

G12 ECZ LITERATURE P2 2016 SPECIMEN SOLUTIONS

Grade 12 ECZ Literature in English Paper 2, 2016 Specimen (2011/2)

Essay questions on 7 set books -- answer any 3; all 7 covered here

Candidates answer only 3 of these 7 books' questions. All 7 are answered here for maximum usefulness.

EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ZAMBIA

Examination for School Certificate Ordinary Level

Literature in English

2011/2

Paper 2

Additional Material:

Answer Booklet

Time: 1 hour 45 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 **seven** questions in this paper.
- 3 Each of the seven questions has **two** parts clearly indicated "**either**" and "**or**". You will **answer only one** indicated as either **(i)** or **(ii)** and not both questions for each of the three books.
- 4 Answer only three questions from three different books.
- 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

All questions in this paper carry equal marks. Each answer is marked out of 20.

Cell phones are not allowed in the examination room.

Section A

1 ORWELL: Animal Farm

Either

(i)

Describe the conditions which make the animals in 'Animal Farm' achieve their rebellion earlier and easier than they anticipate and how Mr Jones later tries to retake his farm.

or

(ii)

The sheep in 'Animal Farm' are easy to manipulate. Explain in detail why they are easy to manipulate and how the pigs succeed in doing it.

2 ACHEBE: Things Fall Apart:

Either

(i)

Outline the relationships that Okonkwo has with Ikemefuna and Obierika bringing out how each plays a role in the life and behaviour of Okonkwo.

or

(ii)

Okonkwo says, "But it was silly as all women's stories ". Referring to how women are treated and what is said about them, show how 'Things Fall Apart' portrays women as inferior people.

3 SICHIZYA: Uneasy Yoke

Either

(i)

"Earlier on before the day's wedding festivals began, Matthew was taken aside by his grandfather Sosopeka and a few male relatives to address the matter of tonight's important event."

With reference to chapter one, discuss the role of grandfathers and relatives in a marriage relationship.

What precautions do they take to ensure success of such a relationship?

or

(ii)

Explain how Mwinji gets engaged to Malinga and the circumstances that lead her to be involved with Mateo.

4 IBSEN: An Enemy of the People

Either

(i)

Give a character description of the following:

(a) Katherine

(b) Captain Horster

(c) Petra

What role do they play in the life of Dr. Stockmann.

or

(ii)

In act one of the 'Enemy of the people', Dr Stockmann eagerly awaits a letter whose contents bring problems for him and his family.

With reference to the text, explain what the contents of the letter are and how they bring about problems for Dr Stockmann and his family.

5 SHAKESPEARE: Julius Caesar

- Either** (i) Discuss the theme of superstition and the role it plays in the text up to the time Caesar is killed.
- or** (ii) In Act Two Scene One, Cassius expresses his fear to the other conspirators, "But it is doubtful yet whether Caesar, will come forth today or no."

Explain why he has this fear and how Decius plans to convince and eventually convinces Caesar to go to the Capitol.

6 NGUGI: The River Between

- Either** (i) How does the River Honia unify and divide the two ridges of Makuyu and Kamono? Discuss with clear examples.
- or** (ii) While Waiyaki is busy scheming about the whole idea of Marioshoni and more schools for the natives, Kamau and his father are busy scheming his destruction.

With close reference to the novel, prove the validity of this statement.

7 WYNDHAM: The Chrysalids

- Either** (i) The importance of keeping secrets is one of the running themes in the Chrysalids.
- or** (ii) Among the many themes in the Chrysalids is 'Bigotry' which is the holding of strong unreasonable opinions and unwillingness to pay attention to the opinions of other people.

Explain how the deviants are treated by the non-deviants to fit the definition of 'Bigotry'.



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Question 1. ORWELL, Animal Farm -- OR (ii): The sheep are easy to manipulate. Explain in detail why, and how the pigs succeed in doing it.

Answer: The sheep are easy to manipulate because they are portrayed as unthinking, uneducated followers, lacking the intellectual capacity or motivation to question authority. Unlike Benjamin (who understands but stays cynically silent) or Clover (who senses wrongdoing but cannot fully articulate it), the sheep simply memorise and repeat simple slogans without any real comprehension of their meaning, making them the perfect instrument of propaganda.

Answer: The pigs, particularly Squealer and Napoleon, exploit this by teaching the sheep simple, catchy chants -- most famously 'Four legs good, two legs bad' -- which the sheep can bleat on command, at any moment convenient to the pigs. This is used most effectively to drown out dissent and debate: whenever Snowball attempts to make a persuasive argument (such as during the crucial debate over the windmill), the sheep are cued to burst into their chant, shouting down rational discussion and preventing the other animals from hearing or considering opposing views. Later in the novel, the pigs even retrain the sheep to change their chant to 'Four legs good, two legs BETTER' to justify the pigs' adoption of human traits like walking upright, showing how endlessly malleable and useful the sheep's mindless repetition is for enforcing whatever propaganda the pigs currently require, making them an essential tool of Napoleon's totalitarian control.

Question 2. ACHEBE, Things Fall Apart -- EITHER (i): Outline Okonkwo's relationships with Ikemefuna and Obierika, bringing out how each plays a role in his life and behaviour.

Answer: Okonkwo's relationship with Ikemefuna is complex and, in many ways, reveals a softer side to his character that he otherwise suppresses. Ikemefuna, a boy given to Umuofia as compensation for a murder committed by his village, lives in Okonkwo's household for three years and comes to call him 'father', with Okonkwo secretly growing fond of him -- Ikemefuna even has a positive influence on Okonkwo's own son Nwoye, teaching him more 'manly' pursuits. However, when the Oracle decrees that Ikemefuna must be killed, Okonkwo -- despite being warned by the elder Ezeudu not to take part, and despite his own private affection for the boy -- joins in and delivers the fatal blow himself, purely out of fear of appearing weak. This event is pivotal: it haunts Okonkwo afterward, disturbs Nwoye deeply (later contributing to Nwoye's alienation from his father and eventual conversion to Christianity), and exemplifies the destructive extremes to which Okonkwo's fear of weakness drives him.

Answer: Obierika, by contrast, is Okonkwo's one true, steady friend -- a foil who embodies the reflective, questioning intelligence that Okonkwo lacks. Obierika questions the fairness and wisdom of the clan's traditions where Okonkwo unquestioningly obeys them; for instance, he privately doubts the justice of Ikemefuna's killing and disapproves of Okonkwo's participation. Obierika consistently supports Okonkwo practically and emotionally throughout the novel -- selling Okonkwo's yams and looking after his affairs during his seven-year exile, visiting him in exile to keep him informed of events in Umuofia (including the arrival of the white missionaries), and ultimately being present at Okonkwo's tragic death, voicing the novel's most powerful indictment of colonial injustice when he tells the District Commissioner that Okonkwo was 'one of the greatest men in Umuofia' driven to suicide by the white man's interference. Obierika's role is thus to provide both a moral counterpoint to Okonkwo's rigidity and the emotional/practical support that sustains Okonkwo through his greatest hardships.

Question 3. SICHIZYA, Uneasy Yoke -- EITHER (i): With reference to chapter one, discuss the role of grandfathers and relatives in a marriage relationship, and the precautions they take to ensure its success.

[BEST-EFFORT -- this is a less widely available Zambian set text this builder has much thinner specific knowledge of beyond the printed excerpt itself; a fuller answer would need the exact chapter-one text.]

Answer: Best-effort, based on the excerpt and general knowledge of traditional Zambian/African marriage customs: the excerpt shows Matthew being taken aside by his grandfather Sosopeka and male relatives before the wedding festivities, to address 'the matter of tonight's important event' -- reflecting the traditional role of elder relatives as custodians of marital wisdom and customary counsel. In many such traditions, grandfathers and senior relatives take on the role of preparing the groom (and often, separately, the bride) with practical and moral guidance about marital responsibilities, expectations of fidelity, respect between spouses, and the couple's obligations to their respective families and the wider community.

Answer: Precautions such relatives typically take to ensure the marriage's success include: verifying the compatibility and character of both families before the union is finalised; instructing the young couple privately on intimate and practical matters considered inappropriate for open discussion; emphasising the importance of patience, respect and communication in resolving future disagreements; and sometimes performing customary rites or blessings intended to ward off misfortune and ensure fertility and harmony in the marriage. The gathering of grandfather and relatives just before the wedding night in the excerpt exemplifies this broader cultural pattern of communal investment in a marriage's success, rather than viewing it as purely a private matter between the two individuals.

Question 4. IBSEN, An Enemy of the People -- EITHER (i): Give a character description of (a) Katherine, (b) Captain Horster, (c) Petra, and what role they play in the life of Dr Stockmann.

Answer: (a) Katherine (Mrs Stockmann) is Dr Stockmann's loyal, practical and somewhat more cautious wife. While she loves and supports her husband, she is also more attuned to the social and financial risks of his crusade against the Baths, at times urging him toward caution for the family's sake. Her role is to represent the domestic cost of Stockmann's principled stand -- she bears the brunt of the family's social ostracism and financial hardship, yet ultimately stands by her husband's side rather than abandoning his cause, providing him emotional grounding amid the town's hostility.

Answer: (b) Captain Horster is a ship's captain and one of the few townspeople who remains genuinely loyal to Dr Stockmann throughout his ordeal, offering his own house as a venue for the public meeting when no one else will, and later offering his rooms to the Stockmann family after their eviction. His role is to embody quiet, uncorrupted decency and personal loyalty in contrast to the town's cowardly, self-interested majority -- though his generosity costs him his ship's command, reinforcing the play's theme that supporting the truth carries real social and economic consequences.

Answer: (c) Petra, Dr Stockmann's daughter, is an idealistic young schoolteacher who shares her father's commitment to truth and integrity, at one point refusing to teach material she believes to be dishonest. Her role is to be Stockmann's spiritual successor and closest

intellectual ally within the family -- she is dismissed from her teaching post as part of the town's retaliation against the family, but this only strengthens her resolve, and by the play's end she stands firmly alongside her father in his isolated but principled stance, representing hope for a next generation unwilling to compromise on truth for social convenience.

Question 5. SHAKESPEARE, Julius Caesar -- EITHER (i): Discuss the theme of superstition and the role it plays in the text up to the time Caesar is killed.

Answer: Superstition pervades Julius Caesar and builds a mounting sense of foreboding leading up to the assassination. The theme is first introduced through the Soothsayer's warning to Caesar, 'Beware the Ides of March', which Caesar dismisses as the words of 'a dreamer', establishing early his fatal overconfidence and dismissal of supernatural warning. This is reinforced by Casca's account of unnatural omens on the night before Caesar's death -- a lioness whelping in the streets, graves opening and yielding up their dead, men on fire walking the streets, and a slave whose hand burns without being consumed -- all of which the superstitious Casca interprets as portents of impending doom for Rome.

Answer: Most significantly, Calpurnia's prophetic dream of Caesar's statue running with blood while Romans bathe their hands in it (which she interprets as a warning of his murder) nearly persuades Caesar to stay home on the fateful day, showing the real power superstition holds even over Caesar himself. Additionally, the augurers' failure to find a heart in the sacrificial beast they examine is reported as an ill omen, further heightening the sense of impending catastrophe. Ultimately, superstition serves a dramatic and thematic purpose: it builds suspense and dread for the audience, who know the assassination is coming, while Caesar's decision to ignore these warnings (persuaded instead by Decius's flattering reinterpretation of Calpurnia's dream as an auspicious sign) exposes his tragic flaw of hubris -- his fatal belief that he is above fate and danger, sealing his doom just as the omens predicted.

Question 6. NGUGI, The River Between -- EITHER (i): How does the River Honia unify and divide the two ridges of Makuyu and Kameno? Discuss with clear examples.

Answer: The River Honia occupies a central symbolic position in the novel, running through the valley that separates the two ridges of Makuyu (associated with Christianity and the mission) and Kameno (associated with traditional Gikuyu customs). In one sense the river UNIFIES the two ridges: it is a shared physical and spiritual resource that both communities depend on and draw meaning from -- its name means 'that which never dies', symbolising the continuity of life and the shared Gikuyu heritage that, at some fundamental level, still binds both ridges together despite their religious and political differences. Waiyaki himself frequently crosses the river between the ridges (notably to meet Nyambura, and in his efforts to build schools serving children from both sides), embodying the hope that the two communities can be reconciled through education and mutual understanding.

Answer: Yet the river simultaneously DIVIDES the ridges, forming a literal physical boundary and valley separating them, reinforcing their sense of being distinct, opposed communities. This division is deepened by the conflict over female circumcision and religious conversion -- Makuyu's Christian converts (led by Joshua) reject traditional practices that Kameno's traditionalists (led by figures like Kabonyi) hold sacred, and the river becomes the symbolic dividing line between these two 'incompatible' worldviews. The tragic romance between Waiyaki

(of Kamenno) and Nyambura (Joshua's daughter, from the Christian side) illustrates this division most powerfully -- their love, crossing the river both literally and symbolically, is ultimately destroyed by the deep communal hostility between the two ridges, showing that despite the river's unifying potential, the human divisions it separates prove far harder to bridge than the physical valley itself.

Question 7. WYNDHAM, The Chrysalids -- EITHER (i): The importance of keeping secrets is a running theme in the novel. With evidence from the text, give examples that build this theme and explain situations that lead to that.

Answer: Secrecy is essential for survival throughout *The Chrysalids*, since Waknuk society enforces brutal conformity to a strict genetic 'Norm', branding any physical or mental deviation as blasphemous and subject to exile or death. David's own telepathic ability -- his capacity to communicate silently with a small group of similarly gifted children (including Rosalind and later Petra) -- must be kept completely secret from birth, since discovery would mean certain banishment to the Fringes, or worse, especially given his own father Joseph Storm's fanatical religious zealotry against deviation.

Answer: A powerful early example is Sophie, David's childhood friend, who has a slight physical deviation (an extra toe on each foot), which her parents desperately hide by having her always wear shoes and avoid situations where it might be discovered. When David accidentally discovers her secret, he keeps it faithfully -- his first meaningful lesson in the necessity and moral weight of secrecy -- until Sophie is eventually discovered by others and her family is forced to flee. Similarly, Aunt Harriet's secret deviant baby, and her desperate, ultimately fatal attempt to hide and save the child, further reinforces how devastating exposure can be, driving her to suicide rather than surrender the infant.

Answer: As the novel progresses, the stakes of secrecy escalate for David's own group of telepaths: their growing awareness that discovery means death forces them into ever more careful concealment of their gift, particularly once Petra's exceptionally powerful telepathic ability begins to attract dangerous attention. Ultimately, the group is forced to flee Waknuk entirely when their secret can no longer be contained, demonstrating the novel's central lesson: in a society built on rigid, violent intolerance of difference, keeping secrets is not merely prudent but a matter of life and death, and the erosion of that secrecy is what finally propels the story's climax and the characters' escape to the more tolerant society of Sealand.

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