
KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATION COUNCIL

KCSE 2007

ENGLISH PAPER 2 MARKING SCHEME

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24.1.2 English Paper 2 (101/2)

Question 1

- (a) You can improve your life by eating the right food at the right time. (1 mark)
- (b) Since they are quickly digested and absorbed, carbohydrates make one hungrier sooner. They greatly raise blood sugar and subsequently one's appetite, leading to loss of energy. (27 words) (4 marks)
- (c) Free radicals, if not neutralised, damage arteries and body cells. It is these damaged arteries and body cells that cause high blood pressure and cancer. (2 marks)
- (d) Antioxidants can be consumed in the form of pills and food. (2 marks)
- (e) Don't nutritionists, in fact, recommend that we eat five portions of fruit and vegetables a day? (1 mark)
- (f) The attitude of the author is one of admiration, marvel/fascination/wonderment. He is highly impressed by the effectiveness of calcium as a weight-cutting measure for he refers to it as a 'star' and says it has some magic. (3 marks)
- (g) One can use up excess energy by taking a high-calcium diet or going to a gymnasium. (2 marks)
- (h) The irony is that you can actually eat more in order to lose weight. Usually, eating more leads to weight gain. (2 marks)
- (i) *daunting*: difficult, challenging
baggage: excess weight
down a mountain: eat a huge amount of food. (3 marks)

Question 2

- (a) Antonio is referring to Shylock's accusation that he calls him a dog/a cur. (2 marks)
- (b)
- Because Shylock is a Jew.
 - Because he lends money at an interest; he practices usury.

- Antonio apparently thinks usury is bad business, that is, those who practice it get easy money. (4 marks)
- (c) Why are you so nasty? I really desire to be your friend and to win your love. I am willing to forgive and forget your insults and even give you the loan you want without interest. All I ask for in return is respect and understanding from you. (4 marks)
- (d)
 - The part nearest to his heart.
 - So that he dies soonest. (2 marks)
- (e)
 - The friendship is genuine, apparently selfless.
 - Bassanio does not want Antonio to sign the bond just in case Antonio loses his life in the process. He would rather do without the money.
 - As for Antonio, he is ready to sacrifice for his friend and is optimistic that he will get his money in time. (4 marks)
- (f)
 - **Manipulative:** manipulates their emotions by making it appear he is being friendly, and arguing that the pound of human flesh is of no use to him.
 - **Evil:** he wants to kill a fellow human.
 - **Vengeful:** he wants to take revenge.
 - **Callous:** calls his workers an unthrifty knave. (4 marks)
- (g)
 - Antonio agreed that he would seal unto that bond.
 - Antonio told Shylock that he would seal unto that bond.
 - Antonio accepted to seal unto Shylock's bond. (2 marks)
- (h) The last speech is ironic because in spite of the optimism expressed, rumour arrives that there was a shipwreck and his merchandise is lost. This then creates a problem for him and precipitates the conflict in the play. (3 marks)

Question 3

- (a) The poem is about a bird that is caged. It is confined and denied freedom. It cannot enjoy the ordinary pleasures of nature – the sunshine, the breeze or the perfume from flowers. The bird struggles to liberate itself and hurts itself in the process. At another level, the poem is depicting the misery of those who are denied freedom. They suffer physical and psychological torture. The persona sympathizes with the victims and condemns those who conspire to subject others to a life of slavery/detention/imprisonment/confinement. (3 marks)
- (b)
 - (i) In the first stanza, the poet focuses on the feelings of the prisoner; feelings of alienation from all that is natural and desirable; feelings of nostalgia for days when he or she enjoyed freedom. (2 marks)
 - (ii) The second stanza describes the attempts by the bird (or prisoner) to escape. The struggle is bloody. It seems that efforts to escape are met with brutality. Words like “*blood*”, “*pain*” and “*scars*” reflect the torment undergone by the victim. (2 marks)
 - (iii) The third stanza focuses on prayer. Other means have not yielded results, so the bird (or prisoner) appeals for intervention from other sources. Perhaps a superior force will step in and liberate the bird. (2 marks)
- (c) The persona sympathizes with the caged bird. A word like “*alas*” expresses pity. The persona also graphically describes the feelings and sufferings of the bird. This elicits pity from the reader.

The persona also seems to empathize with the bird. He/she keeps saying, "*I know what the caged bird feels...*" He/she has put himself/herself in the shoes of the bird. The persona speaks as if he/she shares the pain experienced by the bird. The persona says, "... *a pain still throbs...*" as if he/she can feel the pain. The persona also has feelings of hope; hope that the caged bird will one day experience freedom.
(4 marks)

- (d) From the poem, it is possible to infer that the persona has had a very tough life. He/she has probably suffered at the hands of cruel oppressors, been denied freedom and tortured. This is why the persona says, "*I know....*" The persona probably fought and prayed for freedom. He/she may have suffered physical and psychological injury.
(3 marks)
- (e) The simile in the first stanza is: "...*the river flows like a stream of glass*". The simile is used to show what the bird yearns for but cannot have. The river represents a life of freedom, flowing without obstruction. It stands for natural beauty that the caged bird is denied.
(2 marks)
- (f) (i) *And the faint perfume from its petals steals:* This means that the flowers produce a sweet smell that gives much joy. However, in its cage, the bird cannot have such luxury while other birds out there enjoy the perfume.
(1 mark)
- (ii) *And they pulse again with a keener sting:* This line refers to the excruciating pain suffered by the bird as it tries to free itself. Every time it beats its wings, the old wounds become sore and cause much pain.
(1 mark)

Question 4

- (a) (i) denial
(ii) heroic
(iii) activate
(3 marks)
- (b) (i) The spread of HIV-Aids can be controlled by educating the public.
(ii) The man whose cattle destroyed the maize in the school farm was arrested.
(iii) Mount Kilimanjaro is higher than any other mountain in Africa/no other mountain in Africa is higher than Mount Kilimanjaro.
(3 marks)
- (c) (i) is
(ii) waits
(iii) begun
(3 marks)
- (d) (i) would
(ii) had been
(iii) when
(3 marks)
- (e) (i) what
(ii) which
(iii) while
(3 marks)