

208/1
LITERATURE
IN ENGLISH
Paper 1
November 2024
2 hours



WAKISSHA JOINT EXAMINATIONS

Uganda Certificate of Education

End of Year Assessment

SENIOR THREE

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

Paper 1

2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

*This paper consists of **two** sections **A** and **B**. It has **three** items.*

*Section **A** has **one** compulsory item.*

*There are two items in section **B**. Answer **one** item.*

*Answer **two** items in all.*

Any additional item answered will not be scored.

All answers must be written in the Answer Booklet(s) / sheets provided.

SECTION A

Item 1. *Read the following passage and respond to the tasks after it.*

The sun scotched like it had descended some miles down. It glared mercilessly upon Masaba like it was punishing him for having committed some felony. It was generally a ferocious day. He profusely sweated like a fatty beast, more than the poor rider peddling him up and down hill for some few coins. The hankie with which he wiped his face was soaked in sweat like it had been dipped in a bowl of water. Since when Achen became irregular, he had started to live so tensely.

Masaba was so hungry yet he had just left a heavy meal of fried eggs, bread and a cup of steaming milk on the table when Achen's sister called him urgently that morning. He had not had a satisfactory meal in a fortnight, since when he had last talked to Achen. The last time he had met her at her sister's house and she had broken to him the news of her pregnancy, it turned into a brawl when he could not yield to her wish to terminate it. She had turned him into the culprit for what had happened yet he thought they were both to blame, if at all it was such a terrible thing. Masaba was surprised Achen claimed to love him yet she could not let live the fruit of their love. He thought children strengthen the bond between two people in love.

The appetite that had been coercively created by a hangover from the previous night's booze had vanished with the call. He had drunk himself silly with the hope that sleep would get into his eyelids for peace of mind to prevail. The hangover on that Sunday morning was killing him and he wanted food so badly. He was not a habitual drinker but slowly alcohol was becoming his best friend.

When he drew into Ageno's (that was Achen's sister's name) compound, she was doing laundry at the veranda. Ageno welcomed him warmly as ever but she looked worried. She whispered to him not to let Achen know that it was she who had called him and informed him of her worrying state, as she ushered him into the house.

He found Achen lying thin on the sofa, grinning and groaning from pain, while tightly holding her belly. He could tell she experienced an excruciating pain in her stomach and he suspected why.

"Honey, have you got rid of it? Masaba asked anxiously.

Achen nodded.

"My dear, Achen came last night in a very frightening state. Thank God she is improving," Ageno said.

Masaba walked to where Achen was lying and bent down before her in a state of disappointment. She turned and looked at him innocently like he was the witch responsible for the ordeal she was undergoing. Perhaps he was the only healer who could save her. She appeared horribly emaciated.

"I will be fine," Achen said grudgingly.

Masaba did not need to be told that Achen had got rid of his baby. She had threatened to do so, despite him kneeling before her and tearfully pleading with her to let him feel the joy of being a father. Opinionated as she was, Masaba only hoped for a miracle that she would spare it. Masaba had glared at her in bewilderment when she broke the news of her pregnancy to him. When Achen saw that he was not disappointed, as she would have wished, she had obstinately said: "I am going to get rid of it," and he gave her a firm "No!" which intensified the brawl. Basically, the fear for her job was

the reason for valuing less the product of the love they had shared, though she claimed that Masaba's and not "our" economic stand could not support a family. Though her concerns carried some water, Masaba vehemently objected to the abortion she planned to carry out.

"Abortion is morally wrong; it is murder. Aren't you afraid of committing another sin?" Masaba had preached.

"Stop preaching to me Masaba!" Achen had screamed at him. "Do you know what sex it is so that you should be so concerned? Do you know what I am carrying? Supposing it is some monster or cripple, will you accept it as your child? Instead of supporting me, you preach to me morals that you yourself don't adhere to. If at all you are as righteous as you sound, why did you make me pregnant illegitimately? Mark you I am going through a rough time at my job just because of your damn thing in me."

Even when Masaba tried to remind her of how suicidal an abortion can be, and can turn mothers to be barren, she brushed it all aside.

"Even if I die, after all I already have my twins to carry on my name. What matters to me now is my job, and not your wish."

Tasks:

- Through narration, writers are able to reveal the plot of the story. Explain what is happening in the passage.
- We can determine people's characters through their actions, words and what other people say about them. By referring to the passage, describe the character of either Achen or Masaba.
- To make a story interesting, writers use a number of tools and methods. Explain the narrative techniques that have been used in the passage.
- What we read in works of Literature is often a reflection of our societies. Show how the passage reflects what happens in your society.

SECTION B

Choose **one** task from this section. Illustrate your answer by referring to any of the following set books.

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ➤ FRANCIS IMBUGA | : <i>The Return of Mgofu</i> |
| ➤ WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE | : <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> |
| ➤ JOHN STEINBECK | : <i>The Pearl</i> |
| ➤ LAWRENCE DARMANI | : <i>Grief Child</i> |
| ➤ SYLVESTER ONZIVUA | : <i>The Heart Soothers</i> |
| ➤ OKIYA OMTATAH OKOITI | : <i>Voice of the People</i> |
| ➤ VICTOR BYABAMAZIMA | : <i>Shadows of Time</i> |

Turn Over

- CHINUA ACHEBE : *Things Fall Apart*
- DANIEL MENGARA : *Mema*
- DAVID RUBADIRI : *Growing up with Poetry*
- A.D. AMATESHE : *An Anthology of East African Poetry*

EITHER

Item 2.

The texts that we read in Literature often raise several issues which are usually societal concerns, challenges, problems, vices or virtues. Writers reveal these through the themes. Referring to a set book you have studied, explain the issues that the writer puts across.

OR

Item 3.

The objective of Literature is to provide moral lessons which we can use to improve ourselves. We derive these lessons from the character experiences and events in a text. Using a set book you have studied, explain the lessons that you draw from it.

END