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# KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATION COUNCIL

## KCSE 2007

### ENGLISH PAPER 3 MARKING SCHEME

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### 24.1.3 English Paper 3 (101/3)

Paper 101/ 3 is intended to test the candidates' ability to communicate in writing. Communication is established at different levels of intelligibility, correctness, accuracy, fluency, pleasantness and originality. Within the constraints set by each question, it is the linguistic competence shown by the candidate that should carry most of the marks. In a factual essay, attention must also be given to the format, tone and ability to follow instructions.

Examiners should not hesitate to use the full range of marks for each essay. In a two-essay paper, it is the final, total mark that counts. It is important to determine FIRST how each essay communicates and in which category A, B, C or D it fits

D CLASS	The candidate does not communicate at all. His/ her language ability is so minimal that the examiner practically has to guess what the candidate wants to say. The candidate fails to fit English words he /she knows into meaningful sentences. The subject is glanced at or distorted. Practically no punctuation. All kinds of errors. <b>"Broken English"</b> is evident.
D- 01 -02	Chaotic. Little meaning whatsoever. Question paper or some words from it simply copied
D 03	Flow of thought almost impossible to follow. The errors are continuous.
D+ 04-05	Although the English is often broken and the essay is full of errors of all types, we can at least guess what the candidate wants to say.
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C CLASS	The candidate communicates understandably but only more or less clearly. He/ she is not confident with his language. The subject is often undeveloped. There may be some digressions. Unnecessary repetitions are frequent. The arrangement is weak and the flow jerky. There is no economy of language. Mother tongue influence is felt.
C- 06-07	The candidate obviously finds it difficult to communicate his ideas. He/ she is seriously hampered by his/ her very limited knowledge of structure and vocabulary. This results in many gross errors of agreement, spelling, misuse of prepositions, tenses, verb agreement and sentence construction.
C 08	The candidate communicates but not with consistent clarity. His/ her linguistic abilities being very limited, he/ she cannot avoid frequent errors in sentence structure. There is little variety or originality. Very bookish English. Links are weak, incorrect and repeated at times
C + 09- 10	The candidate communicates clearly but in a flat and uncertain manner. Simple concepts, sentence forms are often strained There may be an overuse of clichés, unsuitable idioms. Proverbs are misquoted or misinterpreted. The flow is still jerky. There are some errors of agreement, tenses, spelling.
.....	
B CLASS	This class is characterized by greater fluency and ease of expression. The candidate demonstrates that he /she can use English as a normal way of expressing himself/ herself. Sentences are varied and usually well constructed. Some candidates become ambitious and even over-ambitious. There may be items of merit of the one word or one expression type. Many essays in this category may be just clean and unassuming, but they still show that the candidate is at ease with the language.
B- 11 -12	The candidate communicates fairly and with some fluency. There may be little variety in sentence structure. Gross errors are still found occasionally.
B 13	The sentences are varied but rather simple. Straightforward. The candidate does not strain himself in an effort to impress. There is a fair range of vocabulary and idiom. Natural and effortless. Some items of merit. Economy of language.
B+ 14 -15	The candidate communicates his ideas pleasantly and without strain. There are errors and slips. Tenses, spelling and punctuation are quite good. A number of items of merit of the "whole sentence" or the "whole expression" type.

A CLASS	The candidate communicates not only fluently, but attractively, with originality and efficiency. He /she has the ability to make us share his/her deep feelings, emotions, enthusiasms. He/she expresses himself/herself freely and without any visible constraint. The script gives evidence of maturity, good planning and often humour. Many items of merit which indicate that the candidate has complete command of the language. There is no strain, just pleasantness, clever arrangement, felicity of expression.
A- 16 -17	The candidate shows competence and fluency in using the language. He/ she may lack imagination or originality which usually provides the “spark” in such essays. Vocabulary, idiom, sentence structure, links, variety are impressive. Gross errors are very rare.
A 18	Positive ability. A few errors that are felt to be slips. The story or argument has a definite impact. No grammar problem. Variety of structures. A definite spark. Many margin ticks.
A+ 19-20	The candidate communicates not only information and meaning, but also and especially the candidate's whole self: his /her feelings, tastes, points of view, youth, culture. This ability to communicate his/ her deep self may express itself in many ways: wide range of effective vocabulary, original approach, vivid and sustained account in the case of a narrative, well-developed and ordered argument in the case of a debate or discussion. Errors and slips should not deprive the candidate of the full marks he /she deserves. A very definite spark.

### Question 1(a)

#### Points of Interpretation

- Must be a story.
- Must begin with the given sentence.
- The candidate must present a credible scenario emanating from the sentence given.
- The candidate should clearly narrate the events consequent upon his/her departure from home and which must impact his/ her life in such a manner as to alter it completely.
- The narration might look back on the previous dreams the candidate had and how this has been rendered untenable given the changed circumstance. **(20 marks)**

### Question 1(b)

#### Points of Interpretation

- Must be a story.
- The story must illustrate how the candidate or the persona has had to learn through the hard school of experience. **(20 marks)**

### Question 2

#### Introduction

Healthy relationships are built through trust, tolerance and compromise. We ought to accept the fact that none of us is perfect and learn to make allowances for one another. If we do not exercise patience towards each other, we keep hurting the very people who are closest to us. Paulina and Martin cause each other much pain.

## Illustrations

Paulina and Martin lead miserable lives because they are intolerant with and suspicious of each other.

- When Paulina gets lost for two days after being discharged from hospital, Martin falsely accuses her of being a prostitute. He refuses to listen to her explanation and beats her badly. (Pages 21 - 23).
- Martin beats up Paulina again when he finds her sobbing for fear that she has lost another pregnancy. He did not trust her word. This brutality no doubt puts a strain on their relationship. In fact, he sends her packing home to Nyanza. (Page 32).
- When Paulina returns from upcountry, she senses that things are not quite right. First, there is a strange scent (Page 33) and then Fatima appears and taunts her (page 34). **"But Paulina's heart sank and she did not rest well."** (Page 34) With such goings on, they begin to drift apart.
- Martin's intolerance is evident when Paulina suggests that they shift to a better house. We are told that **"Martin would grow angry."** He begins coming home late and drunk. (Pages 34, 35).
- Paulina is suspicious of Martin's and Fatima's relationship. When Fatima comes and invites Martin for a stroll, he **"freezes"**. The discomfort and unease that Martin exhibits confirms his infidelity. Paulina remembered that Martin never took her for walks any more. He has even ceased escorting her when she travels to Nyanza.
- Martin has to use threats to force Paulina to remain faithful. But **"she did not ask him for any pledge of faithfulness in return. What would be the use?"** (Page 45).
- Martin suspects that Paulina is bewitched. This, to him, explains her childlessness and he thinks it justifies his cheating on her. (Page 49)
- Owing to the mistrust between them, Pauline relocates to Kisumu. She hears that **"Martin was living with a coast woman and he did not write at all any longer."** We are told that **"something had died in her"** (Page 52).
- Their relationship all but dies. They both seek comfort and companionship in adulterous relationships. Martin begins relating with Fauzia and Paulina with Simon. (Pages 51 - 53).

## Conclusion

Although Paulina and Martin eventually reunite, the spark is gone. True, they try to revive their fondness for each other and rediscover comfort in each other's embrace, but they have had miserable days. Their intolerance of each other and suspicion have given a bountiful harvest of misery, betrayal and loneliness.

(20 marks)

## Question 3

- (a) Candidates must state what they understand by the term **"all that glitters is not gold"**. "All that glitters is not gold": there is a contradiction between the surface and the level deeper (reality). The surface implies positive, even glamorous aspects, while the reality is gloomy.
- The church seems like a haven for the villagers, particularly for the women but it is not - The preacher is a pathetic "beggar".
  - Compare the preacher's external show of piety and his pastoral responsibilities with his preaching about **"hell and brimstone whenever the collection needed boosting"**. (Page 94) and his love of other people's food - **"pastoral visits coincided with meal times"**. (Page 93).
  - Yet the poor people have to pretend to be hungry for the word but grateful for the distraction Mme Lady provides with her late entry (page 92) At the end of service **"they rushed outside ..... with sheer relief that their duty was now done and they could get back home to their usual chores"**. (Page 95).
  - The church does not offer practical solutions to problems, as one would expect "what the church needed was a condom distribution centre as well as HIV/AIDS counselling sessions".
  - Mme Lady's plight shows that all that glitters is not gold.
  - She enters the church with feigned apology and respect for the preacher, yet she does not respect him and feels his work as a pastor is useless.



- Mme Lady wears a mask of strength. (Pages 92 - 93) and aggressiveness, yet she is brittle and vulnerable.
- Her very name Mme Lady is a contradiction of her situation.
- "Madame" and "Lady" do not always have to be used simultaneously, but here they are used satirically. Both terms imply that the addressee is well-respected. A lady is put on a pedestal of respectability.
- On the surface Mme Lady is such a woman on a pedestal; she is beautiful, she is wealthy. Still on the surface she is loved by her husband and is never denied anything - she is driven to and picked from church.
- On the deeper level Madame lady is an ordinary female victim of domestic violence and hatred.
- Her husband hates her so much that he cannot restrain himself from beating and humiliating her in public.
- This habit of bringing her to and from church is not out of tender loving care as would be expected. It is a denial of Mme Lady's need for freedom.
- Consider glitter of appearances and reputation versus the reality of domestic violence. Mme Lady cannot leave her husband because *"What about my reputation and his? Everyone looks up to me"*, (Page 99)
- Consider the symbolism of dark glasses as a mask of the vulnerability that is Mme Lady's lot.
- Consider the symbolism of her physical barrenness as representing the barrenness of her life on a deeper level.
- On fathers' day - glitter of words for the men *"we in the country are blessed with wonderful men who care about their families."* (Page 100)
- When Kimanja hits Mme Lady in public, the above glitter is seen as sheer pretence. Notice that at the end, the man even loses the trendy name "Kim" and becomes simply "Kimanja", his real self.

### Conclusion

At the end of the story, the preacher is forced to see the reality and real issues affecting his flock. He sees Mme Lady as *"an ordinary broken woman who wore a facade out of fear,"* (Page 102)

(20 marks)

#### (b) The effects of coups d'etat

- There is loss of lives in the play, we learn of the death of Odie's father.
- There is reign of terror, confusion, mayhem and people live in constant fear. This is dramatised by Odie and Wak towards the end of the play from page 107.
- Political instability.
- Shortage of basic commodities like salt, sugar, etc as Odie laments on page 79.
- Many people are forced to flee and seek refugee status where they live in degrading and frustrating circumstances as in the case of Wak who had to flee.
- Loss of property.
- Family breakdown, for example: on page 84 Odie describes their situation - the father had died, the mother was in hospital, Wak had to flee to the bush and Stella was in school.
- Breakdown of infrastructure (page 77): it is described how buildings had been bombed, roads were damaged and so on.

(20 marks)

#### (c)

### Introduction

- People generally experience problems in relationships, and especially when they are in love. But if the lovers are lucky, these problems are solved and there is a happy ending to their romance. You feel good when you come to this happy ending; and you eventually forget the difficulties you experienced.
- In homestretch, Brenda Smith falls in love with a law student from Nigeria called Milton. Brenda is from Jamaica and is studying English.

- Contrary to the myths about African men, that is, they come on strong, Milton takes time to nurture the friendship and the love.
- The two lovers get to know each other well.
- The two meet when Brenda is suffering from low esteem: *"Up comes this man who makes her feel she is the best thing since sliced bread"*. (Page 102).
- Both are postgraduates studying in England - Brenda doing her MA in English and Milton an LLM.
- Milton is tall, dark and handsome - the ideal man; and unselfconsciously so.
- He is interesting and funny and well-read.
- Then a cable comes from Nigeria to the effect that Milton's ailing mother would like to see him.
- Milton flies back to his country leaving Brenda devastated.
- Much later, he writes saying there are family reasons why he can't return.
- Brenda manages to retain her sanity but through struggle - with tears and tranquillizers.
- At the end of the novel, however, Milton writes to say his "mother died last week of a heart attack" and that he is coming to London and would like to see Brenda again to explain what happened.
- Brenda is excited /ecstatic and is looking forward to the meeting.

### **Conclusion**

In love, all is well that ends well.

**(20 marks)**