

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DIPLOMA IN JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

DJMC 0112: NEWS WRITING AND REPORTING

STREAMS: DJMC

TIME:2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: TUESDAY 17/12/2024

2.30 P.M. –4.30 P.M.

SECTION A: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Explain four distinctions between hard news and soft news. (4 marks)
- b) Explain any four news sources in journalism. (4 marks)
- c) Write the opening paragraph to the following stories that are to appear in your local newspaper:
 - i. Chuka university's Graduation ceremony (3 marks)
 - ii. Student's decomposing body discovered in a hostel (3 marks)
- d) A journalist is a computer with blood and brains. Explain three reasons why (6 marks)
- e) Compare and contrast the roles of a sub-editor and an editor in a newsroom. (6 marks)
- f) A reporter's first obligation is to tell the truth. Explain how this can be achieved in news writing. (4 marks)

SECTION B – ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain any five hurdles that journalists face in their quest to report news. (10 marks)
- b) Explore five qualities you would look for in a news story. (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Discuss the steps that you can take when preparing to interview a senior politician.(10 marks)
- b) The internet has revolutionized the production and consumption of news. Show five ways how this has been achieved. (10marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain five beats that a journalist can be assigned to cover. (10 marks)
- b) Explain five reasons why an editor may reject a news story. (10 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

As a news reporter, there are ethical and legal challenges that you may face in your work.

- a) Explain five of the ethical challenges that you may encounter. (10 marks)
 - b) Explain five of the legal challenges that you may encounter. (10 marks)
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