# THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

## SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENT
## MUSIC AND DANCE (WRITTEN ASSESSMENT)
## GRADE 10
## 2026

**Time: 2 hours**

**Name: _____Assessment No.: _____**

**School Name: _____Signature: _____**

**Instructions**

(i) This paper consists of **3 sections: A Multiple choice** questions, **B Structured** questions, and **C Essay** question.
(ii) Answer **ALL** questions.
(iii) For Section A, four responses, A, B, C and D are given to each question. Choose only **ONE** correct response and write it in the box on the right margin.
(i) For Sections B and C, write your answers **clearly** in the spaces provided in this booklet.
(ii) Use **blue or black ink** for writing and **pencil** for music notation.
(iii) All responses must be written in **English**.

| For Teacher's Use Only | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **Max. Score** | **Learner's Score** |
| **SECTION A** | **Task 1** *Qn 1, 2, 3, 4,5,8,9,11,12,15, 17,18, 19* | **13** | |
| | **Task 2** *Qn 6,7,10, 13,14,16,20* | **07** | |
| **SECTION B** | **Task 3** *Qn 21, 22* | **11** | |
| | **Task 4** *Qn 23,24* | **06** | |
| | **Task 5** *Qn 25* | **07** | |
| | **Task 6** *Qn 26* | **06** | |
| **SECTION C** | **Task 7** Qn 27 | **10** | |
| **Total** | | **60** | |

**This paper consists of 8 printed pages**

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## SECTION A: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (20 MARKS)

*Answer **all** questions in this section. Write your answer in the **box** on the right margin.*

1. A Grade 10 learner is sourcing for a Kenyan folk song to perform at a school cultural festival. Which of the following factors should guide the learner's choice of song?
   A. The bowing, tonguing, and strumming requirements
   B. The gender, age, occasion, and costume suitability
   C. The key signature and time signature of the song
   D. The plainsong texture and organum voicing patterns

2. A teacher instructed a learner to observe performance directions regarding dynamics whiles singing a Western solo song. Which set of directions did the learner follow?
   A. Allegro, largo, moderato
   B. Dolce, expressivo,Gracioso
   C. Forte, Piano, mezzoforte
   D. Staccatto, legato, fermata

3. Kenyan indigenous instruments produce sound through three of the methods in the options below **except**?
   A. Bowing
   B. Plucking
   C. Striking
   D. Tonguing

4. Which of the following options comprises instruments of the string family?
   A. Drum set, cymbals, claves, and pianos
   B. Flute, clarinet, oboe, and cor anglais
   C. Trumpet, tuba, horn, and trombone
   D. Violin, viola, cello and double bass

5. A song performance comprises of a variety of elements that together contribute to the overall effect of the song. Identify the pair consisting of expressive elements only.
   A. Gestures and tone colour
   B. Overlapping and imitation
   C. Pitching and tempo
   D. Rhythm and pitching

6. Which one of the following genres of music was performed during the Medieval Period?
   A. Canzona
   B. Madrigal
   C. Organum
   D. Toccata

7. Which of the following is a function of song and dance in an African traditional naming ceremony?
   A. To appease the ancestors
   B. To educate bride and groom
   C. To encourage the initiate
   D. To mock the cowards

8. A group of Grade 10 learners choreographed a contemporary dance routine based on Kenyan popular music to address a pertinent community issue. Identify the basic dance performance skills executed by these learners.
   A. Costume and decor
   B. Movement and release
   C. Posture and alignment
   D. Storyline and improvisation

9. Which statement best explains "*fall and recovery"* in Kenyan contemporary dance performance?
   A. A warm-up exercise done before the main routine dance
   B. A way of changing costume fast and smoothly during the dance
   C. A movement idea that shows giving in to and regaining balance
   D. A fixed set of floor patterns used in every choreography

10. Which feature correctly describes the Renaissance madrigal?
    A. It is strictly monophonic and unaccompanied
    B. It uses polyphony and imitation between voices
    C. It avoids consonant intervals such as thirds and sixths
    D. It is performed only by solo voice without choral group

11. A youth group used a contemporary dance routine to campaign against drug abuse in their estate. Which social function of music and dance did they fulfil?
    A. Economic empowerment and support
    B. Political propaganda and campaign
    C. Social education and advocacy
    D. Religious teaching and support

12. Which option describes improvisation in choreography of a Kenyan contemporary dance routine?
    A. Copying movements exactly from a recorded video
    B. Dancing randomly without set movements
    C. Exploring movements freely within the set theme
    D. Repeating one fixed sequence without variation

13. A Grade 10 learner undertook the following tasks while transcribing a melody using music notation software:

(i) Converting music to other formats
(ii) Saving music
(iii) Editing music
(iv) Keying in music
(v) Sharing with others

Which one of the following is the correct order of these tasks?

A. (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v)
B. (ii), (iv), (i), (iii), (v)
C. (iii), (i), (iv), (ii), (v)
D. (iv), (iii), (ii), (i), (v)

14. Which one of the following best represents the role of text in a folksong performance?

A. Articulating values of the community
B. Identifying instrumentation used
C. Identifying the responsorial group only
D. Guiding all rehearsal activities

15. Halima performed a solo song starting moderately soft then gradually getting louder. Which term is used to describe the dynamic expression used?

A. Accelerando
B. Crescendo
C. Decrescendo
D. Diminuendo

16. Grade 10 learners were required to sing a melody in the key of G major. It sounded rather high for all the learners. They decided to transpose the song a minor third lower. In which key did they sing?

A. A major
B. B flat major
C. D major
D. E major

17. Three of the factors below influence the design of costumes for a group dance. Which one **does not**?

A. Availability of resources
B. Location of performance
C. Size of the dancers
D. Theme of the dance

18. Which of the following pairs of traditional music instruments consists of **pitched idiophones** only?

    A. Erisege and Nzuga
    B. Kayamba and Kigamba
    C. Marimba and Adongo
    D. Peke and Kiriandit

19. Below is a drum from a coastal community in Kenya. It is tuned using a variety of methods.



Which of the methods below is **not** appropriate for tuning this drum?

    A. Applying water on the membrane
    B. Rubbing the resonator using ash
    C. Tightening and loosening the laces
    D. Warming the membrane on the sun

20. Which statement is true about the Medieval and Renaissance motets?

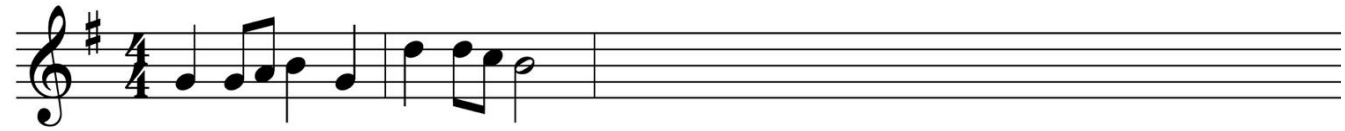
    A. Medieval motet was accompanied while the Renaissance motet was acapella
    B. Medieval motet was performed solo while the Renaissance motet was choral
    C. Medieval motet was polyphonic while the Renaissance motet was monophonic
    D. Medieval motet was secular while the Renaissance motet was sacred

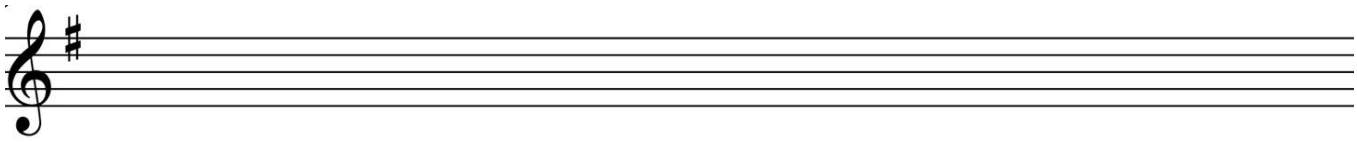
## SECTION B: STRUCTURED QUESTIONS (30 MARKS)

*Answer all questions in the spaces provided*

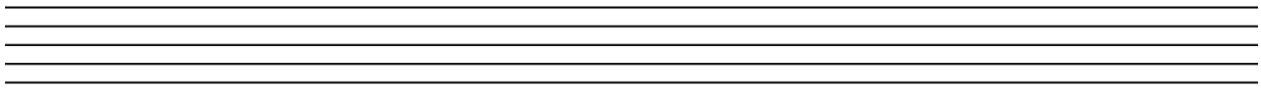
21. You are provided with a 2-bar beginning of a melody. Continue this melody to 8 bars, incorporating:
    i. appropriate question-and-answer phrases.
    ii. scalic motion
    iii. triplet

(7 Marks)
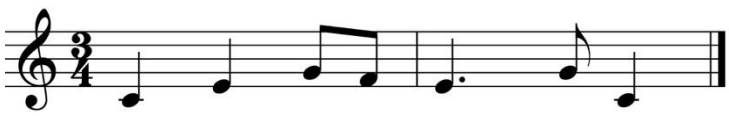


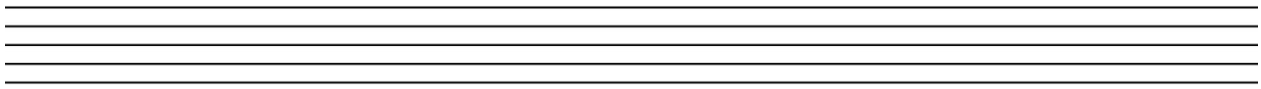


22. Using semibreves, construct the scale of *E Flat Major,* ascending and descending, on the treble stave. Prefix the correct key signature. (4 marks)

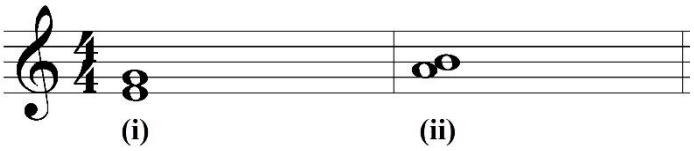


23. Transpose the following melody an octave lower. Write it on the bass stave. (4 marks)





24. Describe the harmonic intervals below:

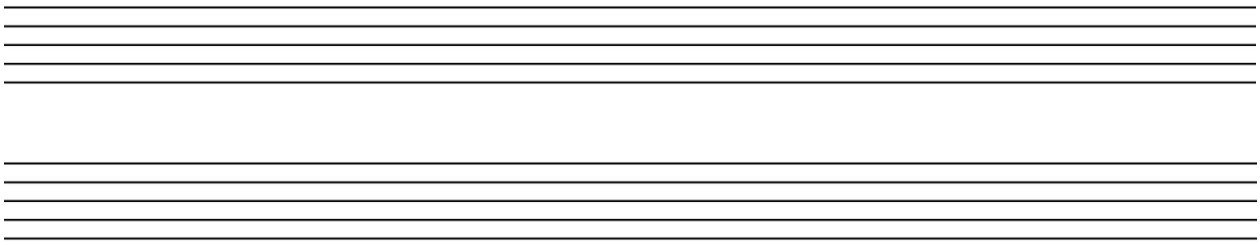



(i) …… (1 mark)
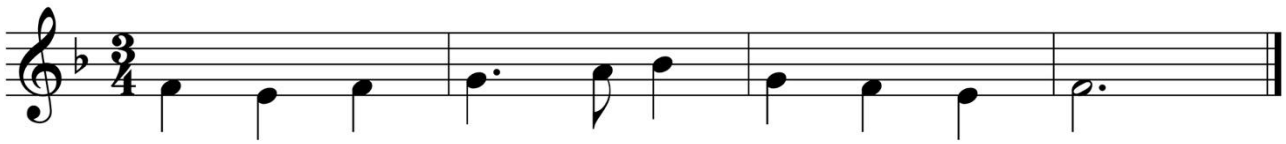
(ii) …… (1 mark)

25. Set a melody to the Kiswahili text below and write both the melody and text on the treble staff. (7 marks)

*Usitupe taka ovyo,*
*Tuyalinde mazingira.*



26. Add a second part above the following melody using appropriate consonant intervals. (6 marks)



## SECTION C: CRITICAL APPRECIATION (10 marks)

27. Discuss **five** effects of modern technology on traditional instrumental music performances in Kenya. (10 marks)

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