

MURANG'A SOUTH SUB-COUNTY MULTILATERAL EXAMINATIONS 2016
KENYA CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

101/2

ENGLISH

PAPER 2

(Comprehension, Literary Appreciation & Grammar)

JULY / AUGUST 2016

2 ½ HOURS.

1. **COMPREHENSION.****Read the following passage carefully, then answer the questions that follow.**

(20 marks)

It is ironical that the world is becoming both smaller and bigger at the same time. This paradoxical development is, curiously, due to information technology (ICT). Indeed, ambivalence seems to characterize ICT. It may be hailed as the most significant achievement of humankind. However, one should not be blind to the challenges, or even the hazards, that ICT poses to the human race.

ICT has certainly contracted the world. The phrase 'global village', coined in the 1960's by the Canadian scholar Marshall McLuhan, sounds truer today than at any other time in human history. Thanks to the wonders of the combination of computers, satellite and wireless message transmission, the world has become a small place, like a village. This is in the sense that, even from the remotest corner of our planet, you can receive and send instant messages. It is just like calling out to someone to the end of a short street in a small village and getting an instant response.

This instant communication is obviously a positive and useful development. Communication is so fast that it is a wonder that we were ever able to manage with only letters and the post office. Reference to such communication as 'snail mail' aptly conveys the sluggish nature of pre-internet communication. The speed with which information can be sent and received today has led to our era being dubbed the communication age'. Our society, too, is described as an 'information - based society'. We dare not act in ignorance when knowledge is, literally, available at the tip of our fingers and the tap of a button.

The picture, however, is not all rosy. The ease and speed with which messages can be coded, 'loaded' on to various channels and sent to any corner of the world poses a number of immediate dangers. Negative messages can as easily be facilitated by ICT as positive ones. The information superhighway is hailed as wonderful vehicle for information, research, education and knowledge in general. Unfortunately, it is, equally, a conduit for evil such as fraud, terrorism, pornography, racism, hate discourse and illicit trade. Even at the individual level, the dangers of ICT cannot be overstated. A clear source of worrying examples in the rapidly evolving genre of social networking sites, such as Facebook, Twitter and their multitudes of imitations. These websites, where millions of people post and exchange masses of information including personal details, have become favorite hunting grounds for people with evil intentions. These villains are out to 'meet' innocent and unsuspecting users of these sites, especially those who are young and naive, and take advantage of them. Numerous cases are reported of people, young and old alike, who have been seduced and abducted by 'friends' they made on the Internet. One of the worst known cases was of a modern-day cannibal who, in 2003, recruited his victim on the Internet, and ended up killing him, cutting him up and eating him.

A subtler but also more pervasive problem of the communication revolution is that the human mind is not quite adapted to the speed of which ICT feeds information into it. In other words, people are receiving so many messages so fast that they just cannot digest them. They do not know how to react to the information. Whether it is numbers or gory images of mutilated bodies on our screens, our response to what we see and hear through the media have become troublingly dull. We are, thus, developing into a rather shallow and insensitive society. In other words, we see, hear and read so many messages that we have no time to reflect on them. Information is rapidly becoming mere texts, sounds and images, with no meaning. Thus, the biggest challenge that information communication technology poses for us is the re-education of society to rediscover the values of serious thought and reflection. This might reinstate true insight and empathy that make us truly human.

Questions

- a) Identify the paradox used in the first paragraph. (1 mark)
 - b) Why does the writer describe the world as 'global village'? (3 marks)
 - c) What name is given to pre-internet communication, and why? (2 marks)
 - d) Why would ICT be described as dangerous? (4 marks)
 - Give your answer in note form.
 - e) Give **two** advantages of ICT, according to the passage. (2 marks)
 - f) Comment on the suitability of the title of the passage. (3 marks)
 - g) "Even at the individual level the dangers of ICT cannot be overstated."
Rewrite beginning: One (1 mark)
 - h) "The instant communication is obviously a positive and useful development."
Begin: What ... (1 mark)
 - i) Explain the meaning of the following expressions as used in the passage. (3 marks)
- (a) villains
(b) naive

(c) seduced

2. **The River and The Source by Margaret Ogolla.****Read the following passage and then answer the questions that follow:**

(25 marks)

"My child, I am terribly ashamed of you. You are no longer young yet you have never been anything selfish with the selfishness of a child. You feel that other people may suffer, but as for you, it is your right to be happy. You shake like a reed in the weed because you have never forgiven God for not giving you as many children as other women whom you consider less worthy. And you feel that God owes it to you to make sure that your only child lives and prospers. Learn my child that God owes nobody anything. He gives to all men both wicked and good from his great bounty according to his wisdom and mercy. You are no longer a child yet you understand nothing. Don't you know that from the height of heaven and the vastness of his eternity he sees you as you shall be a hundred seasons hence when no one on earth will have any memory of you and your bloodline will have mingled and petered out like a well in the dry season?"

You are not wise, my child, learn wisdom. Put your child in his hands who can both plant and bring fruition. Try to be happy for Awiti when she tells us the news whatever it is. Don't you see the world is changing and that she is acquiring what will make the difference as to whether she survives or perishes?" Maria eventually calmed down and her racing heart stilled within her but when she heard her daughter's footsteps on the threshold the band tightened around her again and she started breathing fast-like a woman in labour. She struggled to control herself.

Questions.

- a) What has happened that has made it necessary for Akoko to rebuke Maria at the beginning of the extract? (3 marks)
- b) Justify the view that God is non-discriminative. (1 mark)
- c) Awiti receives a letter inviting her to join college. Mention two other letters that she receives, and the main message in each. (4 marks)
- d) Identify and illustrate **two** stylistic devices used in the passage. (4 marks)
- e) "You feel that other people may suffer ..." Give **three** causes of Nyabera's suffering, from elsewhere in the story. (3 marks)
- f) What is the main theme brought out in the passage? (2 marks)
- g) What happens immediately after this extract? (2 marks)
- h) I am terribly ashamed of you. Add a question tag. (1 mark)
- i) You shake like a reed in the wind. Change into past tense. (1 mark)
- j) What is the meaning of 'bounty' as used in the passage? (1 mark)
- k) Identify and illustrate one character trait of Maria's as brought out in the extract. (3 marks)

3. **Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow.**

(20 marks)

Western civilization

Sheets of tin nailed to posts
driven in the ground
make up the house

Some rags complete
The intimate landscape

The sun slanting through the cracks
welcomes the owner.

After twelve hours of slave
labour

Breaking rock
shifting rock
breaking rock
shifting rock
fair weather
wet weather
breaking rock
shifting rock

Old age comes early

a mat on dark nights
is enough when he dies
gratefully
of hunger

Questions.

- a) What is the poem about? (4 marks)
- b) Identify and illustrate two features of style used in the poem. (4 marks)

- c) What does the fifth stanza suggest about the work done by “he”? (2 marks)
- d) What basic requirements does the “he” in the poem lack? (3 marks)
- e) Why do you think the “he” dies “gratefully”? (1 mark)
- f) Describe **two** themes brought out in the poem. (4 marks)
- g) Explain the meaning of “Old age comes early” (1 marks)
- h) Supply a word that means the same as hunger as used in the poem. (1 mark)
4. **GRAMMAR.** (15 marks)
- a) **Rewrite the following sentences beginning with the underlined words.** (2 marks)
- i) I have never felt so angry in my life.
- ii) If we had been informed about the meeting, we would have attended it.
- b) **Complete the following sentences using the appropriate interjections.** (2 marks)
- i) _____ You are hurting me.
- ii) _____ How disgusting this food is!
- c) **Use the correct form of the word in brackets to complete the sentences.** (3 marks)
- i) The employer _____ his employees to increase their production (pressure)
- ii) We should express _____ whenever people are generous to us. (grateful)
- iii) His _____ behaviour has made him to be very unpopular. (scandal)
- d) **Use the correct verbs in the following sentences.** (2 marks)
- i) A group of people _____ (are/is) standing outside your office.
- ii) Neither the players nor their coach _____ (have / has) arrived.
- e) **Fill in the blanks space with the correct preposition.** (3 marks)
- i) We should never live _____ our means.
- ii) I am interested _____ the moral lesson in the story, not the characters.
- iii) Share this bread _____ the four of you.
- f) **For each of the following sentences, follow the instructions given.** (3 marks)
- i) “I am going to write these notes now,” said Jones.
(Change into reported speech)
- ii) They saw several students at the show.
Rewrite in the passive voice.
- iii) Complete the following sentences appropriately.
If the child had listened to his parents’ advice _____