

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND MEDIA STUDIES
JOURNALISM I – FOUNDATION SKILLS (IJM 1104)
JANUARY 2004 EXAMINATION
TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. Answer **Section A** and **any three** questions from **Section B**.
2. Start each answer on a new page.
3. Common Dictionary is permitted.
4. Poor spelling and grammar will be penalised.

SECTION A

Read the news report in Annexure A.

1. Using the article, explain whether the intro is good or not. Give reasons for your answer **[10 marks]**
2. There are some good aspects to this story, and some poor ones. Examples are spelling, grammar and inconsistencies. Sub-edit the article on annexure A with your corrections. In your answer book, give reasons for your edits and discuss their implications.
RETURN ANNEXURE A with your scripts and put your registration number on it. **[15 marks]**
3. What is P+E+RI =NEWS? Why would you use it? **[5 marks]**
4. There are two meanings to the word “medium” as they relate to news. What are they? **[5 marks]**
5. What does one mean by the ‘balance’ of a story? **[5 marks]**

[Total 40 marks]

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

6. A good journalist should spend time talking to people and exploring his/her community. Name and explain where you think good story ideas may come from. **[20 marks]**

7. When preparing for an interview, and you are not under deadline pressure, there are certain steps you should take leading up to, but not including the interview itself. Briefly describe what these steps are.

[20 marks]

8. Choose two traditional categories of news and discuss them. Then give their alternatives and say how they differ.

[20 marks]

9. While journalists are supposed to be impartial, it is not always possible given the interference of business and politics. Discuss.

[20 marks]

STUDENT REGISTRATION NUMBER:

Annexure A

Motorist killed in collision

A Sunday News Reporter

A MOTORIST died instantly, killed outright, and his four passengers were seriously injured when he was thrown out of his Mazda pickup after it collided with a commuter omnibus along Basch Street in Bulawayo yesterday.

According to distraught eyewitnesses, the van veered off the road after the collision, hit another vehicle and only came to a halt after ramming viciously into a wall. A police spokesman, Const. Alan Mambo, confirmed the incident but could not say how the accident occurred, or who was to blame.

However, an eyewitness, Mrs Evelyn Dube (32) of Makakokoba, said, "The driver was obviously drunk, the way he skidded all over the road."

Four passengers in the back of the van, revellers from an all night Halloween party, were ominously thrown out of the vehicle and sustained serious injuries. This was a strange happening considering it occurred on Halloween Day. They were rushed to Mpilo Central Hospital where their condition could, however, not be ascertained last night.

One member of the night staff did confirm that two bodies had been brought in in bloody condition. Senior hospital staff were unavailable for details.

Eyewitnesses said several pedestrians also suffered injuries. Police still have to report to the family of Mr Stanley Lumba, (47) of 1234 High Street, Entumbane about his tragic death.

Mr John Brown of the AA commented that this section of road is well known for its accidents. At least 9 have occurred in this same stretch of road over the past six months according to AA statistics.

At the time of writing this report, no further details were available.

(The Sunday News, May 6, 2001 – modified for examination purposes)