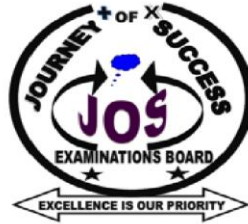


NAMES:..... Signature:.....

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

112/1

2 hours



JOURNEY OF SUCCESS EXAMINATIONS BOARD

Uganda lower secondary certificate of education

PRE-MOCK ASSESSMENT 2024

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PAPER 1

INSTRUCTIONS

*Attempt **both** items in Section A*

*Choose **one** item in Section B*

SECTION A

Item 1

Read the text below and respond as required.

We are headed into the long awaited Easter holiday. It is four days that can easily create a dent in your month's budget if you throw all care to the wind. It might be a little late to tell you about planning for such holidays, but there is still time to talk about keeping expenses low.

One, you will need a budget. Once the budget is agreed upon with members of your family *where applicable*, you can then determine whether you should stay at home or go to the countryside – if you are a city resident. Remember, involving family in planning for every celebration will help with managing expectations and keeping costs realistic.

Once in agreement, you can choose on an action plan in terms of whether you should host or be a guest. Other alternatives are to embark on local or foreign travel destinations – which should be booked in advance to benefit from discounts. It is advisable not to borrow for such activities. If you cannot afford, there is no harm in keeping the celebrations decent, but memorable. To keep with the old age tradition of exchanging gifts, innovation can be at play if you wish to avoid going over the top. Having children involved or using the internet to get some gift ideas can work perfectly. Concentrate on gifts where you can add a personal touch. Such gifts will be appreciated more because of the thoughts attached to the process of making them. The advantage with discussions and planning for such items is that you can generate innovative ideas well in advance and implement them early enough.

If you decide to travel, planning for activities for your destination can build up anticipation for the Easter break. Uganda is a true gem when it comes to tourist destinations. Do your research early enough to find out the tourism sites that fit within your expectations. It is anticipated that to support local tourism, some service providers have announced discounts, which will enable you to make more savings. However, if you did not budget for this item, this should not be a big deal.

Volunteering for a good cause can be a worthwhile activity during the Easter weekend. Choose a charity or a good cause to contribute to as a family. Most of us have a lot of stuff at home that could make a difference in the lives of other people. Encourage your children to participate in collecting apparel and toys to donate, if it is a children's home. For example, a visit to a home that needs support, so as to share your love and support, will be a lesson in humility and gratitude for your family members. If you have children that suffer from an entitlement mentality, you will be sure that tantrums demanding for stuff will be minimized after volunteering for a good cause. Ultimately, it will be appreciated more than any party you can ever throw or stuff that money can buy.

All in all, irrespective of activity you choose, it is important to keep expenses in line with the budget and the available funds. If you cannot afford, keep the celebrations simple and fun. It is not worth borrowing to throw a lavish bash, just because you want to keep up appearances.

[illegible]

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Item 2

At the age of 27, I have been to every continent except Antarctica, visited over 30 countries and lived in five. Extensive travel as a tourist has given me a broad overview of the cultural diversity the Earth offers. I have learned what makes a country memorable, seen what brings a country's nationals together and experienced a wide range of cultures.

Travel, for me, is not about beaches and entertainment so much as a search for culture and an opportunity to meet people. As a result, quite naturally, part of my first African experience living here in Uganda was to ask the Ugandans I met, 'What is Uganda?' By that, I meant: what is your identity? What makes your country unique? Before I came, like most foreigners, the only things I associated with Uganda were war and Idi Amin. However, that was a long time ago and I soon realised I was doing this beautiful country an injustice, so I was determined to find out more.

Bafflingly, Ugandans themselves have not been very helpful in answering the question and I guess that is my first clue. I ask and there is silence, hesitation and then, invariably, a smile, followed by the answer: the Pearl of Africa! This is like saying that France equals the Eiffel Tower or the sun is hot. After the few months I have spent in Uganda, I think the title is certainly justified but it does not tell me much.

Clearly, there is a lot more to say about a country with so much potential. A recent article, internationally published, stated that Uganda had the biggest young population in Africa, which is pretty much the same as saying in the world. That makes this country's future. The question is: what future can its youth have if they do not know who they are? How do you build and represent a country you cannot describe and a nation of which you have no ownership?

I worked with an education NGO here and spent some time with senior classes, Five and Six, those students who are about to head out into the big world. As routine, we asked them to introduce themselves and, invariably, the first concept they used to qualify themselves was their clan. There seems to be real shame for those who cannot identify with a specific clan and I have yet to hear anyone start with a proud "I am a Ugandan!"

Don't get me wrong, cultural diversity is a beautiful thing: traditions, languages and so on should be preserved and kept alive. But what defines Uganda in the absence of a strong cultural identity and a national sense of unity? A collection of borders, memories of old rivalries, and badly-healed battle scars?

Why does Uganda need a national identity? One may ask. Why the need for sustainable solutions when each day seems the same as the previous one? What does Uganda want for its future?

(Slightly adapted: Ella Rychlewski, *The Independent*, November 30, 2010)

Now respond to the following tasks in complete sentences.

- (a) It might be stated that every individual who tours regions of the world has some particular goal. What has been the writer's goal in travelling across continents?

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- (b) "A nation's identity resides in the hearts and in the souls of its people." How is this saying appropriate to Uganda as described in the above article?

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- (c) The writer is a tourist. If the tourist in this story is your friend whose conversations you always listen to, what kind of person would you describe him as?

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- (d) The article above is not only a story of disappointment but also a message of hope. What clues in the article show that there is hope for Uganda?

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- (e) Why does Uganda need a national identity? One may ask. (Combine the two clauses into one sentence)

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- (f) Does this story make you feel proud of your country? What else does it make you feel?

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- (g) When the national football team played in the recent African cup of nations, players communicated normally in a local language identical to most but not all of them instead of English the official language. The coach was also not able to effectively communicate with them being a non-Ugandan. What did you learn from this incident about our country?

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SECTION B
Choose *one* item

Either 3:

At a street junction, the traffic lights have turned red and all cars have stopped. The walkway lights have turned green and the pedestrians are crossing the road. A man with a child walks smartly from one side of the street to another. When they reach halfway the road, the child's hat is blown off his head and it falls down. The man stops to pick it up. He is composed. The lights at the junction suddenly turn green for traffic to move. A vehicle whose driver has noticed the problem does not move to enable the father and his son walk across the street. An impatience driver overtakes the waiting car and speeds off quickly, knocking the man and his child down.

You witnessed the accident, write to the traffic officer.

Or 4:

As she vigorously rubs away, the yelling continues, and the room full of. Your classmate, Mary, has dropped out of school because her parents have lost their jobs during the COVID19 lock down. Her uncle picks her up, promising to give her the care she needs. The uncle operates a bar and orders the girl to work in the bar as a barmaid. Life becomes unbearable for her and she requests your mother to talk to her uncle so that he can abandon the idea of forcing her to work in a bar and allow her to return to school.



Write a dialogue your mother would hold with Mary's uncle, convincing him to retract/reconsider his idea and return Mary to school.