WASSCE LITERATURE 2014

PAPER ONE

SECTION I

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION.

PART I: GENERAL QUESTIONS ON LITERARY APPRECIATION

1. In drama, comic relief often occurs in

1. comedies.
2. tragedies.
3. historical plays.
4. romantic plays.

2. A struggle between opposing forces in a story or play is

1. denouement.
2. conflict.
3. comedy.
4. tragedy.

3. An expression from which one derives a mental picture is

1. paradox.
2. exaggeration.
3. imagery.
4. photography.

4. The repetition of the same vowel sounds in a line is

1. alliteration.
2. assonance.
3. onomatopoeia.
4. parallelism.

5. A character in the story who narrates what happens to him or her is

1. a second person narrator.
2. a first person narrator.
3. an omniscient narrator.
4. a third person narrator.

6. An understatement is otherwise called

1. litotes.
2. conceit.
3. pun.
4. contrast.

7. “The loneliest people live in the most crowded places” illustrates

1. paradox.
2. anecdote.
3. allegory.
4. parody.

8. A person’s life story written by another person is

1. a commentary.
2. a biography.
3. an autobiography.
4. an epistolary.

9. The term used to depict the freedom of a poet with language is

1. poetic diction.
2. bathos.
3. anastrophe.
4. poetic license.

10. A poem in which a lone speaker seems to be addressing someone else is a

1. pathetic fallacy.
2. verbal irony.
3. dramatic irony.
4. dramatic monologue.

11. A story which explains a natural phenomenon is

1. legend.
2. parable.
3. myth.
4. fiction.

12. A short poem that expresses an idea in a clever way is

1. an epigram.
2. a limerick.
3. an ode.
4. a lyric.

13. A literary work that vividly portrays life can be described as

1. realistic.
2. romantic.
3. idealistic.
4. sarcastic.

14. A character whose actions or qualities serve to heighten those of the hero through contrast is

1. an adversary.
2. a protagonist.
3. an antagonist.
4. a foil.

15. One of the following is used to develop character.

1. Climax
2. Atmosphere
3. Setting
4. Dialogue

16. A curtain raiser is an introductory performance that is

1. not part of the main play.
2. the first part of the main play.
3. not separate from the main play.
4. the first part of the final scene.

18. ..... in drama operates against a character who is unaware of a situation which the audience know about.

1. Verbal irony
2. Dramatic irony
3. Satire
4. Parody

Read the extract and answer questions 19 and 20.

Said the lion: “On music I dote
But something is wrong with my throat
When I practice a scale
The listeners quail
And flee at the first note”

19. What type of poem is this?

1. An epic
2. A limerick
3. Ode
4. A sonnet

20. The rhyme scheme of the poem is

1. aabba.
2. ababa.
3. ababb.
4. abbaa.

PART II: UNSEEN PROSE AND POETRY

Read the passage and answer questions 21 to 25.

The goldsmith at work is a priest at the altar. As though he were performing the Eucharist, he is engaged in deliberate motions of reverence. The small vials of various liquids such as mercury are little vessels of communion

wine. The minuscule rings of intricately crafted gold are like miniature wafers. He dips one tiny ring into a liquid, lifts it up to the sky and presses it into a space in the growing length of necklace. It fits—it is like dipping bread into wine and slipping it between the parted lips of a communicant. Our Lent vigils are not as solemn as the goldsmith's silent solemnity that directs his work. We look on as the wizardry of the master craftsman displays itself. We are held in thrall.

21. The subject matter of the passage is

1. a goldsmith at work.
2. celebrating the Eucharist.
3. a priest at the altar.
4. communion wine and wafers.

22. The dominant devices used are

1. personification and irony.
2. parallelism and repetition.
3. metaphor and simile.
4. metonymy and synecdoche.

23. The use of the above devices creates an atmosphere of

1. fear.
2. doom.
3. hope.
4. awe.

24. The writer's attitude is one of

1. bewilderment.
2. reverence.
3. indifference.
4. arrogance.

25. The narrative technique captures the ..... of the scene.

1. seriousness
2. vividness
3. ordinariness
4. loneliness

Read the poem and answer questions 26 to 30.

At dawn must I rise to till the rock
That our land has turned into
The land whereon we'd gleefully harvested paddy
Planted and nurtured and tended on plots marshy
Our woes are bloody woes of accursed revenges
Of the land spirits aggrieved by paltry human respect
For the life of fellow man by his fellow
Kindred blood has counted for less than no value
Brother's wife has been wife to other brother's brother
Communal loot has emptied our country silos
The earth has stopped breathing and sighed
Soldered tears has the moon shed
The earth was scorched at noonday night

And our land has turned to hoeing rock.

Note: Obvious OCR/typing errors have been lightly corrected. The original numbering skips question 17; the supplied numbering is preserved.

26. The theme of the poem is

1. famine and disease.
2. thought and heat.
3. abomination and retribution.
4. sickness and death.

27. The mood of the poet is one of

1. recklessness.
2. hopelessness.
3. happiness.
4. loneliness.

28. “The earth has stopped breathing and sighed” illustrates

1. bathos.
2. climax.
3. personification.
4. paradox.

29. The run-on lines convey the speaker’s

1. indignation.
2. lamentation.
3. disappointment.
4. defiance.

30. There is a predominance of words associated with

1. celebration.
2. nature.
3. governance.
4. nurture.