



EXAMINATION NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

# SOUTH EAST EDUCATION DIVISION

2024 MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION MOCK EXAMINATION

## ENGLISH

Subject Number: M052/III

Time Allowed: 2 hours

2:00 – 4:00 pm

Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March

### PAPER III

(70 Marks)

#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. This paper contains 10 printed pages.

Please check.

2. This paper has **two** sections: **A** and **B**.

3. Answer **all** questions in **both** sections.

4. Use the spaces provided to answer questions in this paper,

5. Follow instructions for each section carefully.

6. Fill in your **Examination number** at the top of each page of the question paper.

7. In the table provided on this page, **tick against** the question number you have answered.

Question Number	Tick if answered	Do not write in these columns	
1			
2			
3			
4			

©2024 SEED

Turn over/...

**Section A: (30 marks)**

Answer **both** questions in this section in the spaces provided.

**1. POEM**

The sword of daybreak  
snips the shroud  
of the night from the sky,  
and the morning  
pceps through the blankets  
like a baby rising  
from its cot  
to listen to the  
peal of the bell.

Arise! Arise!

All workers!

To work! To work!

You must go!

Buses rumble

trains rattle

taxis hoot.

I shuffle in the queue

with feet that patter

on the station platform,

and stumble into the coach

that squeezes me like a lemon

of all the juices of my life.

*The song of Sunrise* by Oswald Mbuyisheni Mtsali

**Questions**

a. Who is the persona in the poem?

\_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

b. i. What is the geographical setting of the poem?

\_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

ii. Justify your answer

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(2 marks)

c. What does the persona mean by 'the sword of daybreak'?

\_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

d. Why is the poem entitled 'The Song of Sunrise'?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

e. Describe **one** character of the persona.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(2 marks)

f. Which expression in the poem shows each of these figures of speech?

i. personification

\_\_\_\_\_  
(1 mark)

ii. simile

---

---

(1 mark)

iii. onomatopoeia

---

---

(1 mark)

g. Describe **one** theme portrayed in the poem.

---

---

(2 marks)

h. What is the significance of the peal of the bell in the poem?

---

---

(2 marks)

## 2. SHORT STORY

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

### The Truly Married Woman

As Jonas sipped his cup of morning tea, he stirred at the town slowly waking up. The watchmen who had slept all night now banged the locks of stores and houses to assure themselves and their employees of their efficiency. Village women trampled through the streets to the market place with their wares, arguing and gossiping.

Nambewe had already laid out his breakfast. It was as he liked it; the tea weak, sugary without milk. She was his wife. 'Not really,' he would explain to close friends, 'But a mistress kind of. A good one!'

Nambewe had borne him three children and was three months gone with another. They had been together for twelve years. She was patient handsome woman. Very



dark with very white teeth and open sincere eyes. When she first came to him, he had fully intended to marry her as soon as she had shown satisfactory evidence of fertility but now never. She would look at him with hopeful eyes until she gave up.

‘You are a beautiful woman, my daughter!’ her father had once tried to reason with her, ‘You can marry a high school teacher or a pharmacist, not a messenger!’ he shook his head and never spoke to her again.

But Nambewe loved Jonas and was happy. She cooked him meals and bore him children. Only her mother visited her secretly and attended the baptismal ceremonies of all her children.

The church charged her extra for illegitimate children as a deterrent; four thousand instead of five hundred kwacha. Apart from this, there was no great objection. Occasionally, the pastor would preach violently against adultery, polygamy, and unmarried couples living together. There would be a little grumbling among the males in the congregation;

‘That is the problem of the church; it does not stick to its business; preaching the Gospel but meddling with others private lives.’ Jonas and Nambewe were good church people and attended regularly but sat on different pews. After such occasions, their friends would sympathise with them.

One day, while seated in his office, a heavy knock sounded at the door, ‘we represent the World Gospel Crusade,’ the visitors announced as he opened the door. During the conversation, it transpired that a friend had applied on his behalf to be considered for international Bible study. In response, they had come all the way, as they said, ‘to redeem him, the lost soul.’ Jonas invited them to his house. Nambewe was introduced and she made a little conversation in English with their white visitors. The house was clean and neat. This pleased Jonas. The visitors were

delighted too and insisted on taking photos for their crusade magazine and offered Jonas deaconship.

For many days, Jonas thought about this matter. 'I am a holly man now!' 'Ah! Sly woman! Always quiet and meek! Quoting modern theories from overseas doctors for me! And she would be running for Town Council next year!' he smiled with pride. 'Indeed Nambewe is an asset!'

He sorted himself as nothing and decided to marry her with haste as if fearing for the worse, 'Maybe a friend, I don't know....'

As Nambewe was preparing the last meal, she was shocked to receive a phone call, 'It's me, Jonas! Your husband,' introducing himself.

'Yes.'

'Would you please come?'

'Come? Come where? What's wrong?'

'I have already sent a taxi.' 'A taxi! But I'm...' The phone went off.

She found him standing outside a hotel. After particularly a good meal and satisfaction. As he knelt down to announce his intention, Nambewe got up looking at him with anxiety, 'Are you alright? Is there anything wrong at the office? Has anyone insulted you?'

'No, there is nothing wrong with me wanting to marry you.'

Nambewe laughed, 'as you will, but don't say that I forced you into it.'

### Questions

- a. In what point of view is the story told?

b. Describe the geographical setting of the story.

---

---

(2 marks)

c. What evidence shows that the status of the family in the story is large contributed by Jonas not Nambewe?

---

---

(2 marks)

d. Describe one character of Jonas.

---

---

(2 marks)

e. How is the theme of deccit portrayed in the story

---

---

(2 marks)

f. Explain any two effects of the marriage in the story.

i. \_\_\_\_\_

---

(2 marks)

ii. \_\_\_\_\_

---

(2 marks)

g. Why the story is entitled 'The Truly Married Woman'?

---

---

(2 marks)



**Section B: (40 marks)**

Answer both questions in this section on the spaces provided. Choose either question **a** or **b** in each case and **not both**.

**3. THE PEARL** by John Steinberg

**Either**

**a.** Discuss some characters of the following as portrayed in the novella,  
*The Pearl*.

- i. The pearl dealers
- ii. The trackers

**or**

**b.** Discuss how the theme of **Exploitation** has been portrayed in the novella,  
*The Pearl*.

**4. MACBETH** by William Shakespeare

**Either**

**a.** With evidence from the play, *Macbeth*, discuss the portrayal of the following themes;

- i. Betrayal
- ii. Patriotism

**Or**

**b.** Bloodshed has resulted a lot of negative impacts in the play, *Macbeth*. Support this statement with evidence from the play.



**EXAMINATION NO.:**

2024

Page 9 of 10

**M052/III**

1

**NB: This paper contains 10 printed pages.**