

GATITU GIRLS FORM FOUR REVISION MATERIAL
Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (K.C.S.E.)
ENGLISH

101/1
PAPER 1

Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (K.C.S.E.)
ENGLISH

101/2

PAPER 2

Question 1: COMPREHENSION:

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

If, one morning, you happened to see a spider on the window, you probably would say, "Nasty, horrid spider." You might even run for a duster or a brush or roll up a newspaper and knock the poor spider down. If you did this; you would have slandered and perhaps murdered one of your best friends.

Why, you may wonder, should spiders be our friends? The reason is that they destroy so many insects, and insects include some of the greatest enemies of the human race. If it were not for the protection we get from insect-eating animals, insects would make it impossible for us to live. They would devour all our crops and kill our flocks and herds. We owe a lot to the birds and beasts that eat insects, but all of them put together kill only a fraction of the numbers destroyed by spiders. Moreover, unlike some of the other insect eaters, spiders never do the least harm to us or our belongings.

How many spiders are engaged in this work on our behalf? One authority on spiders made a census of the spiders in a grass field in the south of England. He estimated that there was more than 2,250,000 in one acre. That is something like 6,000,000 spiders of different kinds on a football pitch.

Spiders are busy for at least half the year killing insects. It is impossible to make more than the wildest guess at how many they kill, but they are hungry creatures, not contented with only three meals a day. It has been estimated that the one year would be greater than the total weight of all human beings in the country.

There are in Britain about 540 species of spiders, ranging in size from the one we are all familiar with, the house spider, which is the largest, down to some so small that one can barely see them. And they are everywhere, from the tops of the highest mountains down to the edge of the sea.

The only spiders that count for anything are the ladies. Men are kept very severely in their place by their wives. Indeed, some spiders appear to think that the only proper thing to do with a husband is to eat him! It is essentially a woman's world.

Even if you cannot learn to like these hard-working faithful friends, remember the old rhyme that warns you:

If you wish to live and thrive, let a spider run alive.

- (a) Why might you describe a spider as nasty and horrid?
(2mks)
- (b) Explain why the spider is one of your best friends?
(2mks)
- (c) In note form, give the advantages human race get from spiders.
(4mks)
- (d) How can you tell from the passage that a football pitch is larger than one acre?
(2mks)

- (e) Find proof from the passage to show that some spiders are cannibals.
(2mks)
- (f) Why are 'men' spiders severely kept by their wives?
(1mk)
- (g) The reason is that they destroy so many insects and insects include some of the greatest enemies of human race (write in passive voice)
(1mk)
- (h) They would devour all our crops and kill our flocks and herds.
(Change the above into an interrogative)
(1mk)
- (i) It is essentially a woman's world.
(Give the contextual meaning of the above sentence)
(1mk)
- (j) How does the following sentence summarize the content of the passage?
(1mk)
'If you wish to live and thrive, let a spider run alive.'
- (k) Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage.
(3mks)
- Slandered:
 - Horrid
 - Devour:

2) ORAL NARRATIVE

Mola had two wives. The first wife was faithful and had borne him children. The second wife was a fickle woman, greedy and jealous. Now Mola had taken a third wife, who admired him as a great chief. She was so devoted to him that she praised him even while she worked. Whatever she was doing, grinding, pounding, or harvesting, she would praise his name in songs like this one:

Mola my husband is great like my father,
Mola my master, a lion in the hills,
When he is away, I scan the hill slopes,
His strength crushes me like the eagle crushing a buck's shoulder blade.
I am the field for his hoe, the soil waiting for the first rains.
I hang like a liana from the mighty branches of a forest-giant.
I find shelter in his presence like the velvet monkey in the thick foliage.
Of the mahogany tree.
I am my Mola's mola; I fit round his strong arm.
I am like the bats hanging from the ceiling of the caves in the rocks.
He is the rock that no spear can kill...

The second wife was annoyed with these praises for a husband who did not, she felt, give her enough presents. What was worse, the singing pleased her husband so much that he lavished most of his attentions on the third wife. So the second wife decided to sing him a song of her own.

Mola, my brother, be silent in the mountain

It contained many more lines one could understand. Mola began to sink into the ground, like a tree in a flood. At last he disappeared altogether, and the earth covered him altogether, and earth covered his head. The first and third wives began to wail loudly.

Mola found himself in the land below. He traveled along a path until he came to copse. He decided to build a house there, but as soon as he started cutting a tree, all the trees began to cry for help. So he walked on.

Then he came to a forest where he found hundreds of mushrooms. He collected large numbers until he was suddenly surrounded by the king's soldiers, who accused him of stealing the royal herd. He said: "I was only collecting mushrooms." He opened his bags and found animals. He emptied his bag and the animals turned into mushrooms again. He looked at the soldiers but he saw only trees.

He went on and met an old woman. She said, "guard my millet field while I am away. But do not try to catch the birds, just chase them by shouting." She vanished and at once a flock of orange birds descended and began to eat the millet. He burnt his fingers and went away. Behind a bush he met a great lion who told him "You are trespassing in my kingdom, but if you bring me the fire, I will give you half of my cattle." Mola went on and found lightning, who was sitting in an old tree. He concluded a pact of friendship with lightning, who gave him a flaming torch. Mola brought the torch to King Lion, who was so pleased that he gave him cows.

Suddenly, he heard the voice of his mother crying and complaining: Oh my son, who always worked for me, he used to hoe my fields! Alas for his mother! Who will now harvest my millet for me? I am old and weak!"

When Mola heard this he asked permission of the lion to return to his own country, because his old mother urgently needed help with the crops. The lion agreed that this was a valid reason and called his guards to guide Mola to the door. The guards showed him a cave and Mola drove his cattle through the narrow opening. He found himself in the bushes at the foot of the hill not far from his own village. He drove the cows to his own Kraal.

There was a great rejoicing in his compound, when the children saw him they raced out to meet him. The hunting dogs yelped around him. The news soon spread; Mola has come back from the underworld a rich man. His mother said: "Chase away that evil woman who bewitched you." The villagers stoned the second wife. The third wife took her nanga, a stringed instrument and sang: My husband has come back from the land of graves. He lives again like fire in the morning

- (i) Giving two reasons, explain why this narrative could be classified as a legend. (2mks)
- (ii) Identify the oral features evident in the story. (4mks)
- (iii) "Mola has come back from the underworld a rich man." Explain the irony in this statement. (2mks)
- (iv) Describe the character of the second wife and show how it affects the events of the story. (3mks)
- (v) From what happened to Mola later, how would you interpret the line: (1mk)
- (vi) "Mola, my brother, be silent in the mountain" (1mk)
- (vii) With clear illustrations, identify any other figures of speech used in the narrative. (4mks)
- (viii) Explain the attitude of the third wife towards her husband. (2mks)
- (ix) What can we learn about the values of this community? (2mks)

Question 4: Grammar (15 Marks)

- (a) Rewrite the following sentences as instructed: (4mks)

- (i) He ran away. He shouted as he ran. (*Rewrite to end Shouting*)
- (ii) Wanga wrote an article. He posted it on the website. (*Join the sentence to begin: Having....*)
- (iii) Those men have messed up our lives. (*Change into passive*)
- (iv) She asked me who I was. (*Change into direct speech*).

(b) Supply the statements below with appropriate question tags.
(2mks)

- (i) No one came
- (ii) They must abide by the school rules
- (iii) She hardly ever goes to church

(c) Fill in the blank spaces with the correct form of the words in the brackets.
(2mks)

- (i) This is the _____ of all the sums (easy).
- (ii) He did not know the reason for his _____ (dismiss)
- (d) Explain the meaning of each of the following sentences

- (i) She found the farmer was small.
- (ii) She found he was a small farmer.

(e) Replace the underlined clauses with prepositional phrases in the sentences below
(2mks)

- (i) The girl who is wearing a red dress is my cousin.
- (ii) The animals which have tracks are endangered.

(f) Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with the type of connectors shown in brackets.
(3mks)

- (i) the hot weather, the scouts walked twenty kilometers. (contrast).
 - (ii) Many insects the praying mantis, can fly. (illustration).
- I was exhausted I sat down to rest. (consequence)