

KIYALA HIGH SCHOOL

MID-TERM ASSESSMENT TEST 2025

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

S.4

Time: 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS:

- This paper consists of *two* sections: *A* and *B*. It has four examination items.
- Section *A* is *compulsory*.
- Answer *one* item from Section *B*.
- Answer *three* examination items in all.

Section A

Item 1

Read the text below.

Many adolescents have not experienced a world without media. Watching television; listening to music; reading books, magazines or newspapers; and surfing the internet is part of their daily lives. Through the media, young people are able to interact, access information and communicate easily. The media, if used properly, can be very influential and beneficial to the users.

What influence does media have on adolescents? Suppose one watched television all day. What if one used a mobile telephone for hour? How would that affect an adolescent?

The media has ability to generate both positive and negative effects.

Adolescents can benefit from watching television and browsing the internet. Some of the Programmes on television and radio help in learning skills such as cooking, painting, and gardening, among others. The media can also engage adolescents in learning gaming activities such as chess, puzzles and video games which help keep their minds active.

Adolescents also immensely benefit from social media. They can form friendships, share opinions and express themselves in various ways. Teachers and learners can use media platforms to stay connected and to enhance the teaching and learning process.

The media provides entertainment, which can help adolescents to relax during their leisure time. This deters them from engaging in harmful activities such as drug abuse, premarital sex and crime.

However, exposure to too much media can have a negative effect on adolescents. Research has shown that the use of social media may undesirably affect face-to-face relationships. It talks face –to- face. This affects the way adolescents interact with others and may result in poor verbal communication skills. Moreover, too much screen time may reduce time for engaging in physical activities. One may become a couch potato, which may cause obesity and other health problems.

The media influences us to see things in a certain way, for example the way we dress or speak. Just like adults, the attitudes and beliefs of adolescents are getting influenced by the information they access. The information on some media channels is false. Imagine watching an advertisement that tells you that if you drink a certain beverage you will become muscular in a few days? Or if you use a certain product, your skin will be flawless? Supposing you tried the drink and used the product and the results were different? This could result in low self-esteem. Moreover, the media presents model body images that result in unfavorable social comparison with others.

This may lead to eating disorders as adolescents seek to look like the models they see in the media. Some adolescents end up depressed because of the unrealistic expectations that are portrayed.

The media also exposes adolescents to sex and negative messages that go against their cultural and religious beliefs. This results in emotional and psychological conflicts. Some of the music and films found in the media have toxic content.

Overuse of the media may lead to addiction, time wastage and declining performance in studies. Often, adolescents experience cyber bullying and harassment on social media. Stories have been reported of adolescents committing suicide because of being body –shamed after they posted their pictures online.

Undoubtedly, the influence of the media on the psychosocial development of adolescents is huge and should be taken seriously. Parents play an important role in shaping the social learning of their children. Exposure to any media must always be supervised. Many digital devices come with control measures that parents and teachers can use to monitor and restrict what adolescents and children watch. Adolescents should be educated on the effects of the media and set limits on the amount of time they spend on it.

Task;

A counselor came to your school and addressed students on the influence of media on adolescents. Some of your friends were absent.

Tell them the negative effects of social media in 120 words.

Rough copy

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Fair copy

[illegible]

Item 2:

Read the text below.

It is not usual that something confusing happens in school, but yesterday was a hilarious day.

During the constitutional club meeting, a curious thing happened. The club has always been led by the boys in Form Four since its inception last year. But now the leadership consists of more girls than boys. The boys in leadership now are those call themselves gender sensitive. Some club members felt that the club leadership did not reflect the aspiration of most members. It was possible to hear them make fun of the girls in the club in a manner that was no longer acceptable.

The other day, the chairman told a member to stop behaving like a girl. This remark was not taken kindly by the girls in the club. Lynn asked aptly, “Does behaving like a girl have a positive or a negative meaning?” at this point most of the boys laughed and did a lot of foot – thumping. Not all the boys agreed with this behavior, though.

In the course of last week, all the boys who said they were in the ‘gender sensitive squad’ and the girls, decided to initiate a ‘coup’. They said they were going to effect change and reverse the rules of the game. So, elections were called to elect new club officials. As usual, the incumbent office bearers sought re-election not knowing that it was going to be a new ball game. If you ask me, I think they assumed they would easily win. Their campaigns kicked off with lots of posters as usual. Some of the posters read, ‘I am the best’. Or ‘Vote for continuity’.

One campaign poster stood out. It read, ‘throw the male chauvinists out, now!’ It was a new idea and it worked. Most of the students were curious. They voted for change and creativity.

One girl who sought the chairperson’s post told the voters, “Gone are the days when girls were too soft to lead. We have what it takes to lead.” She actually won along with three other girls and a couple of boys from the ‘gender sensitive squad.’

During the club meeting yesterday, one of the ‘overthrown officials remarked that members were used to addressing ‘a chairman’ and wondered what the new official would be addressed as; ‘Madam chairman’ or ‘chairman’?

Martha retorted, “Just call me Madam. The club will still function well”. At this point, everyone in the club applauded.

A new day was indeed here with us. Gone were days when the girls’ roles in the club were simply supportive.

Task

(a) “Gone are the days when girls were too soft to lead. We have what it takes to lead.” Report Martha’s Words.

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(b) What character of Martha is reflected in this text?

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(c) What feelings are aroused in you after reading this text and why.

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(d) Every text one reads should be a learning point. What lessons have you learnt in this text.

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(e) Do you think it was right for the boys to lead the club without including girls yet it was a mixed school? Give reasons for your answer.

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Section B (Choose one item from this section)

Item 3

There are rumors of an impending strike which has been circulating in school like wildfire since the beginning of the term. The headteacher has asked you as the chairperson student council to address students on the dangers of strikes.

Task

Write your address.

Item 4

Getting out of school without permission is breaking one of the school rules and it is punishable by expulsion. You have escaped from school and on your way back you have been caught red-handed sneaking in school by the headteacher.

Task

Plead with the headteacher in writing.

SUCCESS