

Name:

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112/1
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Paper 1
July/August 2026
2 hours



WAKISSHA JOINT MOCK EXAMINATIONS

Uganda Certificate of Education

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 1

2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

This paper consists of two sections: A and B. It has four examination items.

Section A is compulsory.

Respond to one item from Section B.

Respond to three items in all.

Responses to Section A must be written in the spaces provided.

Responses to Section B must be written in the answer booklets/sheets provided.

Any additional items responded to will not be scored.

For Scorers' Use only

Section		Score	Scorer's Signature & No.
A	1		
	2		
B	No.		
Total			



Tasks

- (a) "Every man and woman came out to see the white man." Why is this so according to the passage?

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- (b) "If we leave our gods and follow your god," asked another man, "who will protect us from the anger of our neglected gods and ancestors?" (Report what the man asks)

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- (c) From what one does, says and what others say about them, we can infer the personality of a person. Describe the character of the interpreter.

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- (d) Stories make us respond to what we have read emotionally. What do you feel towards the interpreter in the passage?

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- (e) We are bound to draw important lessons from the characters we read about in stories. What do you learn from the missionaries' methods of enticingly spreading their faith to the Africans in the passage?

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- (f) If you were the missionary in the passage, how would you address the challenges of speaking through an interpreter?

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SECTION B

Answer one item from this section.

Either;

Item 3

You recently visited a busy local market in your community. The experience was beyond what you had expected. You saw many people and stalls having a variety of goods and also managed to save some money because you bargained. However, something bad also happened at this market that scared you a lot.

Task

Narrate your experience. *(Use about 400 – 600 words)*

Or

Item 4

You have realized that many times people that succeed in life do so on the shoulders of people they call friends and not their blood relatives. This awakening has come to you because of a friend of yours who has transformed into more than a relative.

Task

Describe how this friend has won your heart. *(Use about 400 – 600 words)*

END

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Item 2

Read the passage below and respond to the task after it.

The arrival of the missionaries had caused considerable stir in the village of Mbanta. There were six of them and one was a white man. Every man and woman came out to see the white man. Stories about these strange men had grown since one of them had been killed in Abame and his iron horse tied to the sacred silk-cotton tree. And so everybody came to see the white man. It was the time of the year when everybody was at home. The harvest was over.

They had all gathered, the white man began to speak to them. He spoke through an interpreter who was an Ibo man, though his dialect was different and harsh to ears of Mbanta. Many people laughed at his dialect and the way he used words strangely. Instead of saying "myself" he always said "my buttocks". But he was a man of commanding presence and the clan men listened to him. He said he was one of them, as they could see from his color and his language. The other four black men were also their brothers, although one of them did not speak Ibo. The white man was also their brother because they were all sons of God. And he told them about his new God, the creator of all the world and all the men and women. He told them that they worshipped false gods, gods of wood and stone. A deep murmur went through the crowd when he said this. He told them that true God lived on high and that all men when they died went before Him for judgement. Evil men and all the heathen who in their blindness bowed to wood and stone were thrown into a fire that burned like palm-oil. But good men who worshipped the true God lived for ever in His happy kingdom. 'We have been sent by this great God to ask you to leave your wicked ways and false gods and turn to Him so that you may be saved when you die,' he said.

'Your buttocks understand our language,' said someone light-heartedly and the crowd laughed.

'What did he say?' the white man asked his interpreter. But before he could answer, another man asked a question: 'Where is the white man's horse?' he asked. The Ibo evangelists consulted among themselves and decided that the man probably meant bicycle. They told the white man and he smiled benevolently.

'Tell them,' he said, 'that I shall bring many iron horses when we have settled down among them. Some of them will even ride the iron horse themselves.' This was interpreted to them but very few of them heard. They were talking excitedly among themselves because the white man had said he was going to live among them. They had not thought about that.

At this point an old man said he had a question. 'Which is this god of yours,' he asked, 'the goddess of the earth, the god of the sky, Amadiora of the thunderbolt, or what?'

The interpreter spoke to the white man and he immediately gave his answer. 'All the gods you have named are not gods at all. They are gods of deceit who tell you to kill your fellows and destroy innocent children. There is only one true God and He has the earth, the sky, you and me and all of us.'

'If we leave our gods and follow your god,' asked another man, 'who will protect us from the anger of our neglected gods and ancestors?'

'Your gods are not alive and cannot do any harm,' replied the white man. 'They are pieces of wood and stone.'

When this was interpreted to the men of Mbanta they broke into derisive laughter. These men must be mad, they said to themselves. How else would they say that Ani and Amadiora were harmless? And Idemili and Ogwugwu too? And some of them began to go away.

Then the missionaries burst into song. It was one of those gay and rollicking tunes of evangelism which had the power of plucking at the silent and dusty chords in the heart of an Ibo man. The interpreter explained each verse to the audience, some of whom now stood enthralled; it was a story of brothers who lived in darkness and in fear, ignorant of the love of God. It told of one sheep out on the hills, away from the gates of God and from the tender shepherd's care.

(Source: Chinua Achebe (1958). *Things Fall Apart*. East African Educational Publishers.)

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Item 2

Read the passage

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SECTION A

Item 1

Read the text below and respond to the task

You are the eldest child of your parents and all your siblings look up to you. In a bid to keep them healthy, you wish to guide them on the effects and prevention of AIDS. You have come across the text below and think it is good for your mission.

Task:

Write your guidance to your siblings using not more than 120 words.

AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. It is a very serious disease caused by a virus which breaks down the body's –natural defenses against infection. A virus is a living thing; smaller than bacteria which causes infections in the body.

At the present, the situation in Uganda is appalling. The victims are marginalized. They are rejected by their families and friends. They, therefore, live in the atmosphere of rejection. AIDS has no cure. Once one tests positive, the end result is psychological torture and stress about death. There is no doubt, many families have broken down because of the scourge. For instance, when the mother or father is infected or dies, the rest of the family members have to scatter and find other ways of survival.

The deaths of parents have left their children under no care and thus increased on the level of destruction. Many children now live on the streets because AIDS claimed their parents. It is scientifically proven that due to low immunity, the AIDS victims suffer from a variety of opportunistic diseases, thus leaving them less productive at work hence, poverty.

Socially, there is a misconception that AIDS victims are immoral. The victims therefore feel condemned, a thing that adds salt to injury. Worse of all is the treatment. It is very expensive to treat AIDS patients both on the side of government and families. There are times when drugs are scarce leaving AIDS patients in fear and uncertainty.

The scourge has increased the level of dependence in the community. It is a very big burden to look after the patients and sometimes their children amidst managing other family affairs.

In summary, AIDS affects planning at family level, national and international levels.

However, many analysts and health facilitators have assured Ugandans that the impact of AIDS scourge can be reduced. It is certainly true that AIDS has spread as fast as wild fire through prostitution. A strict law against commercial sex and homosexuality should be put in place to reduce on their prevalence. The government should ensure compulsory testing of HIV before couples indulge into sex or get married. What is important is that, victims should be encouraged and taught how to live positively with the virus. This will help them realize that they can live longer with AIDS.

The community should be sensitized against promiscuity. Here, the importance of abstinence from sex, trustworthiness in marriage should be emphasized. Parents and teachers should caution teenagers about the dangers of early sex and the challenges that lie ahead of them. It ought to reduce on the rate at which the pandemic spreads. In situations where partners cannot abstain, they should be advised to have protective sex. There is evidence that sensitization and sex education can yield better results. This should be done in schools, in villages and at work places. Needless to say, the health providers should take safety measures. They should ensure prevention of mother to child infections, sterilize medical equipment before and after use.

Guidance and counseling should take lead. The providers should preach the treating of sexually transmitted diseases and not sharing equipment such as needles and razors. The scourge can be talked about through dramatization, songs and extensive research on drugs that can reduce the impact of the virus.

In conclusion, AIDS is a question that concerns everybody. Everybody should be aware that AIDS is preventable but incurable.

(Adapted from the New vision: April 2022)