Appendix  

**Appendix_1: Formalist Stylistics Test**

Adama University  
Faculty of Languages and Social Sciences  
Department of English and Other Languages  
Formalist Stylistics and Linguistic Competence  
Time: 2 hours; Points: 20%

Name:__________________  
Program: Regular/Extension  
Sex:_______  
ID. No. __________________  
Campus: _________________  
Year:___________________  
For Instructor’s Use Only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Phonological Competence</th>
<th>Grammatical Competence</th>
<th>Organizational Competence</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>/7</td>
<td>/7</td>
<td>/6</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General Instruction:** This test has two parts. In each part, follow the instructions carefully. Each question has carries some marks; therefore, allocate time properly to cover and answer each question. Circle the letter of your best choice.

Part One: “Shifting Gears” (10 points)  
**Instruction:** Read critically and answer the questions that follow.

**Shifting Gears**

I who swim  
In the stealth of a dream  
Listening to the mind’s insane silence scream,  
Because of colour lack  
I shall paint your loving face  
In colourless breath,  
With grapnel-fingers in an empty colour rack,  
Beneath the quiet curve of your lashes  
Two simple awesome dots in black,

You whose love never wavered  
Towards whom I forever crack  
On the tip of my parched tongue.

Taken from “African Arts”, 1969

A. **Phonological Competence (3.5 marks)**

1. The following three groups of words are taken from the poem, "Shifting Gears". Identify a word which is different from the rest of the group. Write the letter of your choice in the space provided. Clue: follow the rhyme scheme of the poem. (1.5 mks)

   **Group 1:**
   A. swim  
   B. dream  
   C. awesome  
   D. scream

   **Group 2:**
   A. lack  
   B. rack  
   C. crack  
   D. parched

   **Group 3:**
   A. beneath  
   B. stealth  
   C. breath  
   D. Listening

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2. Underline examples of assonance which render melodic effect the utterances in the following lines: (0.5 mark)

You whose look never wavered
Towards whom I forever crack
On the tip of my parched tongue

3. Underline an alliterative sound or an indirect onomatopoeia which can signify “silence” with a melodic effect in the following lines: (0.5 mark)

In the stealth of a dream
Listening to the mind’s insane silence scream

4. Classify the words in the following lines into monosyllabic and disyllabic words (1 mark).

You whose look never wavered
Towards whom I forever crack
On the tip of my parched tongue

B. Grammatical Competence (3.5 marks)

4. All the words in the table below are taken from the poem, “Shifting Gears”. Circle those words which are wrongly placed in the parts of speech numbered 1-10 in the table below. (2 marks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mind’s insane</td>
<td>my swim</td>
<td>beneath</td>
<td>you</td>
<td>to</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>simple</td>
<td>silence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>death</td>
<td>colorless</td>
<td>never paint</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>you</td>
<td>to</td>
<td>simple</td>
<td>silence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>colour</td>
<td>grapnel forever</td>
<td>tongue</td>
<td>simple</td>
<td>silence</td>
<td>in</td>
<td>beneath</td>
<td>Waivered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rack empty</td>
<td>crack</td>
<td>your with</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>beneath</td>
<td>Waivered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>curve beneath</td>
<td>Waivered</td>
<td>beneath</td>
<td>Waivered</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dots</td>
<td>fingers</td>
<td>black</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gears parched</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Circle the best choice or give the right answer (0.25 points each)

5. Which one of the following is not a dependent clause?
A. Because of colour rack,
B. Listening to the mind’s insane scream,
C. With grapnel-fingers,
D. I shall paint your loving face.

6. Which one of the following is not an independent clause?
A. I swim.
B. I forever crack.
C. Two awesome dots.
D. I listen to the mind’s insane scream.

7. Which one of the following is not a prepositional phrase?
A. In the stealth of a dream.
B. Beneath the quiet curve of your lashes,
C. In colorless breath,
D. You whose look never wavered.

8. Identify a sentence which is different from the rest of the group:
A. I swim.
B. I paint.
C. You waivered.
D. I crack.
9. Underline the direct objects of the following sentences (if any)
   A. I shall paint your loving face in the colorless breath.
   B. I swim in the stealth of a dream.
   C. You whose love never wavered.

10. Comment on deviation of syntax in the poem.

11. Which one of the following words reiterates several times to cohere the ideas of the poem?
    A. You  C. paint
    B. I  D. face

12. Underline parallel structures at word and phrase levels in the following lines.
    Two simple awesome dots in black
    In the stealth of a dream
    Listening to the mind’s insane silence scream,
    Because of colour lack
    I shall paint your loving face
    In colorless breath,

13. How does the poet organize the message of the poem?

14. Write a brief but coherent paragraph on the message of the poem.

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Part Two: "Crows"

Instruction: Critically read the following poem by Be'alu Girma entitled "Crows" to answer the questions that follow.

"Crows"  By Be'alu Girma

Crows from the south, west and east,  
Gather round the kitchen for a morning feast  
Nature gave them right to share,  
But crows considered this unfair.  
The dove and the sparrows shared theirs aright,  
And went their way, content and quiet.  
For the crows nothing is enough,  
Nothing is fair, all is rough.  
Crows must have all things their way,  
And live the rest astray.  
Over matters trivial they croak and moan,  
And make mountains of a mole.  
Contended, they need fly up and pray,  
And keep their tempers and dirty play.

Taken from "News and Views", 1959, Vo. III No.5, p.4
A. Phonological Competence (3.5)

15. The following ten groups of words are taken from Be'alu Girma's poem, "Crows", identify groups/a group which is different from all other groups. Write the letter/s of your choice in the space provided.

(1 pt)

|-------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|

16. Underline examples of assonance which create a melodic effect to the utterances in the following lines: (0.5 pt)

Crows must have all things their way,
And live the rest astray.
O'er matters trivial they creak and moan

17. Underline an alliterative sound with a melodic effect in the following lines: (0.5 pt)

Over matters trivial they creak and moan,
And make mountains of a mole.
Contended, they need fly up and pray,
And keep their tempers and dirty play.

18. Underline sounds which signify phonaesthesia, the expressiveness of sounds, particularly those sounds which are felt to be appropriate to the meaning of their lexemes in the following lines: (0.5 pt)

Over matters trivial they creak and moan,
And make mountains of a mole.
Contended, they need fly up and pray,
And keep their tempers and dirty play.

19. Classify the words in the following lines into monosyllabic, disyllabic and polysyllabic words: (1 pt)

Nature gave them right to share,
But crows considered this unfair.

B. Grammatical Competence (3.5)

20. Read the poem, "Crows", above again and give one example for each part of speech numbered 1-10 in the table below. A few examples have been given. (2 pts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noun (1)</th>
<th>Adjective (2)</th>
<th>Adverb (3)</th>
<th>Verb (4)</th>
<th>Article (5)</th>
<th>Demonstrative (6)</th>
<th>Pronoun (7)</th>
<th>Preposition (8)</th>
<th>Conjunction (9)</th>
<th>Interjection (10)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Crows</td>
<td>trivial</td>
<td>share</td>
<td>the</td>
<td>them</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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21. Which one of the following is not a dependent clause? (0.5 pt)

A. Crows from the south
B. And went their way
C. And keep their tempers and dirty play
D. Nothing is fair

22. Which one of the following is not an independent clause? (0.5 pt)

A. Nature gave them right to share
B. But crows considered this unfair
C. Crows from the south, west and east
D. The dove and the sparrows shared theirs aright

23. Underline the direct objects (if any) in the following sentences. (0.5 pts)

1. Nature gave them right to share.
2. The dove and the sparrows shared theirs aright
3. But crows considered this unfair

C. Organizational Competence (3 pt)
24. Which one of the following group/s is/are not parallel? Circle your choice. (1)
   A. west and east
   B. the dove and the sparrows
   C. kitchen and trivial
   D. fly and pray
   E. creak and moan

25. How does the poet organize the message of the poem? (1)

26. Write a brief but coherent paragraph on the message of the poem. (1)