



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

## THE MALAWI NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS BOARD

2025 MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION

# ENGLISH

Subject Number: M052/II

Wednesday, 2 July

Time Allowed: 1 h 45 min  
11:00 am – 12:45 pm

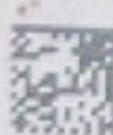
### PAPER II

(60 marks)

#### Instructions

1. This paper contains 12 printed pages. Please check.
2. The paper has two sections: A and B. In the spaces provided, answer all the questions in this paper.
3. Write your Examination Number at the top of each page of the question paper.
4. In the table provided on this page, tick against the question number you have answered.
5. At the end of the examination, hand in your paper to the invigilator.

Question Number	Tick questions 1 & 2 if answered	Do not write in these columns	
1			
2			
Total			



**Section A (20 marks)**

1. Read the following passage carefully and afterwards make a summary of it in NOTE- FORM. In your summary:

- a. provide a suitable title for the passage.
- b. give the main points.
- c. supply supporting points for each main point.

**Marks will be awarded for content, note-style, and fair-copy layout.  
Candidates who simply copy the passage will be penalised.**

It is very important for our bodies to be free from illness. A healthy citizen contributes effectively towards the development of a nation. The government's duty is therefore to ensure that health is effectively promoted. This can be achieved through a number of ways which include setting policies and providing information. In Malawi, one of the ways of ensuring a healthy nation is through provision of preventive medicines. It is against this background therefore, that we will be looking at groups of preventive medicines.

The first known group is immunisation vaccines. These are administered to children and adults based on the need. First of all, these vaccines help to protect children from highly infectious diseases like polio, measles, small pox and many more. Naturally, our bodies protect us from different diseases. However, vaccines help to prevent outbreaks of preventable diseases such as cholera and Covid-19.

The second in the category is antiretroviral therapy. These are administered to pregnant mothers as well as lactating mothers who are HIV positive. Antiretroviral therapy reduces the baby's risk of contracting the HIV virus if the mother is HIV positive. Therefore, these medicines help to prevent mother to child transmission of the virus. They can also be administered to rape victims if they report to the hospital within seventy-two hours. The medicine helps to protect the victim from the risks of contracting HIV.

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**1. (Continued)**

Apart from that, we also have vitamin supplements. Vitamins are natural substances found in food and they are necessary to keep our bodies healthy. Vitamins can be obtained from the food we eat. It is therefore advisable to eat balanced diets to ensure that our bodies are protected from infectious diseases. Vitamins can also be administered orally. Sometimes doctors prescribe vitamin supplements to a patient to help prevent the development of a medical problem. This is so because vitamins perform different functions in our bodies. For instance, vitamin A helps to prevent night blindness while Vitamin C helps to prevent scurvy.

Lastly, we have toothpaste. This is a soft thick substance that you put on the tooth brush to clean your teeth. Tooth paste helps us to maintain oral hygiene. This is so because it helps in removing food remains from the teeth. When such remains decompose they result in a bad breath. Toothpaste may also help to prevent teeth and gum diseases. This is so because it kills germs which can cause such diseases.

To sum it up, we have looked at groups of preventive medicines in our discussion. It is very important that we improve the quality of our health. Preventive medicines will certainly lead to improved quality of life in general. People that enjoy healthy lives are a critical catalyst for national development.

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**Section B (40 marks)**

2. Read the following passage carefully and answer all the questions that follow.

Thandizo squatted on the side of the dusty road that led to her school; Makwelero Community Day secondary school. As usual, her face was downcast. She scribbled some things on the ground with her fingers. This had now become her daily routine. Every morning, she would leave home early as if she was going to school only to end up at this very spot until knocking off time. For a young girl of thirteen, her mind seemed to harbour deep thoughts that exuded sadness in her face. She was an unhappy child. "I cannot go back to that place. It's not for impoverished people like me," she constantly thought to herself.

Her passion for school turned into resentment when she noted that she was the odd one out at her school without shoes, school uniform and even writing materials. Her heels had developed cracks and her clothes were ragged. This attracted stares and jeers from her schoolmates. This made her uncomfortable. She had no friend at school as no one was interested to have a pauper for a friend. Most of the times her school mates pointed fingers at her and laughed their lungs out. She had become an alien in her own community.

Break times were a hell for her as she silently watched her friends eat and drink in groups. She could just squeeze herself to a desolate corner licking her dry lips. To make matters worse, even at her home, the situation was not different. She scarcely had food.

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## 2. (Continued)

Thandizo had struggled to keep her poise to remain in school. The burden was too much for her. She couldn't bear it any longer. The last straw was when Thandizo learnt that her classmates called her "duck" for walking around barefoot. She was firm on her decision to quit. School was for the well-to-do.

She was too occupied with her thoughts and the scribbling she made on the ground to notice a beautiful car that had just been parked a few metres from where she was. She was startled by a shadow cast on the ground where she squatted. She looked up and saw the most beautiful and elegant young lady she had ever seen with car keys dangling in her hands.

"Hello there, I am Miss Mtendere, care to tell me your name?" Thandizo remained mute for a while then stammered, "I ... I ... I am Thandizo."

"What a nice name, but aren't you supposed to be at school? This is 8:00 am, you must be late. Actually, I always see you here. Is anything wrong?" Thandizo did not reply. Instead, tears welled up in her eyes. Then she started sobbing uncontrollably. Miss Mtendere was perplexed. "What is wrong? Let's go, I will drop you at school", she said while embracing her. Thandizo's sobs broke into loud cries.

"I am not going back to that place, I'm poor, school is for rich people!" She said amidst loud cries. Miss Mtendere stared at Thandizo in shock. "This is a child mentally wounded and needs to be handled with great care." She observed. She slowly turned her gaze from Thandizo to the scribbling on the ground. There were sentences written in perfect English. She also saw excellent mathematical calculations. "This girl is brilliant." She thought to herself.

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## 2. (Continued)

"No no no no! Thandizo, listen to me. Education is not for one group of people. In fact, it's a basic right for everyone. As such, you have a right to attain education." These words drew Thandizo's attention. "So, education is my right?" She gazed at Miss Mtendere with anticipation.

"Does this entail I deserve to be educated just like everyone else?" She asked. "Yes, look at me, Thandizo. I was an orphan with nothing to inherit from my late parents. She explained to the girl. I never compared myself with those born with a silver spoon in their mouth. I did not allow anyone's negative attitude or comment to pull me down." Miss Mtendere opened up to Thandizo. She explained to the girl how, through hard work and resilience, she managed to get good grades in her final secondary school examinations after which she studied Education to master's degree. She was now working as a literature lecturer at one of the prestigious universities in the country.

"Look at me Thandizo, a senior lecturer. You can also make it. I will help you do that!" She assured the girl. Miss Mtendere decided to meet Thandizo's parents. She committed herself to meet all costs for the girl's education requirements.

The following week, Thandizo was back to school. She was clad in a new school uniform, a beautiful pair of black school shoes with white socks. She had loaded her new school bag with text books. She enthusiastically walked in Form 2 East. Her classmates stared at her in awe. This time around, their stares did not scare her, rather they gave her a reason to smile and to hold her head high, ready to walk majestically to her revitalised dream of becoming a university literature lecturer.

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2. (Continued)

- a. What was the name of Thandizo's school?

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

- b. Give any **two** pieces of evidence to show that Thandizo was poor.

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

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

- c. Explain the circumstances that led Thandizo to leave school.

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

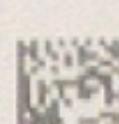
- d. Why was Thandizo nicknamed "duck"?

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

- e. Mention **two** things that showed that Thandizo was eager to be educated.

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

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



Continued/...

## 2. (Continued)

- f. Give the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage.
- (i) harbour (paragraph 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)
- (ii) perplexed (paragraph 6) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)
- (iii) attain (paragraph 8) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

g. Explain the meaning of each of the following expressions:

- (i) 'the odd one out' (paragraph 2)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2 marks)
- (ii) 'the last straw' (paragraph 4)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2 marks)
- (iii) 'born with a silver spoon in their mouth' (paragraph 9)  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2 marks)

h. Describe the character of Thandizo's classmates.

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

i. Give any **two** reasons why her classmates' stares did not scare Thandizo when she came back to school.

- (i) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)
- (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 mark)

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## 2. (Continued)

- j. Show that Thandizo was mentally wounded.

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(2 marks)

- k. What **two** things show that Miss Mtendere was a tactful person?

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(2 marks)

- l. Explain the significance of Miss Mtendere's personal story to Thandizo.

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(2 marks)

- m. What was Thandizo's ambition?

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(1 mark)

- n. Give a suitable title for the passage.

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(2 marks)

Continued/...