
**KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATION COUNCIL
REVISION MOCK EXAMS 2016
TOP NATIONAL SCHOOLS**

NAIROBI SCHOOL

**ENGLISH
PAPER 2**

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NAIROBI SCHOOL KCSE TRIAL

AND PRACTICE EXAM 2016

(COMPREHENSION, LITERARY APPRECIATION AND GRAMMAR)

PAPER 2

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

(20mks)

Later this year, the UN is expected to adopt the World Bank's ambitious target of ending extreme poverty by 2030. It would mean that for the first time everyone in the world would be able to afford a refrigerator and other goods that would make life a bit easier. But what would it take? Could we really see an end to poverty within a generation?

First, there's been a great deal of progress already. The poverty rate in the developing world has more than halved since 1981, back then 52 per cent of people in developing countries lived on less than \$1.25 (sh 115) per day. That's now dropped to 15 per cent. In terms of the UN Millennium Development Goals it meant that the target of halving poverty by 2015 from 1990 levels was achieved five years early. In 1990 more than one third (36 per cent) of the world's population lived in abject poverty. That was halved to 18 per cent in 2010.

For China which has accounted for the bulk of the poverty reduction in the past few decades the answer is economic growth. Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region where the number of poor people has increased during the past three decades. Even though the percentage of the African population living in extreme poverty is slightly lower than in 1981, population growth means that the number of people has actually doubled. They account for more than one-third of the poor in the world, despite Africa making up just 11 per cent of the global population.

By contrast in East Asia progress has been remarkable. Four out of five people or 80 per cent. On current trends, the fastest growing regions in the world could see the end of poverty within a generation.

But what about the billion people who still live in poverty? The World Bank projects that it is possible to end extreme poverty by 2030. But it would take a heroic effort. The number of people in poverty will have to decrease by 50 million each year. That is the equivalent of about a million people each week for the next 15 years. World Bank's president Jim Young Kim is confident it is possible, but emphasize it would require funding and a raft of targeted policies to raise incomes and productivity.

In these debates, definition matters. So what precisely does the end of poverty look like? It doesn't mean that no one lives on less than \$1.25 per day. That World Bank assumes that a 3 per cent poverty rate is equivalent to the end of poverty since there will always be some "frictional" poverty.

Even so the task of reducing poverty at that pace is so daunting that economists forecast that the global poverty rate is more likely to be 8 per cent in 2030. That works out to be about 644 million people still living in poverty out of an estimated 8.3 billion people on the planet. Which policies could work to get us to that outcome?

The standard Tuesday March 31, 2015.

- a) From the information given in the first paragraph, what would be the evidence of the end of extreme poverty? 1mark
- b) Why does the author mention China? 1mark
- c) Identify an instance of irony in the passage. 2marks
- d) Give any three measures that can lead to the ending of extreme poverty. 3marks
- e) What is the attitude of the author towards World Bank's target of ending extreme poverty by 2030? 3marks
- f) What can we infer from the passage about "frictional" poverty? 2marks
- g) Add a question tag to the following statement: in these debate, definitions matters. 1mark
- h) In point form, summarize the achievements so far realized in the fight against poverty 4marks
- i) Explain the meaning following expressions as used in the passage. 3marks
- Ambitious
Raft
Daunting

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

MOTHER IN LAW: (While the guests silently watch GRUSHA): What's the matter with you? Aren't you going to look after our guests? What's all this city nonsense got to do with us?

GUESTS: (resuming conversation while GRUSHA remains in prayer):

- You can buy Persian saddles from the soldiers too. Though many want crutches in exchange for them.
- The leaders on one side can win the war, But the soldiers on both sides lose it.
- Anyway, The war's over. Its something they can't draft you anymore.
- The dying man sits bolt upright in bed. He listens.
- What we need is two weeks of good weather.
- Our pear trees are hardly bearing a thing this year.

MOTHER-IN-LAW (Offering cakes): Have some more cakes and welcome! There are more!

The MOTHER-IN-LAW goes to the bedroom with the empty cake pans. Unaware of the dying man, she is bending down to pick up another tray when he begins to talk in a hoarse voice.

PEASANT: How many more cakes are you going to stuff down their throats? D' you think I can shit money?

The MOTHER-IN-LAW start, stares at him aghast, while he climbs out from behind the mosquito net.

FIRST WOMAN (talking to HRUSHA in the next room): Has the young wife got someone at the front?

A MAN : It's good news that they're on their way home, huh?

PEASANT: Don't stare at me like that ! Where's this wife you've saddled me with?

Receiving no answer, he climbs out of the bed and in his nightshirt staggers into the other room.

Trembling she follows him with the cake pan.

GUEST (Seeing him and shrieking): Good God ! Jussup!

Every one leaps up in alarm. The woman rush to the door GRUSHA, still on her knees, turns round and stares at the man.

PEASANT: a funeral supper! You'd enjoy that, wouldn't you? Get out before I throw you out!

(As the guests stampede from the house, gloomily to grusha) I've upset the apple cart, huh?

Receiving no answer, he turns round and takes a cake from the pan which his mother is holding.)

SINGER:

O confusion ! The wife discovers she has a husband.

By day there's the child, by night there's the husband.

The love r is on his way both day and night.

Husband and wife look at each other.
The bedroom is small.

- a) Explain the city nonsense that mother-in-law is referring to. 4marks
- b) What preparations does mother in law make for the success of the day? 2marks
- c) Give two reasons why the guests are in the house. 2marks
- d) Identify and illustrate three character traits of Jussup evident in this excerpt. 6marks
- e) Jussup tells Grusha "I" upset the apple cart huh explain what he means in the context of the play. 3marks
- f) Identify and illustrate the major theme in the excerpt. 3marks
- g) "Has the young wife got someone at the front?" (Rewrite in reported speech) 1mark
- h) Explain the relevance of the song in this excerpt. 3marks
- i) Explain the meaning of the following word as used in the excerpt.
Saddled 1mark

3. Read the poem below and answer the questions below.

Advise to my son

The trick is, to live your days
as if each one may be your last
(for they go fast, and young men lose their lives
in strange and unimaginable ways)
but at the same time, plan long range
(for they go slow : if you survive
the shattered windshield and burning shell
you will arrive
at our approximation here below
or heaven or hell)

To be specific, between the poeny and the rose
plant squash and spinach, turnips and tomatoes;
beauty in nectar
and nectar, in desert saves
but the stomach craves stronger sustenance
than the homed vine.
therefore, marry a pretty girl
after seeing her mother;
speak truth to one man,
work with another;
and always, serve bread with your wine.

But son,
Always serve wine

(Peter Meinke)

- a) Who is the speaker in the poem. Illustrate your answer. 2marks
- b) In what circumstances do many young people die? Illustrate your answer from the poem. 4marks
- c) What do heaven and hell symbolize? 2marks
- d) Identify items in the poem that represent life's necessities on one hand and life's luxuries on the other. 2marks
- e) Identify and illustrate the use of the paradox in the poem. 3marks
- f) What does the persona mean by 'marry a pretty girl after seeing the mother'? 2marks
- g) The stomach craves stronger sustenance. (Rewrite using (What")) 1mark

h) Give two meanings of each of the following words. 2marks

-Last

-Fast

i) Give the meaning of the last two lines 2marks

4. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given 4marks

i) How high do you think the tallest building in New York is?

(Begin : what.....)

ii) The co- worker is not here today. She always listens to him.

(Rewrite as one sentence using 'to whom')

iii) If you had worked hard. You..... What brought you here (complete using the correct form of "achieve")

iv) The small boy asked for a straw to drink his juice. (Rewrite using "drinking")

b) Use the correct form of word given in brackets. 3marks

i) KCSE has been completed.(analysis)

ii) Those.....are magnificent.(stadium)