



**Upper secondary
Week 8**

The Write Tribe

PAPER 2 TECHNIQUES SECTION B



Text 3

The text below is about the possible eviction of the Ogiek people of Kenya. Read it carefully and answer Questions 14 – 19.

- 1 The Ogiek people of Kenya may soon become the world's most recent refugees of conservation efforts. Their long-time home is the Mau Forest in Kenya, a complex of 22 forests from which several rivers originate. The Mau Forest has been a centre of conflict over land and resources for several years. In addition to the 20,000 Ogiek, thousands of loggers, squatters, tea-planters, and communities of resettled people have all had a severe impact on the forest. 5
- 2 The Mau is an important water catchment area and the forest has shrunk by one-quarter over the last 20 years. Thus, Kenyan officials are worried about permanent environmental damage and say residents must leave. Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Odinga gave the order on July 29 for all Ogiek residents to voluntarily leave the area 10 by mid-September or face arrest. But the Ogiek have so far resisted the order. The Ogiek People's Development Programme (OPDP), in partnership with Minority Rights Group International (MRG) are fighting to avoid the eviction of the Ogiek community. They argue that they have lived sustainably in the area for centuries and that the environmental damage is the result of destructive logging carried out by corporations 15 and newly arrived illegal squatters.
- 3 Kiplangat Cheruyot, of the Ogiek People's Development Programme, told Survival International, "everyone has been living in fear for the last month. This is very serious, the Ogiek have nowhere else to go. People are crying about the eviction. The government said it would spare no one, not even a goat or a chicken." 20
- 4 Some in the community are sceptical of the government's purported environmentalism. In the same week the eviction was announced, 49 companies and individuals were granted lots of land in the Mau Forest totaling over 18,000 hectares. According to NTVKenya, one of the major benefactors was Sian Enterprises, a company allegedly associated with former Kenyan President Daniel Moi. Ilingima 25 Contractors, a company owned by a family that holds other large tracts of land, was given 3,200 acres. In addition, four of the companies and a church organization to which 7,183 hectares of land is deeded may be non-existent, with no record in the national Registrar of Companies, according Daily Nation-Kenya.
- 5 The Mau forest is home to the largest of five water towers in a country currently 30 experiencing widespread drought. According to UN environment agency specialist Christian Lambrechts, urgent action must be taken. Even former US President Bill Clinton has taken notice and has pledged to mobilize funds for planting trees to help conserve the Mau. Clinton met with the Prime Minister, the Environmental Minister, and the Public Health Minister this week at the UN General Assembly in New York. 35
- 6 Hassan Noor, interim Chairman of the Mau Forest plan, said that eviction notices will be given the final week of September. One area to the southwest of the Mau has been identified for resettling of some residents.

7 Yet many issues remain: Will there be conflict between resisters and police forces? Who will be compensated? Those with land titles are required to be compensated, 40 but how much and on what basis? According to a new government document, more than 5,000 families will be required to leave the Mau Forest without compensation. Environment Minister John Michuki declared that only 1,962 people had chances of being compensated. The document describes resettlement as a plan where the government provides alternative land for the dispossessed, along with livelihood support. 45

8 The implementation and effects of that scheme will become more clear in the coming weeks. Many settlers admit openly they don't have an official title and yet others don't care about compensation. "We don't want compensation," Kobei said. "You cannot compensate the bones of our ancestors that are in the Mau." The headmistress of a village primary school in the Mau named Rose told Minority Rights 50 Group, "Removing the Ogiek from Mau is like taking fish out of water."

<http://www.ethicaltraveler.org/2009/09/conservation-conflict-the-ogiek-of-kenya%E2%80%99s-mau-forest-face-eviction/>
by Ryan Van Lenning

14. (i) With reference to paragraph 1 (line 1), 'The Ogiek people of Kenya may soon become the world's most recent refugees of conservation efforts'. What is ironic about this statement? [1]

(ii) Which 2 consecutive words in paragraph 1 suggest that the forest is harmed by its visitors? [1]

15. (i) Provide evidence from paragraph 2 that indeed the forest has been harmed. [1]

(ii) With reference to paragraph 2, what defence did the Ogiek give in response to the accusation that they harmed the forests? [1]

16. With reference to paragraph 4 (line 21), 'Some in the community are sceptical of the government's *purported* environmentalism'.

(i) What does the word in italics suggest about the author's view of the government's conservation effort? [1]

(ii) Which other word in the sentence conveys the same idea? [1]

17. Here is a part of a conversation between two students, Adam and Aliya, who have read the article.

The environmental problem in Mau is serious and has drawn attention from other countries.

The Ogiek should not worry about the eviction as the government has made plans for their resettlement.



Adam



Aliya

(i) What example can Adam give to support his opinion? [1]

(ii) Quote a phrase from paragraph 7 to support Aliya's view. [1]

18. Explain how the simile used in the last paragraph is apt in describing Ogiek's predicament. [2]

19. Using your own words as far as possible, summarise reasons why Ogiek's eviction raises suspicions of the government and pity for the Ogiek.

Use only the material from paragraphs 4 – 8 of Text 3.

Your summary must be in continuous writing (not note form). It must not be longer than 80 words, not counting the words given to help you begin.

There are feelings of mistrust for the government regarding the eviction as ...

No. of words [15]