



THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

**SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENT
ENGLISH
SECTION B
Grade 8–2024**

LEARNER’S NAME: _____

GRADE: _____

ASSESSMENT NUMBER: _____

DATE: _____

SCHOOL NAME: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO LEARNERS

Answer all the questions in the spaces provided.

Time: 2 Hours

SECTION B

For Teacher’s Use Only

	Task 3 Reading Comprehension and note making (Questions 1 - 3) (14 marks)	Task 4 Grammar (Questions 4 - 8) (14 marks)	Task 5 Literary Analysis (9-11) (22 marks)	Task 6 Writing (Question12) (10 marks)
Learner’s Score				
Performance Level				

This paper has 10 printed pages.

SECTION B

TASK 3: READING COMPREHENSION AND NOTE MAKING (14 marks)

1. *Read the following story and then answer the questions that follow. (6 marks)*

Mutua was very happy that his cousin, Chege, had come to stay with them during the holiday. During such school holidays, local football teams in the village usually played against one another. Mutua had a special liking for Chege because he was a formidable football player. Chege was a key player in his school's football team. The team that Mutua feared most was Kombora Football Club led by Abdi. But he was certain that with Chege in his team, **their rival was not lucky.**

The competition for this holiday was to begin in a week's time. The first match was to be played between Kombora and Homeboys Football Clubs. The two teams did not leave anything to chance in their preparations. Following Chege's advice, Homeboys watched videos of professional football players. They marvelled at the skills, speed, and determination of these fantastic players. They agreed to **emulate** what they had watched.

On the D-day, a huge crowd gathered to watch the big match. No sooner had the referee blown the whistle than there was a blinding flash of lightning accompanied by a heavy clap of thunder. Everything went quiet. "This game cannot continue. We can plan it for another day." The referee announced as he ran away to take cover from the heavy downpour that followed.

- a) According to the passage, why was Mutua excited? (1 mark)

- b) What does the expression "**their rivals were not lucky**" imply in the story? (2 marks)

c) What shows in the story that Homeboys Football Club was a disciplined team? (2 marks)

d) Which one of the following would be the **best** title for this story? (1 mark)

- A. The day Chege paid a visit
- B. The day Mutua enjoyed
- C. The day of disappointment
- D. The day rivals played

2. *Read the story below and then answer the questions that follow. (4 marks)*

It was six months since the last rains fell in Mazito village. The grazing fields were grey. The only stream had run dry. People in the village wondered when the next rains would fall. On this day, however, the sun was not as hot as usual. The clouds were seen gathering. In the late afternoon, the clouds darkened as a sign of an impending heavy downpour. People were excited. Children ran around. However, one man did not join in the excitement. This was Chacha, the village elder. Chacha remembered a time in his youth when such clouds gathered only to bring disaster. He quickly summoned the people and told them, “My people, listen to me. I have seen such clouds before. Don’t be happy about dark clouds. Such clouds portend destructive rainfall. I beg you to move to higher grounds.”

“What will happen to our granaries?” someone shouted.

“I say, move to higher grounds,” the old man said with finality and walked away.

As the first drops of rain fell, people watched in awe, but the awe quickly turned into alarm as the heavens opened pouring down with vengeance upon the village. The once gentle streams swelled into raging torrents, and the fields that fed them were soon submerged under relentless floods. People soon realised that the words of the old man were not just empty talks. They were serious warnings. The village, which was once blossoming with life, was now a pool of chaos.

a) From paragraph one, what shows that it was likely to rain? (1 mark)

b) What shows that the people of Mazito were suffering? **(1 mark)**

c) The old man can **best** be described as _____ **(1 mark)**

- A. responsible
- B. obedient
- C. courageous
- D. hardworking

d) Apart from moving to higher grounds, what else are the people of Mazito village likely to do next time they see dark clouds? **(1 mark)**

3. Read the story below and then answer the question that follows. (4 marks)

One of the habits that make human beings different from other animals is dressing. Unlike other animals, we cover our bodies for various reasons. We put on clothes to protect our bodies from unfriendly weather conditions such as extreme cold or heat. Dressing also identifies us. By our clothes, one can tell our age, our religion, our work or even our character.

Most of us like to look decent or attractive. The clothes we wear go a long way in improving our appearance. When this happens, we feel good about ourselves, and we have a sense of confidence. Indeed, clothes are one of the most useful human discoveries.

In note form, write down the functions of clothes. **(4 marks)**

TASK 4: GRAMMAR (14 MARKS)

4. In each of following sentences, choose the best alternative given in brackets to fill in the blank spaces. (3 marks)

- a) Mohammed is afraid _____spiders. (by, of, at)
- b) Our neighbour’s cat jumped _____the wall. (over, under, in)
- c) The swimmer quickly dived _____the river to save the dog. (through, beside, into)

5. Replace the underlined words with the correct form of the word given in brackets. (3 marks)

Example

The match was postponed because of the heavy rains. (**put**)

The football match was put off because of the heavy rains.

- a) Teacher Aswani told us we would compensate for the lost time. (**make**)

- b) The teacher told us to go to the library and find the map of Kenya. (**look**)

- c) The county commissioner told the farmers not to lose hope despite the floods. (**give**)

6. Fill in the blank spaces with the correct alternative given in brackets. (3 marks)

and but if or so

- a) Tom wanted to buy a storybook _____he didn’t have enough money.
- b) The waiter said, “You take either tea _____coffee?”

c) The milk boiled over _____ spilled on the stove.

7. Complete each of the following sentences with the correct word. (3 marks)

Example: These goats belong to him. They are his.

- a) The book on the table belongs to me. It is_____.
- b) This umbrella belongs to you. It is_____.
- c) Those bags belong to us. They are_____.

8. Fill in the blank spaces correctly. (2 marks)

Example: We are honest learners, aren't we?

- a) My brother arrived home yesterday, _____?
- b) Your niece will buy you a present, _____?

SECTION C

Answer ALL questions in this section.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

TASK 5: LITERARY ANALYSIS (22 MARKS)

9. Read the story below and then answer the questions that follow. (7 marks)

A long time ago, Hare and Hyena were friends. Hyena often wanted Hare to do everything for him. One day, after Hare had finished planting groundnuts in his own garden, Hyena gave Hare groundnuts to plant for him. Hare thought to himself, "Hyena always wants me to do everything for him. This time, I will teach him a lesson." He then sat down and ate all the groundnuts. Then he made holes in Hyena's garden and covered them without seeds inside.

Later, Hyena saw the covered holes and was convinced that Hare had planted the groundnuts. He went back home and waited for the groundnuts to germinate. However, after some weeks, he realized that as the groundnuts in Hare's garden germinated, there was not a single seed which germinated in his own garden.

Hyena felt very angry and went to look for Hare. When Hare saw Hyena, he knew that his trick had been discovered. Hare began running away at once. Hyena ran after Hare and caught him. Then Hare told Hyena, “If you want to kill me, you need to look for where there is an anthill, lift me up and then hit me on it.”

Hyena agreed. He looked for an anthill and hit Hare on it. Instead of Hare dying, he disappeared into one of the holes. Hyena was left standing beside the anthill with his anger boiling. That is the end of the story.

a) What type of story is this? Explain your answer. (2marks)

b) If you were to narrate this story, at what point in the story would you smile? (2 marks)

c) What moral lesson do we learn from this story? (1 mark)

- A.** We should take advice from wise people.
- B.** We should choose our friends wisely.
- C.** We should share our things with other people.
- D.** We should work hard to please our friends.

d) Identify the opening formula in this narrative. (2 marks)

10. Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow. (7 marks)

Never Give Up by Michelle Mcneill

Never give up,
Never lose hope.
Always have faith,
It allows you to cope.
Trying times will pass,
As they always do.
Just have patience,
Your dreams will come true.
So put on a smile,
You'll live through your pain,
Know it will pass,
And strength you will gain.

- a)** How many stanzas are in this poem? **(1 mark)**

- b)** Give **two** pairs of rhyming words used in the poem. **(2 marks)**

- c)** Give an example of repetition as a feature of style in this poem. **(2 marks)**

- d)** The poem can be used to _____ someone. **(2 marks)**

11. Read the story below and then answer the questions that follow. (8 marks)

One day, Rehema was painting a picture of a zebra. She was hoping to show it to her friends at school the following morning. Her little brother, Omolo, came around wanting to see Rehema's painting. He was carrying a cup of water.

“Omolo, don’t touch anything here. Do you understand?” Rehema shouted.

“I won’t touch it, Rehema. I just want to see your picture.” said Omolo.

Suddenly, Omolo accidentally knocked over the cup of water. The water poured on Rehema’s painting, spoiling it.

Rehema was angry. She sat on her bed, not knowing what to do. Omolo felt bad too. Rehema looked at the painting for some time. She then decided to change it into something else instead of throwing it away. She changed it into a painting of a camel. Slowly, her spoilt painting became something new and beautiful. Rehema smiled. Omolo was happy and told her sister that the painting looked great.

a) What is the setting of this story? **(2 marks)**

b) With examples, describe the character of Rehema as revealed in the story? **(2 marks)**

c) Explain how Rehema’s first painting develops the plot of this story. **(2 marks)**

d) What moral lesson do we learn from this story? **(2 marks)**

TASK 6: WRITING (COMPULSORY) (10 MARKS)

12. Write a composition beginning: **The long awaited visitor arrived and found us waiting.**
