

112/1 COMPOSITION WRITING

CREATIVE WRITING S.3 & S.4

SECTION B

A composition is a continuous piece of writing developed in a logical sequence. It should be clear, relevant and imaginative.

1. Narrative composition: This involves telling a story or giving an orderly account of events. This is the easiest to write because we practice story telling every day. In writing a composition, the writer should not only arouse the interest of the reader but also sustain it. It should have a theme, character, plot, climax and ending.

Examples:

- A narrow escape
- A guilty conscience needs no accuser
- A strange dream
- A loud knock on the door startled me out of my deep thought...
- Mistaken identity.

2. Expository composition: It involves explanation of a process, function, thought or institution. It should be based on actual fact, be clear and give a complete picture.

Examples:

- How to take care of a sick person
- How to keep physically fit
- The importance of bicycles in a community.

3. Argumentative composition: This presents facts of a specific case in a manner that aims to persuade or convince the reader to accept the writer's point of view

Examples

- Kiswahili should be made an official language in Uganda. Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer.
- Sex education should be introduced in secondary schools
- How to solve problems of unemployment in Uganda.

4. Descriptive: This says what someone, something, or event is like. When writing one should use various sensory details that is what you see hear touch, taste and smell.

Examples:

- A mysterious medicine man
- An embarrassing moment
- The person I hate most.

GOOD PRACTICES IN COMPOSITION WRITING

1. Paragraphing – ensure proper paragraphing; begin a fresh idea in a new paragraph.
2. Separate article “a” from the noun it precedes
3. Use capital letters to begin proper nouns
4. Leave adequate space between words.
5. Keep closed compound words together
6. Separate open compound words
7. Use a variety of sentence structure
8. Ensure agreement of tenses
9. Avoid digression, stick to the subject of your essay
10. Use appropriate vocabulary
11. Employ the use of correct idioms
12. Use proper punctuation especially for direct speech
13. Use appropriate idea connectors
14. Use elevated vocabulary.

BAD PRACTICES IN COMPOSITION WRITING

1. Using contracted or short forms of words for example, don't, it's, won't etc.
2. Repetition of word or phrases
3. Poor paragraphing links by
 - Skipping of lines
 - Using sub-titles
 - Numbering of points
4. Beginning sentences with words such as 'but, and, therefore, so, because'.
5. Dotting the pronoun 'I'
6. Breaking words at the end of lines
7. Ridiculous use of idioms
8. Misspelling of elementary vocabulary
9. Using wrong tenses
10. Wrong word order

EXERCISE:

Attempt any of the questions below

Narrative writing

1. Write a story ending “..... I could not believe that I had been involved in such a nasty deed.
2. Write a story beginning “A loud knock on the door startled me out of my deep thought...
3. Write a story on one of the topics below
 - (a) Mistaken identity
 - (b) A narrow escape
 - (c) A strange dream
 - (d) Trouble at home
 - (e) Hurry hurry has no blessing
 - (f) A bird at hand is worth two in the bush.

Descriptive composition

1. Describe a farewell party that you once attended
2. Describe an incident in which a function you attended turned into chaos
3. Describe the person you like or hate most.

Augmentative composition

1. What is your view about abstaining from sex till marriage?
2. ‘Sports betting is the root cause of crime in our society’. Do you agree or not
3. ‘The next president of Uganda should be a woman’. Do you agree or not. Give reasons for your answer.

END