



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2018/2019 Academic Year
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGES
FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR
CERTIFICATE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

7515/109: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

DATE: 18/4/2019

TIME: 8.30-11.30 AM

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer **ALL** questions in the answer booklet provided.

1. COMPOSITION (30 marks)
Either
 - i) Write a composition ending with the words: I was happy that it was only a dream.
 - Or
 - ii) Write a composition on the topic: Mother tongue is the best language to use in teaching pre-school children.

2. **Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:** (30 marks)

The period of adolescence is ridden with much **controversy** and there is no precise language to describe it. Every generation has its own perspective of what adolescence ought to represent. This is because the period of adolescence is influenced by societal changes such as cultural, political, economical and technological.

Many times parents are heard wondering aloud: “What is wrong with the young people these days?”, or asking: “Why can’t they be like we were?” Yet if they are honest about how they were, they would realize that they are being idealists rather than realists.

Adolescence can be defined as a transitional period between childhood and adulthood in which full sexual maturation takes place. This transition is temporary and it is more noticeable in some adolescents than in others.

Normal adolescents get depressed, tell lies, throw tantrums, keep messy rooms, talk on telephone for long, don't like visiting relative, sexually act out, want to associate with their peers and appear to be generally rebellious.

To alleviate this stressful period, parents must maintain dialogue with the adolescents. This dialogue is not possible if parents believe adolescence is as **character flaw** rather than a series of hurdles along the track to adulthood. Adolescents think everything is permanent and if parents feel the same, then the results will be **disastrous**.

Adolescence has stages. The early stage sets in upper primary and is characterized by bodily changes. The middle stage is marked by independent identity seeking. In the late adolescence, decisions are made about careers, further schooling and other important issues of life.

Adolescence is a time when greater stability is required. This stability can only be found within one's family and not from the equally unstable adolescent peers. Moreover, adolescents need parents' attention more than they need it in earlier years. This need is sometimes denied or overlooked by both parents and adolescents. Furthermore, adolescents need parental guidance and education on sexual morality and its implications such as HIV and AIDS.

All in all, how a person faces life in adulthood is determined by how they go through this stage. It is unfortunate that some adolescents are lost to drugs, HIV, dysfunctional marriages and other complications that are a hindrance to realizing their potential.

Adapted from: English: An Integrated Approach. A course book for Secondary Schools. Project Team Wycliffe Gimoi, Victoria Muutu and Geoggrey Tindyebwa. Students Book 3. Macmillan Publishers 1995.

- a) Give two examples of societal changes that influence the period of adolescence according to the passage. (4 marks)
- b) List three stages of adolescence and explain the features that mark each one of them. (6 marks)
- c) What according to the passage is the effect of poor handling of the adolescence stage? (4 marks)
- d) Make notes on what can be done to help the adolescents go through the adolescence stage successfully. (4 marks)
- e) What would you say is the writer's attitude towards adolescents? Illustrate your answer. (4 marks)
- f) Explain the meaning of the following expressions as used in the passage: (6 marks)

- (i) Controversy
- (ii) Disastrous
- (iii) Character flaw

GRAMMAR (40 MARKS)

- a) Underline the words that you would stress in the following sentences (4 marks)
- (i) My mother went to the market.
 - (ii) The children are reading a story
- b) Use a, an, or the to fill in the following blank spaces (6 marks)
- (i) My sister went to _____ University.
 - (ii) Our Director is _____ honest person.
 - (iii) I read _____ book that was publishes last month.
- c) Use the correct form of the words given in brackets (8 marks)
- (i) These are the _____ (students) phones that were confiscated.
 - (ii) There are many _____ (hero) who fought for our independence.
 - (iii) How many _____ (editor-in-chief) were invited?
 - (iv) This must be your _____ (father-in-law) car.
- d) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions given after each. (8 marks)
- (i) None of us is wealthy. (Rewrite to end in 'poor').
 - (ii) My car failed to start. (Rewrite using 'would'.)
 - (iii) Nobody in the class scored less than fifty marks in the test. (Begin: Everybody...)
 - (iv) Silver is less valuable that gold. (Rewrite using as instead of than.)
- e) Arrange the following sets of words to make sensible sentences. (4 marks)
- (i) morning, debate, this, well, spoke, he, at, the
 - (ii) sleeps, the, everyday, baby, late
- f) Underline the silent letters in the following words (10 marks)
- (i) castle
 - (ii) knead
 - (iii) heir
 - (iv) comb
 - (v) write