

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF ACADEMIC COMMUNICATION SKILLS
SECOND SEMESTER MAIN EXAMINATION, MAY 2017

TITLE OF PAPER: ACADEMIC COMMUNICATION SKILLS:
ENGLISH FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES (ESP)
COURSE CODE : ACS 112 /103
TIME ALLOWED : 2 (TWO) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write the name of your Faculty and Programme on the cover of your answer booklet
2. Answer **TWO** questions.

TOTAL MARKS: 100

This paper consists of 7 printed pages, including the cover page.

**THIS EXAMINATION PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS
BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR**

SECTION A: ESSAY WRITING

Choose one essay question in this section

Question 1

President Robert Mugabe and Dr Enang believe that practices by African pastors perpetuate a new form of slavery. With close reference to Excerpts (i) and (ii), and in about 400 words, argue whether Pentecostalism really is a new form of colonialism.

Excerpt (i)

President blasts Pentecostal church leaders

By Simiso Mlevu, The Chronicle News, 24 March 2015

President Mugabe criticised some leaders of Pentecostal churches who deceive their congregants into believing that they can become very rich quickly, while demanding that the church members give all they have to the church to enrich the pastors. Speaking to thousands of Christians and other people who attended the Kutama Centenary Celebrations in Zvimba on Sunday, the president also lamented the decadence in society.

He said pastors were cheating desperate congregants by making them believe that they could be rich overnight. 'As for the Pentecostal ones, anyone who thinks because they don't have a job he can just catch Genesis 1 and then just start preaching', he said. Imitating the forceful manner used by Pentecostal pastors when preaching, Mugabe continued to say; 'after grasping Genesis 1 they start saying that's what God has done, I can also do that through him. I have the inspiration and the message. The dream I had last night was that I must do A&B, E&B and I will get what I want in no time'.

He said it was unfortunate that people were desperate to have their needs met... 'Oh, oh, oh! And people can't wait. Be patient and work hard as stated in the Bible so that you can lead better lives. That's what we even get in Genesis when Adam was punished.... Pastors should not fleece Zimbabweans of their hard earned cash in the name of religion....

We are worried, I must say by the downward trend in our morals. The rise in the robberies, murder, just the negative side going up and yet we have so many churches!

Adapted from: <http://www.chronicle.co.zw/president-blasts-pentecostal-church-leaders/>

Excerpt (ii)**Africa is currently experiencing another form of slavery through Pentecostalism**

By Dr. Wisdom Patrick Enang, 7 November 2016

We are now mentally lazy and our ability to reason scientifically has been incapacitated. The write up below gives a vivid reality of the way we think. African Pastor won't talk about Usain Bolt or Serena Williams.

Pastors won't talk about Steve Jobs or the young people reshaping our world. They won't talk about young scientists spending endless hours in search of a cure to a disease that's predominantly in the Tropical African Region. Pastors won't talk about Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie or Chinua Achebe. In every corner of the world, there exist young men and women who have defied all odds and become successful through hardwork, creativity and dedication. The African pastor won't talk about them; neither will he ask his members to emulate the spirit of these individuals.

He would rather talk about sister Agatha who got a job she WAS NOT THE MOST QUALIFIED FOR because she prayed and fasted in line with their church programme. Or Brother John who became a millionaire because he used all his salary as a seed in the church. Or Papa Miracle who he laid his hands on and 3 of his children got admission in the university Or Mama Esther paid her tithe and her business started growing everywhere across the nation.....no business plan, just boom, everywhere. This has led to a new breed of mentally lazy young people who now see God as a rewarder of mediocrity. To the Nigerian Pastor, the only way to prosper is by paying your tithe and sowing seeds in the church.

So they will never talk about those who have through hard-work and dedication placed themselves on the world map. No.....the African god only blesses the first 30 people that rush to the altar to drop E10 000 as seed. The African god abhors hard work and creative thinking, He only gives to those who sow seeds and offerings.....and those who shout "I am a millionaire" every morning and do nothing the rest of the day. You want The Almighty to come down and help you use the talent He gave you and bless you because you are going to church to shout "Daddy, I receive it" You are all jokers. Can someone tell these jokers that irrespective of your creed, faith or religion, blessings and favours follow you once you start using your talent and become useful to your society.

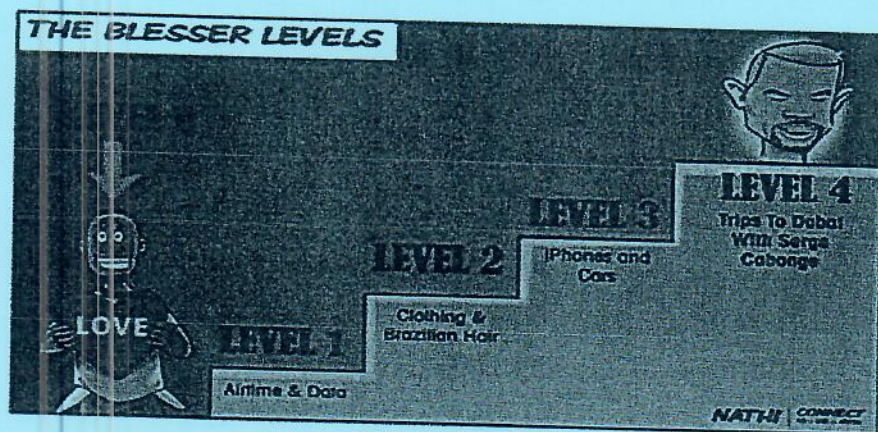
Adapted from: <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/africa-currently-experiencing-another-form-slavery-through-enang>. Retrieved 15/03/2017

Question 2

Read Excerpts (iii) and (iv) on the BLESSER/BLESSEE phenomenon, and then in about 400 words, write an essay on whether the blesser-blessee phenomenon perpetuates men's exploitation of women or it is a modern way by which women get the opportunity to exploit men.

Excerpt (iii)

By Ntombizodwa Makhoba, City Press, 01 June 2016



Blessee: 'I will never, ever date a man who is broke'

This blessee calls what is frowned upon for being tantamount to prostitution a lifestyle choice – with no strings and no regrets.

Mary Santos (26) has been “blessed” for more than a year now. She has no regrets about her lifestyle – because her two wealthy blessers spoil her. They give her a monthly allowance of up to R20 000, pay the rent for her flat, and buy her handbags and shoes from high-end brands like Louis Vuitton. Life is good.

“I cannot settle for dating a boyfriend who cannot afford my lifestyle. I will never, ever date a man who is broke. If you come to me, you must know your pocket,” says the proudly “blessed” woman.

Dressed in skinny jeans and pink stilettos, and sporting a Peruvian weave and Versace sunglasses, Santos is not bothered that some people compare the blessed to prostitutes. She says as long as she is comfortable with what she does, she does not care what people say.

Santos, who is unemployed, recently moved to a flat in Midrand which one of her blessers pays for. She drives a Mercedes, which the other blesser lent her. She expects no less of them.

Her two blessers are prominent businessmen, but she prefers not to mention their names, revealing only that they are well known. The arrangement is to keep their identities secret.

I know most of them are not looking for a relationship and that they will never leave their wives for a lessee.

"I have a salary but I am not working," she says, proudly. "Why should I bother looking for a job when I am earning?"

Adapted from: <http://city-press.news24.com/Trending/blessee-i-will-never-ever-date-a-man-who-is-broke-20160601>

Excerpt (iv)

Blesser-Blessee relationships: the new sugar daddies or a short cut to the good life?

By Anneke Scheepers, News24, 09 May 2016

At first glance it seems like innocent fun between consenting adults, but a closer look reveals that there is more to the trend.

Social media is lighting up with stories shared by young women engaging in a new type of exchange of "sex for goods". Yet many are questioning whether they are not just being exploited by rich men offering economic emancipation.

Now trending: the hashtags #Blessed and #Blesserfinder. A reference to people talking about or looking for sugar daddies online. There are those who are flashing how much they can splash on their 'Blessees' and those who flaunt how much they are being 'blessed' with.

At first glance it seems like innocent fun between consenting adults, but a closer look reveals that there is more to the trend.

A Tshwane mother has labelled her 22 year old daughter's 54 year old Blesser as a curse in her daughter's life. She has gone as far as kicking her daughter out of the house and requesting that the Blesser leave her daughter be. The response was reportedly that he would 'release her'. The Blessee is said to have been neglecting her studies by opting to spend time with Blesser, rather than in class.

But aside from where a Blesser-Blessee relationship involves minors, is there really anything wrong with it? If both parties are happy, why is this still such a controversial topic? The answer is in the question. Are both parties happy? If a man must buy a woman's attention or

affection and if a woman sells her attention or affection, is that happiness? We're talking about a 'willing buyer, willing seller' arrangement.

And what if the Blessor runs out of means by which to bless? Would the Blessee find another, richer Blessor? Finally, what about the social good that comes from a society where men and women are economically capable? Women have been working long and hard at gaining equality on all fronts. It would be a shame to quit now.

Adapted from: <http://www.w24.co.za/Wellness/Mind/blessor-blessee-relationships-the-new-sugar-daddies-or-a-short-cut-to-the-good-life-20160509>

Question 3

In March 2017, Heads of state in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) held a meeting in Swaziland at which, among other issues of concern, they discussed challenges of food security in the region. **With close reference to Excerpt (v), analyse the causes of food insecurity in SADC and discuss possible solutions.**

Excerpt (v)

The FAO Regional Overview of Food Insecurity in the Near East and North Africa

27 March 2017, Cairo - Food security and nutrition levels in the Near East and North Africa have sharply deteriorated over the last five years undermining the steady improvement achieved before 2010 when food production had increased.

The region is facing unprecedented challenges to its food security due to multiple risks arising from conflicts, water scarcity and climate change. The Syria crisis in particular has deepened during the period 2015-2016 leaving more than half of the population in need of food assistance and 4.8 million refugees mostly in neighbouring countries.

The FAO regional overview underlines the urgency to develop and implement strategies for sustainable water resources and to adapt to the impact of climate change on water resources and agriculture.

Adapted from: Report from Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
Published on 27 March, 2017

QUESTION 2: PROFESSIONAL WRITING

Answer **EITHER** Question 2(c) **OR** 2 (d)

Question 2(c)

You have observed an increase in reported cases of hate crimes (xenophobia, homophobia etc.). **Write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper expressing your views on such crimes.**

Question 2 (d)

In a letter dated October 15, 2016 Mr V. Nxumalo complained about sarcasm and the poor command of English language found in letters of courtship. Men use slang these days. For example, "*bby, hud, r u fri?*" or "*lv pls ansr ur fon*". **Write a letter to the senior inspector of English explaining how social media has negatively affected the use of proper grammar in writing. Also, suggest ways how the quality of the language could be maintained.**
