

2025 MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

ENGLISH (MO52/III)

(70 Marks)

PROVISIONAL MARKING SCHEME

SECTION A (30 Marks)

1. POETRY

FORMULA FOR FUNERALS: By Steve Chimombo

- a. Sarcastic / Ironic – death is something that brings sadness but the persona decides to present it in humorously (2 marks)
- b.
 - i. Simile: cheeks like gullies/ foreheads like combined contours (1 mark)
 - ii. Hyperbole: tears gush.../ enough to refill lake of storms... (1 mark)
- c. – Causes of death
- d. i. Death is caused by so many reasons which include wars, HIV/AIDS natural disasters like napolo, slave trade etc.
 - ii. Depression, relatives mourn for their beloved ones (2 marks)
- e. The persona seems to be joking (poking fun at) about death throughout the poem (2 marks)
- f. i. Gullies
- ii. Contours (2 marks)
- g. It is able to give references /suggestions on causes of death (2 marks)

2. SHORT STORY

- a. presence of fields where the woman used to farm/walking ten kilometres/husband hides in the bush (1 mark)
- b. (i) Third person point of view (1 mark)
 - (ii) the narrator is not taking part in the story but only reporting what happened to the characters in the story by using third person pronouns like it, he and her. (1 mark)
- c. personification (1 mark)
- d. (i). gender-based violence /irresponsibility (2 marks)
 - the man used to accuse the women and leave all household chores for her
- (ii). responsibility (2 marks)
 - the woman used to take care of her family by nursing the baby and doing farming
- (iii). friendliness – the nanny bird used to play with the baby while its mother was busy

e. Characters

i. **husband**

- abusive/ irresponsible – did not assist the wife in doing home activities (2 marks)

ii. nanny bird

- friendly – used to play with the baby while its mother is busy farming (2 marks)

f. the husband wanted to deal away with the nanny bird but in return he kills his own baby (2 marks)

g. Poetic justice

- the husband is also killed (1 mark)

SECTION B(40 marks)

3. The Pearl by John Steinbeck

(20 marks)

Either

a. Exploitation and oppression negatively affected the people of La Paz

- Natives were not allowed to go outside their community for trade as this was against the norms of their society. This was even elaborated by the Father in his sermon in the church. This was an oppression as the colonialists didn't want the natives to discover a good market for the pearls.
- The market for the pearls were monopolized by colonialist who even set and controlled prices for the pearls and not the sellers themselves. This made the sellers to be offered very low prices that made the fishermen in despair to give their pearls to the church.
- The pearl agents are not allowed to start business of pearls of their own. This made them to start thinking how the patron could not live forever and someone had to take over his place. They felt being oppressed.
- The doctor was not willing to assist Kino until he heard that Kino had found the pearl. He came to Kino's house as he wanted to assist him while in true sense wanted to benefit from the pearl. This is exploitation at its best as he did not have the human heart of assistance but benefiting from the little resources that Kino had.
- When the doctor arrived at Kino's brush house, he asked Kino to give him his pearl so that he can keep it for him. In true sense he wanted to steal it from him.
- Kino and Juana were not allowed to have their wedding be wedded in the Church because they did not have money up until when the Priest heard that Kino had found the pearl of the world. The Priest then came to persuade Kino to have his wedding officiated in the Church when he sells the pearl.

- The servant for the doctor was compelled to speak his master's language while they were not willing to speak the native's language. This is exploitation in the sense that the colonialists wanted to promote their language.
- The three trackers who were following Kino, one rode the horse and had a rifle while the other two were walking on foot with bare foot. This is exploitation.

$$04 + (16) = 20$$

(20 marks)

Or

b. Character analysis

(i) Juan Tomas

- **Secretive**- does not reveal Kino's whereabouts to neighbours
- **Caring** – advises Kino to be careful not to be cheated by pearl buyers
- **Dishonest/deceptive** – gives false and confusing answers to people who try to ask him about Kino's whereabouts
- **Generous** – gives Kino food and other items on his escape journey
- **foresighted** – advises Kino to discard the pearl regarding it as evil

(ii) Trackers

- **Skillful** – able to trace Kino's family despite Kino's cunning tricks
- **Reckless** – they fire a rifle before establishing who/what was crying
- **Greedy** – they hunt for Kino's pearl to dispose him of the treasure
- **Cautious** – they always keep one of them on guard while the rest are sleeping to ensure safety
- **Determined** – continued following Kino despite some challenges they faced in order to grab the pearl from Kino.

$$04 + (08 + 08) = 20$$

4. MACBETH by William Shakespeare

Either

a. How power struggle ruins people's lives

- Macdonwald is Killed as a rebel leader who rose against the chieftaincy of King Duncan. He was killed by Macbeth from navel to the chop

- King Duncan orders the execution of Thane of Cawdor as a traitor who joins the Norwegian King Sweno to revolt against King Duncan. When the traitor's side loses the battle, King Duncan does not spare Thane of Cawdor.
- King Duncan is murdered by Macbeth. His vaulting ambition to become king of Scotland spurred him to kill the king to fulfill the witches' prophecy.
- Macbeth sends murders to kill Banquo and his son Fleance so that the prophesy for sons of Banquo to become Kings of Scotland should not be fulfilled
- Macbeth is defeated by Macduff. This marks the end of his tyrannic rule and Malcolm is sworn in as the King of Scotland
- Young Siward is killed by Macbeth as he tries to fight against the tyrannical rule of Macbeth
- Lady Macbeth commits suicide as she tries to protect their royal entity through masterminding plans for the killings of everyone who was against their chieftainship or their authority
- Donalbain and Malcolm run away from their country for fear of being killed by whosoever killed their father
- The family of Macduff is surprised by Macbeth when he sent murders to kill Macduff's wife and babes for not showing his allegiance when Macbeth is bestowed Scotland kingship at Scone. This did not go well with Macbeth as he thinks that Macduff is a rebel.

$$04 + (16) = 20$$

Or

b. Character analysis

i. Lennox

a. Suspicious:

- he is suspicious that the guards who were supposed to protect King Duncane, killed him. His suspicion comes in because their hands and faces were all covered with blood.
- He suspects that Macbeth is behind the death of the king. This is despite the case that the recent death of Banquo has been officially blamed on Fleance who has fled.

b. Patriotic

- He defends his country together with other nobles against rebels.

c. Submissive/loyal



- he sticks with Macbeth. Most of Macbeth's subordinates are going away but Lennox remains true to him.

d. Pessimistic

- He expresses his hope that Malcom and Macduff will be successful.

ii. Gentlewoman

a. Secretive / Cautious

- She refuses to tell the Doctor what Lady Macbeth has been saying while sleeping walking mainly because there was no one to witness her speech. She is afraid she may not have a witness over what she heard.

b. Observant

- She observes Lady Macbeth's unusual behaviour of sleepwalking

c. Dutiful/Caring

- She calls the doctor to observe Lady Macbeth

d. Sympathetic / pitiful

- She feels sorry for what is happening to Lady Macbeth to the extent that she says she wouldn't want a heart like that of Lady Macbeth.

$$04 + (08 + 08) = 20$$

(20 marks)

FORMULAS FOR ESSAY MARKING

1. Loaded Questions e.g. questions 3.b and 4 b.

$$4 + (16) = 20 \text{ marks}$$

2. Multiple Question e.g. questions 3a. and 4 a

$$4 + (8 + 8) = 20 \text{ marks}$$

That is: 4 marks is for expression and each point carries 2 marks whereby a candidate has presented a

point, explanation and examples given wherever necessary.

Each point must be written under a separate paragraph.

Distribution of Expression Marks:

0 – 1 = Poor Presentation of points

2 – 3 = Fair and Good Presentation of points

4 = Very Good Presentation of points and good command of language