

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



WAKISSHA JOINT MOCK EXAMINATIONS

Uganda 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 examination items in all.

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

Answers to Section B must be written in the answer booklets/sheets provided.

Any additional items answered will not be scored.

For Examiner's Use only			
Section		Score	Examiner's Signature & No.
A	1		
	2		
B	No.		
Total			

SECTION A

Item 1. *Read the passage below and respond to the task after it.*

Wedding meetings are probably one of this country's most unpopular concepts. There are a few people in Uganda who have wedding meetings that are not fundraising meetings.

There is a general tendency for people to treat their wedding meetings as some sort of obligation. People aren't really obliged to make your day everything it was in your dreams. You have to remember that they are spending their time, money or both. They have a choice and you usually don't.

As the owner, keep a good record, because it could be your turn next time. It is alright and practical to send a general text, but respect elders and bosses.

Be considerate when choosing a venue. Even if everyone has a car, find a venue that is as central as possible. For that very first meeting buy everyone a drink. It counts a lot. They don't have to be expensive drinks, especially if you are holding fundraising meetings. In later meetings, you may use the chairman's bag or even let them use their own money.

Do not keep people waiting. In this era of mobile phones, it is unforgettable. You may be late in spite of your best efforts. Ask someone else to stand in for you.

The chairman of your meetings is a very essential person. The chairman personifies the bride and groom. You must choose someone close to both of you and who is also polite, authoritative and disciplined. If for some reason you are not around, he must be able to answer questions on your wishes without fidgeting.

Like everyone else on your main committee, have a secretary who is good with time. This person should be able to multi task. They must be able to speak, listen and write. They must be good with numbers and have a keen ear for details. Most importantly, they must have access to typing and printing facilities, so that you don't have another person to type. New comers should be able to read the notes and feel as if they were actually there.

It goes without saying that you should have a treasurer. Don't choose someone whose house has just been advertised for auction. Chances are that he will not have an account for the money. Money contributions should be kept by someone strict and who prioritises. You can't pay for fireworks before you have covered transport.

(By Tina Turyagyenda Adopted from Bride and Bridegroom. Issue 5)

Task:

Your cousin is preparing to wed his long time girl-friend. He is trying to put together a wedding committee and he has sought your opinion. Using information from the passages write a paragraph of not more than 120 words, to help your cousin know what should be considered to have a wedding meeting.

2. Read the passage below and respond to the task after it.

When I told my family that I was thinking of taking a cooking job, the roars of laughter were rather discouraging. No one believed that I could cook at all, as I had never had a chance to practice at home. Our cook aged sixty-five and slightly crouched, had ruled in the kitchen for thirty-five years and had an irritating tendency to regard the saucepans, stove and indeed all the kitchen fittings as her own property.

I once crept down there when I thought she was asleep in her room to try out an omelette. Noiselessly I removed a frying pan from its hook and the eggs from the cupboard. It was the pop of the gas that woke her, I think, for I was just breaking the first egg when a pair of slippered feet shuffled round the door and a shriek of horror caused me to break the egg on the door. This disaster, together with the fact that I was using her one very special beloved and delicately cared-for frying-pan, upset her so much that she locked herself in the room with all the food and we had to make our Sunday dinner of bananas.

If the family weren't going to be helpful, I would look for a job all by myself and not tell them about it till I'd got one. I had no idea of exactly what job I would apply for, so I decided to go to an agency. I had seen one advertised in a local newspaper, so as soon as there was no one about to say 'Where are you going?' I rushed out of the house in search of it. I was wildly excited and as nervous as if I were going to a stage audition. Finding the place quite easily, I climbed up three flights of stairs, and swung breathlessly through a door which said 'Enter without knocking, if you please.'

The dingy, bottle-green atmosphere of the office sobered me and I sat meekly on the edge of a chair and could see my nose shining out of the corner of my eye. I thought perhaps it was a good thing; it might look more earnest. The woman at the desk opposite scrutinized me for a while through rimless glasses, and I became absorbed in the question of whether or not she wore a wig. I had just decided that it was too undesirably shabby to be anything but her own hair, when I realized that she was murmuring questions at me. I answered in a hoarse whisper because it seemed to be the thing, because all of a sudden, I started to feel rather pathetic. She hinted in a delicate way that she wondered why I was looking for this kind of job, so I felt impelled to give her a glimpse of a widowed mother and a desperate struggle against poverty. I almost made myself believe in the pathos of it, and we had to cough and change the subject. I felt even more pathetic when she told me that it would be difficult to get a job without experience or experiences. She rustled about among her papers for a bit and I wondered whether I ought to leave, when the telephone on her desk rang. While she was conducting a mysterious conversation, she kept looking at me. Then I heard her say: As a matter of fact, I've got someone in the office at this very moment who might suit. She wrote down a number and my spirits soared as I took the slip of paper, she held out to me, saying: Ring up this lady. She wants a cook immediately. In fact, you would have to start tomorrow by cooking dinner for ten people. Could you manage that?

Oh yes, said I - never having cooked for more than four in my life.

Tasks

- a) People often describe us by the work we do or are known for. In two sentences, describe the character of the cook, giving evidence from the passage.

Turn Over

- (b) The narrator never had an opportunity to cook because the cook at their home wouldn't let them. Who do you think is to blame and why?

- (c) The situation we find ourselves in cause us to develop certain feelings. Describe how the narrator feels in the passage.

- (d) "Ring up this lady. She wants a cook immediately. In fact you would have to start tomorrow by cooking dinner for ten people." Re-write this as one sentence in reported speech.

- (e) It's often harder to learn certain tasks in adulthood if we didn't learn them when we were young. What challenges is the narrator likely to find at her new job?

- (f) The experiences we go through or see others go through have a lot to teach us. What lessons can you draw from the narrator's story?

SECTION B

Answer one item from this section.

Either:

Item 3

In life, we often make journeys to different places for different reasons. However, there are particular journeys that remain memorable because of the unforgettable experiences.

Write an account for one such memorable journey. (Use 400 - 600 words.)

Or

Item 4

During the holidays, you visited your relatives and spent two weeks with them. Your birthday happened to fall during that period and they organized a surprise party for you. Write about it. (Use 400 - 600 words.)

END