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SECTION A	MARKS
TOTAL	

SCHOOL No.	CANDIDATE No.
INITIALS	SURNAME

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION BAHAMAS JUNIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION 2022

0069 LITERATURE

PAPER I (SECTION A: LITERARY APPRECIATION) (35 Marks)

Monday **13 June 2022** 10:30 A.M.–11:30 A.M.
1 hour

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

Write your school number, candidate number, surname and initials in the spaces provided on the question booklet.

This paper consists of Section A, **LITERARY APPRECIATION**.

Candidates are required to answer **ALL** questions.

Work should be neat and well organised. You should use clear English.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

This paper carries 35% of the total marks for the subject.

All answers must be written in the spaces provided in the booklet.

Special attention should be given to the directions for each question.



This question paper consists of 6 printed pages and 2 blank pages.

SECTION A

LITERARY APPRECIATION – 35 Marks

INSTRUCTIONS:

Read the following poem at least twice, and then answer **ALL** of the questions that follow. Your answers should be based on the poem and, unless otherwise indicated, expressed in your own words.

THE OLD ALMOND TREE: MY SECOND MOTHER

by Ann Seymour

Stanza 1

Sometimes at night when I cannot sleep,
 When my inexperienced heart is heavy
 And my wandering thoughts are deep,
 I abandon the twisted bedsheets,
 And stumble from my cold, unfriendly bed, 5
 Sneak outside to the warm backyard,
 And lay down my weary head.

Stanza 2

On nights such as these, I lie there, in pursuit of peace,
 Under the shelter of the old almond tree;
 Resting my head against her rough trunk 10
 With its coarse yet welcoming bark,
 I feel at ease; less confused, less in the dark.
 My worries drift away like gray wisps of cloud,
 My doubts about my future crumble
 And my head is no longer bowed. 15

Stanza 3

I can feel it... the almond tree is living, breathing.
 Her quivering leaves are alive; her warm sap is flowing.
 Snuggling there against her dew-damp trunk,
 Stretched out there between her raised and gnarled roots,
 I listen carefully and ask her what kind of life for me she's seen, 20
 She with her wise heart and her glossy leaves of green.

Stanza 4

The tree cradles me closer. Her leaves whisper to me,
 Living, breathing, the tree whispers to me;
 I lie there gazing up at the tarry-black sky,
 And listen to the old almond tree; 25
 And she soothes me; she calms me. Comforted, I sigh.

Stanza 5

The tree tells me that another life is out there, waiting patiently for me,
 And I'll leave this place for it; there is so much I'll see!
 One day I'll explore this new world. I'll touch every star,
 But I'll find my way back to where my first world and the tree are. 30
"One day you'll venture out there; oh, the beautiful things you'll see!
Until then...you must rest patiently under me – your old almond tree."
 Safe in her protective arms, I drift off. The night is still.
 She loves me, embraces me, and always will.



1. (a) Ann Seymour is the poet. However, who is the speaker in stanza 1 of Seymour's poem?
- _____
- _____ [1]
- (b) **Quote** a line or phrase from between lines 1–7 that suggests the speaker's age, and then **explain** how this quotation suggests how old the speaker is.
- _____
- _____
- _____ [2]
2. What is the rhyme scheme of stanza 4 of the poem?
- _____
- _____ [1]
3. Identify **TWO specific** settings in stanza 1 of the poem.
- _____
- _____ [2]
4. Which word in stanza 2 is used to describe how the speaker's body language reveals his/her doubts?
- _____
- _____ [1]
5. The words of a non-human character are **quoted** in stanza 5 of the poem. First, tell whose words are quoted and then identify **TWO** things you learn from the poem about this character's physical appearance.
- _____
- _____
- _____ [3]

6. In stanza 2, the speaker says he/she feels “less in the dark” (line 12). What is the literal and figurative meaning of the expression “in the dark”?

The **literal** meaning of “in the dark”:

[1]

The **figurative** meaning of “in the dark”:

[1]

7. The speaker says, “*The tree cradles me closer*” (line 22).

- (a) A sound device is a technique that helps us to use our sense of hearing to better understand something that we are reading about. What is the type of sound device that is used in the above line from stanza 4?

[1]

- (b) Using your own words as far as possible, explain the meaning of this line of poetry: “*The tree cradles me closer*”.

[2]

8. “*Her leaves whisper to me*” (line 22)

- (a) What is the type of figure of speech being used in the above line of poetry?

[1]

- (b) What **TWO** things are being compared in this line of poetry? How are they alike?

[3]



9. *"My worries drift away like gray wisps of cloud"*(line 13)

(a) What is the type of figure of speech that is used in the above line of poetry?

[1]

(b) Using information from stanza 5, state specifically what the speaker is worried about.

[1]

10. The speaker makes it clear that he/she is uncomfortable at the very beginning of the poem. **Quote THREE** pieces of evidence from stanza 1 to support this statement. After presenting your evidence, you should use your own words as far as possible to explain at least **TWO** of the quotations.

[4]

QUESTION 11 IS ON PAGE 6

- [illegible]

TOTAL SECTION MARKS [35]

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