

FORM FOUR CLUSTER KCSE MODEL 6

ENGLISH PAPER 2 QUESTIONS

1. COMPREHENSION PASSAGE: (20 Marks)

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

Happiness arises largely from the mental qualities of contentment, confidence, serenity and active good-will. It includes the pain of losing as well as the pleasure of finding. It thrives best in a crowded life. The men and women who are recorded in history and biography as the most happy always had somewhat more to do than they could possibly do. Every working hour of their lives was occupied with ambitious projects, literature, love, politics, science, friendship, commerce, professions, trades, their religious faith and a thousand other matters. The secret of happiness may be found by making each of these interests count to its utmost as part of the fabric of life. We need to avoid extremes of sluggish placidity and feverish activity. We are not going to be satisfied with felicity which resembles that of stone, unfeeling and unmoving but will look back from future years with sorrow and regrets if we run to and fro for giving in to what Socrates called, "the itch". Happiness obviously includes two sorts of behavior: active and passive. We may say that the active part consists in searching, while the passive part is made up of security and possession. Neither part is complete in itself and neither yields full satisfaction if it is over – emphasized. Philosophers from the ancient Greek to the present day have been extolling a balanced life as the most happy life, and many unhappy people can, when they face the issue, trace their discontent to imbalance. The recipe for happiness, cannot be given as any single word, because its many virtues have to be combined in their proper quantities at the proper times for the proper purposes. It is legitimate to seek happiness. We cannot help observing that while followers of some schools of thought are telling us to avoid seeking happiness, they intimate that if we do so, we shall be happy. The search requires a plan. We need to know what sort of happiness we seek, what the ingredients are, what our strongest wants are, and what we have to start with. We should train ourselves to keep the programme simple and free from complications and side trips to pay attention to little things, to deflate quickly after being praised, and to bounce back quickly from disappointment, to seize and create opportunities, to seek excellence in everything we do, to remain modest and review and revise periodically. Most of us do not really have to seek far and wide. Happiness grows at our fireside if we cultivate it.

1. QUESTIONS

a) According to the writer, what is the source of happiness? (2marks)

.....
.....
.....

b) Explain two sorts of behavior that happiness includes. (2marks)

.....
.....

c) What does the author mean when he talks of a balanced life? (2marks)

.....

d) In a paragraph of about 30 words, summarise the things that we must know as we search for happiness. (4marks)

Rough

copy.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Faircopy.....

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

e) Explain the writer's point in the last paragraph. (1mark)

.....
.....
.....

f) The recipe for happiness cannot be given in any single word. (Rewrite the sentence beginning:

No single word

.....
.....

g) Describe the tone the author uses in the passage. Give an illustration to support your answer. (2marks)

.....
.....
.....

h) Identify and explain the figure of speech in the sentence: It (Happiness) thrives best in a crowded life. (1mark)

.....
.....
.....

i) Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the passage. (4marks)

.....
.....
.....
.....

2. THE EXCERPT (25 Marks)

2. The envelope had been addressed to Mark who opened it, read the letter and passed it to her.

“At least she is from the country”, he said sounding a bit odd. She looked at him and then lowered her eyes to the letter. It was characteristically Aoro – brief and to the point. She felt kind of sorry for Mark. First there had been Becky who had left home unceremoniously only to return with a white man in tow. A very nice man but apparently not nice enough for Becky. He had found out that she was having an affair during his trips abroad and had sued for a divorce. Now she was living alone with the children financially well off, but unhappy. It was

one thing to enjoy the thrills of an affair, but a different thing altogether to have a carte blanche to do exactly as you pleased. John had terribly hurt of course and Mark had been furious with her.

Then Tony had joined priesthood –Mark resisted it at first but recently, during Tony’s ordination he had been full of pride for his son-whose face had shone with joy and youthful dedication. Vera’s case had been the hardest to accept. Mark thought of the world of Vera, and deferred to her in everything. Then she had arrived home one day and declared that she wanted to join the Catholic Prelature of Opus Dei as a non-marrying member. It didn’t help that Mark had never heard of Opus Dei and could not understand why Vera could not marry. But he had eventually accepted because he loved her.

Because she looked so happy, so radiant. Anything that could bring such joy and serenity could not be that bad. It was a pity though that she did not wear a veil or a habit. That way he could at least have bragged about her a little to his friends. His children were a source of great envy to his less lucky friends.

Vera for one was a fully qualified electronics expert and had a lucrative job in the city with a large salary and all sorts of benefits. Women like that tended to marry the most amazing wimps and Mark had held his breath in fear. But in the end all Vera wanted was to dedicate her life and her work to God, and there was no turning her back. So Elizabeth secretly hoped that Aoro would bring home a nice girl – naturally a Luo like himself – who would proceed to have many children –all of ordinary black colour.

THE NOVEL: 25MARKS

Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow: The excerpt is from The River and The Source, page 268 begin: The envelope had been addressed to Mark... - upto where it says – all a nice ordinary black colour” on page 270 (the very first line

a) Briefly state the contents of the letter mentioned.

(3marks).....
.....
.....
.....
.....

b) In point form summarise why Elizabeth pities Mark this excerpt.

(4marks).....
.....

.....
.....
c) Discuss any two instances of irony brought out in this excerpt. (4marks)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

d) Identify and illustrate three character trait of Mark evident in this excerpt. (6marks)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

e) Give any two thematic concerns that are depicted in the excerpt. (4marks)

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

f) His children were a source of great envy to his less lucky friends.

(Change it into an interrogative statement). (1mark)

.....
.....
.....

g) What happens immediately after this? (3marks)

.....
.....
.....

3.THE POEM (20 Marks)

Read the following poem and then answer the questions that follow:

I WENT TO CHURCH

I went to church today
Yes I went and prayed for all
Friends and foes alike
Dead and those alive

I also prayed hard
For the soul of that soldier
Who got shot
Fighting for our motherland
While I shot hot life into his wife.

And I prayed to God too
That I live long
To go and pray again.

QUESTIONS

1. What is the poem about? (4marks)

.....
.....
.....

2. What kind of a person is the speaker? (4marks)

.....
.....

3. Identify and illustrate two poetic devices used in this poem. (4marks)

4. What is the poet's attitude towards the persona in the poem? (2marks)

.....
.....

5. What is the meaning of the following lines? (2marks)

“While I shot life into his wife”

.....
.....

“That I live long to go and pray again”.

.....
.....
.....

6. What is the tone of the poem? (2marks)

.....
.....

4. GRAMMAR (15 Marks)

4. a) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given. Do not change the meaning: (3marks)

i) The match was cancelled because of the heavy rains. (Rewrite using: Owing to.....)

.....
.....
.....

ii) The victims should not be denied justice under any circumstances. (Begin: Under...)

.....
.....
.....

iii) Mary eventually passed her exams although she was out of school most of the time. (Begin: Despite ...)

.....
.....

.....
.....
b) Fill the blanks with the correct choice of word given in brackets. (2marks)

i) The models... ..their hair in readiness for the contest (made / did)

ii) I..... a grave mistake to reject the offer (made/did)

c) Explain clearly the difference in meaning between the two sentences. (2marks)

i) The teacher of English left us some assignments

.....
.....

ii) The English teacher left us some assignments.

.....
.....
.....

d) Fill the blanks with appropriate phrasal verbs which mean the same as the words in brackets. (2marks)

i) The presidential plane at exactly mid-day. (lands)

.....

ii) The bomb earlier than expected. (exploded). e) Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the words in brackets. (3marks)

i) We had to pay an annual.....to receive the magazine (subscribe)

ii) "Avoid theof important words in your essay," the teacher warned (omit).

iii) Mwaura is a very boy (deceive)

f) Some words have been misspelt in the passage below underline then and rewrite them correctly. (3marks)

Over the years, institutions of higher learning have been competing for facilities. The question of accommodation has continuously drawn mixed reactions as it is viewed as a rare privilege for students wishing to reside on campus. It is awkward and embarrassing to see how some business cartels are constructing dormitory – like structures which don't live up to the standards of campus