

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND MEDIA STUDIES**

FEATURES WRITING: (IJM 4114)

JULY 2010 SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Section A

Question 1

Write a proposal for a background feature on child abuse to be published in the *Chronicle* newspaper in Bulawayo. Your proposal should include an outline of the issues you will discuss, the angle and approach you will take, the resources and sources you will use to enable you to write the feature. Your proposal must include information about the contribution the feature will make to public knowledge, understanding and/or public discussion and debate. **(40 Marks)**

Section B

Question 2

Examine **Annexure A**. Discuss how this feature contributes to public knowledge, understanding and debate on social issues. **(20 Marks)**

Question 3

Discuss the importance of narrative structure, style and tone in feature writing. **(20 Marks)**

Question 4

Examine the feature in **Annexure B**. Discuss how you would turn it into a background feature on the Zimbabwean socio-economic environment, outlining the issues you will include in your feature, the sources you will interview and the research background you will include in your feature. **(20 Marks)**

Question 5

Discuss in brief what is meant by the following:

- a. News feature **(5 Marks)**
- b. Second day feature **(5 Marks)**
- c. Column **(5 Marks)**
- d. Backgrounder **(5 Marks)**

Question 6

Discuss the statement that feature writing is an art, paying particular attention to the qualities of a good feature writer. **(20 Marks)**