

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**  
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE IN PUBLISHING**  
**PART I SECOND SEMESTER MAY 2013 EXAMINATIONS**

**IPU 1213 LITERATURE REVIEW THEORY AND PRACTICE II: NON-FICTION  
WRITING**

**TIME 3 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. ANSWER QUESTION 1 AND ANY OTHER THREE (3) QUESTIONS
  2. QUESTION 1 CARRIES 40 MARKS AND EACH OF THE OTHER QUESTIONS CARRIES 20 MARKS
  3. IMPORTANCE IS ATTACHED TO ACCURACY, CLARITY OF EXPRESSION AND LEGIBLE HANDWRITING
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1. (i) Occasionally, some writers do not quite know what genre they are writing for (fiction or nonfiction). Let's say a book or story is based loosely on the author's real-life adventures. Perhaps the names have been changed. Or maybe one or two little things have been altered, but the story is largely factual. Should this story be called fiction or nonfiction? If the story is in book form, should it be pitched as a novel or a memoir? The following are some scenarios, identify and explain the problems and solutions for each situation. **(20 marks)**

***(a) SITUATION ONE***

***The author has written a book based on his life. The story is faithful to his experiences in the way that all creative nonfiction tries to recreate stories from memories as accurately as possible. The author has changed the characters' names to protect identities, but otherwise everything is true***

***(b) SITUATION TWO***

***An author has written a book based loosely on her life. The story is very familiar to her because she has lived much of it. She has changed characters' names. She has also taken liberties here and there in order to make the story more compelling, and she amped up her ending to be a little flashier.***

**(c) SITUATION THREE**

***A writer has a friend who has an unusual life story because she was a professional spy. The writer gets his friend's permission to write a story about everything that happened to her.***

(ii) In writing nonfiction there are some ethics to be followed. Discuss any five of those ethics.

**(20 marks)**

2. Subjectivity is not required in nonfiction. Critique this statement citing examples of well known biographies and autobiographies. **(20 marks)**

3. Non-fiction writers and memoirists often take advantage of fiction-writing techniques to enhance their prose. They create scenes and characters, use dialogue and description. As much as possible, they try to show rather than tell. They do this by using different strategies. Evaluate any four strategies which are often overlooked. **(20 marks)**

4. Distinguish between:

(i) Biographies and Autobiographies

**(10 marks)**

(ii) Documentaries and Histories

**(10 marks)**

5. When writing nonfiction, much of the work of characterization is done for you. The character has been made, characterization is complete, the family history is in place, the physical description is a given. Discuss how one enhances characterization. **(20 marks)**

6. A nonfiction writer utilizes many of the literary devices of fiction writing. State and explain the most common literary devices that writers incorporate into their non-fiction writing. **(20 marks)**

**END OF PAPER**