



ST MARY'S GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL

2026 MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION POST MOCK EXAMINATION

ENGLISH

Subject Number: M052/II

Tuesday, 5th May

Time allowed: 1hr 45 min

PAPER II

(60 marks)

Instructions:

1. This paper contains **8 printed pages**. Please check.
2. The paper has two sections **A** and **B**.
3. Answer **all** questions in **both** sections.
4. Use the spaces provided to answer questions in this paper.
5. Follow instructions for each section carefully.
6. Fill in your **Name** at the top of each page of the question paper.
7. In the table provided on this page, tick against the

Question Number	Tick if Answered	Do not write in these margins	
1			
2			
Total			

question number you have

SECTION A

NOTE-MAKING (20 MARKS)

Read the passage below and thereafter, make a summary of it in note form. In

Your summary:

- i. provide a suitable title for the passage
- ii. give the main points
- iii. supply the supporting points for each main point
- iv. Marks will be awarded for **content, note-style and fair copy layout**. Candidates who simply copy the passage will be penalized.

Self-esteem is the way you value and perceive yourself. This is your overall sense of worth. Self-esteem usually drops when experiences or thought patterns repeatedly send the message that you are not good enough. Fortunately, the situation can be reversed. It is, therefore, the purpose of this discussion to reveal ways of improving self-esteem.

The first way is focusing on your strengths. You should write down all your skills, talents or achievements, for example, writing short stories, playing netball and many more. You should also remind yourself of your past successes. For instance, reflect on what made you succeed. These things can be such as hard work, creativity or any other traits you used. You must celebrate your wins; no matter how small they seem to be. This helps you see your value more clearly.

Practising positive self-talk can also help improve one's self-esteem. This involves consciously changing the way you speak to yourself especially in difficult moments. There is need to replace negative thoughts with encouraging ones. Let your inner voice become supportive, realistic and encouraging. It is not about pretending that everything is perfect. It should be about being fair and constructive with yourself. Use affirmations the right way. That is repeating simple and believable statements. For example, tell yourself that you are capable and that you deserve respect. The way you talk to yourself matters a lot.

The third way is by setting small and achievable goals. You should make sure that you aim at finishing one or two tasks. This can be achieved by breaking big goals into smaller steps. This makes the goals manageable. There is also need to strive at learning something new by trying out new tasks. As you succeed, slightly raise the difficulty of your goal. You should also take time to help some people in need. Achieving small goals builds confidence step by step.



In conclusion, self-esteem does not improve overnight, but with consistency, patience and self-compassion, it can grow stronger. By making intentional efforts to value yourself and your abilities, you build a more confident, resilient, and positive outlook on life.

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SECTION B

COMPREHENSION (40 MARKS)

In a small village of Chimala, many people believed that strength meant loud voices, big muscles or bold actions. Except for Timverane.

Timverane was known as a quiet young woman. She spoke softly, walked gently and spent most of her time observing things. While others laughed and talked as they sipped the local brew at the village square, she watched the clouds, listened to the wind and noticed small changes in nature. Many thought she was strange as none of the rest of the villagers behaved that way. The village square was the centre of attention in Chimala. People looked forward to spending their afternoons there. They played a lot of card games in which only the clever and crooked ones won money.

One evening, as the sun dipped behind the Chimala Hills, Timverane noticed something peculiar. The Chingwenya River near the village was flowing faster than normal, even though it had not rained for some days. She also saw dark clouds gathering far in the mountains. She remembered Ataya, her grandmother. She remembered her exact words.

“Observe your environment. When the river rises quietly and the mountains grow dark, water is coming,” she would say.

Timverane immediately felt uneasy. She went to the village square and tried to warn people’

“Please, let’s move to the higher ground. Water is coming.”

No one paid attention. Some laughed while others thought she was becoming mad. There was no way water was coming as it had not rained for days. Timverane trusted what she had observed. She rushed home and helped her children who had already started packing their personal assets. They knew their mother could not lie to them. She carried baby Sibbo on her back and rushed to a hill nearby.

Just a few minutes after eight o’clock in the evening, the sky cracked open. Heavy rains poured in the mountains upstream. Hours later, a loud roar filled the night. Chingwenya River burst its banks, flooding homes near the lowlands. People who had initially remained comfortable at the village square ran helter skelter trying to save whatever they could.

Those who had followed Timverane’s quiet advice were already safe on the higher ground. Timverane and some who were already on the higher ground helped others climb the hill. It was such a daunting task to accomplish as it was dark. Children clung to their mother’s wrappers. Mother’s held onto their husband’s shirts. It was such a sorry sight.



By morning, half the village was submerged in in water. It was obviously impossible to go downhill. Spending another night up there was the only way. Still bodies of livestock could be seen floating in the muddy water alongside plastic kitchen utensils. Fortunately, no human lives were lost. As it was a norm, personnel from the Disaster Management Committee arrived in Chimala the following day to assess the extent of the damage and, as expected by the villagers, give them a hand.

Villagers gathered quickly at the village square. The village gong had been heard. They knew what it meant. This annual natural disaster came with some goodies. As vehicles carrying the visitors pulled in, a mixture of exhaustion, relief, hope and excitement was evidently written on their faces. Children clung to their mothers, their clothes still soiled, their eyes wide open with curiosity.

The visitors moved swiftly but calmly, assessing the situation. Some began setting up temporary shelters for the villagers while others distributed emergency supplies such as blankets, bottled water, bags of maize flour and basic medical kits. After everything, the team leader expressed gratitude to Timverane for her timely warning. He also requested the chief and his subjects to consider moving to the higher ground permanently as the problem would continue hitting them year after year. He had said this before- a countless number of times. It was up to them to take heed of the pieces of advice.

“Strength is not always loud. This time, we have been saved by observation and wisdom. All thanks to Timverane.” The villagers mumbled amongst themselves as they sat around the fire that evening as they reminisced over the events of the previous couple of days

Now answer the questions below.

- a. Mention the disaster that hit Chimala Village.

_____ 1 mark

- b. How many nights did the villagers spend up the hill?

_____ 1 mark

- c. Explain **one** misconception that Chimala villagers held.

_____ 2 marks

- d. Give **two** activities that people of Chimala liked to do at the village square.

i. _____ 1 mark

ii. _____ 1 mark

- e. Explain what had prompted Timverane to go to the village square.

_____ 2 marks

- f. Give meanings of the following words as used in the passage.

i. crooked: _____ 1 mark

- ii. peculiar: _____ 1 mark
- iii. assets: _____ 1 mark
- iv. daunting: _____ 1 mark

g. Explain meanings of the following expressions as used in the passage.

i. helter skelter (paragraph 7)

_____ 2 marks

ii. give them a hand (paragraph 9)

_____ 2 marks

iii. take heed of (paragraph 11)

_____ 2 marks

h. Describe how Ataya impacted Timverane's life.

_____ 2 marks

i. What significant role did the village gong play in Chimala?

_____ 2 marks

j. Describe the character of Timverane's children.

_____ 2 marks

k. Give **two** reasons for the Disaster Management Committee team's visit to Chimala.

i. _____ 1 mark

ii. _____ 1 mark

l. Give **one** piece of evidence from the passage to show that the disaster in the passage caused a huge damage.

_____ 2 marks

m. Give a suitable title for the passage.

_____ 2 marks

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END OF QUESTION PAPER