

# FORM FOUR CLUSTER KCSE MODEL 1

## ENGLISH PAPER 2 QUESTIONS

### 1. COMPREHENSION (20 Marks)

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

1. Mr. Chairperson and Members of the Task Force, my personal connection to American agriculture goes beyond appearing in one of last year's 'farm' movies. I am a product of rural America. I was born there. I grew up there. I was a 4-H'er.

My mother was a home maker. My father served for 30 years as a county Agricultural Agent in Texas. My grandfather was a farmer and Deputy Agent of the Federal farm credit Administration under Franklin Roosevelt.

I am very proud that I come from a family that for generations has cared about American farmers and American farmlands, and it is our conviction that the American family farmer is the most efficient, stable and productive of all of the world's farmers.

Right now the future of American agriculture looks pretty bleak. Young farmers can't afford to get started, and in an effort to make up for losses, existing farmers plant every available scrap of ground, contributing to the worst soil erosion in history. And corporate farms are learning the hard way what the family farmer has known for centuries: farming is not an easy road to short-term profits.

I would be naive to assume that this is a simple problem with simple answers, but one thing I'm sure of: we can't turn our backs on these people who have fed us all so abundantly and cheaply throughout our history. It is not marginal producers, speculators or bad managers who are being squeezed out, but the solid core of our agriculture which is threatened. And trouble on the farm spreads without regard for performance.

As bankruptcies mount, land values fall - and since production loans are secured by land, without borrowing another dime, all farmers fall deeper into debt. If we think catastrophe affects only the farmers, we are dangerously naive. The drug store, the implement dealer, the grocery store and the bank in every agricultural community in this country is in trouble, and that trouble arrives in the cities when homeless farmers with their wives and children come to town to look for a job. We have a responsibility to insure that our farmers make not only a fair living but (can) afford to put back with the soil what they take out. And the American public recognises our responsibility in this crisis.

According to recent USA Today and New York Times polls, more than 70% believe that the federal government has an obligation to save financially distressed farm families – families who are endangered by forces beyond their control, families who are stewards of our homelands, this fertile American earth... A century ago, William Jennings Bryan said, "Burn down your cities and leave your farms, and cities will spring up again as if by magic, but destroy your farms and the grass will grow in the streets of every city in the country."

Thank you for this opportunity to appear before you today. (Adapted from Human Dominion of the Farm Crisis, by Sissy Spacek.)

- a) How does the speaker explain her personal connection to American Agriculture?

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- b) According to the passage, how does she rate the American farmer?

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- c) Why according to the passage does the future of American Agriculture look bleak?

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d) The speaker highlights an obvious difference between the family and the corporate farmer.  
State what this is .....

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e) Make notes on the argument Sissy Spacek uses to persuade the members of the House Task Force. ....

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f) Explain the domino effect that the trouble on the farm has on the national front.

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g) What must the government do to remedy the situation?

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h) Thank you for this opportunity to appear before you today. (Rewrite in reported speech, beginning: The speaker...)

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i) In your own words explain the quotation in the last paragraph.

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j) Explain what the speaker means by 'marginal producers:'

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## 2. EXCERPT (25 Marks)

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

2. Out of the eleven who sat for the examination only five passed and Awiti was the best of them. The certificates were awarded three months later and all the villagers came to see for themselves. Elizabeth Awiti Okumu," called the head teacher. No PhD holder ever had a sweet sense of victory as this barefoot African girl, who without even knowing, was the prototype of others yet to come. With the certificate came the invitation to a newly opened Teacher Training College. It was unbelievable. She had not even thought of the future .What was she to do? "Grandmother! Mother! Look! "What is it my child? Asked the ever serene Akoko now a grizzled old lady but still possessing the sweetest smile that ever lit a woman's face. Maria on the other hand felt her heart thumping away in her chest, her mouth tasted bitter and she felt nauseated. All the fears of her childhood were coming back. There was a vice-like band around her head and she thought she would faint. In her head one thought went round and round, beating its wings like a trapped bird. "My child -not you, not you! She would have given it a voice if her thought was not in a spasm. If anything happened to this child! If she was taken away from her she knew she would die. Her little baby, who had defied all odds to live to the very threshold of adulthood! "A sword shall pierce thy soul! A sword shall pierce thy soul! And suddenly she realized she had spoken loudly and everyone turned around to stare. "Control yourself," hissed Akoko as Awiti stared at her mother in shock. She hadn't even divulged the contents of the letter yet! What could her mother be talking about? Eventually the presentation was over. The teacher seeing commotion at the back commended Awiti for her good work, but wisely refrained from mentioning the invitation. The poor girl had suffered long enough at the hands of the boys and the villagers.

### **Questions**

a) What happens immediately before this excerpt?

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b) "The poor girl had suffered enough at the hands of the boys and the villagers. "In what ways had Awiti suffered at the hands of the boys and the villagers?

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c) Identify and illustrate any two character traits of Maria in this excerpt.

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d) With relevant examples identify and illustrate any two stylistic devices in the excerpt. (4marks)

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e) Rewrite the following sentence to begin with 'seeing...' "The teacher seeing commotion at the back commended Awiti for her good work, but wisely refrained from mentioning the invitation.

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f) Identify and illustrate any two themes that are evident in this excerpt.

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g) What does Nyabera mean by "Her little baby, who had defied all odds to live to the very threshold of adulthood."

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h) Give the meaning of the following words and phrases as used in the passage

i) Proto-type.....

ii) Grizzled

iii) Divulged.....

i) What happens immediately after this excerpt?

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(g) Awiti was the only survivor of the many of Nyabera's children. They had died of strange illnesses when they were young.√ 2 marks

### 3. NARRATIVE (20 Marks)

**Read the following story and answer the questions that follow.**

**3. Read the following story and answer the questions that follow.**

A long, long time ago, there was a child in a village who used to trouble his parents at night by crying, wui wui wui wui! The mother tried to stop him from crying, but in vain; an obstinate and stubborn young lad!

Then the mother warned the child and said "if you don't stop crying I will throw you out to the ugly female ogre". But the child went on crying. When the mother could stand it no longer, she stood up and threw the child outside.

Unfortunately there was an ogre who was eavesdropping outside, and she picked the child up and ran away with him just joyous that this was a ready meal.

Suddenly, the father realized that the child cries were dying away. He stood up, took his "panga" and went after the surreptitious ogre. When the ogre heard the heavy footsteps following him pata pata pata he quickly placed the child in the fork of a nearby tree and ran away. From that minute the child didn't cry again.

The father was now confused and couldn't trace where the lonely child was. However, he kept vigil until when the moon shone brightly at that time he saw the scintillating eyes of the child. Wow! With great joy and exuberance, he took the child and went with it home. From that day the child never cried again. Never!

a) Classify and illustrate the narrative above.

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b) Give and illustrate two character traits each for the mother and the ogre.

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c) In your opinion why did the of Ogre place the child in the fork of a nearby tree?

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d) Identify and illustrate any three oral literature features evident in this narrative.

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e) i) Identify and explain the moral lesson in this narrative.

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ii) What does it reveal about universal human relations?

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f) Give another word from the narrative that has a similar meaning with the following words.

i) machete.....

ii) boy.....

#### 4. GRAMMAR (15 Marks)

4. a) Rewrite each of the following sentences according to the instructions given after each

i) He would not tell the secret to his parents. (Rewrite ending ..... the secret)

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ii) What was stolen? (change into active voice)

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iii) He makes such beautiful chairs. (change into exclamative sentence).

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iv) To borrow and not repay money is not honourable. (Rewrite using a participle)

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b) Fill in the gaps the following sentences with the most appropriate word related to the word in brackets

i) There is a serious problem of increase in the number of illegal... ....in Europe (migration)

ii) That illness is caused by .....found in water (pure).

iii) His rude reaction was..... whichever way you looked at it. (explicable)

c) Insert appropriate prepositions in the gaps

i) This is a disaster... .....waiting, we should take precautions.

ii)..... account of the large number of cases we shall extend the court sittings until midnight.

iii) After serving the government for three decades, my father has retired... .....private business.

d) Pick the alternative from the ones provided and use it to complete the sentence.

i) The institution has decided to build a new store for storing all... ..... (stationery, stationary)

ii) New students are expected to quickly... ..(adapt, adopt) to the new sentence.

iii) Do not ignore the .....(advise, advice) of a wise man or woman.

e) Use the most suitable phrasal quantifier to complete the following sentences

i) The detectives use... .. hair to catch the thief.

ii) He was choked by ..... grass and coughed for a long time.