**NAME: .............................................................ADM No................CLASS: ........................**

**SIGNATURE: ......................................... Date ……………………………..………..**

**MECS CLUSTER JOINT EXAMS**

**FORM 4 TERM 1**

**APRIL 2023**

**101/2**

**ENGLISH PAPER 2**

**(Comprehension, literary Appreciation and Grammar)**

**2 ½ hours**

***Instructions to the candidates.***

a) Ensure you write **your name, admission number and class** in the spaces provided above.

b) All questions in this paper are **compulsory**.

c) Answer **ALL** questions in the spaces provided.

**For Official use only**

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| **Question** | **Maximum Score** | **Candidate’s Score** |
| **1. Comprehension** | **20** |  |
| **2. Excerpt** | **25** |  |
| **3. Poetry** | **20** |  |
| **4. Grammar** | **15** |  |
| **TOTAL** | **80** |  |

This paper consists of **12** printed pages. Students should check the question paper to ensure that

all pages are Printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.

1. **COMPREHENSION (20 MARKS)**

**Read the comprehension below and answer the questions that follow**

People must be careful the kind of personal information they post on sites. It is difficult to imagine life in what seems like a century ago without the internet and the cell phone. Just how did we manage our lives before the age of instant communication at a fraction of the cost of the landline?

As a little child in 1960s, I could not visualize what my teenage sons do with technology today.

Could I have even dreamt of a cell phone, a device that I could have taken to school with me and been able to chat with my friends wherever I was and whenever I wanted? You know the answer. However, today’s heaven of instant communication can easily turn into the hell of deadly sin. I mean quite literally.

Instant communication devices and portable entertainment products could of course be addictive to anybody, but such addiction can be particularly destructive to young people in school. They can distract students from homework and house chores. They can also damage ear drums. Think of the **ubiquitous** iPod which the youth equate to oxygen without which life is unsuitable!

I have even seen some grown men behaving like teenagers with iPods! Last year, a person was killed by a vehicle that spun out of control and hit him as he crossed the road somewhere in the United States. The footage showed clearly that the victim could have heard or seen the rogue vehicle had his ears not been plugged up to loud music.

While I do not want to sound like a Neanderthal, I nevertheless would like to reflect on the perils of this new gadgetry and technology. The first obvious point is that not all technology is good. Think of the A-Bomb for example, and you get my point.

I disagree with those who argue that it is not technology that is bad, but the users who misapply it. This is how some scientists justify their abdication of social responsibility. Thus we do not have to buy every little silly gadget that market puts out. Haven’t you noticed that the companies always time the release of these gadgets to Christmas, or some other consumer holiday? They surely know how to apply peer pressure and pit children against parents as a marketing tool. Sometimes I wonder whether capitalism can be any more devious!

To be sure I cannot gainsay the benefits of new technologies. The computer and the internet are without doubt the greatest inventions of our age. Information and knowledge that was inaccessible just several decades ago is now a click away even in the remotest village in the world. And it is all quite cheap. Access to information and knowledge is being democratized in a way that was unthinkable just a few decades ago. Think about the revolution of the cell phone for the individual communication and business transactions. Landlines are becoming virtually obsolete. It is this revolution that should lift millions out of poverty in the near future.

But these advances come with perilous clouds over them. I particularly, I want to focus on social networking sites and the dangers of the instant transmission of information and images. We have known for a long time that the internet is the new Wild West where everything goes.

Countries that are afraid of democracy and dissent, like China or Syria, limit, monitor, control, censure or deny access to the internet. They claim they must keep at bay pornography and sexual predators like pedophiles who troll the interment with demonic schemes. These are real problems, but do not think that censorship is the answer. Cyber surveillance by law enforcement and the prosecution of these malignant forces is the only effective and civilized response.

But individuals must themselves act responsibly. Ultimately, the **pivot** of any democracy responsible citizen action. This is where parents, civil society and the media come in. Take Face Book, the wildly popular social networking site, for example. Some of the things I have seen there are downright stupid, dangerous, malevolent or just plain crazy. Teenagers on these sites sometimes communicate with imposters bent on luring the naïve to a dead end. How many times have we seen reports of some sixty-year-old pervert posing as a teen? Even scarier, how many times have we read about such rendezvous ending in a fatality? There are other less deadly, but very destructive dangers. Prospective employers are increasingly looking into social networking sites for personal information about applicants. Even some colleges are snooping around for information about prospective students. There are reports that some people have been rejected because of the personal information they posted to the sites. Such information has ranged from **lurid** pictures to abusive language.

This means that young folks must be very careful about posting intimate details including personal pictures and other personal data such as birth dates, personal ID numbers and home address on such sites. Such information about yourself can only hurt you if displayed for the entire world to see. Teenagers need to be particularly careful about the new fad of “**sexting**”. This is an epidemic in New York among teenagers. Teens and other young people are sending nude pictures of themselves to their friends or lovers. A large number of such pictures have been shared widely beyond the intended audience. In one case, a child whose nude pictures were revealed took her own life. It can cause untold grief.

**Questions**

1. What does the writer find puzzling before the coming of technology? (2mks)

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2. What is the purpose of a cell-phone? (2mks)

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3. Make notes on the dangers of modern technology. (6mks)

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4. What is the attitude of the author towards modern technology? (2mks)

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5. How do scientists justify their innovations? (1mk)

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6. What is implied by the expression “perilous clouds” (2mks)

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7. Write the following sentence in indirect speech. (1mk)

I wonder whether capitalism can be more devious!

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8. Explain the meaning of the following words; (4mks)

i) Lurid

ii) Pivot

iii) Sexting

iv) Ubiquitous

1. **EXERPT**

***Read the excerpt below then answer the questions that follow (25marks)***

**Nora***: (begins to unpack the box, but soon pushes it away from herself)* If only I dared go out. If only no one would come. If only I could be sure nothing would happen here in the meantime. Stuff and nonsense! No one will come. Only I mustn’t think about it. I will brush my muff. What lovely, lovely gloves! Out of my thoughts, out of my thoughts! One, two, three, four, five, six- *(screams)* Ah! There is something coming - *(makes a movement towards the door, but stands irresolute) (enter MRS. LINDE from the hall, where she has taken off her cloak and hat)*

**Nora:** Oh, it’s you, Christine. There is no one else out there, is there? How good of you to come!

**Mrs. Linde**: I heard you were up asking for me.

**Nora**: Yes, I was passing by. As a matter of fact, it is something you could help me with. Let us sit down here on the sofa. Look here. Tomorrow evening there is a fancy-dress ball at the

Stenborgs’, who live above us; and Torvald wants me to go as a Neapolitan fisher girl, and dance theTarantella that I learned at Capri.

**Mrs. Linde:** I see; you are going to keep up the character.

**Nora:** Yes, Torvald wants me to. Look, here is the dress; Torvald had it made for me there, but now it is all so torn, and I haven’t any idea—

**Mrs. Linde**: We will easily put that right. It is only some of the trimming come unsewn here and

there. Needle and thread? Now then, that’s all we want.

**Nora**: It is nice of you.

**Mrs. Linde**: *(sewing)* So you are going to be dressed up tomorrow Nora I will tell you what --

I shall come in for a moment and see you in your fine feathers. But I have completely forgotten to thank you for a delightful evening yesterday.

**Nora:** *(gets up, and crosses the stage)* Well, I don’t think yesterday was as pleasant as usual. You ought to have come to town a little earlier, Christine. Certainly Torvald does understand how to make a house **dainty** and attractive.

**Mrs. Linde**: And so do you, it seems to me; you are not your father’s daughter for nothing. But tell me, is Dr. Rank always as depressed as he was yesterday?

**Nora:** No; yesterday it was noticeable. I must tell you that he suffers from a dangerous disease. He has consumption of the spine, poor creature. His father was a **horrible** man who committed all sorts of excesses; and that is why his son was sickly from childhood, do you understand?

**Mrs. Linde:** *(dropping her sewing)* But, my dearest Nora, how do you know anything about such things?

**Nora:** *(walking about)* Pooh! When you have three children, you get visits now and then from---- from married women, who know something of medical matters, and they talk about one thing and another.

**Mrs. Linde**: *(goes on sewing a short silence)* Does Doctor Rank come here everyday?

**Nora**: Everyday regularly. He is Torvald’s most intimate friend and a great friend of mine too. He is just like one of the family.

**Mrs. Linde**: But tell me this-is he perfectly sincere? I mean, isn’t he the kind of man that

is very anxious to **make himself agreeable**?

**Nora:** Not in the least. What makes you think that?

**Mrs. Linde**: When you introduced him to me yesterday, he declared he had often heard my name mentioned in this house; but afterwards I noticed that your husband hadn’t the slightest idea who I was.So how could Doctor Rank---?

**Nora:** That is quite right, Christine. Torvald is so absurdly fond of me that he wants me absolutely to himself, as he says. At first he used to seem almost jealous if I mentioned any of the dear folk at home; so naturally I gave up doing so. But I often talk about such things with Doctor Rank, because he likes hearing about them.

**Questions**

a) Why does Nora look disturbed at the beginning of this excerpt? (3marks)

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b) Who brought the box that Nora is unpacking at the beginning of this excerpt and why did Nora want it? (2marks)

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c) “Yes, Torvald wants me to. Look, here is the dress; Torvald had it made for me there, but now it is all so torn, and I haven’t any idea-----“

i) What does this reveal about the character of Nora? (2marks)

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ii) From this statement, describe the relationship that exists between Nora and Torvald. (2marks)

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iii) Identify and explain a stylistic device used in this statement. (2marks)

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e) Identify two themes evident in this excerpt. (4marks)

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f) Basing your argument from elsewhere in the play, explain what else Mrs. Linde repairs and how? (3marks)

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j) What tone does Nora adopt at the end of this excerpt? (2 marks)

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k) Explain the meaning of the following words and phrases as used in the excerpt.

1. Dainty
2. Horrible
3. make himself agreeable

**3. ORAL POETRY (20MKS)**

**Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow. (20marks)**

**Adieu**

It’s two months today

And the absence looks eternity

But the memories and experiences-still very fresh

Thought we’d have many more years

And so much more time together

I was wrong

But the last day laughers, dances, sharing…

Then the silence

The many tubes

The complex machines

The silent prayers and tears

And then the ambulance

At one in the night

Miles away from home

These…these shall be my keepsakes

You were my son

My friend

My love

Still you are and I wanted you to know that

Until that day we meet again, nind gi kue Thura

For I can’t forget about you yet

And I will not

Just not now!

a) What type of an oral poem is this? Explain your answer. (2mks)

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b) Identify three stylistic devices employed in the above genre. (6marks)………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

c) Explain the relevance of the title ‘Adieu’. (1marks)

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d) Identify the persona in the above genre. (2marks)

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e) Explain the mood of the oral poem above. (2marks)

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f) Explain two functions of this specific genre. (1marks)

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h) Explain any character trait of the persona (2marks)………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

i) Explain one social aspect of the society from which the genre is drawn. (2marks)

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j) Give the meaning of the following expressions: (2marks)

1. These…these shall be my keepsakes

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2. The silent prayers and tears

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**4. GRAMMAR (15MKS)**

**A Use the correct form of each of the words in brackets to fill in the blank space. (3mks)**

i) They were given a warm …………….. (receive)

ii) Maarifa is praised for his ……………… in approaching issues. (sober)

iii) I don’t understand why Eunice had to be given ………………..treatment (prefer)

**B Rewrite the following sentences as instructed. Do not change the meaning (4mks)**

i)I don’t know how it happened. (Rewrite using the word “idea.”)

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ii) Apart from James, they all took the same subjects. (Begin: save......)

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iii) We only recognized the visitor when she spoke (Begin: it wasn’t.....)

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iv) The candidates did the exams. They hoped for the best.(End with the word “exams”)

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**C Fill in the gaps with the correct preposition (3mks)**

(i) I hope your friend does not deal …….stolen cars.

(ii) Mwema’s conduct is ……………. reproach.

(iii) Unfortunately, the airplane plunged ………………the ocean.

**D Replace the underlined words with phrasal verbs (3mks)**

1. It is unfortunate that the talks have collapsed

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ii) I felt ignored the entire time they talked.

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iv) Will the meeting begin in the chair’s absence?

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**E Rewrite the following sentences in indirect speech (2mks)**

(i) “Wanjiru, please help me get away from here,” Caroline Mueni said.

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(ii) “Can you remind me what your name is? “John asked Treza.

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