

BUKAKA CLUSTER EXAMINATIONS

MARKING SCHEME

END OF TERM 1 2025

FORM 4

ENGLISH

Paper 3

MARKING SCHEME

(CONFIDENTIAL)

Question 1:

Question one aims at testing the candidate's ability to communicate. The linguistic mark should carry the day. Communication can be gauged at different levels.

Deciding the class and allocation of marks.

Read each composition and decide which class it falls in before assigning it a mark based on the following criteria. Then subject each of them to the deductions, if any.

General classifications

A – Class Essays (16-20 marks)

The candidate communicates not only fluently but also attractively with originality and efficiency. He has the ability to make us share his/her deep feelings, emotions, enthusiasms. He or she expresses himself/ herself freely and with no visible constraint. The script gives evidence of Maturity, good planning and often humour. Many items of merit which indicate that the candidate has complete command of the language. There is no stain, just pleasantness, clever arrangement, felicity of expression.

A- 16-17

The candidate shows competence and fluency in using the language. He may lack imagination or originality which usually provides the “spark” in such essays. Vocabulary, idiom sentence structure, links, variety are impressive. Gross errors are very few.

A 18

Positive ability. A few errors that are felt to be slips. The story or argument has a definite impact. No grammar problems. Variety of structures. A definite spark. Many margin ticks.

A+ 19-20

The candidate communicates not only information but meaning, but also and especially the candidate's whole self: his /her feelings, tastes, point of view, youth, and culture. This ability to communicate deeply may express himself in a wide range of effective vocabulary, original approach, vivid and sustained account in the case of a narrative, well developed and ordered argument in the case of a debate or discussion. Errors and slips should not deprive the candidate of the full marks he deserves. A very definite spark (very memorable).

B – Class Essays (11-15 marks)

This class is characterized by great fluency and easy of expression without strain. The candidate demonstrates that he/she can use English as a normal way of expressing himself/herself. Sentences are varied and usually well-constructed. Some candidates become ambitious or even over-ambitious. There are many items of merit of one word or expression type. Many essays in this category may be just clean and unassuming, but they still show that the candidate is at ease with the language.

B- (11-12)

The candidate communicates fairly and with some fluency. There may be little variety in sentence structure. Gross errors are still found occasionally, but this must not be over punished by the examiner.

B (13)

The sentences are varied but rather simple and straight forward. The candidate does not strain himself in an effort to impress. There is a fair range of vocabulary and idiom. Natural and effortless. Some items of merit, economy of language.

B+ (14-15)

The candidate communicates his ideas pleasantly and without strain. There are errors and slips. Tenses, spelling and punctuation are good. A number of items of merit of the "whole sentence" or "whole expression" (margin ticks).

C Class Essays. (06-10 marks)

Candidate communicates understandably but only more or less clearly. He or she is not confident with his/her language. Subject is often underdeveloped. There may be some digressions. Unnecessary repetitions frequent. The arrangement is weak and flow jerky. There is no economy of language. Mother tongue influence is felt.

C- (06-07)

The candidate finds it obviously hard to communicate his/her ideas. He/she is seriously hampered by his limited knowledge of structure and vocabulary. This results in many gross errors of agreement, spelling, and misuse of prepositions, tenses verb agreement and sentence construction.

C (08)

The candidate communicates but with not consistent clarity. His/her linguistic abilities being very limited, he/she cannot avoid frequent errors in sentence structure. There is little variety or originality. Very bookish English, links are weak, incorrect, repeated at times.

C+ 09-10

The candidate communicates in a flat and uncertain manner. Simple concept sentence forms are often strained. There may be an overuse of clichés, unsuitable idioms. Proverbs are misquoted or misinterpreted. The flow is jerky. There are some errors of agreement, tenses and spellings.

D – Class essays (01-05 marks)

The candidate does not communicate at all. His language ability is so minimal that the examiner practically has to guess what the candidate wants to say. The candidate fails to fit the English words he/she knows into meaningful sentences. The subject is glanced at or distorted. Practically no valid punctuation. All kinds of errors (“Broken English”) are evident.

D- (01-02)

Chaotic, little meaning whatsoever. Question paper or some words from it simply copied.

D (03)

Flow of thought almost impossible to follow. The errors are continuous

D+ (04)

Although the English is broken and the essay is full of errors of all types, we can at least guess what the candidate wants to say.

POINTS OF INTERPRETATION

a) Write a composition beginning with... ***As I walked along the lonely path that evening, it was evident that I will reach home late...***

It must be a story

It must end with the given words (If not -2AD)

The story must have a possibility of being out of home and a likelihood of reaching back late.

If irrelevant deduct up to 4 marks

b) Proverb ***Pride comes before a fall***

It must be a story illustrating the proverb. (If not -4AD)

The story must bring out a situation in which the character fails because of his/her pride.

FATHERS OF NATIONS ESSAY

- 1) Closely referring to Professor Kimani in Fathers of Nations, write an essay to show how one problem can lead to another.

Sometimes we find ourselves in certain problems. It is possible that one problem can lead to another one. In *Fathers of Nations*, Professor Kimani is faced with a series of problems that seem to result from one another.

The problem of global recession means low wages for professors like Karanja Kimani. The changes proposed by the donors come with tough consequences. They catalyse excesses. Members of parliament who earned less than professors when Kimani started working now rack up a hundred times more than professors do. While professors' salaries are taxable, MPs exempt themselves from paying taxes. Kimani tells his daughter about this while spending time with her in a low-end restaurant. Kimani can only afford an old Toyota unlike members of parliament like Walomu who own up to four vehicles. Kimani gets pressure from his wife who compels him to quit teaching and seek greener pastures. Indeed, one problem can lead to another.

Professor Kimani's financial woes contribute to the death of his daughter Tuni. Tuni wants to borrow her father's car which his wife Asiya refers to as a dying old Toyota. The request makes Kimani wince. It is like dirt that an enemy had shot into his face to mock him. He is forced to tell her the truth after unsuccessfully fumbling for an excuse. The car is down again. He hopes to fix it when he gets his next salary. His wife initially saw him like a young man going places but now, like his car, he is an old man going nowhere. She even suggests that he goes for greener pastures like Newborn who owns four cars. When Tuni uses a public minivan instead, she is involved in a tragic crash that claims her life. For six months, the parents are inconsolable. Asiya blames Kimani saying Tuni would be alive if he had a real car. Truly, one problem can lead to another.

Following Tuni's death, the strain in the relationship between Asiya and Kimani is compounded further. After Tuni's death, the parents are inconsolable for six months. After grieving the death of her daughter, the dejection shifts to her husband. Asiya suddenly loathes him. When he tries to touch her, she jumps back and shrinks away. He is forced to keep out of her way. Their communication is reduced to wordless nods and wordless smiles. All along, she remains gloomy. She moans until one evening when she drops the bombshell. She was leaving professor Kimani. Surely, one problem can result in another.

Professor Kimani's financial woes and his daughter's death result in the separation between him and his wife. His wife of over 30 years, Asiya Omondi, deserts him barely six months after the untimely death of their daughter Tuni. Asiya did not want to live with him anymore. Newborn Walomu had asked to marry her. Asiya had earlier opened some wounds when she suggested that Kimani quits teaching and seeks greener pastures. She peppers the wound by comparing him to Newborn who owns four cars. Newborn was a rowdy fellow and Kimani's former junior colleague at the university. Kimani asks if Asiya was marrying Newborn for his money. It was not a guarantee of happiness, he says. Asiya mocks him about not having any money. His efforts to convince his 60-year-old wife to stay with him is futile. She leaves the next morning.

Even after taking his wife, Newborn adds insult to injury when he mocks professor Kimani. Professor Kimani considers Newborn an archenemy. He calls him a greedy fat baboon. Kimani confronts him for stealing his wife. He wonders what good she is to him but feels the question degrades both he and Asiya. Newborn victoriously rocks in his chair. He mocks Kimani when he gives him spouse stealing statistics citing a Texas professor who said that 17% of Americans, 30% of Britons and 40% of Greeks are spouse stealers. He says that although Asiya is old, old is gold. Unable to tolerate the derision, Kimani takes three swings at Newborn, misses each time, loses balance and falls. The two angry men are arrested after the clumsy scuffle. For Kimani, one problem surely leads to another.

Newborn makes fun of professor Kimani after stealing his wife and the ensuing scuffle leads to Kimani's arrest. After Asiya leaves him for Newborn, Kimani confronts him. He insults him calling him a fat baboon and inquires why he stole his wife. Newborn casually mocks his former colleague. The professor decides to fight him but the physical altercation only results in his arrest. He is charged with assaulting a member of parliament. He serves six months and leaves prison utterly dejected.

Following his arrest, Professor Kimani is demoted from his current rank as professor back to his starting rank as senior lecturer. This comes after a scuffle with Newborn. Kimani is charged with assaulting a member of parliament. Newborn Walomu was Kimani's junior colleague at the university. He marries Kimani's wife Asiya. When he confronts and fights him, he is demoted as due punishment for disgracing the university in the eye of the public. Kimani had joined the university of Nairobi as a senior lecturer in the Institute of Development Studies after completing his studies at the University of Oxford. He successfully advocates for a number of 'radical' changes. He later marries a campus beauty Asiya Omondi and is promoted to rank of professor. All this happiness comes crashing down when Asiya is stolen by Newborn, Kimani is arrested and demoted. His career is doomed beyond revival. Going against his vow, he thinks of quitting teaching once and for all.

In conclusion, when it rains it pours. Sometimes one problem ends up creating another one.

FATHERS OF NATIONS ESSAY

2) Citizens in a country with failed leadership face many problems. With reference to Zimbabwe in Paul B. Vitta's Fathers of Nations, write an essay in support of this statement.

A country that has bad leadership is riddled with a myriad of problems. Citizens living in such countries bear the brunt of the failed leadership. Melusi and others live in agony because of the bad leadership in Zimbabwe.

Citizens living in a country with failed leadership are poor. At 1:30 p.m., Chaminuka Restaurants is empty. It only has two customers Melusi and Longway. People do not eat out anymore unless a foreigner is footing the bill. The empty restaurant has a mournful look of a funeral parlour. This is because the economy had crashed so people had no money. Melusi looks darker than usual because of hunger. After polishing off his chicken, he also eats Longway's rejected meal of steak and mashed potato. Zimbabwe's leader had bombed the economy back to the stone age. Melusi is forced to relocate from the suburbs to the slums because he cannot afford rent anymore. Most of the urban poor live in the slums. They do not support the current leadership. They support the opposition. The failed leadership is responsible for the poverty in Zimbabwe.

Negative ethnicity in Zimbabwe is a result of failed leadership. The largest ethnic group is Shona and the other is Ndebele. The national anthem is translated into the two languages. Longway is shocked to learn that the new ruler refused to appoint Melusi minister merely on ethnic grounds. The leader is Shona while Melusi is Ndebele. The ruler also fires the leader of Melusi's group because of tribalism. A cache of weapons materialised at his home and he was accused of allegedly plotting a coup. The Ndebele protest against the dismissal of their leader. Anti-government unrest erupts in the southern part of Zimbabwe. They attack government supporters. The government retaliates by sending their Gukurahundi - a Shona word for first rainstorm - to wash off the Ndebele insurgents. Although they fought a common enemy together, the leader who is Shona now regards the Ndebele as rivals to be eliminated. Only fellow Shona could be trusted. Tribalism is as a result of failed leadership in Zimbabwe.

During the retaliation against the anti-government protests, the government kills many people. The Ndebele insurgency against the government attracts retribution from the Shona government. Their leader had been humiliated after an unceremonious dismissal from government. They go on a rampage attacking government supporters. The Gukurahundi attack and kill their the Ndebele in retaliation. Melusi is teary when he recounts how his wife was murdered by the fifth brigade. She was strangled and splayed on the kitchen floor as if to taunt him. After desperately looking for her everywhere he found her dead, her eyes bulging. He cries a lot and dissolves in tears recounting this sad story. The failed leadership is responsible for the murder of innocent civilians.

Although Zimbabwe was doing badly and everything spelled the ruler's defeat in the elections, he still won by ninety-nine percent of the votes because he rigged the results. Melusi formed the New Independence Party – NIP, ran for presidency and still failed. The transition government was to aid a peaceful passage to an elected government. The economy crashed under the leader's watch. The disjointed opposition was no match for the bomber. The election was a sham and he had a landslide victory. This resulted in disaffection. Failed leadership results in election malpractices and needless to say, the citizens suffer.

The urban poor are evicted from their homes in the slums because of supporting the opposition. The government uses Murambatsivina - a Shona word for expelling the trash to tear down houses of the slum dwellers and evict the residents. Melusi and others are forcefully evicted without prior warning or alternative accommodation. The leadership did not care if they lived or

died. The bomber claimed the aim of the eviction was to prevent diseases and curb crime but in real sense it was to punish the poor who supported the opposition. Longway acknowledges that Melusi went through hell. Melusi says Murambatsvina chewed him up and spit him out. Failed leadership is intolerant and inconsiderate to those who do not support it.

Businesses were doing badly because of inflation. The inflation was eroding incomes faster than they could grow. Melusi and other people had no money. He is forced to move from a clean suburb and relocate to a slum in a poor part of Harare. He smiles but his eyes betray the sorrow in his soul.

In conclusions, citizens suffer innumerable problems as a result of poor leadership in their countries.

