

Candidate's Name		Assessment Number	
School Name		School Code	
Candidate's Signature		Date	

KENYA JUNIOR SCHOOL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT (KJSEA)

GRADE 8: ENGLISH

PAPER 2 (*Composition and Literary Analysis*)

CODE: 005 YEAR: 2025

TIME: 1 Hour 45 Minutes



INSTRUCTIONS TO LEARNERS

1. Write the name and code of your school in the spaces provided.
2. Write the date of the assessment and sign in the spaces provided.
3. This question paper consists of two sections: A and B.
4. Answer ALL questions in this paper.
5. Write ALL the answers in the spaces provided in this question paper.
6. Do NOT remove any page from this question paper.
7. Answer the questions in English.

For official use only

TASK	Maximum Score	Learner's Score
A		
Task 1 (Composition)	15	
B		
Task 2 (Oral Literature)	15	
Task 3 (Poetry)	10	
Task 4 (Novella)	10	
Total	50	

This paper consists of 9 printed pages. Candidates should check the question paper to ascertain that all the pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.

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Turn over

SECTION B: ORAL NARRATIVE ANALYSIS (14 MARKS)

TASK 2: QUESTION 2

Read the following oral narrative and answer the questions that follow:

The Grumpy Hyena and the Clever Jackal

In the vast savanna, where the sun beat down relentlessly, lived a very grumpy Hyena who believed he was the smartest creature of all. He would often trick other animals out of their food. One dry season, the waterhole began to shrink, and food became scarce. Hyena, feeling particularly hungry, spotted a plump Impala carcass that the Lion had left behind. He quickly claimed it, snarling at any animal that dared to approach.

Along came a small, quick-witted Jackal, known for his intelligence rather than his strength. Jackal saw the Impala and devised a plan. He approached Hyena cautiously. "Greetings, mighty Hyena!" he called out. "I've just come from the other side of the savanna, and there's a stampede of wildebeest heading this way! They are so many, they will surely trample anything in their path, even a great hunter like you!"

Hyena scoffed, "A stampede? Don't be foolish, Jackal! I hear nothing."

Jackal insisted, "But I saw them! Their hooves thunder like distant drums. They'll be here any moment! If you stay here, you'll be crushed, and your feast will be ruined anyway." He then pretended to listen intently, looking alarmed.

Hyena, though proud, was also a coward at heart. The thought of being trampled, even with his meal, filled him with dread. He quickly abandoned the Impala carcass and galloped away in a cloud of dust, seeking higher ground.

Jackal watched him go, a knowing smile spreading across his face. He then calmly walked over to the Impala carcass and enjoyed a well-deserved meal, chuckling softly at the Hyena's gullibility.

Questions:

a. What **moral lesson** can be learned from this narrative? (2 marks)

.....

.....

b. Describe **two character traits** of the Jackal as shown in the story. (4 marks)

- i.
- ii.

c. Identify **two features of oral narratives** present in this passage. (3 marks)

- i.
- ii.

d. What **specific action** does the Jackal take to make Hyena believe him? (2 marks)

- i.
- ii.

e. If you were narrating this story, how would you use **voice modulation** to distinguish between the Hyena's and Jackal's dialogue? (3 marks)

- i.
- ii.
- iii.

SECTION C: POETRY ANALYSIS (10 MARKS)

TASK 3: QUESTION 3

Read the poem below and answer the questions that follow:

My Village Home

Soft smoke rises from the morning fire,

A gentle sign of life and daily desire.

The cow's low call echoes through the air,

A calm, familiar sound always there.

Children run with laughter in their stride,

Their happy feet dance far and wide.

Along the paths of dust and earth,

Are tales and truths of family worth.

Beneath the mango tree's cool shade,

We rest where happy memories are made.

This village life, so quiet and kind,

Brings peace and strength to heart and mind.

My village home, where I belong,

It makes me feel safe, loved, and strong.

Questions:

a. What is the **main feeling or emotion** the poet expresses about their village home? (2 marks)

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b. Who is the **persona** (the speaker) in this poem? (2 marks)

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c. Identify **two examples of imagery** used in the poem and state which sense each appeals to. (4 marks)

- i.
- ii.

d. What does the line "The dusty paths, where stories softly tread" suggest about the village? (2 marks)

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SECTION D: PROSE ANALYSIS (10 MARKS)

TASK 4: QUESTION 4

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

The old dhow swayed gently as it cut through the clear, turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean. Rashid, a young fisherman of fourteen, squinted at the horizon, the morning sun glinting off the vast expanse. The air was salty and warm, carrying the faint scent of seaweed and distant spices from the market on the shore. He gripped the rough wooden tiller, his calloused hands feeling the subtle pull of the current. His father, Baba Juma, sat quietly mending a net, his fingers moving with practiced ease. Rashid loved these mornings, the tranquility of the sea, the rhythmic lapping of waves against the hull, and the quiet companionship with his father. He dreamt of the day he would command his own dhow, navigating by the stars and the wisdom passed down through generations.

Questions:

a. What is the **setting** of this passage? Provide **two details** from the text to support your answer. (3 marks)

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b. Who are the **main characters** mentioned in this narrative? (1 mark)

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c. What **activity** are Rashid and his father engaged in? (2 marks)

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d. Identify **two feelings or emotions** Rashid experiences in the passage. (2 marks)

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e. What is Rashid's **aspiration or dream** for the future? (2 marks)

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