**MUTUMBA SEED SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**END OF TERM III 2023, ASSESMENTS**

S.3 ENGLISH LANGUAGE

NAME………………………………………………………………….………………………………STREAM……………….

TIME: 2HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

* ***Answer all questions***

***SECTION A: READING***

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow

**From Branch to Ground**

I have never **comprehended** why climbing trees awards extreme prestige to boys who know how to do so. However, what I did comprehend was its **detrimental effect to the bones**. How do I know? When I was eight, naughty and inquisitive, I once climbed a tree with a cluster of caterpillars on a certain branch. I did not realise this on my way up but I surely did on the way down.

I remember that day like it was yesterday. Every time I limp when moving, all memories come flooding back. It was a Sunday afternoon of February, 1993. Mother had sent me to run an errand for her in the next village. Shirtless, I dashed off to fulfil the task and was truly eager to do so, only to be diverted by a group of seven boys having a ‘climbing competition’ at a big mango tree next to the borehole. I was determined to walk past them had Mujuzi not shouted behind me, “Are you just going to walk past this? What a chicken!”

At the age of eight, one thing I hated more than insults was provocation. I remember rushing towards the group like a warrior motivated to go to war (or so I thought). The seven boys were all chanting my name as I climbed higher. “Okello! Okello! Okello!” I could not help but climb higher in **pursuit** of the ripe mangoes on the highest branch. I desired to pick them for the boys as proof of my ‘manliness’. I was so taken up that I did not realise that there was a cluster of green slimy caterpillars on the branch I had just stepped on. Brave as I had been, my eyes could not believe what they had just seen. In panic, I let go of the branch I was holding and before I knew it, I was lying on the ground with my left foot facing right and the right facing left.

Three of the boys **took off** before I could even reach the ground; three did the same when I hit the ground. By the time I was lying unconscious on the protruding root of the gigantic mango tree, Mujuzi was the only one present to run home and break the news to my mother as I later learnt. Mujuzi later told me that my mother was so shocked that she arrived at the scene with the saucepan in one hand, an onion in another and without shoes.

When I regained consciousness nine hours later, my mother was sitting beside me on our papyrus mat. On previous occasions, this would have been the moment for a thorough beating. With two broken legs, it was not possible this time round. When one of my limbs healed a month later, Mujuzi revealed to me that the boys had been fully aware of the cluster of caterpillars and had deliberately awaited a naïve boy to pick the ripe mangoes for them. My second limb was so painful that I could not add anger to the pain. I was relieved to find out that each boy was tasked to compensate my injury by helping me with all my **household chores** until I was back on my feet, which complete healing did not happen until two years later.

***(Adapted from Childhood Memories by Patricia Nalubega)***

***Now answer the following questions:***

* 1. In a paragraph of about 50 words, summarise what the passage is about. (5 mks)

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* 1. Explain the meaning of the following words and expressions as used in the passage. (5 mks)

1. **………….. comprehended…………………**

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1. **………….. detrimental effect to the bones……………**

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1. **…………… pursuit……………………….**

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1. **……………. took off………………**

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1. **……………. household chores………….**

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* 1. We learn from the passage that Okello was determined to walk past the boys but Mujuzi’s provocation motivated him to go and prove to them his ‘manliness’. How was Okello going to prove this?

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* 1. Okello was so taken up by the praise from the boys that he did not realise that there was a cluster of slimy green caterpillars. Identify any four bad decisions people make because of being influenced by empty praises from their friends, just like Okello, and show how those decisions affect them. ( 8 mks)

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* 1. In panic, I let go of the branch. (Rewrite this sentence using ‘panicking’) (2 mks)

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* 1. Okello narrates that the boys, who had initially been chanting his name, took off when they saw him falling from the tree; what lesson do you learn from this? (2 mks)

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* 1. In shock, Okello’s mother arrived at the scene with a saucepan in one hand, an onion in the other. . .. what do you think was she doing by the time the bad news reached her? (2 mks)

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* 1. We later learn in the story that the boys were fully aware of the cluster of caterpillars, but had deliberately awaited a naïve boy to pick the mangoes for them. What does this tell you about some friends? (2 mks)

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* 1. In compensation, each of the boys was tasked to do Okello’s household chores until he was back onto his feet. Giving a reason, do you find this punishment satisfying? (2 mks)

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* 1. Assuming you are Okello’s teacher and his mother has come to you for advice on Okello’s situation now that he cant walk to school. What advice would you give her? ( 2 mks)

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***SECTION B: FUNCTIONAL WRITING***

1. ***In Mulombi A, most parents have stopped paying school fees for their daughters. They say that girls don’t have to be educated because they will get married and won’t be of any value to the family. Girls are never considered when sharing family property and they are always forcefully married off before they are mature enough. This has disturbed the Chairperson LC1 so much that he has convened a summit and invited you to sensitise the residents about the need for gender equality.***

**Task:**

As a senior three student fully aware of human rights, gender and responsibilities; use the appropriate form of writing to prepare your message.

***SECTION C: CREATIVE WRITING***

1. ***A friend in need is a friend indeed.***

**Task:**

Write a story about someone who was helped out of a difficult situation by a friend.

END