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101/2
ENGLISH (Comprehension, Literary
Appreciation and Grammar)
FORM FOUR 2016
1ST TERM
2 ½ HOURS

Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education
ENGLISH (Comprehension, Literary Appreciation and Grammar)
FORM FOUR 1ST TERM EXAMINATION 2016

Instructions

- Write your name and your class in spaces provided above
- Answer all the questions in the spaces provided
- All your answers must be written in the spaces provided

For Examiner's use only

QUESTIONS	MAXMUM	SCORE
Comprehension	20	
COMPREHENSION FROM SET TEXT	25	
Literary Appreciation	20	
GRAMMAR	15	
TOTAL	80	

This paper consists of 9 printed pages. Candidates should check to ascertain that all pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.

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

The rise of the Igbo in Nigerian affairs was due to the self-confidence engendered by their open society and their belief that one man is as good as another, that no condition is permanent. It was not due, as non-Igbo observers have imagined, to tribal mutual aid societies. The Igbo Town Union that has often been written about was in reality an extension of the Igbo individualistic ethic. The Igbo towns competed among themselves for certain kinds of social achievement, like the building of schools, churches, markets, post offices, pipe-borne water projects, roads, etc. They did not concern themselves with pan-Igbo unity nor were they geared to securing an advantage over non-Igbo Nigerians. The Igbo have no compelling traditional loyalty beyond town or village.

There were a number of other factors that spurred the Igbo to educational, economic and political success. The population density in Igbo land created a "land hunger"- a pressure on their low-fertility, laterite-laden soil for cultivation, housing and other purposes, factors that led ultimately to migration to other parts of the nation. "In Northern Nigeria there were less than 3,000 Igbo in 1921; by 1931 the number had risen to nearly 12,000 and by 1952 to over 130,000."

The coastal branches of the Yoruba nation had some of the earliest contact with the European missionaries and explorers as a consequence of their proximity to the shoreline and their own dedication to learning. They led the entire nation in educational attainment from the late nineteenth to the early twentieth centuries. By the time the Church Missionary Society and a number of Roman Catholic orders had crossed the Niger River and entered the Igbo land, there had been an explosion in the number of young Igbo students enrolled in school. The increase was so **exponential** in such a short time that within three short decades the Igbo had closed the gap and quickly moved ahead as the group with the highest literacy rate, the highest standard of living, and the greatest proportion of citizens with post-secondary education in Nigeria. The Igbo, for the most part (at least until recently), respected the education that the colonizers had brought with them. There was not only individual interest in the white man's knowledge, but family, community, and regional interest. It would not surprise an observer that the "Igbo absorbed western education as readily as they responded to urbanization." I will be the first to concede that the Igbo as a group is not without its flaws. Its success can and did carry deadly penalties: the dangers of hubris, overweening pride, and thoughtlessness, which invite envy and hatred or, even worse, that can obsess the mind with material success and dispose it to all kinds of crude showiness. There is no doubt at all that there is a **strand** of contemporary Igbo behaviour that can offend by its noisy exhibitionism and disregard for humility and quietness.

Having acknowledged these facts, any observer can clearly see how the competitive individualism and the adventurous spirit of the Igbo could have been harnessed by committed leaders for the modernization and development of Nigeria. Nigeria's pathetic attempt to crush these **idiosyncrasies** rather than celebrate them is one of the fundamental reasons the country has not developed as it should and has emerged as a laughing stock.

(Adapted from *There was a Country: A Personal History of Biafra* by Chinua Achebe. London: Penguin Books, 2012)

Questions

- a) What, according to the first paragraph, caused the rise of the Igbo in Nigerian affairs? (2 marks)

b) Which **two** assertions about the Igbo does the author seek to disclaim in the first paragraph? (2 marks)

c) According to paragraph one, how do non-Igbos perceive the Igbos? Briefly explain your answer. (1 mark)

d) Which factors made the coastal branches of the Yoruba have the earliest contact with European missionaries and explorers? (2 marks)

e) With reference to the information given in the second and third paragraphs, which other factors led the Igbo to educational, economic and political success? (2 marks)

f) I will be the first to concede that the Igbo as a group is not without its flaws.
{Re-write replacing 'without its flaws' with one word} (1 marks)

g) **In point form**, summarize the weaknesses of members of the Igbo society. (3 marks)

h) Explain the irony presented in the last paragraph. (2mark)

i) How would you describe the author's attitude towards the Igbo? (2 marks)

j) Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the passage. (3marks)
Exponential

Strand

2. Read the following excerpt from *The River and the Source* carefully and answer the questions that follow:

When Mark got home that evening he met a grim Elizabeth and a trembling son. "Your son needs to be taken to an approved school, look at this," she handed him the letter. He read it quietly, then read it again in case his eyes were playing tricks on him. He said nothing. After dinner, he called his family together.

"I have always done my best to provide for you, my children. Of all the things I provide, the most important is education and so far I have been pleased with your efforts. However, I cannot force anyone to go to school, especially if such a person is a man and almost as tall as I am. When one is young, his parents are **bound** by duty to provide for him. When he becomes a man, and Aoro here is obviously a man - since he is tall and has a deep voice and a moustache - it's his duty to provide for himself." The man in question hung his head in shame.

"Aoro, school is not necessary for a bright, strong fellow like you. School is only for those fools who still want to learn. Today I will give you food. Tomorrow you go out and earn it. I will also allow you to stay in this house for one month after which I expect you to move out and look for a place of your own." Mark stood up and left the room - his dumbfounded family staring after him. He had never troubled his head with vague theories about the supposed fragility of growing minds and if he had he would have pointed out the fact that he had yet to father a fragile child. He woke up his son at dawn and ordered him out.

"But father! I have not had breakfast!"

"Since when did you see breakfast walking in here by itself? Go out and earn yours." He reached for his belt. Aoro grabbed his shirt and took to his heels. He would take his chances out in the streets. Out there he learned for the first time that everything cost money and that he hadn't the foggiest idea about how to earn it. When he got home that evening, he was famished but nobody offered him any tea. At dinner no place was set for him and his father sat sternly at the head of the table, his face hewn out of granite. Aoro slunk into his room and sat groaning on his bed. The whole situation was **getting out of hand**.

Late that night Tony watched him quietly as he got out of bed and headed for the kitchen. It gave a funny sense of déjà vu. He had lived through that scene in different circumstances not so long ago. This time however, he knew that there would be no success. He had seen Elizabeth lock the kitchen with a resolute expression on the face.

The following morning, Aoro did not have to be awoken. It is impossible to sleep on an empty stomach. That night even the porridge at school would have looked good to eat. Anything at all looks good if death by starvation is imminent. He waited for his father in the sitting room feeling a great affinity to the proverbial prodigal son, wondering whether using the rogue's flowery language might help his case: "Father I have sinned before you and God." But he knew his father well enough to realize that such language would cause him immediate banishment back to the pig-hen. Besides, his father might just take him up on his offer and make him into a house-servant. When Mark emerged from his room, Aoro stood up respectfully, his hands held to his back. This man held his future in his hands.

Questions:

- a) Explain what happened to Aoro just before this excerpt. (2 marks)
-

e) Describe the tone in the third paragraph. Ensure your answer is supported by a valid illustration. (3 marks)

f) How do you think Elizabeth felt about what is happening? Explain your answer. (2 marks)

g) Explain the meaning of the following metaphor: "...his face hewn out of granite." (2 marks)

h) Identify and illustrate the use of allusion in the last paragraph. (2 marks)

i) "Aoro grabbed his shirt and took to his heels."
Rewrite the following sentence by converting grabbed into a present participle... (2 mark)

j) Explain the meaning of the following expressions as they are used in the excerpt. (2 marks)

Bound

Getting out of hand

3. **Read the following oral narrative and answer the questions that follow:**

There was once a very fat woman who was made of oil. She was very beautiful, and many young men applied to the parents for permission to marry their daughter, and offered dowry, but the mother always refused as she said it was impossible for her daughter to work on a farm, as she would melt in the sun. At last a stranger came from a far-distant country and fell in love with the fat woman, and he promised that if her mother would hand her to him that he would keep her in the shade. At last the mother agreed, and he took his wife away.

When he arrived at his house, his other wife immediately became very jealous, because when there was work to be done, firewood to be collected, or water to be carried, the fat woman stayed at home and never helped, as she was frightened of the heat.

One day when the husband was absent, the jealous wife abused the fat woman so much that she finally agreed to go and work on the farm, although her little sister, whom she had brought from home with her, implored her not to go, reminding her that their mother had always told them ever since they were born that she would melt away if she went into the sun. All the way to the farm the fat woman managed to keep in the shade, and when they arrived at the farm the sun was very hot, so the fat woman remained in the shade of a big tree. When the jealous wife saw this she again began abusing her, and asked her why she did not do her share of the work. At last she could not stand the nagging, and although her little sister tried very hard to prevent her, the fat woman went out into the sun to work, and immediately began to melt away. There was very soon nothing left of her but one big toe, which had been covered by a leaf. This her little sister observed, and with tears in her eyes she picked up the toe, which was all that remained of the fat woman, and having covered it carefully with leaves, placed it in the bottom of her basket. When she arrived at the house the little sister placed the toe in an earthen pot, filled it with water, and covered the top up with clay.

When the husband returned, he said, "Where is my fat wife?" and the little sister, crying bitterly, told him what the jealous woman had made her go out into the sun, and that she had melted away. She then showed him the pot with the remains of her sister, and told him that her sister would come to life again in three months' time quite complete, but he must send away the jealous wife, so that there should be no more trouble; if he refused to do this, the little girl said she would take the pot back to their mother, and when her sister became complete again they would remain at home.

The husband then took the jealous wife back to her parents, who sold her as a slave and paid the dowry back to the husband, so that he could get another wife. When he received the money, the husband took it home and kept it until the three months had elapsed, when the little sister opened the pot and the fat woman emerged, quite as fat and as beautiful as she had been before. The husband was so delighted that he gave a feast to all his friends and neighbours, and told them the whole story of the bad behaviour of his jealous wife.

Ever since that time, whenever a wife behaves very badly the husband returns her to her parents, who sell the woman as a slave, and out of the proceeds of the sale reimburse the husband the amount of dowry which he paid when he married the girl.

(Source: **West African Oral tradition**) Fat woman

- a) What made the mother change her mind regarding her daughter's marriage? (2 marks)

- b) Classify this oral narrative and give a reason for your answer (2 marks)

c) Why was the co-wife jealous of the fat woman? (2 marks)

d) What prompted the fat woman to ignore the little girl's advice? (2 marks)

e) Identify and illustrate the following aspects as exemplified in the narrative (4 marks)

i) Dramatic irony

ii) Fantasy

f) What is the role of the little sister in the story? (4 marks)

g) Cite one economic activity and one social activity from the setting of this narrative. (2 marks)

h) Which values do you think are treasured in this community as discernible from the narrative? (2 marks)

4.a) GRAMMAR
Choose the correct alternative from the brackets to fill in the blank spaces. (4 marks)

i) Regrettably, understand that only^{v1} can lead at a time. (a few, few)

ii) Althoughoil was discovered, it was ofuse. (a little, little)

b) Choose the correct alternatives from the brackets to fill in the blank spaces. (3 marks)

i) Behind the flats(*was, were*) a row of stalls.

ii) Six yearsa short time. (*is, are*)

iii) the three months already elapsed? (*has, have*)

c) Rewrite the following sentences as instructed. Do not change meaning. (5 marks)

(i) The thieves did not know that the police had laid an ambush.
(*Rewrite using the word "Little"*)

(ii) There was very little water in the tank. (*Begin: Scarcely.....*)

(iii) Everything made a lot of sense. (*Make it a negative statement*)

iv) Either Joy or James will get the scholarship (*Rewrite it as a negative statement*)

v) None of them heard anything. (*Rewrite it as a positive statement*)

d) Join the following words using the following connectors: not only....but also, or, while, since, so...that, and. (3 marks)

(i) Rosemary was standing at the cliff. She began to feel dizzy.

(ii) Mercy cooked dinner. Mercy even washed the dishes.

iii) I have not seen such a bumper harvest. I started farming ten years ago.
