



GRADE 9 ENGLISH PAPER 2

SECTION A: COMPOSITION (15 MARKS)

Write an interesting composition ending with the following words:

"...being lost in the jungle was both frightening and unforgettable."

SECTION B: LITERATURE ANALYSIS (35 MARKS)

PART I: ORAL NARRATIVE (10 MARKS)

Read the narrative below and answer the questions that follow.

4

Long ago, in a dry and dusty land near the mountains, there lived a terrifying creature called **Apul**. He was an ogre: tall, strong, and very hungry. His eyes were as red as fire, and his teeth were long and sharp. He lived alone in a dark cave and came out only to hunt people and eat them.

The people of the nearby villages feared Apul. They could not go out at night. Children were warned never to wander too far.

"Beware of Apul!" their parents would say. "He eats anyone who comes near his cave."

One day, Apul came down from his cave to the village. He knocked on the door of a poor widow's home. The widow, frightened, hid behind a bush. But her children were inside.

Apul growled,

"Open the door! I smell fresh meat!"

The children cried and begged him to leave, but Apul broke the door and took them away to his cave.

Now, in that village, there was a clever boy by the name **Lomuria**. He was not very strong, but he was smart and brave. When he heard that Apul had taken the widow's children, he decided to rescue them.

Lomuria carried a bag of hot pepper, a sharp knife, and some smoking herbs. He followed Apul's huge footprints through the dry bushes all the way to the cave.

At the cave entrance, he hid behind a rock and waited. When Apul fell asleep with a full belly, Lomuria crept in and whispered to the children. They were weak but alive.

Quietly, Lomuria put the hot pepper into Apul's mouth, nose, and eyes. He lit the herbs and smoke filled the cave. Apul began to cry and cough. His eyes burned and he could not see.

"Run!" shouted Lomuria.

Like cheetahs, the children ran behind him.

a) What type of narrative is this? (1 Mark)

b) Apart from "Long ago...", state two other opening formulae used in oral narratives. (2 Marks)

i. _____

ii. _____

c) Identify two main characters in the narrative. (2 Marks)

i. _____

ii. _____

d) Identify and illustrate two character traits of Lomuria. (2 Marks)

Trait

Illustration

i. _____

ii. _____

e) Briefly describe the setting of the narrative. (2 Marks)

f) What lesson do we learn from this narrative? (1 Mark)

PART II: ORAL POETRY (5 MARKS)

SONG OF THE PLAINS

We sang in the plains when shadows were long,
We sang in the plains when the sun was high,
We sang in the plains when the sun went down,
We sang in the plains, and sang and sang.

We sang in the plains for our herd of cattle,
We sang for our black and white cattle,
We sang for our buffalo-horned cattle,
We sang for them in our boyhood days.

We climbed on trees to sing for the plains,
With our flutes we sang the song of the plains,
With our lips we sang for the land of our birth,
We sang in the plains and sang and sang.

a) What is the main idea of the poem? (1 Mark)

b) Identify and illustrate one feature of style evident in the poem. (2 Marks)

Feature: _____

Illustration: _____

6

c) When performing an oral poem, how can you enhance the delivery? (2 Marks)

i. _____

ii. _____

PART III: PLAY (10 MARKS)

Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow.

(The sitting room of a modest home. It is evening. Mother paces anxiously as Peter enters slowly, avoiding her eyes.)

Mother: (*angrily*) Peter, why are you home so late again? Do you think this house runs itself?

Peter: (*defensively*) I stayed behind to help Mr. Ochieng at the shop. He needed me to carry some goods.

Mother: (*shakes her head*) That is not true. I was told you were seen at the market quarrelling with traders. What shame you bring to this family!

Peter: (*hesitates, fidgeting*) I... I can explain, Mother. Things got out of hand, but it wasn't my fault.

Mother: (*firmly*) Peter, I am tired of your excuses. You keep making promises to change, yet each day you bring more disgrace.

Peter: (*softly, almost in tears*) Please, Mother, just give me one more chance.

a) What is a play? (1 Mark)

b) Identify and illustrate two features of a play shown above. (4 Marks)

Feature

Illustration

i. _____

ii. _____

c) Explain how conflict is portrayed in this excerpt. (2 Marks)

d) Give two character traits of Peter from the excerpt. (2 Marks)

i. _____

ii. _____

e) Why is dialogue important in a play? (1 Mark)

PART IV: NOVELLA (10 MARKS)

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

The sun dipped slowly behind the hills, casting long shadows across the dusty village. Akinyi locked the tiny shop she had worked so hard to keep alive.

For months, business had been declining. Customers complained that prices were high, yet she was already selling at a loss. Debts weighed heavily on her shoulders, and each day she wondered how much longer she could survive.

Still, she refused to give up. She remembered her children's faces and the dreams she held for them.

"If I surrender now, what will become of them?" she whispered.

Tired and discouraged, she wiped her brow and forced a smile.

As night fell, she whispered to herself,

"Tomorrow will be better."

Questions

a) Describe the setting of this excerpt. (2 Marks)

b) Identify and explain one theme evident in the passage. (2 Marks)

Theme:

Explanation:

c) Identify and illustrate any two stylistic devices used in the excerpt. (4 Marks)

Stylistic Device

Illustration

i. _____

ii. _____

d) Explain the mood created in the opening paragraph. (2 Marks)

ENGLISH PAPER 2 - ANSWERS

SECTION A: COMPOSITION (15 MARKS)

One sunny morning during the school holidays, I decided to go hiking with my friends in the nearby forest. We had heard many stories about the beauty of the jungle, so we were excited to explore it.

At first, everything was fine. We took pictures, collected wild fruits, and enjoyed the fresh air. However, as we went deeper into the forest, the trees became thicker and the path became unclear. Suddenly, dark clouds covered the sky and heavy rain began to fall.

In panic, we tried to find our way back, but every direction looked the same. We shouted for help, but only echoes answered us. Night fell quickly, and fear filled our hearts. We huddled together under a large tree, praying for morning to come.

Early the next day, a group of villagers heard our cries and came to rescue us. We were tired, hungry, and scared, but relieved to be safe again.

From that day, I learned never to enter a forest without proper guidance and preparation because "...being lost in the jungle was both frightening and unforgettable."

SECTION B: LITERATURE ANALYSIS

PART I: ORAL NARRATIVE (10 MARKS)

a) Type of narrative:

✓ Folktale (oral tale)

b) Other opening formulae:

i. Long, long ago...

ii. Once upon a time...

c) Main characters:

i. Apul

ii. Lomuria

d) Character traits of Lomuria:

Trait	Illustration
Brave	He followed Apul to the cave to rescue the children
Clever / intelligent	He used pepper and smoke to defeat Apul

e) Setting:

The story is set in a dry village near mountains and in Apul's dark cave long ago.

f) Lesson:

We learn that intelligence and courage can overcome physical strength and evil.

PART II: ORAL POETRY (5 MARKS)

a) Main idea:

The poem is about celebrating life, cattle, and memories of singing in the plains.

b) Feature of style:

Feature: Repetition

Illustration: "We sang in the plains" is repeated throughout the poem.

c) Enhancing delivery:

i. Use gestures and body movement

ii. Vary tone, pitch, and voice expression

PART III: PLAY (10 MARKS)

a) What is a play?

A play is a dramatic work written to be performed by actors on stage.

b) Features of a play:

Feature

Illustration

Dialogue

"Peter, why are you home so late again?"

Stage directions

(angrily), (hesitates), (softly)

c) Conflict:

Conflict is shown between Mother and Peter, where the mother accuses Peter of dishonesty while Peter tries to defend himself.

d) Character traits of Peter:

i. Dishonest (he gives excuses that are not true)

ii. Remorseful (he begs for another chance)

e) Importance of dialogue:

It helps to reveal character traits and move the story forward.

PART IV: NOVELLA (10 MARKS)

a) Setting:

The story is set in a rural village during evening time at Akinyi's small shop.

b) Theme:

Theme: Hard work and perseverance

Explanation: Akinyi continues working hard despite business failure and financial struggles.

c) Stylistic devices:

Device	Illustration
Direct speech	"Tomorrow will be better."
Imagery	"The sun dipped slowly behind the hills"

d) Mood:

The mood is sad, hopeless, and discouraging due to business failure and financial struggles.

English