WASSCE Literature 2020

Paper One

SECTION 1

PART 1: KNOWLEDGE OF LITERATURE

1. A situation where an audience is aware of an action a character is ignorant of is

1. satire.
2. dramatic irony.
3. comic relief.
4. aside.

2. A fictional prose which is neither a novel nor a short story is

1. a novelette.
2. a novella.
3. a fable.
4. an allegory.

3. Condensed use of language is a dominant feature of

1. tragedy.
2. prose.
3. poetry.
4. comedy.

4. The sudden reversal of a character's fortune in a literary work is

1. peripeteia.
2. hubris.
3. hamartia.
4. denouement.

Read the extract below and answer Questions 5 to 7.

With the pen he wrote kings into reality
With his words, kingdoms arose
Those same words, slaves inhaled
Their hands building walls, their feet tromping territories
His pen was like the breath of life.

5. The underlined words illustrate

1. paradox
2. metonymy
3. irony
4. hyperbole

6. "Hands" and "feet" in line 4 illustrate

1. synecdoche.
2. personification.
3. litotes.
4. contrast.

7. "His pen was like the breath of life" exemplifies

1. simile.
2. satire.
3. pathos.
4. bathos.

8. Comic relief occurs in

1. tragedies.
2. romance.
3. pastorals.
4. comedies.

9. One week of fasting makes one weak is an example of

1. sarcasm.
2. pun.
3. paradox.
4. apostrophe.

10. “Students rarely read Julius Caesar these days” illustrates

1. zeugma.
2. oxymoron.
3. eponym.
4. caesura.

11. In Literature, the term poetic justice applies to

1. the rewarding of good characters and the punishing of bad ones.
2. the development of a good plot.
3. characters that are spared death.
4. a story that ends well.

12. Ascribing human moods to nature, as in “a playful breeze”, illustrates

1. transferred epithet.
2. symbolism.
3. pathetic fallacy.
4. humour.

13. The end of a performance is followed by

1. interlude.
2. epilogue.
3. a curtain raiser.
4. a curtain call.

Read the lines below and answer Question 14.

Marching along fifty score strong
Great-hearted gentlemen singing this song

14. The underlined words illustrate

1. alliteration
2. assonance
3. rhyme

4. onomatopoeia

15. A short poem with a witty or sarcastic ending is

1. a panegyric.
2. an epigram.
3. an allegory.
4. a ballad.

16. “The big boulder blasted the house” illustrates

1. paradox.
2. irony.
3. contrast.
4. alliteration.

Read the extract below and answer Questions 17 and 18.

I find no peace and all my war is done
I fear and hope. I burn and freeze like ice.

17. The dominant literary device used in the above lines is

1. understatement.
2. paradox.
3. hyperbole.
4. euphemism.

18. The feeling of the narrator in the above extract is one of

1. joy.
2. love.
3. fatigue.
4. confusion.

19. Which of the following is written by an African playwright?

1. The Blood of a Stranger
2. Lonely Days
3. A Raisin in the Sun
4. She Stoops to Conquer

20. Which of the following is written by a non-African poet?

1. The Panic of Growing Older
2. The Schoolboy
3. The Dining Table
4. Piano and Drums

PART II: UNSEEN PROSE AND POETRY

Read the passage below and answer Questions 21 to 25.

On, on, on, over the countless miles of angry space roll the long heaving billows. Mountains and caves are here; for what is not the one is now the other; then all is but a boiling heap of rushing water. Pursuit, and flight and mad return of wave on wave, and savage struggle, ending up in a spouting up of foam that whitens the black night; incessant change of place and form and hue; constancy in nothing but eternal strife.
On, on, on, they roll and darker grows the night; and louder howls the wind and more clamorous and fierce become the million voices in the sea when the wild cry goes forth upon the storm, “A ship!”

21. The most suitable title for the passage is

1. The Million Voices in the Sea.
2. The Long Heaving Waves.
3. At Sea on a Stormy Night.
4. A Savage Struggle at Night.

22. The predominant use of long vowels in the first sentence heightens the _____ of the waves.

1. endless movement
2. great noise
3. expanse
4. anger

23. The writer's attitude to the scene is one of

1. indifference.
2. contempt.
3. awe.
4. anxiety.

24. The expression "million voices" is used as

1. metonymy.
2. hyperbole.
3. euphemism.
4. conceit.

25. A ship in the last line symbolizes

1. sailors.
2. pirates.
3. hope.
4. despair.

Read the poem below and answer Questions 26 to 30.

Oft in the stilly night
Ere slumber's chain has bound me
Fond memory brings the light
Of other days around me:
The smiles, the tears
Of boyhood years.
The words of love then spoken:
The eyes that shone
How dimm'd and gone
The cheerful hearts now broken!
Thus in the stilly night
Ere slumber's chain has bound me.
Sad memory brings the light
Of other days around me.

26. The theme is about the poet's

1. yearning for happier times gone by.
2. sleepless nights.
3. fear of the stilly night.

4. broken love affairs.

27. The theme of the poem is presented essentially through

1. repetition.
2. paradox.
3. contrast.
4. assonance.

28. The two words that give a hint about the poet's unhappiness are

1. shone and dimm'd.
2. night and dimm'd.
3. light and shone.
4. light and night.

29. The poet refers to memory as being fond and sad because it brings

1. smiles and tears.
2. sorrow and pity.
3. love and joy.
4. cheers and smiles.

30. The meaning of the expression "Ere slumber's chain has bound me" is

1. since I cannot sleep.
2. before I dream.
3. before I sleep.
4. after I wake up.