

KCSE ENGLISH REVISION PAPER 3 TRIALS

SET 2

(TRIAL 1-15)

SET OF PP3 KCSE REVISION TRIALS

**KCSE REVISION SAMPLES ESSAYS AND
IMAGINATIVE COMPOSITIONS**

(BLOSSOMS USED AS ESSAY)

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TRIAL 1

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English - Paper 3

1. Imaginative composition (Compulsory)

Either

a) Write a story to illustrate the saying;
'where there is a will there is a way'

Or

b) Write a composition that has the following: a bride, a swarm of bees and a hospital.

2. The Novel, Blossoms of the Savannah (Compulsory)

Gender bias is tantamount to violation of human rights. Write an essay in support of the assertion drawing illustrations from blossoms of the savannah By H.R Ole Kubet

3. Optional Texts

a) **Short story:** Memories we lost and other stories compiled by Chris Wanjala

Explain the truth of the saying, "He who desires all loses all." Draw your illustrations from Leo Tolstoy's 'How much land does man need?'

b) The Novel

The Pearl by John Steinbeck

'Our lives are controlled by destiny'

Using illustrations from 'The Pearl', write an essay to support this statement.

c) Drama

Inheritance by David Mulwa

A person's weaknesses can lead to their downfall. Justify the statement using the character Lacuna Kasoo in "inheritance."

TRIAL 2

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English - Paper 3

Answer three question only

1. Imaginative composition

- (a) Write a composition to illustrate the saying: “A poor workman quarrels with his tools.”

Or

- (b) Write a composition beginning, “When I saw the two policemen, I knew there was trouble.....”

2. The Compulsory Set Text

In the novel, Blossoms of the Savannah, Ole Kulet goes out of his way to castigate some Maa way of life. Write an essay to show the validity of this statement with close reference to the novel. (20 marks)

3. The Optional Texts

Either

(a) The short stories

Describe the devastating effects that conflicts have on the innocent children and women in Mariatu Kamara’s “The President” in “Memories we Lost and other stories”.

Or

(b) Drama

A mother can bear a child and he or she (the child) is a replica of her, but can also be very different. Write an essay comparing and contrasting the character of Luli Zen Melo with that of her mother Tamina Zen Melo” with clear illustrations from “Inheritance” by David Mulwa.

Or

(c) The Novel

“A society driven by greed suffers a lot” Using illustrations from “The Pearl” by John Steinbeck, write an essay to support the above statement.

TRIAL 3

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English - Paper 3

Answer three questions only

1. **Imaginative composition (compulsory)** (20 marks)

Either

- (a) Write a composition beginning with “It was on Sunday evening and everybody was busy doing her homework. Suddenly a loud bang was heard near a school gate.....

Or

- (b) Write a composition entitled ‘How to curb drug menace in the country’.

2. **The compulsory set text** (20 marks)

Blossoms of the Savanna

Some cultural practices are archaic and outdated, With evidence from the Blossoms of the Savanna.

Write a composition in support of this statement

3. **The Optional Set Texts**

Drama:

Inheritance

Abuse of power has led to failure of many countries in Africa and elsewhere in the world, with relevant examples from inheritance, Write an essay to illustrate this statement.

Or

- (b) The Novel:

The Pearl

Materialism and greed are inherent nature of human beings. Discuss the statement, basing your arguments on the Pearl.

Or

- (c) **Memories We Lost and Other Stories by Chris Wanjara**

Painful experience need not lead one to hopelessness. With illustrations from the story” “Mr. President’ by Mariatu Kamara show the validity of this statement.

TRIAL 4

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English - Paper 3

1. Compulsory: Imaginative composition (20marks)

Either

Write a composition beginning with the following: It all started as a rumour but no one in the family took it seriously until... (20 marks)

Or

- (b) Argue out the belief that “If devolution has to succeed the youth have to be empowered fully.” (20 marks)

2. The Compulsory set text (20 marks)

H.R. Ole Kulet: Blossoms of the Savannah

“The strong bond between Resian and Taiyo contributes significantly to their triumph.”

Write an essay in support of this statement.

3. The optional set texts

Answer any one of the following three questions:

Either

a) The Short Story

Chris Wanjala: *Memories We lost and Other Stories*

Discuss the devastating effects that conflicts have on the innocent children and women in Mariutu Kamara’s *The President*.

Or

b) Drama

David Mulwa: *Inheritance*

Misuse of power is a common phenomenon in most African countries. Basing your arguments on *Inheritance* by David Mulwa write an essay to support this statement.

Or

c) The Novel

John Steinbeck: *The Pearl*

a) The Novel The Pearl by John Steinbeck

“Greed leads to evil.” Write a composition to show the truth of this statement using illustrations from John Steinbeck’s The Pearl.

(20 Marks)

TRIAL 5

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English - Paper 3

IMAGINATIVE COMPOSITION (20MARKS)

Either

1. a) Write a composition beginning with the following statement.
By the time we reached the scene of accident we realized.....

Or

- b) Write a composition advising the youth on how to benefit from the technological advancement.

2. The Compulsory Set Text

Alienation is a theme that runs through the novel, *Blossoms of the Savannah*. Discuss.

3. Optional set text

Answer any of the following questions

EITHER

Inheritance by David Mulwa

Write an essay on the admirable character traits of King Kutula XV basing your arguments on the play, *Inheritance* by David Mulwa.

OR

Memories We Lost and other Stories

With illustrations from Siddhartha Gigoo's Stories, *Umbrella Man*, discuss how symbolism has been developed.

OR

The Pearl

"Behind every successful man is a woman." Basing your illustrations on the character of Juana, assess the validity of this statement.

TRIAL 6

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English - Paper 3

Answer three questions only.

1. Imaginative Composition (Compulsory)

Either

- (a) Write a composition ending with the following statement :
.....when I finally heard the gunshot, I instinctively closed my eyes
and waited for the impact.

Or

- (b) Write a story to illustrate the proverb;
Good things come to those who wait.

2. The Compulsory Set Text

H.R. Ole Kulet, Blossoms of the Savannah.

Man is the defacto leader of the family and when he faults many things are bound to go wrong. Using Ole Kaelo for your illustrations show how the faults by the head of family affect

3. The Optional Set Texts

(a) The Short Story:

Poverty creates deep social contrast in the way people live in the society. Write an essay in support of the above statement drawing illustrations from NoViolet Bulawayo's story, *Hitting Budapest*.

(b) The Novel

John Steinbeck , The Pearl

"Appearance can be deceptive" With close reference to the text The Pearl write an essay in support of the statement. (20mks)

(c) Drama

David Mulwa, Inheritance

The play, Inheritance, clearly brings out the opposite meaning of the saying that "Blood is thicker than water." Write an essay to justify this.

TRIAL 7

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English – Paper 3

Answer *three* questions only.

1. ***Imaginative Composition (Compulsory)***

Either

- (b) Write a composition ending with the following statement :
.....when I finally heard the gunshot, I instinctively closed my eyes
and waited for the impact.

Or

- (b) Write a story to illustrate the proverb;
Good things come to those who wait.

2. **The Compulsory Set Text**

H.R. Ole Kulet, *Blossoms of the Savannah*.

Man is the defacto leader of the family and when he falters many things are bound to go wrong. Using Ole Kaelo for your illustrations show how the faults by the head of family affect

3. **The Optional Set Texts**

(a) The Short Story: Memories we Lost.

In the family the child require the presence and guidance of both parents for good upbringing. Write an essay in support of this statement drawing illustrations from Lesley Nneka's *Light*.

(b) The Novel

John Steinbeck , *The Pearl*

“Appearance can be deceptive” With close reference to the text *The Pearl* write an essay in support of the statement. (20mks)

TRIAL 8

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English - Paper 3

1. Imaginative Composition

(20 mks)

Either

- a) Write a story starting with the statement,
The news on the cancellation of my KCSE results after being in Bahati High School for five years was received with shock and resentment.....

OR

- b) Write a composition based on the following statement.
“The solution to the run-away corruption is in the hands of Kenyan’s themselves.”

2. Compulsory questions. The Blossoms of Savannah by Olet Kulet

(20 mks)

‘Our greatest enemies are those close to us.’ Support this statement with illustrations from the novel.

3. Answer only one question from these choices

The optional setbooks

(20 mks)

Either

a) Short story

When a teenage girl is brought up by an absentee mother, she is bound to face countless challenges. Justify this assertion basing your answer on Lesley Nneka’s story ‘Light’ in memories we lost and other stories by Chris Wanjala. (20 mks)

OR

b) Write an essay to show the truth of the saying.

“ what you see is always what you get.” Use illustrations from John Steinbeck’s The Pearl’

TRIAL 9

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English – Paper 3

- 1 (a) Write an essay ending with the sentence
..... that is the day I realized the beauty of hard work.
(20marks)

Or

- (b) Write an essay to illustrate the saying
“The sweetness of sugar is not in its colour (20mks)

2. **Compulsory Text**

BLOSSOMS OF SAVANAH

Help can come when least expected. Discuss basing your discussion from the blossoms of savanna (20 marks)

3. **Optional Text Answer any of the following questions**

- a) *The Pearl*, John Steinbeck, (20 marks)
Greed for worldly possessions can lead to incontrollable madness. Using Kino, draw illustrations from *John Steinbeck's The Pearl*.

Or

- b) Chris Wanjala (Ed.), *Memories We Lost and Other Stories*
Memories We Lost and other stories (Compiled by Chris Wanjala)
(20MARKS)

‘In the short story, How Much Land Does Man Need, the author shows human greed’. Write an essay to support the above statement.

Or

- c) Inheritance (20 marks)
Write an essay on the character traits of King Kutula XV basing your arguments on the play, *Inheritance* by David Mulwa.

TRIAL 10

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English - Paper 3

1. IMAGINATIVE COMPOSITION (20MKS)

- a) Write a composition ending with the following statement.
.....a final look at her made me realize that choices have consequences.

OR

- b) Write a composition to illustrate the proverb, “once beaten twice shy”.

2. COMPULSORY TEXT BLOSSOMS OF THE SAVANNAH H.R OLE KULET (20MKS)

Parenting should build an environment of trust and peace in a family. Write an essay that explores how this statement applies to the Ole Kaelo family in Blossoms of the Savannah

3.OPTIONAL SET BOOKS

a) Drama: David Mulwa: The Inheritance

Inheriting a top seat without merit only invites ridicule from subjects. Write an essay showing how satire has been used in The Inheritance by David Mulwa.

b) Short stories: Moran (ED) memories we lost.

Discuss the major issues highlighted by the writer in the story window seat by Benjamin Branoff.

c) John Steinbeck. The Pearl

The Pearl portrays humans as beings inherently greedy. Show the validity of this statement with reference to The Pearl.

TRIAL 11

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English - Paper 3

Question 1: Imaginative Composition (Compulsory) (20mks)

Either

1 a) write a composition beginning with the following sentence

“The night was different from all the previous nights.....”

Or

a) Write a composition explaining the importance of co-curricular activities in achieving a wholesome education in Kenya schools.

2. Question 2 (Compulsory) (20 mks)

Though Resian is faced by numerous challenges she leads her to a victorious life.” Write a composition to show the validity of this assertion. Using Blossoms of the savanna.

3. Question 3:

(a) **Memories We Lost and Other stories.**

The villagers are to blame for the death of Esteban. With clear illustrations from Gabriel Marquez’s story **The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World** write an essay showing how the villagers can be blamed for the death of Esteban.

Or

(b) The Pearl by John Steinbeck

“Greed leads to evil.” Write a Composition to show the truth of this statement using illustrations from John Steinbeck’s **The Pearl.**

(c) **Inheritance, David Mulwa**

“Lacuna represents the evil that bedevils our leaders.” Write an essay to justify this using **Inheritance** by David Mulwa.

TRIAL 12

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English - Paper 3

1. **Imaginative composition (Compulsory)** (20 marks)

(a) Write a composition ending with the words;

“..... it was then that I realized I had ruined my life by associating with the wrong friends.”

OR

(b) Write a composition agreeing or disagreeing with the statement, ‘A good name is better than riches.’

2. **(Compulsory): BLOSSOMS OF SAVANAH**

The author has been able to effectively employ irony to bring out the message of the text. Illustrate the effectiveness of this style in the text.

3. **OPTIONAL sets**

Answer anyone of the following three questions.

(a) **The Novel**

John Steinbeck: The Pearl

(20 marks)

Excessive desire for material things can negatively influence one’s character and sanity. *Using Kino*, draw illustrations from *John Steinbeck’s The Pearl*.

Or

(b) **The Short stories**

Memories We Lost and other stories (Compiled by Chris Wanjala)

(20MARKS)

‘In the short story, How Much Land Does Man Need, the author shows human greed’. Write an essay to support the above statement.

(c) **Inheritance**

For the people of Kutula the colonial days were better. Using illustrations from David Mulwa’s play Inheritance write an essay discussing what could have gone wrong under Lacuna

TRIAL 13

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English – Paper 3

1. **Imaginative Composition (Compulsory)** (20 marks)

- a) Write a composition which there is a
- i. A priest
 - ii. An ex-convict
 - iii. Either a cow or a huge sum of money.

Or

- b) "The popular view/opinion is not necessarily the right the! Argue for or against the statement.

2. **Compulsory set Text;** **The BLOSSOMS OF THE SAVANNAH** (20 Marks)

It is resian's determination that makes her achieve her goals.in the light of what happens in the novel, Blossoms of savannah, Write an essay in support of this assertion.

3. **The Optional Set Text** (20 Marks)

Answer any of the following questions

EITHER

Inheritance by David Mulwa

'Some leaders contribute to their own downfall. With close reference to Lucana and David Mulwa's play, 'Inheritance' Write a composition supporting this statement.

(20 marks)

Or

The Pearly by John Steinbeck

Using the Pearly by John Steinbeck, write an essay to support the proverb," All that Glitters is not gold"

(20 marks)

Or

Memories We lost and other stories (20 Marks)

"Greed and Materialism can lead to grave consequences." In reference to the story

"How Much Land Does Man a Need by Leo Toistoy, write an essay to illustrate thetruth of this statement

TRIAL 14

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English – Paper 3

Answer **THREE** questions only

1. COMPULSORY Imaginative composition (20 marks)

EITHER

- a) Write a story ending with
... That is when I realised that patience pays.

OR

- b) Write a composition explaining how modern technology has
negatively affected the youth in Kenya. (20 marks)

2. The compulsory set text

Blossoms of the Savannah By Olet Kulet

Regardless of the challenges a person faces in life, one's determination can make them achieve their dreams. Drawing illustrations from the *Blossoms of the Savannah*, By Olet Kulet write an essay in support of this statement.

(20 marks)

3. The Optional Set texts

Answer any one of the following three questions.

- a) **The Short Story : *Memories we lost*.**

'All that glitters is not gold' with illustration from Leo Tolstoy's '*How much land does man need?*' Write an essay to justify this statement. (20 marks)

OR

- b) **Drama**

David Mulwa : *Inheritance*.

With illustrations from David Mulwa's '*Inheritance*', write an essay explaining how moral decadence affects the society. (20 marks)

OR

- c) **The Novel**

John Steinbeck : *The Pearl*.

A person's character can at times lead to their downfall'. Drawing examples from Kino's life, write an essay to justify this statement. (20 marks)

TRIAL 15

KCSE TRIAL AND PRACTICE EXAM

English – Paper 3

1. **Compulsory: Imaginative composition** (20marks)
Either

Write a composition beginning with the following:

It all started as a rumour but no one in the family took it seriously until...

Or

- (b) Argue out the belief that “If devolution has to succeed the youth have to be empowered fully.” (20 marks)

2. **The Compulsory set text** (20 marks)

H.R. Ole Kulet: Blossoms of the Savannah

“Help can come when least expected. Write an essay in support of this statement.

3. **The optional set texts**
Answer any one of the following three questions:
Either

- (a) **The Short Story**

Chris Wanjala: *Memories We lost and Other Stories*

Discuss the devastating effects that conflicts have on the innocent children and women in Mariutu Kamara’s *‘The President’*.

Or

- b) **Drama**

David Mulwa: *Inheritance*

Misuse of power is a common phenomenon in most African countries. Basing your arguments on *Inheritance* by David Mulwa write an essay to support this statement.

Or

The Novel

John Steinbeck: *The Pearl*

- c) **The Novel *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck** (20 Marks)

Easy come easy go. Write a composition to show the truth of this statement using illustrations from John Steinbeck’s **The Pearl**.

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SUCCESS!