

FORM 3 TERM 3 APRIL 2022

ENGLISH PAPER 2

A. COMPREHENSION (20MARKS)

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

America has a long tradition of creativity. The expression Yankee **ingenuity** is an acknowledgement of this trait present Americans with a novel problem, especially technological and they are likely to come up with the solution sooner rather than later.

That is the positive side. The downside is that in policy matters, Americans sometimes come up with the solutions and then look for personal problems on which to test them. Washington D.C, perhaps more than any other city in the world, has many solutions seeking problems to lock onto.

If the solutions are successful, domestically or internationally, you can expect any amount of excitement and chest thumping, which is another **hallmark** of the American character. Modesty is frowned upon as something for sissies or failures. Countries and peoples are ready paradigm of winners and losers. Woe unto you if you are a 'loser'. You will endure all manner of taunts and putdowns.

To escape this fate, most Americans-including those who are demonstrably poor, call themselves middle class, which probably they are when compared to the poor in other places. But poverty is relative to immediate environment not to some distant places.

One of the more recent American inventions is spinning not as in making clothes (the American textile industry has long being outsourced, notably from China another low wage country),but rather as in using words and other symbols amplified by the media to paint a picture of anything and everything in alight favorable to the presenter's side.

This past week, the world witnessed, yet again, this peculiar American habit of hype and more hype, in this instance, designed to drive the point home that America's declared policy to force-feed democracy to recalcitrant societies has just scored a **humongous** victory. Following the Iraqi elections the turn out in particular, has been hailed as a stunning victory of American policy. Pitted against Iraqi Jihadists who are waging a relentless and ruthless insurgency, a scintilla of validation of America's Iraqi policy was all that was necessary to set off celebratory fireworks.

To those who recount narratives (the spinners), whose job it is to put a bright glass on things a clear picture of winners and losers are the Neanderthals; "thugs and assassins" in the words of the newly sworn in secretary of state Condeleeza Rice-the insurgents who threatened to wreak havoc on election day in Iraq but were thwarted.

The high turnout was read as a violation of many things that were most likely absent from the minds of those Iraqi voters who cast their ballots. Before it was even known whom they had voted for and why, the whole enterprise was turned into cause for chest thumping by some American politicians, prompting John Kerry the loser in the November presidential race, to warn against hyping the Iraqi election.

Who will listen to a loser? This is America! By the time Kerry spoke, the spinning was in full gear. It was another turning point, declared elated talking heads. Never mind that there have been numerous "turning pints" in Iraq's tortured post-invasion experience. The winners were emerging.

A few voices have urged caution but they are drowned out by the self-congratulation that has **engulfed** just about every major media outlet here.

It is reminiscent of the chatter that followed Saddam Hussein’s capture. That was another turning point. The irony is that America has been through this before, in a different place, with almost the exact same headlines. In the late 1967, many American newspapers published flowery and upbeat stories on the elections held in South Vietnam at the height of the war. The turnout was nearly 83% despite Vietcong terror. The election was declared a success and a turning point that would lead to stabilization of the country and eventual defeat of the insurgents. Of course, nothing of the sort happened.

History does not **invariably** repeat itself. Sometimes it does. Whatever one might think of it, history does always serve up many lessons. One of them is that a dose of modesty is always in order when confronted with vast historical forces or when seeking to rearrange complex societies their go hundreds, if not thousands, of years back.

What may look like victory as first sight may turn out to be another opening to a complex and trying situation that control produce winners or losers. It looks like this what is emerging in Iraq. The millions who headed to the polls on the instructions of their electrical leaders (remember Grand Ayatollah Sistani declared it a religious duty to vote? May or may not have had a clear idea of what society were hoping to create. Their leaders probably do.

Iraqis voted and they are justifiably proud of it. However, this should not be made to look like a first in the Islamic world, as it is being painted in the media. Not too long ago, an Islamic party had won a clear and convincing victory in a free and fair election in Algeria. It was never allowed to assume power. The international authorities desisted from calling the denial an affront to democratic practice. The man who cancelled the Algerian election results is feted in the very same quarter that now preach democracy.

Society’s broken tyranny, war, fragmentation and other ills are not served by putdowns of important segments within them.

The approach may produce winners in the short term but for more losers in the end. Moreover, here we are talking of those who could lose everything, including their lives, on a mass scale. A little modesty may just be what is needed to get people across the divide talking. After all, in the end, we are all losers.

Questions

- a) What is the negative side of America’s long tradition of creativity? (2marks)

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- b) “Woe unto you if you are a loser.” What does the author mean by this statement? (2marks)

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- c) Identify and explain an instance of irony in this passage.(3mks)

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d) What is the author’s attitude towards the Americans? Give reasons for your answer. (2marks)

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e) ‘...and the losers are Neanderthals; ...’ explain how the Neanderthals became losers according to this passage. (2marks)

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f) What according to the passage is referred to as spinning? (2marks)

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g) Identify one American policy discussed in this passage. (2marks)

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h) Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the passage. (5marks)

i) Ingenuity.....

ii) Hallmark.....

iii) Engulfed.....

iv) Humongous.....

v) Invariably.....

B. LITERARY TEXT BLOSSOMS OF THE SAVANNAH. (25MARKS)

Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow.

Poor girl, thought Resian. She imagined the person who wanted to marry the girl was probably a senior *moran* who commanded his junior morans to guard the home, to ensure his would-be-bride was not snatched by rivals from another village.

Minik explained that on finding the home guarded, the rescue team had to retreat. They went back to Nasila to look for their contact man who initially directed them to *Esoit*. He was very helpful and agreed to accompany them to the village where the girl was, and help them rescue her. They were about to give up the rescue mission after several attempts to distract the guards had failed. But the man from Nasila was able to lure the whole team of guards to a beer party at a nearby village, leaving the girl unguarded.

a) What had just happened before this excerpt? (4marks)

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b) Explain two character traits of ‘the contact man’ as brought out in the excerpt?(4marks)

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c) Who is ‘the contact man’ referred to in the excerpt? (2marks)

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d) Who is the poor girl and why was she guarded?(4marks)

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e) Identify and explain the irony in Resian’s thoughts.(3marks)

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f) Briefly discuss any other feature of style and its relevance as used in the excerpt.(3marks)

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g) Identify and illustrate the theme from the extract. (2marks)

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h) They went back to Nasila to look for their contact man who initially directed them to *Esoit*.
(Use the present progressive tense.) (1marks)

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i) What is Minik's role from the extract and elsewhere from the text? (4marks)

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C. POETRY (20 MARKS)

Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow:

Touch by Hugh Lewin

When I get out

I'm going to ask someone

to touch me

very gently please

and slowly,

touch me

I want

to learn again

how it feels.

I've not been touched

for seven years

for seven tears
I've been untouched
out of touch
and I've learnt
to know now
the meaning of
untouchable.

Untouchable –not quite
I can count the things
that have touched me
One:fists
At the beginning
Fierce mad fist
beating beating
till I remember
screaming
don't touch me
please don't touch me

Two: paws
The first four years of paws
every day
patting paws, searching
- arms up, shoes off
legs apart
prodding paws, systematic
heavy indifferent
probing away
all privacy.

I don't want fists and paws

I want

to want to be touched

again

and to touch

I want to feel

again

I want to say

when I get out

Here I am

please touch me.

(From *Poets to the people*, edited by Barry Feinberg)

- a) Where do you think the persona is? Briefly explain your answer. (3marks)

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- b) What do you think the persona means by "touch"? (3marks)

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- c) Using two illustrations, describe the persona's experience during the seven years.(4marks)

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- d) What is the significance of the word "paws"? (2marks)

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e) Which device does the poet use to reinforce the message in the poem? (2marks)

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f) Explain the meaning of the following words as they are used in the poem (2marks)

- i. Prodding.....
- ii. Indifferent.....

g) What does the poem reveal about the needs of the inmate? (4marks)

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D. GRAMMAR (15 MARKS)

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

- i. As soon as Jude entered, James left. (Begin: No sooner...)

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- ii. The little rascals ran round the ragged slope. (End: ...rascals)

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- iii. Why did the prefects do such a thing! (Rewrite in passive)

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- iv. The man was arrested. His cattle destroyed the maize in the school farm. (Rewrite as one sentence.)

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b) Rewrite the sentences below replacing the word in bold with a phrasal verb formed from the word given in bracket. (3marks)

i. They **terminated** the engagement. (break)

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ii. Parents are advised to **rear** their children well. (bring)

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iii. After breaking into the shop, the burglars **stole** the loot. (made)

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c) Fill in the blanks spaces with the correct preposition. (3mks)

i. Owinga huge deficit, the government was forced to borrow.

ii. Wairimu was acquittedCohen’s murder.

iii. Susan prefers ball games to athletics as she has never excelledathletics.

d) Underline adjectival clauses in the following sentences.(3Marks)

i. I met the woman who lives next to Mariah.

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ii. The house which was demolished last year has been rebuilt by well-wishers.

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iii. These are the books that the government supplied to public schools.

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e) Fill in the blank space with a suitable article. (2marks)

i. He plantedeucalyptus tree behindgrandmother’s house.

ii.umbrella can protect us fromsun rays.

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