

NAME: ..... ADM NO: ..... CLASS: .....

101/2

ENGLISH

FORM THREE

TIME: 2 ½ HOURS

## KCSE 2023 TOP PREDICTION MASTER CYCLE 1

### 1. COMPREHENSION (20 MARKS)

*Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.*

It has been noted that Kenya is experiencing ‘phenomenal’ growth in population and that this will put a strain on the economy. The general feeling amongst those who see a large population as a problem is that we should put family planning issues back on the national agenda. But does Kenya really have a population problem? I do not think so. There is nothing as good as a large population of people within a nation that values human resources and is ready to put them to productive use.

Countries that are now registering tremendous economic growth, such as China, India and Brazil, are characterized by, among other things, large populations. A country’s economic growth is determined much more by the choices it makes in the utilization of its resources rather than by the rate of its population growth.

We can roughly classify countries into three broad categories on the basis of their development and the utilization of their human resources. The first category is that of countries that value, develop and utilize their human resources for economic growth. These countries include China and the countries we now refer to as the Asian Tigers, such as Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore. These countries have strategically utilized their immense human resources for exemplary economic growth.

Singapore, for example, is the second most densely populated country in the world after Monaco, yet it has put all its people to work.

The second category is that of countries that suffer from lack of human resources because of a **dwindling** population. These countries include Norway, Holland, Russia and Austria. They are overburdened with an aging population and are unable to excite their people to multiply. Having realized the negative impact of this low population on their economies, these countries are now encouraging their people to get more children by giving lucrative incentives to couples. They have also begun importing manpower.

The third category is that of countries that do not seem to have a progressive policy on the utilization of their human resources. Instead, it appears as if they consider this particular resource an enemy.

They are afraid that a large population will impact negatively on their economies. They, therefore, make programs to reduce population a priority. As a result, these countries operate on the fringes of the world economy, unable to utilize

the resources **bequeathed** to them by nature. Unfortunately, many developing countries, including Kenya, fall into this category.

The land mass we call Kenya is capable of supporting well over 200 million people, compared to its current population of about 40 million people. In size, it is 582,367 square kilometers, much bigger than many industrialized nations. It is, for example, far bigger than Israel, which is only 20,072 square kilometers, yet it supports a population of about 7 million people. By world standards, therefore,

Kenya is a sparsely populated country. We fight over land in an area hardly a third of the country, where we practice subsistence agriculture and are always at the mercy of the vagaries of nature, yet our contribution to the world economy is marginal.

We have to confront the real problems we face as a country and not find a scapegoat in population growth. Our inability to plan for our people and put resources to proper use in order to industrialize is our biggest undoing. Much of Israel, for example, is actually a reclaimed desert. Kenya, with some little creativity, can reclaim all the arid and semi-arid lands, and support a larger population. In short, we need to rethink our strategies. Other resources that Kenya needs to **harness** are water and the long hours of sunshine. Flood waters kill our people during rainy seasons as we helplessly watch, instead of using technology to harvest the water and use it to irrigate the arid lands. The sun shines on our heads every day, yet we cannot tap its rays to light up our homes at night or power our vehicles.

The argument that that population growth is cancelling out economic growth is **flawed**. There is little evidence to support the view that small families are the richest. Simply put, we cannot convince the poor that the only way of getting out of poverty is through getting fewer babies. We should direct our energies more at creating wealth rather than pushing the futile agenda of population control to the national limelight.

### *Questions*

1. Give *two* examples of countries with large populations which are registering huge economic growth.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Make notes on the classification of countries based on their development and use of human resources.  
(3 mks)

3. What is the writer's attitude towards his or her country? Explain your answer. (2 mks)

4. List resources Kenya should use properly in order to industrialize (2 mks)

5. Why do you think the writer compares Kenya to Israel? (2mks)

6. Identify a figurative expression used in the third paragraph of the passage. (2mks)

7. What is the tone of the writer with regard to the Asian Tigers? (2 mks)

8. What can cause a country to be overburdened by an ageing population? (1 mk)

9. Rewrite the following sentence, starting with 'Instead of...'  
(1 mk)

We should direct our energies more at creating wealth rather than pushing the futile agenda of population control to the national limelight.

10. Explain the meaning of the following words as used in the passage. (4 mks)

i. *Dwindling*

ii. *Bequeathed*

iii. *Harness*

iv. Flawed

### **EXCERPT 25MKS**

**Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow**

**Nora:** I didn't find it dull.

**Helmer:** *(smiling)* But there was precious little result, Nora.

**Nora:** Oh, you shouldn't **tease** me about that again. How could I help the cat's going in and tearing everything to pieces?

**Helmer:** Of course you couldn't, poor little girl. You had the best of intentions to please us all, and that's the main thing. But it is a good thing that our hard times are over.

**Nora:** Yes, it is really wonderful.

**Helmer:** This time I needn't sit here and be **dull** all alone, and you needn't ruin your dear eyes and your pretty little hands-

**Nora:** *(clapping her hands)* No, Tovald, I needn't any longer, need I! It's wonderfully lovely to hear you say so! *(taking his arm)* Now I will tell you how I have been thinking we ought to arrange things, Torvald. As soon as Christmas is over-(A bell rings in the hall.) There's the bell. *(She tidies the room a little.)* There's someone at the door. What a **nuisance!**

**Helmer:** If it is a **caller**, remember I am not at home.

**Maid:** *(in the doorway)* A lady to see you, ma'am,--a stranger.

**Nora:** Ask her to come in.

**Maid:** *(to Helmer)*The doctor came at the same time, sir.

**Helmer:** Did he go straight into my room?

**Maid:** Yes, sir.

### **Questions**

1. What does Nora refer to in her opening words in this extract? (2 marks)
  
2. What has happened that has made the couple happy? (2 marks)
  
3. Discuss two themes evident in this extract. (4 marks)
  
4. “There’s someone at the door.” Add a question tag (1 mark)
  
5. A lady has come to see Nora as reported by the maid. Who is this lady and how does her coming affect the Helmers from the rest of the play. Write your answer in note form. (6 marks)
  
6. Discuss one aspect of style in this extract. (2 marks)
  
7. Briefly explain what happens after this extract. (4 marks)

8 Explain the meaning of the following expressions as used in the excerpt. (4 marks)

- i) Tease
- ii) Dull
- iii) Nuisance
- iv) A caller

## ORAL NARRATIVE

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow (20MKS)

### THE OLD WOMAN

Long time ago in a certain village there lived a rich healthy woman. Everyone in the village called her mama. Everybody liked her for her gay and pleasant nature. Her face was ever radiant as though she cared about nothing in this world. Aside from this, she was very fond of young children who referred to her as guuku. Mmbone, the old woman, was rather a mystery. Nobody knew where she came from or who her real family members were. This elicited many rumours about her origin. Some people believed she was the only survivor of a clan that had been wiped by a severe drought. Her survival had been secured by her good nature that made the gods spare her. Another rumour had it that she was hardworking and intelligent enough to keep enough food to last the entire drought period. The most bizarre rumour had it that she was chased away from a distant clan after killing her neighbours' child so as to gain potency. All these mysteries about her notwithstanding, Mmbone's compound remained a darling of villagers. Though she did not have children and grandchildren of her own, Mmbone's compound was always full of playing children. Whenever she was annoyed, which was rare, she expressed her anger by rebuking " Eh.....eh!.....eh!.....eeh! Not again you hear me? And as usual her bright face would come back.

As the children played, she would be busy in her garden trying to plant vegetables, which helped her in making her ends meet. After a whole day's work, she would come back home and prepare food to share with the children who spent the whole day running up and down the field.

After finishing the food, the children would help one another to wash the utensils after which they would gather around the grandmother to enjoy her stories and songs. The songs and stories aimed at teaching the children moral values.

"One story was particularly interesting. She told them about how one generous old woman once faced starvation. She went to the home of the people whose children she had saved from starvation during a drought. Surprisingly, the woman refused to assist the old woman. This greatly disturbed her. She however left, singing the following song.

Ndyegu yatsia kutusmu  
Akiima umwama

Umwana natsia kusuma  
Akiima Ndeygu,  
Ngeyegu vava, ukaliranga ki  
Atsunutsunutsunu

Ndegegu went to borrow food,  
She denied her child  
The child went to borrow hers  
She denied Ndyegu,  
Ndyegu ended up crying  
Why then?  
Atsunutsunnutsunu.

With time however the drought ended and the old woman survived. Years down the road, another drought happened. The mean woman was hard hit. She got scared and ashamed of going to borrow from the old woman. Seeing the agony of the children of the woman, the old woman went to her and asked.

‘My daughter, what disturbs you?’

The woman answered, ‘Mama, my children are hungry and I have no food to give them.’

Then why don’t you come to ask for some from me?’

The woman replied, ‘Mama, I remember the day you came to borrow from me and I turned you away though I had some food to spare.’

“Don’t worry my daughter. Though you refused to help me, the gods of our fathers fed me. Do you call me mama for nothing? Come! Take some cassava for my husbands and co-wives. They don’t have to suffer for your childish mistake!”

The woman took some food home and saved her children.”

During the story time, she showed the children how to dance but did not do it perfectly due to her advanced age. Regardless of all this, the children gave all their ears to her and benefited from her wisdom. One day, when she should not dance with the agility of the children, one naughty child made fun of her. Instead of rebuking her directly, the old woman said, ‘Utarora nnya vukana dada yata vustsa tsing’ombe.’ She would later smile broadly as she walked back to her house and parted with the children.

After some time the village was shocked to hear that their beloved ma and grandma had gone West. Both the children and their parents grieved for long. She was then sent back to her ancestors, from where she had mysteriously come. Little did the children know that the old woman’s favorite stories were about her own life.

## QUESTIONS

- a) Categorise this narrative. (2mks)
- b) Identify and illustrate three features of oral narrative evident in the story. (6mks)

- c) Describe Mmbone's character (2mks)
- d) Identify one social and one economic activity of the people from which this tale is taken. (2mks)
- e) What is the moral lesson of this narrative (2mks)
- f) Which proverb would be appropriate to caution against greed as evident in the story? (1mk)
- g) Why was Mmbone the darling of the villagers? (2mks)
- h) State what is achieved through the usage of the song in the narrative (3mks)

## **GRAMMAR 15MKS**

**Fill in the blank the blank spaces with the appropriate form of the word in brackets. (3mks)**

- The little children sang \_\_\_\_\_.(melody)
- We should not only build roads but also schedule their \_\_\_\_\_. (maintain)
- There is much work but it is \_\_\_\_\_. (manage)

**Insert the most appropriate preposition in the blanks. (3mks)**

- This essay is very well written: it is amazing \_\_\_\_\_ any standards.



- b. The old man was suffering \_\_\_\_\_ pneumonia.  
c. His wife died \_\_\_\_\_ malaria.

**Arrange the adjectives in the following sentences in the correct order. (2mks)**

- a. After the rains there were \_\_\_\_\_ (many, greenish, big, ugly, flies)  
b. They bought yellow tasty \_\_\_\_\_ (Kenyan curved bananas)

**Complete each of the following with the correct phrasal verb formed from the word given in brackets. (3marks)**

- a. Don't worry, the police will \_\_\_\_\_ the matter. (look)  
b. Njoroge is not reliable. He promised to support our plan but \_\_\_\_\_ at the last minute. (back)  
c. You have to \_\_\_\_\_ with more convincing explanation. (come)

**Fill in the blank with the appropriate choice between the two given in brackets. (3mks)**

- a. No criterion \_\_\_\_\_ been established. (has/have)  
b. The mother had just \_\_\_\_\_ down to rest when the baby cried. (laid/lain)  
c. The number of excellent English books in our library \_\_\_\_\_ increased. (has/ have)

**Explain the meaning of the underlined idiom. (1 mark)**

- a. The chairperson ate the humble pie and returned to the negotiation table.