LITERATURE-IN-ENGLISH

SCHEME OF EXAMINATION

There will be three papers - Papers 1, 2 and 3. Papers 1 and 2 will be a composite paper and will be taken at one sitting.

Paper 1 will be a multiple-choice objective test. It will contain fifty questions distributed as follows:

(a) Twenty questions on General Knowledge of Literature;
(b) Five questions on an unseen prose passage;
(c) Five questions on an unseen poem;
(d) Twenty context questions on the prescribed Shakespearean text.

Candidates will be required to answer all the questions within 1 hour for 50 marks.

Paper 2 will be an essay test with two sections, Sections A and B. Section A will be on African Prose and Section B on Non-African Prose.

Two essay questions will be set on each of the novels prescribed for study. Candidates shall be required to answer one question only from each section within 1 hour 15 minutes for 50 marks.

Paper 3 will be on the Drama and Poetry components of the syllabus. It will be put into four sections, Sections A, B, C and D as follows:

Section A: African Drama

Section B: Non-African Drama

Section C: African Poetry

Section D: Non-African Poetry

There shall be two questions on each of the prescribed drama texts for Sections A and B. There shall also be two questions for each of the poetry sections, i.e. Sections C and D.

Candidates shall be required to answer one question from each of the sections, making a total of four questions. The paper will take 2 hours 30 minutes to complete and will carry 100 marks.

Note:

(i) The Unseen Prose passage for Paper 1 shall be about 120 - 150 words long.

(ii) Only context questions shall be set on the Shakespearean text. The context questions will test such items as theme, characterization, style and setting in the Shakespearean text.

(iii) No essay question shall be set on the Shakespearean text.

SET TEXTS FOR 2026 - 2030

AFRICAN PROSE

- So the Path Does not Die by Pede Hollist
- Redemption Road by Elma Shaw

NON-AFRICAN PROSE

- To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
- Path of Lucas: The Journey He Endured by Susanne Bellefeuille

SHAKESPEAREAN TEXT

- Antony and Cleopatra

AFRICAN DRAMA

- Once Upon an Elephant by Bosede Ademilua-Afolayan
- The Marriage of Anansewa by Efua Sutherland

NON-AFRICAN DRAMA

- An Inspector Calls by J. B. Priestley
- A Man for All Seasons by Robert Bolt

AFRICAN POETRY

- "Once Upon a Time" by Gabriel Okara
- "New Tongue" by Elizabeth L. A. Kamara
- "Night" by Wole Soyinka
- "Not My Business" by Niyi Osundare
- "Hearty Garlands" by S. O. H. Afriyie-Vidza
- "The Breast of the Sea" by Syl Cheney-Coker

NON-AFRICAN POETRY

- "She Walks in Beauty" by Lord Byron
- "The Nun's Priest's Tale" (shortened) by Geoffrey Chaucer
- "Digging" by Seamus Heaney
- "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou
- "The Telephone Call" by Fleur Adcock
- "The Stone" by Wilfrid Wilson Gibson