 hours

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

- This paper has **three** sections: Section **A**, **B** and **C**.
- Respond to **ALL** tasks.
- Write your responses to Section **B** and **C** neatly on the answer sheets provided.

### **SECTION A: Comprehension (30 Scores)**

***Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow it.***

Have you ever wondered what drives women to scald their faces with chemicals which leave them with Mirinda faces and Pepsi legs? “It’s not fashionable to have a two colour combination anymore; it’s a sign of poverty when you have money. There is no reason why you should not apply the chemical on your entire body,” says Phiona Mirembe a twenty-four-year-old hair dresser in Wandegaya.

Some body parts, though, are stubborn; it takes much longer to have the chemical work on them if ever, so as the other parts are looking brown and bright, these parts stay as dark as coal. These parts include the knees, the knuckles, toes, head and lips. When you look at these parts, you can easily tell if a woman is naturally brown or bleached, as they tend to be darker than other parts of the body.

Since not everybody can afford the less aggressive bleach chemicals, which are expensive, some women have devised local ways of coming up with the magic formula. They mix Jik, Omo and various other reagents, which they apply to the face. But since chemicals are not meant for this purpose, they end up corroding the skin so severely. The skin dries up and starts looking like scales of a fish or a snake. These scales later fall off leaving the inner pink skin exposed. With continuous use, other women start getting parches under the eyes locally known as “Namakula”. These come about because the skin under the eyes is very sensitive, so with continued use of these harsh chemicals, the effects start showing.

Bleached women tend to age and get wrinkles faster than their counterparts. This is because bleaching the skin involves stripping the body of the outer layer, which contains melanin, a chemical which protects you from the harmful rays of the sun. Thus, your skin loses its shield making you seem like you have seen more days than you actually have.

When you bleach your skin, make sure you don’t become an accident victim or give birth through caesarian section or have a medical operation. This is because after bleaching, the skin loses its elasticity and thus the ability to stretch. Because of this, it takes much longer than usual to heal after it has been cut or bruised.

The chemical in bleaching creams known as mercury and hydroquinone have been identified as cancer causing agents. When they get on your skin and leak into your blood, you can get skin cancer and various other ailments. In most developed countries, those chemicals have been banned, although they are still used in products for export which find their way to the African market. In spite of all these risks, women and some men incidentally go ahead to apply these deadly chemicals on their skins.

Years of watching foreign television have showed us that all people who star in soaps, music shows, name it are of fair skin. So we take this as a measure of beauty and success and we aim to be just like them forgetting that such people are from another race. The majority of people in this country believe that to be beautiful is to be light-skinned, so many women aim to meet those standards.

Some women and men often end up using skin-lighting creams in their bid to fight pimples. These creams work effectively against pimples ironically, and even when someone discovers that they bleach, he or she will not mind for as long as they are able to give them a smooth complexion.

The reason why Masaka has the highest incidence of bleached faces is peer pressure. Women are very easy to influence: if one sees other women on her block of single room houses bleached, she will want to bleach too, to compete favourably or for fear of them thinking that

she is too broke to afford ‘styling up’. It’s called the bandwagon effect. It starts with one and ends up spreading like the deadly Ebola virus.

If a woman has been badly taunted, since her childhood, about her bad looks or if she simply feels she is not as good looking as her counterparts, she will bleach herself because she figures that, that is the missing link in the mystery of her elusive looks. This kind of woman will not hesitate to bleach her body as well to get rid of her embarrassing dark colour. At times you find that a woman who is already light-skinned is adding chemicals to make her even lighter. This is an insecure woman who can’t accept herself the way she is. There are also some jobs which require a woman to be light-skinned. Many women will bleach their skins with the belief that this will attract more customers to them.

(Adapted from: ***The Red Paper Daily***, Wednesday April 13, 2005)

- a) In about 70 words, explain the causes of bleaching. (10 Scores)

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- b) One of your friends has expressed to you her intention to bleach during the holidays. Explain to her why it is not a good idea. (06 Scores)

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- c) It's called the bandwagon effect. It starts with one and ends up spreading like the deadly Ebola virus. (Join the two sentences). (02 Scores)

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- d) What is your opinion of people who bleach? As a concerned citizen, what would you do to make people in your society more proud of who they are? (06 Scores)

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- e) "Many women will bleach their skins with the belief that this will attract more customers to them." Do you support the statement? Why? (06 Scores)

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***SECTION B: Functional Writing (25 scores)***

You recently received a letter from your parents asking how you are faring at your new high school. They are interested in your school's rules and regulations, acceptable behaviour, timetables, locations of different major facilities and main activities carried out at your school. Give all the necessary information about your school as required by your parents.

***SECTION C: Creative Writing (25 scores)***

You have been reading on the internet and in the newspapers reports of bullying experiences in high school subjected on new students. You have come to understand the causes and effects of this vice as presented in the articles you have read. Basing on the obtained information, produce a write up on how the vice of bullying and teasing can be curbed in schools in your country.

***Reading Can Seriously Damage Your Ignorance!***