



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND NATIONAL SERVICE
MILITARY SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION
FORM FOUR PRE NATIONAL EXAMINATION



024

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

TIME: 3:00 Hours

13rd AUGUST 2026

INSRCTIONS

- A. This paper consists of section A,B and C with a total of **eleven (11)** questions.
- B. Answer **all** questions in section **A** and **B** and **ONLY two questions** from section **C**.
- C. Section **A** carries **sixteen {16}** marks, section **B** **fifty four [54]** marks, and section **C** carries **thirty {30}** marks
- D. All writings must be in **blue** or black ink.
- E. Cellular phones and any unauthorized material are not allowed in the examination room.
- F. Write your **Examination Number** on every page of your sheet{s}.

SECTION A (16 MARKS)

Answer all question in this section.

1. For each of the items (i – x), choose the correct answer from the given alternatives and write its letter beside the corresponding item number in the answer booklet provided.

i. Which one of the following is NOT a characteristic of poetry?

- A: The speaker in a poem is the persona
- B: Poetry employs language economy
- C: In poetry, lines and verses are grouped to form stanzas
- D: Poetry involves capitalization at the beginning of each line
- E: Poetry consists of musical features

ii. If a story shows a young girl in school, then suddenly shows her as a successful trader, years later, before returning to her childhood this type of plot is called a:

- A: Chronological
- B: Flash forward
- C foreshadowing
- D: Flashback
- E: Point of view

iii. Mama Nyankomba recounted a nice story about a wedding party of a hyena's son who married a fox's daughter. It was very crowded but whoever attended ate and drank excessively. Ultimately, we learnt that we should be very obedient to our parents. This matches with one of the following oral literary works:

- A: Folk tale
- B: Legend
- C: A tail ale
- D: Fable

E: Parable

iv. In a written play, actions, sound effects, physical appearance and movements cannot be expressed through characters' dialogue. Instead, a playwright uses a certain technique to make sure the audience gets to know all those clearly. That technique is called:

A: dialogue

B: soliloquy

C: Script

D: Stage direction

E: Rehearsal

v. Wangani has written a poem that violates grammatical rules in order to achieve a poetic effect. Which one of the following does Wangani employ?

A: New style

B: Poetic licence

C: Grammar

D: Poetic criticism

E: Poetic invention

vi. The stories told by Jesus Christ such as "The Sower" and "The Good Samaritan" have spiritual lessons. These stories are called:

A: proverb

B: Fables

C: Parable

D: Fairytales

E: Riddles

vii. The stage where characters, setting, the tone and the mood are introduced to familiarize the audience with what they are about to read or listen to is called

A: rising action

B: resolution

C: exposition

D: denouement

E: climax

viii. Naomi wrote a story about her own life before she became the first lady of Barna. What is this in literature?

A: Autobiography

B: Biography

C: Narrative poem

D: Short story

E: Parable

ix. An intelligent student in our class defined ANECDOTE correctly as she said:

A: A brief story with animals as characters to present moral lesson

B: A brief story about an interesting, amusing or strange event

C: An ancient tale that explains about the origin of things or race where the beliefs are involved

D: A short story with moral lesson like a prodigal son

E: A story of non-literal meaning

- x. Yesterday Mr. Kamugisha came to our class with a novel written by an African woman; at the beginning it had a lyric poem. After we had read the novel we discovered that the poem was almost the synopsis of the whole book. Which literary device suits the expression above?

- A: Epilogue
- B: Epigraph
- C: Epithet
- D: Euphemism
- E: Sub story

2. Match the descriptions in List A with the corresponding example of literary devices in List B by writing the letter of the correct response beside the item number in the answer sheet(s) provided.

LIST A	LIST B
i. The highest point of tension in a narrative plot.	A. Synecdoche
ii. It is a figure of speech that associates the name of one thing with that of something else? E.g. the use of 'Crown' for 'King'.	B. Metonymy
iii. It is the use of a negative or weak statement to emphasize a positive meaning.	C. Point of view
iv. It is a figure of speech in which the whole is represented by a part or a part by the whole. Example 'He has several mouths to feed'.	D. Stage direction
v. The events meant to be at the end but found at the beginning of the performance.	E. Flashback
vi. Position from which the story events and details are observed, perceived and related.	F. Litotes
	G. Denouement
	H. Climax

SECTION B (54 Marks)

Answer all questions in this section.

3. Read the following poem and answer the questions below.

What is Death Like?

*What is death
like?
What is death
like?
Is it like a flash of
lightning Or a clap of
thunder
In a night of storm
Then eternal stillness
And dark?
Is it like a sudden
opening Of a secret door
Like the virginal opening
To a newly born*

*Then colour, variety and life?
What is death like?*

Questions:

- a) What is the poem about?
- b) What is being blamed for in the poem?
- c) What lesson do we get from the poem?
- d) Comment on two possible themes from the poem.
- e) Comment on four (4) poetic devices employed in the poem above.

4. Write short answers for each of the item (a) – (f) in the answer booklet provided.

a) Why is the Exposition important in the development of plot of literary work? Briefly explain.

b) If one has composed a lyric poem, how the persona is expected to behave?

c) Why suspense in drama? Briefly explain.

d) When the author uses flashback as one of the techniques of literature. How does his/her work expected to be?

e) Why setting is very important in a literary work?

f) What happen if a poem lacks regular rhyming pattern? Briefly explain

5. You are studying in the same Literature in English class with your friend Ngugi wa Marwa. He is not comfortable to see African literature written in European languages. He suggests that writing African literature in African language, Explain Six points against using African languages in African literature.

6. Which literary term is being described by each of the following characteristics?

- A puzzling question, statement or description, especially one which intends to test the respondent's cleverness. _
- A soothing song, poem or piece of music that is usually sung to make a baby sleep, to calm a baby down when crying. _
- Bayaam is the shortest student in the class but our headmaster calls her the tallest. In relation to the figures of speech, this is called. _____
- Yesterday night, my grandfather told me a short story about a rabbit and a hyena. He told me the story teaches that I should not be greedy. _____
- In the movie I watched yesterday, one of the characters called Akinyi was walking very fast.

What kind of imagery was the director trying to portray? _____

- The type of play that involves both humorous and funny elements is called. _____

7. Differentiate the following literary terms:

- A. Flashback and Foreshadowing
- B. Poetic licence and Poetic devices
- C. Metaphor and Simile
- D. Irony and Satire
- E. Narrative poem and Lyric poem
- F. Litotes and Understatement

8."Science and technology have contributed much in development of literature." Argue against this statement with six points.

SECTION C (30 Marks)

Answer any two (2) questions from this section.

LIST OF READINGS

NOVELS

Houseboy by *Ferdinand Oyono*

A Walk in the Night By *Alex La Guma*

The Concubine by *Elechi Amadi*

The Old man And the Medal by *Ferdinand Oyono*

PLAYS

The Lion and the Jewel by *Wole Soyinka*

The Government Inspector by *Nikolai Gogol*

The Trials of Brother Jero by *Wole Soyinka*

The Dilemma of A Ghost By *Nikolai Gogol*

POETRY

Growing Up With Poetry by *D. Rubadiri*

Poem from East Africa by *Tanzania Institute of Education*

- I. Using two plays you have read in this section, justify the truth that playwrights testimonies are meant to redirect a society when it goes wrong. Give three points from each play.
- II. Explain how the choice of language in the two novels that you have read has effectively facilitated their writers to deliver the intended message to their reader. Provide three (3) points from each reading.
- III. By making reference from any two poems you have read in this course, show how poets fight against evils in society. Give three (3) points from each poem.

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