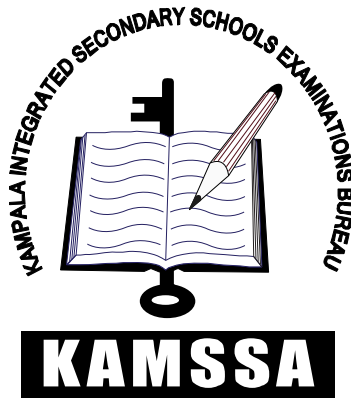


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PRE-REGISTRATION EXAMINATIONS 2024

Uganda Certificate of Education

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

- This paper consists of **two** sections: **A** and **B**. It has four examination items.
- Section **A** is compulsory.
- Answer **one** item from Section **B**.
- Answer **three** examination items in all.
- Answers to Section **A** must be written in the spaces provided.
- Answers to Section **B** must be written in the answer booklets provided.
- Any additional items answered will not be scored.

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Section	Score	Examiner's Signature & No.
A		
B		
Total		

Item 1: Read the text below

COMPUTERS

Generally, computers are very useful to the society. They are used to provide better services of higher quality products. They are used to provide decision makers with accurate up to date information, so that better business decisions can be made. Computers can also be used to monitor instruments as in process control applications, thus relieving human beings from drudgery, enabling them to concentrate on more creative tasks. A computer can provide round the clock attention to patients relieving nurses of other duties. In a teaching environment, the computer can be patient, ever attentive disseminator or tester of information. It can be the source of ours of fun when used to play fascinating range of games.

It seems the computer can do no wrong. It is all benefits and efficiency. However, is this really so? The computer is a tool and like all tools, it can be used properly or it can be abused. Already, there is disappointment about microcomputers. Thousands of people own micros which never lived up to the promises of their makers. The introduction of computers in the work place has caused unemployment and apprehension among workers. I know quite a number of bank workers who have become redundant due to computers. So, there is a cloud behind every silver lining. However, we can avoid the worst of the cloud burst by being aware of its presence and recognizing its potential for danger and disruption.

Consider the position of a factory manager faced with the problem of producing a product to be sold in competition with others. There is pressure to keep the cost of production down. The cost of labour has been steadily increasing over the last few years, and is now the major expense. Added to this, competitors have computerized some aspects of their production, and are now offering a better wider range of products. What should be done? If the factory manager continues to operate without change, then the factory will close down sooner or later. If this happens, then the factory manager plus the employees will become unemployed.

The other choice is to increase production and cut costs. Laying off some employees would cut costs, but most likely production would also fall. The best choice is to computerize. If the business is car assembly, automating the production line would make the assembly more precise and production would rise. The robots can work three shifts without complaint; they break down from time to time, but they never take sick leave. Clearly, from the manager's point of view, this is the way to go. However, what happens to the employees? Many of them would have to be laid off. They have been spared having to do that boring work but what do they prefer to do. That boring work or to have no work at all?

The hardest hit workers have been those involved in manufacture and production. Those who found their jobs repetitive and whose jobs required some measures of skills have found themselves replaced by robots. In the office, clerical workers have been the main target for replacement. Even skilled typists are becoming redundant because of the efficiency of word processors. In banking the popularity of cash point machines is threatening the jobs of many

clerks. In the near future, when electronic mail (email) becomes more wide spread, the traditional post office will have less of a role to play. The workers there will begin to feel the pinch of unemployment.

The immediate effect of unemployment on an individual is financial hardship, physiological problems. People may feel that they are no longer contributing to society, and may lose some of their self-esteem. Being jobless also denies people the satisfaction derived from doing a job well. On a national scale, mass unemployment can cause fear, uneasiness, tension violence and even a revolution.

(Adapted from An Introduction to Computer Studies by Noel Kalicharan,1994)

TASK

As a student of computer studies, you need to create awareness of the usefulness of computers but as well make a hint on the disadvantages associated with them. Present your discussion in a summary of 110 words

Item 2: Read the text below:

All along Nkirote and Akan thought their parents had gone somewhere and that they would be back. One day Nkirote decided to ask their aunt “why are we living with you? When will papa and mama come back so that we can go back to our house?”

Zana was shocked. she had not thought of what to tell them in the event that they asked. She was tongue-tied. She had to say something, she had to.

“Nkirote,” she continued, “God is good so he will return them us. He loves children and he wants us to be happy, doesn’t He? Nkirote continued pestering her aunt the whole week until she decided to be blunt with her.

One evening after supper Zana called Nkirote and Akan to her bedroom. “My dear niece and nephew,” she said, “I am going to tell you very bad news.” Nkirote and Akan waited patiently for her to finish. “Some three years ago your mother and father passed away. You were still very small and that is why you cannot remember clearly.” She spoke.

“You mean they are not coming back, they died?” Nkirote asked, weeping uncontrollably.

“Yes, my dear child, “she said. It was a very difficult and agonizing time for Zana. “Why had it to happen to this child?” she kept asking herself.

When the two had calmed down, Zana went on to tell them what happened to their parents. Their father had contracted AIDS fast about six years easily as he later told them. He was sure he knew how he got infected. He died a very remorseful person. He never forgave himself for what he had done to his family. In fact, he did not know his HIV status until his wife started

feeling weak. He had some suspicion, so he asked her to go to the hospital and be tested. When she broke the news to him, he was not shocked at all.

Soon, they both started feeling very weak, dizzy at night, sweating and they had sores all over their bodies. The relative's frantic effort to put them under medication bore on fruit because the disease had advanced. In the end, they were both put on life support machines from which they never came out alive.

Zana, their maternal aunt, had agreed to take care of them. She was kind-hearted and the two loved her a lot. Akan and Nkirote were among the few lucky AIDS orphans who find a home after their parents are dead. Most do not and their relatives abandon them because of their stigma attached to AIDS.

Soon, Zana realized that the two children had become withdrawn and sad. She understood but she had to intervene. She decided to invite an AIDS counsellor to counsel Nkirote and Akan. They were unreceptive in the beginning but gradually they begun to trust the AIDS counsellor. They started talking freely about their parents' deaths.

Although they are young, they have started a club in their school to enlighten others about the effects of losing both parents to AIDS, the trauma that follows and how to finally cope.

Respond to each of the following tasks about the text:

a) In our communities, many children are victims of HIV/ AIDS, War and impoverishment. Many find it challenging to open up to people around them for fear of the outcomes more so, stigma. The bold ones stand out of the crowd and express their concerns. What made Nkirote ask their aunt on the whereabouts of their parents despite the thought that they had gone somewhere? (2 scores)

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b) From your experience with having to catch up with situations, what effects apart from that of withdrawal do children like the ones in the passage resort to? (2 scores)

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c) Although they are young, they have started a club in their school to enlighten others about the effects of losing both parents to AIDS. (Rewrite usingin the bid of.....) (2 scores)

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d) In different ways, story tellers emotionally move us. As you read the story, you did not remain the same. Explain four ways in which your emotions have been touched. (4 scores)

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e) You are friends with the aunt to the two children in the story and feel that her job towards the orphans is worth appreciating. Using three responses of each of you, convey your message. (3 scores)

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f)she was tongue tied.....Explain what happened to her. (2 scores)

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SECTION B
Choose one task

Item 1

Creative writing

In your school, there various people who apart from the name, they are identified by colour, height, and size among others. Those who are disadvantages feel they should leave that school for another since they are most of the time laughed at.

Appreciating oneself is a virtue and being the councillor in the school. You need to write an essay on knowing oneself and how to deal with negative attitude towards human nature to be pinned on the school notice board.

Task

Write an essay.

Item 2

Functional writing

Ms Amodingi a chef at one of the most competent restaurants in town is fired due to failure to prepare smashed matooke. She feels it is not the time to lose her job since there is a lot she has to fix financially and so should keep earning. You are a friend in the same restaurant and the manager appreciates the dish of matooke that you serve and for that matter, she is not sucked.

Task

Write a recipe to share with the friend on media platforms for your friend to read and be able to attain another job.



END

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