



# ENGLISH PP1 QUESTIONS 1996-2016



**101/1**  
**ENGLISH**  
**PAPER 1**  
**(FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)**  
**OCT./NOV.2005**  
**2HOURS**

Answer question **1** and **one** other question from the choices given. Each of your compositions should be between **350** and **450** words long.

**1. Compulsory**

You are the Chairperson of the Drama Club at Rafiki Secondary School. The club has staged a successful dramatization of Chinua Achebe's **A Man of the People** at the school. You now want to take the performance to three other schools in your district. The Head Teacher is offering the school bus, but he wants you to look for a sponsor who would pay for the fuel and the other expenses.

You then decide to contact the Kenya Anti-Corruption Authority. Write a letter to the Director and ask if the agency can sponsor these performances. Briefly explain to the Director why you think **A Man of the People** presents a strong argument against corruption. Remember to write through the Head Teacher.

Choose only **one** topic from the following:

**2. Either:**

- (a) Write a story that illustrates the wisdom in the saying: "Whoever refuses to be taught by the mother is eventually taught by the world".

**Or:**

- (b) Write a composition beginning: "For some of us it had been a long day, and to me in particular, the thought of what lay ahead was frightening".

- 3.** Explain what you as a citizen of this country can do to fight insecurity.
- 4.** Describe your favourite game or sport, giving details that would be helpful to a person who is not familiar with that game or sport



**101/1**  
**ENGLISH**

2  
1



**PAPER 1**  
**(FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)**  
**OCT./NOV.2006**  
**2HOURS**

**Question 1** (20mks)

You are the chairperson of your school's Wildlife Conservation Association (WICA).  
Your group has just come back from a visit to a national park in a neighboring country.

Write a report to the patron of WICA about the trip. In your report indicate what you accomplished, the problems you experienced and what cautionary measures you would take during trips.

**Question 2** (10mks)

Fill in each of the blank spaces in the passage below with the most appropriate word.

There was time when telecommunication 1.....Africa was nearly non-existent.

With the 2.....of one or two more developed nations, most African countries

3 ..... infrastructure and telephony was out of reach for 4..... of the population. But mobile telephony has 5..... a lot of that and has demonstrated

Africa's 6..... to leap-frog older technologies with new ones more 7..... To the environment.

Telecommunication in Africa is growing 8..... there is room for improvement and development. A number of new networks 9..... coming up all over the continent and the African telecommunication market is growing 10..... The driver of this growth? Mobile telephony.

(Adapted from African Business, May 2004)

**Question 3**

a) Read the oral narrative below and then answer the questions that follow.

Nyasaye (God) wanted to put a stop to the rampages of death-death which claims the lives of everyone

Young and old

Boys and girls

Men and women

Strangers and kinsmen;

Death which kills

The innocent and the guilty

Chiefs and their subjects





The healthy and the sick  
The wise and the foolish.

So one day he sent a servant to earth with a message for all his people. “send me an offering of fresh, untainted fat,” he ordered. “It should be as clean and sparkling as the moon.” Hearing this, the people slaughtered a goat, removed its pure white fat, and placed it in a clay dish overspread with fine fresh leaves.

Now they summoned Ngo’ngruok, also known as Haniafu the Chameleon, and ordered him to take their offering to Nyasaye. They also fashioned a long pole that reached up to heaven where Nyasaye dwells in his glory. This was the path Ng’ongruok would follow when carrying their offering.

But Ng’ongruok accidentally soiled the fat with his clumsy feet, and on his arrival before Nyasaye, presented a dirty and unsightly offering. Nyasaye was furious and rejected it, shouting: “tell the people of earth that because of this insult they must continue to die, just as their ancestors have done!”

Ng’ongruok descended from heaven delivered Nyasaye’s message, and returned the offering to the people. Ever since then, alas death has continued to ravage human beings. For his clumsiness, Ngo’ngruok was cursed by the people. Hence, he must always walk on all fours, and his steps must be hesitant and slow. That is why you will always see him carrying one leg raised from the ground as he tries to decide exactly where to tread.

*(Adapted from: keep my words by B. Onyange-gutu and A.A Roscoe)*

- i) What would you do in order to capture the audience’s attention before you begin to tell this story? (2mks) ii) Explain two ways in which you would make the narration of lines 20 to 23 of the story effective (4mks)
- iii) Mention two ways in which you would know that you audience in this story is fully participating in the performance. (4mks)

b) For each of the words below write another word that is pronounced in the same way.

- Heir.....
- Weather.....
- Base.....
- Mourning.....

c) Read the poem below and answer the question that follow.

Isatou died  
When she was only five  
And full of pride  
Just before she new



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- 5 How small a loss  
It brought to such a  
few Her mother wept  
Half grateful  
To be so early bereft.
- 10 And did not see the smile  
As tender as the root  
Of the emerging plant  
Which sealed her eyes
- 15 As they were paid to do  
And thought how big a spread  
Might be her wedding too  
The father looked at her
- 20 “Who spilt the perfume  
Mixed with morning dew?”

Lenrie Peters

(From: *The Earth Is Ours*. Edited by Ian Gordon)

- i) Identify any two pairs of rhyming words in this poem. (2mks)
- ii) Which words would you stress in line 2 of this poem, and why? (2mks)
- iii) How would you say the last two lines of this poem? (2mks)
- d) You have lost your luggage on your way back to school. You decide to report the matter to the nearest police station. Below is part of the conversation between you and the police officer at the reporting desk. Fill in the other part. (Read through the conversation first before writing your responses).

You: ..... (2mks)

Police Office: (Interrupting) Easy. I am sorry about what happened but before you go into the lost items, please give me your full name and address.

You: ..... (2mks)

Police Officer: That is good. Now go ahead and tell me what happened, without leaving out any important details.

You: ..... (3mks)



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Police Officer: From which schools are the students who alighted before you? You see, it is possible that your box was off loaded from the bus by mistake especially because another box that nearly resembles yours was left behind.

You: ..... (2mks)

Police Officer: Good. At least that is a starting point; we will get the box from the bus then go to that school to make enquiries.

You: ..... (1mks)



**101/1**  
**ENGLISH**  
**PAPER 1**  
**(FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)**  
**OCT/NOV 2007**  
**2 HOURS**

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6  
1

1. You are the chairperson of the creative Writing Club in your school. The club would like assistance in publishing the winning entry in a recent competition. Write a letter to a publisher asking them to consider the book for publication. Remember to write through the head teacher. In your letter, include the following

- ❖ The title of the book and name of author
- ❖ A brief description of what the book is about
- ❖ Why it is important for the book to be published.

2. *Read the passage below and fill in each blank space with an appropriate word*

Good conversationalists are not born that way. They 1 .....their skills through patience, preparation and practice 2..... a long period of time. Some people find it 3..... To talk than others, but do not confuse talk with conversation that is, good conversation. There are all kinds of conversations, 4 ..... from poor to excellent. Unfortunately, some of the worst conversations come from those who find it easiest to talk. 5.....the very ease with which some people talk make them 6.....to what they say and unaware that they may say 7..... much.

It lies within the power of each one of us develop quality in our conversational ability. However, one has to take some 8..... you may need to force yourself to take part in conversations, even though you have 9..... to contribute at first. If you cannot talk listen. If you cannot talk, listen. If you don't understand, ask questions. Secondly, enlarge your storehouse of knowledge every day. Never let a day go 10..... without learning something new: talk more with people; read; listen to the radio; watch television; be more observant of everything and everybody around you; travel as much as you can; start a hobby or two develop common interests with friends and classmates.

2. (a) *Read the story below and answer the questions that follow*

Once upon a time, there lived a young woman who ran away from home to secretly marry her warrior lover out in the wilderness. The warrior directed the young woman to a place in the forest where he would meet her. He said to her, "When you get to a fork along the path take the right path." Then the warrior went ahead to await her arrival in the forest.

The young woman took off, and when she got to the fork that the warrior had mentioned, she followed the left path, forgetting which path the warrior had instructed her to follow.

As the girl walked on, she came upon an ogre who said to her, "hey, young woman where are going? Do you have anything to say now that I'm going to eat you?" the girl answered in song

Not here my dear  
 Let us go to the water hole  
 Where you can eat me  
 And have a drink



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Oh my dear warrior, where was it?

And so it happened that this was very bushy country. The ogre led the young woman on, and when they got to another spot, he said to her, “I am now going to eat you here.” The girl broke into song, urging him not to eat her.

They went further, and the young woman kept hoping that the warrior would hear her voice. As they walked on, the ogre asked the young girl: “shall I eat you hear” The girl sang again

Not here my dear  
Let us go to the water hole  
Where you can eat me  
And have a drink  
Oh dear warrior, where was it?

But the warrior had still not heard her. When they got to a cave by a river, the ogre collected branches and leaves on which to place the young woman’s flesh after he had slaughtered her. When he brought one type of leaf, the girl objected to having her flesh laid on ordinary leaves preferring the sweet-scented leaves of the *Matasia* plant. The ogre brought another kind of leaf but the girl also rejected it, until eventually the sweet-smelling leaves of *Matassia* plant were brought. When the ogre asked the girl whether those were the right type of leaves, she said: Yes, these are the ones.” The ogre then laid the leaves down on the ground and lit a big fire. All this while, the girl was continuously singing the same song.

Just when the ogre was about to jump on the young woman, the warrior suddenly emerged from the bush. The young woman said to the ogre, “It is now your skinny flesh that will be laid on those leaves.” The warrior killed the ogre and placed him on the bed of leaves and took the girl away. And that is the end of the story.

(Adopted from “a young woman and an ogre” in *Oral Literature of the Maasai*, by Naomi Kipury. Nairobi: EAEP 1983)

- (i) If you were performing this story, how would you say the words of the warrior? (1 mks)
- (ii) What could the warrior lover have done to improve on his giving of directions (1 mks)
- (iii) How would you deliver the first speech of the ogre? (2 mks)
- (iv) The song is sung for both the ogre and the warrior lover. How would you perform it to show this? (2 mks)
- (v) As the story teller, how would you say the sentence: “just when the ogre was about to jump on the young woman, the warrior suddenly emerged from the bush.” (2 mks)



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(vi) How do you think the audience would react when the warrior lover arrives?  
 (1 mks)

(b) Identify and number any five pairs of words that are pronounced the same

Plane	Mad	Plain	Mourn	
Burrow	cat	Berry	Mud	
Bury	You	Bred	cut	
Pull	Father	Pool	Ewe	
Bread	Moan	Fool	Farther	
Further	See	Full	Sea	(5 mks)

(c) In the words given below, underline the part that should be stressed

- (i) suc.cess
- (ii) chal.lenge
- (iii) ad.vice
- (iv) ap.proach

(d) Suppose you were asked to make a speech at a friend's graduation party. What would you do to capture the audience attention?  
 (4 mks)

(e) The following is a conversation between a father and his daughter. Identify eight shortcomings in the father's listening skills  
 (8 mks)

DAUGHTER: *(shortly having arrived home from school)* Good afternoon, Daddy

FATHER: *(Sitting complacently in the sofa, reading a newspaper. Looking up.....)* Good afternoon  
*(Resumes reading)*

DAUGHTER: *(Holding out her school report form)* Daddy, I'm excited. My teacher said I was the best improved. I was.....

FATHER: Oh, you were? Me, I used to be number one. I was absolutely unbeatable.

DAUGHTER: Chemistry has been a particular headache (*now looking at the report form which she thought her father would want to see*), but this time.....

FATHER: *(Stretching his arms, looking preoccupied)*  
 Chemistry for me was particular easy.  
 I never scored anything less than 90%

DAUGHTER: Dad, I was going to tell you that this time.....

FATHER: *(Absent minded)* by the way, where is your mum?



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- DAUGHTER: Mum is in the garden picking vegetables. But dad, you're not listening to my story. I was telling you about Chemistry
- FATHER: You mean you have a story about chemistry? Chemistry is not about stories. It is hard science.
- DAUGHTER: It's about my improvement.....
- FATHER: (laughing) me, it wasn't matter of improvement. I was always at the top of the class
- DAUGHTER: Daddy, I give up. You're not listening
- FATHER: (*looking surprised*) Listening? I heard you: you were talking about improvement in chemistry, weren't you?
- DAUGHTER: anyway, Dad. Thank you for paying attention. Enjoy your newspaper.
- FATHER: Oh yes, I'm reading an interesting story about politics

**101/1**

**K.C.S.E**

**ENGLISH**

**PAPER 1**

**(FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)**

**OCT./NOV. 2008**

**TIME: 2HRS**

1. You are secretary of the drama club in your school. The chairperson has asked you send out a notice of the second meeting to plan the staging of shake spear's play, *The Merchant of Venice*. During the meeting, you will need to appoint the director of the play, set up a date for selecting the cast, discuss the budget for the play, and the dates of rehearsals and the final performance.
- (20mks)
- a) Write the notice of this meeting which you would send to the members of the drama club.
- b) Write the agenda that you would attach to the notice.



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2. Fill each blank space in the following passage with the most appropriate word (10mks)

By far the 1 \_\_\_\_\_ obstacle to success, in my view, is poor understanding of people. Most careers 2 \_\_\_\_\_ working with other people. You can have great academic intelligence 3 \_\_\_\_\_ still lack social intelligence the ability to be 4 \_\_\_\_\_ good listener, to be sensitive 5 \_\_\_\_\_ others, to give and take criticism well.

If people do not like you, they may help you fail. On the other hand, you can get 6 \_\_\_\_\_ with serious mistakes if you are socially intelligent. How are you when it comes to working with people? Are you genuine and authentic, or do you 7 \_\_\_\_\_ put up a front? Do you listen to 8 \_\_\_\_\_ or do you most of the talking? Do you expect everyone else to conform to your wishes, your schedule, and your agenda, or do you look for ways to meet people on their 9 \_\_\_\_\_? If you haven't learnt to get along with people, you will always be fighting a battle to succeed. 10 \_\_\_\_\_ making people - skill a strength will always be fighting a battle to succeed. 10 \_\_\_\_\_ making people - skills a strength will take you farther than any other skill you develop.

a) Provide a word which sound the same as each of the following (5mks)

- i) Male.....
- ii) Queue.....
- iii) Hire.....
- iv) Blue.....
- v) Ate.....

b) Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow.

“The Debt” by Paul Laurence Dunbar

This is the debt I play  
Just for one riotous day,  
Years of regret and grief,  
Sorrow without relief.

Put it I will to the end-Until  
the grave, my friend, Gives  
me a true release-Gives me  
the clasp of peace.

Slight was the thing I bought,  
Small was the debt I though,  
Poor was the loan at best



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God! But the interest!

(From American Negro Poetry, Edited by arna Bontemps)

- (i) List at the pairs of rhyming words (3mks)
- (ii) Describe the tone of voice that would be appropriate in the reading of this poem. (3mks)
- (iii) How does the punctuation in the second stanza influence your reading of the poem? (3mks)
- (iv) How would you say the last are of the poem? (2mks)
- c) Consider the situation below and then answer the question that follow.  
You are part of an audience that is listening to a speech. You look around and notice that some people are looking at their watches, a few are yawning, and one or two are shifting in their seats.
- i) What would be the likely cause of such behaviour? (3mks)
- ii) What would you do to ensure you continue listening effectively? (3mks)
- d) Consider the following conversation between a seller and a buyer of chickens and then answer the questions that follow.
- BUYER: How are you this morning?
- SELLER: I'm okay
- BUYER: I'm looking for good chickens, but yours don't look too good.  
I'm going to have visitors, and this being the Christmas season, I really must give them a feast.
- SELLER: These are the right kind of chickens for your visitors. They're healthy and well fed.
- BUYER: On the contrary, they look underfed. Anyway, what is your price?
- SELLER: It depends I charge more for cocks; they have more meat, you know (pointing at a red cock).  
This one, for instance, goes for sh 400.00. as for the hens, I charge sh. 250.00
- BUYER: You're not serious! Much of the weight is a bundle of bones. I'm giving you sh. 150. 00 for each hen and sh. 300.00 for each cock. I'm buying three of each-three hens for Sh. 450.00 and three cocks for sh. 900.00. this will give us a total of sh. 1,350.00.
- SELLER: You know, I buy and sell. I don't get them from my shamba.  
Your figure doesn't give me any profit at all.
- BUYER: But you also know money is hard to come by, and especially during this Christmas season. Give me a reasonable price, unless you prefer I go to another seller.
- SELLER: Let me make it Sh. 225.00 for a hen and sh. 375.00 for a cock
- BUYER: It looks like you're not interested in selling your chickens
- SELLER: No, I'm. why would I be here? My children's fees come from this business.
- BUYER: Okay, take sh. 175.00 for each hen and sh. 325.00 for each cock
- SELLER: No, there would be no profit for me. You can do better than that  
You can surely promote my small business. Give me Sh. 350.00 per cock and sh. 225.00 per hen. This would be sh. 675.00 for the three hens and sh. 1,050.00 for the cocks.



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- BUYER: (During his mental arithmetic) That's a total of sh. 1,725.00. Okay, at least I'll be able to feed my visitors. (Handing over the money) Here you are.
- SELLER: Thank you. (As the seller ties them together) You're good customer. Please come again. My name is Musimbi.
- BUYER: And I'm Karani, See you then.
- SELLER: See you.

- i) What is the purpose of the greetings in this situation? (1mks)
- ii) Identify and explain the negotiation skills of the buyer. (3mks)
- iii) What does this business transaction reveal about the nature of negotiations? (4mks)

**101/1**  
**ENGLISH**  
**PAPER 1**  
**(FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)**  
**OCT./NOV.2009**  
**2HOURS**

1. You are waiting to join college after you K.C.S.E examination. While reading newspaper, you see an advertisement for a volunteer worker at a children's home. Write a letter of inquiry to the manager. Express your interest and inquire if they will pay any allowances and whether they can provide accommodation. Remember to quote the reference number of the advertisement. (20 mks)
2. Read the passage below and fill in each blank space with an appropriate word (10 mks)

If our skins were to be complainants in a court of law, they would 1..... us of committing all manner of dermatological crimes 2..... them. And they would have legitimate grounds to do so.

They would, for instance, argue that some of us assault them with bleaching creams, all in an 3 ..... to make our complexions look much 4 ..... they would produce exhibits of ugly 5..... left behind by the hazardous substances.

In addition, some would recount how we usually 6.....them to layers of irritating anti-aging creams without consulting them. They would insist that we allow them to age 7..... and gracefully. Moreover, there would be 8 .....that would object to continually being plastered with choking substances meant to eliminate non-existent pimples. In closing, our skins would submit that they have suffered gross skin abuse in our hands



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9.....hope that the judge would find us 10.....as charged.

- a) Read the following oral chant and then answer the questions that follow  
 Rain Making Litany

3.

(Reciter)

(Responders)

We overcome this wind

we overcome

We desire the rain to fall, that it may be poured in  
 showers Quickly

Ah! True rain, I adjure thee, if thou rainest, it is well

It is well

A drizzling confusion

Confusion

If it rains and our food ripens, it is well

it is well

If the children rejoice, it is well

it is well

If the young men sing, it is well

it is well

If the young men sing, it is well.

If our women rejoice, it is well

If the young men sing, it is well

it is well

A drizzling confusion

confusion

If our grain ripens, it is well

it is well

If our women rejoice,

it is well

If our women rejoice,

it is well

If our children rejoice,

it is well

If the young men sing

it is well

If the aged rejoice

it is well

An overflowing in the granary

overflowing

May our grain fill the granaries

may it fill

A torrent in flow

A torrent

If the wind veers to the south, it is well

It is well

If the rain veers to the south, it is well

It is well

- i) Identify three aspects of oral performance that make this chant easy to remember. (3 mks)
- ii) In what ways would this chant be made interesting to listen to. (3 mks)  
 chant be made interesting to listen to. (3 mks)
- iii) what preparations do you think a narrator would make to ensure that the audience listens to and participates in the performance of the chant. (4 mks)
- b) You are going to take part in a debate. Explain how you would deal with the fear and anxiety associated with public speaking of this kind. (6 mks)
- c) Classify the words below according to the sound of the underline 'ch' letter. An example of each of the sounds represented has been



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given.			(3 mks)
Bench	Chore	chandelier	
Charisma	parachute	trachoma	
Chauvinism	choral	church	
Champagne	charm	chrysalis	
/t/	//	/k/	
Church	champagne	trachoma	

d) The underlining indicates the stressed word in the sentences below. Briefly explain what each sentence means. (3 mks)

- i) I wrote the love poem for you
- ii) I wrote the love poem for you
- iii) I wrote the love poem for you.

e) Shouting and screaming from your class monitor, you have been called by the teacher on duty to her office to give an explanation.

Complete the conversation below by filling in the blank spaces.

Teacher: You are the class monitor of Form Two East, aren't you?  
You: ..... (1 mks)  
Teacher: Why was your class shouting and screaming?  
You: I am not sure, madam. The noise started at the back of the classroom.  
Teacher : ..... (1 mks)  
You: You see madam, I sit at the front of the classroom and by the time I turned to look, the boys at the back were already on top of the desks and some were trying to jump out of the window.  
Teacher ..... (1 mks)  
You: I ran out, madam!  
Teacher: ..... (1 mks)  
You: I ran out, madam!  
Teacher: ..... (1 mks)  
You: I am sorry madam, but it seemed like there was great danger in the middle of the class. I had to run for my life.  
Teacher: when the noise subsides, what did you find out?  
You: ..... (1 mks)  
Teacher: Snake?  
You: ..... (1 mks)  
Teacher: whose toy snake was it?  
You: ..... (1 mks)



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Teacher: whose toy snake was it?  
You: ..... (1 mks)  
Teacher: You can go now, but I will need to know whose toy snake it was.  
You: ..... (1mks)

**101/1**  
**ENGLISH**  
**PAPER 1**  
**(FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)**  
**OCT./NOV.2010**  
**2HOURS**

1. You are the Chairperson of the Environmental Club which has just been newly introduced in your school. There is going to be an official launching of the club. Write a brief speech that you will deliver at the launch. Your speech should include the following: introduction, club officials, the objectives (aims) of the club, the activities to be carried out, conditions for membership, enrolment and any other relevant information. (20 marks)
2. *Read the passage below and fill in each blank space with an appropriate word. (10 marks)*

I met Frank as soon as he was 1 ..... from the hospital. He felt 2 ..... to be alive. His seat-belt had kept him from going 3 ..... the windscreen, and he had only a 4 ..... cheek and some double-vision to indicate he 5 ..... had a nearly fatal crash. In the weeks that followed, 6 ....., I began to notice strange after effects. Frank forgot to return phone calls. One afternoon, while writing out payroll cheques for his staff, he repeatedly asked me the date. I watched as his pen froze over the yellow cheque-book. He would 7 ..... flip the pages to check the spelling of a colleague's name. At the piano, he played the same note over and over again, seemingly 8 ..... to proceed to the next. It 9 ..... be months before any of us were willing to accept the painful 10 ..... that his music career was over.

3. (a) Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow.

When, in disgrace with Fortune and men's eyes, I all alone bewep my outcast state, And trouble deaf heaven with my bootless cries, And look upon myself and curse my fate,



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Wishing me like to one more rich in hope, Featured like him, like him with friends  
 possessed, Desiring this man's art and that man's scope, With what I most enjoy  
 contented least, Yet in these thoughts myself almost despising; Haply I think on thee,  
 and then my state, (Like to the lark at the break of day arising) From sullen earth  
 sings hymns at heaven's gate,  
 For thy sweet love remembered such wealth brings That then I scorn to change my state with  
 kings.

(William Shakespeare's Sonnet 29)

- (i) Identify any **four** pairs of words that rhyme in this poem (2 marks)
- (ii) Give **two** instances of alliteration **in** this poem. (2 marks)
- (iii) How would you say the words in brackets in this poem? (2 marks)
- (iv) How would you perform the last two lines of this poem? (2 marks)

(b) Read the passage below and then answer the question that follows.

It's a cold, misty December morning. You hear the sharp screeching of brakes followed by a loud bang, then screams. You rush to the scene of the crash, where you find a car overturned with a young woman and two small boys inside. The woman and one of the boys climb from the wreckage unhurt; but the other boy is pinned between the dashboard and the roof of the car, groaning in pain. Kru, kru, kru, you scratch your scalp as you try to remember your lessons in first aid.

Identify any **four** instances of onomatopoeia in the passage. (4 marks)

(c) For each of the following five words, write another word that is pronounced the same.

- (i) past.....
- (ii) aren't .....
- (iii) hole .....
- (iv) what.....
- (v) male ..... (5 marks)

(d) For each of the following letters, provide a word in which the letter is silent.

- (i) p.....
- (ii) b .....
- (iii) l .....
- (iv) n.....
- (v) t ..... (5 marks)

(e) Your school choir is rehearsing a choral verse for the school's music festival. They are making a presentation for the rest of the school so as to get some feedback.

**Give four** things that the listeners need to pay attention to and explain why. (8 marks)



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101/1

ENGLISH

PAPER 1

(FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)

OCT./NOV.2011

2HOURS

1. Your Drama Club is organizing to stage a performance of Henrik Ibsen's play, *An Enemy of the People*. You are inviting neighbouring schools and the general public to the event.

- (a) Write the notice announcing the event and inviting other schools and the public  
To attend. (8 marks)
- (b) In not more than 200 words, write a **synopsis** of the play to accompany the notice.

(12 marks)

2. Read the passage below and fill in each blank space with an appropriate word.

2 your best traits and recognise the 3 you may have been taking for granted all 4. Doing this will provide a foundation of confidence that serves as a 5 to connect you to other people.

6 your appearance is what makes people curious to get to know you, your presence is what makes them respond to you. Your presence is your energy, your spirit and your aura. It includes 7 those qualities that help you bond with another human being.

which you are engaged in a conversation. Some people are 8 there, giving 100 percent; others give 20 percent at 9 because their minds are elsewhere.

Eye contact is an 10 powerful tool. So long as you are making eye contact while talking, the topic is not likely to matter much.

*Adapted from Love Smart by Dr. Phil, McGraw (2006). Simon & Schuter, UK Ltd.*

- (a) Against each of the following sentences, indicate whether you would end with a **rising** or **falling** intonation. (5 marks)

18  
1

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- (i) You actually saw the pyramids? -----
  - (ii) My younger sister has identical twins. -----
  - (iii) Why did you oversleep? -----
  - (iv) Could I come with you, please?-----
  - (v) What a tragic experience that was!-----
- (b) *Read the following poem and then answer the questions.*

Lazybones, let's go to the farm  
    Sorry, I've got a headache  
Lazybones, let's go pounding grain  
    Sorry, my leg isn'tright  
Lazybones, let's go fetch firewood  
    Sorry, my hands are hurting  
Lazybones, come and have some food  
    Hold on. let me wash my hands!

(From *Oral Poetry from Africa*. Compiled by Mapanje and White. Longman Group, U.K)

- (i) How would you say Lazybones' responses in lines 2,4 and 6? Give reasons for your answer. (3 marks)
  - (ii) If you were performing this poem, how would you say the last line? (2 marks)
  - (iii) Provide another word that has the **same pronunciation** as each of the following words:  
some:.....  
right:.....  
come: .....
- (c) Apart from the voice, what else would you use to capture and maintain an audience's attention when delivering a speech? Explain, (6 marks)
- (d) *Read The dialogue below and then answer the question that follows;*  
JUMA: Do you know? I think the new law will transform our society. OWING: Juma, you can't argue like that. You sound like somebody from...  
  
JUMA: I don't want to argue with you, anyway, How can I stoop so low. You are unlikely to comprehend my point,  
  
OWING: You see. You are rude and unrefined.  
  
JUMA And you. of course, have such fine manners!  
:



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Whats wrong with what I said?

OWING: A document or mere legislation cannot transform a society.

It's the people who must change their thinking and demonstrate a willingness to make things better.

JUMA: But the new law provides guidelines that will put us on the right path. It's like a compass. If we follow it, we won't get distracted...

OWING: You have made your point.

JUMA: I give up. Every word you say confirms that I shouldn't be talking to you.

Explain the features that make the conversation between Juma and Owino ineffective.

(6 marks)

(e) Underline the part (syllable) where the **stress** falls in each of the following words.

(5 marks)

(i) descent

(ii) contest (*verb*)

(iii) discuss

(iv) friendly

(v) present (*noun*)



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101/1

**ENGLISH PAPER 1  
(FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)  
OCT/NOV. 2012  
PAPER 1**

**2 HOURS**

**1** *Read the advertisement below and answer the questions that follow:*

The Electorate Commission is currently seeking to recruit 800 clerical officers, who will work closely with the commission for two months to register voters in preparation for election. The clerks will be expected to prepare a voters register.

Applicants must be:

- Citizens of Kenya
- 18 years and above
- In possession of a national
- Fluent in English and Kiswahili
- In Possession of a KCSE grade C- and above
- Computer literate
- Able to work with little or no supervision

Interested candidates are required to send their application to the following address so as to reach the Commission by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015. the Chief Executive Officer, Electoral Commission, Po. O. Box 679439-010 NAIROBI

- (a) Write an application letter in response to the advertisement. (10 marks)
- (b) Write an accompanying Curriculum Vitae (CV) (10 Marks)

**2** *Read the passage below and fill in each blank space with an appropriate word*

**(10 marks)**

It is an indisputable fact that agriculture **1** ..... the backbone of the economy. It is therefore **2** ..... that we stop over-relying on the rain-fed agriculture. Israel is a classic **3** ..... of a country that has reclaimed its deserts and put them **4** ..... use. Land which was **5** ..... 'useless' has been turned around and **6** ..... useful. Egypt which solely depends on **7** ..... River Nile is a leading exporter of fruits and cereals. For our country to **8** ..... self-sufficiency in food production and to get a **9** ..... for export, land should be utilised to the **10** ..... This is only possible with irrigation.



3 (a) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instructions give after each (3 marks)

(i) Esther said Patricia had stolen her dress  
(Begin: Esther accused...)

(ii) This kind of dance fascinates the youth more than it does adults  
(Begin: The youth.....)

(iii) There are very few students in the classroom  
(Use ....any...)

(b) Fill in each blank space using the correct form of the word in brackets. (3 marks)

(i) ..... We (regular) visit our grandparents in the village.

(ii) ..... The company has been in for twenty years,  
(exist)

(iii) ..... The man  
agreed to accompany her to the market after a lot of .....  
(Persuade)

(c) Appropriately punctuate the following sentences to indicate parenthesis. (2 marks)

(i) When we meet next and I am not sure when a lot of things will  
have changed.

(ii) Any information that you have including minor details should  
be submitted to the office.

(d) Complete each of the following sentences using the correct phrasal verb  
formed from **the** word given in brackets. (3 marks)

(i)..... The bomb at around midnight, (go)

(ii) ..... You have to.....to her what to do. (spell)

(iii) .....Mwangi has.....the lights because he wants to sleep,  
(turn)

(e) Fill in each of the blank spaces with an appropriate word. (4 marks)

(i)..... A short story revolves .....a main character.

(ii) ..... The teacher was grateful ...the students' input.



- (iii) ..... He has been leave since last week.
- (iv) Her life was riddled contradictions.

101/1

**ENGLISH PAPER 1**  
**(FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)**  
**OCT/NOV. 2013**  
**PAPER 1**  
**2 HOURS**

- 1. (a) Imagine that you are the caretaker of Fahari Children's Home in Bahati. There is a heavy storm one evening. After the storm you discover that one of the children is missing. The child is hearing impaired (deaf). Write a **notice** appealing to the public for help to trace the child. There will be a handsome reward for information that will help locate the child. (10 marks)
- (b) Three days later, you receive a telephone call from the local police station informing you that the child has been found. Write a **thank you note** to the person who found and brought the child to the police station, giving details of how he/she will receive the reward. (10 marks)
- 2. *Read the passage below and fill in each blank space with an appropriate word.*

When people hurt you, should you lash out at them 1 ..... give them a piece of Your 2..... There are those that argue that 3 ..... your emotions is much better than suppressing them. Perhaps the 4.....lies in between. What most people would readily agree 5 ..... is the fact that it is 6..... to run away from the cause of your hurt because 7 ..... is likely to breed resentment. Imagine that your cube mate in the dormitory has 8..... damaged your reputation by telling blatant lies about you. Instead of 9.... him or her to settle the

matter, you move to the 10 ..... cubicle. You may feel better for some time, but what if the teacher puts the two of you in a discussion group?

- 3. (a) Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow.

**DAY SEVENTEEN**  
**FEBRUARY 6, 2009**

I find myself



*Pyramid consultants P.O BOX 67593-00200 Nairobi 0722614502/0733494581*



looking at Black men with different eyes

Thinking things like

*Act right fool, don't you know  
we got a Black president!*

i take Barrack's success & failure personally

Somehow  
I feel as if

i represent him as much as he does me

From Auction Block to Oval Office: 100 Poems  
in 100 Days of Obama's Presidency by Kahlil  
Almustafa.

New York: MVMT Publishing, 2009.

- i. Identify **one** instance of alliteration in this poem (1mark)
- ii. Give **two** examples of assonance in this poem. (2 mark)
- iii. How would you perform the lines in italics? (4 marks)
- iv. Pronouns such as "him" and "me" are usually not stressed. Explain why you would stress them in the last stanza. (1 mark)

(b) Identify any five pairs of words that are pronounced the same from the list below.

(5 marks)

phloem	mad
floors	Haws
berry	coarse
clause	mud
course	cause
close	cloze
bold	bald
floss	flame
phlegm	bury

(c) For each of the following words, underline the part that is stressed.

- i) col.league
- ii) regis.ter (verb)



iii) **ap.proach** (noun)

iv) alarm (noun)

v) a.buse (noun)

(5 marks)

(d) Your school has organized a farewell party for the form four students. You have been asked at short notice to move a vote of thanks. This will take the form of an impromptu speech. List the elements of your speech in the order in which they will appear.

(6 marks)

(e) Read the dialogue below and then answer the questions that follow.

REHEMA: Good morning, Aisha.

AISHA: Good morning.

REHEMA: (*frowning*) You don't look happy... What's the matter?

AISHA: I have just received a call from home, and...

REHEMA: Ah, these fellows from home are always calling. My mother also called me.

AISHA: Well, in my case, it is bad news. My brother...

REHEMA: As I was saying, my mother called me, and all she wanted to tell me is that they're fine. (*shaking her head absentmindedly*)

AISHA: My brother was involved in a car accident. But you're not listening...

REHEMA: What did you say?

AISHA: (*despairingly*) I give up.

i. What kind of listener is Rehema? Illustrate your answer. ii.

(4 marks)

What should Rehema do to improve her listening skills?

(2 marks)



**101/1**  
**ENGLISH**  
**PAPER 1**  
**(FUNCTIONAL SKILLS)**  
**OCT./NOV.2014**  
**2HOURS**

**1** You have recently visited a schoolmate during the holidays and thoroughly enjoyed yourself. Write a letter to the schoolmate, thanking him or her for the invitation. Describe the experiences that made your stay memorable (20mks)

**2** *Read the passage below and fill in each blank space with an appropriate word.* (10 marks)

An outline is an organized list of what you plan to write about. It is a sketch of what your essay will (1) ..... like. It is also a guide which will keep you on the right (2) ..... when you are writing your first draft, in the (3) ..... stages, your outline should be a changing, working outline; in (4) ..... final form, your outline should be a "table of contents" of what you have "said" (5)..... your essay.

(6) ..... for instance, you were assigned to write an essay about trees, you might choose to write about "Trees used for fuel". In the planning of your paper, you might decide to (7) ..... your topic into "Trees for firewood" (8) ..... "Trees used for charcoal". You might then (9) ..... divide your subtopics into the different kinds of trees (10)..... for each purpose.

**3** *Read the oral narrative below and then answer the questions that follow.*

**The Cowtail Swish**

Once upon a time, there lived a much loved village chief. He loved hunting and would share the meat with the entire village. One day, he went hunting as usual but didn't return. His people became very worried. They searched and searched for him. As they searched, they kept singing his favourite song, hoping that he'd sing back in response. The song echoed throughout the forest: Mother nature, mother nature You have enough for all Mother nature, may my arrow find much meat Meat to feed all my people

After a long fruitless search, the chief was presumed dead. Shortly afterwards, his wife gave birth to their seventh son. With his first breath, he asked, "What happened to my father?"

"Have you ever seen anything like this?" the villagers whispered among themselves in amazement.

"Never, ever!" was the soft reply all round. Immediately, the newborn's question prompted his six older brothers to embark on another search for their father. It was with sadness that they discovered that he'd been swallowed by a python. Luckily, each of them was endowed with special talents and powers which they combined to restore their father's life. The whole village danced and danced, the joyful pata pata of their feet resounding throughout the village.

Now, a big, big problem arose; who among the sons would become heir one day and receive the Cowtail swish which was the symbol of authority? Each of the six sons claimed that it was his magical powers that had brought their father back from the land of the spirits. Each claim sounded as valid and as potent as the next. In confusion, the villagers scratched their heads like chickens scratching the ground.

"Well, our land has many rivers, each with its source. Likewise, the search that eventually led to the restoration of my life had a source," the chief said in a tone of finality. All the eyes of the villagers turned on the infant son. They remembered the proverb that says: a man is only truly dead when he is not remembered.

- (i) Illustrate any **four** features that show that this is an oral narrative. (4 marks)
- (ii) Which gesture would you use while saying the words: "With "the entire village" in the first paragraph? (1 mark)
- (iii) Which is the main sound feature used in the song? (2 marks)
- (iv) Identify an ideophone in the story. (1 mark)
- (b) For every word in the sentence below, provide another that is identical in pronunciation. Aren't you here for eight days? (6mks)
- (c) Which intonation would you use to say each of the underlined words? (5 marks)
- Malusu: Omenda, what time is the meeting tomorrow?
- Omenda: (Surprised) Tomorrow!
- Malusu: You didn't forget, did you?
- Omenda: I'm afraid I did



- 4 Imagine that one afternoon you see one of your classmates sneak out of the school compound and get into a waiting car. You decide to report the matter to the teacher on duty. What three important details must you include in your oral report? (3 marks)

**Fill in the gaps in the following conversation so that it flows naturally.**

- Mark:** Martha, I would like to invite you to a football game at Kasarani stadium tomorrow afternoon.
- Martha:** ..... (1 mark)
- Mark:** Oh! Why is it that many girls are not football fans? Anyway, even if you don't enjoy the game, you might enjoy my company.
- Martha:** .....,..... (1 mark)
- Mark:** Thank you. That's nice of you to say. So, is it a deal then?
- Martha:** .....,..... (1 mark)
- Mark:** And what condition is that?
- Martha:** ..... (3 mark)
- Mark:** But I don't like watching movies. .... (1 mark)
- Martha:** Boring? In that case..... (1 mark)
- Mark:** Wait. Wait..... (1 mark)
- Martha:** I don't think you're being selfish; all the same, I accept your apology.
- Mark:** ..... I agree with your suggestion. A football game followed by a movie it shall be. (1 mark)



101/1

ENGLISH

Paper 1

(Functional Skills)

Oct./Nov. 2015

2 hours

1. You are the secretary of the Young Farmers Club in your school. The club has just held its meeting. The patron of the club and eight of its ten members attended. The deputy principal also attended. During the meeting the issue of starting a fish pond was revisited. Members also discussed the following issues: club's financial status, members' annual trip and sale of club's farm produce.

Write down the minutes of the meeting. (20mks)

2. Read the passage below and fill in each blank space with the most appropriate word.

(10mks)

The positive way to react to disappointment is to use it as a (1)..... for growth. This is not easy, but it is the only way to deal with an (2)..... aspect of life. Helen, the woman who was not promoted, could have (3)..... her disappointment by looking at other (4)..... For instance, if her boss did not recognize her talent and hard work, (5)..... she could transfer to another department or ask the boss how she could improve her performance in order to be a candidate (6).....the next promotion. Jamal the young man who did not (7).....into the collage of his dreams, should look into other institutions of higher learning. Going to another college may encourage him to be his (8).....man, step out of his brother's shadow, and realize that being turned (9).....by one college is not a final judgement on his abilities or potential. Disappointments in life can make us bitter or better, (10)..... we become victims or victors of choice.

Adapted from: *College Writing Skills with Readings*, Sixth Edition. Newyork:

Lisa Moore (2005) by Langan John.

3. (a) *Study the passage below, which is about negotiation and conflict resolution, and then answer the questions that follow.*

One evening Linda was walking down a desolate, dangerous block lined with abandoned, boarded-up buildings when suddenly out of nowhere, she was surrounded by three boys

about fourteen years old. One pulled out a knife with a four inch blade as they pressed around her.

“Give me your purse! Now!” the boy with the knife hissed.

Though frightened, Linda had the presence of mind to take some deep breaths and reply coolly, “I’m feeling a little uncomfortable. You know, guys, you’re a little on my space. I’m wondering if you could step back a little.”

Linda studied the pavement – and, to her amazement, she saw them take a few steps back. “Thank you,” she said. Then she continued, “Now I want to hear what you said to me, but to tell you the truth, I’m a little nervous about that knife. I’m wondering if you could put it away.”

After what seemed an eternity of silence and uncertainty, the knife went back into a pocket.

Quietly reaching into her purse, Linda took out a 1,000/= shilling note, caught the eye of the one with the knife, and asked, “who should I give it to?”

“Me,” he said.

Glancing at the other two, she asked if they agreed. One of the two nodded.

“Great.” She said, handing the leader the 1,000/= shilling note. “Now here is what is going to happen. I’m going to stay right here while you walk away.”

With puzzled looks on their faces, the boys started to walk away, glancing over their shoulders at Linda – and then they broke into a run. They were running from her.

(Adapted from *Working with Emotional Intelligence* by Daniel Goleman. London: Bantam Books, 1999)

- i. From the passage, it is evident that Linda has excellent negotiation skills. Identify four of these skills. (4mks)
  - ii. Why would we describe this encounter as a win-win situation? Explain your answer. (3mks)
  - iii. Describe the rhythm of the last paragraph of this passage. (2mks)
- b. Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow:

### Reprise

Geniuses of countless nations  
 Have told their love for generations  
 Till all their memorable phrases  
 Are common as goldenrod or daisies.  
 Their girls have glimmered like the moon,  
 Or shimmered like the moon,  
 Stood like lily, fled like fawn,  
 Now the sunset, now the dawn,  
 Here the princess in the tower  
 There the forbidden flower.  
 Darling, when I look at you  
 Every aged phrase is new  
 And there are moments when it seems  
 I've married one of the Shakespeare's dreams.

By Ogden Nash in Literature.  
 Boston: McDougal Littell, 2008.

- i. Describe the rhyme scheme in this poem and say what it does. (4mks)
- ii. Identify and illustrate any two instances of alliteration in the poem. (2mks)
- iii. Explain how you would perform the last four lines. (3mks)

(c) Examine the sets of the words below and on the basis of the pronunciation of the vowel sounds that have been highlighted, pick the odd one out.

- |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| i. Leopard   | iv. Neither |
| Jeopardy     | either      |
| Deodorant    | neighbour   |
| ii. Audience | v. gone     |
| Haunt        | tone        |
| Loud         | bone        |
| iii. Said    | vi. food    |
| Paid         | fool        |
| Laid         | book        |

(d) On your way home from school, you meet a lady who tells you that she is new in the neighbourhood. She requests you to give her directions to the nearest police station. How would you ensure that the directions you give enable her to reach her destination? (6mks)



## ENGLISH

### PAPER 1

### FUNCTIONAL SKILLS

NOV. 2016

1. *Read the advertisement below and then answer the questions that follow.*

The Ministry of Health is seeking to recruit Form Four graduates to serve in a campaign in at creating awareness among young people on the importance of healthy eating.

Applicants must be:

- citizens of Kenya
- 16 years and above
- In possession of a national identification card
- Fluent in English and Kiswahili
- able to demonstrate knowledge and experience issues of healthy eating
- creative and innovative.

Interested persons are required to send their application to the following by 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2.016.

The Principal Secretary  
Ministry of Health  
P.O. Box 6789-001000

**NAIROBI**

- (a) Write a letter of application in response to the advertisement (12 mark)



(b) Write a Curriculum Vitae to accompany your application letter. (8 mark)



- 2 *Read the passage below and fill in each blank space with the most appropriate word.*  
(10 marks)

Neither time nor affluence removes memories (1) ..... childhood  
poverty. Experiences of poor children illustrate how significant (2) .....  
and status are  
in our society. Some adults think their (3) ..... or father was  
responsible  
(4) ..... their attitudes about money. Their current -understanding of (5)  
..... parents' past problems with money often provide little solace. A (6)  
..... of adults overcome the stigma of having been (7) .....  
as children. There are (8) ..... children who also develop unhealthy  
attitudes about money. Such (9) ..... imagine that money is all they  
need' to (10) ..... it in life. There is, however, more to life than money,

*(Adapted from: Harbrace Handbook, by Cheryl Glenn, et al. Boston: Thomson  
Wadsworth, 2004)*

- 3 (a) Read the poem below and then answer the questions that follow:

### **Giraffes**

Beyond the brassy sun-stare where each shade  
Crouches beneath its substance at mid-noon,  
The tall giraffes are gathered in a glade  
Grazing the green fruit of the midday moon.  
Patched with sienna shadows of the jungle,  
In pencil-slender attitudes they stand;  
Grotesque in camouflage, each curve and angle  
Is merged into the backcloth of the land.  
These circus creatures of a poet's dreaming  
Whose destiny on silent strings is spun,  
Are patterned in designs of nature's scheming  
To move through dappled woods and dun.  
Strange genesis in which the substance seeming



The shadow, is the street of the sun!

**By Phoebe Hesketh**

**(Adapted from: *Modern Poems for Common-wealth*, by Maurice  
Tollman & John gpcncr. London: George G. Harrap, 1966)**

- i) Describe the rhyme scheme of this poem and explain its function (3 marks)
- ii) Identify two instances of alliteration in this poem (2 marks)
- iii) How would you say the last line of the poem? (3marks)



b) You accidentally broke the windscreen of a stranger's car at the market near your home. Complete the following conversation between you and the stranger. Use courteous language.

You: (2 marks)

**Stranger:** I can't believe it. This is a brand new car.

You:.. (2 marks)

**Stranger:** Your parents will have to meet the cost of replacing the windscreen.

You:,, (2 marks)

**Stranger:** I hope you will learn the lesson to be more careful in future.

You (2 marks)

(c) Write down another word with a similar pronunciation for each of the ones given below. (5 marks)

(i) blew

(ii) serial

(Hi) cite

(iv) nun

(v) some

(d) You are listening to a speech about careers by a visitor to your school. A few minutes into the speech, you look around and notice that some of your fellow students are yawning, while others are showing signs of definite restlessness.

(i) What would be the likely cause of the students' behaviour? (3 marks)

(ii) What would you do to ensure you continue listening effectively? (3 marks)

(e) "In each group of the words below underline the word that is pronounced differently from the others. (3 marks)

(i) bread bleed bred

(ii) arch arc ark

(iii) hair heir air

