NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION

COURSE CODE: **JLS 721**
COURSE TITLE: **NEWS REPORTING/WRITING**
UNITS: **3**
TIME: **3 HOURS**
INSTRUCTION: **ANSWER QUESTION ONE AND ANY OTHER THREE QUESTIONS.**

1. A student journalist who writes for an XYZ newspaper in Abakaliki, the Ebonyi state capital, was sent to cover a scene where a woman had lost her husband in a ghastly motor accident. On arrival, the young reporter rather met something strange and dramatic: the woman had wept so uncontrollably such that, in the process, got herself stark naked and had refused to cover her nakedness despite all public pleas. With his little knowledge on "oddity" and "unusualness" as determinants of a good news story, the reporter decided to take pictures of the woman's nudity and captioned his story **"Woman Goes Nude at an Accident Scene in Ebonyi".**

   (i)   With your knowledge of media laws, does the action of the young reporter constitute invasion of privacy? **(5 marks)**
   (ii)   Justify your answer, drawing inference from the perspectives of the relationship between law and ethics in media reporting. **(20 marks)**

2. Just as the basketball player must abide by the rules of the game, so also must the news writer adhere to a set of principles that guide news writing. Identify and explain any five of such guidelines also known as rudiments of news story. **(15 marks)**

3. (a) What is news? **(3 marks)** (b) Who is a good news reporter? **(6 marks)** (c) What are the indicators of a good news report? **(6 marks)**

4. The heart of news gathering operations is the newsroom. Clearly identify three key staff of this unit and explain in details their schedule of duties. **(15 marks)**

5. The use of computer in news gathering is one of the latest developments in information technology. (a) Demonstrate your understand of Computer Assisted Journalism (CAJ)? (b)What are the advantages of Computer Assisted Journalism (CAJ) over old methods of practicing journalism?

111000111