



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA**  
**UNIVERSITY VILLAGE, PLOT 91 CADASTRAL ZONE**  
**NNAMDI AZIKIWE EXPRESSWAY, JABI, ABUJA**  
**FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION**  
**2020\_1 EXAMINATIONS**

**COURSE CODE: JLS 721**

**COURSE TITLE: NEWS REPORTING**

**CREDIT UNIT: 3**

**TIME: 3 HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 17½ MARKS**

1. The editor of your campus magazine '*THE SURVEILANCE*' has assigned you to investigate the much talked about 'sex for grades phenomenon' on your campus. Where would you source relevant information for your story? **17½marks**
2. Journalism has developed a language of its own, like every industry or Profession; give the meaning of the following journalistic professional jargons. (i) Beat (ii) Dateline (iii) Kill (iv) Off-the-record (v) Stet (vi) Sacred cow (vii) Morgue (viii) Log (ix) Freelance (x) Cub. **17½marks.**
3. It is a common saying in the field of journalism that "facts are sacred, but comments are free". Distinguish between (a) facts and comments **6marks** (b) objectivity and subjectivity **6marks** (c) Attribution and Identification **5½marks.**
4. Besides knowing the principles of writing for a radio, there is a need to make your copy sound and lively. How does one achieve this? **17½marks**
5. A careless journalist who does not check his/her facts properly is likely to earn himself/herself a libel suit. What is libel? What are the essential elements? What defenses are available to one accused of libel? What are the major steps for avoiding libel? **17½marks**
6. With the avalanche of laws to regulate the operations of the press in Nigeria today, of what need is ethics in the practice of journalism in the country? **10marks.** (b) Distinguish national codes of ethics from institutional codes. **7½marks.**