

**PANGANI GIRLS SCHOOL
ENGLISH
FORM 4
MID-TERM EXAM
FEBRUARY, 2020**

Name.....Class No.....Class.....

1. *Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.* (20 marks)

A significant step on the way to the top was the domestication of fire. Some human species may have made occasional use of fire as early as 800,000 years ago. By about 300,000 years ago, *Homo erectus*, Neanderthals and the ancestors of *Homo sapiens* were using fire on a daily basis. Humans now had a **dependable** source of light and warmth, and a deadly weapon against prowling lions. Not long afterwards, humans may even have started deliberately to torch their neighbourhoods. A carefully managed fire could turn impassable barren thickets into prime grasslands teeming with game. In addition, once the fire died down, Stone Age entrepreneurs could walk through the smoking remains and harvest charcoaled animals, nuts, and tubers.

But the best thing fire did was cook. Foods that human cannot digest in their natural forms – such as wheat, rice, and potatoes – became staples of our diet, thanks to cooking. Fire not only changed food's chemistry, it changed its biology as well. Cooking killed germs and parasites as fruits, nuts, insects, and carrion if they were cooked. Whereas chimpanzees spend five hours a day chewing raw food, a single hour suffices for people eating cooked food.

The **advent** of cooking enabled humans to eat more kinds of food, to devote less time to eating and to make do with smaller teeth and shorter intestines. Some scholars believe there is a direct link between the advent of cooking, the shortening of the human intestinal track, and the growth of the human brain. Since long intestines and large brains are both massive energy consumers, it's hard to have both. By shortening the intestines and decreasing their energy consumption, cooking **inadvertently** opened the way to the jumbo brains of Neanderthals and *Sapiens*. The domestication of fire was, therefore, a sign of things to come.

Questions

a) According to the author, when did human invent fire? (2 marks)

b) In about 55 words, summarize what early humans used fire for before they cooked with it. (5 marks)

Rough copy

Fair copy

c) Identify **four** advantages of cooked food. (4 marks)

d) Explain the link that the author sees between eating cooked food and the development of the human brain. (3 marks)

e) What is the main point of this passage? (2 marks)

f) Explain the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage. (4 marks)

- (i) dependable _____
- (ii) entrepreneurs _____
- (iii) advent _____
- (iv) inadvertently _____

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

Their mother watched them as they walked leisurely down the path out of their uncle's homestead. For reasons she did not understand, a pang of a strange premonition twisted her nerves unpleasantly. A creepy feeling kept on gnawing at her conscience regarding her daughters' status of being *intoiye nemengalana*, in the midst of a community that cherished girl-child circumcision. She, however, dismissed the feeling and relegated it to the back of her mind.

"What do you make of our uncle Simiren's home?" Resian asked her sister quietly as they walked down the path.

"Honestly, I don't think all is well. Beneath the veneer of apparent happiness, I detected some apprehension, a subtle rivalry of some sort, between the four hoses."

"What a terrible person you are, my dear sister!" Taiyo rebuked her sister mildly. "You are not worth being a guest in anyone's home. How dare you make such judgment? Their life seems to suit them perfectly."

"Easy, easy, big sister," said Resian teasingly.

"Don't be so harsh on me. All I have done is to make an observation. Am I not entitled to that?"

“Of course,” Taiyo agreed and flicked an affectionate smile at her sister. “But do you know that the rivalry you detected could simply be a figment of your own fertile imagination?”

“That could be true,” Resian added and smiled pleasantly. “But can you honestly claim, if you were one of the sixteen little fellows taking tea from enamel mugs in that crowded room this morning, to be content?”

“Perhaps I would be happy,” she answered thoughtfully.

“You know happiness is relative. One could be happy in a family where he or she is an only child.”

“Did you notice that two of our aunts are expectant?” Resian asked mischievously, slanting a look at her sister.

“At that rate...”

“Come off it!” Taiyo said sternly. “There are better things to discuss. Parents have the right to have as many children as they desire. You will have that right yourself when your turn comes.”

a) Explain what happens before this excerpt.

(3 marks)

b) Contrast the characters of Resian and Taiyo.

(4 marks)

- c) From elsewhere in the Novel show that Resian was not entirely accurate in her observations regarding Simiren's polygamous family. (4 marks)

- d) From elsewhere in the Novel, show mama milanoi's premonition in this excerpt comes true. (3 marks)

- e) "You know happiness is relative. One could be happy in a family of twenty and another may fail to find happiness in a family where he or she is the only child." Apply this statement to Resian and Taiyo. (4 marks)

f) Identify and explain two themes brought out in the excerpt.

(4 marks)

g) Immediately after, what response does Resian give to Taiyo's statement? (3 marks)

3. Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow

Another mountain

Sometimes there's a mountain
That I must climb
Even after I've climbed one already
But my legs are tired now
And my arms need a rest
My mind is too weary right now
But I must climb before the storm comes
Before the earth rocks
And an avalanche of clouds buries me
And smothers my soul
And so I prepare myself for another climb
Another mountain
And I tell myself it is nothing
It is just some more dirt and stone
And every now and then I should reach
Another plateau and enjoy the view
Of the trees and the flowers below
And I am young enough to climb
And I am strong to make it to any top

You see the wind has warned me
About settling too long
About peace without struggle
The wind has warned me
And taught me how to fly
But my wings only work
After I've climbed a mountain
(Written by Abiodun Oyewole in Literature & Language, McDougal Little Inc)

a) What is the poem about? (3 marks)

b) What can be inferred about the persona's life? (3 marks)

c) Explain the dominant tone in the poem. (2 marks)

d) Comment on any two aspects of style used in the poem. (6 marks)

e) What is the message in lines 15-17? (2 marks)

f) What is the apparent mood of the poem? (2 marks)

g) Give the meaning of the following line.

“.....and smothers my soul”

(2 marks)

4. GRAMMAR (15 MARKS)

a) Rewrite the following to remove ambiguity. (3 marks)

(i) Juma told Ali that he lacked self-confidence.

(ii) I saw a monkey with a telescope.

(iii) Look at that cow with one eye.

b) Choose the correct option from those given in brackets. (3 marks)

(i) My sister has five children and now she wants to _____ a sixth one.

(adapt/adopt)

(ii) The _____ of the neighbouring secondary school will be the guest of honour. (principle/principal)

(iii) My father was sitting in the _____ room when the guest arrived.

(leaving/living)

- c) Complete the following using an appropriate preposition. (3 marks)
- (i) There is no exception _____ this rule.
 - (ii) My congratulated me _____ my recent achievement.
 - (iii) Kola has a special liking _____ Mathematics.
- d) Choose the best connector from those given in brackets. (3 marks)
- (i) She is a new employee; _____, she has done very well. (although/even as/nevertheless)
 - (ii) My brother is very committed to his work; _____ he has earned frequent promotions. (nonetheless/notwithstanding/consequently)
 - (iii) Jason seems to be quite intelligent; _____, he often gets poor grades. (similarly/however/otherwise)