



# EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ESWATINI

## Junior Certificate Examination

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**LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

**120/02**

**Paper 2 (Unseen Text)**

**October/November 2020**

**1 hour 30 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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### **READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Follow the instructions on the front cover of the booklet.

Write your name, Centre Number and candidate number on all the work you hand in.

Write in **dark blue or black ink**.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **one** question. **Either** Question 1 **or** Question 2.

At the end of the examination fasten all your work securely together.

Both questions in this Question Paper are worth 20 marks each.

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This document consists of **5** printed pages and **3** blank pages.

Answer **either** Question 1 **or** Question 2

## EITHER

1 Read the following passage about two boys who are being chased by a furious bear.

### What feelings are evoked as you read this passage?

To help you answer the question you might like to consider the following:

- the danger posed by the bear
- the fear felt by Denys and Gerard
- the writer's choice of words

### Pursued by a Bear

Denys climbed faster than his pursuer and was soon at the top of the small tree. He looked this way and that for some bough<sup>1</sup> of another tree to jump to, but there was none. If he jumped down, the bear would be upon him before he could recover from his fall and make short work of him.

He drew his long knife to stab the huge brute as soon as she should mount within the reach, but he knew that the bear's head and neck were protected by bone and masses of hair. His knife would merely sting the bear, and the bear would crack him like a nut. 5

When Gerard saw his friend's mortal danger, he slipped down his tree in a moment, caught up the crossbow<sup>2</sup> and sent an arrow into the bear's body with a loud shout. The bear gave a snarl of rage and pain and turned her head. 10

"Keep away!" cried Denys, "or you are dead man."

"I don't care," said Gerard, and shot fiercely into the bear, screaming, "Take that, and that!"

"Get away, idiot!" roared Denys. 15

Finding so troublesome a foe behind her, the bear slipped down the trunk, rending deep furrows in it as she slipped. Gerard ran back to his tree and climbed swiftly.

When he reached a massive bough shooting upwards at a slight angle, he threw his body across it, and by a series of efforts worked it up to the end.

Then he looked round, panting. 20

The bear was still mounting the tree. He heard her claws scrape and saw her huge bulk at both sides of the massive tree. When she reached the fork<sup>3</sup>, however, she passed it, mounting the main stem. Gerard drew breathe more freely for a short while. Presently she caught sight of him. She eyed him steadily. Then she quietly descended the fork. 25

Slowly and cautiously the bear stretched out her paw and tried the bough. It was a stiff oak branch, sound as iron. Instinct taught the creature that it was safe. She crawled carefully out on the bough, growling savagely as she came.

Gerard looked wildly down. He was very high up. Death below, death moving slowly

but surely on him in a still more horrible form. His hair bristled<sup>4</sup>. He came out in sweat. 30  
 He sat helpless, fascinated, tongue-tied.

The bear crawled on. The doomed man saw the open jaws and bloodshot eyes coming, but in a mist.

Then he heard a twang. He glanced down. Denys, white and silent as death, was shooting up at the bear. The bear snarled at the noise but crawled on. Again the 35  
 crossbow twanged. The bear snarled and came nearer. She was now close upon Gerard, where he sat with hair standing on end and eyes starting from his sockets. The bear her jaws like a grave, and hot blood spouted from her mouth upon Gerard. The bough rocked. The wounded monster was reeling<sup>5</sup>. She stuck her claws deeper into the branch. Her huge teeth snapped together loudly close below Gerard. Then 40  
 she lost her grip and tumbled down, ponding the ground below with a tremendous thump.

There was a shout of triumph below, and the very next instant a cry of dismay, for Gerard had fainted, and without any attempt to save himself, rolled headlong from the perilous height. 45

His best friend was now on the dying bear, on whose hairy body he safely fell, head and shoulders first.

### Glossary

1. **Bough:** a main branch of a tree.
2. **Crossbow:** a type of weapon made of a piece of curved wood with a string attached to each end, used for shooting arrows.
3. **Fork:** a point where a tree divides into two parts.
4. **Bristled:** hair rising or standing on end in reaction to fear.
5. **Reeling:** walking unsteadily as if about to fall.

Or

**2 Read the poem below and explain what you feel while reading it.**

In your response, you may include:

- the story being told in the poem
- the language of the poem
- any other ideas you might have

**Footpath**

Path-let...leaving home, leading out,  
 Return my mother to me.  
 The sun is sinking and darkness coming,  
 Hens and cocks are already inside and babies drowsing<sup>1</sup>,  
 Return my mother to me. 5

We do not have fire-wood and I have not seen the lantern<sup>2</sup>,  
 There is no more food and the water has run out.  
 Path-let I pray you, return my mother to me.  
 Path of the hillocks, path of the small stones,  
 Path of slipperiness, path of the mud, 10  
 Return my mother to me.  
 Path of the papyrus, path of the rivers,  
 Path of the small forests, path of the reeds,  
 Return my mother to me.  
 Path that winds, path of the short-cut, 15  
 Over-trodden path, newly-made path,  
 Return my mother to me.  
 Path, I implore you, return my mother to me.  
 Path of the crossways, path that branches off,  
 Path of the stinging shrubs, path of the bridge, 20  
 Return my mother to me.  
 Path of the open, path of the valley,  
 Path of the steep climb, path of the downward slope,

Return my mother to me.

Children are drowsing about to sleep,

25

Darkness is coming and there is no fire-woof,

And I have not yet found the lantern:

Return my mother to me.

## Glossary

1. **Drowsing:** beginning to fall asleep.
2. **Lantern:** a lamp with a transparent case protecting the bulb, and typically having a handle by which it can be carried or hung with.



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