

208/1
LITERATURE
IN ENGLISH
Paper 1
Jun/Jul. 2024

DIOCESE OF KIGEZI



CHURCH OF UGANDA

Uganda Certificate of Education

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

Paper 1

2 Hours 30 Minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Attempt **TWO** tasks in all; the one in section A and another in section B.



SECTION A

1. Read the poem below and respond to the tasks below it

BORN BY MISTAKE

Everywhere I go
I am a stranger
Because they say
I was born by mistake;

Even my mother would not talk to me
Because she has her legal children
With her legal husband
Where my presence is illegal
And so, I move out;

I thought my father would care,
But he too
Has his legal children
And his legal wife
And my presence there is illegal
And so, I move out;

I see my playmates go to school
While I stay at home
For they say
All the money is legally committed
And there is nothing left for me
Who was born by mistake;

At Christmas time
My playmates are given presents:
Shoes, shirts, toys, sweets,
By their fathers and mothers
And they all go to church
To celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ



Who they say
Brought peace and love on earth;

And me
As I lie on my bed to sleep
Waiting for another day
I wonder
Why I am not taken to the legal court
Convicted
And sentenced
TO DEATH
For being born by mistake. E. STANDA (Kenya)

Tasks

- (a) A poet chooses 'who' to tell the story or reveal the content in the poem. It is normally a voice different from the poet. It could be a character participating in the event(s) in the poem or a distant observer/third person who stands at a distance and sees the actions then reports them. Such a voice is called the speaker/ persona. Describe the voice in the poem and explain the message it communicates.
- (b) Most poems are filled with emotions as the speaker expresses his/her feelings about the characters, situations and experiences presented in the poem. State the speaker's feelings about the way he/she is treated in the poem.
- (c) When we read we relate to the experiences presented and learn a lot about real life. Having read this poem, explain to a friend how it is relevant to your community.
- (d) You have found this poem interesting and you would like to encourage your friends to read it. Identify the techniques the poet has used and any other aspects of the poem which make you enjoy reading it.



SECTION B

REFERENCE SET BOOKS

FRANCIS IMBUGA: *The Return of Mgofu*

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE: *The Merchant of Venice*

OKOITI OMTATAH OKIYA: *Voice of the People*

SYLVESTER ONZIVUA: *The Heart Soothers*

JOHN STEINBECK: *The pearl*

LAWRENCE DARMANI: *Grief Child*

VICTOR BYABAMAZIMA: *Shadows of Time*

CHINUA ACHEBE: *Things Fall Apart*

DANIEL MENGARA: *Mema*

DAVID RUBADIRI: *Growing Up With Poetry*

AMATESHE: *An Anthology of East African Poetry*

Either 2

In every society people identify persons they admire and find inspiring. Readers of works of literature, too, admire and find some characters inspiring. Basing on a set book you have studied, identify a character you admire and explain why you admire him/her.

Or 3

The intention of the writer is to communicate to the readers certain issues in society. This is often seen in the themes presented in the text by the writer. Referring to a set book you have studied, explain the writer's main idea in the story.



END



5
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