



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

**COURSE CODE: JLS823**

**COURSE TITLE: NEWS WRITING AND REPORTING**

**TITLE OF EXAM: 2019\_1 MSc MASS COMMUNICATION**

**TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS**

**UNITS: 3**

**INSTRUCTION: ANSWER QUESTIONS ONE AND ANY OTHER THREE.**

1. A commentator defines the roles and functions of the press as mainly dependent on the quality of the reporter.
  - a. Prove the statement to be correct. 7 marks.
  - b. What are the main functions of the press in Nigerian society? 6 marks.
  - c. With an elaborate discussion, show that the reporter is both born and made. 6 marks.
  - d. What are the things that shape the nature of contemporary news reporting in Nigeria? 6 marks. **(Total = 25 marks)**.
  
2. a. How beneficial is the knowledge of mass communication laws to practicing journalist? 7.5 marks  
b. Explain at least five of such laws. 7.5 marks **(Total = 15 marks)**
  
3. a. Explain the ingredients of press freedom in a particular environment? 5 marks  
b. Assess the condition of press freedom in Nigeria. 5 marks  
c. What is the interface between press freedom and the Freedom of Information Act? 5 marks **(Total = 15 marks)**
  
4. a. What is a lead? 5 marks.  
b. With a diagrammatic representation, show the structure of a news story. 5 marks.  
c. Name five types of lead. 5 marks **(Total = 15 marks)**.
  
5. The ability of a news reporter to write and report “logical, accurate, concise, coherent and readable” news depends on his/her readiness to adhere to certain principles of news.

- a. To what extent do Nigerian journalists respect these values? What are they?  
7.5 marks.
  - b. In your opinion, what are the five consequences of flouting these guidelines? 7.5 marks. **(Total = 15 marks)**.
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6. a. What are the capacities of the internet? 7.5 marks
  - b. Discuss ten of the uses of internet. 7.5 marks. **(Total = 15 marks)**