

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND MEDIA STUDIES

BROADCAST JOURNALISM II (IJM 2114)

FEBRUARY 2010 EXAMINATIONS

TIME ALLOWED: 3HRS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- i) Section A is **compulsory**.
- ii) Answer any **three** questions in Section two.
- iii) Poor spelling and grammar will be penalised.

SECTION A

**Question 1**

You are a television news script writer for a new private, apolitical television station in Zimbabwe. You have been given two newspaper articles from two newspapers (see Annexure 1) and you have been tasked to collapse these two independent articles into one story for a 1pm news bulletin.

- a) Supposing that this will be the first story, prepare the script from the beginning of the news bulletin up to the end of this story. **[20 Marks]**
- b) Discuss the writing conventions for television news, explaining clearly the differences between writing for the ear, and writing for the eye. **[20 Marks]**

**TOTAL:**

**[40 MARKS]**

SECTION B

**Question 2**

You are the producer of *News @ 8pm* for ZBCTV. Your reporters give you the following stories for the main news bulletin:

1. Civil servants to get salary review soon
2. Harare City Council cuts water supplies to 1100 premises
3. Bulawayo councilors snub city's anniversary over unpopular venue
4. Woman kills husband with hot porridge – Bulawayo
5. Man axes kids, kills livestock, commits suicide – Mutare,

6. In an incident related to the above, four children perish in inferno in Masvingo; the mother survives with serious burns.
7. Victorious Warriors unite Zimbabweans.
8. MDC vows to salvage inclusive government.
9. Chanakira collapsed...as battle for KMAL control takes its toll.
10. Bashir to visit Turkey despite warrant

- a) Arrange the stories in the chronological order in which they are supposed to be presented and state your reasons for this order. **[10 Marks]**
- b) Supposing that your bulletin is only supposed to contain five of these ten stories, which ones would you include and why? What would be the reasons for leaving out the stories that you have decided not to include? **[10 Marks]**

### **Question 3**

You are the soundman for a local television sports channel that is going to cover a soccer match between Zambia and Zimbabwe national teams at Rufaro Stadium. Your producer informs you that besides the sound from the terraces and the pitch itself, you will also need to interview the coaches and players of the match afterwards. Which microphones are you going to prepare for this live match and why? Demonstrate their sound pick up patterns in your discussion.

**[20 Marks]**

### **Question 4**

The executive producer of a commercial local television station has asked you to prepare a 10 - minute studio interview with a hated and controversial soap actress. He once had a feud with her and instructs you to portray her as ugly and inferior as possible. Explain how you will do this without touching her or arguing with her during this interview.

**[20 Marks]**

### **Question 5**

“Grind is a much more accurate description than glamour. TV production is long, hard and often frustrating” (Dizazzo: 2000; 103).

Critically evaluate the validity of Dizazzo’s assertion, bearing in mind the TV production stages and duties of members of the crew in these stages of production.

**[20 Marks]**

### **Question 6**

“Editing is a process of putting individual shots together to create a whole product. The dramatic editors, as well as the news editor, have great power here in terms of what standard editing devices are used, what information is omitted or included, and how the information is sequenced.” In light of this statement, discuss how editing techniques and devices (special effects) have assumed certain standard meanings in television production.

**[20 Marks]**

## **ANNEXURE 1**

### **KARIBA DRAFT GETS JMIC GREEN LIGHT (SUNDAY MAIL REPORTER)**

The Joint Monitoring and Implementation Committee (JOMIC) has given the Parliamentary Select Committee spearheading the country's constitutional reform the green light to use the Kariba Draft Constitution as a basis for crafting a new supreme document. The development ties in with President Mugabe's pronouncements last month imploring the select committee to stand guided by the draft.

In a joint statement yesterday, negotiators to Zimbabwe's inter-party talks, who are also JOMIC members, said Zanu PF, MDC – T and MDC – M had assented to the document when they signed the Global Political Agreement. They said the select committee was tasked to use the draft to consult Zimbabweans on the content of the final Constitution. Part of the statement reads: "We hereby place it on record that the agreement of the parties was that the Kariba Draft, which was negotiated, agreed to and initiated by all the three parties to the GPA, would be used by the parties through the Parliamentary Select Committee to consult the people on the content of a new constitution for Zimbabwe.

"The agreement being that the select committee would take the Kariba Draft to the people and consult them on which provisions of the draft they agreed with and which ones they did not agree with." "In respect of those they did not agree with, the people would be asked what alternative provisions they wanted in their place."

In recent weeks, various stakeholders, notably civil society organisations, have been rallying against the use of the Kariba Draft as the focal point of the constitution-making process. They claim that Government intends to force a Constitution on Zimbabweans, further arguing that a people – driven process calls for the public to consider different drafts that were originated in the past for them to make informed contributions. However, President Mugabe last month said that the draft should form the basis of public consultations. Cde Mugabe, who is the Head of State and Government and Commander – in – Chief of the Defence Forces, explained that the public required a starting point and that the document provided it. Article Six of the Global Agreement also "acknowledges the draft Constitution that the parties signed and agreed to in Kariba on September 30 2007." The President said the Parliamentary Committee should not deviate from this agreement.

### **MDC – T SETS UP TEAMS TO CONSULT ON GNU (THE ZIMBABWE INDEPENDENT)**

The MDC formation led by Morgan Tsvangirai will today hold an extraordinary national executive council meeting to set up teams to consult people on whether the party should remain in the inclusive government or pull out....

Meanwhile, there seems to be confusion surrounding the use of the Kariba draft constitution in the constitution-making processes with the main political parties issuing contradicting statements on what has been agreed on.

In a statement that appeared to suggest attempts to quicken constitutional reforms that have to date moved at a snail's pace, constitutional affairs minister Advocate Eric Matinenga said President Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai and Deputy Minister Arthur Mutambara met last Thursday and agreed to drop the Kariba draft constitution because of the polarization it had caused within the ruling coalition.

He said, "Due to the unfortunate polarization brought about by the reference to the Kariba draft, neither party to the inter-party agreement should seek to promote the draft at the expense of other constitutional material it being accepted that the draft will be open to study and scrutiny just like any other constitutional material available."

Tsvangirai repeated Matinenga's claim at an MDC caucus meeting on Monday.