

THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL  
Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education

101/1



**ENGLISH**  
**(Functional Skills)**  
**Nov. 2024 – 2 hours**

Paper 1

Candidate's signature: ..... Date: .....

**Instructions to candidates**

- (a) Confirm that this question paper has your name and the correct index number.
- (b) Sign and write the date of examination in the spaces provided above.
- (c) Answer **all** the questions in this paper.
- (d) All your answers must be written in the spaces provided in the question paper.
- (e) **This paper consists of 8 printed pages.**
- (f) **Candidates should check the question paper to ascertain that all the pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.**
- (g) **Candidates must answer the questions in English.**

**For Examiner's Use Only**

Question	Maximum Score	Candidate's Score
1	20	
2	10	
3	30	
<b>Total Score</b>	<b>60</b>	



- 1 You are the secretary of your school's Environmental Club. The Club usually holds one meeting every term for all members to deliberate on the activities for each term. The Club Patron always attends the meeting. During the second term meeting, the Club deliberated on, among other issues, invitation of a guest speaker from the National Environment Management Authority to give a talk on the importance of planting trees. Two members of the Club had informed the Chairman that they would not be able to attend the meeting. As the secretary to the Club, write the minutes of the meeting. (20 marks)



Read the passage below and fill in each blank space with the most appropriate word.

(10 marks)

Why use a thesaurus? A thesaurus is a valuable reference for improving your vocabulary. .... how can it be valuable to you? (b)..... starters, it can help you ..... overusing any particular word, (d)..... making your writing more lively interesting. As a (e)..... in point, the word valuable has (f)..... appeared twice in this passage. If it (g)..... to be used again, it (h)..... prove to be a little lame. For (i)..... next use, a synonym such as "important" would, (j)..... be more appealing.

arks)

arks)

- (a) Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow.

### The Theoretic Turtle

The theoretic turtle started out to see the toad;  
He came to a stop at a liberty-pole in the middle of the road.  
"Now how, in the name of the spouting whale," the indignant turtle cried,  
"Can I climb this perpendicular cliff, and get on the other side?  
If I only could make a big balloon, I'd lightly over it fly;  
Or a very long ladder might reach the top, though it does look fearfully high.  
If a beaver were in my place, he'd gnaw a passage through with his teeth;  
I can't do that, but I can dig a tunnel and pass beneath."  
He was digging his tunnel, with might and main, when a dog looked down at the hole.  
"The easiest way, my friend," said he, "is to walk around the pole."

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By Amos Russel Wells

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Turn over



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- (i) Describe the rhyme scheme of this poem. (2 marks)

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- (ii) Apart from rhyme, identify and explain the effect of any other sound pattern used in the poem. (3 marks)

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- (iii) How would you say the last line of the poem? Explain your answer. (4 marks)

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- (b) For each of the following words, write another word that is pronounced the same way. (3 marks)

(i) whale

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(ii) toad

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(iii) flu

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- (c) Your friend is coming to visit you at home during the school holidays. It is her first time to visit your home. Explain how you would ensure that the directions you give are clear enough to get her to your home without getting lost. (4 marks)

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- (d) *Underline the stressed part of the words in bold in the sentences below.* (4 marks)

- (i) We totally **re.ject** the results of a flawed process.
- (ii) Make sure that you are issued a **re.ceipt** for each item you buy.
- (iii) The shopkeeper sold the school bag at a **rea.son.able** price.
- (iv) To stay healthy, one needs to **ex.er.cise** frequently.

- (e) Matano and Lulu have different opinions on whether Form Four students should be given chores at home or in school. Read through the following dialogue between them and then fill in the missing parts.

Matano: I strongly feel that Form Four students should be exempted from doing any chores at school and even at home.

Lulu: Well, Form Four students need to concentrate more on their studies.

However, .....

(1 mark)

Matano: But don't you think .....

.....?  
(2 marks)



THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL  
Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education

101/2



**ENGLISH**

**Paper 2**

**(Comprehension, Literary Appreciation and Grammar)**

**Nov. 2024 — 2 ½ hours**

Candidate's signature: ..... Date: .....

**Instructions to Candidates**

- (a) Confirm that this question paper has your name and the correct index number.
- (b) Sign and write the date of examination in the spaces provided above.
- (c) Answer **all** the questions in this question paper.
- (d) All your answers must be written in the spaces provided in this question paper.
- (e) **This paper consists of 12 printed pages.**
- (f) **Candidates should check the question paper to ascertain that all the pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.**
- (g) **Candidates must answer the questions in English.**

**For Examiner's Use Only**

Question	Maximum Score	Candidate's Score
1	20	
2	25	
3	20	
4	15	
<b>Total Score</b>	<b>80</b>	



1 Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

(20 marks)

Somebody once said that one is never lonely when one is alone. Most people, however, are terrified of leaving home. They are used to living with others- children with parents, roommates with roommates, friends with friends and husbands with wives. When, therefore, they are thrust into a situation where they have to live alone, they feel like a **fish out of water**.

Chances are high that most adult men and women will need to know how to live alone at some point in their lives. For some, it will be for a short period but for others it will be for much longer.

But what kind of circumstances lead to this situation, which to most people is undesirable? Take college students for example. There are many who are day scholars and it may not always be easy for them to find a **compatible** roommate.

Also, when most young people begin working, they find it necessary, or are gently **nudged** by parents, to leave the nest. We must also not forget the unfortunate scenario where married couples are separated by death, divorce or even by the demands of their jobs.

One recommended way to prepare for living alone is to learn how to take care of practical matters. For example, some students, especially some males, cannot fix a meal for themselves. Similarly, there are married people who have always relied on their spouses to make major decisions like buying a vehicle or land. It is only after such people accept that they are now on their own and life must go on that they discover they are not helpless. Some realise that they can do far better than the people they previously relied on.

Finding yourself alone can also give you the opportunity to form new friendships. But this can only happen if you feel self-reliant. No doubt you know students who are in the habit of always going to class with a friend. When they break this dependency, they are pleasantly surprised to find that they are able to concentrate better and also to make new friends.

Probably the most difficult problem for people living alone is dealing with feelings of loneliness. First, they have to understand the feeling. Some people confuse being alone with being lonely. They need to remember that it is possible to feel lonely in a room crowded with friends. Second, those living alone must fight any tendencies to get depressed. Depression can lead to a lot of unhappiness. Third, people living alone should get involved in useful and pleasurable activities such as helping others.

Whoever you are, ask yourself, "If I had to live alone starting tomorrow morning, would I know how?" If the answer is "No", you need to become conscious of what living alone calls for.

Adapted from: *Handbook for Writers* by Lynn Quitman Troyka. London: Prentice-Hall International (1987)



- (a) In the first paragraph, why do you think roommates are mentioned separately from friends? (2 marks)

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- (b) Explain why leaving home is referred to as leaving the nest. (3 marks)

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- (c) Make notes on why people find themselves living alone. (4 marks)

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- (d) From the passage, give **two** advantages of finding yourself alone. (2 marks)

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- (e) Explain how it is possible to be lonely in the midst of friends. (2 marks)

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- (f) Depression can lead to a lot of unhappiness. (Rewrite the sentence to begin: A lot of unhappiness ...)

(1 mark)

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- (g) What is the author's main argument in the passage? (3 marks)

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- (h) Explain the meaning of each of the following as used in the passage:

- (i) "a fish out of water" (1 mark)

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- (ii) "compatible" (1 mark)

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- (iii) "nudged" (1 mark)

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2 Paul B. Vitta; *Fathers of Nations*

Read the excerpt below and then answer the questions that follow.

"I'm glad you liked it, Mr Longway," Dr Afolabi said. His voice had become warm.

"You were there, then, Mr Longway?"

"Yes, but back in the last row. As a mere spectator, I did not want to be **obtrusive**.

Anyway, you were superb, Dr Afolabi. If you don't mind my adding this, I was more impressed by the points that the audience raised afterwards, during the question-and-answer period."

Dr Afolabi felt the praise he had just heard **turn into reproach**. "So what were those points, Mr Longway?" he asked. His voice was less warm.

"Remember the guy from Grassroots International: short fellow, round of body and outspoken of manner? What was his name? It's on the tip of my tongue."

"You must mean the fire-eater who kept accusing me of looking for answers where I shouldn't even look," Dr Afolabi said.

"Exactly, that's our man. Yes, I thought he was right on point, Dr Afolabi. He too was unhappy with the present state."

"Wait, the present state of what?"

"Africa."

"I don't understand."

"No problem: I'll spell it out for you. You see, Dr Afolabi, Africa, in its present state, has two new arrivals: corruption and impunity. The first is a crime the second protects from punishment, the second is another crime the first rewards with kickbacks. That is Africa in its present state. Now can it change?"

"Tell me. *Can it?*"

"Well, let's ask the Law of Will."

"What?"

"Unless there is will to change, there will be no change.' That is the Law of Will. Dr Afolabi, I was wondering whether you might be interested in an adventure that is being sponsored by AGDA. Oh, I am sorry: make that the Agency for Governance and Development in Africa. Its underlying idea is to **mobilise our discontent** with Africa, in its present state, into will to change it."

(a) Where does this conversation take place and what happens before it?

(3 marks)



- [illegible]

[illegible]

- [illegible]

[illegible]

- [illegible]

[illegible]

- [illegible]

[illegible]

- (f) Explain the effect of any **two** stylistic features used in the excerpt. (6 marks)

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- (g) *Re-write the sentence as instructed.*

“So what were those points, Mr Longway?” He asked. (1 mark)  
(Begin: He asked Mr Longway...)

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- (h) Explain the meaning of the following expressions as used in the excerpt. (3 marks)

(i) **“obtrusive”**

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(ii) **“turn into reproach”**

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(iii) **“mobilise our discontent”**

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3 *Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow.*

(20 marks)

When death comes to fetch you  
She comes unannounced,  
She comes suddenly  
Like the vomit of dogs,  
And when she comes  
The wind keeps blowing  
The birds go on singing  
And the flowers  
Do not hang their heads.

When Mother Death comes  
She whispers  
Come,  
And you stand-up  
And follow  
You get up immediately,  
And you start walking  
Without brushing the dust  
On your buttocks.

You may be the fastest runner,  
A long distance runner,  
But when death comes  
To fetch you  
You do not resist,  
You must not resist,  
You cannot resist!

Mother Death  
She says to her little ones,  
Come!

Her little ones are good children,  
Obedient,  
Loyal,  
And when Mother Death calls  
Her little ones jump,  
They jump gladly  
For she calls  
And offers simsim paste  
Mixed with honey!  
She says



My only child  
Come,  
Come, let us go,  
Let us go  
And eat white-ants' paste  
Mixed with shea-butter!  
And who can resist that?

From: **Song of Lawino** by *Okot p'Bitek*

(a) Briefly explain what the poem is about. (3 marks)

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(b) In what ways are people helpless when death comes calling? (3 marks)

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(c) Identify and explain the irony in the poem. (4 marks)

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- (d) Other than irony, identify and illustrate **three** other stylistic devices that the poet has used to enhance the message of the poem. (6 marks)

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- (e) What is suggested about the after-life in this poem? (2 marks)

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- (f) What can we conclude about life from the last four lines of the first stanza? (2 marks)

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- 4 (c) *Fill in the blanks with the correct word to complete the sentences below. (2 marks)*  
*Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. Do not change the meaning. (4 marks)*

(i) Neither the children nor their mother ..... at the wedding

(i) ceremony (was, were) ..... animals at the game park.

(Rewrite beginning: Under ...)

(ii) Of the two brands of perfume on offer, this one smells .....  
 ..... (better, best) .....

- (d) *Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the word in brackets. .... (3 marks)*

(ii) If they had not paid my school fees, I would have gone home yesterday.

(i) The ..... (spectacles) man looked very disturbed.  
 (Rewrite beginning: If my school fees ...)

(ii) Pouring water on steel nails is likely to ..... (active) rusting.

(iii) Your ..... (hostile) will take you nowhere.

- (e) *Punctuate the following sentences. .... (2 marks)*

(iii) He cannot wait any longer because the patient needs immediate treatment, the

(i) doctor said.  
 Only one problem was yet to be solved transport to the stadium  
 (Rewrite in reported speech)

(ii) His brother John was finally going to graduate that week

(iv) The topic on verbs follows the one on nouns.  
 (Begin: After ....)

- (b) **THIS IS THE LAST PRINTED PAGE.**  
*Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate linking words from those provided below. Use each word only once. (4 marks)*

Immediately	finally	further
at first	meanwhile	secondly

We sat in the sitting room waiting. We were (i)..... scared because we did not know what kind of person our mother's friend would be. (ii)..... we looked at the beautiful photographs on the wall without saying a word to each other. (iii)..... she arrived and her warm motherly smile (iv) ..... dissipated our fears.



THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL  
Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education

101/3



ENGLISH

Paper 3

(Creative Composition and Essays Based on Set Texts)

Nov. 2024 — 2 ½ hours

Candidate's signature: ..... Date: .....

Instructions to candidates

- (a) Confirm that this question paper has your name and the correct index number.
- (b) Sign and write the date of examination in the spaces provided above.
- (c) Answer **three** questions only.
- (d) Questions **1** and **2** are **compulsory**.
- (e) In question **3** choose only one of the optional set texts you have prepared on.
- (f) Where a candidate presents work on more than **one** optional set text, only the first **one** to appear will be marked.
- (g) Each of your essays must **not** exceed **450** words.
- (h) All your answers must be written in the spaces provided in this question paper.
- (i) **This paper consists of 16 printed pages.**
- (j) **Candidates should check the question paper to ascertain that all the pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.**
- (k) **Candidates must answer the questions in English.**

For Examiner's Use Only

Question	Maximum Score	Candidate's Score
1	20	
2	20	
3	20	
Total Score	60	



**(c) The Novel**Kazuo Ishiguro, *An Artist of the Floating World*

Sometimes the way children behave or talk tells us the way society misunderstands women.

Referring closely to Ichiro in Kazuo Ishiguro's *An Artist of the Floating World*, write an essay to support this statement.

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*Answer three questions only.***1 Imaginative Composition (Compulsory) (20 marks)***Either*

(a) Write a story ending:

I came to realise that it is never too late to start all over again.

*Or*

(b) Write a composition explaining the benefits of discipline.

**2 The Compulsory Set Text (20 marks)**John Lara, *The Samaritan*The success of any new idea aimed at bringing positive change in the society depends a lot on determination. With reference to teacher Nicole in *The Samaritan*, write an essay to support this assertion.**3 The Optional Set Texts (20 marks)***Answer any one of the following three questions.**Either*

(a) The Short Story

Godwin Siundu (Ed.), *A Silent Song and Other Stories*

When we ignore sound advice from people close to us, we may end up creating problems for ourselves. Referring to Stanley Gazemba's short story "Talking Money", write an essay to support this assertion.

*Or*

(b) Drama

Adipo Sidang', *Parliament of Owls*We should stand for what is right regardless of the risks we may encounter. With reference to Oyundi in Adipo Sidang's *Parliament of Owls*, write an essay to support this assertion.*Or*