

SEROMA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

SENIOR THREE

DURATION: 2HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

*Attempt **two** questions and illustrate all your answers.*

SECTION A

Item 1: *Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.*

LAWRENCE DARMANI: Grief Child

When Nimo dashed into the house dripping rain-water with Mahama trudging after him, the first place he glanced towards was the kitchen. He expected to see his wife and daughter but they were not there. He looked around and saw that the pepper his wife must have left drying in the weak sun was now drenched with water. Impulsively he bent down and lifted the basket and its contents into the kitchen.

Mahama, who was on his way to his room, looked round and saw some clothes on the drying line. Quickly he gathered them and rushed to the shed where Nimo was wiping streaks of water from his face.

"I knew it was going to be heavy rain," Nimo said.

"It is."

Nimo left the shed and entered the kitchen again. There was no sign of his wife and daughter. There was no freshly cut firewood to indicate that they were home. He walked through the rain towards his wife's room. The door was locked. He went back to the shed where Mahama, suddenly realising that Birago and Yaa were not at home, wore a confused face more gloomy than his master's.

"They are not home yet?" Mahama asked.

"It seems not."

They sat down. Nimo's eyes were fixed on the entrance of the house, expecting Birago and Yaa to rush in, wet but grateful. Through the door he could see people rushing past to their houses. Three times within a short while, Nimo got up and sat down again. He was clearly impatient.

"Sometimes Birago behaves like a child," Nimo burst out his distress. "How can she remain on the farm in this rain?"

"Maybe they're waiting for the rain to pass."

"Waiting where?"

But worry soon replaced impatience and fear took over from worry. Unable to hold on any longer, Nimo took his machete and told Mahama, "We can't just sit down like this, Mahama."

They went along the path towards the farm. Although the storm was beginning to abate, it was still raining hard enough to warrant staying at home. The situation was grave. Nimo and Mahama searched through their farm, hoping that the woman and her daughter had returned there to wait for the storm to subside. They were still searching the surrounding farms when the rain began to slacken to a drizzle.

Questions:

- a) The way events and actions in a literary work are rendered aids the author in achieving particular artistic and emotional effects. In only one paragraph, explain what is happening in the passage above.
- b) In literature we can understand a character by considering what the character says, does and what others say about him or her. Referring to the extract above, describe the character of Nimo
- c) Some texts communicate feelings and emotions. Using the passage above, describe how Nimo feels and why he feels so.
- d) What signs show that Birago and her daughter had not returned?

SECTION B

Choose one task from this section and illustrate your answer by referring to any one of the texts that you studied this term

Either:

Item 2:

The decisions that people make today will determine the quality of life in the future. The effect may be negative or positive depending on the decisions one makes. Using one of the texts you have studied this term, show how different characters are affected by their own past decisions.

Or:

Item 3:

Literature is like a mirror that reflects our own societies. Many authors derive the experiences they write about from the societies they live. Show how a particular work of literature you have studied in class relates to your own community.

END