1. Imaginative composition

EITHER

(a) Write a composition ending with the following words.

------ -- as I looked around my new office, I felt I had finally made it.

QUESTION 1: IMAGINATIVE COMPOSITION

<u>A:</u>

(i) the Composition must end as instructed
(ii) It must be a story
(iii) It must be a story based on some form of achievement.

Or.

(b) Write a composition illustrating the saying

- To slip is not to fall
- (i) The story must adequately illustrate the given saying.
- (ii) Relevance must be observed.

2. The Compulsory Set Text:

With close reference to Margaret Ogala's **The River and the Source**, write a composition highlighting the changes that have taken place in the society depicted in the novel.

<u>QUESTION 2:</u> <u>THE COMPULSORY SET TEXT</u> introduction

Many changes take place in the Society depicted in the novel as the years go by and new generations are born. Change or transition affects every sphere of the characters' lives as well as the community.

BODY.

Change can be observed in the traditional Society, which gradually transitions into the modern, westernized one. For instance, the traditional society was polygamous. In fact, polygamy is not only encouraged; it is expected. Owuor Kembo finds himself the subject of speculation and his wife, Akoko, faces all sorts of accusations owing to his refusal to marry a second wife. Owuor's late father, Chief Kembo K'Agima is said to have had many wives and his brother Otieno, has four wives – and counting. Owuor's reluctance to marry more wives does not go down well with his people, especially his brother. The writer says that a Monogamous man was an unknown animal. Pg30-31)

In the westernised society, however, a polygamous union is no longer viable. It goes against the new religion which advocates for a monogamous union. Characters like Elizabeth Awiti, Mark Sigu, and Aoro and Wandia have their weddings in Church and remain monogamous.

There is also change on that individuals can choose to remain unmarried. They can also choose not to have children. This is a huge leap from the traditional society where one's whole life was directed towards marriage and childbirth; Vera, Tony and Peter Owuor choose lifestyles that do not feature marriage or children in them. Vera joins the Opus Dei as a non-marrying member, while Peter and Tony opt for the priesthood.

Women also play a bigger role in the society apart from being wives and mothers. They contribute to nation building by having careers; for instance, Awiti is a teacher; Wandia is a doctor; Vera is an engineer; Becky is an air hostess. It is also important to note that there is change in that, girls can make decisions with regard to their marriage partners, as seen in the example of Elizabeth Awiti's choice of Mark Sigu as a spouse. Traditionally, the girl's parents, notably the father, made this choice. When Akoko was considered ready for marriage, her father Chief Odero Gogni turned away twelve suitors before accepting the thirteenth, Owuor Kembo.

Change is also observed with regard to religion. The traditional Society believed in Were and ancestral Spirits. This is well illustrated by Akoko's constant reference to Were, the god of the eye of the rising Sun, and Akoko's grandmother who called on the ancestral spirits' help when Akoko developed a bout of Colic and would not stop crying. When her late grandmother's name was mentioned, the crying ceased.

This has however transitioned to Christianity which has been introduced by the white man. People take to baptism and going to Church and even acquiring new names through baptism. Akoko acquires the name Veronica while her daughter, Awiti is known as

Elizabeth and Owuor acquires Petero, later anglicized to Peter. They also embrace Christian holidays like Christmas.

There is change in housing, from the round thatched mud huts to tin or iron roofed buildings as seen by Akoko and her nephews on their journey to Kisuma.

The mode of dress has also changed. Where Women used to dress up only in a 'Chieno' which barely covered anything, they now have dressed on tunics as seen in Awiti's example when she gets her first dress for school. Children were said to be dressed in nothing but the love of Were' and are highly amused by the men who came to report Obura's death in Sakwa. They wore leggings and caps, items that were strange to the village folks.

These amongst other changes can be observed throughout the novel, The River and The Source.

3. The Optional set texts

EITHER

(a) When the Sun Goes Down and other stories.

Write a composition showing the problems people in a colonized and highly militarized country face, as portrayed in the story **White Hands**, by **Jane Kaljariri**

Introduction

- A colonized and highly militarized country is one in which there is heavy military presence for instance due to colonialism. The colonizers use the soldiers to guard their selfish interests. In such a situation, the citizens are bound to face numerous problems as evident in Jane Katjavivi's. story, 'White Hands'.

<u>Body</u>

- In a highly militarized country, the atmosphere is traumatizing for everyone. Political leaders are said to be detained, tortured or forced into exile. The church is the only one left to set up projects to help the people. Angelika is a beneficiary of one of these projects. Her help comes through a small college funded by the church. There is a big problem, therefore, and were it not for the intervention of the church, people would continue to suffer.
- Secondly, in a highly militarized country, the military does what they think is right, not for the victims but for themselves. They sterilize some young women without their consent. Angelika cannot

get pregnant. She was sterilized without her consent. The doctors (soldiers) who did the operation did not bother to have her sign any consent form. This is abuse of human rights yet it is what Angelika and others have to endure in the highly militarized country.

- Also, people suffer because the military doctors do not tell the truth to their patients. They are hypocrites who seem to be so reckless that they put their patients through untold suffering. When Angelika goes to the hospital due to severe stomach pains, the young white soldiers from South Africa examine her and say that there is a problem with her appendix. They operate on her to purportedly remove the appendix. Little does she know that she has just been sterilized. This is a problem faced by young women who fall prey to these hypocritical doctors, a characteristic of a country where there is high military presence.
- Due to the heavy military presence, people face the problem of poor medical care. The medical care is said to be so bad that some citizens are actually sick all the time. There are long queues in hospitals. Angelika has to wait for a long time in the queue before she is attended to. The people hope to get a proper prescription but as Angelika had been told, what the patients were given after queuing for so long were mere painkillers. This poses a big danger since pain killers only provide a temporary solution to the problem. The people, therefore, continue to suffer.
- In a highly militarized country, there are obvious inequalities. While the colonizers are settled in large beautiful farms, the natives are pushed into reserves, on rocky hills. As Angelika travels to the village, she notices the well maintained gravel roads leading through the white commercial farms. These roads peter out towards the reserve. The last twenty kilometers into the reserve are said to be over hard rock, through dry riverbed and up steep slopes. The natives have to endure while the colonizers enjoy. This shows just how unfair life could be in a highly militarized country.
- Also, in a highly militarized country, people lack basic needs such as water, fruits and vegetables. Here in England, Angelika is happy' that she can afford these things. Also, people in the reserve are said to eagerly wait for early rains as there is not enough water. They mainly rely on rain for water.

<u>Conclusion</u>

In conclusion, it is clear that with colonial and heavy military presence, the common citizens are bound to face very many problems. They suffer a lot yet have no choice but to endure. It is unfortunate that some of the problems they suffer, for example sterilization, may be irreversible.

Or

(b) Betrayal in the City

Betrayal is a common vice that should be denounced in the society. Explain the truth of this assertion drawing your illustrations from **Francis Imbuga's** play; **Betrayal in the City**.

<u>Introduction</u>

To betray is to fail someone who trusts you, especially failing them at a time when they need you most. Actually, betrayal is a vice which should be denounced in the society. This is because it works against the society in many ways. The issue is well explored by Francis Imbuga in the play 'Betrayal in the City'. **Body**

Betrayal leads to disillusionment among the people. When citizens entrust some individuals with leadership, the leaders are expected to work for the good of the citizens. However, when these leaders fail, the people feel hopeless. Mosese puts it that there is nothing to look forward to. He sits with his back facing the door. He also says that they have killed the past and are busy killing the future. This

means the people have no hope for a future. The leaders have failed to execute their duties thus the suffering of the common man. This just shows how betrayal can work against hope.

- Betrayal leads to mistrust and strained relationships between the leaders and the citizens. The citizens no longer trust the leaders. This explains why the citizens, in particular the university students, protest against some of the government's decisions. They organize a peaceful demonstration to protest against the influx of expatriates in the country. With this kind of mistrust, it is almost impossible for development to be realized in a society.
- Betrayal leads to coups. People who feel that they have been failed or betrayed by the government are likely to stage a coup against such a government. This is due to frustrations. Jusper, Mosese and Jere stage a coup against Boss and his luminaries. During the rehearsal for the play, Boss is overthrown and his closest man, his sycophant, Mulili shot dead. If Boss had not betrayed his subjects, this would not have happened.
- Betrayal by a section of the society makes the society as a whole unable to break from the shackles of a tyrannical government yet

everyone should be ready to participate in the fight. When the university students demonstrate against the oppressive government, the beggars and others betray them. They are said to have insulted them, telling them that they were just wasting their time. This is instead of joining them for this worthy course. This betrayal is unhealthy for the society since people continue to suffer in silence, instead of taking action.

- Betrayal makes relatives deny one another. When Boss gets in trouble following the bloodless coup, Mulili is asked about his relationship with him. He says that he is just a distant cousin. He goes ahead to accuse him of having ruled Kafira for too long and destroying its economy, having killed Kabito among other evils. To deny one's relatives in a bid to exonerate oneself is an evil that obviously encourages selfishness in the society.

<u>Conclusion</u>

In conclusion, it is clear that betrayal brings forth many ills in the society. Such ills negatively affect the society hence betrayal should be vehemently condemned.

Or

(c) The Whale Rider

Where there is expectation, disappointment is inevitable. Support this statement with evidence from **Witi Ihimaera's** novel **The Whale Rider**.

Introduction

In life, everybody has their expectations at one time or the ether. Where there is expectation, disappointment is inevitable. This is because if the expectation is not met, then there must be somebody that becomes really disappointed. Witi Ihimaera has explored this issue in this novel. 'The Whale Rider'.

<u>Body</u>

- When one expects a baby of a certain gender, they are hound to get disappointed if the newborn is of the opposite gender. Koro Apirana and Nani Flowers have been waiting all month long for Porourangi's call. Porourangi's wife, Rehua is to give birth. Koro expects that, as it has been the tradition, his eldest great grandchild from his eldest grandson Porourangi is going to be a baby boy. However, Koro is greatly disappointed when Porourangi calls to declare that the newborn is a girl. So disappointed is he that he immediately rows to the sea to sulk.
- When one expects another to support them in all their endeavours, they definitely get disappointed if that doesn't happen. Nan Flowers expects that, as her husband, Koro Apirana should always

support her views and undertakings. However, this does not always happen. She expects him to support the view that girls can do anything these days. However, Koro argues that women do not have power yet. In disappointment, Nani calls Koro an old goat. She gets SO disappointed with him that she keeps on threatening him with divorce. In fact, she is said to threaten to divorce Koro Apirana every second day. This shows how far a disappointed person can go.

- When one invites people to an important ceremony, they expect all of them to attend. Otherwise, they become very disappointed. Kahu invites all her family members to her End-year Break-up ceremony. She does not expect her great grandfather to miss it because not only does she have a reserved for him hut also a surprise. When Koro Apirana fails to turn up, Kahu is so disappointed that the light in her face is said to keep on dimming and fading away like a bulb flickering. She is very disappointed.
- When one believes in a group of people then they fail, he/she feels very disappointed. Koro Apirana believes in the boys so much and hopes to get 'the one' to replace Kahu as chief in her generation. In a bid to identify 'the one', Koro Apirana drops a carved stone into the sea and asks the boys to dive and get it. One by one, they dive into the water but none is able to reach the stone. Koro Apirana is so disappointed that when he gets home, he just shuts himself in the bedroom and begins to lament.
- Having been friends for long, one is definitely disappointed when the ties are severed with no good reason. Man and the whale are said to have been friends for a very long time: since the time man had helped the orphaned whale. The whale expected the friendship to last forever. However, when man met a woman and married her, he cut his ties with the whale since he had got a companion. So disappointed was the whale that whenever he remembers this, he cries with grief and overwhelming sorrow. He does this due to the high expectation that turned into disappointment.
- Also, Rawiri becomes so disappointed in the behaviour of Jeff's family that he gets a strong urge to go back home. They blatantly discriminate against the natives. When they knock Bernard down, they do not bother to help him since he is a native. This is despite the fact that he is a worker in their plantation. When Rawiri stops to help, they speed off, leaving him with the injured man. So disappointed is Rawiri with this behaviour that he resolves to go back home.

<u>Conclusion</u>

- It is true that not all our expectations must be met. This leads to disappointment. This disappointment may make one behave in a

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manner likely to suggest that they are angry and would want to revenge. People should learn to handle disappointment so that it does not get out of hand.