

Student Profile

Name: **Edna Phiri**

Gender: Female
Date of Birth: 24th August, 1994
Place of Birth: Lusaka, Zambia

Guardian: Alice Phiri (aunt)
Profession: Housewife

Guardian: Andrew Mulenga (uncle)
Profession: Soldier

Primary School: Kaunda Square Basic School

Secondary School: **Ibex Hill Secondary School**

2010 Level: **Grade 10**



Family Background:

Edna lives with her aunt and uncle who took her guardianship when her father became financially incapable of taking care of her. Despite of living with both her uncle and aunt, her uncle is the sole provider and his salary, in view of household expenses and two children of his own, cannot sustain her education needs at secondary school level. Edna says that the scholarship “has helped them a lot— they were thinking of where to find the money. They were very happy to know that I was sponsored to go to one of the best schools in Zambia.”

Edna’s Educational Background:

Primary – Kaunda Square Basic School

Despite her difficult background, Edna’s academic performance at primary school was exceptional. She has been described as intelligent and bright in her school reports. Her primary school teachers felt that behind her very shy, reserved and less assertive personality is a great academic potential which can be unleashed in a stable boarding school. Edna’s favourite subjects at primary school were mathematics and science.

At Ibex Hill Secondary School

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Grade 8

Edna felt that she has done much better in school this year than she did last year. She maintained the first and second positions in class in the various tests throughout the year. She said that just because she has top positions in class doesn't mean that the subjects are easy. She still had to study hard and consistently put in a lot of effort. Her favorite subjects were Mathematics, English and French.

Grade 9

Edna found Grade 9 to be a challenging year especially with added afternoon and weekend classes in preparation for her Grade 9 Zambian examinations. Edna, however, proved she was more than up for the challenge. In term one, she received an award in recognition of attaining first position in her class, an award which included a textbook for mathematics and a mathematical set. In terms two and three, she received a certificate for attaining second position overall in her class. She described the Grade 9 Zambian examinations as fair and was proud of her outstanding results, attaining the second highest marks on the English section in her class. "I was scared, but I learnt that I can make it if only I work hard. I was happy with my results." Her best subjects are history and religious education, although English and math continue to be her favorites. She said she plans to focus in Grade 10: "I will work extra hard to I can look forward to my Grade 12 examinations."

Grade 9 Academic Achievements:

- 1st Position in Term 1
- 2nd Position in Term 2 and 3

Edna's Interests:

Extracurricular Interests

While attending Kaunda Basic School, Edna loved reading, watching movies and singing.

Now at Ibex Hill Edna is active in sports and clubs. She plays basketball and soccer both as a defender on the Ibex Hill team. Her goal for this upcoming year is to improve her skills and do better than the previous year. Edna has also taken an interest in public speaking because of the debate club and the scripture union. She feels that, through practice, she has become more confident in her speaking ability. In grade 9, she has added choir to her list of activities. With a strong and confident voice, she helped lead the Ibex Hill students in their performance for the mentors. She especially enjoys singing gospel songs with her classmates, worshipping God in concert with her classmates.

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Role Model

“Dr. Phil is my role model because he believes that other people could be better if we only stretch our hands to them. His courage, confidence and his braveness in making people’s lives better.

I also look up to my Auntie. She inspires me a lot because she is courageous and strong. She was sick for about four years but she was still strong and never gave up on what she wanted to do. She encourages me when I have a problem.”

Career Interests:

Edna hopes to become an accountant and follow in the steps of her uncle. She is interested in accounting because of her love for mathematics.

What others think of her:

Her primary school teachers say that Edna is a very intelligent girl with a friendly personality. Her aunt is very confident that the Kucetekela Foundation scholarship will give Edna the opportunity to open up. Such an intelligent young girl should have the chance to become expressive and articulately communicate her thoughts and feeling to others.

Edna’s Thoughts:

“From Kucetekela I have learnt to take responsibility and to mingle with other people and learn different values. Among the events that we have had, our visit to Pestalozzi has been by favourite. I got an idea of what it feels to be loved and cared for by people who have a strong passion for your future. It has made me have thoughts of working to my best level so that in the future I could also help out those in need.

I think of my KF scholars as brothers and sisters and students who really deserve to be in KF and who their parents are proud of for their hard work. KF has helped my family by removing the biggest burden that they had—that’s paying for my school fees.

My best wishes to Kucetekela Foundation for making me reach this far. My achievements for last year were greatly empowered through hard work which included academic achievements.

I am so happy to be a member of the Kucetekela Foundation because most of my friends don’t manage to get into good schools or they don’t find a chance to go to school. At my new school I have learned how to mix with others and learn from them. As a KF member there are certain things that I am supposed to do, and

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certain things I am not supposed to do. I've got to ask myself certain questions life where do I come from? Why am I here? What brought me to where I am right now? I always have to follow correct principles when making decisions. Being a KF member has enabled me to develop self discipline and has helped me become a more responsible person because of its principles.

At Ibex Hill I have learned to be with other people although they come from richer homes than I do. We learn from each other, and they never treat me differently. I used to have low self-esteem and was not confident in myself. My friends here are encouraging and I am now more confident.”