



STAREHE GIRLS' CENTRE MOCK EXAMINATION 2025

101/3

ENGLISH

Paper 3

(Creative Composition and Essay Based on Set Text)

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:

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: **For some of us, it had been a long day, and to me in particular, the thought of what lay ahead was frightening.....** (20 marks)

It must be a story

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

The story must give a background of what happened during the day that leads to the frightening experience that lies ahead.

Though the story may be about the group experience during the day, the candidate's personal experiences must be clearly told.

If irrelevant deduct up to 4 marks

b) Proverb **Experience is the best teacher**

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

The story must bring out a situation where the student or a character learns the hard way. That is, through their personal experiences.

The student must not explain the meaning of the proverb.

If irrelevant, deduct up to 4 marks.

Marking instructions:

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

2. The compulsory set text: Text: Vitta B.Paul: Fathers of Nations

The suffering of citizens in most African countries can be attributed to the leaders they have. Using illustrations from Fathers of Nations, write an essay to justify this assertion (20 marks)

Introduction (2marks)

The pain and agony that affects citizens in our society is caused by those who have been chosen by the citizens to take care of their welfare. Such people fail in their mandate and end up making wrong decisions that interfere with the smooth running of the lives of the people. The president of Zimbabwe for instance causes a lot of suffering to his subjects when he orders the Gekurahundi and Murambatsvina.

S1 To begin with, the Gambian government causes a lot of suffering to its citizens during the preparations for the head of states summit.

Forty nine heads of state are set to meet at the Pinnacle hotel in Banjul, to discuss Way-Omega, a common development strategy for Africa. Instead of the people of Gambia enjoying the benefit of having several Fathers of Nations in their country, they are greatly inconvenienced by their visit. The livelihoods of whole families is jeopardized when bulldozers are dispatched at night to bring down road side kiosks that are depended upon by many families. This is done in a slum clearance exercise intended to show the 'fathers' that a few streets had some sidewalks. Water taps run dry in entire neighborhoods who were previously lining up for water. This is because water has been diverted to the new fountains to mesmerize the visitors. In addition, roads are given the rare layers of tarmac at times of maximum traffic. This disorients the normal flow of traffic leading to traffic jams. Check points also sprout everywhere slowing down traffic for citizens who waste precious long hours on the road. The guards take advantage of the situation to extort money from innocent citizens. Fionas taxi driver suffers harassment and extortion in the hands of the guards. The presence of the heads of states therefore causes a lot of suffering to its citizens.

S2 Secondly, Comrade Melusi and his Ndebele tribesmen suffer physically, financially and emotionally because of their president. Comrade Melusi and the leader fought side by side before independence. After defeating Smith, he and his people expected a share of the national cake. However, Melusi misses out on the ministerial appointments. Moreover, the leader throws Melusi and other Ndebele leaders out of his political party due to tribalism. This results in anti-government protests in parts of southern Zimbabwe. The government then sends the fifth brigade which kills thousands of people including comrade Melusi's wife, Ziliza. The brigade strangled then sprayed her body on the kitchen floor to taunt him. His life changed as he had to relocate to the slums since he could no-longer afford the rent for the affluent estate he lived in before. To add insult to injury, the President sent bulldozers to bring down the slums in an operation to rid the slums of disease and crime. However, according to Melusi, the real reason for the operation 'Murambatsvina' was to punish the urban poor for supporting the opposition politicians. They were evacuated without any prior warnings or alternative accommodation. No one cared whether they lived or died. All this suffering is as a result of the president's tribal nature.

S3.Thirdly, Professor Kimani loses his daughter and wife due to the poor decisions made by his leaders. Professor Kimani was a professor in the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Nairobi. At that time, a professor earned more than an MP. After the parliamentary coup by the MPS, the MPS earned a hundred times more than the professors. Prof.Kimani earns little compared to the parliamentarians. As a result, he is unable to get a better car and his old dying Toyota keeps breaking down. He struggles to get it fixed and this costs the life of his daughter Tuni when she is forced to use public transport which proves to be tragic. A trailer falls on the minibus that she was travelling in, the police take too long to come and Tuni dies trapped in her seat.

S4.Further ,Newborn Walumu's immoral and ruthless behavior makes Prof.Kimanis life painful and unbearable by stealing Asiya his wife.Walumu was once a junior colleague of Prof,Kimani. He leaves the teaching and joins politics not to help his people, but for his own selfish ambitions. He earns a lot of money, gets a luxurious office with two secretaries and buys four cars. After the death of Tuni, Asiya and Kimanis marriage is strained since Asiya blames Kimani for the death of their daughter,Tuni. Newborn Walumu takes advantage of this, and uses his opulence to convince Asiya Oindi,Professor Kimani's wife to leave her husband of thirty years and live with him,despite having three beautiful wives.Professor Kimani confronts Newborn Walumu for stealing his wife. This leads to an altercations. Kimani is arrested for attacking a sitting MP and goes to jail for six months. The university demotes him to his starting position of senior lecturer for shaming the university. When he is released from jail, he feels lonely and dejected. All these are as a result of the decisions made by his leaders.

S5Fourthly,the mental torture that engineer Tahir goes through emanates from the Libyan president's decision to dismantle the fist of Allah.The leader had earlier on launched the nuclear weapons project to deter offence. This made Tahir's dream to come true.The leader adored the program and gave it lots of money.However,when terrorists stuck American soil, he feared a retaliation, and closed down the nuclear plant. Tahir considered this a sacrilege that could not be forgiven. He hated the leader he once loved, he became increasingly restless. His anger exploded beyond control and the emotional boil that had been festering inside him popped out. He screamed and shouted. He soon sank into a deep mental gloom and refused to shake it off. His friends tried to talk him out of it but he waved them away. When they persisted, he left Tripoli and went to live alone in Benghazi. The promising life of the Engineer was therefore cut short by the rush decision of his president.

S6.Pastor Chineke Chiamaka is arrested and burned from preaching when he dares to publicly criticize the actions of the president. Pastor Chiamaka is the lead preacher at his Church on the Rock ministries. While delivering a sermon one Sunday, he criticizes the president for writing a memo about an on-going riot instead of providing a solution to the problem. Chiamaka persuaded his congregation that a government is supposed to take action and not just advise itself to treat recent events with caution. The president had in the memo advised his officers to treat the events in question with caution. He persists and insists that presidents had refused to take action against the recent events. The following day, the police pick him up at dawn. He later shared a rat infested cell with smelly inmates for two weeks. He was only released on condition that he does not preach again. He holds a grudge with his father of nation because his freedom of speech was curtailed.

Conclusion 2marks

When a nation is led by self-centered leaders, the general public goes through unimaginable pain.

Accept any other conclusion.

3 The Optional Set Texts:

a) The short story (A Silent Song and Other Stories)

(20 marks)

Failure to heed wise counsel can lead to dire consequences. Using Eric Ng'anyo's **Ivory Bangles**, justify this assertion.

Introduction (2mks)

In Ivory Bangles, the old man and his wife's failure to listen to the advice given to them results in the death of his wife.

Accept any other plausible introduction.

C1The Old man fails to beat his wife as demanded by the pebbles. After noticing blood specks on the liver of a goat he had slaughtered, the man decides to consult the seer. The pebbles said that someone was going to die- a wife. It said that the spirits were jealous of a happy wife, a woman unmolested by her husband until old age, until she was a grandmother. The old man wonders how to avert this, and he is advised to give his wife a ritual beating and send her to her parents. There was no other way the spirits could be appeased. The old man goes back home but fails to beat his wife. The old man ends up losing his wife for failing to heed the seer's prophecy.

C2The old man fails to marry another wife as advised by the ageing chief. The old man was made chiefs counsellor when he was relatively young. He was respected but also most talked about because he only had one wife and no one had heard of a chief with one wife. He was told by the chief to get another wife shortly after he had been made councilor as a reward for showing bravery in the battle of the Five Rainy Days. He answers them with a riddle. He fails to marry another wife, and when his wife dies, he is left without a wife.

C3The old woman decides to hatch a plan to avert the seer's prophecy after she is told about the ritual beating by her husband. She remarks that the seer once wanted to marry her and put a spell on her. After cooking, she plans to go to her brother's place weeping, complaining that her husband had beaten her for no reason. She would stay there until her husband came to ask her to go back to him. She would refuse, forcing her husband and her clan to reconcile them. The fine will be imposed on her husband and the beer of reconciliation drunk. By doing this, the spirits will be fooled and life would continue as before. However, she delays going to her brother's place after she finishes cooking. She decides to do a bit of hoeing in the part of the groove that the husband said was very weedy before she starts squeezing tears out of her eyes and

goes to her brother's house. Unfortunately, the old woman is killed by a bull elephant who had been hiding behind the banana grove. The elephant stamps on her, burying her in a shallow grave.

C4The old woman fails to listen to the warning by the scouts regarding the herd of elephants heading towards the village.

People who knew how to use poisoned arrows were encouraged to follow the elephants and kill them. On her way home, the old woman heard cries from the scouts perched on top of the trees and observing the elephants and warning people to beware of their movement. The elephants were six in number. The five she elephants were in the banana grove while the bull was on the path coming from the stream. The old woman heads home, cooks for her husband then decides to do a bit of hoeing in the part of the grove that the husband said was weedy. She hears a crush, then turns and sees a bull elephant that was madly trumpeting. The wounded elephant lifts her body and bashes her on trees and banana plants. It puts her on the ground then repeatedly stamps on her, shattering all her ivory bangles. She is found dead on a shallow grave.

In conclusion, we should always heed to advice given to us to avoid misery.

3(b) Drama : *Adipo Sidang' Parliament of Owls*

‘Women and people from minority groups can rise against all odds to bring change without necessary being involved in violence.’ Basing your arguments on Parliament of Owls by Adipo Sidang’, write an essay to support this statement.

Introduction.

The despised and oppressed can use wisdom and peaceful deliberations instead of excess force to liberate themselves from shackles of oppressive leaders.

Accept any other relevant introduction (2 marks)

C1Oyundi, the Fire- Finch, the leader of day birds and enemy of Royal Trees is a liberator of the bird's kingdom.

Oyundi is determined to liberate the birds' kingdom from corrupt leadership and become the enemy of Royal trees. Tel Tel says, ‘...you cannot even get hold of her with all your heads together! You Owls spend sleepless nights because of her’Pg12. Oyundi mobilizes the day birds into action, she says, while standing at the foot of Arum Tidi's grave briefly in silence , ‘rest in peace, Arum Tidi, the day birds , this is the time to rise and take back our kingdom! Let us forget about our past and stay united’ Pg80. Later, she summoned the hiding birds and tells them she has a plan and them to play it perfectly because she is the mother of all tricks a student of Ogila Nyakarondo (pg81). The plan is to kick out the Parliament of Owls and build a new institution in a trance, shining a light over them (pg82). She makes them imagine the new institution (pg82) she makes them passing the sunshine bill to protect all the birds (pg83). She tells Osogo to call the birds to action in the morning with her flute. Her song must praise the Royal Owl to fool him into trusting them (pg87). And she urges the birds to sacrifice today for a better tomorrow (pg88). She says.’ If we want to have a kingdom in which birds feel comfortable. Safe and secure, which a sense of belonging and identify, we must built that kingdom with the right material. We must change our laws and have first representations in our parliament. We start by uniting for one purpose; then we befriend our enemy... (And strike when they least expect) pg92. Oyundi helps the birds to stage a coup and eventually liberate the birds' kingdom,’ it is time to free our kingdom from the cruel oppression rule of owls’ (pg124). Then later Oyundi declared.’ It is time to chase the owls out of the parliament and sing songs for final liberation. As she pounces on Royal Owl who makes a cowardly cry and takes off. Eventually, Oyundi declares bird kingdom a real democracy.

C2Tel Tel, the woodpecker is a royal revolutionist. Red String and other Owls wanted Tel Tel to spread propaganda about the befits of the Moonlight Bill to the birds but in real sense, the bill was meant to protect Money Bags and Royal Owl as they loot public resources. The bill was also oppressive to birds because it limited their freedoms like roll call hours from 10p.m to 6 pm, banning twittering with crickets and banning flying from tree to tree. Tel Tel says, 'I told you I am not interested. I have to stand with other birds. They say you are hooting looting, screaming and squawking, boasting and belching we watch hunger-stricken' pg6. Tel Tel later tells Red String, 'I will not do it. You betrayed me, remember? I cannot rise to spread propaganda anymore, especially on behalf of the wicked Parliament of Owls (pg11). Tel Tel tells Red String... can you hear the birds singing? They are not just singing; they rehearsing the freedom song. Do not preoccupy yourself with arresting me because I have declined your offer (pg13). Tel Tel is eventually arrested for failing to spread the propaganda Red String was advocating. She is arrested by the police Owl but somehow, she manage to free herself and I present during the coup to stir up struggle for Money Bags who is dismissed by Royal Owl setting in motion the eventual revolution.

C3Iron Lady Owl is the defender of justice and bird's rights. She calls out Red String for being a puppet of Money Bags (pg27). She points out to Mr. Speaker the self-serving leadership of Royal Owl who eats lizards every night while other birds cannot find water and have to fly kilometers to find water (pg28). She points out to the speaker, 'this parliament is supposed to uplift the dignity of this kingdom... (pg29) and for this, she is thrown out of the parliament, she tells the speaker.' Mr. Speaker, I am reliably informed that this new law is a secret plot by Money Bags to loot funds from the coffers of birds and channel them to his private investments in unknown trees in deep forest. By passing this law, you have inaugurated theft and robbery with violence, because that is actually what will happen.

C4Little P. is a reporter and an analyst of the political situation in the bird's kingdom. She is an employee of Birds Eye-view Television Network. She tells Osogo and Tel Tel about Money bags schemes to get the security tender. 'Money Bags tricked the crows and the vultures to be impartial regarding the contest between the two flock of birds to secretly award the tender to Olik Tiga (pg68). She also report to Osogo, Tel Tel and Ochongorio that Oyundi was declared an enemy of parliament of Owl and by extension, the kingdom of birds (pg69). She is also the one that reveals that ArumTidi had a damning dossier on serious scandal which implicates Money Bags and Royal Trees and the warning from Money Bags to all birds to stop speculating about death of Arum Tidi (pg69). She also points out during the Unity Pact Ceremony how most birds do not want to speak about these sensitive issues like the death of Arum Tidi because Money Bags is the king's blue-eyed bird (pg106).

C5 Osogo is honest and determined, in the end justice favour him. When Osogo is perched on a stone engrossed in his flute, Red String disturbs him with his stealth movements. He tells Red String, 'It is not even dusk yet. You break the same rules your parliament makes. (pg1). Osogo then accused Red String of suppressing the truth and in his honesty, he says, 'A time is coming when all this will come to an end and all birds will a sane parliament (pg2). He is not happy that Omnivores and night birds continue to kill grain eaters and day birds for the sake of protecting the kingdom and the parliament of Owls does nothing. All they do is pass laws that favors the Owls. Osogo accuses Red String and other Royal Tree Owl's foe spreading propaganda and that because of them the kingdom is safe, and that their neighbours the Royal Tree Owls invite to night feasts to feed on the flesh of the fellow birds. (pg4). Osogo tells Red string about python who is a friend of their court yet they used him to punish enemies by throwing them into his cave (pg4). When snake raids the bird's nest in broad daylight, it is Osogo and other courageous birds that fought the service of Ochunglo and the ants.

In conclusion, revolutionists can successfully overthrow dictatorial leaders if they unite and use wisdom.

Accept any other valid conclusion, not a repetition of the question. (2marks)

3c) Kazuo Ishiguro, An Artist of the Floating World

‘What we do now will always affect us in the future.’ Support this assertion basing your arguments on Kazuo Ishiguro’s ‘An Artist of the Floating World.’ (20 marks).

Introduction:(02 marks)

Ishiguro in the novel ‘An Artist of the Floating World’ portrays characters such as Ono, Sasaki, Kuroda, Hirayama and Shintaro as regretful as their past haunts them. (Accept any other valid introduction = 02 marks)

BODY: (12 marks).

F1. Masuji Ono deciding to change his paintings from that of esthetics (a world of pleasure and beauty) to politics costs him his friendship with his teacher and colleagues. They avoid Ono’s company and he has been unable to have a conversation with any of them to ask them of his missing paintings (pg202-203). Mori-san is startled, surprised at the view of Ono’s new painting and comments about Ono exploring curious avenues (204). He advises Ono to return to serious work before too long (205). He requests Ono to bring him the remaining paintings that were not with those he has which Ono declines (205-206). When Mori-san asks Ono to leave his patronage, Ono is pained to leave the Villa. He thought that Sensi would understand his position and continue to support him pursue his career (206). Ono believes that in troubled times like the one they are facing artists must learn to value something more tangible than pleasurable ones that disappear with the morning light (207). Being a pupil of Mori-san , the two developed a close attachment which he has to let go now. This choice also makes him regret later as it fuels the war in Japan. Also, as a painter and as an artist he paints work with imperialist themes. He made propaganda art and creates patriotic spirit for the Japanese people to fight the war. He is also the advisor of the committee of unpatriotic activities. As a result of his active role, his daughter finds it hard to get married because Mr. Miyake did not want to be associated with Ono’s past reputation. Ono is forced to try and clear his name among his old friends like Matsuda to pave way for Noriko’s marriage. He is also treated with hostility by the young generation – Enchi, Suichi, Mitsuo for the role he played in fueling the war.(Pg -179,206-210).

F2. Sasaki, one of Moro-sans leading pupil at the time, makes a decision to change his Art that impacts negatively on his life and stay at Morisan Villa. Sasaki had the status of being Morisan’s leading pupil. If he was to suggest person’s painting was in anyway ‘disloyal’ to the teacher, it will always lead to immediate capitulation on the part of the offender (pg 157). He was a leader figure-someone whose abilities the teacher singled out as an example for the others to follow. He was a leader figure, the interpreter of the teacher’s ideas to the less able or less experienced pupils.(pg159) That’s how powerful he was. He later makes a decision to develop views of his own divergent from those of Mori-san his teacher(pg 160). This brings a dispute between them. Sasaki suffers for this as he is rejected at the Villa even by his fellow artist. No one wants to talk to him (pg 160-pg161). Sasaki leaves and he is hardly mentioned at the villa.(pg 157,159,160,161).

F3. Kuroda’s painting that is seen to betray the Spirit of the Japanese people comes with consequences. Ono reports him to the committee of unpatriotic activities and kuroda is arrested. The police say that people like Kuroda should be made away with .They go ahead and burn the painting. He suffers in

prison, Kuroda is in great pain, he was injured and the warders deliberately forgot to report the injury on his shoulder which was never attended to until the end of the war. (Pg- 84,87,88,109-111,129-130,211).

F4. Hirayama Boy pays the price for singing old military songs that remind the young generation of the war years. He is attacked at night and taken to hospital. A few broken ribs and a concussion. This is because he kept singing one of those old military songs and chanting regressive slogans as he is only able to sing what he was taught, two or three songs. He meant no harm as Mrs Kawakami opines (pg 65-66).

F5. Mr Yukio Naguchi commits suicide as a result of his songs which led to the death of many little boys as well as parents as they were played everywhere and incited people. He composed songs that had become very famous not just in the city but all over Japan. They were sang on the radio and bars. The likes of Kenji sang them when they were marching or before battle. After the war, he thought his songs had been well-sort of a mistake. He thought of all the people who had been killed, all the little boys of Ichiro's age who no longer had parents. (176). He felt he should apologize; to everyone who was left, to little boys who had no parents, to parents who lost little boys. He wanted to say sorry. That's why he killed himself. (pg- 175, 176)

F6. For participating in the China Crisis post-campaign, Shintaro becomes unemployable. He gained much credit and praise as everyone was proud of his work. (pg 116-117) Later on he applies for a job at Higashimachi High school. The committee however is still unsatisfied over the matter of his work during the China Crisis (pg 114-115). He has to beg Masuji ono to write a letter to the committee disassociating him from participating in the China crisis poster campaign and also from Ono's influence. 'There are one or two things I must see to if I am to secure this post, which by all other counts is mine already. Sensei, I beg you, please consider my position....here is the name and address Sensei.(Pg117) With the American occupation of Japan after the surrender, Shintaro regrets his decision to have been part of the poster campaign then. (Pg-114-115, 116-117,)

Conclusion (2mks)

In conclusion, the choices that Ono, Sasaki, Kuroda, Hirayama and Shintaro made have had great effect on their lives and relationships.