

S4 LITERATURE IN ENGLISH HOLIDAY WORK

FRANCIS IMBUGA: *Betrayal in the City*

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow

Jusper: It will do. In such circumstances, almost anything will. Mind you, we have to improvise with the resources at hand. After all we are a developing country.

Tumbo: We can't take any chances; he is in such an unpredictable mood that he has even locked up his own wife in the palace cell. He nearly slapped... I mean he was very cross with me when I told him we don't have all the props.

Jusper: I am determined that nothing should go wrong.

Tumbo: The future of six hundred prisoners depends on it. And that includes Moses. By the way, did he cooperate fully during last night's rehearsal?

Jusper: He was at his best. He knew all the lines and moves and went through them as if he had lived with them all his life.

Tumbo: You know, I have not had the chance to go through the script.

Jusper: But then you have been busy.

Tumbo: That is no excuse. If he should ask for the story of the play, I will point at you and say, "Your Excellency, the author of the play is better qualified to give that information". I trust you will face him and answer that question with precision.

Jusper: I will try.

Tumbo: It is too late to say you will try. You will do it.

Jusper: Why do you appear nervous?

Tumbo: Boy, you still don't understand the principles of survival. When he loses his temper, he can hardly tell a human being from a rat. The man is an animal, I tell you and this is one of his bad months if you believe in astrology.

Jusper: We shall make a permanent impression. I am sure. That will help me to convince my fellow students, who threw me out, that it is not by isolation that problems are solved. They sacked me, said I was going round the bend again, called me a traitor

and betrayer of their cause. If this play is a success, I will have demonstrated that determination is greater in worth than numbers.

Tumbo: Do you intend to lead them afterwards?

Jusper: If there is an afterwards, it will sort itself out. We have no future until we see oi in the past. That is the only time we may know we once had a future. Mosese once had a future, until he came to my brother's funeral.

Questions:

- a) What leads to the events in the passage? (06marks)
- b) Describe the character of Jusper as shown in this passage. (04marks)
- c) What themes does this passage develop? (04marks)
- d) Describe what happens immediately after this passage. (06marks)