

K.C.S.E 2005 ENGLISH PAPER 101/3

1. Oral Literature

- (a) What is a riddle? (3 marks)
- (b) (i) State one riddle in mother tongue or Kiswahili and provide the English translation. (2 marks)
- (ii) Explain the imagery in the solution to your riddle. (2 marks)
- (c) Describe the stages in a riddling session. (5 marks)
- (d) Who is the audience in a riddling session? (2 marks)
- (e) State any **four** functions of riddles. (2 marks)
- (f) Distinguish between a riddle and a puzzle (4 marks)

2. Drama

Francis Imbuga; Aminata

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

Mulemi: And did you formally receive it?

Aminata: No. It looks like it will have to be a court case. Jumba is a fox, I tell you. Now they have a fantastic story about the grave and why they had to cement it in a hurry. According to them, our late father died after he had changed his mind about the cementing of his grave. The old man is supposed to have called the two of them, Ababio and my uncle, to his bedside two days before he died. That is when he supposedly talked to them about the burial arrangements. Ababio is even ready to swear by the grave that this is the absolute truth.

Mulemi: What about the will? That is what is important.

Aminata: (Sarcastic). In Membe, what is written down on a piece of paper is of no consequence whatsoever. They want the evidence of the living, not the dead.

Mulemi: Oh, but that should be easy. I mean, we have Joshua on our side. He is the chief witness.

Aminata: In law, their defence is totally hopeless. Some of the more enlightened elders know this, But the rest led by Jumba, are totally impervious to reason.

Mulemi: So what did you do?

Aminata: Nothing. In fact most of them were quite surprised at my silence. You see, as soon as I arrived at my uncle's home, the elders of the land were summoned. Within an hour, they were all there quietly seated. From the anxiety on their faces. I guessed

that they were expecting a bitter confrontation between me, Ababio and my uncle. But they were wrong. What would I gain from such a confrontation? Absolutely nothing. So I just sat there and played it by the ear. You know, the art of doing nothing very well. After four hours they were still undecided, and my uncle was already losing his temper, as usual. The meeting was postponed to the following day, but that too did not resolve the issue.

Mulemi: Do they not realise the numerous journeys you have saved their womenfolk to the rivers and back?

Aminata: The women are solidly behind me, and some of them have been talking to their husbands. So you see, it is no longer my fight.

Mulemi: Your uncle is a perfect mockery of enlightened tribal leadership on the continent.

Aminata: On the continent! That's too much credit. (Pause). But you know, while there, I got this feeling that he doesn't actually hate me, after all. No, it is fear. A strange kind of fear, you know, like the fear of darkness, of the unknown.

- (a) What had happened just before this extract? (2 marks)
- (b) Explain what issue the elders had been summoned to resolve (3 marks)
- (c) Identify a figure of speech in this extract. (2 marks)
- (d) What is implied by Aminata's words, "it is no longer my fight"? (2 marks)
- (e) Who is Mbaluto? Describe the tragedy that affected him (4 marks)
- (f) Identify and explain any two areas in which the women in the play *Aminata* are beginning to speak out on their rights. (4 marks)
- (g) What do the interactions in this extract reveal about the relationship between Mulemi and Aminata? (3 marks)

3. The Novel (20 marks)

Chinua Achebe: *A Man of the People*

Either

- (a) "The women characters in *A Man of the People* have no ambitions. Their purpose in life is tied to their relationship with the male characters." Discuss this statement with reference to Eunice and Edna.

Or

- (b) Account for the strained relationship between Odili and his father in the novel *A Man of the People* and say what brings about the change in their relationship that we see at the end of the novel.

4. The Short Story

(20 marks)

Encounters from Africa: An Anthology of Short Stories (Ed. Macmillan)

Either

- (a) "By the end of Sam Kahiga's short story, 'The Last Breath', the narrator's father has undergone a transformation in his perception of Eva"
How true is this statement?

Or

- (b) Using illustrations from Ken Saro-Wiwa's short story, explain the appropriateness of the title, 'Africa Kills Her Sun'.

5. Poetry

(20 marks)

Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow:

Poem for my Sister

My little sister likes to try my shoes,
to strut in them,
admire her spindle-thin twelve-year-old-legs,
in this season's styles.
She says they fit perfectly,
but wobbles
on their high heels,
they're hard to balance.

I like to watch my
little sister playing
hopscotch, admire the
neat hops-and-skips
of her, their quick peck,
never missing their mark,
not over stepping the line.
She is competent at peever.

I try to warn my little sister
about unsuitable shoes,
point out my own distorted feet, the
callouses, odd patches of hard skin.

**I should not like to see
her in my shoes.**

I wish she would stay sure footed,
sensibly shod.

(By Liz Lochhead in poems 1 ed. Celeste Flower, Singapore: Longman, 1995)

- (a) Why does the little sister try the persona's shoes? (3 marks)
- (b) How do we know from the first stanza that the shoes don't fit? (1 mark)
- (c) Why does the persona like watching her younger sister play hopscotch? (4 marks)
- (d) In the third stanza, the persona gives us new reasons why her little sister should not wear her shoes. What are these reasons? (2 marks)
- (e) What is the message of this poem? (5 marks)
- (f) Describe the tone of the poem. (3 marks)
- (g) Explain the meaning of the following lines:
I should not like to see
her in my shoes (2 marks)