

**S.2– TERM II EXAMINATIONS – AUGUST 2019**  
**LITERATURE IN ENGLISH**  
**TIME: 1 ½ Hours**

NAME ..... STREAM .....

INDEX NUMBER .....

**INSTRUCTIONS:** *Answer all questions*

**1. Read the following passage from *Memoirs of a mother* and answer the following questions.**

I cannot describe Masaaba's excitement beyond this. It is such a harsh memory to withhold. To think that he could only be gripped over not wanting to claim responsibility of my pregnancy depresses me. He had tried to soothe me, telling me we were both not ready for family life. Not wanting to spoil the day, we promised each other that we would be cautious the next time. The next, time indeed. There was never a next time.

My womb had only teased me. What I had seen had just been a mirage. On returning home I decided to soothe my body and clean up after the long journey. I was stunned that my sanitary pad was dry. What could have happened to the flow? Could all the wetness I had felt been only sweat running down my thighs?

I panicked. God, what had happened to my prayer? Did it not reach you? Or was the communication cut by lightning on the way to heaven? I cried desperately. I prayed shakily, 'God, bring back my period. I promise you, if you do, I'll never have sex before marriage. Amen.'

**Questions:**

(a) State who Masaaba was

- (i) His relationship with the speaker .....
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- .....
- .....
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- .....

(ii) What type of person was he? (Describe his character traits)

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(b) State the circumstances which lead Sera to getting pregnant

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(c) State the disagreement between Masaaba and Sera on the pregnancy

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(d) What was the reaction of the following people towards Sera's pregnancy?

(i) Papa

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(ii) Mayi

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(iii) Mr and Mrs. Onyango

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**2. State the lessons we learn from Sera’s experience with Masaaba**

- (i) .....
- (ii) .....
- (iii) .....
- (iv) .....

**3. State what had happened just before this passage**

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**4. State what followed soon after this incident**

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**5. Explain the following words as used in the passage**

(a) gripped

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(b)     depresses  
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(c)     teased  
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(d)     mirage  
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(e)     stunned  
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(f)     soothe  
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\*\*\*\* **END** \*\*\*\*