

MASENO SCHOOL

JULY/AUGUST MOCK - 2024

101/2 – ENGLISH Paper 2

(Comprehension, Literary Appreciation and Grammar)



Name Admission Number.....

Class Date Signature.....

Monday 22/07/2024

11.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m.

Time: 2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions.

- Write your class, date of examination and sign in the spaces provided above.
- Answer ALL the questions in this paper.
- All your answer must be written in the spaces provided in the question paper.
- This paper consists of 11 printed pages.
- Candidate should check the question paper to ascertain that all the pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.
- Candidates must answer the questions in English.

For Examiner's Use Only

Question	Maximum Score	Candidate's Score
1	20	
2	25	
3	20	
4	15	
TOTAL	80	

1. COMPREHENSION**(20 marks)**

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

Choosing a career

The career market is full of opportunities. The time when women, for example, choose between only: nursing, teaching and secretarial work are long gone. The explosion in communication technology, and the **liberalisation** and globalisation of the world economy, has ensured that there is no longer a dearth of career choices. Today, colleges and universities offer a wide range of training opportunities to high school graduates. This has made choosing a career an involving process. It has also given rise to the need for career counseling.

When choosing a career, whether you have the help of a career counselor or not, there are several factors that you should consider. These include your abilities or talents, your interests, your priorities and the available opportunities in the job market.

The skills required in a particular career and the ability to gain them through education must be considered when choosing careers. Becoming a doctor, for instance, requires extensive education and training, and many years of educational commitment. In addition to the compulsory subjects, the academic background required for this career is good grades in Chemistry and Biology at secondary school level. If your ability in these subjects is just average, you would be overstretching your luck to enroll for a bachelor of medicine degree course. In the past, students have chosen to pursue training in engineering, even when their ability to handle Physics and Mathematics is very low. This, in many cases, has made them drop out of the class mid-course. The waste of time and resources would have been involved if they had considered a career that did not require the ability to handle Mathematics and Physics well.

There are many times when people have been driven to choose a particular career because of the salary and prestige associated with jobs in this field. At times, the desire to take a certain course comes from within an individual, but most times, individuals feel pressured by peers or family to take certain courses. Joining a career in which you have no interest in is a recipe for all dual life since you will spend more of your working hours doing something you do not like. Your career does not necessarily have to be your passion, but it should not bore you to death either. You can work out your interests by identifying the subjects you enjoy most at school, or the topics that are of interest to you and for which you take the initiative to read on your own.

It is true that many young people are attracted more by the social mobility that the job might provide than by their interest in the career. However, research has found that money does not play as big a role in job satisfaction as many people think. Of course we all have to make a living, but if you do not like your job,



it does not matter how much you get paid to do it. What matter is how well a career choice matches your values.

Questions

(i) What has created the necessity for career counseling? (2 marks)

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(ii) Why is one’s ability an important factor in career choice? (2 marks)

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(iii) Why do you think the writer cites engineering in the passage? (2 marks)

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(iv) According to the passage, which career should a person who values variety choose? (2 marks)

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(v) Make notes on the importance of knowing the availability of jobs in the career field one wants to join. (4 marks)

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(vi) What evidence is given in the passage to support the statement, “Money does not play a big role in job satisfaction”? (3 marks)

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(vii) Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the passage. (4 marks)

(a) Liberalisation;

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(b) Dearth;

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(c) Social mobility;

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(d) Collaboration.

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(viii) Rewrite the following statement according to the instructions given.

The waste of time and resources would have been avoided if they had considered a career that did not require the ability to handle Mathematics and Physics well. (1 mark)

(Begin: If.....)

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2. EXCERPT. (25 MARKS)

Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow.

Ms McKenzie’s taxi driver finally **resurfaced**. Wary and watchful. He was part of a growing African phenomenon: taxi drivers with university degrees whom the local market had failed to absorb in the professions that they had trained for. He located Ms McKenzie without difficulty.

“Ms McKenzie, lets go!” he said, monitoring her back into his taxi. She got back in. “You were gone for two eternities,” she complained. “Did you have any particular reason?”

“Yes, those bullies,” he said.



“I take it you’re referring to the guards. What did they do?”

“You mean what did they not do?” he drove off on screaming tyres. “Essentially, they wanted something small,”

“Don’t you mean a bribe? Why did they want a bribe?”

“Ms McKenzie, be serious!”

“I am serious.”

“Then leave me alone.” He gave the car more petrol. It threatened to fly. He gave it less. It slowed down. “Because mu taxi has faulty brakes, they said.”

He braked to a **screeching halt** which nearly threw her out of her seat.

“So does it?” he asked her. “Have faulty brakes, I mean?”

I guess not,” she conceded. “So what did you do? Give the something small anyway?”

“Leave me alone, I said.” Then he drove off again.

“Anyway, in case you bribed them. know that giving bribes is as much a crime as taking them.”

“Do you know what I’m going to do on my way back, Ms McKenzie? I’m going to ask the guards I bribed to arrest me for bribing them”

There is anger in that sarcastic remark, she thought. She decided to leave him alone.

By the time she reached her workplace, late-morning clouds, sagging under the weight of **imminent** rain, were hanging low. So when she went to see her boss, he took her directly to the point. He said he was pulling her out of her assignment to the summit at the Pinnacle. He explained why. The leave-on-loan arrangement that has applied for and that was due to begin the following week had begun on that day instead, he said. She was on a two-year loan from the *Gambian News* to the *Voice of America* with immediate effect. It started to rain.

Questions

- a) Explain what happens before this excerpt? (2 marks)

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- b) “You were gone to two eternities.” Comment on the style used in this statement. (2 marks)

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- c) Justify the attitude of the driver towards the guards. (3 marks)

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d) What can you say about corruption in this country? (3 marks)

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e) "Did you know what I'm going to do on my way back, Ms McKenzie?" (Rewrite into reported speech) (1 mark)

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f) From your knowledge of the text, highlight what the summit at the Pinnacle is about and what eventually happens. (4 marks)

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g) Describe the following characters as brought out in this excerpt. (4 marks)

(i) MsMcKenzie

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(ii) The guards.

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h) Explain any three roles of Ms Mckenzie in this Novel. (3 marks)

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i) Explain the meaning of the following words and phrases as used in this excerpt. (3 marks)

(i) Resurfaced.....
.....

(ii) A screeching halt.....
.....

(iii) Imminent.....
.....

3. LITERARY APPRECIATION (20 MARKS)

Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow.

Mother to Son.

Well, son I'll tell you
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair
Its hard tacks in it,
And splinters,
And boards torn up,
And places with no carpet on the floor
Bare.
But all the time
It's been a climbin' on,
And reachin' 'lamdin's
And turnin' corners,
And sometimes goin' in the dark
Where there ain't been no light.
So, boy, don't you turn back.
Don't you set down on the steps
'Cause you find it kinder hard
Don't you fall now.
For I' see still goin', honey.
I' see still climbin'
And life for me ain't been no crystal stair.



Questions.

a) Who is the persona in this poem? Illustrate. (3 marks)

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b) Identify and illustrate two character traits of the persona. (4 marks)

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c) Explain how the image of ‘stairs’ is used to help to bring out the meaning of the poem. (3 marks)

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d) What advice does the persona have for the addressee and why? (4 marks)

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e) What is the mood of this poem?

(2 marks)

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f) Comment on the significance of the last line of the poem;

(4 marks)

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4. GRAMMAR

(15 marks)

(a) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each.

Don't change the meaning of the original sentence.

(4 marks)

(i)The excited fans ran into the field to congratulate their goal keeper. (Begin: Into ...)

.....

(ii)Unless you work hard in class, you will not pass. (Begin: There ...)

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.....

(iii)They always bring their relatives. Use a passive voice.

.....



(iv)“I am going to edit this report now,” said the secretary. (Change into reported speech.

.....

(b) Join the following sentence into one using a participle. (2marks)

(i) The President cheered the team. She was excited.

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(ii) The soldiers withdrew from the war-torn region. Peace had been restored.

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(c) Replace the underlined phrasal verbs with the most appropriate words. (3 marks)

(i)After exam results were announced George was unable to face up his disastrous performance.

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(ii)They all took to their new teacher at once.

.....

(iii)The mob set upon the two robbers killing one instantly.

.....

(d) In each of the following sentences, replace the underlined word with one word. (3 marks)

(i)The rising value of the shilling has positively affected the economy of the country.

.....

(ii)He is a person talented in the prediction of events by reference to the star.

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(iii) He was accused of eating too much food.

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(e) Complete the following sentences using the most appropriate form of word in brackets.

(3 marks)

(i) The dog barked at the stranger. (menace)

(ii) The queen's impressed everybody. (elegant)

(iii) The beautiful girl danced (grace)

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