

**SECONDARY SCHOOLS
ADVANCED LEVEL
SENIOR SIX**

EXAM: LITERATURE IN ENGLISH /80 marks

Instruction: Answer all questions and the exam will last 3 hours.

A. PROSE AND POETRY / 25 marks.

I. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Maureen stole a glance at Kanja. The poor man was fidgeting and sweating. She rose and opened the window. She served several glasses of fruit juice and passed them round. Kanja held the glass cautiously, his fingers shaking like an alcoholic's. "Welcome Kanja." It is great to have you visit," she said.

"Kanja has no idea how good it was for him to come." When you are suffering from AIDS, one good friend is all you need to make lifeless suffocating. A person is only a person through other persons". Steve observed.

"You too? Suffering from AIDS?" Kanja breathed the one question he had been afraid to ask. He sounded perplexed.

Steve smiled vaguely. But before he could speak, Maureen weighed in. The story, she seemed to suggest, was hers to tell. "I remember I had gone for a routine prenatal check when the doctor broke the news. When I was diagnosed with AIDS, I had only one prayer. In that moment, when the sun seemed to set on my life, I prayed that my unborn child be free of the virus. I prayed that somehow Steve would be free of the virus too. Oh, how intently I prayed. When my son was born and he turned out negative, my night suddenly went ablaze with a thousand stars. But there was one problem. Steve would not take the test when he finally acquiesced, He was positive I was devastated. My stars waned...."

Steve knew the signs all too well. The clouds were gathering and soon there would be storm, a deluge, he knew. He did not like the way she spoke. Her earnestness sounded almost unnatural. And why must she try to sanitise him?

"I have forbidden you to blame yourself for anything!" Steve growled.

"Oh, you don't know how it feels seeing you suffer and knowing that I brought this pestilence on you but I swear I have been a faithful woman..... I was faithful to my husband. I was faithful to you, Steve....." her voice broke and she burst into tears.

"Listen Maureen," Steve spoke with a tenderness that surprised Kanja. A strange light played in his eyes. "Never cry when the sun goes down for if you do, the tears will not let you see the stars," he pleaded.

She heaved and gasped painfully, trying to get hold of her emotions. Finally, she wiped her tears and looked at her son, playing innocently on his father's lap. She had two daughters from her first marriage but this boy, the fruit of the only true love she had ever known in her thirty and five years under the sun, was the crown of her life. Still, a fear tugged at her heart leaving her belly feeling an airy hollowness. Would she leave to see him grow up into a man? And if she died, would Steve care for him or would he let the boy to wonder unloved, unwanted on the harsh streets of life? Maureen had no doubt that Steve would live: He had the will. She wished she too could summon up that Kind of spirit. She looked at Steve and their son again, the way a seer peers at the contents of his diviner-gourd to read the secrets of life and she smiled wearily. These were her men. She could die but these two, father and son, would always be together. Nothing could separate them. She could see that in the way they sat and played so snugly with his father, in the way Steve held him as if he would never let go. It was such a perfect picture. Just as if the whole world was just the two of them. Still, she wanted reassurance but when she tried to speak, the words would not form. Steve held her eyes in his in that judicious manner of his and she knew he knew what she wanted to us. And the answer was in his eyes –a more profound answer than any words could speak. In that moment, Maureen felt strangely relaxed and her heart sang: *Ngũmbũka nyume thũ, Magegania meekwo thũ, matarĩ mekwo?* Yes! She would fly out of this world and wonders hitherto unseen would be performed on earth...

From "When The Sun Goes Down" by

Goro wa Kamau

Questions. /15 marks

1. According to the passage above, why is Maureen worried? **(2marks)**
2. Why do you think it is important to get tested for HIV? **(2marks)**
3. "A person is only a person through other persons". What does this mean in the context of the story? **(4 marks)**
4. One of the greatest challenges to HIV and AIDS is the issue of stigma. How does this affect Maureen in the story and what can we do to eliminate stigma in our society? **(5 marks)**
5. Which type of narrator has been used? Justify your answer. **(2marks)**

II. Read the below poem and provide answers to the given questions /10 marks

Black Cry

I am coal!

You rip ruthlessly from the earth

You make me your mine, master

Yes I am coal!

You light me, master,

To serve you forever a moving force

But not forever, master.

I am coal

And I must burn, yes,

And consume all by the force of my combustion.

I am coal
 I must burn in exploitation
 Burn down to the very ashes of malediction
 Burn like my brother coal-tar alive
 Until I'm no longer your mine, master

Yes, I am coal!
 I must burn
 Consume all by the fire of my combustion.
 Yes!
 I shall be your coal, master

By Jose Craveirinha (Mozambique)

Questions

1. What is the subject matter of the poem? **(2marks)**
2. Where has the poet used assonance, alliteration and personification? **(6 marks)**
4. Which point of view has been used in the poem? Justify the answer. **(2marks)**

B. NOVELS /55 marks.

III. ANIMAL FARM_by George Orwell (30 marks)

1. What solutions does Old Major suggest to solve the animals' problems? **(2marks)**
2. Napoleon has stolen five buckets of milk. What does it foreshadow? **(2marks)**
3. What do the windmill and farmhouse symbolize? **(2marks)**
4. According to Snowball, what would a windmill serve in the farm? **(3marks)**
5. Differentiate The Battle of the Windmill from The Battle of The Cowshed. **(2 marks)**
6. After overthrowing Mr Jones from the leadership of the farm, animals have led themselves. Did they get what they were fighting for? Support your answer. **(3marks)**
7. State 3 commandments that were revised by pigs, and how they were revised. **(6 marks)**
8. Discuss about **"Abuse of power and ideas"** as a theme in Animal Farm **(5 marks)**
9. Compare and contrast the general life of animals under the leadership of Mr Jones and Napoleon. **(5 marks)**

IV. THE PEARL BY John Steinbeck (25 marks)

1. Referring to what happens in the novella, explain how Juana is right by saying —...this pearl is evil. Let us destroy it before it destroys us. **(3 marks)**
2. Why did Kino and Juana go to the beach? Explain the main reason that prodded them to go there. **(4 marks)**

3. Both Kino and Juana realise that the pearl will bring evil to them. How do their opinions differ about the best way to turn away this evil? **(4 marks)**
 4. Despite all the grief it has brought to him, Kino decides to keep the pearl. Why? **5 marks)**
 5. How did the villagers tried to avoid selling their pearls to the buyers in the town and why did their attempts fail? **(4 marks)**
 6. Think about the novella —**The Pearl** of John Steinbeck, then evaluate the role of women in this novel comparing to the Rwandan women in this time. **(5 marks)**
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