



EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ESWATINI  
Junior Certificate Examination

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**LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**

**120/02**

**Paper 2** (Unseen Text)

**October/November 2024**

**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 paper are worth 20 marks.

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

### Either

1 Read the passage below from a story about a teacher who always goes out of his way to help his students.

**Explore how the writer's use of language makes you emotional as you read the passage.**

To help you answer the question, you may consider the following:

- the depiction of the teacher
- the description of Zani
- the portrayal of Zani's family
- any other ideas that might come to you as you read this passage

### The Teacher to Zani's Rescue

But I knew he was in no condition to walk by himself. I looked at his home. There were tall reeds growing round the house along the fence. They rustled slowly in the slight breeze and seemed to make the space around the house darker than it actually was. From the groggy<sup>1</sup> chant of men's voices, I knew that Zani's mother had customers.

'I think I'm bleeding again,' said Zani. 5

I steadied him. What if I threw a stone on the roof and then left him at the gate? They would find him there. But how could I afford the scandalous indignity<sup>2</sup> of such an act? Surely there was still some decency in me. How could I face them in there: I who did not have the right to hate and be angry? A car turning into Thope Street and throwing our long shadows far into the street decided for me. I eased Zani into the yard and was glad to be out of the glare of headlamps. I tried to knock on the front door, but my knock was drowned by the singing drinkers. 10

'That is my room,' said Zani, ' but I did not take the key when I left this afternoon. Please, let's go round to the back.' We went. And I remembered that the last time I was there, some years back, was to find out why Mimi had not been coming to school. I came round that morning to the back and found a row of six men kneeling, each before a hole. They drank a gallon of water into which Mimi's mother had put some herbs. Then each man inserted his hand into his mouth and vomitted. MaButhelezi, Mimi's mother, looked at them carefully from the door of the kitchen. 15

'Don't knock,' said Zani. 'Just open the door.' I did as I was commanded and eased him in sideways. Three women had been laughing when I opened the door. And then there was silence. Mimi stood up slowly as our eyes met. But my eyes quickly went from her to her mother, MaButhelezi, and to her sister, Busi. 20

'What has happened?' said Mimi, her voice trembling with emotion. But her sister screamed and jumped towards us, all the while saying: 'What have you done to him?' She pulled Zani from me with such violence that I lost my balance and staggered<sup>3</sup> helplessly behind them. It was the table that saved me from falling with what would surely have been great indignity. 25

### Glossary

1. **groggy**: weak and unsteady.
2. **indignity**: something that causes loss of respect for someone or for yourself.
3. **staggered**: walk or move unsteadily, as if about to fall.

**TURN OVER FOR QUESTION 2**

Or

- 2 Read the following poem by Alexander Pushkin, where he shares memories he has of his home after coming back from exile.

**Explore how the speaker expresses memories of his home.**

In your response you may consider:

- the speaker's attitudes and feelings
- writer's use of language
- your feelings as you read the poem

### I Have Visited Again

... I have visited again

That corner of the earth where I spent two  
 Unnoticed, exiled<sup>1</sup> years. Ten years have passed  
 Since then, and many things have changed for me,  
 And I have changed too, obedient to life's law- 5

But now that I am here again, the past  
 Has flown out eagerly to embrace me, claim me,  
 And it seems that only yesterday I wandered  
 Within these groves<sup>2</sup>.

Here is the cottage, sadly 10

Declined now, where I lived with my poor old nurse.  
 She is no more. No more behind the wall  
 Do I hear her heavy footsteps as she moved  
 Slowly, painstakingly<sup>3</sup> about her tasks.

here are the wooded slopes where often I 15

Sat motionless, and looked down at the lake,  
 Recalling other shores and other waves ...  
 It gleams between golden cornfields and green meadows,  
 A wide expanse; across its fathomless<sup>4</sup> waters  
 A fisherman passes, dragging an ancient net. 20

Along the shelving banks, hamlets are scattered  
 -Behind them the mill, so crooked it can scarcely  
 Make its sails turn in the wind...

On the bounds 25

Of my ancestral acres, at the spot  
 Where a road, scarred by many rainfalls, climbs  
 The hill, three pine-tree stand –one by itself,  
 The others close together. When I rode  
 On horseback past them in the moonlit night,  
 The friendly rustling murmur of their crowns 30

Would welcome me. Now, I have ridden out  
 Upon that road, and seen those trees again.  
 They have remained the same, make the same murmur-  
 But round their ageing roots, where all before  
 Was barren, naked, a thicket of young pines 35

Has sprouted; like green children round the shadows  
 Of the two neighboring pines. But in the distance  
 Their solitary comrade stands, morose,  
 Like some old bachelor, and round its roots

All is barren as before. 40  
   I greet you, young  
 And unknown tribe of pine-trees! I'll not see  
 Your mighty upward thrust of years to come  
 When you will overtop these friends of mine  
 And shield their ancient summits from the gaze 45  
 Of passers-by. But may my grandson hear  
 Your welcome murmur when, returning home  
 From lively company, and filled with gay  
 And pleasant thoughts, he passes you in the night,  
 And think perhaps of me... 50

### Glossary

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|--------------------------|---|
| <b>1. exiled:</b>        | barred, expelled or banned from one's country usually for political reasons |
| <b>2. groves:</b>        | a small group of trees  |
| <b>3. painstakingly:</b> | thoroughly  |
| <b>4. fathomless:</b>    | extremely deep  |





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