

# DOYEN PUBLISHERS

## KENYA JUNIOR SCHOOL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT

### END TERM I 2025 JOINT EXAM

### GRADE 9 – ENGLISH PAPER 2 – 901/2

*(Composition and Literary Analysis)*



Time: 1 hour 45 mins

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

STREAM: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### INSTRUCTIONS

- a) Write your name, school, stream and date in the spaces provided above.
- b) This question paper consists of two sections: **A** and **B**.
- c) Answer **ALL** questions in this paper.
- d) Write **ALL** the answers in the spaces provided in this question paper.
- e) Do **NOT** remove any page from this question paper.
- f) Answer the questions in **English**.

### ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

RANGE (%)	LEVEL
80 - 100	Exceeding expectation
60 - 79	Meeting expectation
40 - 59	Approaching expectation
0 - 39	Below expectation

### LEARNER'S SCORE

SCORES		TOTAL
A (Out of 15)		
B (Out of 35)		

*This paper consists of 8 printed pages. Candidates should check the question paper to confirm that all pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.*

**SECTION A: COMPOSITION (15 marks)**

1. *Write your composition in the spaces provided below.*

**Write a friendly letter to your friend, telling them how you are planning to spend your April Holiday.**





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## SECTION B: LITERARY ANALYSIS (35 marks)

### ORAL LITERATURE

#### 2. Read the story below and then answer the questions that follow. (10 marks)

Once upon a time, in a dense forest, there lived a speedy hare who was known far and wide for his incredible speed. One day, he found himself boasting to all the other animals about how fast he was. He laughed at the slow-moving tortoise, saying, "I'm so fast, I could outrun you in no time! Why don't we race and see who is the fastest?"

The tortoise, tired of the hare's arrogance, accepted the challenge, saying calmly, "I may be slow, but I am determined. Let's race."

The other animals in the forest gathered to watch the race. At the signal, the hare took off like a rocket, speeding ahead while the tortoise plodded along steadily. Confident that he would win easily, the hare decided to rest under a tree. "I have plenty of time to spare," he thought, and fell fast asleep.

Meanwhile, the tortoise continued to move slowly but surely. He did not stop or get distracted. As the hare slept, the tortoise passed him by, inching closer to the finish line.

Eventually, the hare woke up, realizing he had been asleep for much longer than he intended. He jumped up and sprinted as fast as he could, but it was too late. The tortoise had already crossed the finish line and won the race.

- a) "Once upon a time..." has been used at the beginning of the story. This statement is called an \_\_\_\_\_ (2 marks)
- b) Oral literature is often performed with gestures, facial expressions and vocal variety. How might a storyteller perform this tale to make it more engaging for an audience? (2 marks)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Explain any **two** features of style that have been used in this story. (2 marks)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- d) State and explain **one** character trait of: (2 marks)
- i) hare
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

ii) tortoise

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e) What is the moral of the story? (2 marks)

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## POETRY

3. Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow. (5 marks)

### Song of the Rain

Here are clouds dancing today  
See them gathering in the sky  
They shine in white and silver  
Against bright sunlight shivers.

Weaver birds break into song  
As church bells toll, ding dong  
This Sunday is like Christmas  
Even here outside your class.

The rains are here, are here!  
Hear cries of joy everywhere  
The school will close tomorrow  
Joy! Christmas holidays to follow.

(J.K.S. Makokha)

a) Who is the author of the poem? (1 mark)

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b) What is the mood of the poem? (1 mark)

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c) Onomatopoeia has been used in the poem. Give an example. (1 mark)

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d) Identify the stylistic device used in line 1 of stanza 1. (1 mark)

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e) What is the theme in the poem? (1 mark)

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## PLAY

4. Below is an excerpt from the play “The Last Laugh” by Robinson Ocharo. Read it and then answer the questions that follow. (10 marks)

### ACT II

#### Scene I

*(Three days since Oka released the workers. Morning. In a well-furnished, modern living room. There is a front door that leads to the porch and a back door that leads to the kitchen. On the wall are portraits depicting slavery and the slave trade. Below the portraits is a small table with colorful flower vessels. Orwa is in the living room. He is pacing up and down as he picks up cushions and puts them back on the couch.)*

**Orwa:** *(Shaking his head.)* Oh no! No! Noooo! How can my son do this to me? Chase all my workers from the farm! No. He is not even my eldest son! *(Pause.)* He is a child I bore yesterday. *(Pause.)* This is degrading my home and farm at large. It has never occurred in the entire family, clan, village, and tribe. No one has ever pointed a finger at me because I am Orwa—the master of those workers on the farm. *(Pauses, looks around the room, and focuses his gaze on the flower vessels, then the portraits on the wall. He clicks his tongue and goes on.)* Not even kings have ever dared. Long ago, when I spoke to the villagers, they would neither move nor scratch themselves. Some would not even wipe the sweat off their faces. You know, because I am Orwa—a man of men, a master of masters, and a boss of bosses. I rule my home with an iron hand and hold the village in the strongest grip. But this act of my son... this act will lower my credibility. So, I must teach him a lesson. He must eat from the bitter pot or... *(Calls.)* Tai! Tai! Tai!

**Tai:** Yes, my husband.

**Orwa:** Go! Call him here quickly.

**Tai:** Take it easy. Remember you are unwell.

**Orwa:** That is not a big deal for now. Go call him.

**Tai:** Who, my husband?

**Orwa:** *(Raises his voice.)* My lady, do you not know the troublemaker? *(Exits Tai. Orwa paces up and down. He is now hitting his left hand with his right fist. Enter Kolla and Tai.)*

**Kolla:** Yes, father.

**Orwa:** *(Furious and annoyed.)* My lady, is this our son? *(To Kolla.)* Call Oka here quickly. *(Kolla stares at her father, who is moving up and down. He moves towards the flower vessels and picks them up. He gives them a brief stare, then returns them to the table at the edge. The vessels do not balance. They fall on the tiled floor and break. There is silence. Tai moves and starts collecting the broken vessels.)*

a) When does this scene take place? (1 mark)

b) Why does Orwa refer to his son as “...a child I bore yesterday”? (2 marks)

c) Explain any character trait of Orwa. (1 mark)

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d) What does Orwa mean when he says his son must “*eat from the bitter pot*”? (2 marks)

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e) Explain the theme of pride in the excerpt. (2 marks)

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f) Repetition has been used in the except. Give **two** importance of using repetition in literary texts. (2 marks)

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## NOVELLA

**5. Below is a section of the *Story Game Over* by Nashive Syeunda in *Bridges Without River and Other Stories*. Read it and then answer the questions that follow. (10 marks)**

Lengai's inner voice grew increasingly louder. He turned sideways and gazed at the short, thick man next to him. He lacked the confidence to fire the shot that would kill the rhino. It felt as though he had been given the impossible task of pushing a large truck up a steep incline. It was impossible for him to gather the one ounce of energy needed to pull out that tiny piece of metal. He was overcome by a sensation he could not describe. He released the pressure on the trigger once again.

Mugeni's wide eyes were still fixed on their shared target, which was around fifty or sixty meters away. As he anticipated the victim's fall, his mouth was agape and his breathing was uneven. They had a good opportunity to kill, dehorn and escape from the scene unscathed. They did not have to worry about gunshots being heard because the powerful gun featured a special foldable silencer. Except for Lengai's delay in shooting, Mugeni did not anticipate anything going wrong. After all, the victim was not confined to a single location.

He turned to gaze at Lengai. Mugeni was surprised that his marksman was not firing. It was a look of hatred mixed with panic. Hatred because this tall, slender man appeared to be attempting to combine two incompatible concepts: killing and compassion.

“What is it, Lengai? Why are you delaying in shooting that bloated creature?” Mugeni asked in a clipped tone.

Horns are the curse that the deity placed on rhinos, as they expose the miserable beasts to poaching in order to meet tremendous and selfish demands, Lengai thought.

Lengai merely stood there, staring at him, his tiny left hand falling to his side. It was as if he wanted Mugeni, *his boss*, to read the appeal in his eyes. Yet Mugeni interpreted what he saw in Lengai's eyes differently. To him, it was an evil glare that was preventing him from executing a rewarding mission that would change his life forever. He was in the forest for one job: to hunt, dehorn and transport the 'product' to his employer, Chung Ling.

a) Describe the setting of the excerpt. (2 marks)

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b) Describe one character trait of Lengai. (2 marks)

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c) How does Mugeni react to Lengai's hesitation in taking the shot? (2 marks)

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d) How do the interactions between Lengai and Mugeni reflect the theme of morality versus duty? (2 marks)

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e) What do you think will happen next, given Lengai's hesitation and Mugeni's frustration? (2 marks)

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