



HILL CRESCENT PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOL
2022 MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION

ENGLISH

Wednesday, 2 August 2022

Subject Number
M052/III

Time allowed: 2 Hours

PAPER III

(70 marks)

SECTION A: (30 Marks)

1. Poem

- Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow

YOUTHFUL KINFOLKS

You denounced our wickedness,
Declaring we were archaic,
We were uncivilized,
Because we had on hides for
clothes,
And strolled bare – foot,
I'm in my sunset, but I fear for
you,
Youthful kinfolks.

You despise our customary

healers,
The daughter smears mud to the
abode,
The long-gone folks are incensed,
No sacrifice, no libation,
To appease and placate them,
For the wrecked customs.

Kinsfolks have spoilt each other's'
blood,
There is turmoil in the clan,
No one heeds to our adage,
Blood runs thicker than water,

I'm in my sun set, but I fear for
you,
Youthful kinsfolks.

Sons call their fathers by names,
Daughters call their mothers by
names,
Sons disregard their fathers' age
mates,
Daughters treat with contempt

their mothers' age mates,
Our gourds and calabashes are
broken,
Our clay pots are broken,
Our sacred tree subjected to
sacrilege,
By our Youth kinsfolks.

(A poem by Samuel Ng'ang'a)

Questions

- a) Who is the persona in the poem?

(1 mark)

- b) Describe the character of youth kinsfolk.

(2 marks)

- c) What is the geographical setting of the poem? Justify your answer.

(2 marks)

- d) Describe any **two** themes in the poem.

(2 marks)

- e) Identify the tone of the poem.

(1 mark)

- f) What evidence is there to suggest that the kinsfolks are rude?

(2 marks)

- g) What does the poem mean by the line "I am in my sunset, but fear for you"?

(2 marks)

- h) Pick an example of anaphora in the poem.

(1 mark)

2. Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

The Rivals

Since getting Najere as a second wife, things underwent a drastic change in Chabwera's home. Nadzimbiri, the elder wife, felt caged with a foe. Though she had no authority to stop Chabwera's second marriage, she devised her own machinations geared towards dealing with the 'intruder'.

By tradition, the two wives mealed together. On such occasions, however, they never exchanged any kind of talk. Nadzimbiri made an order restraining her children from fending anything for their stomach from Najere's kitchen. Nadzimbiri played all tricks just to ensure that it was Najere who first entered the dish. Suspicion and mistrust reigned between the two wives. To Nadzimbiri, the riches and fame which she enjoyed unshared, now belonged to two houses. That was the sin Chabwera committed against her.

A covert war was being fought in Chabwera's compound. A war fought for one treasure. And that treasure was Chabwera's favours. Everything the two wives could do was in competition with the rival. However, Najere seemed to succeed in her battle. She was very innovative with her modernity. Her house was marvellously decorated. Her dressing was also superb. This was a thorn to Nadzimbiri's heart as it received unfractioned admiration from Chabwera.

Chabwera's village was known as for its collectivity. This was visible, especially during harvesting period. The whole village went to harvest one family's crops before moving on to the next family's. Chabwera benefitted a lot from this policy. He always had plenty of harvest which, if he faced it alone, would take him ages to bring home.

On this particular day, all the women of the village had gone to harvest maize from one of the villager's field. Harvesting maize was done by women. Men's job was digging

ground nuts and transporting the maize cobs in ox carts to the village. When the maize stalks were cut, they were left for two months before harvesting. Though this ensured that maize was fully dry before harvesting, the major reason was, however, to let mice enter and breed. Mice gave value to any meal, especially when prepared for husbands.

As the women worked tirelessly, the last heap of maize stalks grew thinner and thinner. Nadzimbiri and Najere, who had initially deliberately placed themselves on polar ends of the heap, were brought within a metre of each other. Realising this, Nadzimbiri felt uneasy. To ease herself, she entered into a conversation with the other women whose presence she had not noticed since the work began.

Najere could not catch mice with her bare hands as her rival could. Nadzimbiri earned herself the nickname "cat" for mastery in seizing mice. At this point in time, mice started running in all directions.

A huge coincidence! Nadzimbiri and Najere's eyes spotted one mouse that was just contemplating launching a rough run out of the remaining maize stalks. Najere threw a maize cob at the mouse at the same time Nadzimbiri dived for it. The cob missed the mouse and hit the ground, bounding on to Nadzimbiri's fingers. Nadzimbiri had delayed her dive by a second and only managed to catch the tail of the mouse. It quickly razored Nadzimbiri's finger and slipped into a heap of maize stalks that was behind her. What a catch lost!

"How on earth could you hit me like that?" Nadzimbiri shouted, her finger bleeding. She showed the bleeding finger to the women who sympathized with her. "She hit me deliberately with a cob," Nadzimbiri declared. "She wanted to finish me off".

Nadzimbiri gestured towards Najere shouting and fully exasperated. She knew deep down her heart that the mouse was the cause of this misery. But that was the only chance in her way to deal with the 'intruder'.

"We will see," Nadzimbiri declared as she hailed her baby on the back to start going home. She totally resisted Najere's persistent apologies. "Hit me with a maize cob?" Nadzimbiri re-examined the justification for the military action that she was going to immediately implement.

Najere was surprised to see her neck locked in somebody's arms. Within a moment she realised who that person was. In a drive to be spared, she re-apologized, having recalled the earlier incident in the fields.

That, however, encouraged further blows and insults which she could not bear now. The children watched in awe. Najere's retaliative kicks were futile and she resorted to counter-insulting her co-wife. Najere tore Nadzimbiri's skirt up to hip level as she

struggled for freedom. This intensified Nadzimbiri's fury, but fortunately, Chabwera was back.

"Can someone tell me what is happening here?" enquired Chabwera, dropping his pangas to the ground. The women were tired of the physical fight and were now engaged in insults without boundaries.

Using her power Nadzimbiri rushed into explaining what had happened. Her explanation was loaded with a host of exasperations in an attempt to convince Chabwera. Throughout the explanation, Najere, sobbing, interrupted with protests as what Nadzimbiri was saying carried the least truth. Chabwera gently accompanied Najere to her house.

Nadzimbiri expected Chabwera back momentarily to speak to her, a thing Chabwera never did until late at night, leaving Nadzimbiri on the point of bursting with fury and rage.

[Adapted from: Weekend Nation of 22 – 23 September, 2007]

Questions:

1. What is the geographical setting of the story? Justify your answer.
 _____ (2 marks)
2. From what point of view is the story told?
 _____ (1 mark)
3. What caused a drastic change in Chabwera's home?
 _____ (1 mark)
4. Apart from the theme of "**Unity/ Solidarity**", describe any other theme portrayed in the story

 _____ (2 marks)
5. Identify one metaphor from the passage.
 _____ (1 mark)
6. Describe any one character of each of the following
 - i. Chabwera _____
 _____ (2 marks)

ii. Najere _____
 _____ (2 marks)

7. Explain how the theme of Unity has been unveiled in the passage?

 _____ (2 marks)

8. What figure of speech is the phrase “what a catch lost!

 (1 mark)

9. What evidence in the story shows that Chabwera is a well do person?

_____ (1 mark)

SECTION B (40 marks)

- Answer both questions in this section on the spaces provided. Choose either A or B in each case and not both.

1. THE PEARL by John Steinbeck

EITHER

a. Most characters regret their decisions in “The Pearl”. Justify this claim.
 (20 marks)

OR

b. Describe the following themes from the book “The Pearl”. Give four points on each

i. Betrayal

ii. Dishonesty

(20marks)

2. MACBETH by William Shakespeare.

EITHER

a) “Macbeth” as a play is filled with several conflicting moments. Explain how the following areas have been portrayed by using relevant events in the book:

iii. Good versus Evil

iv. Light versus Darkness
 marks)

(20

OR

- b) With examples from the play of “Macbeth”, prove that a lot of characters in the play are wicked.
(20 marks)**

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

THE END OF QUESTION PAPER