



MATIGO EXAMINATIONS BOARD

LIT 3 MOCKS 2024

MARKING GUIDE

QN 1.

Describe how Pip's character significantly changes in the course of the novel *Great Expectations*.

Candidates should briefly describe who Pip is. They should then discuss his character and show how it changes over the course of the novel.

- Pip gradually leaves his state of childish innocence and descends into arrogance and ambition, in his quest to achieve his desires.
- He wants it all and he wants no costs
- Yet dickens does not make him totally bad, instead leaving the truly good qualities dormant inside him.
- He initially has low self-esteem. He is not valued and he does not value himself.
- He is very timid and succumbs to to the high handedness of his sister and the humiliation of Estella and Miss Havisham
- He maintains a passive character, early on, feeling ashamed of who he is.
- He gradually gains the desire to become a gentleman for Estella's sake.
- He becomes ambitious
- His experiences and encounters I London turn his character into snobbery
- He begins to despise his past and the people he initially associated with
- The humiliation of losing Estella to Drummle and the realisation of who his benefactor actually is makes him realise his mistake
- He becomes more humble and remorseful

Marks as a whole = 33 marks

QN 2.

With close reference to the novel, discuss three major ideas that Dickens puts forward in *Great Expectations*.

Candidates should identify and explain any three themes in the novel.

These may include:

- Ambition and self-improvement
- Social class
- Crime, guilt and innocence
- Sophistication
- Education
- Family

NB: They should discuss the themes in detail and illustrate with close reference to the text. They may not identify the exact themes as stated above. However, anything similar to these is acceptable.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 3.

What do Tess's struggles against social degradation tell us about her character?

Candidates should briefly describe who Tess is. They should then discuss her struggles in the novel, pointing out what they reveal about her character.

Throughout the story, we can see that Tess has a strong fatalism. She firmly believes that her family background and social status, her misfortune and unfair fate are doomed and can't be gotten rid of. All she can do is to succumb to the arrangement of fate.

These factors include the following:

- Social factors
- Personal factors
- The fate factor
- Rural cultural factor

What they reveal about her character

She is portrayed as being:

- Strong-willed
- Stoical
- Loyal
- Honest and truthful
- Hard working
- Self-pitying

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 4.

Examine the role played by Alec and Angel in the development of the plot of the novel *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*. (33 marks)

The candidates are expected to discuss how these two characters contribute to the development of the plot of the novel. The focus should be on what they do, how they behave and how they relate with other characters.

Alec:

- Receives the letter from Tess's parents and falsely replies on behalf of his mother, affirming that they are genuine D'Urbervilles.
- Amorously pursues Tess
- Rapes Tess and impregnates her
- Escorts Tess on her way home and still tries to force her to love him
- He later 'transforms' his life and becomes a preacher
- He meets Tess again as a preacher and shows her he is reformed.
- He lies to her that Angel will never return
- He convinces Tess to move in with him again.
- Tess murders him upon realising that he lied to him, hence her imprisonment and hanging.

Angel:

- He shows special preference for Tess, even when there are other attractive girls at the farm.
- Gives too much attention to Tess that the other girls give up on him.
- He deviates from his family's line of career (clergy), and opts to become a farmer. This alienates him from his family
- His pursuit of Tess makes her get hope of burying her miserable past
- His relationship with Tess and the way he conducts himself gives her little chance of revealing her past to him, till their wedding night.
- He confesses his past to Tess and asks her forgiveness. But when she does the same, he refuses to forgive her.
- He abandons Tess on their wedding night, making their marriage an impossibility
- He travels to Brazil and rarely communicates to Tess, making her believe he may never return
- His departure leaves Tess vulnerable and gives room to Alec to take advantage of her again.
- He suddenly returns, leading Tess to murder Alec so she can be with him again.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 5.

How does Austen use Darcy and Elizabeth to attack the human vices of pride and prejudice?
(33 marks)

In the novel, the characters of Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet are used to explore and critique the human vices of pride and prejudice.

- Through Darcy, Austen illustrates the dangers of pride, particularly when it leads to a sense of superiority and lack of empathy.
- Darcy's initial haughty behaviour and dismissive treatment of Elizabeth demonstrate how pride can lead to misunderstandings and hurtful behaviour.
- Darcy's growth and self-reflection later on however serve as a reminder of the importance of recognizing and overcoming one's own pride.
- Elizabeth, on the other hand, embodies the vice of prejudice, particularly in her initial dislike of Darcy based on his pride and her own biases.
- Her gradual realization of her own errors and misconceptions serves as a reminder of the importance of overcoming prejudice and considering multiple perspectives.
- In the relationship between Darcy and Elizabeth, Austen highlights the destructive nature of both pride and prejudice.
- She also highlights the potential for personal growth and redemption through self-awareness, empathy and understanding.
- By portraying the flaws and vulnerabilities of her characters (especially Darcy and Elizabeth), Austen encourages readers to reflect on their own tendencies towards pride and prejudice, promoting greater self-awareness and personal growth.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 6.

Discuss the effectiveness of the use of irony and contrast in *Pride and Prejudice*.

(33 marks)

Irony and contrast are effectively used in the novel to:

- Highlight societal hypocrisies, such as the contrast between the Bennet family's financial struggles and their social aspirations.
- Subvert reader expectations, like Darcy's initial pride and Elizabeth's prejudices, which are gradually reversed.
- Emphasize character traits, such as the contrast between Elizabeth's intelligence and Lydia's foolishness.
- Illustrate personal growth, like Darcy's transformation from pride to humility.
- Create humour, such as Mr Collins's obsequious nature and Lady Catherine's pretentiousness.
- Explore themes, like love vs materialism (Elizabeth and Charlotte's choices) and appearance vs reality (Wickham's charming façade vs his true nature).

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 7.

a) What circumstances lead to the passage? (08 marks)

Father Drumond is on his tour of the Tala country. In the village of Mombet, while interacting with the faithful, he is attacked by one of the villagers. The man accuses him of keeping his fiancée too long at the sixa. The man forces his way through the crowd and attacks Father Drumond. But Zacharia quickly intervenes and gives the man a beating. The man is later led away by the villagers, while Father Drumond is taken to his room to clean up.

b) Describe the character of Zacharia as portrayed in the passage. (08 marks)

Zacharia is portrayed as being:

- Temperamental: he has a quick temper
- Responsible: he looks after the Father and rescues him from the villager
- Intelligent: he knows that Father's efforts in the Tala country are futile
- He is cynical: doesn't see any sense in Father Drumond's work

c) "I've said to him often enough that things here are different from on the main road." In what ways are things different and how is this true elsewhere in the novel? (10 marks)

There is a marked difference in the way the natives of the Tala country respond to Christianity and how the people of Bomba respond. The latter are seemingly truly converted and very faithful to Father Drummond. However, the people of the Tala country are very hostile to him and to Christianity in general.

d) What is the significance of this passage to the rest of the novel? (08 marks)

Plot development: it sets the tone for the confrontation between Father Drummond and the natives of the Tala country. He later gets into confrontation with Sanga Boto and a native chief.

Themes: Christianity vs tradition

Character development: the character of Zacharia and Fr Drummond is revealed

Mood and atmosphere: it sets the mood and atmosphere in the novel as a confrontational one, tense, uncertain, etc

Total = 34 marks

QN 8.

a) Place the passage in its context. (10 marks)

Before the passage, a Devil's feast has been called at Ilmorog Golden Heights. Many thieves and robbers are in attendance. The first contestant, Ndaya wa Kahuria comes on stage and boasts about stealing people's chickens and other petty crimes. He is pulled off the stage, accused of lacking the standards of theft and robbery.

After the passage, the MC sets new standards for every contestant. The contestant must be a worthy thief who steals big and important things. They must also reveal their net worth in terms of property and women. They are also expected to suggest how theft and robbery should be improved.

b) What themes are revealed in the passage? (08 marks)

The passage reveals:

- Exploitation
- Corruption
- Blind loyalty
- Entrepreneurial cunningness
- Injustice
- Etc

c) What techniques have been employed in the passage?

(08 marks)

The following techniques have been employed:

- Biblical allusion
- Use of parables
- Symbolism: the money representing resources, the servants representing allies
- Dialogue/direct speech/conversation

d) What is the significance of the passage to the rest of the novel?

(08 marks)

Plot development: sets the stage for the Devil's Feast. The competitors aim to please the foreign thieves and robbers.

Themes: corruption, exploitation, injustice

Character development: develops the character of the thieves and robbers and exploitative, insensitive and cunning.

Mood and atmosphere: sets the mood of the novel as highly charged, tense and uncertain

Total = 34 marks

QN 9.**QN 10.****How is setting used to portray themes and develop character in *A Walk in the Night*?****(33 marks)**

In the novel, setting plays a crucial role in portraying themes:

- Racism and oppression: the novel is set in apartheid-era South Africa, specifically in the impoverished and segregated Cape Town township of District Six. This setting highlights the harsh realities of racial segregation.
- Poverty and inequality: the characters' living conditions, from cramped and unsanitary shacks to rundown buildings (such as the tenement), underscore the economic disparities and struggles faced by the marginalised community.
- Isolation and confinement: the narrow, winding streets and cramped spaces of District Six convey a sense of claustrophobia, mirroring the characters' emotional and social confinement.
- Violence and danger: the dark alleys, crime-ridden streets and police presence create a sense of tension and fear, illustrating the ever-present threat of violence and arrest.
- Resistance and resilience: the setting also highlights the community's resourcefulness and solidarity in the face of adversity, as characters find ways to cope and resist their circumstances.
- Displacement and dislocation: the forced removals and demolition of homes in District Six serve as a powerful symbol of displacement, echoing the characters' sense of dislocation and disorientation.

The depiction of setting reinforces the novel's themes, bringing out the harsh realities of life under apartheid.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 11.**Discuss the relevance of the title *A Walk in the Night* to the story.****(33 marks)**

The title "A Walk in the Night" is very relevant to the novel in a number of ways:

- It evokes a sense of danger and risk: It suggests the perilous nature of navigating the dark streets of District Six, mirroring the characters' precarious lives under apartheid.
- It symbolizes the characters' emotional journeys: The 'walk in the night' represents the characters' struggles to find their way through the darkness of their circumstances, seeking hope and redemption.
- It highlights the theme of disorientation: It conveys a sense of disorientation and confusion, reflecting the characters' experiences of displacement, uncertainty, and confusion.
- Suggests the blurred lines between reality and nightmare: It implies that the characters' lives are a constant 'walk in the night', where the boundaries between reality and nightmare are blurred.

- Foreshadows the tragic events: It hints at the tragic events that unfold in the novel, including the death of a main character, underscoring the sense of foreboding and inevitability.
- Represents the search for identity and humanity: the ‘walk in the night’ can be seen as a metaphor for the characters’ search for identity, humanity, and connection in a dehumanising environment.

The title effectively captures the essence of the novel, conveying the sense of danger, disorientation, and struggle that pervades the characters’ lives in apartheid-era South Africa.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 12.

How is the story *The Voter* relevant to our times today? (33 marks)

The story is relevant to our times today in several ways:

- Voting rights: The story highlights the struggles of marginalized communities to exercise their right to vote, an issue still prevalent today with voter suppression and ID laws.
- Systemic inequality: It exposes the deep-seated systemic inequality and discrimination faced by the protagonist, resonating with contemporary issues like racial and economic disparities.
- Political disillusionment: the story showcases the protagonist’s growing disillusionment with the political system, echoing current sentiments of political apathy and mistrust.
- Identity and belonging: The protagonist’s search for identity and belonging speaks to ongoing conversations around immigration, nationalism, and what it means to be a citizen.
- Power dynamics: It illustrates the abuse of power and exploitation of the vulnerable individuals, mirroring contemporary concerns around corruption, elitism, and social justice.
- Grassroots activism: the story hints at the importance of grassroots activism and community organizing, a vital aspect of modern social movements.
- Intersectionality: the protagonist’s experiences intersect with various forms of oppression (racism, classism, etc), underscoring the need for intersectional approaches to social justice.

NB: The candidates should cite or illustrate with relevant examples from their community or country.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 13.

Discuss the character of Rufus Okeke in the story *The Voter*. (33 marks)

Rufus Okeke is the protagonist of the story. He is a complex character with a number of traits:

- He is naïve and idealistic: he believes in the power of democracy to bring change.
- Poor and marginalized: he is struggling, impoverished man from a rural area, representing the voiceless and disenfranchised communities.
- Disillusioned: he becomes increasingly disillusioned with the political process.
- Symbolic of the common man: he represents the ordinary citizen; struggling and frustrated by a corrupt and oppressive system.
- Victim of circumstances: reflects how systemic corruption and oppression can crush an individual's aspirations and dreams.

NB: Candidates should clearly illustrate with evidence from the text.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 14.

Discuss the major themes in the story *In Corner B*.

(33 marks)

The major themes in the story include:

- Identity and belonging: the story explores the tensions between traditional cultural identity and modern urban life.
- Cultural dislocation: highlights the disconnection between rural and urban cultures, and the challenges faced by individuals caught between two worlds.
- Alienation and loneliness: the protagonist's experiences in the city underscore the theme of alienation and loneliness.
- Tradition vs modernity: it examines the conflict between traditional values and modern urbanization, reflecting the complexities of cultural change.
- Disillusionment and displacement: the protagonist's journey illustrates the disillusionment and displacement that can result from the disruption of traditional ways of life.
- Search for meaning: explores the search for meaning and purpose in a rapidly changing world.
- Urbanization and its consequences: critiques the effects of urbanization on individuals and communities, highlighting the loss of traditional support systems.
- Existential crisis: the protagonist's experiences can be seen as an existential crisis, as he grapples with his place in the world and the meaning of his life.

NB: The candidates should illustrate with evidence from the text.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 15.

What fundamental lessons do you learn from the story *In Corner B*? (33 marks)

The story teaches many lessons:

- It is important to understand and appreciate one's cultural roots and traditions.
- Identity formation: one ought to struggle to define oneself in the face of conflicting cultural influences and urbanization.

- There is an inherent need for a sense of belonging in a rapidly changing world.
- It is crucial to be adaptive and resilient while maintaining one's core identity.
- It is always safer to cope with the reality of unfulfilled expectations and finding acceptance in unexpected places.
- Self discovery is a life skill that embraces and explores one's own values, beliefs and purposes.
- Urbanization often has a great impact on individuals, communities and cultural traditions.
- It is important to find a balance between preserving traditional values and embracing modernity.
- Genuine human connections and relationships are invaluable in navigating life's challenges.
- It's prudent to recognise one's own mortality and impermanence of things.

NB: Candidates should illustrate the lessons with reference to the text. Any lessons related to or other than these are acceptable as long as they are applicable to the text.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 16.

Discuss the role of Alicinora in the novel *Footprints of the Outsider*. (33 marks)

The role of Alicinora:

Plot development:

- She is the mother of Abudu Olwit
- Abandons him and he is taken care by his uncle
- She later becomes influential in his adult life, helping him find a wife and coordinating his development and political programmes.

Thematic portrayal: she portrays the following themes:

- Parental negligence
- Immorality
- The importance of a mother
- Feminism/ the place of the woman

Character development: she helps to develop the character of:

- Abudu Olwit
- Odwong
- Jacinta Apio

Symbolic role: she clearly symbolizes parental irresponsibility

Source of an effect: she elicits contempt and pity from the reader

Relevance: she reflects many women in society who live a careless lifestyle, abandon their parental roles but still have successful children.

Lessons; a number of lessons can be drawn from Alicinora's experiences.

NB: Candidates should illustrate these ideas with clear reference to the text.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 17.

How relevant is the title *Footprints of the Outsider* to the novel? (33 marks)

The title *Footprints of the Outsider*, is a symbolic title that refers to the impact of the novel's major character on his community. From the beginning of the novel, when we are introduced to the circumstances surrounding the birth of Abudu Olwit, he is clearly marked out as the principal character in the story. Allusions are made about his parentage. Though his mother, Alicinora, is a well known native of Teboke, his father is rumoured to have been a one Musa Wangolo, one of the many migrant workers at the cotton ginnery. This makes Olwit a foreigner to the community. He is thus taunted by the village folk throughout his childhood as the son of a foreigner:

"They would call him atin anam – a foreigner's child – or atin luk – a bastard – , and frequently go on to describe the kind of man his father was and the circumstances under which he had been conceived." Pg 20.

This is notwithstanding the fact that his mother is also of very questionable moral standing, a known prostitute.

Abudu Olwit's imprint on the Teboke community is a grueling journey that is marked by many stumbles, anger and frustrations; yet with a determination to prove his mockers wrong. Even his own mother does not seem to believe in him, frequently questioning his manhood. It is therefore a huge challenge to him to prove himself and rise above the waters to become something in life.

However, it is not until Olwit joins Makerere University that his star begins to rise. Armed with a degree in economics, Olwit now has what it takes to make an imprint on society. But even then, he still faces frustrations until joins the Prisons services. Using the leverage of Alaro Prisons Farm, he is able to establish himself as a successful and respected person in Teboke.

The title becomes a reality in chapter 11, when Olwit comes to the rescue of his people by sinking boreholes and digging dams, as the famine ravages the community. It is at this point that he decides to stamp his authority on the community by trying to be a part of them.

"Well, he, Olwit, would try to belong somewhere at least, or be seen to belong somewhere. He was tired of being an outsider." Pg 108.

By putting up projects to help the people, he, the son of a foreigner, is making an imprint on the Teboke society. These are the "footprints of the outsider".

His footprints become clearly visible when they rattle the hitherto fortified veteran politician Adoli-Awal. The ensuing political contest between the two is a battle between a bonafide native and an outsider whose footprints cannot be erased.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 18.

Discuss the environmental issues that the author highlights in the novel *Vanishing Herds*. (33 marks)

The novel is set in Masai land where the community lives in the vicinity of wildlife habitats. It addresses the following environmental issues:

- Habitat loss and fragmentation
- Overgrazing and land degradation
- Climate change and its impact on wildlife habitats
- Human-wildlife conflicts
- Conservation and management of natural resources
- Impact of human activities on wildlife populations and ecosystems
- Desertification and land degradation
- Loss of biodiversity and ecosystem disruption
- Etc

NB: The candidates should illustrate with close reference to the text.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 19.

How effectively does the author use any three narrative techniques in *Vanishing Herds*? (33 marks)

Narrative techniques in the novel include:

- Descriptive narrative
- Symbolism
- Character contrast
- Irony
- Setting and nature
- Character relationships
- Etc

NB: The candidates should select any three techniques and discuss them with clear illustrations from the text.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 20.**In what ways is *The Moon also Sets* a feminist novel?****(33 marks)**

The novel reflects a feminist view in the following ways:

- Challenging patriarchal norms: Pa Okolo and his brothers trying to impose their masculinity on Mama Oby.
- Female empowerment: mama Oby and Oby are portrayed as empowered women
- Exploring women's experiences: the experiences of Oby and Mama Oby
- Critiquing gender-based oppression: the oppression that Pa Okolo and his brothers subject Mama Oby to
- Representing diverse female voices: mama Oby, Oby, Mama Ijeoma, etc
- Subverting traditional stereotypes
- Promoting gender equality
- Examining the intersectionality of gender sexuality, as well as class
- Etc

NB: The candidates are expected to discuss the feminist views reflected in the novel with clear illustrations.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

QN 21.**Discuss the role played by Pa Okolo in the novel *The Moon also Sets*. (33 marks)**

The role played by Pa Okolo

Plot development: he tries to force Mama Oby to submit to tradition by marrying Uncle Ben. Later tries to arrange for Oby to marry the chief's son. He tries very hard to get the Ozo title. Is forced to commit suicide when all his plans fail.

Thematic portrayal: tradition, masculinity, ambition, materialism

Character development: helps to develop the characters of Mama Oby, Oby, Uncle Ben

Symbolic role: he is a symbol of oppressive traditionalism

Source of an effect: elicits contempt and pity

Relevance: portrays many traditional men in society who try to promote and impose traditionalism on widows.

Lessons: there are many lessons that we can draw from Pa Okolo's experiences in the novel

NB: The candidates should discuss the role of Pa Okolo with clear illustrations from the text.

Mark as a whole = 33 marks

END