

## S.2 ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**TIME: 1 ½ HOURS**

**Instruction:** Attempt all the questions.

1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

### **The Mtemi' s Wedding**

The whole island was in the palace to witness the mtemi marrying. And, besides, there were added attractions: three chiefs from the neighbouring mainland districts had been invited. To see those foreign princes, friends of their mtemi, was no small matter to the Wantus. But of course the talk of everyone in that endless crowd was the beauty of the queen. Everyone claimed to have seen her, though she had not appeared in the public, and would not do so for another four days. But whether eating, drinking, dancing, or simply moving about with the crowd, everybody seemed mysteriously to have come across her. In the course of the afternoon, however, another subject was soon talked of as well as that of the queenly beauty: the *Moyo incident*.

Moyo became the hero of the day in a rather unfortunate way. To ensure that any person who cared to eat would have his fair share of the public lunch, people were served in village groups, except the V.I.P.s, who formed a privileged circle. Moyo was certainly a very important person, but, unfortunately, having the whole island from which to choose those privileged few, the majordomo had to be very exclusive, and to leave out even men like Moyo. Moyo, however, could not accept such injustice.

People sat in circles, around which mountains in miniature of *ugali* were placed at convenient intervals, so that they could easily collaborate in leveling them down. That was accompanied by meat, which steamed in four huge cauldrons, placed in the middle of the circle, from which stewards filled plates with relish and passed them around.

The stewards, knowing that Moyo had not been invited there, by-passed him each time they came to him, so he was in danger of enjoying the meal by his eyes and nose only. Moyo was *incensed* by such insult and injury to his rights, and decided to resort to the self-service system. He went to the nearest cauldron and put in his hand with more anger than hunger. The steward in charge of the cauldron, seeing his duty thus interfered with, decided to punish the intruder. He pushed the whole of Moyo' s arm into the hot contents of the pot, and held it there until the poor man had done enough screaming. Musilanga, being among the invited V.I.P.s, witnessed it all. He knew Moyo – everybody knew Moyo of Gubani. He simply could not understand how a man with a home of his own could do such a thing.

**Questions: -**

- (i) Before the wedding, most people were talking about
- A. the three visiting chiefs
  - B. the mtemi' s marriage
  - C. the beauty of the queen
  - D. the Moyo incident
- (ii) Who were invited to the public lunch?
- A. Everybody on the island
  - B. Only the V.I.P' s
  - C. All the V.I. P' s except Moyo
  - D. The privileged few
- (iii) Moyo resorted to self-service system because:
- A. he was desperate with hunger
  - B. he was angry at being left out
  - C. the stewards hated him
  - D. he hated the stewards
- (iv) From this story we can learn that:
- A. there should be fair shares for all
  - B. V.I.P' s should not take the advantage of their position in society
  - C. One should not be greedy and rude
  - D. Stewards should not be rude to guests.
- (v) Which of the following is closest in meaning with incident?
- A. accident
  - B. event
  - C. insult
  - D. disaster

2. Read the passage below and answer the questions on it in full sentences.

**The Meeting**

“ Order! Order!” called the Chairman. “ Do you have a question, Johnny Matata?”

“ Yes, Mr. Chairman, I most certainly do have a question – lots of them, in fact!”

exclaimed Johnny Matata. “ The food in this school is disgusting!”

“ Hear, hear!” several voices chorused.

Johnny Matata continued:

The tea this morning was like coloured water. For lunch we had lumpy, half-cooked *ugali*. The stew was not hot enough, and it contained hardly any meat. The fruit was half rotten – “

“ I couldn' t eat mine at all!” interrupted Francis Nyerenda.

“ This is an appalling situation,” said Johnny Matata, ignoring the interruption. “ This kind of food is an insult.

Do the catering staffs expect us to survive on this? It' s not fit for human consumption!”

A *hubbub* of voices nearly drowned the Chairman’s voice. At last he managed to make himself heard.

“ Thank you, Johnny Matata,” he said.

“ I’m sure we all agree with you. The present situation is most unsatisfactory.

If you all agree, I shall speak to Mr. Ndegwa about it as soon as possible.”

“ More easily said than done! He said to himself, as he closed the meeting. Musa did not know which was more difficult – running an unruly meeting of his classmates, or trying to get members of staff to listen to him. It was with some reluctance that he knocked on Mr. Ndegwa’s door later on that day.

“ Well, Musa, what is it?” said Mr. Ndegwa, looking up from his desk.

“ Excuse me sir,” said Musa. “ I’m very sorry to trouble you for a few moments?”

“ Certainly. What’s the problem?”

“ Well, sir,, there have been a number of complaints about the food, and as they are really rather serious, I thought I should come to see you about them. We would be most grateful if you could take up the matter on our behalf.”

“ I see.”

“ Yes, sir. I realize that you are very busy, especially at this time of the term, and I’ve heard that the kitchen is short of staff at the moment. But if you could do something, we should be extremely grateful.”

Mr. Ndegwa felt slightly irritated. However, somewhat mollified by Musa’s manner, he said: “ Well, what are the complaints?”

“ Well, sir, I’ve recorded the main ones here, on this piece of paper.”

Mr. Ndegwa looked at the list. He was a busy man, and he was well aware that no matter how good the food was, there were always complains about it. He was also reluctant to do anything that might upset the kitchen staff. However, he was impressed by Musa’s tactful conduct in the matter, and, as he looked down the list, it really did seem that perhaps there was a genuine cause for complaint.

“ All right, Musa. Leave this with me. I’ll see what can be done. But I’m making no promises, mind!”

“ Thank you very much indeed, sir.”

Within a few days, there was a marked improvement in the school food.

Questions: -

(i) How did Musa manage to persuade Mr. Ndegwa to take the complaints seriously?

.....  
.....

(ii) Why did Musa make a list of the complaints?

.....  
.....

(iii) Which words has close meanings to the followings?

(a) hubbub

A. a loud noise B. hurrah C. hum D. mutter

(b) Unruly

A. rude B. angry C. unpleasant D. disorderly

- (c) mollified  
 A. pleased B. calmed C. displeased D. irritated

3. ***For this section, choose the best alternative to fill in the blank spaces:***

- 3.1 ‘ Where .....?’ In a village near London.  
 A. lives your uncle B. does your uncle live  
 C. your uncle lives D. does live your uncle
- 3.2 I speak Italian but .....French.  
 A. I speak not B. I’ m not speaking  
 C. I doesn’ t speak D. I don’ t speak
- 3.3 My favourite film is Cleo’ s Dream .....it four times.  
 A. I’ m seeing B. I see  
 C. I saw D. I’ ve seen
- 3.4 Liz is from Edinburgh. She .....there all her life.  
 A. is living B. has lived  
 C. lives D. lived
- 3.5 How long .....English? Six months.  
 A. do you learn B. are you learning  
 C. you are learning D. have you been learning
- 3.6 I’ d love ..... a car like yours.  
 A. have B. to have C. having
- 3.7 I don’ t mind ..... here but I’ d prefer to sit by the window.  
 A. sit B. to sit C. sitting
- 3.8 Shall I phone the restaurant .....a table?  
 A. for reserve B. for reserving C. to reserve
- 3.9 I wasn’ t feeling very well but the medicine made me .....better  
 A. feel B. to feel C. feeling
- 3.10 Bill is always in the kitchen. He enjoys .....  
 A. cook B. to cook C. cooking.

4. For this section, rewrite the sentences without changing the meaning.

- 4.1 Medicine can be dangerous, so it should be kept out of reach of children.  
 [Rewrite beginning: Because medicine .....]

.....  
 .....

- 4.2 Because the bus broke down, everyone had to get off and walk.  
[Rewrite beginning: The bus .....]  
.....  
.....
- 4.3 He could not find the word in the dictionary, so he asked the teacher.  
[Rewrite beginning: Since .....]  
.....  
.....
- 4.4 Pluto is the most distant member of the family, so it was the last to be discovered.  
[Rewrite using: and as a result]  
.....  
.....
- 4.5 He trained hard in order to be fir for the big match.  
[Rewrite using: So that .....]  
.....  
.....
- 4.6 They tip-toed out for fear of waking the baby.  
[Rewrite using: incase]  
.....  
.....

***Write out the following, putting the verb in brackets into the correct tense:***

- 4.7 We .....to the party but we didn' t go. [invite)  
.....  
.....
- 4.8. The museum is very popular. Every year it .....by thousands of people  
[visit]  
.....  
.....
- 4.9 Many buildings .....in the storm last week. [damage]  
.....  
.....

4.10 A new road is going to .....next year. [build]  
.....  
.....

4.11 She' s famous now, but in a few years her name will .....[forget]  
.....  
.....

4.12 Milk should .....in a fridge. [keep]  
.....  
.....

4.13 My bag .....from my car yesterday afternoon. [steal]  
.....  
.....

4.14 This street .....William street. (call)  
.....  
.....

4.15 It' s the largest bicycle factory in the country, hundreds of bicycle .....here  
every year. [produce]  
.....  
.....

*-END-*