

Name of candidate _____ Form 4 _____

THEKERANI SECONDARY SCHOOL

2019 MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION END OF TERM I EXAMINATION

ENGLISH

Subject Number: M052/III

Wednesday, 18 December

Time Allowed: 2 hours

PAPER II

(70 marks)

Instructions

1. This paper contains **10 printed pages**. Please check.
2. This paper has **two** sections.
3. Section **A** contains **two** compulsory **contextual questions**. Therefore, you are **required to answer both questions** in the spaces provided.
4. Section **B** comprises essay questions. Answer **both** questions on the book on the lined answer book on **pages**
5. You should spend the first **10 minutes** reading and planning your answers to the questions.
6. Fill in your **name** at the top of each page of the question paper.



Section A (30 marks)

Answer **both** questions.

1. POEM

LORD HEAR OUR CRY by John EB Matope

Hoes wear out
Not because of farming
But digging graves

Hymns are learnt
Not in churches
But at graveyards

Hospitals are there
Not for healing people
But keeping them to die

At the end of the day
The coffin seller
Has a happy profit

Lord, we cry to you
Every day every night
Hear our prayers, Lord

(Slightly adapted from: **The Unsung Song** by Reuben Chirambo et al)

Questions

a. Who is the persona in the poem?

_____ (1 mark)

b. Describe the character of the coffin seller in the poem.

_____ (2 marks)

c. Mention **three** things described in the poem that do not happen the way they normally should.

- d. _____

 _____ (3 marks)
- e. Why are hymns learnt at the graveyards and not churches?

 _____ (2 marks)
- f. What is the geographical setting of the poem? Justify your answer.

 _____ (3 marks)
- g. What figure of speech is depicted by:
 (i) "Hoes wear out not because of farming but digging graves?"
 _____ (1 mark)
 (ii) "The coffin seller has a happy profit?"
 _____ (1 mark)
- h. Describe any **one** theme in the poem.

 _____ (2 marks)

2. SHORT STORY

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

FIREFLY by Adewale Maja-Pearce(Nigeria)

When he got back to the room that evening, the child was still coughing but presently it subsided to a wheeze and he entered. He went over to his wife who was sitting on a stool and put his hand on her shoulder but she did not acknowledge his presence.

"Did you go to the hospital?" he asked.

"Yes."

"What happened?"

"The doctor gave me a piece of paper," she said and handed over to him. He looked at it.

“You went to the place?” he asked.

“Yes.”

“How much?”

“One Naira.”

He nodded, folded the paper, and gave it back to her. He looked at the child again. There were tiny beads of sweat on her forehead and she was rubbing her chest. He turned away and left the room. He went to the open kitchen and made a fire and put a pan of water.

After he had eaten he sat on the step and listened to the child’s gasps and thought. After a while, he re-entered the room.

“Tomorrow I will ask the master,” he said.

“This Lagos is not a good place,” she said. He looked down at her, her head bowed in grief, but what could he say? He put his hand, uncertainly, but then withdrew it.

“Tomorrow I ask the master,” he repeated and returned to the step. It grew dark. He thought of the village and this city; he thought of his helplessness and of his former faith. In the end, he could not stand any longer. He returned to the room.

“Don’t worry; it will be all right,” he said. For the first time, she looked at him. “All right!” She said. She turned away. “She is dying and you say it will be all right,” she added contemptuously.

“The master will give me money,” he said.

“You lie!” she said. For a moment, he wanted to shout at her, to tell it was not his fault, and that he had done it for the best...

“My father...,” she began.

“Please...,” he said, but what was the use? The child began wheezing again, and they looked at the frail body contorted with pain. The woman started crying, and when she had finished, she said: “I knew the journey was too much. She was not strong. I told you, but you did not listen?”

“I thought...

“You thought? What did you think? That Lagos would be better?”

“Yes?”

“Why?” who do we know? Have we family here?”

“My father would have given you work.”

“I didn’t want to work,” he said quickly, furiously.

“No you wanted to be your own man, not so?” she asked. She unscrewed the jar of Vaseline and began rubbing the child’s body and talking gently. They both looked so vulnerable. He wanted to protect them. He raised both his hands but then dropped them to his side. He became aware of a firefly in the room, hovering about the kerosene lamp that stood on the table beneath the tiny window. Frogs croaked in the gutter at the back. The woman sat on the bed and took up the child and started rocking to and fro humming. He felt like an intruder. He went out.

When he returned, an hour or so later, they were as he had left them. She looked up at him. Her eyes were red and swollen. She was exhausted.

“So you have come back? I thought you had run away,” she said. Then: “You don’t have to worry, it is finished.”

“I...”

“Go, I don’t want you,” she said. She laid the child on the bed and stared at the limp body for a moment. The firefly still hovered around the lamp. He stretched out his hand and caught it in his palm. She stood up and reached for the suitcase and began packing her things.

Questions

- a. What shows that the
- b. wife does not agree with her husband’s decision to come to Lagos?

_____(2 marks)

- c. Identify the geographical setting of the story. Justify your answer.

_____(2 marks)

- d. What is the mood of the story? Justify your answer.

_____(2 marks)

- e. Describe the characters of the following:

(i) the husband

- _____
- _____ (2 marks)
- (ii) the wife
- _____
- _____ (2 marks)
- f. "You don't have to worry, it is finished." What does this expression mean?
- _____ (2 marks)
- g. Describe any **one** theme from the story.
- _____
- _____ (2 marks)
- h. In what point of view is the story narrated?
- _____ (1 mark)

Section B (40 marks)

Answer **both** questions in this section on the spaces provided.

The Pearl by John Steinbeck

3. With relevant examples from the novel, **The Pearl**, by John Steinbeck, discuss the troubled life Kino undergoes after getting the pearl of the world. (20 marks)
4. With relevant examples from the novel, **The Pearl** by John Steinbeck, discuss the characters portrayed by Juana (20 marks)

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This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 28 horizontal blue or grey lines spaced evenly apart, typical of notebook paper. The lines extend across the entire width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There are no vertical lines, text, or other markings on the page.

END OF QUESTION PAPER