

Name:Adm. No.:..... Class:.....

101/2

ENGLISH

PAPER 2

(COMPREHENSION, LITERARY APPRECIATION AND GRAMMAR)

TIME: 2½ HOURS

FORM FOUR JOINT EVALUATION - 2017

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

- Write your *name, admission number* and your class in the spaces provided above.
- Answer *all the questions* in this question paper.
- All your answers *must* be written in the spaces provided in this question paper.

FOR EXAMINERS USE ONLY

Question	Maximum score	Candidate's score
1	20	
2	25	
3	20	
4	15	
Total score	80	

1. Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow. (20 marks)

Kenyans in their early to mid-thirties are the biggest cohort in the country's history. In the early 1980s, Kenya had the highest population growth rate, not just in Africa but worldwide, at 3.8 percent. It is this group that is settling into adulthood now. Owning a home is a dream for many of these young adults, particularly those living in urban areas. However, there is anguish that you detect in these young urban adults in Kenya today. Reality dawns on them that they may never own a home the way their parents did at their age. This scenario is a combination of several factors all working together to make home ownership a nightmare.

According to a report on Kenya's urban trends published by the World Bank, 91% of Nairobi residents rent the houses they live in. The same goes for 90% in Thika, 87 % in Mombasa, 86% in Eldoret and 73 % in Kisumu. Those numbers seem hard to believe considering the construction boom that has transformed many neighbourhoods in Kenyan urban centres in the past decade or two. It is a puzzle- if nearly everybody is renting, who owns the apartment complexes that seem to be springing up everywhere?

The same report revealed that in fact, much of the formal property market is *speculative*- a full three- quarters (75%) of apartment buyers do so in order to rent them out, and a further 16 % purchase them in order to make a flip- sell them again quickly at a profit. This therefore means that just 9% of apartments bought in Nairobi are bought by people who intend to live in them- 'owner- occupiers', in technical speak.

It is important to remember that in the first place, 61% of urban families live in slum housing. If we are to follow the MDG definition of slum- the absence of running water, permanent walls, toilet shared by fewer than 20 people, or a sleeping room shared by fewer than three people. Indeed, an estimated 70% of Nairobi's housing stock is small shacks (10 feet by 10 feet) built with wood, tin, galvanized iron sheets, and latticed wooden strips covered with mud. In other words- and if we are to be honest with ourselves- Nairobi is really a village in disguise, despite its shiny façade.

This is partly driven by the fact that the city is spreading out faster than it is becoming dense, otherwise known as urban sprawl. A few years ago, neighbourhoods like Ruai, Syokimau and Rongai were not considered part of the city limits. Now they are *de facto*. This fragmentation of neighbourhoods and the resulting long commutes means that a resident of Nairobi, on average, can reach no more than 8% of all jobs available in the city within 45 minutes. Because of high food costs and urban sprawl, families are forced to make tradeoffs between food, transport, proximity to jobs and housing. Many thus choose to live in slums and inferior housing, even when they can technically afford to.

The shortage of housing in the country's urban market has been well articulated- Nairobi alone needs 150, 000 to 200,000 units a year- but it is even more stark when you consider the governments investment in housing brought forth just 3,000 units between 2009 and 2012. In fact , the National Housing Corporation (NHC), the government agency charged with real estate development, completed a mere 45 houses in the whole of 2015- a single development in Nyeri that cost Kshs 61.5 million.

Meanwhile, prices in the formal housing market in Nairobi were nearly three times higher in 2013 than they were in 2000. It is an astonishing *property boom* that means Nairobi is now the highest priced city in Africa, followed by Cape Town, according to the Knight Frank Prime Global Cities Index. There certainly seems to be a disconnect between the value of property and the reality of the average wage earner. To obtain a mortgage on the lowest priced property, a borrower would need Kshs 1 million a year of formal income (Kshs 84, 000 a month). However, a full three-quarters of households earn less than Kshs 22,500 a month or Kshs 270, 000 a year. A family earning that per month can afford a mortgage of Kshs 485,968. This means that the family purchasing a low-cost house (Kshs 2 million) would need to earn well into the top income quintile. But there are almost no properties below Kshs 5 million in Nairobi today, and because of high interest rates, mortgages are two to three times what you would be paying as rent.

What is instead unfolding is property being used as a store of value or long-term investment, particularly in the light of high inflation and a stock market that is badly underperforming. It is said that a majority of properties are being sold to investors, who pay in cash. They are not interested in rental yield but are interested in a relatively safe store of money.

Considering all this, might one conclude that owning a home in an urban setting is a mirage?

(Adapted from The Standard, Saturday, 4th March, 2017)

QUESTIONS

- a. According to the first paragraph, what has led to the present large number of young adults in their early and mid-thirties? (2 marks)

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- b. The writer assumes a satirical tone in parts of the passage. *In point form*, identify the institutions/ individuals satirised. (3 marks)

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c. *“They are not interested in rental yield but are interested in a relatively safe store of money.”* (2 marks)

i. Rewrite the above sentence applying ellipsis.

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ii. Rewrite the sentence adding an appropriate question tag.

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d. Identify and explain one ironical situation that emanates from the passage. (2 marks)

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e. Summarise in about 60 words the factors that hinder the acquisition of homes for urban young adults today. (5 marks)

ROUGH DRAFT

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f. According to the passage, property is purchased for different purposes. Explain. (3 marks)

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g. Give the meaning of the following words and phrases. (3 marks)

- i. Speculative -
- ii. De facto -
- iii. Property boom -

2. Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow. (25 marks)

FIRST LAWYER (bowing): Thank you, Your Honour. High Court of Justice, of all ties the ties of blood are strongest. Mother and child – is there a more intimate relationship? Can one tear a child from its mother? High Court of Justice, she has conceived it in the holy ecstasies of love. She has carried it in her womb. She has fed it with her blood. She has borne it with pain. High Court of Justice, it has been observed that the wild tigress, robbed of her young, roams restless through the mountains, shrunk to a shadow. Nature herself.....

AZDAK (interrupting, to Grusha): What’s your answer to all this and anything else that lawyer might have to say?

GRUSHA: He's mine.

AZDKA: Is that all? I hope you can prove it. Why should I assign the child to you in any case?

GRUSHA: I brought him up like the priest says "according to my best knowledge and conscience." I always found him something to eat. Most of the time he had a roof over his head. And I went to such trouble for him. I had expenses too. I didn't look out for my own comfort. I brought the child up to be friendly with everyone, and from the beginning taught him to work. As well as he could, that is. He's still very little.

FIRST LAWYER: Your honour, it is significant that the girl herself doesn't claim any tie of blood between her and the child.

AZDKA: The Court takes note of that.

FIRST LAWYER: Thank you, Your Honour. And now permit a woman bowed in sorrow - who has already lost her husband and now has also to fear the loss of her child- to address a few words to you. The gracious Natella Abashwili is...

GOVERNOR'S WIFE: (*quietly*): A most cruel fate, sir, forces me to describe to you the tortures of a bereaved mother's soul, the anxiety, the sleepless nights, the.....

SECOND LAWYER: (*bursting out*): It's outrageous the way this woman is being treated! Her husband's palace is closed to her! The revenue of her states is blocked, and she is cold-bloodedly told that it's tied to the heir. She can't do a thing without that child. She can't even pay her lawyers! (To the FIRST LAWYER, *who, desperate about this outburst, makes frantic gestures to keep him from speaking*) Dear Illo Shuboladze, surely it can be divulged now that the Abashwili estates are at stake?

FIRST LAWYER: Please, Honoured Sandro Oboladze! We agreed ... (To AZDAK:) Of course it is correct that the trial will also decide if our noble client can take over the Abashwili estates, which are rather extensive. I say "also" advisedly, for in the foreground stands the human tragedy of a mother, as Natella Abashwili very properly explained in the first words of her moving statement. Even if Michael Abashwili were not heir to the estates, he would still be the dearly beloved child of my client.

AZDAK: Stop! The court is touched by the mention of estates. It's a proof of human feeling.

SECOND
LAWYER

Thanks, Your Honour. Dear Illo Shuboladze, we can prove in any case that the woman who took the child is not the child's mother. Permit me to lay before the Court the bare facts. High Court of Justice, by an unfortunate chain of circumstances, Michael Abashwili was left behind on the Easter Sunday while his mother was making her escape. Grusha, a palace kitchen maid, was seen with the baby.....

COOK

All her mistress was thinking of was what dresses she'd take along!

QUESTIONS

- a. Recount the circumstances that lead to the events in the passage above. (4 marks)

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- b. *Summarize in point form* the argument the first lawyer gives in favour of Natella Abashwili. (4 marks)

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- c. Identify one character trait of the following as revealed in the passage.

- i. Second Lawyer (1 marks)

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ii. Grusha

(1 marks)

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- d. After Grusha gives her argument, the first lawyer thinks that she weakened her own case. Why? (1 mark)

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- e. “Grusha and Natella are a complete contrast of each other”. Support this statement with evidence based on the events in this excerpt. (4 marks)

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- f. Give the meaning of “I don’t look out for my own comfort.’ (1 mark)

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- g. Which is the *main thematic concern* explored in this extract? (2 marks)

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- h. Comment on one stylistic devices employed by the playwright. (3 marks)

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i. "She has carried it in her womb" Rewrite in inverted form. (1 mark)

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j. What events follow after this excerpt that relate to the title of the play where the excerpt is obtained? (4 marks)

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3. Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow. (20 marks)

Cold
The clammy cement
Sucks our naked feet

A rheumy yellow bulb
Lights a damp grey wall

The stubbed grass
Wet with three o'clock dew
Is blank with glitter edges;

We sit on the concrete,
Stuff with our fingers
The sugarless pap
Into our mouths

Then labour erect
Form lines;

Steel ourselves into fortitude
Or accept an image of ourselves
Numb with resigned acceptance

The grizzled senior warder comments;
“things like these
I have no time for;

They are worse than rats;
You can only shoot them.”

Overhead
The large frosty glitter of the stars
The Southern Cross flowering low;

The chains on our ankles and wrists
That pair us together jingle
Glitter
We begin to move awkwardly. *Dennis Brutus (From: Letters to Martha)*

QUESTIONS

- a) In your assessment, who is the persona in this poem? (2 marks)

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- b) What is the general condition of the persona and the others with him/her as depicted in the poem? Support your answer. (4 marks)

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c) Which *two* thematic concerns are addressed in this poem? Illustrate. (4 marks)

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d) Suggest two reasons why the 'we' of this poem move awkwardly. (2 marks)

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e) Why is the first line of this poem made up of only one word? (1 mark)

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f) Comment adequately on *one* dominant stylistic devices used in the poem. (3 marks)

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g) i. What is the attitude of the senior warder towards the persona and others? (2 marks)

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ii. What do the others and the persona feel about the situation they find themselves in?

(2 marks)

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GRAMMAR

A. Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions provided after each. Do not change the meaning. (5 marks)

i. It is raining heavily. I will take an umbrella. (*Join to form a complex sentence*)

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ii. He said, "I have passed the examination." (*Rewrite without using the inverted commas*)

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iii. Many students benefit if they read early in the morning. (*Rewrite using a gerund*)

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iv. He will go away or he will comply with the rules. (*Apply ellipsis in the sentence*)

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v. Please do not sign the contract. You need to be happy with the conditions. (*Begin: Unless...*)

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B. Replace the words in bold with the appropriate phrasal verbs. (3 marks)

i. I was excited when I **accidentally met** an old friend of mine.

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ii. The robbers **stole** four million shillings from Supreme Supermarket.

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iii. They **submitted** a proposal to the management that their terms of service be reviewed.

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C. Complete the following sentences using the correct preposition (3 marks)

i. The manager addressed the workers and congratulated them
the success of the project.

ii. There has been a big increase the price of sugar.

iii. The politician had entrusted them Loshorua's care for
over a year.

D. Give the meaning of the idiomatic expressions in bold. (4 marks)

i. Asha, the founder of this children's home, enjoys a lot of popularity with the
villagers. She has **a heart of gold**.

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ii. When I met Sarah, she was looking a bit **under the weather**.

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iii. Please don't tell him that. You'll only **stir things up**.

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iv. Don't be sure. On this matter, I am sure Luke is **keeping his cards close to his chest**.

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