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

**SACHO HIGH SCHOOL  
ENGLISH  
PAPER 2**

**SCHOOLS NET KENYA**  
Osiligi House, Opposite KCB, Ground Floor  
Off Magadi Road, Ongata Rongai | Tel: 0711 88 22 27  
E-mail: [infosnkenya@gmail.com](mailto:infosnkenya@gmail.com) | Website: [www.schoolsnetkenya.com](http://www.schoolsnetkenya.com)

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# SACHO HIGH SCHOOL KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM 2016

(COMPREHENSION, LITERARY APPRECIATION AND GRAMMAR)  
PAPER 2

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1. **COMPREHENSION:**

***Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:***

We are often advised to be confident; confidence comes when we feel passionately about what we perform, what we have achieved, and what we can offer.

Lack of confidence can hinder a lot of things, ranging from how you get ahead in your career to the number of skills you are able to acquire. It is a determining factor in the way you direct your career. Confidence is conveyed from inner to the outer through the words you speak and the posture you assume. Building confidence is not a one day affair. Neither does it take other people to build your confidence.

I remember an interview I once conducted for secretaries, and the memory of one woman is intact. She stammered from the point she entered the office to the moment she left. Thinking that it was interview jitters, we called her again, based on her technical qualifications rather than her presentation. She presented the same problem. We settled on a different candidate because confidence was a key qualification for the job which involved dealing with clients and colleagues.

Not many entry-level and first-time job seekers are coached or tutored on how to gain more self-confidence. Instead, we tell them to “attend a few events, meet more people, and get the hang of it.” That is not the right approach. Often, by the time you “get the hang of it,” you will have probably ruined a few chances, stepped on a few toes, and generally spoilt a few opportunities. Confidence starts from within, which means working with yourself to find an effective method on your capabilities.

Having had quite some experience interviewing and being interviewed, I have developed three sure-fire ways that not only help me before an interview, but improve my general self-confidence. You must start with one as you progress and eventually build your own self-confidence.

I have learnt that confidence begins with pushing yourself towards positive attitude. Before an interview, I tell myself that I am capable of great things, great performance, and that the interview is only a little chat I must have to get the job. Not only do I talk myself into entering the interview room, but I also talk myself into achieving success, whether or not I need the job. About 90 percent of the time, I have been successful in interviews.

Doubting oneself only leads to criticizing oneself, which plants deep roots that can be almost impossible to weed out. My mentor always used to say, “You are what you think you are.”

Secondly, beginning with one small step rather than giant leaps will ensure that you tackle interviews and first jobs with a lot of self-confidence. There are two ways to go through this.

The first one has to do with something that you like doing, such as writing a song. However, this should not be just any song but a new one created out of your love for music. My personal pre-interview confidence boost is to cook something that I have never tried before. This boosts my self-confidence to new levels. After achieving that particular goal, you must pat yourself on the back.

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The third step to building confidence involves holding onto that little surge of confidence. Once you have tackled what you have previously found to be difficult, then the next step would be to focus on building your self confidence a lot further.

Ensure that this becomes not only a monthly confidence boost, but a daily one because, as we are all programmed, we must build our self-confidence habitually to maintain it. Routines have been known to help anybody to acquire and maintain confidence.

**From Daily Nation 20<sup>th</sup> May 2013.**

- (a) What is confidence according to the passage? (2 marks)  
(b) How is confidence conveyed? (2 marks)  
(c) What suggestions are given to first-time job seekers to help them in gaining more self-confidence? (3 marks)  
(d) What does the writer identify as the major hindrance to confidence? (1 mark)  
(e) According to the writer what two key qualifications were they looking for in the interview for secretaries. (2 marks)  
(f) Identify the **three** ways the writer mentions that help before an interview and improve in self confidence. (3 marks)  
(g) In not more than **50** words write what the writer has been doing to achieve success in interviews. (4 marks)

**Rough copy**

**Fair copy**

- (h) Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the passage. (3 marks)  
(a) Surge:  
(b) Interview jitter.  
(c) Habitually

**2. Read the following excerpt and answer the questions that follow.**

**Bertolt Brecht: The Caucasian Chalk Circle**

AZDAK: Listen! Am accused instigating war? Ridiculous! Am saying ridiculous!

That enough? If not, have brought lawyers. Believe five hundred.

*(He points behind him, pretending to be surrounded by lawyers) requisition all available seats for lawyers! (The IRONSHIRTS laugh:the FAT PRINCE joins in).*

NEPHEW *(to the IRONSHIRTS)*: You really wish me to try this case? I find it rather unusual from the taste angle, I mean.

FIRST IRONSHIRT: Lets go!

FAT PRINCE: *(smiling)*: Let him have it, my little fox?

NEPHEW: All right. People of Grusinia versus Grand Duke. Defendant, what have you got to say for yourself?

AZDAK: Plenty. Naturally, have read war lost. Only started on the advice of patriots. Like Uncle Arsen Kazbeki. Call Uncle Arsen as witness.

FAT PRINCE *(to the IRONSHIRTS. Delightedly)*: what a madcap!

NEPHEW: Motion rejected. One cannot be arraigned for declaring a war, which every ruler has to do once in a while, but only for running a war badly.

AZDAK: Rubbish! Did not run it at all! Had it run! Had it run by Princes! Naturally, they messed it up.

NEPHEW: Do you by any chance deny having been commander in chief?

AZDAK: Not at all! Always was commander-in-chief. At birth shouted at wet nurse. Was trained drop turds in toilet, grew accustomed to command.

Always commanded officials rob my cash box. Officers flog soldiers only on command.

IRONSHIRTS (*clapping*): He's good! Long live the Grand Duke!

FAT PRINCE: Answer him according to the dignity of the law. Defendant, preserve the dignity of the law!

AZDAK: Agreed. Command you proceed with trial!

NEPHEW: It is not your place to command me. You claim that the Princes forced you to declare war. How can you claim then that they-er- "messed it up".

AZDAK: Did not send enough people. Embezzled funds. Sent sick horses. During attack, drinking in whorehouse. Call Uncle Arsen as witness.

NEPHEW: are you making the outrageous suggestions that the Princes of this country did not fight?

AZDAK: No. Prince fought. Fought for war contracts.

FAT PRINCE: (*jumping up*): That's too much! This man talks like a carpet weaver!

AZDAK: Really? Told nothing but truth.

FAT PRINCE: Hang him! Hang him!

FIRST IRONSHIRT (*pulling the PRINCE down*): Keep quiet! Go on, excellency!

NEPHEW: Quiet! Now render a verdict; you must be hanged! By the neck! Having lost war!

AZDAK: Young man, seriously advise not fall publicly into jerky clipped speech. Cannot be watchdog if howl like wolf. Got it? If people realize Princes speak same language as Grand Duke, may hang Grand Duke and prince, huh? By the way, must overrule verdict. Reason? War lost, but not for Princes. Princes won their war. Got 3,863,000 piasters for horses not delivered, 8,240,000 piasters for food supplies not produced. Are therefore victors. War lost only for Grusinia, which is not present in this court.

- (a) "am accused instigating war?" Explain the circumstances that led the speaker to say these words. (2 marks)
- (b) Why do you think the nephew is reluctant to try the case? (2 marks)
- (c) Explain who according to the extract is responsible for instigating the war. (2 marks)
- (d) Discuss at least two dominant themes in this extract. (4 marks)
- (e) Identify and illustrate two character traits of Arsen Kazbeki as brought out in this extract. (4 marks)
- (f) Pick out two stylistic devices and comment on their effectiveness. (6 marks)
- (g) Explain the ironic twist that takes place in this extract. (2 marks)
- (h) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. (3 marks)
- (i) I find it rather unusual. (Add a question tag)
- (ii) Defendant, preserve the dignity of the law. (Rewrite in the passive).
- (iii) "It is not your place to command me." (Rewrite in indirect speech.)

3. **Read the narrative below and answer the questions that follow.** (20 marks)

Long, long time ago animals and birds spoke just like men do. When God had to stop them speaking, he made birds sin, like this chrrip! Chrrip..... Lions to roar like this graagh! Graagh! And hyenas to howl like this huuu! Huuu!

And do you blame God? Listen to what naughty hyena who had gone two days without any meat did. He had been wondering up and down the hills when he suddenly stopped, nose in the air, one foot raised.

Do I smell, eh.....smell food? He slowly raised his head to the skies as if to say, "Please God, let me find some food, even one rotting bone will do."

Slowly, he followed the smell, sniffing hard, stopping now and again, over grinning wider as the smell became stronger. "Here at last", He said as he came in sight of a calf that seemed dead, flies buzzing over its excrement.

"God, no time to waste. Who knows the owner may be around. Oh, no, I see it is secured to a tree with a "Mukwa" I'll take my time.

Ha, I am tired too, come to think of it. God gave us pretty strong senses of smell, generous old..... man.

Still I do think some people tend to exaggerate, now who was it saying the other day 'ati' God is the giver of everything and that we should be grateful. O.K.

Tell me, did God give this calf? Did you God? I found it myself, smelled my way there, all the way. Nice calf too, rather thin but it will do. I'll take the head home and make soup with herbs. I especially like 'muthathii', and I see one over there.

OK. Here we go, where shall I start, this lovely neck? No, I know, I will start with the 'mukwa' then I'll get on to the soft stuff, the tail, the rump, 'Mahu'....."

After chewing up half of the 'mukwa' the hyena brushed his teeth with the twig of a 'muthiga' a tree of stimulate his appetite. He stepped on the calf's tail, stuffed it in his mouth and 'snap' it went. The calf which was only very sick and tired shot up and bolted away in the twinkling of an eye.

The hyena rubbed his eyes, ambled after the disappearing calf and soon fell down in exhaustion. He looked up again to the heaven, tried to speak but no words came. Hyenas have never been able to speak ever since.....

- (a) Categorise this narrative and give a reason for your classification. (2 marks)
- (b) Identify and explain two characteristics of oral narratives evident in this story. (4 marks)
- (c) Describe **two** character traits of the hyena as depicted in the narrative. (4 marks)
- (d) Identify **one** economic aspect of the community described in this narrative and give a reason for your answer. (2 marks)
- (e) What moral lesson do we learn from this narrative? (2 marks)
- (f) Give a proverb with the same moral lesson as this narrative. (1 mark)
- (g) If you are asked to go and collect this story in the field, state:
  - (i) Three things you would do before the actual field trip. (3 marks)
  - (ii) Two problems you are likely to encounter. (2 marks)

#### 4. GRAMMAR:

- (a) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given. (3 marks)
  - (i) Is there life after death or not? This is a question which man has been asking himself for a very long time.  
(Rewrite beginning: The question of ..... Do not use the word question twice).
  - (ii) I don't think you should go out this afternoon.  
(Rewrite beginning: I'd rather.....)

(iii) After a new principal was appointed, results began to improve.

(Rewrite beginning: Subsequent.....)

(b) **Put the verbs in brackets in the gerund or the to-infinitive.** (3 marks)

(i) I can't imagine Peter \_\_\_\_\_ (go) by bike.

(ii) He agreed \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) a new car.

(iii) I look forward to \_\_\_\_\_ (see) you at the weekend.

(c) **Explain the difference in meaning between the following pairs of sentences.** (2 marks)

(i) She went and bought herself a skirt.

(ii) She went and bought a skirt herself.

(d) **Fill in the blank spaces in the following sentences with the right form of the word in brackets.**

(3 marks)

(i) We must provide \_\_\_\_\_ improvements in health services. (demonstrate)

(ii) I had never \_\_\_\_\_ a marathon before. (run)

(iii) The prices at the market were quite \_\_\_\_\_ (negotiate)

(e) **Supply a question tag to each of the following.** (2 marks)

(i) You will see the doctor,

(ii) They had bought the house,

(f) **Replace the underlined words with a single word.** (2 marks)

(i) My father is a very old man of between eighty and ninety years of age.

(ii) He bought books, pens, envelopes and a writing pad.