

2023 MOCK 2 ENGLISH LANGUAGE 2

Answer **three** questions in all: one question from Section **A** and all questions in Sections **B** and **C**.

SECTION A

ESSAY

[50 marks]

Answer **one** question **only** from this section.

All questions carry equal marks. Your answer should **not** be **less than 450** words.

You are advised to spend about **50 minutes** on this section.

1. Your friend has written to tell you that he has decided to learn a trade after his senior high school course. In your reply to him, give at least **three** reasons why you support or disagree with his decision.
2. There was a heavy down pour that damaged some properties in your school. Write a letter to the Member of Parliament of your constituency, describing the nature of the down pour, and asking for his immediate support.
3. Write a speech to be delivered during the Minister of Communication's visit to your school, giving reasons why you need an FM radio station in your school.
4. As the principal speaker at an inter-school debate, write your contribution for or against the motion: "The Free SHS Policy has done more harm than good to our education system."
5. Write an article to be published in your school magazine on the topic: Broken homes are not the major sources of armed robbery in Ghana.
6. Write a story beginning with: It is great to be young.

SECTION B
COMPREHENSION
[20 marks]

*You are advised to spend about **30 minutes** on this section.*

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions on it.

Six years later, it was the image of the thread that still appealed most to Gikonyo's imagination as he walked alone a dusty road back to Thabai. He pulled down his hat (he had picked up from the side of the road) to hide the tufts of hair sprouting over the otherwise bare convict's head, an important gesture, since the hat itself was so badly torn. His heavily patched coat, once white-daily use now turned it yellow and brown hung loosely from the slouching shoulders. His face which six years before glowed with youth, had developed tiny lines creating, around the mouth when shut, the effect of a permanent scowl as is Gikonyo would flare up into violence at the slightest provocation.

The bumpy battered land sloped on either side; sickly crops just recovering from a recent drought, one more scourge that had afflicted the country in this period leaving the anxious faces of mothers dry and cracked, were scattered on the strips of Shamba on either side of the road. Gikonyo, however, did not notice the sickliness around as he pressed on the image of the Mumbi he had left behind leading the way. The image beckoned him, awakening in him emotions almost cracked by physical hardships and pains of waiting. Bare, disillusioned in his hope for early independence, he clung to Mumbi and Wangari as the only unchanging reality.

Soon he will meet them. The thought seemed to give strength to his tired limbs noticeable in the way he tried to walk faster, the hurrying steps, leaving a thin train of dust behind him. Gikonyo has longed for this moment with increasing despair as each day came and went. The longing was bearable in the first few months of detention. Then the detainees had agreed not to confess the oath or give any details about Mau Mau; how could anybody reveal the binding force of Agikuyu in their call for African freedom? They bore all the ills of the white man believing somehow that he who would endure unto the end would receive leaves of victory.

For Gikonyo, these would be given to them by Mumbi, whose trembling hands as she held the green leaves he could so clearly picture. His reunion with Mumbi would see the birth of a new Kenya.

- a) From the first paragraph, give two features that show that the man is not in the best of circumstances.
- b) Why were the mothers anxious?
- c) In two sentences, **one for each**, state the theme for the passage.
- d) How does Gikonyo regard Mumbi?
- e) Give two points that describe the setting of the passage.
- f) ... *six years later*...
 - i) What is the grammatical name for this expression used in the passage?
 - ii) What is its function in the sentence?
- g) For each of the following words, find another word, or phrase which means the **same** as the word underlined and can replace it in the passage:
 - i) sprouting
 - ii) glowing
 - iii) sickly
 - iv) pressed
 - v) noticeable

SECTION C

SUMMARY

[30 marks]

*You are advised to spend about **40 minutes** on this section.*

*Read the following passage **carefully** and answer the questions on it.*

The world's universities are bursting at their seams: every faculty has recently had to close its doors to hundreds of heart broken applicants. Archaeology is no exception; and that is as it should be, for without this discipline, the world would have been deprived of very useful bits of knowledge. One shudders at how badly off the world would have been for the lack of such useful knowledge.

For instance, last Friday, 13th of August, every news bulletin carried the item of a most exhilarating archaeology find. Nine-thousand-year-old fossils dug up from 15 miles below the earth's surface had revealed that in prehistoric times teenager's chewed gum. The expert knew that the teeth of the fossil definitely belonged to a teenager because, although they were not as developed as a fully-grown adult's they were much stronger than a child's would have been. The gum had been solidified from sap from a birch tree and must have been sweetened with honey with mint leaves added for flavour.

Further research was promised to determine whether chewing gum was medicinal. The suspicion was that it was; otherwise, why would a teenager in the bloom of youthful exuberance lie dead with his gum securely wedged between his molars? Research would also establish whether the prehistoric teenager chewed his gum until all its sweetness ran out and whether he did so with relish. The excavation and its attendant analyses had so far cost 18 billion American dollars, the newscaster said. A further 10 billion had been allocated to the Archaeological Consortium to resolve the related questions that puzzle modern scientists, historian and sociologists indeed the whole of the academic world.

Anum chewed his lower lip as he gazed at the pre-set radio that was excitedly blasting the details. Being a typical Third World Country bumpkin with no breeding in aesthetics, he mused upon how very grateful his debt-ridden motherland would be if these billions were to be given her to pay off some of her foreign debts. But that is to be expected, because Anum is too philistine to pay compliment where compliments are due.

The mothers of the World's Union are more cultured in their views. They would be grateful if a little more money is added to the allocation to enable the archaeologists to tell them whether the mother of the Stone Age era approved of their teenage children cheerily chewing their prehistoric chewing gum.

Questions

- In one sentence, use **three** adjectives that describe prehistoric chewing gum.
- In one sentence, state the general usefulness of archaeology.
- In **three** sentences, **one** for **each**, list the points that further research should clarify about prehistoric chewing gum.
- In one sentence, contrast Anum's attitude with that of the archaeologists.