

2nd Edition

# **A Comprehensive Handbook for Ordinary Level Literature**

## **For Secondary Schools**

*Best for Literature Students: Forms 2, 3 & 4*

**Analysis  
of  
Hawa the Bus Driver**

EMMANUEL KACHELE



‘O’ LEVEL ENGLISH (OLE)  
FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Analysis of *‘Hawa the Bus Driver’*



By Emmanuel Kachele

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**Emmanuel Kachele**  
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## ABOUT THE STORY WRITER

Richard S. Mabala is a Tanzanian writer who has authored several books. Among of them is *Hawa the Bus Driver* and *Mabala the Farmer*, the famous short stories that are the among the Class Readers studied in Form One and Form Two in Tanzanian Secondary Schools. These two short stories are the best works for the Children Literature that's why they are taught in Lower Secondary School Classes.

## INTRODUCTION

'*Hawa the Bus Driver*' is short story about one brave woman called Hawa. This woman is the driver and she lives in the society where many people consider driving as men's job. However, she becomes a very famous bus driver and people start calling her 'Hawa the Bus Driver' because of her driving skills, bravery and confidence.

This short story is the collection of six (6) chapters that all narrate the life of Hawa, her work, and her family and friends.

## ANALYSIS OF THE SHORT STORY

### THREE THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE GETTING STARTED

**1. Brainstorming (Before Reading).** Before reading a Class Reader, the teacher should guide students to use and discuss title, cover, blurb and other book illustrations to predict what a book will be about.

**2. Reading.** The students should also be guided to read a part of the Class Reader or the whole Class reader and answer the questions (obviously guiding questions given by the teacher) on various aspects like chapter's events, characters, settings, and message. They should do this task in groups or pairs.

**3. Writing a book report (After Reading).** The students are also guided by the teacher to write a book report. In their level, it is just a simple book report in which they can include only important details of the book they have read. Most commonly, the book report they should write should include the following aspects:

- Title
- What is the story about?
- The Setting of the story
- The characters of the story (Main and minor characters)
- Events of the story (general or for each chapter)
- The message of the story
- The lesson of the story
- How does the story ends?

### Setting

The short story is set in Dar es Salaam, Ubungo, Manzese, Urafiki Textile Mill, Mbezi, Hospital, Police Station and other places in Dar es Salaam.

### Characters

The short story has several characters like:

Hawa Ibrahim, Hawa the Bus Driver

Selemani, Hawa's husband

Hassan & Saada, their children

Meshack, Hawa's bus conductor

Chausiku, George, Passengers, The Drivers, and others

## Language

The writer has used a very simple language that suits the level of Form One and Form Two Students. Although in some incidents the writer uses Swahili words like ‘*Ugali*’ on page 26, the kind of language used is generally simple.

## Figures of Speech

As usual, Form One and Form Two Students are only introduced to the few examples of figures of speech, and in this story, the following figures of speech can be identified:

### Sayings

These are statements that are considered wise and they teach the truth or a moral lesson.

“*Happy home makes good workers*” (page 25)

### Idioms

These are expressions or phrases that are not interpreted by using mere individual words. They interpreted as a group of words.

“*Now it is your turn*” (page 14), meaning ‘*now it is your time*’.

“*It is not your business*” (page 18), meaning ‘*it not your job/work/duty*’

“*Proud and big-headed*” (page 20), meaning that someone feels proud and arrogant.

### Simile

This is the figure of speech that compares two things by using conjunctions such as, ‘like’ and ‘as’.

“*Jealousy is like a sand in your eyes. It stops you seeing things clearly*” (page 26)

### Personification

This is the figure of speech that makes inanimate objects act like human beings.

“*Jealousy is like a sand in your eyes. It stops you seeing things clearly*” (page 26) – Jealousy is a noun and here it is given the human ability of stopping or preventing something.

### Imagery

This is the figure of speech that is used by the writer in order to produce pictures into the reader’s mind. Similes, metaphors, personifications are all used to produce pictures into reader’s mind. Some other examples from the story are:

“*He found himself in the Manzese mud*” (page 1)

“*He closed one eye and winked*” (page 13)

### Exaggeration

This is the situation of making things look bigger than they really are.

“*He found himself in the Manzese mud*” (page 1)

## ANALYSIS OF THE STORY’S CHAPTERS



### Chapter One: Hawa the Bus Driver

Hawa lives with her husband and her family. She works as City Bus Driver, although some people do not like