

P310/1
Literature in English
Paper 1
June, 2024
3 hours



LITERATURE & ENGLISH EDUCATION INITIATIVE UGANDA (LEECU)
Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education
MOCK EXAMINATIONS 2024
LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
(Prose and Poetry)
Paper 1
3 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

- This paper consists of **THREE** sections **I, II** and **III**.
- Attempt all questions in each section.
- You are advised to spend **1 hour 10 minutes** on section I, and **55 minutes** each on sections II and III

SECTION I (34 marks)

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow it.

On June 5th 1981, the Centre for Disease Control (CDC) reported a **cluster of cases** of pneumocystis pneumonia, a very rare condition, in five gay men in Los Angeles. This was the **unearthing** of a new disease that would be called AIDS.

But the 30year story of HIV/AIDS commemorated last month is severely **truncated**. The HIV story typically starts from the first diagnosis of AIDS but ignores where, when and how the virus originated. Theories propagated in 1980s by western scientists about the African origin of HIV/AIDS through eating monkeys and Chimpanzees became **increasingly outlandish**, untenable and laughable, and were quietly discarded. It was a scientific fraud.

By the end of 1981, 121 people in the US had died of AIDS and were from San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York. It means they had been infected at least two years earlier in 1979. They had never been to Africa, or eaten monkeys or chimpanzees.

The very first AIDS patient was called Gaetan Dugas from Manhattan, New York, referred to as Patient Zero. An epidemic moves from an epicenter to non-infected area and it takes time. It follows that from the origin in the in the US to Africa, it took two to five years.

The earliest diagnosed AIDS case in Uganda was diagnosed in 1982, in Kenya 1983, Burundi 1984, Botswana 1986, and Ethiopia 1987. Between 1981 and 1983, there were 5,660 AIDS cases in the US compared to only 17 in for the entire Africa, suggesting that US was the epicenter and origin of HIV/AIDS.

HIV never existed before 1978, implying that it was engineered in a laboratory in the US. The origin of HIV is associated with a program in the States called the Special Virus Cancer Program (SVCP), which started in 1964 for the “development, production, seeding and deployment of animal cancer and **immune-suppressant viruses**”.

A major activity of this program was to create mutant virus by breaking pieces from different viruses and recombining these to create new viruses.

The virus was **cultured** in human cells, thus making them specific to humans. By 1974, an HIV-like virus had been created and consisted of 24% Bovine Leukemia Virus (BLV) and 33% Bovine Visna Virus (BVV).

In 1985, Science Magazine published an electronic picture of HIV and found that a good part of it was **indistinguishable** from BVV. Further genetic engineering experiments involved Herpes virus and retroviruses. In 1973, a Danish pathologist warned at a conference that genetically altered viral agents could cause a global epidemic if they ever left the labs.

Through the SVCP, the entire science and technology of retroviruses and immune response testing were developed before the emergence of AIDS. T-cells,

reverse transcriptase, retroviruses, and the Western Blot testing machine were all invented in 1970s, before HIV and AIDS. The researchers at SVCP were for a whole decade “detecting, locating, isolating and culturing retroviruses before the emergence of HIV and AIDS.

The spread of HIV across the world is linked to the experimental Hepatitis B vaccine which was tested on young volunteer homosexual men from 1978 to 1981 in the United States. This vaccine was contaminated with HIV, probably by mistake.

Within three years, 64% of those who got the vaccine had HIV. It would have been useful to determine the genetic sequence of the blood samples of the original patients but the samples are now stored in a freezer sealed by US department of justice.

The fourteen AIDS patients were from Manhattan village and Greenwich Village, New York. When their **addresses were plotted**, the New York City blood centre which was administering the hepatitis B vaccine was found to be the epicenter of the disease.

Contrary to the puzzlement of AIDS scientists about the origin of AIDS being in Haiti (African link), New Yorkers who routinely go for sex tourism in Port au Prince actually took AIDS to Haiti in 1979 after Hepatitis experimental vaccination had got underway. And so Haiti became the fourth epicenter of HIV and AIDS after New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Hepatitis vaccine was introduced in Kenya, Gambia, Uganda and Zambia in 1981. By 1982, these countries had begun to experience HIV/AIDS - from 1982 to 1983, the vaccine was introduced in Mozambique, Senegal, Ivory Coast and Switzerland. AIDS epidemic started in these countries from 1983 to 1985.

These countries became HIV/AIDS epicenters in Africa. This explains why the epicenters are thousands of kilometers apart.

In the early 1980s, Wilson Casselwell, a Scottish surgeon based at Mulago hospital carried out a study in which he tested 716 sexually active and health young adults and compared the results with those of the elderly and not sexually active persons. 15% of the young adults were HIV positive and none of the elderly people was HIV positive. He concluded that HIV was not an old disease in Uganda but had only recently reached the country.

The untold story of the origin of HIV has lessons for us all. As a country we need to seek crucial information about the origin of diseases ourselves, if common information is deceptive... we should not depend on international experts.

Vital information on disease can be suppressed in the interest of one country to the detriment of other countries. Racial bias and profiling have defined the way in which the origin of HIV has been explained. It has been treated as a disease of Africans. We should reject such racial profiling and stick to **dispassionately** describing diseases.

Disease-causing agents can be manufactured and HIV is an example. It may be accidental, through neglect, deliberate (for example as a biological weapon) or malicious by **rogue** scientists. We need to develop capacity to gather intelligence on such agents.

The need to check all drugs and vaccines for quality cannot be over emphasized. The danger of importing fake, contaminated and substandard pharmaceutical products is real and increasing.

Questions:

- a) Suggest a suitable title for the passage and give reasons for your suggestion.
(06 marks)
- b) Explain the writer's argument in the passage.
(12 marks)
- c) "He concluded that HIV was not an old disease in Uganda but had only recently reached the country." How does the researcher reach this conclusion?
(06 marks)
- d) Explain the meaning of the following words and phrases as used in the passage.
(10 marks)
 - i) cluster of cases
 - ii) unearthing
 - iii) truncated
 - iv) increasingly outlandish
 - v) immune-suppressant viruses
 - vi) cultured
 - vii) indistinguishable
 - viii) addresses were plotted
 - ix) dispassionately
 - x) rogue

SECTION II (33 marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions following it.

He worked himself to death, finally and precisely, at 3.00 a.m. Sunday morning.

The obituary didn't say that, of course. It said that he died of a coronary thrombosis – I think that was it – but everyone among his friends and acquaintances knew it instantly. He was a perfect Type A, a workaholic, a classic, they said to each other and shook their heads – and thought for five or ten minutes about the way they lived.

The man who worked himself to death finally and precisely, at 3:00 a.m. Sunday morning – on his day off – was fifty-one years old and a vice-president. He was, however, one of six vice-presidents, and one of three who might conceivably – if the president died or retired soon enough – have moved to the top spot. Phil knew that.

He worked six days a week, five of them until eight or nine at night, during a time when his own company had begun the four-day week for everyone but the executive. He worked like Important People. He had no outside “extracurricular interests,” unless, of course, you think about a monthly golf game that way. To Phil, it was work. He always ate egg salad sandwiches at his desk. He was, of course, overweight, by 20 or 25 pounds. He thought it was okay, though, because he didn't smoke.

On Saturday, Phil wore a sports jacket to the office instead of a suit, because it was the weekend. This latter adornment the faculty somehow felt was not properly significant of the contrite.

He had a lot of people working for him, maybe sixty, and most of them liked him most of the time. Three of them will be seriously considered for his job. The obituary didn't mention that.

But it did list his “survivors” quite accurately. He is survived by his wife, Helen, forty-eight years old, a good woman of no particular marketable skills, who worked in an office before marrying and mothering. She had, according to her daughter, given up trying to compete with his work years ago, when the children were small. A company friend said, “I know how you will miss him.” And she answered, “I already have.”

“Missing him all these years”, she must have given up part of herself which had cared too much for the man. She would be “well taken care of.”

His “dearly beloved” eldest of the “dearly beloved” children is a hard-working executive in a manufacturing firm down South. In the day and a half before the funeral, he went around the neighbourhood researching his father, asking the neighbours what he was like. They were embarrassed.

His second child is a girl, who is twenty-four and newly married. She lived near her mother and they are close, but whenever she was alone with her father, in a car driving somewhere, they had nothing to say to each other.

The youngest is twenty, a boy, a high-school graduate who has spent the last couple of years, like a lot of friends, doing enough odd jobs to stay in grass and food. He was the one who tried to grab at his father, and tried to mean enough to him to keep the man at home. He was his father's favorite. Over the last two years, Phil stayed up nights worrying about the boy.

The boy once said, "My father and I only board here."

At the funeral, the sixty-year-old company president told the forty-eight-year-old widow that the fifty-one-year-old deceased had meant much to the company and would be missed and would be hard to replace. The widow didn't look him in the eye. She was afraid he would read her bitterness and, after all, she would need him to straighten out the finances – the stock options and all that.

Phil was overweight and nervous and worked too hard. If he wasn't at the office, he was worried about it. Phil was a Type A, a heart-attack natural. You could have picked him out in a minute from a lineup.

So when he finally worked himself to death, at precisely 3:00 a.m. Sunday morning, no one was really surprised.

By 5:00 p.m. the afternoon of the funeral, the company president had begun, discreetly of course, with care and taste, to make inquiries about his replacement. One of the three men. He asked around: "Who's been working the hardest?"

(The Company Man by Ellen Goodman)

Questions:

- a) Identify the narrator in the passage. (04 marks)
- b) Comment on the subject matter of the passage. (08 marks)
- c) Describe how this passage affects you. What is the intention of the writer? (06 marks)
- d) How effectively does the writer use language and style in the passage to sustain the reader's interest? (15 marks)

SECTION III (33 marks)

Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow.

Valentine

Not a red rose or a satin heart.

I give you an onion.

It is a moon wrapped in brown paper.

It promises light

like the careful undressing of love.

Here.

It will blind you with tears

like a lover.

It will make your reflection

a wobbling photo of grief.

I am trying to be truthful.

Not a cute card or a kissogram.

I give you an onion.

Its fierce kiss will stay on your lips,

possessive and faithful

as we are,

for as long as we are.

Take it.

Its platinum loops shrink to a wedding ring,

if you like.

Lethal.

Its scent will cling to your fingers,

cling to your knife.

Carol Ann Duffy

Questions:

- a) What is the poem about? (07 marks)
- b) Describe the speaker's feelings in the poem. (04 marks)
- c) How effective is the poet's use of imagery? (12 marks)
- d) Comment on the effectiveness of other devices used. (06 marks)
- e) Explain the intention of the poem. (04 marks)

END