

OPENER EXAMS

TERM 1 2025

ENGLISH FORM 2

MARKING SCHEME

1. COMPREHENSION

(20MKS)

Almost half of all sick children in public hospitals do not have their vital signs recorded at admission, as required, a study has said. The largest ever study on nursing care of children, which was conducted over two years, also show one in 10 children die mainly due to lack of basic care.

The survey conducted in 13 referral county facilities and covering 54 000 admission was carried out by the clinical information network (CIN) a collaboration of the Ministry of Health, Kenya Medical Research Institute, University of Nairobi and Kenya Pediatric Association.

The survey found out that the vital signs in 43 per cent of the children had not been taken at admission. Body temperature, pulse and respiratory rates are supposed to be recorded and monitored throughout the hospital stay. However, this was only consistently done in 13 hospitals. In some facilities, less than two per cent of children had their vital signs recorded. More than eight per cent of children did not have any of their vital signs recorded while 0.2 per cent had their pulse rate taken.

Once admitted, the researchers said it was a requirement that patients' vital signs be monitored and recorded at least three times in every 24 hours. Again, this was only consistently done in three of the 13 hospitals.

Even when monitoring was done, the quality of recording was poor; with evidence showing most of the nurses had recorded estimates. For example, most of the recorded data were round-up figures or most ended in even numbers. This, the authors said, was an indication that the figures were estimates.

“Our data raise concern that in practice, inaccurate respiratory rate measures are likely to result in misclassification of pneumonia, poor targeting of treatments and inability to detect deterioration or improvement,” says the study. The CIN group said it was disturbing that pneumonia and respiratory illness remained major problems in almost all hospitals despite availability of protective vaccines. “The high proportion of children admitted with pneumonia is worthy of note despite more than 10 years use of flu (HiB) vaccine and use of PCV10 Pneumonia vaccine.”

Two recent studies at Gertrude's Children Hospital and Kenyatta National Hospital have questioned the effectiveness of pneumonia and rotavirus vaccines. The researchers further investigated the cause of children's neglect in top-tier public hospitals, which they identified as acute shortage of nursing staff.

“In these hospitals each qualified nurse is typically responsible for between 10 and 40 beds. There can be two or more children to a bed,” says the report.

In five of the 13 hospitals, typically one qualified nurse was present on a shift whereas in the other eight, there were only two nurses. Data from the Health Ministry indicate there are 20,981 nurses in public hospitals against a requirement of about 52,000.

1. **What is the biggest risk of not taking a child's vital signs?**

Answer: The biggest risk is that inaccurate or missing vital signs can lead to

misclassification of conditions such as pneumonia, poor targeting of treatments, and an inability to detect deterioration or improvement in the child's health.

2. Briefly describe what should be done from the time a child arrives in a hospital to discharge.

Answer:

- Upon arrival, a child's vital signs (body temperature, pulse, and respiratory rates) should be recorded at admission.
- These vital signs should be monitored and recorded at least three times every 24 hours during the hospital stay.
- Continuous monitoring should ensure accurate tracking of the child's condition, with adjustments made to treatment as necessary until discharge.

3. What evidence is there in the passage that most data in hospitals is mere estimate?

Answer: Evidence includes:

- Most of the recorded data were rounded figures or ended in even numbers, indicating estimates.
- The study observed that the quality of recording was poor and nurses often recorded estimates rather than precise measurements.

4. List three dangers of using inaccurate figures for medical decisions.

Answer:

- Misclassification of medical conditions, such as pneumonia.
- Poor targeting of treatments, potentially leading to ineffective or harmful interventions.
- Inability to accurately detect deterioration or improvement in a patient's condition, which can impact timely and appropriate medical responses.

5. In note give challenges of public hospitals.

Answer:

- Acute shortage of nursing staff, with each nurse responsible for a large number of beds.
- In some hospitals, only one or two qualified nurses are present per shift, leading to insufficient care.
- A significant gap between the number of available nurses and the required number.
- High proportion of children admitted with pneumonia despite existing vaccines.

6. **Whom do you think should take responsibility for the problems affecting public hospitals?**

Answer: Responsibility should be shared among:

- Government and health ministries for ensuring adequate staffing and resources.
- Hospital administrators for improving hospital management and staff allocation.
- Health organizations and institutions for supporting training and monitoring practices.

7. **What is the general tone of the passage?**

Answer: The general tone of the passage is **concerned** and **critical**, as it highlights significant issues and shortcomings in the care provided in public hospitals and raises alarms about the impact on children’s health.

8. **Explain the meaning of the following words and phrases as used in the passage:**

Top-tier: high-quality or leading public hospitals that are considered among the best in the system.

b) **Deterioration:** the worsening or decline in a patient's health condition.

c) **Acute:** severe or intense degree of shortage or problem, such as an acute shortage of nursing staff.

B. CLOZE TEST (10marks)

A student in Mandera County (1).....history after scoring an A in the 2019 form four examination. Ibrahim Abdi Ali, a former student at Sheikh Ali Secondary School (2).....the troubled Rhamu Sub County,(3).....81 points. No Mandera student had (4).....scored an A.

Speaking at Tawfiah Secondary School where (5).....has been a Volunteer teacher, Ibrahim said it was by God’s (6).....that he broke the record in the hardship(7)..... “I challenge students to keep the fire (8).....since it has taken me much perseverance to achieve this,” he said.

Ibrahim said he (9).....out of school in form two due to lack of fees,(10).....the Principal of Sheikh Ali came to his rescue.

1. made
2. in
3. scored
4. ever
5. he
6. grace
7. county/area
8. burning
9. dropped
10. but

Oral Skills

a. Consider the following oral literature item: "Mi moet moet a moita" (There is a wound in a calf's stomach)

i) Classify the above genre: Tongue twister.

ii) Identify and illustrate two features of sound in the above genre:

- Alliteration: **Mi** moet **moet** a **moita**
consonance: moet moet

b. Underline the silent letter(s) in the following words:

- sword (w)
- debris (s)
- grandmother (d)
- bouquet (t)
- victual (v)
- corps (p)

c. Provide another word pronounced the same as the following:

- Birth: Berth
- Fur: Far
- Arms: Alms
- Coup: Coo
- Metal mettle

abcdefgh (1mk)

Regular rhyme scheme.(1mk)

the line would be said slowly and softly to mark the end of the day.(1mk)

-it will also be said with a falling

Intonation –to show finality.(1mk)

Total (2mks)

popped, blinked, whirled, clattered, clicked (any 2) (2mks)

Alliteration Sun Spun

Sound /s/is repeated.(1mk)

Assonance Sun Spun sound/ʌ/

Use of gestures –use your fingers to show blinking.

-Facial expressions –Open your eyes wide and shut them to quickly show the neon lights popping.

- a high tone at the beginning when the sun sets and a low tone when time expires and it is the end of the day.

Dramatization –dramatize the tossing of a coin and whirling.

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