

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

2010/2011 FINAL EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER: MAIN

TITLE OF PAPER: NEWS WRITING

COURSE CODE: JMC 216

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer **THREE** questions.

Question One is compulsory.

Spelling and grammar will count in grading.

Use your own examples to illustrate your answer(s).

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

Question 1 (COMPULSORY)

As a journalist working for the *Swazi Herald* newspaper, you receive information that the Swaziland Energy Regulatory Authority (SERA) has approved a 16 percent increase of electricity tariffs by the Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC). SEC had asked for an increase of 25.3 percent in 2010/2011. The SEC had also made requests for an increase of 26.3 percent in 2011/2012 and 26.4 percent in 2012/2013. The reason SEC wants a tariff increase is because of the high cost of importing electricity from Eskom in South Africa.

- a) Based on the above information, write a lead paragraph for your newspaper.
- b) Explain what type of lead paragraph you have used for your news story and why?
- c) Who are the people you are likely to interview and why for this news story?

(20 Marks)

Question 2

You are employed by Radio Swaziland as a news reporter. You receive a press statement (attached) on an immunization campaign.

- a) Write a radio news story on the campaign.
- b) Develop a script that you would use for your current affairs programme based on the story.

(20 Marks)

Question 3

- a) Define news.
- b) Give two examples of stories that appeared in the local press that fit your definition of news.
- c) Explain why each of those examples can be classified as news.

(20 Marks)

Question 4

Explain what you understand by the following:

Balance
Soft news
Embargoed
Vox pop
Angle

(20 Marks)

Question 5

You have an interview with the Prime Minister of Swaziland, Dr Barnabas S. Dlamini on the decision by the Minister of Housing and Urban Development to purchase about 25 hectares of land for E31 million.

- i) Discuss in detail how you would prepare for the interview.
- ii) Explain the type of interview that would be most appropriate.
- iii) What are the tools you would need for the interview and why.
- iv) List five questions that you may want to ask the Prime Minister on the matter.

(20 Marks)

Question 6

Discuss in detail, at least five news sources for radio. Give examples to illustrate your answer.

(20 Marks)

Swaziland



Government



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH
NATIONAL MEASLES CAMPAIGN 2010
(27TH OCTOBER - 5TH NOVEMBER 2010)**



The Ministry of Health in collaboration with UNICEF and WHO will embark on a nation wide immunization campaign against Measles.

This exercise will start on Wednesday 27th October 2010 and end on Friday 5th November 2010.

During this period all children **aged from birth to 5 years** should be taken to the nearest health facilities (hospitals, health centres and clinics), routine outreach service points, and other places that will be announced for immunization.

At these sites children will be **immunized against Measles, and other diseases.**

Dates and names of the sites which will be visited by health workers will be mounted in market places, shops, and the sites where the immunization service will be provided. In addition continuous adverts will be aired in the SiSwati Channel of Radio Swaziland and run at Swazi TV.

ALL CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS ARE URGED TO COME FOR THE SERVICES AS FROM 27TH OCTOBER - 5TH NOVEMBER 2010.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS AND CARETAKERS ARE REQUESTED TO BRING ALONG THEIR CHILD HEALTH CARDS, BUT EVEN IF THEY DO NOT HAVE THE CARDS THEY MUST STILL COME.

"THE SERVICES ARE PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE".

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