

## DOLL'S HOUSE EXCERPTS

### SAMPLE 1

Read the excerpt below and then answer the questions that follow. (25 marks)

**Mrs. Linde:** Listen to me Nora you are still very like a child in many things, and I am older than you in many ways and have a little more experience. Let me tell you this-you ought to make an end of it with Doctor Rank.

**Nora:** What ought I to make an end to?

**Mrs. Linde:** Of two things I think. Yesterday you talked some nonsense about a rich admirer who was to leave you money-

**Nora:** An admirer who doesn't exist, unfortunately! But what then?

**Mrs. Linde:** Is Doctor Rank a man of means?

**Mrs. Linde:** And comes here every day?

**Nora:** Yes, I told you so.

**Mrs. Linde:** But how can this well-bred man be so tactless?

**Nora:** I don't understand you at all.

**Mrs. Linde:** Don't prevaricate, Nora.do you suppose I don't guess who lent you the two hundred and fifty pounds?

**Nora:** Are you out of your senses? How can you think of such a thing? A friend of ours, who comes here every day! Do you realize what a horribly painful position that? would be?

**Mrs. Linde:** Then it really isn't he?

**Nora:** No, certainly not. It would never have entered into my head for a moment. Besides, he had no money to lend then; he came into his money afterwards. Mrs. Linde: Well I think that was lucky for you, my dear Nora.

**Nora:** No, it would never have come into my head to ask Doctor Rank. Although I am quite sure if I had asked him-

**Mrs. Linde:** But of course you won't.

**Nora:** Of course not. I have no reason to think it could possibly be necessary. But I am quite sure that if I told Doctor Rank-

**Mrs. Linde:** Behind your husband's back?

**Nora:** I must make an end of it with the other one, and that will be behind his back too, I must make an end of it with him.

**Mrs. Linde:** Yes, that is what I told you yesterday, but-

**Nora:** (walking up and down) a man can put a thing like that straight much easier than a woman.

**Mrs. Linde:** One's husband, yes.

**Nora: Nonsense!** (standing still) When you pay off a debt you get your bond back, don't you?

**Mrs. Linde:** Yes, as a matter of course.

**Nora:** And can tear it into a hundred thousand pieces and burn it up- the nasty dirty paper.

**Mrs. Linde:**(looks hard at her, lays down her sewing and gets up slowly.) Nora you are concealing something from me.

**Nora:** Do I look as if I were?

**Mrs. Linde:** Something has happened to you since yesterday morning. Nora, what is it?

### Questions

- Briefly explain what happens before the events in this extract. (4marks)
- Explain why Mrs. Linde says "...I am older than you in many ways and have a little more experience? What is Mrs. Lindes' view about Doctor Rank and Nora's relationship? (2 marks)

- c) From the dialogue, what do we learn about Nora's character? (4 marks)
- d) Identify and explain the use of hyperbole in this excerpt. (2 marks)
- e) What does Mrs. Linde think Nora is concealing from her? Is Mrs. Lindes right? (3 marks)
- f) Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the extract. (3 marks)
  - i) A man of means
  - ii) Prevaricate
  - iii) nasty
- g) Describe what happens immediately after the events presented in this extract (4 marks)

### **SAMPLE 2**

**Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow (A Doll's House)**

**Krogstad:** (Controlling himself) Listen to me, Mrs. Helmer. If necessary, I am prepared to fight for my small post in the Bank as if I were fighting for my life.

**Nora:** So it seems

**Krogstad:** It is not only for the sake of the money; indeed, that weighs least with me in the matter. There is another reason-well, I may well tell you. My position is this. I daresay you know, like everybody else, that once, many years ago, I was guilty of an indiscretion.

**Nora:** I think I have heard something of the kind.

**Krogstad:** The matter never came into court; but every way seemed to be closed to me after that. So I took to the business that you know of. I had to do something; and, honestly, I don't think I've been one of the worst. But now I must cut myself free from all that. My sons are growing up; for their sake I must try and win back as much respect as I can in the town. This post in the Bank was like the first step up for me – and now your husband is going to kick me downstairs again into the mud.

**Nora:** But you must believe me, Mr. Krogstad; it is not in my power to help you at all.

**Krogstad:** Then it is because you haven't the will; but I have means to compel you.

**Nora:** You don't mean that you will tell my husband that I owe you money?

**Krogstad:** Hm! – suppose I were to tell him?

**Nora:** I would be perfectly infamous of you. (Sobbing) To think of his learning my secret, which has been my joy and pride, in such an ugly, clumsy way – that he should learn it from you! And it would out me in a horribly disagreeable position-

**Krogstad:** Only disagreeable?

**Nora:** (Impetuously) well, do it, then! – and it will be the worse for you. My husband will see for himself what a blackguard you are, and you certainly won't keep your post then.

**Krogstad:** I asked you if it was only a disagreeable scene at home that you were afraid of?

**Nora:** If my husband does get to know of it, of course he will at once pay you what is still owing, and we shall have nothing more to do with you.

**Krogstad:** (Coming a step nearer) Listen to me, Mrs. Helmer. Either you have a very bad memory or you know very little of business. I shall be obliged to remind you of a few details.

### **Questions**

- a) What happens just before this excerpt? (2mks)
- b) Identify and illustrate any two themes evident in the excerpt. (4mks)
- c) Using about fifty words, summarize why Krogstad is prepared to fight for the small post in the bank (5mks)
- d) Identify and illustrate any two character traits of;(4mks)
  - i) Krogstad

- ii) Nora
- e) Identify and illustrate any two stylistic devices used in the excerpt. (4mks)
- f) Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the extract (2mks)
  - i) Compel
  - ii) Blackguard
- g) "I shall be obliged to remind you of a few details". Which are those details? (4mks)

### **SAMPLE 3**

*Read the excerpt below and then answer the questions that follow.*

**Krogstad:** Are you aware that is a dangerous confession?

**Nora:** In what way? You shall have your money soon.

**Krogstad:** Let me ask you a question: Why did you not send the paper to your father?

**Nora:** It was impossible: papa was so ill. If I had asked him for his signature, I should have had to tell him what the money was to be used for: and when he was so ill himself, I couldn't tell him that my husband's life was in danger – it was impossible.

**Krogstad:** It would have been better for you if you had given up your trip abroad.

**Nora:** No, that was impossible. That trip was to save my husband's life. I couldn't give that up.

**Krogstad:** But did it never occur to you that you were committing a fraud on me?

**Nora:** I couldn't take that into account: I didn't trouble myself about you at all. I couldn't bear you, because you put so many heartless difficulties in my way, although you knew what a dangerous condition my husband was in.

**Krogstad:** Mrs. Helmer, you evidently do not realize clearly what it is that you have been guilty of. But I can assure you that my one false step, which lost me all my reputation, was nothing more or nothing worse than what you have done.

**Nora:** You? Do you ask me to believe that you were brave enough to run a risk to save your wife's life?

**Krogstad:** Foolish or not, it is the law by which you will be judged, if I produce this paper in court.

**Nora:** I don't believe it. Is a daughter not to be allowed to spare her dying father anxiety and care? Is a wife not to be allowed to save her husband's life? I don't know much about law: but I am certain that there must be laws permitting such things as that. Have you no knowledge of such laws – you who are a lawyer? You must be very poor Mr. Krogstad.

**Krogstad:** Maybe. But matters of business – such business as you and I have had together – do you think I don't understand that? Very well. Do as you please. But let me tell you this – if I lose my position a second time, you shall lose yours with me. (He bows and goes out through the hall) Nora (appears buried in thought for a short time, then tosses her head) Nonsense! Trying to frighten me like that! – I am not so silly as he thinks. (begins to busy herself putting the children's things in order) And yet? No it's impossible! I did it for love's sake.

#### **Questions**

- a) Briefly describe the dangerous confession Nora admits to in the onset of the excerpt. (3 marks)
- b) Explain why Nora did not send the paper to her father for signing. (3 marks)
- c) Explain two themes evident in the excerpt above. (4 marks)
- d) Contrast Krogstad's and Nora's views on the law (2 marks)
- e) How is Krogstad portrayed in the excerpt (2 marks)
- f) The law cares nothing about motives. (Add a question tag) (1 mark)

- g) Krogstad informs Nora that "one false step, lost him all reputation." Briefly explain how.
- h) "..... If I lose my position a second time, you shall lose yours with me." From elsewhere in the play, show the truth of this statement (2 marks)
- i) What is the general tone in this excerpt? Explain your answer. (3 marks)
- j) Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the excerpt. (2 marks)
  - i) defiantly
  - ii) false step

#### **SAMPLE 4**

**Read the following excerpt from *A Doll's House* and answer the questions that follow.**

**Nora:** What a relief you must feel if

**Mrs Linde:** No, indeed; I only feel my life unspeakably empty. No one to live for anymore. (gets up restlessly) was why I could not stand the life in my little backwater any longer. I hope it may be easier here to find something which will busy me and occupy my thoughts. If only I could have the good luck to get some regular work – office work of some - kind.

**Nora:** But, Christine, that is so frightfully tiring, and you look tired out now. You had better go away to some water-place.

**Mrs Linde:** (Walking to the window) I have no father to give me money for a journey, Nora.

**Nora:** (Rising) Oh, don't be angry with me!

**Mrs Linde:** (Going up to her) It is you that must not be angry with me, dear. the worst of a position like mine is that it makes one so bitter. No one to work for, and yet obliged to be always on 'the lookout for chances One music live, and so one become selfish. When you told me of the happy turn your fortunes have taken YO u will hardly believe it – I was delighted not much on your account as on my own.

**Nora:** How do you mean? – Oh, I understand. You mean that perhaps Torvald could get you something to do.

**Mrs Linde:** Yes, that what I was thinking of.

**Nora:** He must, Christine. Just leave it to me; I will broach the subject very cleverly – I think of something that will please him very much. It will make me so happy to be of some use to you.

**Mrs Linde:** how kind you are, Nora, to be so anxious to help me! It is doubly kind of, for you know so little of the burdens and troubles of life.

**Nora:** I know so little of them?

**Mrs Linde:** (Tosses her head and crosses the stage) You ought not to be so superior.

**Mrs Linde:** No?

**Nora:** You are just like the others. They all think that I am incapable of anything really serious.

#### **Questions**

- a) Why does Mrs Linde say that her life is empty? (3 marks)
- b) " I have no father to give me money for a journey, Nora."
  - i) Which journey is being referred to here? (2 marks)
  - ii) Explain the irony of this statement. (3 marks)
  - iii) What tone does Mrs Linde use when she says this? (2marks)
- c) Describe the character traits of Mrs Linde. (4 marks)
- d) You ought not to be so superior. (Add a question) (1 marks)
- e) Explain the happy turn of fortunes for Nora mentioned in this excerpt. (2 marks)
- f) Nora offers to help Mrs Linde. Does she? Explain your answer. (3 marks)
- g) " You are just like the others." Who is Nora referring to and why? (3 marks)

- h) Give the meaning of the following expressions as used in the passage: (2 marks)
- i) Backwater
  - ii) Broach the subject

### **SAMPLE 5**

*Read the following excerpt from 'A Doll's House' and answer the questions that follow.*

**Krogstad:** (changing his tone) Mrs Helmer, you will be so good as to use your influence on my behalf **Nora:** What? What do you mean?

**Krogstad:** You will be so kind as to see that I am allowed to keep my subordinate position in the Bank

**Nora:** What do you mean by that? Who proposes to take your post away from you?

**Krogstad:** Oh, there no necessity to keep up the pretense of ignorance. I can quite understand that your friend is not very anxious to expose herself to the chance of rubbing shoulders with me; and I quite understand, to whom I have to thank for being turned off.

**Nora:** But I assure —

**Krogstad:** Very likely; but to come to the point, the time has come when I should advise you to use your influence to prevent that.

**Nora:** But, Mr. Krogstad, I have no influence.

**Krogstad:** Haven't you? I thought you said yourself just now —

**Nora:** Naturally I did not mean you to put that construction on it. If I had should make you think I have influence of that kind with my husband?

**Krogstad:** Oh, I have known your husband from our student days. I don't suppose he is more unassailable than other husbands.

**Nora:** If you speak slighting of my husband, I shall turn you out of the house.

**Krogstad:** You are bold, Mrs Helmer.

**Nora:** I am not afraid of you any longer. As soon as the New Year comes, I shall in a very short time be free of the whole thing.

**Krogstad:** (controlling himself) Listen to me, Mrs Helmer. If necessary, I am prepared to fight for my small post in the Bank as if I were fight for my life.

**Nora:** So it seems.

### **Questions**

- Briefly describe what happens before this excerpt. 4mks
- Why is it important that Krogstad keeps his subordinate position in the bank? 3mks
- Describe the character of Krogstad as revealed in this excerpt. 4mks
- What friend is Krogstad talking about and how does he know her? 3mks
- From elsewhere in the play, what are the actual reasons for his dismissal? 3mks
- Comment on the use of dash in this excerpt. 1mk
- "I shall in a very short time be free of the whole thing" . What is being referred to and what else is revealed about it after this excerpt? 4mks
- Give the meaning of the following expressions as used in this excerpt: 3mks
  - i) Subordinate
  - ii) Put that construction on it
  - iii) Unassailable

### **SAMPLE 6**

*Read the following excerpt from A Doll's House and answer the questions that follow.*

**Nora:** Call her back, Torvald! There is still time. Oh Torvald, call her back! Do it for my sake for your own sake for the children's sake! Do you hear me, Torvald? call her back! You know what that letter can bring upon us.

**Helmer:** It's too late.

**Nora:** Yes, it's too late.

**Helmer:** My dear Nora, I can forgive the anxiety you are in, although really it is an insult to me. It is, indeed. Isn't it an insult to think that I should be afraid of a starving quill-driver's vengeance? But I forgive you nevertheless, because it is such eloquent witness to your great love for me. (Takes her in his arms.) And that is as it should be, my own darling Nora. Come what will, you may be sure I shall have both courage and strength if they be needed. You will see I am man enough to take everything upon myself.

**Nora:** (in a horror-stricken voice) What do you mean by that?

**Helmer:** Everything, I say —

**Nora:** (recovering herself) You will never have to do that.

**Helmer:** That's right. Well, we will share it, Nora, as man and wife should. That is how it shall be. (caressing her) Are you content now? %ere! There! -- not these frightened dove's eyes! The whole thing is only the wildest fancy! Now, you must go and play through the Tarantella and practice with tambourine. I shall go into the inner office and shut the door, and I shall hear nothing; you can make as much noise as you please. (turns back at the door) and when Rank comes, tell him where he will find. (nods to her, takes his papers and goes into his room, and shuts the door after him)

**Nora:** (bewildered with anxiety, stands as if rooted to the spot, and whispers) He was capable of doing it. He will do it. He will do it in spite of everything. — No, not that! Never, never! Anything rather than that I — Oh, for some help, some way out of it! (The door-bell rings.) Doctor Rank! Anything rather than that — anything, whatever it is! (She puts her hands over her face, pulls herself together, goes to the door and opens it. RANK is standing without, hanging up his coat. During the following dialogue it begins to grow dark.) Good day, Doctor Rank. I knew your ring. But you mustn't go in to Torvald now, I think he is busy with something.

### Questions

- a) Briefly explain what happens before the events in this excerpt. 3mks
- b) Why is Nora anxious about the letter? 3mks
- c) What does Helmer attribute Nora's anxiety to? 3mks
- d) Explain the reaction of Krogstad when he receives the letter. 4mks
- e) Describe the character traits of Helmer. 4mks
- f) Identify and explain the mood of this excerpt? 3mks
- g) Why do you think she lies to Doctor Rank that he cannot see Helmer? 1mk
- h) How does Doctor Rank further complicate Nora's life after 'this excerpt? 2mks
- i) Give the meaning of the following expressions as used in the excerpt: 2mks
  - i) Quill-driver
  - ii) Bewildered

### SAMPLE 7

*Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.*

**Krogstad:** No matter about that.

**Nora:** What do you want of me?

**Krogstad:** An explanation of something.

**Nora:** Make haste then. What is it?

**Krogstad:** You know, I suppose, that I have got my dismissal.



**Nora:** I couldn't prevent it, Mr. Krogstad. I fought as hard as I could on your side, but it was no good.

**Krogstad:** Does your husband love you so little, then? He knows what I can expose you to, and yet ventures-

**Nora:** How can you suppose that he has any knowledge of the sort?

**Krogstad:** I didn't suppose so at all. It would not be the least like our dear Torvalds Helmer to show so much courage-

**Nora:** Mr. Krogstad, a little respect for my husband, please.

**Krogstad:** Certainly — all the respect he deserves, but since you have kept the matter so carefully to yourself. I make bold to suppose that you have a little clearer idea, than you had yesterday, of what it actually is that you have done?

**Nora:** More than you could ever teach me.

**Krogstad:** Yes, such a bad lawyer as I am.

**Nora:** What is it you want of me?

**Krogstad:** only to see how you were, Mrs Helmer I have been thinking about you all day long. A mere cashier, a quill driver, a well, a man like me - even he has a little of what is called feeling, you know.

**Nora:** Show it, then; think of my little children.

**Krogstad:** Have you and your husband thought of mine? But never mind about that. I only wanted to tell you that you need not take this matter too seriously. In the first place there will be no accusation made on my part.

**Nora:** No, of course not; I was sure of that.

**Krogstad:** The whole thing can be arranged amicably; there is no reason why anyone should know anything about it. It will remain a secret between us three.

**Nora:** My husband must never get to know anything about it.

**Krogstad:** How will you be able to prevent it? Am I to understand that you can pay the balance that is owing?

**Nora:** No, not just at present.

**Krogstad:** Or perhaps that you have some expedient for raising the money soon?

**Nora:** No expedient that I mean to make use of.

**Krogstad:** Well, in any case, it would have been of no use to you. Now if you stood there with ever so much money in your hand, I would never part with your bond.

### Questions

- Place this excerpt in its immediate context. (4marks)
- What is Krogstad's attitude towards Helmer? Explain (3marks)
- "You have some expedient for raising the money soon". Does Nora have an idea on how to raise the money? Explain (4marks)
- "Yes, such a bad lawyer I am". What is the tone of this statement? (2marks)
- "Does your husband love you so little then?" How does Helmer's behavior later in the play bear out Krogstad's statement? (4marks)
- Describe Krogstad's character as revealed in this excerpt (4marks)
- Identify and explain use of irony in this excerpt.
- A mere cashier, a quill driver a man like me even he has a little of what is called feelings you know. (Rewrite beginning: Even ...) (1 mark)

### SAMPLE 8

*Read the excerpt below and then answer the questions that follow.*

**Nora:** I didn't find it dull.

**Helmer:** *(smiling)* But there was precious little result, Nora.

**Nora:** Oh, you shouldn't **tease** me about that again. How could I help the cat's going in and tearing everything to pieces?

**Helmer:** Of course you couldn't, poor little girl. You had the best of intentions to please us all, and that's the main thing. But it is a good thing that our hard times are over.

**Nora:** Yes, it is really wonderful.

**Helmer:** This time I needn't sit here and be **dull** all alone, and you needn't ruin your dear eyes and your pretty little hands-

**Nora:** *(clapping her hands)* No, Tovald, I needn't any longer, need !! It's wonderfully lovely to hear you say so! *(taking his arm)* Now I will tell you how I have been thinking we ought to arrange things, Torvald. As soon as Christmas is over- (A bell rings in the hall.) There's the bell. *(She tidies the room a little.)* There's someone at the door. What a **nuisance!**

**Helmer:** If it is a **caller**, remember I am not at home.

**Maid:** *(in the doorway)* A lady to see you, ma'am, --a stranger.

**Nora:** Ask her to come in.

**Maid:** *(to Helmer)* The doctor came at the same time, sir.

**Helmer:** Did he go straight into my room?

**Maid:** Yes, sir.

### Questions

- a) What does Nora refer to in her opening words in this extract? (2 marks)
- b) What has happened that has made the couple happy? (2 marks)
- c) Discuss two themes evident in this extract. (4 marks)
- d) "There's someone at the door." Add a question tag (1 mark)
- e) A lady has come to see Nora as reported by the maid. Who is this lady and how does her coming affect the Helmers from the rest of the play? Write your answer in note form. (6 marks)
- f) Discuss one aspect of style in this extract. (2 marks)
- g) Briefly explain what happens after this extract. (4 marks)
- h) Explain the meaning of the following expressions as used in the excerpt. (4 marks)
  - i) Tease
  - ii) Dull



iii) Nuisance

iv) A caller

### **SAMPLE 9**

*Read the excerpt below and then answer the questions that follow.*

**Nora:** Oh, yes, that one; but this is another. I ordered it. Torvald mustn't know about it.  
**Rank:** Oho! Then that was the great secret.  
**Nora:** Of course. Just go in to him; he is sitting in the inner room. Keep him as long as-  
**Rank:** **Make your mind easy; I won't let him escape.** (*Goes into the HELMER'S room*)  
**Nora:** (*to the MAID*) And he is standing waiting in the kitchen?  
**Maid:** Yes; he came up the back stairs.  
**Nora:** But didn't you tell him no one was in?  
**Maid:** Yes, but **it was no good.**  
**Nora:** He won't go away?  
**Maid:** No; he says he won't until he has seen you, ma'am.  
**Nora:** Well, let him come in-but quietly. Helen, you mustn't say anything about it to anyone. It is a surprise to my husband.  
**Maid:** Yes, ma'am, I quite understand. (*Exit.*)  
**Nora:** This **dreadful** thing is going to happen! It will happen in spite of me! No, no, no, it can't happen-it shan't happen!

### **Questions.**

- a) Place this excerpt in its immediate context. (4marks)
- b) What does "it" refer to and what does it reveal about the character of Nora? (3 marks)
- c) Identify and explain one type of irony in this excerpt. (2 marks)
- d) Who is being referred to as he and why has he come? (3 marks)
- e) Torvald mustn't know about it. Add a question tag (1 mark)
- f) Describe one theme raised in this extract. (2 marks)
- g) What dreadful thing does Nora fear might happen? Explain your answer. (4 marks)
- h) Describe the character of the maid (2 marks)
- i) Explain the meaning of the following expressions as used in the excerpt. (4 marks)
  - i) Make your mind easy
  - ii) I won't let him escape.
  - iii) It was no good
  - iv) Dreadful

### **SAMPLE 10**

*Read the excerpt below and then answer the questions that follow.*

**Krogstad:** Are you sure of that?

**Mrs. Linde:** Quite sure, but-

**Krogstad:** (*with a searching look at her*) Is that what it all means?-that you want to save your friend **at any cost**? Tell me frankly. Is that it?

**Mrs Linde:** Nils, a woman who has once sold herself for another's sake doesn't do it a second time.

**Krogstad:** I will ask for my letter back.

**Mrs Linde:** No, no.

**Krogstad:** Yes, of course I will. I will wait here until Helmer comes; I will tell him he must give me my letter back-that it only concerns my dismissal-that he is not to read it-

**Mrs. Linde:** No Nils, you must not **recall** your letter.

**Krogstad:** But, tell me wasn't it for that very purpose that you asked me to meet you here?

**Mrs Linde:** In my first moment of fright, it was. But twenty-four hours have **elapsed** since then, and in that time I have witnessed **incredible** things in this house. Helmer must know all about it. This unhappy secret must be disclosed; they must have a complete understanding between them which is impossible with all this concealment and falsehood going on.

**Krogstad:** Very well, if you take the responsibility. But there is one thing I can do in any case and I shall do it at once.

**Mrs Linde:** *(listening)* You must be quick and go! The dance is over; we are not safe a moment longer.

**Krogstad:** I will wait for you below.

**Mrs Linde:** Yes, do. You must see me back to my door-

**Krogstad:** I have never had such an amazing piece of good fortune in my life!

### Questions

- a) Explain what has happened before this excerpt. (4 marks)
- b) Why does Krogstad say he would ask for his letter back? Explain (3 marks)
- c) "Nils, a woman who has once sold herself for another's sake doesn't do it a second time." Briefly explain what makes Mrs. Linde say this? (3 marks)
- d) Identify one-character trait of Mrs. Linde in this extract (2 marks)
- e) What is so surprising in this extract? Explain. (2 marks)

- f) "But there is one thing I can do in any case and I shall do it at once." What is it that Krogstad does and how does it affect the rest of the play? (4 marks)
- g) "I have never had such an amazing piece of good fortune in my life!" Rewrite beginning Never: (1 mark)
- h) What makes Krogstad say that he has never had such good fortune in his life? (2 marks)
- i) Explain the meaning of the following words and phrases as used in the excerpt. (4 marks)
- i) At any cost
  - ii) Recall
  - iii) Elapsed
  - iv) Incredible things

### **SAMPLE 11**

*Read the excerpt below and then answer the questions that follow.*

**Nora:** But it was absolutely necessary that he should not know! My goodness can't you understand that? It was necessary he should have no idea what a dangerous condition he was in. It was to me that the doctors came and said that his life was in danger, and that the only thing to save him was to live in the south. Do you suppose I didn't try, first of all, to get what I wanted as if it were for myself? I told him how much I should love to travel abroad like other young wives; I tried tears and entreaties with him; I told him that he ought to remember the condition I was in, and that he ought to be kind and **indulgent** to me; I even hinted that he might raise a loan. That nearly made him angry, Christine. He said I was **thoughtless**, and that it was his duty as my husband not to indulge me in my whims and **caprices**— as I believe he called them. Very well, I thought, you must be saved — and that was how I came to devise a way out of the difficulty —

**Mrs. Linde:** And did your husband never get to know from your father that the money had come from him?

**Nora:** No, never. Papa died just at that time. I had meant to let him into the secret and beg him never to reveal it. But he was so ill then— alas, there never was any need to tell him

**Mrs. Linde:** Good heavens, no! How could you think so? A man who has such strong opinion about these things! And besides, how painful and humiliating it would be for Torvald, with his manly independence, to know that he owed me anything! It would upset our mutual relations altogether; our beautiful happy home would no longer be what it is now

**Mrs. Linde:** Do you mean never to tell him about it?

**Nora:** *(meditatively and with a half-smile)* Yes – someday perhaps, after many years, when I am no longer as nice-looking as I am now. Don't laugh at me! I mean, of course, when Torvald is no longer as **devoted** to me as he is now, when my dancing and dressing-up and reciting have paled on him; then it may be a good thing to have something in reserve – *(breaking off)* What nonsense! That time will never come. Now what do you think of my great secret, Christine? Do you still think I am of no use? I can tell you, too, that this affair has caused me a lot of worry. It has been by no means easy for me to meet my engagements punctually. I may tell you that there is something that is called, in business, quarterly interest and another thing called payment in installments and it is always so dreadfully difficult to manage them. I have had to save a little here and there, where I could, you understand. I have not been able to put a side much from housekeeping money for Torvald must have a good table. I could not let my children be shabbily dressed; I have felt obliged to use up all he gave me for them, the sweet little darlings

### Questions

- Briefly describe what happens before the events in this extract. (3 marks)
- State and explain any two aspects of style used in this extract. (4marks)
- How is Mrs. Linde depicted in this extract? (4marks)
- What is the attitude of Mrs. Linde towards Nora? Explain (3marks)
- Explain how the "imprudence" of Nora later complicates the events of the play. (2 marks)
- Who is a shadow character in a play? In this extract identify one shadow character. What is his/ her significance in the play? (3marks)
- Add a question tag: A wife cannot borrow money without her husband's consent. (1mark)
- Explain the meaning of the following words (4 marks)
  - Indulgent
  - Thoughtless
  - Caprices
  - Devoted

### **SAMPLE 12**

*Read the excerpt below and then answer the questions that follow.*

**Mrs. Linde:** Is Doctor Rank **a man of means?**

**Nora:** Yes, he is.

**Mrs. Linde:** And has no one to provide for?

**Nora:** No, no one; but-

**Mrs. Linde:** And comes here every day?

**Nora:** Yes, I told you so.

**Mrs. Linde:** But how can this well -bred man be so tactless?

**Nora:** I don't understand you at all

**Mrs. Linde:** Don't **prevaricate**, Nora. Do you suppose I don't guess who lent you the two hundred and Fifty pounds?

**Nora:** Are you out of your senses? How can you think of such a thing! A friend of ours who comes here every day! Do you realize what a **horribly** painful position that would be?

**Mrs. Linde:** Then it really isn't he?

**Nora:** No, certainly not. It would never have entered into my head for a moment. Besides, he had no money to lend then; he came into his money afterwards.

**Mrs. Linde:** Well, I think that was lucky for you, my dear Nora.

**Nora:** No, it would never have come into my head to ask Doctor Rank. Although I am quite sure that if I had asked him-

**Mrs. Linde:** But of course you won't.

**Nora:** Of course not. I have no reason to think it could possibly be necessary. But I am quite sure that if I told Doctor Rank-

**Mrs. Linde:** Behind your husband's back?

**Nora:** I must make an end of it with the other one, and that will be behind his back too. I must make an end of it with him.

**Mrs. Linde:** Yes, that is what I told you yesterday, but -

**Nora:** *(walking up and down)* A man can put a thing like that straight much easier than a woman -

**Mrs. Linde:** One's husband, yes.

**Nora:** Nonsense! *(Standing still)* When you pay off a debt you get your bond back, don't you?

**Mrs. Linde:** Yes, as a matter of course.

**Nora:** And can tear it into a hundred thousand pieces, and burn it up- the nasty dirty paper!

**Mrs. Linde:** *(looks hard at her, lays down her sewing and gets up slowly)* Nora, you are **concealing** something from me

**Nora:** Do I look as if I were?

**Mrs. Linde:** Something has happened to you since yesterday morning. Nora, what is it?

#### Questions

- a) What happens immediately after this excerpt? (3marks)
- b) Discuss any two issues brought out in this excerpt (4 marks)
- c) How is Mrs. Linde depicted in this extract? (4 marks)
- d) In which ways do the playwright use dramatic irony in this excerpt? (4 marks)
- e) Because you do as your husband wishes. Add a question tag (1 mark)
- f) How effective is the use of humor in this extract? 2 marks)
- g) From this excerpt, Helmer is hardworking. How is this character trait brought out elsewhere in the play and how does it complicate the drama (3 marks)
- h) Give the meaning of the following (4 marks)
  - i) A man of means
  - ii) Prevaricate
  - iii) Horribly
  - iv) Concealing

#### **SAMPLE 13**

*Read the excerpt below and then answer the questions that follow.*

**Nora:** I don't believe that any longer. I believe that before all else I am a reasonable human being, just as you are – or at all events, that I must try and become one. I know quite well, Torvald that most people would think you right, and that views of that kind are to be found in books; but I can no longer content myself with what most people say, or with what is found in books. I must think over things for myself and get to understand them

**HELMER:** Can you not understand your place in your own home? Have you not a reliable guide in such matters as that? - have you no religion?

**Nora:** I am afraid, Torvald, I do not exactly know what **religion** is.

**HELMER:** What are you saying?

**Nora:** I know nothing but what the **clergyman** said, when I went to be confirmed. He told us that religion was this and that, and the other. When I am away from all this, and I am alone, I will look into that matter too. I will see if what the clergyman said is true, or at all events if it is true for me.



**Helmer:** This is unheard of in a girl of your age! But if religion cannot lead you alright, let me try and awaken your **conscience**. I suppose you have some moral sense? Or –answer me– am I to think you have none?

**Nora:** I assure you, Torvald that is not an easy question to answer. I really don't know. The thing **perplexes** me all together. I only know that you and I look at it in a quite different light. I am learning, too, that the law is quite another thing from what I suppose; but I find it quite impossible to convince myself that the law is right. According to it a woman has no right to spare her old dying father, or to save her husband's life. I can't believe that.

**Helmer:** You talk like a child. You don't understand the conditions of the world in which you live.

**Nora:** No, I don't. But now I am going to try. I am going to see if I can make out who is right, the world or I.

### Questions

- a) Place this extract in its immediate context. (6 marks)
- b) Discuss any two character traits of Helmer in this extract. (4marks)
- c) Give evidence that Nora is an assertive character (4marks)
- d) From elsewhere in the play how is Nora portrayed in a different light? (2marks)
- e) I do not exactly know what religion is. (Add a question tag) (1mark)
- f) In which way does Nora conflict with the law? (3marks)
- g) Discuss one major issue of concern addressed in this context (3 marks)
- h) What is the mood in this context? Explain. (3marks)
- i) What is the meaning of the following words? (4 marks)
  - i) Religion
  - ii) Clergyman
  - iii) Conscience
  - iv) Perplexes

### **SAMPLE 14**

*Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. (A Doll's House)*

**Krogstad:** It was your own choice.

**Mrs Linde:** There was no other choice then

**Krogstad:** Well, what now?

**Mrs Linde:** Nils, how would it be if we two shipwrecked people could join forces?

**Krogstad:** What are you saying?

**Mrs Linde:** Two on the same piece of wreckage would stand a better chance than each on their own

**Krogstad:** Christine I

**Mrs Linde:** What do you suppose brought me to town?

**Krogstad:** Do you mean that you gave me a thought?

**Mrs Linde:** I could not endure life without work. All my life, as long as I can remember. I have worked, and it has been my greatest and only pleasure. But now I am quite alone in the world – my life is so dreadfully empty and I

feel so forsaken. There is not the least pleasure in working for one's self. Nils, give me someone and something to work for.

**Krogstad:** I don't trust that. It is nothing but a woman's overstrained sense of generosity that prompts you to make such an offer of yourself.

**Mrs Linde:** Have you ever noticed anything of the sort in me?

**Krogstad:** Could you really do it? Tell me – do you know all about my past life?

Mrs Linde: Yes.

**Krogstad:** And do you know what they think of me here?

Mrs Linde: You seemed to me to imply that with me you might have been quite another man.

**Krogstad:** I am certain of it.

**Mrs Linde:** Is it too late now?

**Krogstad:** Christine, are you saying this deliberately? Yes, I am sure you are. I see it in your face. Have you really the courage, then –?

**Mrs Linde:** I want to be a mother to someone. And your Children need a mother. we two need each other. Nils, I have faith in you character-i can dare anything together with you

**Krogstad:** (grasps her hands) Thanks, thanks, Christine! Now It shall find a way to clear

**Mrs Linde:** (listening) Hush! The Tarantella! Go, go!

**Krogstad:** Why? What is it?

**Mrs Linde:** Do you hear them up there? When that is over we may expect them back

**Krogstad:** Yes, yes I will go. But it is all no use. Of course you are not aware what steps

**Mrs Linde:** Yes, I know all about that,

**Krogstad:** And in spite of that have you the courage to ---?

**Mrs Linde:** I understand very well to what lengths a man like you might be driven by

**Krogstad:** If I could only undo what I have done.

**Mrs Linde:** You cannot. Your letter is lying in the letter box now.

**Krogstad:** Are you sure of that?

### Questions

- What choice does Krogstad refer to? And why does Mrs Linde say there was no other choice. (4marks)
- Why did Mrs Linde come to town? (3marks)
- Identify and explain use of imagery in the excerpt (4marks)
- " Do you know all about my past life?" What does this refer to and why does Krogstad raise it? (3marks)
- " Ah but I forgot!" What has Krogstad forgotten? (2marks)
- Present the character of Mrs Linde as revealed in this excerpt. (4marks)
- I could not endure life without work. (Rewrite in passive voice) (1mk)
- " Are you sure?" Why does Krogstad ask this question? (2marks)
- Explain the meaning of the following expressions as used in the excerpt (2marks)
  - real character
  - give me a thought

### SAMPLE 15

*Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow*

**MRS. LINDE.** Good evening.

**Nora.** Christine!

**Helmer.** You here, so late, Mrs. Linde?

**MRS. LINDE.** Yes, you must excuse me; I was so anxious to see Nora in her dress.

**Nora.** Have you been sitting here waiting for me?

**MRS. LINDE.** Yes, unfortunately I came too late, you had already gone upstairs; and I thought couldn't go away again without having seen you.

**Helmer** (taking off NORA'S shawl). Yes, take good look at her. I think she is worth looking at. Isn't she charming, Mrs. Linde?

**MRS. LINDE.** Yes, indeed she is.

**Helmer.** Doesn't she look remarkably pretty? Everyone thought so at the dance. But she is terribly self-willed, this sweet little person. What are we to do with her? You will hardly believe that I had almost to bring her away by force.

**Nora.** Torvalds, you will repent not having let me stay, even if it were only for half an hour.

**Helmer.** Listen to her, Mrs. Linde! She had danced her Tarantella, and it had been a tremendous success, as it deserved—although possibly the performance was a trifle too realistic—a little more so, I mean, than was strictly compatible with the limitations of art. But never mind about that! The chief thing is, she had made a success—she had made a tremendous success. Do you think I was going? to let her remain there after that, and spoil the effect? No, indeed! I took my charming little Capri maiden—my capricious little Capri maiden, I should say—on my arm, took one quick turn round the room; a curtsey on either side, and, as they say in novels, the beautiful apparition disappeared. An exit ought always to be effective, **Mrs. Linde**; but that is what I cannot make Nora understand. Pooh! This room is hot. (Throws his domino on a chair, and opens the door of his room.) Hullo! it's all dark in here. Oh, of course—excuse me—. (He goes in, and lights some candles.)

**MRS. LINDE.** Nora, you must tell your husband all about it.

**Nora** (in an expressionless voice). I knew it.

**MRS. LINDE.** You have nothing to be afraid of as far as Krogstad is concerned; but you must tell him.

**Nora.** I won't tell him.

**MRS. LINDE.** Then the letter will.

**Nora.** Thank you, Christine. Now I know what I must do. Hush—!

**Helmer** (coming in again). Well, Mrs. Linde, have you admired her?

**MRS. LINDE.** Yes, and now I will say goodnight.

**Helmer.** What, already? Is this yours, this knitting?

**Helmer.** So you knit?

**MRS. LINDE.** Of course.

**Helmer.** Do you know, you ought to embroider?

**MRS. LINDE.** Really? Why?

**Helmer.** Yes, it's far more becoming. Let me show you. You hold the embroidery thus in your left hand, and use the needle with the right—like this—with a long, easy sweep. Do you see?

**MRS. LINDE.** Yes, perhaps—

**Helmer.** But in the case of knitting—that can never be anything but ungraceful; look here—the arms close together, the knitting-needles going up and down—it has a sort of Chinese effect—. That was really excellent champagne they gave us.

**MRS. LINDE.** Well, —goodnight, Nora, and don't be self-willed any more.

**Helmer.** That's right, Mrs. Linde.

**MRS. LINDE.** Goodnight, Mr. Helmer.

**Helmer** (accompanying her to the door). Goodnight, goodnight. I hope you will get home all right. I should be

very happy to—but you haven't any great distance to go. Goodnight, goodnight. (She goes out; he shuts the door after her, and comes in again.) Ah! —at last we have got rid of her. She is a frightful bore, that woman.

### Questions

- Is Nora surprised to see Mrs Linde? Explain your answer 4mks
- Why does Nora say Helmer would repent for not having let her stay? 3mks
- What is Helmer's attitude towards Nora in this excerpt? 3mks
- What promise had Mrs Linde made to Nora that she does not keep? 2mks
- Explain why Nora has nothing to be afraid as far as Krogstad is concerned according to Mrs. Linde? (3marks)
- Describe Helmer's character as revealed in this excerpt. 4mks
- Both Helmer and Linde describe Nora as self-willed. What do they mean? (3marks)

### SAMPLE 16

*Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.*

**Krogstad:** Are you aware that is a dangerous confession?

**Nora:** In what way? You shall have your money soon.

**Krogstad:** Let me ask you a question; why did you not send the paper to your father?

**Nora:** It was impossible; Papa was so ill. If I had asked him for his signature, I should have had to tell him what the money was to be used for; and when he was so ill himself, I couldn't tell him that my husband's life was in danger it was impossible.

**Krogstad:** It would have been better for you if you had given up your trip abroad. No, it was impossible. That trip was to save my husband's life; I couldn't give that up.

**Nora:** But did it ever occur to you that you were committing a fraud on me?

**Krogstad:** I couldn't take that into account; I didn't trouble myself about you at all. I couldn't bear you, because you put so many heartless difficulties in my way, although you knew what a dangerous condition my husband was in.

**Nora:** Mrs Helmer, you did not realize clearly what it is that you have been guilty of. But I can assure you that my one false step, which lost me all my reputation, was nothing more or nothing worse than what you have done.

**Krogstad:** You? Do you ask me to believe that you were brave enough to run a risk to save your wife's life?

**Nora:** The law cares nothing about motives.

**Krogstad:** Then it must be a very foolish law.

**Nora:** Foolish or not, it is the law by which you will be judged, if I produce this paper in court.

**Krogstad:** I don't believe it. Is a daughter not to be allowed to spare her dying father anxiety and care? Is a wife not to be allowed to save her husband's life? I don't know much about law, but I am certain that there must be laws permitting such things as that. Have you no knowledge of such laws — you who are a lawyer? You must be a very poor lawyer, Mr. Krogstad.

**Krogstad:** Maybe. But matters of business — such business as you and I have had together do you think I don't understand that? Very well. Do as you please. But let me tell you this — If I lose my position a second time, you shall lose yours with me. (he bows, goes out through the hall.)

Nora: (appears in thought for a short time, then tosses her head.) Nonsense! Trying to frighten me like I am not so silly as he thinks. (begins to busy herself putting the children's things in order,) that! — And yet —? No, it's impossible! I did it for love's sake.

### Questions

- What confession had Nora made just before the events in this excerpt? (2 marks)

- b) Describe the dilemma that Nora faced when she went to borrow money from Krogstad. (2 marks)
- c) Why did Nora ignore the fact that she was committing a fraud on Krogstad? (3 marks)
- d) " My one false step which lost me all my reputation ..." What is Krogstad referring to by these words? (3 marks)
- e) Describe the character of Nora as presented in this excerpt. (4 marks)
- f) Identify and illustrate two devices of style which are evident in this excerpt. (4 marks)
- g) Describe two themes evident in this excerpt. (4 marks)
- h) What happens immediately after the events in this excerpt? (3 marks)

## BLOSSOMS OF THE SAVANNAH EXCERPTS

### SAMPLE 1

*Read the following excerpt from Blossoms of the Savannah and answer the questions that follow.*

" Yes, they are creators of the labyrinth that the women continue to meander around," she said philosophically. " Even if I am reluctantly convinced that it was women and not men who initiated the obnoxious ritual who provoked the women to do so? The Ilarinkon who were purported to have pushed women into mutilating their sexuality were men. And the ancient Ilarinkon were no different from today's Ilarinkon. Ellie ancient Ilarinkon were sadists and despotic. Today's Ilarinkon are worse. In addition to being despotic, they are oppressive tyrants; and one of their ways of oppressing us is to demand that F.G.M be perpetuated against us forever!"

A loud knock at the door disrupted their conversation. Before they could respond, there was another knock. Only this time, short urgent raps made in insistent quick succession followed.

" See who it is," her mother told her, happy to get rid of her. She rued the moment she introduced that explosive subject.

Although she had got used to people knocking at any time, that particular knock nearly angered Resian. Why should anybody butt in when she and her mother were carrying out a fruitful discussion? It was rare for her mother to open up to that extent and she would have wished to bring up other issues that required such frankness. Muttering under her breath, she quickly walked from the kitchen through the living room to the outer hall and opened the front door,

### Questions

- a) " Yes, they are creators of the labyrinth..." what is Resian responding to? 2mks
- b) Why did women initiate FGM? 2mks
- c) To whom does Resian refer as today's Ilarinkons? Give evidence from the text to support Resian's assertion that they are oppressive tyrants. 4mks
- d) " She rued the moment she had introduced that explosive subject." What had made her introduce the subject? (4 marks)
- e) Resian speaks out against FGM in this excerpt. Give another time in the text when she is critical of outdated practices. 3mks
- f) Describe the character of Resian as brought out in this excerpt. 2mks
- g) Give another word from the passage that means the same as oppressive. 1mk
- h) Give the meaning of the following words as used in the excerpt: 2mks

- i) labyrinth
  - ii) obnoxious
- i) Who is the visitor? Briefly describe Resian's impression of the visitor. 4mks

### **SAMPLE 2**

**Read the following excerpt from the novel Blossoms of the Savannah and answer the questions that follow.**

" Oh God of all creation! Resian cried out bitterly and audibly as soon as the cruel ugly old woman left her, " What unending woes these are! " What have I done to the gods to deserve this kind of punishment Then she recalled the teaching of the Bible, and especially where it narrated the woes of those who went through similar or even worse tribulations, but triumphed at the end. She particularly remembered the wailing lamentations of Job and his railing against injustice, and she thought her problems were nothing compared to those he had suffered.

He triumphed because he was stoic, focused and was able to persevere. Olarinkoi and his demonic mother may physically take her to Tanzania, Olarinkoi may physically take her as his wife, they may even physically Circumcise her, but mentally she was going to resist. She was going to refuse to be subdued. Where she could, she was going to physically resist. She resolved to remain focused and she prayed for strength and endurance to be able to bear all those misfortunes.

She had wondered where Olarinkoi was, but she had now learnt from his mother that he was some place planning more evil. She had also learnt that Oloisudori, the monster, was looking for her. She now wondered who among them was a lesser devil. She did not know what to think about her father. He was like the proverbial pig that was fried using its own lard. She thought he was suffering double tragedy: the loss of his daughter and the loss of his shop and home if they were financed by Oloisudori.

#### **Questions**

- a) " Oh God of all creation!" What has elicited this reaction from Resian? 3mks
- b) In note form, explain Resian's tribulations and woes since running away. Do not repeat the answers given in question (a). 4mks
- c) Comment on the different moods in paragraph one and two of this excerpt. 3mks
- d) the old woman is referred to as cruel, demonic and ugly. Why would she be described in this way? 4mks
- e) Describe the character traits of Resian. 4mks
- f) Identify and explain one stylistic device used in this excerpt. 2mks
- g) " She now wondered who among them was a lesser devil" . How is each of them a devil? 4mks
- h) Give the meaning of the following phrase as used in this excerpt: **Refuse to be subdued** 2mks

### **SAMPLE 3**

**Read the following excerpt from the novel Blossoms of the Savannah and answer the questions that follow.**

" Not really, my husband," she said **ruefully**, beating a hasty retreat. " Our culture is everything and it rules our lives."

" Good," he said authoritatively. " Now listen, you must immediately start counselling the girls to Understand their roles as potential wives of the men of Nasila. Prepare them to appreciate and accept their future responsibilities as mothers and home builders.

" I'll do that, my husband," she said quietly.

" One other thing," he said evenly. " I'll ask Simiren to request the young teacher called Parmuat, who is of our clan and therefore a brother to the girls, to find time to teach them a few **home truths**. After that we shall call enkamuratanito play her part before we give them away.



Those were the words, whose utterances she so dreaded. And once uttered, she knew, the words instantly because an **inviolable edict**. Now that he had spoken, the pain was already harrowing and the torment in her heart Unbearable.

She was torn between her love for her daughters and her dutiful role of a faithful and obedient wife of Ole Kaelo, but in her culture there was no room for dissent, especially if the subject was in conformity with the culture. Who would side with her if she were to oppose the cultural rituals?

Her only ally would be the woman the elders of Nasila contemptuously called entangoroior the wasp. Those who honoured her called her Emakererei, for she was said to have attended Makerere University in Uganda, where she obtained her degree in veterinary science. Mama Milanoi knew her well. Her actual names were MinikeneNkoitoi. Outside Nasila, she was respected and honoured. At thirty, she was already managing an expansive government sheep ranch reputed to hold hundreds of thousands of sheep, about one hundred kilometers away from Nasila. Under her were hundreds of employees who worked at the ranch.

### Questions

- a) "Not really, my husband." What is Mama Milanoi responding to? 2mks
- b) Identify two people who have influenced Ole Kaelo to initiate his daughters and how. 4mks
- c) Ole Kaelo appoints Parmuat to educate the girls about their culture. What is their reaction? 3mks
- d) Describe the character traits of Ole Kaelo. 2mks
- e) Identify and explain one thematic concern that emerges in this excerpt. 3mks
- f) "She was torn between her love for her daughters and dutiful role of a faithful and obedient wife". Give examples of other times when Mama Milanoi's duty as a wife superseded her love for her daughters. 3mks
- g) Give two roles that Emakererei plays in this text. 4mks
- h) Describe the attitude of the Nasila people towards Emakererei. 2mks
- i) Give the meaning of the following expressions as used in this excerpt: 2mks
  - Home truths
  - Inviolable edict

### SAMPLE 4

#### 2. Read the following excerpt and answer the questions that follow.

"What Joseph Parmuat told Taiyo is factually correct," her mother told her confidently. "It was the shame and anger that was provoked by Ilarinkon taunts, lewd teasing and provocative posturing that made the women do what they did to curtail those desires the worthless predators exploited to prey upon them.

"That may have been true then," Resian said, looking directly into her mother's eyes. "But what is the reason for doing it today? Ilarinkon are no longer with us, or are they?" "The original Ilarinkon may have gone," her mother said unconvincingly, "but other Ilarinkon are still with us." "Exactly!" said Resian triumphantly, "Yes, it's the latter day Ilarinkon who are wreaking havoc on us women. Surely Yeiyo, if one discovered a nasty but potent medicine that once taken cured an ailment, must they continue to swallow it every day-ten years down the line. I find that absurd.

The sensible thing would be to discard the bitter medicine once people are cured. Period! Tell me Yeiyo, what use is F.G.M. to today's woman?" "Are you suggesting that it is men who continue to perpetuate this cultural rite?" her mother asked perplexed by the daughter's argument. „yes, they are creators of the labyrinth that the women continue to meander around," she said philosophically.

"Even if I am reluctantly convinced that it was women and not men who initiated that obnoxious ritual, who provoked the women to do so? The Ilarinkon who were purported to have pushed women into mutilating their sexuality were men. And the ancient Ilarinkon were no different from today's Ilarinkon. The ancient Ilarikon

were sadists and despotic, they are oppressive tyants, and one of their ways of oppressing us is to demand that F.G.M. be perpetuated against us forever!"

A loud knock at the door disrupted their conversation. Before they could respond, there was another knock. Only this time, short urgent raps made in insistent quick succession followed.

" See who it is," her mother told her, happy to get rid of her. She rued the moment she introduced that explosive subject.

Although she had got used to people knocking at any time, that particular knock nearly angered Resian. Why should anybody butt in when she and her mother were carrying out a fruitful discussion? It was rare for her mother to open up to that extent and she would have wished to bring up other issues that required such frankness, muttering under her breath, she quickly walked from the kitchen through the living room to the outer hall and opened the front door.

A man stood at the doorway, briefcase in hand. He was tall, broad-shouldered and he wore a blue business suit, white shirt and a light blue tie, The muscles of his arms bulged under the sleeves of his coat. His face, above his closely trimmed beard and moustache, was brown and leathery; possibly from exposure to the sun and wind. He had a wide mouth from which protruded two long upper teeth with a wide gap between them, making him look like a warthog, she did not like his long slanting eyes. His pierced and extended earlobes hang comically down his neck, each loop seeming to beg for something to be hooked over it.

" Is this the home of Parsimei Ole Kaelo?" the man asked in a cold, sharp voice.

'Yes it is," answered Resian in a subdued voice, an ominous feeling creeping into her heart.

" What can I do for you?"

" I have come to see him," he said authoritatively and took a step into the house. In an arrogantly confident manner, he asked, " is he in?"

" No he's not in at the moment," Resian answered also taking a step forward to block him. She hoped he would go away. She added impatiently. " He's probably at the shop in town."

" He's not there," the man said emphatically, shaking his head, " I have just come from there."

He peered at Resian. Those slanting black eyes had slid from her face and were now deliberately scanning her body. A creepy sensation sent shivers down her spine,

*(Blossoms of the Savannah, Longhorn Publishers Ltd, 2017)*

### Questions

- a) What had happened before this excerpt? 2mks
- b) Identify the full name of this character who visits Resian's home 1mk
- c) " Is this the home of Parsimei Ole Kaelo?" Change the sentence into a statement 1mk
- d) Describe Resian's attitude towards the visitor. 3mks
- e) Explain how dialogue is used in this extract. 2mks
- f) Explain the major theme in this excerpt? 3mks
- g) In note form, describe the visitor. 2mks
- h) Describe one-character trait of both Resian and the visitor in this extract. (4marks)
- i) Explain what happens later in the novel that concerns Resian and the visitor? (2marks)
- j) Give the meaning of the following words and phrase as used in the extract. (3marks)
  - i) Ominous
  - ii) A creepy sensation
  - iii) Rued

### **SAMPLE 5**

**Read the following excerpt from *Blossoms of the Savannah* and answer the questions that follow.**

"However disreputable the man may be," her mother warned her, "be careful Resian. We don't know what connection the man has with your father and it would be catastrophic if your tongue would be the one to sever his relations with other men. Go to the living room and tell him I'm busy preparing lunch. Get him a cup of tea or something else to drink and make him comfortable before your father comes. I am sure he will be here soon."

Reluctantly, Resian took a flask that contained tea and cup and slowly walked back to the living room. The moment she reappeared, Resian saw Oloisudori crane his neck, watching her. She quickly placed the flask and cup on the table and her hands automatically flew to the buttons of her blouse that she suddenly felt, from the looks in his eyes' must have been unbuttoned. But

"It must have taken long for you to decide whether to give me a cup of tea?" he said sarcastically.

The man's words shocked Resian and she backed away from him. In the process, she collided with a nearby coffee table and nearly lost her balance

"Sorry," she said regaining her balance and composure. "But we always serve tea to our visitors even when our mother has not told us to do so.

"In that case, I must apologize for my mistaken thought," Oloisudori said as he took the cup of tea. He let a small suggestive silence grow between them before saying, "I'm indeed sorry, pretty lady." Then he smiled at her; a demonic and intrusive smile.

For the very few minutes she stood before him, she felt his black languorous eyes move up and down her face and body with a relentless intimacy that nearly immobilized her with embarrassment. She felt as if his hands were all over her body caressing her against her will.

She even felt angry with herself, when she reasoned that by standing there she was encouraging him to humiliate her. But somehow, it was as if he had hypnotized her, for as much as she had wanted to flee, she found her feet rooted to the spot. As inexperienced as she was in the way men behaved, she could tell from his smile his pleasure in her obvious fear and confusion. And instinctively, she sensed cruelty in him. Sweat trickled down her stomach, broke out on her face, before becoming clammy on her cheeks. She shook her head as if to check whether she was really awake.

### **Questions**

- a) Place this excerpt in its immediate context. (4marks)
- b) State and explain one major theme in this excerpt (2marks)
- c) Identify and illustrate two features of style in this extract. (6marks)
- d) Explain how Oloisudori had helped Resian's father in the past. (3marks)
- e) "It must have taken long for you to decide whether to give me a cup of tea" he said sarcastically. (Rewrite the sentence in direct speech)
- f) How disreputable is Oloisudori? Explain three things that make him a despicable person. (3marks)
- g) Describe one-character trait of
  - i) Oloisudori
  - ii) Resian (4marks)
- h) Explain the meaning of the words as used in the excerpt (2marks)
  - i) languorous
  - ii) hypnotized

## **SAMPLE 6**

*Read the following excerpt from Blossoms of the Savannah and answer the questions that follow.*

Later, Taiyo was surprised to see that the seemingly helpless and toothless old man was one of the most revered elders in the community. She saw him get up from where he sat with the other two old men, and leaning heavily on his walking stick, moved to the center of the living room. His pace was dignified as he walked with his chin up and his mouth set in a hard straight line. That was the time Taiyo observed his heavily wrinkled face. There was a haughty set to his features? For a moment, Taiyo felt as if he had fastened his eyes on her and that his gaze was like a physically oppressive force upon her. She suddenly felt in much awe of him.

When he began to speak, his voice boomed and its resonance filled the crowded room. He introduced himself as old Musanka, a member of the Ilmakesen clan and of Ilterito age set. He said Nasila was a Maa house and anybody born of Maa was entitled to its shelter. Maa culture was the blood and marrow that gave sustenance to the body. And the body was the collective masses of the Maa. Ole Kaelo, he said, was a tiny strand of hair that had been blown away from its owner's head by a gust of wind. The same wind that had blown it away had blown the strand back to its owner's head. He said the head could not refuse to receive back the returning strand. But the onus was upon the strand to attach and coil itself back onto the rest of the hair on the head and blend with it. If it did not, he warned, it would drop and get trampled upon the ground. He advised Ole Kaelo to re-assimilate himself into his people's culture.

"Those of us who have been listening to the sound of our cattle bells," he said quoting the children's song, "know that Ole Kaelo's cattle are home-bound. They were bound to come, for the founder said that when a rat begins to smell, it returns to its mother's home.

"And speaking of home," Ole Musanka said candidly, "Ole Kaelo must be told, home is not this house however magnificent it may be. Home is Maa, home is Nasila, home is family and home is the children. Kill one of those four pillars and there is no home to speak about. Sever yourself from the culture of your people and you effectively become olkirikoi, a man of no fixed abode, your elegant house notwithstanding. Where are the women of the Maa? Embrace the wife and children of Ole Kaelo and bring them back into the Nasila fold. Where are the elders of Ilmolelian? There is your man. Cut him loose from the snares of alien cultures. I am through."

Then he had a parting shot for Taiyo and Resian. "Do not listen to crusaders of an alien culture that is being perpetrated by a certain entangoroj called Emakererei. That wasp advocates that we maintain intoiye nemengalana amongst our daughters. Taba! May she go down with the setting sun!"

After that voluble curse, the old man blessed the Ole Kaelos. He had a special blessing for the daughter Of Ole Kaelo who served him with a special dish that evening. He prophesied that she will be a mother of the next leader of Nasila and Maa.

### **Questions**

- From information given just before this excerpt, state two reasons why the ceremony in this passage is being held. (4 marks)
- Why is Taiyo surprised to find that the old man was a respected member of the community (2 marks)?
- Explain clearly Ole Musanka's analogy of the blood and marrow in reference to the Maa culture. (4 marks)
- Identify and illustrate two themes evident in this excerpt. (2 marks)
- Cut him loose from the snares of alien cultures. (Rewrite this sentence, using an appropriate phrasal verb.) (1 mark)
- In note form, summarize Ole Musanka's praise of the Maa culture. (4 marks)

- g) Identify and illustrate two devices of style evident in this excerpt. (2 marks)
- h) Briefly explain who Emakererei is. (2 marks)?
- i) Explain the meaning of each of the following words and phrases as they are used in the excerpt. (4 marks)
  - i) haughty
  - ii) of no fixed abode
  - iii) sustenance
  - iv) perpetrated

### **SAMPLE 7**

***Read the following excerpt and answer the questions that follow.***

"No one can accuse us of laziness, cut in Taiyo happily, her spirit buoyed up by her aunt's praise, "And yeiyo here has been our ever resourceful teacher. "That is as it should be," yeiyo botorr enthused. "We were taught by our mothers who were also taught by their mothers, and so on and on back to the time we ascended Kerio valley."

"I have no problem acquiring more knowledge, skills and even specialized experience," Resian said in a defiant tone that had Taiyo squirming with apprehensions "I have no problem at all and I thank yeiyo for her untiring effort in teaching us. But my question is: do we go to all these lengths to please some lazy bunch of busybodies who do nothing but lounge about in the living rooms, yawning and stretching, waiting for tasty food to land on the table before them? No, I refuse to be taught to solely please male counterparts. They can also cook, and they can, and should also learn to please us females. Period!"

Yeiyobotorr was shocked. Mama Milanoi was dumbfounded and was at a complete loss for words. Taiyo stared at her sister in consternation.

"Resian-sake!" pleaded Taiyo. "Please give respect to yeiyobotorr and stop your uncalled for tirade."

"But surely, Resian," her mother said, regaining her composure. "Have you no respect for your father who is also male? What has gotten into your child, lately?"

Turning to the girls' aunt, she added, "enkaini, yeiyobotorr, this child was not like this before we came here. I don't know what has gone wrong." "Nothing is wrong with me," Resian retorted furiously. And pointing at the living room with her finger, she fiercely charged, "I have no quarrel with my father, for whom I have tremendous respect. It is the likes of Olarinkoi I am mad at and all those other males who come here ordering us to do that or the other for them, simply because they are males. When women visit us, they give us the leeway to respond to their requests. But as we burn our fingers here, Mr. Olarinkoi is dozing off comfortably in our living room waiting for his lunch and possibly a little angry and impatient with us for delaying it."

"It is enough," cried yeiyobotorr viciously. She instantly abandoned the peeling of potatoes and threw the knife into the pail that held the peeled potatoes. Supporting herself by holding onto a nearby wall, she painfully lifted her large, heavy body. "My enkaini," I agree with you that something is wrong with our child. And I think I know what ails her. Come along and I will tell you what I think ails her."

### **Questions**

- (a) Briefly explain what had happened just before the events in this excerpt. (3 marks)
- (b) From the events in this excerpt, describe Resian's attitude towards the teachings of the Maa tradition. (3 marks)
- (c) Would you say that Resian hates men in general? Give reasons for your answer. (3 marks)
- (d) From information given earlier in the novel, suggest a possible reason why Resian dislikes Olarinkoi. (2 marks)
- (e) Identify and describe two themes evident in this excerpt. (4 marks)



- (f) " Nothing is wrong with me," Resian retorted furiously. (Rewrite in reported speech). (1 mark)
- (g) Describe two events later in the novel where Olarinkoi displays two contrasting aspects of behaviour in his relationship with members of Ole Kaelo's family. 4mks
- (h) Supporting herself by holding onto a nearby wall, she painfully lifted her large' heavy body. (Rewrite the sentence beginning: She 2mks
- (i) " Come along with me and I will tell you what I think ails her" ' Which explanation does yeiyo botorr give for Resian's defiant behaviour? (3 marks)

### **SAMPLE 8**

**Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow.**

"Sasa Yeiyoy! Look at me, I ready for our visitor," Resian said cheerfully, addressing her mother. " How do you like my dress?

" Splendid," her mother answered cautiously.

" MY little Resian-e-yeiyoy, how lovely you look!" her father who was uncharacteristically emotional said.

You almost look like a grown up lady. What do you think, Olarinkoi?"

Olarinkoi, who was present that morning looked up at Resian, grunted and snorted. He then grinned in grudging admiration.

" Not bad, he said, looking at Resian sheepishly. " Not bad at all." Oloisudori was time conscious. In the kind of business, he had done in the large part of his working life, time was of the essence. As a gangster, he had to be punctual, precise and punctilious, a small delay, inexactness or careless disregard of the plan could not only result in missed opportunities but could also prove to be fatal.

Punctuality had therefore become his second nature. That was how he approached Resian's issue. Like all other tasks he undertook, he approached it with singleness of mind. He planned meticulously, putting a precise time frame to it. His retinue was well chosen and details taken into consideration. He had hired an anesthetist if the need to render Resian unconscious arose.

At nine-thirty in the morning, they were assembled somewhere near Nasila. Oloisudori was reviewing the detailed instruction that he had given each individual who was to take part in the task ahead. Except for him and his driver, none of the others were to appear anywhere near Ole Kaelo's residence before six o'clock in the evening. They were to appear at six o'clock on the dot, pounce on the girl, seize her, carry her into the car and speed off. If there was need to render her unconscious, that would be done on the way. The next stop would be at her house in Milimani Estate, Nakuru.

The moment Taiyoy left, Resian's confidence began to wane. She began to tremble quite literally. In order that her mother did not notice how nervous she was, she excused herself and fled to her bedroom. But on seeing the carton into which they had packed all those gifts that Oloisudori had given them, and which she intended to give back to him, her courage returned. She had vowed to face the monster gallantly, and it was foolish of her to develop cold feet at that point, especially after promising her sister that she would face him, come what may. She was in the battle front and success or failure was in her hands. She had to do it even if her father would never forgive her. If she rebuffed him successfully, an inner voice told her, a whole new world would open up before her. She had therefore to be stoic and face the monster bravely. She glanced at the clock beside their bed; it was a quarter to ten.

### **Questions**

- a.** Identify the irony in Resian's words: " I am ready for our visitor." 2mks
- b.** In view of events elsewhere in the novel, explain why Olarinkoi is said to grunt, snort and grin 'in grudging admiration' of Resian's appearance. 3mks



- c. Oloisudori is referred to as a gangster in this excerpt. From information given in this excerpt and elsewhere in the novel, justify why this is a fitting description of his character. 4mks
- d. 'The moment Taiyo left ...' Where had Taiyo gone? 2mks
- e. it was foolish of her to develop cold feet at that point Explain the meaning of the underlined expression. 1 mk
- f. Briefly describe the character of Oloisudori as seen in this excerpt. 4mks
- g. In not more than 40 words, describe the arrangements that Oloisudori had made to kidnap Resian. 6mks
- h. Describe what happens immediately after the events in this excerpt. 3mks

### **SAMPLE 9**

***Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.***

" These children may not know," he said suddenly, turning his attention to his daughters, 'I They may not know and I want to tell them now, that you are their brother. You are no less a brother to them than their own mother's son would have been. You are my son as much as their mother's son would have been my son. Perhaps their mother has already told them, and if she has not, she will tell them tonight that Parmuat's family and Kaelo's family are one. We are all of Illmolelian clan, of Illoorasha-kineji sub-clan."

He told Joseph Parmuat that he had brought up his daughters well, they were well behaved and that he was proud of them. However, having been away from Nasila all their lives, they had missed out on the basic cultural values that harmonized the lives of Nasila people.

In addition to what they learnt at school or in addition to what they were yet to learn through books, he stressed, it was imperative that they learned habits, traditions and their culture that they would make their parents and the Nasila people proud of them. He added that, although he considered the girls intelligent, there was need for them to develop into responsible mature women of the future. That was necessary, he said emphatically, because there was nothing that parents looked forward to, than to see their children settle down in their own homes.

He had hastened to add that although at their age they might consider what he was saying as ridiculously irrelevant, he knew by experience that there was nothing better than beginning to plan for one's future early. He warned the girls that they might find a few cultural demands obnoxious but they would have to be stoic and them with the Understanding that it was those none-too-pleasant traditions that nurtured and bound their People together. " And those families that had refused to rejoin their people," he added thoughtfully, " had " It should never happen to us, " he concluded dramatically.

When their mother spoke to them later, emphasizing what their father had told them, they wore blank faces and deliberately concealed their reaction. She therefore did not realize that they held extremely divergent views. That was the most exciting news that Taiyo had received ever since they came to Nasila. She was exultant. Although their father never for once mentioned that Joseph Parmuat was to coach her in traditional music and dance, the fact that he had allowed them to interact with him filled her heart with joy. She could hardly hide her elation. Even the repeated assertion that Joseph Parmuat was their brother by virtue of their cultural links, failed to daunt her spirit. Was she simply infatuated with him? If she was, she hoped the feeling would soon simmer down. What pleased her most, however, was that she now had a confidant whom she could ask some of those embarrassing questions that she could not dare ask her mother or anybody else.

It was, however, different for Resian, Deep right into her heart she was seething with ire. It irked her terribly to have had to listen to their father as he prepared them for a journey that she thought would lead them back to the Stone Age era. She scornfully dismissed the cultural coaching that Joseph Parmuat was to undertake as worthless. She likened the whole saga to a grown up person whose mind degenerated into an idiot and had to content with playing with mud. It was utter foolishness!

"It may not be as bad as you imagine, little sister," Taiyo said, trying to mollify her angry sister. "Maybe by the time brother Parmuat is through with us, we shall be the wiser.

"Wiser indeed!" jeered Resian. "Yes. By the time he is through with us, we shall have been taught a great lesson in stoicism. We won't blink or wince even as enkamuratani mutilates our sexuality to smithereens!"

### Questions

- Briefly describe what had happened just before the events in this excerpt. 3mks
- From information given earlier in the novel, suggest a possible reason why Ole Kaelo finds it necessary to emphasize that Parmuat is a brother to Taiyo and Resian. (2 marks)
- According to Ole Kaelo, why had the girls been unable to learn the Maa culture? 2mks
- Why is it important for the girls to put up with cultural traditions that they may find unacceptable? 2mks
- In not more than 70 words, summarize Ole Kaelo's message in this passage. 8mks
- Why was the mother unable to realize that Resian and Taiyo disagreed with what she had told them that evening? 2mks
- Give two reasons why Taiyo was particularly happy that Parmuat would be coaching her in music and dance. 4mks
- In note form, summarize the reasons why Resian is opposed to the cultural coaching that their father prepares them for. 4mks

### SAMPLE 10

Read the extract below and answer the questions that follow.

"No Joseph," she said in an **infantile** whimper. "I can't bear that we can't express the love that we have for one another because of some **primitive** culture. If by loving you, I offend the sensibilities of Nasila then let me offend and face the consequences of doing so!"

"I also love you very much," Joseph Parmuat responded finally. "I loved you the moment I saw you during your father's homecoming ceremony. But then the clan matter came to separate us. It is true we have no blood relation. But Nasila culture dictates who are related and who are not. We are slotted among those who cannot marry."

"No, it can't be, I cannot accept its verdict," she said **petulantly** her words agonised. "No way, never!" She stopped, confused and angry with herself at her inarticulate outburst. She took several long steadying breaths and then said, "I cannot accept that a culture that does not feed, clothe or house me comes to control my life. Our lives belong to us, Joseph. The **destiny** of our lives is in our own hands. We should guard it jealously." At last they drew a little apart. His eyes were open, honest and steady upon her face.

### Questions

- What happens before this excerpt? (3mks)
- For both Joseph and Taiyo, give and illustrate two character traits. (4mks)
- How is dialogue significant in this excerpt? (4mks)
- Explain any two thematic concerns addressed in the excerpt. (4mks)

- e) From elsewhere in the novel, how does Joseph sacrifice for his love for Taiyo? (4mks)
- f) Explain the meaning of the following vocabulary as used in the excerpt. (4mks)
- a) destiny
  - b) infantile
  - c) petulantly
  - d) primitive
- g) What happens immediately after this extract? (2mks)

### **SAMPLE 11**

**Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow**

You are **mad!**" Resian screamed at him. You are stark mad if you think I am your wife. I can only be your wife over my dead body. Yes, you and my father can kill me and carry my dead body to your **palatial** home."

He was stunned by those harsh words. He winced as if he had been struck. Then already harsh line of his mouth tightened and he stood tense for a moment. Then he relaxed and watched her mockingly. "You can never escape Resian," he repeated quietly, smiling. The very normality of his voice as he spoke those monstrous words was most shocking and disturbing to her. Whether you scream your heart out, or jump into the deep sea, Resian, you are mine. You are my wife from now henceforth"

"I want to go now." Resian announced angrily shuddering with **disgust** and terror.

"You want to go?" he asked, the contemptuous quiet of his voice a menace by itself." Go! You want to be persuaded, coaxed and **pampered** to marry Oloisudori Lonkiyaa? Sorry I will not do that! If you want to go, please yourself. You may opt to go, but when you are mine, you will do as I please. No one plays games with Oloisudori. Ask your father, he will tell you."

"Stop it! Stop it! Resian screamed excruciatingly pained by the disdainful remarks of Oloisudori. Putting her hands over her ears, she made a dash for the door. He made no effort to stop her but she flung it open and turned to glare at him with tearful eyes

You are mad! She screamed again sobbingly. "You are stark mad! You hear me? You are nothing but ol-ushuushi." She walked away and as she did so, she heard his soft laughter behind her.

### **Questions**

1. Say what happens before this excerpt. (3mks)
2. How is Oloisudori portrayed in this excerpt? (4mks)
3. Describe the feeling of Resian in this excerpt (3mks)

4. From other areas of the novel, state other crimes that are practiced by Oloisudori. (3mks).
5. How does the writer utilize irony in this excerpt? (3mks)
6. "You are my wife from now henceforth" Rewrite in the reported speech. (1mk)
7. Explain the meaning of the following words (4mks)
  - a) Pampered
  - b) Disgust
  - c) Mad
  - d) Palatial
8. What happens immediately after this extract? (3mks)

### **SAMPLE 12**

**Read the following excerpt and answer the questions that follow.**

They were silent as they climbed the hill on their way back from Nasila river to draw water. The water containers that they carried on their backs were now heavy. The straps that supported the containers pressed down their heads with a painful exhaustion.

As they walked, each one of them allowed her mind to fleetingly roam the fanciful land of wishful thinking.

Resian thought how wonderful it would be, had she had a chance to enroll at the Egerton University and after graduation had a chance to work with her role model, Minik ene Nkoitoi, the Emakererei at the sheep ranch that she managed. She imagined herself already there driving a large flock of sheep. And when she thought of sheep, her mind flew back to fifteen years or so earlier and **reminded** the first time she saw a sheep. It was a childhood memory, a memorable picture from the swirling scene around her which had been captured and preserved by her mind when she and Taiyo accompanied their father to the Nakuru Agricultural Show. She could still see in her mind a group of big, docile, tawny woolly animals that stood panting drowsily in a green pasture, with the sun beaming down brightly from a clear blue sky. She had then admired the white long overcoats that the handlers wore.

Taiyo also thought of Emakererei. She would ask Joseph Parmuat, to assist her compose a song in her praise. She had already put words to a tune she had composed to ridicule the three women who she thought **collaborated** with men to oppress the women folk. They were Nasila's three blind mice who, she thought, did not seem to know that the world was changing. Those were the *enkasakutoni*, who threatened to curse *intoiye nemengalana* and ensured they did not get husbands nor children: the midwife Enkaitoyoni who threatened to spy on the young women as they gave birth to ensure that any who was still among *intoiye-nemengalana* had her status altered there and then; and the **dreaded** *Enkamuratani*, who would never tire of wielding her *olmurunya* **menacingly**.

### **Questions**

1. Place the excerpt in its immediate context. (4Mks)
2. Identify and illustrate two aspects of style in this excerpt. (4Mks)
3. Discuss two themes evident in the excerpt. (4Mks)
4. Discuss one-character trait of Resian and Taiyo in the excerpt. (4Mks)
5. The straps that supported the containers pressed down their heads with a painful exhaustion. Rewrite beginning: with..... (1Mk)
6. How do Resian's thoughts now come to be fulfilled in future? Briefly explain. (4Mks)
7. Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the excerpt. (4Mks)
  - (i) Reminisced
  - (ii) Collaborated
  - (iii) Dreaded
  - (iv) Menacingly

### **SAMPLE 13**

**Read the following excerpt and answer the questions that follow**

"Yes, Papaai," Resian said **apprehensively**. "I am here. Taiyo tells me you are calling me?"

"Yes, yes," her father replied. "Please take a seat."

"Yes *Papaai*," Resian repeated as she sat on a chair far away from her father.

"Come nearer...child," her father said pleasantly.

"Why do you **sit a mile away**? Come nearer."

Resian moved her chair hardly an inch from where it was and then she looked up into her father's face with eager expectation.

"If I do remember well," her father began in a low even tone, "you will be nineteen in September this year, am I right?"

"You are quite right, *Papaa!*" Resian answered eyeing him curiously. His face was unusually kind. His eyes held hers as he smiled broadly. That's it! she thought triumphantly. "That must be it!

"You and I have not discussed important issues for a long time," he said with a friendly chuckle that was intended to bring her closer to him. "I thought today would be the best day to break the news. Your future is very important to me, my dear child."

Resian thought the concern in her father's voice, rang false. She hesitated, but could not **hold herself** anymore. The anxiety was too great.

"Papaa, is it Yeiyoyo or Taiyoyo who spoke to you?" she asked sensationally, thinking she was stating the obvious. But seeing her father's face cloud, she added quickly.

"Who between them spoke to you about our enrolment at the Egerton University?"

"What are you talking about, child? Her father, who seemed dumbfounded, asked after a long and uncomfortable silence.

"Both Yeiyoyo and Taiyoyo promised to talk to you about it, and I thought she had."

"What, in the name of God are you talking about, child?" he repeated, this time **agitated** and shaking his head vigorously. "No, I have never spoken to anybody about any of you enrolling at the university. Never! When I said I wanted us to discuss your future, that isn't what I meant at all. Of course not!" Resian looked at her father's face enquiringly.

### Questions

1. What has happened before the excerpt? (3mks)
2. What is so ironical in this passage? Explain your answer referring to elsewhere in the novel. (3mks)
3. "Your future is very important to me, my dear child" From elsewhere in the novel, explain why Ole Kaelo tells his daughter so. (3Mks)
4. Discuss two aspects of character in Resian in this excerpt. (4Mks)
5. What major issue is addressed in this excerpt? (2Mks)
6. Explain what happens after this excerpt. (3Mks)
7. "Who between them spoke to you about our enrolment at the Egerton university?" Rewrite in the direct speech. (1Mk)
8. A part from irony, discuss any other aspect of style evident in the excerpt. (2Mks)
9. Explain the meaning of the following words and expressions used in the excerpt. (4 Mks)
  - (i). Apprehensively
  - (ii). Sit a mile away
  - (iii). Hold herself



(iv). Agitated

*For marking schemes for PAPER 1,2 AND 3 text or call Mr. Chepkwony on 0724351706*