

G12 ECZ LITERATURE PAPER 1 2017 SOLUTIONS

Grade 12 ECZ Literature in English Paper 1, 2017 (2011/1)

Literary Terminologies + Context Questions (Kongi's Harvest, The Concubine)

EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ZAMBIA

Examination for School Certificate Ordinary Level

Literature in English

2011/1

Paper 1

Thursday

2 NOVEMBER 2017

Additional Material(s):

Answer Booklet

Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Marks: 60

Instructions to candidates

- 1 Write your **name**, **centre number** and **candidate number** in the spaces provided on the **Answer Booklet**.
- 2 There are **three** questions in this paper; **answer all**.
- 3 Answer **one** question in **Section A - Literary Terminologies and Devices**.
- 4 Answer **two context questions** in **Section B** on two studied texts. **One** is a **play** and the **other** is a **novel**.
- 5 Write your answers on the separate **Answer Booklet** provided.
- 6 If you use more than one answer booklet, **fasten the booklets together**.

Information for candidates

- 1 All questions in this paper carry equal marks. Each answer is marked out of 20.
- 2 Dictionaries and textbooks are not allowed in the examination room.
- 3 Cell phones are not allowed in the examination room.

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Section A: Literary Terminologies and Devices

Read the passage carefully and answer as concisely as possible the questions that follow:

THE TEACHER

By Leslie Pinckney Hill

Lord, who am I to teach the way
To little children day by day,
So prone myself to go astray?

I teach them KNOWLEDGE, but I know
How faint they flicker and how low
The candles of my knowledge glow.

I teach them POWER to will and do,
But only now to learn anew
My own great weakness through and through.

I teach them LOVE for all mankind
And all God's creatures, but I find
My love comes lagging far behind.

Lord, if their guide I still must be,
Oh, let the little children see
The teacher leaning hard on Thee.

- (i) The auditory or musical effect is very clear in this poem.
What literary term is used to describe the musicality in a poem? [1]
- (ii) This poem has a clear rhyme pattern. Identify and list the rhyming words in each stanza and give the term we use to describe a pattern of rhymes usually denoted by small letters. [7]
- (iii) 'The teacher' has metaphorical representation. What is a metaphor? Give an example of a metaphor in the poem. [4]
- (iv) Poetry depends so much on the use of symbolism. Identify two symbols in this poem and explain their significance. [4]
- (v) Items of literary expression are usually written to entertain; but more so, to instruct. What term do we use to describe a literary work whose sole aim is to instruct? [1]
- (vi) Describe the term theme and state what the theme in this poem is. [3]

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[Total: 20]

Section B: Context Questions (40 Marks)

In this section there are two passages. Read them carefully and answer as concisely as possible the questions that follow. Answer both questions.

2 SOYINKA: Kongi's Harvest

SECRETARY: Good friend, how far is it
To the border? What! Well, well,
If it isn't my bold lion of Isma.
And what, may I ask, happened to
The Carpenters' Brigade? Did they
Receive my last instructions?
Not that there was anything of a genuine
Battle, if you get my meaning; nonetheless
It was time to apply
The ultimate reality of war –
For their own sakes mind you –
I hope you made that very plain
To them. I know the ropes.
To be there at all at that disgraceful
Exhibition is to be guilty of treasonable
Conspiracy etcetera, etcetera.

DENDE: There was no one to take my message
They had all anticipated
Your instructions.

- (i) A solemn kind of atmosphere characterises both the opening of the play and its closing in Hemlock and Hangover respectively. Name two characters that are present at both incidents. In your answer also explain the reason for the solemn nature of the incidents. [4]
- (ii) Describe the scene where this excerpt is taken from. Say where and what time of the day it is. [4]
- (iii) The Secretary General is trying to find out what happened to the Carpenters' Brigade and whether or not they had received his last instructions. Who are the Carpenters' Brigade? Had they received the last instructions and what were the last instructions? [5]
- (iv) Just after this excerpt, the Secretary says: "Kabiyesi don't mock a ruined man." Who is Kabiyesi and why does the Secretary describe himself as a ruined man? [3]
- (v) Earlier in the play, Daodu says in despair, "We have failed again." Why does he say this and to whom? What answer does he get in reply? [4]

[Total: 20]
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3 AMADI: The Concubine

He is sleeping calmly now,' he said. 'Cover him up, the mosquitoes have started biting. Get my bath water ready quickly,' he ordered his junior sister, Nkechi.

'Hot or cold, Ekwe?'

'Hot.'

'Shall I put in the anti-fever leaves?'

No, those are rotting now. I shall gather fresh ones tomorrow.'

Ekwueme whistled while he bathed. His whistling was peculiar and melodious, and only few could do it well. He whistled two parts simultaneously, and it sounded like a duet. Nkechi always listened to it. It captivated her.

Ekwueme was enjoying his yam foo-foo when Wakiri arrived.

'Eat with me,' he invited.

- (i) Who is still sleeping and what is he suffering from? [2]
- (ii) Earlier, just before this except, the picture of Ihuoma flashed through Ekwueme's mind; describe the picture as is given here. [5]
- (iii) Wakiri was the village soloist. How did the villagers describe his voice? [2]
- (iv) Upon getting back from Ihuoma's compound, Ekwueme's mother observed that he had taken rather long at Ihuoma's compound. What explanation does he give his mother for staying long at Ihuoma's compound? [5]
- (v) What are the words in the song sang in honour of Emenike at the first oduma dance a month after his death? [3]
- (vi) Give the three names that make up the oduma singing group. [3]

[Total: 20]



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Question 1. SECTION A [20]: Literary Terminologies and Devices, on the printed unseen poem 'The Teacher' by Leslie Pinckney Hill.

Answer: (i) The literary term for musical/auditory effect in a poem is EUPHONY (a pleasing, melodious quality created through sound devices such as rhyme and rhythm).

Answer: (ii) Rhyming words per stanza: Stanza 1 -- way/day/astray; Stanza 2 -- know/low/glow; Stanza 3 -- do/anew/through; Stanza 4 -- mankind/find/behind; Stanza 5 -- be/see/Thee. Each stanza is a rhyming triplet (all three lines rhyme together). The term for a rhyme pattern denoted by small letters is the RHYME SCHEME (here, aaa bbb ccc ddd eee).

(iii) A metaphor is a direct comparison stating one thing IS another, without using 'like' or 'as'.

Answer: (iii) Example from the poem: 'The candles of my knowledge glow' -- the teacher's knowledge is directly compared to (described as) candles, implying it is a small, fragile, flickering light rather than a great illumination.

Answer: (iv) Two symbols: (1) 'Candles' symbolise the teacher's limited, fragile knowledge/wisdom, glowing only faintly rather than brightly, capturing his humility about his own capacity to guide others. (2) 'Lord'/'Thee' symbolises God/divine guidance, representing the ultimate source of strength and wisdom the teacher relies on to compensate for his own human weaknesses.

Answer: (v) The term for a literary work whose sole aim is to instruct is DIDACTIC (a didactic poem/work).

(vi) A theme is the central message, idea or underlying meaning explored in a literary work.

Answer: (vi) The theme of this poem is human humility and inadequacy in the face of great responsibility -- the teacher openly acknowledges his own flaws and weaknesses in knowledge, power (will) and love, yet must still guide innocent children, and so turns to God for the strength he lacks in himself, making reliance on faith central to fulfilling one's duty to others.

Question 2. SECTION B [20]: SOYINKA, Kongi's Harvest -- context questions on the passage where the Secretary questions Dende about the Carpenters' Brigade.

(i)-(ii) [BEST-EFFORT -- the exact two characters present at both the 'Hemlock' opening and 'Hangover' closing scenes, and the precise location/time of THIS specific excerpt, are specific staging/plot details not confidently verifiable without the exact surrounding text of this non-linear, multi-part play.]

Answer: (i) Best-effort: figures central to the political conflict at the heart of the play -- most plausibly Kongi and/or Danlola -- are likely present at both the solemn opening and closing scenes, since the play's structure repeatedly returns to the confrontation between the old traditional order (Danlola) and Kongi's new regime; the solemnity in both cases stems from the underlying threat and eventual reality of political violence and repression running through the play.

Answer: (ii) Best-effort: given the dialogue references 'the border' and Dende's journey delivering messages, this excerpt likely takes place near a border checkpoint or on the road, plausibly in the evening, consistent with the play's frequent depiction of clandestine political messaging and travel.

(iii)-(v) [BEST-EFFORT -- the precise identity/role of the Carpenters' Brigade, the exact content of the Secretary's 'last instructions', the meaning of 'Kabiyesi' in context and reason for the Secretary's self-description as 'ruined', and the specific exchange around Daodu's 'we have failed again' are all specific plot details not confidently verifiable without the exact surrounding text.]

Answer: (iii) Best-effort: the Carpenters' Brigade appears to be a group organised in connection with Kongi's political apparatus, possibly tasked with staging a show of force or 'battle' for propaganda purposes; Dende's reply suggests the brigade had already anticipated the Secretary's instructions before they could be delivered, implying a degree of disorganisation or over-eagerness within Kongi's regime's own ranks.

Answer: (iv) 'Kabiyesi' is a Yoruba royal honorific meaning roughly 'Your Majesty' or 'His Highness', most naturally addressed to a traditional ruler such as Danlola. The Secretary likely describes himself as 'a ruined man' due to the political and personal fallout of his failed errand/mission on Kongi's behalf, reflecting the precariousness of serving an unpredictable, tyrannical leader.

Answer: (v) Best-effort: Daodu's despairing 'We have failed again' likely refers to a failed attempt at organised resistance or protest against Kongi's regime, probably said to a fellow conspirator such as Segi; the reply he receives is likely one of continued resolve or encouragement to persist despite the setback, consistent with the play's theme of ongoing, difficult resistance to tyranny.

Question 3. SECTION B [20]: AMADI, The Concubine -- context questions on the domestic passage involving Ekwueme, his sister Nkechi, and the visitor Wakiri.

(i)-(vi) [BEST-EFFORT throughout -- this passage involves specific minor domestic details (who is ill and with what, the exact remembered 'picture' of Ihuoma, descriptions of Wakiri's singing voice, Ekwueme's excuse to his mother, the exact oduma song lyrics, and the three names in the oduma singing group) that require precise recall of minor scenes not confidently verifiable without the exact surrounding text.]

Answer: (i) Best-effort: given the household's concern over fever, mosquitoes and anti-fever leaves, it is likely a family member (possibly Ekwueme's father Wigwe, or another relative) is unwell, probably suffering from a fever/malaria-type illness common in the setting -- the precise identity is not confidently recalled.

Answer: (ii) Best-effort: the 'picture' of Ihuoma that flashes through Ekwueme's mind is likely a mental image emphasising her renowned beauty, gentleness and dignified bearing, consistent with how she is described throughout the novel, reflecting Ekwueme's growing preoccupation with her despite the social obstacles to their union.

Answer: (iii) Best-effort: as the village soloist, Wakiri's voice is likely described in glowing terms by the villagers -- probably as unusually melodious, powerful or captivating, similar to how Ekwueme's own whistling is admired in this same passage, reflecting the novel's recurring appreciation of musical talent within the community.

Answer: (iv) Best-effort: Ekwueme likely offers his mother a socially acceptable explanation for his long stay at Ihuoma's compound (such as helping with some task or discussing a communal matter), concealing his true, deeper interest in Ihuoma given the impropriety of a young man's romantic interest in a widow.

Answer: (v)-(vi) Best-effort: the exact words of the oduma song honouring Emenike, and the three specific names comprising the oduma singing group, are specific details not confidently recalled here; oduma dances in the novel are traditional communal tributes performed for the deceased, and the song would likely honour Emenike's good character and mourn his loss to the community.

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