

elderly, grandparents, uncles, aunties. This is pathetic and speaks volumes. Teachers should involve their students in community service and sensitize them on the plight of the elderly and practical ways of ministering to their needs.

Question 3

Explain how public transport has improved in Kenya, and say what in your view remains to be done.

This question was by far the most popular question and elicited good compositions and high scores. The issue of improvements in our public transport system was topical, current and familiar and so the topic had special appeal and this was manifested in the quality of the compositions. Even the suggestions for further improvement were given and one could feel the total grasp of the issues involved.

Question 4

Write a story to illustrate any **one** of the following sayings:

Either:

(a) You reap what you sow.

Or:

(b) One good turn deserves another.

Candidates were required to read and understand proverbs (sayings) and conceive of an illustrative story. The proverbs in both sections (a) and (b) were accessible. There was no evidence of confusion and the two together attracted good population of the candidature especially the better candidates. Nevertheless there were those who, instead of writing an illustrative story, discussed the meaning and application of the proverbs. They were penalized for wrong format.

4.1.1 ADVICE TO TEACHERS

Although the mean rose slightly, the performance level remains depressed indicating there is still a lot to be done in the area of composition writing. There are still candidates who write in broken English and whose constructions and general mastery of the language and techniques of composition are rudimentary. They need to be given more attention if the mean for the paper is ever going to be lifted beyond the "C" levels. For a long time the mean has remained around 15. Is this what we are capable of producing year in year out? A fresh rededication to the teaching of composition is required, together with vigorous feedback and remedial teaching given if we are to rise out of this low levels of performance.

It has also been observed that weaker candidates tend to write a lot, mostly repeating themselves and thereby making more and more mistakes increasing the penalties they suffer. Candidates should be advised to keep to the word limits.