

EXAMINATION Number_____

 <p>MARIST SECONDARY SCHOOL DUC IN ALTUM (Aim Higher)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MARIST SECONDARY SCHOOL</p> <p>P.O. Box 46 Malirana Dedza, MALAWI.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tel: (+265) 0111 900 130/0993 242 500 E-mail: maristhead@gmail.com</p>
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**2022 MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EXAMINATION MOCK II
EXAMINATIONS**

ENGLISH

PAPER II

(60 MARKS)

Date: 26 July

Time Allowed: 1hr 45mins

13:30 – 15:15 hrs.

Instructions

1. **This paper contains 11 pages. Please check.**
2. This 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 the instructions for each section carefully.
6. Write your examination number at the top of each page of the question paper.

SECTION A

NOTE-MAKING (20 marks)

- 1. Read the following passage carefully and afterwards make a summary of it in NOTE-FORM. In your summary:**
 - a. provide a suitable title for the passage.
 - b. give the main points.
 - c. supply supporting points for each main point.

Marks will be awarded for content, note-style, and fair-copy layout.

Candidates who simply copy the passage will be penalized.

Malawi, like any other developing country, is grappling with the problems of malnutrition. The common form of malnutrition is under-nutrition which contributes to high mortality rates for children and adults, particularly pregnant women. Under-nutrition is mostly characterized by poor nutritional status. There several factors that influence poor nutritional status in Malawi.

The major factor is lack of food production and supply. Most smallholder farmers are not able to produce enough food for the whole year. This is caused by lack of inputs, limited crop and animal diversification, and poverty. In addition, animal production is very low and animal protein consumption is limited due to high cost of animal food products.

The other factor is maldistribution of food. Some traditional practices encourage uneven distribution of food within the household. It is a custom in some families that adult males of the family eat first, consuming most tasty portions of the meal, mostly

those rich in protein and very little is left for children and females. Also, children eating from the same plate with adults do not eat adequate amounts of food due to inability to compete with older members of the household. Furthermore, some areas lack food due to poor transport and lack of appropriate food processing and preservation technologies. For example, maize can be available in one area and absent in the other. In addition, protein and fatty foods are often too expensive for poor people.

Eating meals that are low in nutrients is another factor. Most Malawians eat “*nsima*” which is often served with small amounts of vegetables or animal food and rarely both at each meal. Such meals are low in nutrients. Therefore, there is poor supply of important nutrients in the body like fatty acids and vitamins. The low nutrient content of the meals is also aggravated by infrequent meals for the day especially children whose stomach is too small to take large amounts of “*nsima*” from only two to three meals per day. In some cases, infants do not get enough calories and other nutrients to satisfy their nutritional requirements for growth because complementary foods are introduced either too early or too late.

Ignorance caused by misconceptions in nutritional issues is the last factor. One of the main misconceptions is the general assumption that “a full belly” is all that is necessary to provide health without considering the nutrient content of meals. Furthermore, infants may unfortunately be removed from the breast due to misinformation about breast milk and diarrhoea. During convalescence, no extra food is given to patient except liquid foods which are low in energy and nutrients. Finally, it is incomprehensible to some people that a child who is never hungry can suffer from physical diseases because of lack of nutrients in the diet.

Therefore, each and every Malawian should strive to improve the nutritional status of Malawians to make a better Malawi.

[illegible]

[illegible]

Section B (40 marks)

COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage carefully and answer all questions that follow.

Bengo, a sturdy twenty seven year-old bachelor, was preparing his evening meal when a piercing sound jerked him.

“Prrr... prrr!!” it pricked his ears and, in a moment, a **dreadful** announcement followed. “Someone has died in the township”! young men eager to serve society in the most productive way roared on top of their voices, street after street, making the announcement that Themuthemu, the tinsmith, had died. Bengo had known the deceased for a long time even before he began living in the township. The news of his death did not surprise him because Themuthemu had been unwell for a very long time.

The announcement meant that Bengo and other young men had to go to the deceased’s house. It was a cultural **edict** that had to be followed. Besides, Themuthemu stayed a few houses away from his. Personally, he felt it would be improper to be absent at a neighbour’s funeral.

Still, he had to take his meal. Being a drunkard, he knew that prolonged drinking habits were best sustained through good eating habits. In as far as liquor was concerned, Bengo was too weak to resist a temptation to wet his throat.

After his supper, Bengo latched the door and trotted the deceased’s house where he joined a multitude of other mourners who had already assembled.

A fire had been lit outside the deceased’s house to provide the much needed warmth for this cold July night. Young men sat around it and one could easily mistake it for a festive gathering for they laughed consumedly.

At dawn, the young men left for the township's cemetery with hoes, picks and shovels. Bengo was amongst them. A spot that was to be the final resting place for the deceased was identified. Bengo's friend, who responded to the pet name, Thimi, began to dig. His lips were patched red due to excessive intake of *kachasu*.

"Look at how Thimi is handling the hoe. One would think that he is holding a bottle of *Kachasu*, I can dig the grave alone if someone bought me a packet of cigarettes and five packets of beer," remarked Bengo and everybody broke into uncontrollable laughter.

Thimi momentarily held the hoe in mid air and looked intently at Bengo. "It's only five o'clock and you have already started **creating a mountain out of a molehill**, that is all a dumb mind like yours can think of," Thimi shot back.

The others laughed at Bengo's senseless remark. One of the young men, however, was **thrilled** with the prospect of a lone grave digger. He was Mandevu and he owned a vibrant coffin shop that was situated close to the cemetery.

"Perhaps you **mustn't shoot him down** yet, remember that digging is his career," Mandevu said. "I will buy him whatever he needs and let us see if he can book a place in the Guinness Book of Records".

In the ensuing moments, Mandevu managed to persuade the group to let Bengo attempt his bizarre feat. The items were brought on the understanding that Bengo would smoke the cigarettes at will and will drink one packet of beer only during the exercise. The rest of the packets would be consumed later.

Five hours later, a six feet deep grave was completed. There was a loud noise in the cemetery as the young men swarmed round Bengo to congratulate him on what they termed as a brave act. Bengo boasted that he would dig his own grave someday.\

They all **laughed him off**. A message was sent to the deceased's house to let them know that the grave was ready.

Meanwhile, the bereaved members and some elders of the area were locked in a heated meeting. An influential relative, who was hitherto unknown to them, had offered to transport the remains of Themuthemu to Tsalani, his home district. Family members were briefing the elders about the sudden change of the programme.

“Where was this benevolent man all this long? Does he realise that abandoning a dug grave is a bad omen?” fumed one of the elders. After a **protracted** meeting, it was agreed that a banana stem would instead be buried in the grave.

As Themuthemu's remain were being taken to their final resting place, some young men were entrusted with the responsibility of hunting for the banana stem that was a rarity in the area. At that time, Bengo had left the cemetery and was on his way home heavily drunk. A decrepit lorry veered off the road and before anyone could tell what was happening, the lorry ran him over. He died on the spot.

The news of Bengo's death shocked everybody. More shocked were the young men who had actually been with him at the cemetery. The banana stem had not yet been thrown in the grave. This is where they buried Bengo the following day.

(Adapted from The Sunday Times, July 1, 2007)

Questions

- a. What was Bengo doing when the death announcement was made?

(1 mark)

- b. Give two reasons why Bengo felt obliged to go to the deceased's house when the news of the death was announced.

- i. _____
- ii. _____

(4 marks)

c. Why did Bengo make it a point not to miss his meals?

(2 marks)

d. Why did Mandevu offer to buy cigarettes and packets of beer for Bengo?

(2 marks)

e. Give the meanings of the following words as they have been used in the passage:

i. “dreadful” (**paragraph 2**) _____

(1 mark)

ii. “edict” (**paragraph 3**) _____

(1 mark)

iii. “thrilled” (**paragraph 9**) _____

(1 mark)

iv. “protracted” (**paragraph 15**) _____

(1 mark)

f. Explain the meaning of the following expressions as used in the passage:

i. “creating a mountain out of a molehill” (**paragraph 8**)

(2 marks)

ii. “mustn’t shoot him down” (**paragraph 10**)

(2 marks)

iii. “laughed him off” (**paragraph 13**)

(2 marks)

g. Explain the sudden change of programme in the burial of Themuthemu.

(3 marks)

h. On what condition was Bengo allowed to have the beer which Mandevu bought?

(2 marks)

i. In what way are Thimi and Bengo’s habits similar?

(2 marks)

j. In what way does the story end tragically?

(2 marks)

k. Suggest the title for the passage.

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END OF QUESTION PAPER

