Day: Wednesday

Date: 1st April 2020

Subject: English (Form 4)

***Please answer all questions in Task 1 and Task 2 within an hour. Thank you.***

THE LIVING PHOTOGRAPH - By Jackie Kay

My small grandmother is tall there,

straight back, white broderie anglaise shirt,

pleated skirt, flat shoes, grey bun,

a kind, old smile round her eyes.

Her big hand holds mine,

white hand in black hand.

Her sharp blue eyes look her own death in the eye.

It was true after all, that look.

My tall grandmother became small.

Her back round and hunched

Her soup forgot to boil.

She went to the awful place grandmothers go

Somewhere unknown, unthinkable.

But there she is still,

In the photo with me at three,

The crinkled smile is still living, breathing.

Jackie Kay

**Task 1: Based on the first stanza of the poem, answer the following questions.**

1. Who are in the photograph?

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2. Describe the grandmother’s skirt and shoes?

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3. In stanza 1, which words mean ‘open embroidery on white linen’?

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4. What do the ‘sharp blue eyes’ tell us about the grandmother’s race?

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**Task 2: Describing the Persona’s Grandmother**

Read first stanza and answer the following questions about

the grandmother.

1. To whom do you think the title of the poem is related to?

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2. Dressing – what did her grandmother wear?

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3. Physical appearance - (As described in Stanza 1)

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4. Facial Expression – How did her grandmother look?

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5. Eyes – What colour were her eyes?

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6. The skin colour of the persona and grandmother?

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