

**PAPER II****SECTION A****CONTINUOUS WRITING****[50 MARKS]**

You are required to answer only **one** question from this section. Your answer should **not** be less than **450** words. All questions carry equal marks. You are advised to spend about **45** minutes on this section.

1. Write an article suitable for publication in a national daily on why History should be made a compulsory subject at the secondary school level in your country.
2. You are the chief speaker in a debate on the topic: *Democracy in Africa is a Curse rather than a Blessing*. Write your argument *for* or *against* the motion.
3. Write a letter to the principal of your school complaining about the poor condition of your school library and suggesting ways of improving on it.
4. Write an article suitable for publication in a national daily on the effects of electoral malpractice on democracy.



SECTION B
COMPREHENSION

[20 MARKS]

You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section.

5. Read the passage below carefully and answer the questions on it.

Afella came to school looking downcast. Aminu noticed his friend's *melancholic* disposition and asked, "You look dispirited today. Is anything the matter?" At first, Afella was *reluctant* to disclose his family secret to his friend but, after much persuasion, he yielded to this request.

"My parents always fight at home. This upsets me. I wish I could stop them, but there is nothing I can do about it." Aminu thought of what to do to help his friend out of this *predicament*. "I think you should see the school counsellor and inform him about it," he advised. Afella did not welcome the idea at first. Informing the school counsellor of his parents' incessant *altercation* would amount to reporting them and this would expose them to public ridicule, he reasoned. But Aminu quickly explained that the school counsellor was trained to advise students on academic, emotional and social problems that could *impede* their learning. "He is the right person to confide in on issues like this," he concluded.

Afella finally agreed to see the school counsellor the following day. After listening to his story, the counsellor advised, "It is not your responsibility to reconcile your parents in times of conflict since you are not responsible for what is happening. You should also not take sides with either of them. *Anytime your parents fight*, go to another room or anywhere that is safe and engage yourself in anything that will take your attention away from the situation. For instance, you can listen to music, play a game, read a book or do some drawings. These activities are *discrete* and will not attract any extra attention to you."

"You can also seek support from someone you trust such as a relative, a friend or a counsellor. Don't think that talking to someone could get you in trouble with your parents or break up your family," the counsellor added.

The next time his parents fought, Afella reported the matter to his paternal grandmother who came and settled his parents once and for all. Never again was the couple involved in domestic violence.

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|---|-----------|
| (a) Why was Afella sad? | (1 mark) |
| (b) Why was he reluctant to tell his friend about his problem? | (2 marks) |
| (c) What advice did his friend give him? | (2 marks) |
| (d) State the duties of a school counsellor according to the passage. | (2 marks) |



- (e) How did Aminu convince his friend to see the school counsellor? (2 marks)
- (f) *Anytime your parents fight...*
- (i) What grammatical name is given to this expression? (1 mark)
- (ii) What is its function in the sentence? (2 marks)
- (g) What was the counsellor's first advice to Afella? (2 marks)
- (h) Find one word or phrase which is *nearest in meaning* to and can at the same time replace each of the following words as used in the passage:
- (i) melancholic
 - (ii) reluctant
 - (iii) predicament
 - (iv) altercation
 - (v) impede
 - (vi) discrete

One mark for each correct answer i.e. 1mark x 6 = 6 marks

**SECTION C****SUMMARY****[30 MARKS]**

You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section.

6. Read the passage below carefully and answer the questions on it.

Sleep apnea is an involuntary cessation of breathing that occurs while the patient is asleep. It is a sleeping disorder which occurs when the upper airway (nose or throat) becomes continually blocked during sleep, reducing or completely stopping airflow. Sleep apnea can be caused by a person's physical structure or medical conditions. These include obesity, large tonsils, endocrine disorders, neuromuscular disorders (heart or kidney failure), certain genetic syndromes, and premature birth. People with obesity have much fat stored in their neck and this can block the upper airway. Large tonsils may contribute to sleep apnea because they narrow the upper airway. Conditions like neuromuscular disorders that interfere with the brain, airway and chest muscles can also result in sleep apnea. Advanced heart and kidney failure can also cause sleep apnea. Babies born prematurely before 32 weeks of pregnancy have a higher risk of having breathing problems during sleep.

Sleep apnea is characterised by a reduced or an absence of breathing, frequent loud snoring and gasping for air while sleeping. It can cause excessive daytime sleepiness and fatigue, attention declination, dry mouth or headache when awake, sexual dysfunction and waking up several times during the night to urinate. Undiagnosed or untreated sleep apnea can lead to serious complications such as heart attack, glaucoma, diabetes, cancer, cognitive and behavioural disorders.

If you have been diagnosed with sleep apnea, it is important that you adopt healthy lifestyle habits and maintain an open airway during sleep. You could use breathing devices like the Positive Airway Pressure (PAP) machine, Continuous Positive Air Pressure (CPAP) machines, mouthpiece, or implants and usage of prescribed treatments.

If you have any concern that you may be experiencing sleep apnea, consult your doctor immediately. Your doctor will review your medical history or symptoms and recommend a change in lifestyle. This might include eating a heart-healthy diet, aiming for a healthy weight and avoiding alcohol and smoke in any form.

Generally, maintaining a healthy lifestyle can decrease or prevent the incidence of sleep apnea.



- (a) In **two** sentences, **one** for each, summarise the causes of sleep apnea.
- (b) In **two** sentences, **one** for each, summarise the symptoms of sleep apnea.
- (c) In **two** sentences, **one** for each, summarise ways sleep apnea can be managed.

5 marks each I.e. $5 \times 6 = 30$ marks

ENGLISH (TYPE F) COMPREHENSION

(5)

(a) Afella was sad because his parents always fought at home.

(b) He was reluctant to tell his friend about his problem because it was a family secret and he didn't want to expose his parents.

(c) Aminu advised him to see the school counselor and talk about it.

(d) A counselor advises students on academic, emotional and social problems that could affect their learning.

(e) Aminu explained that the counselor was trained to help students and was the right person to confide in.

(f) (i) Adverbial clause of time
(ii) It Modifies the verb "go"

(g) He advised Afella not to take sides with either of his parents.

(h) (i) Melancholic --> sad
(ii) Reluctant --> unwilling
(iii) Predicament --> difficult situation
(iv) Altercation --> quarrel
(v) Impede --> hinder
(vi) Discrete --> unnoticeable

ENGLISH (TYPE F) SUMMARY

(6)

(a) Sleep apnea can be caused by physical factors like obesity, large tonsils, and premature birth that block the airway.

It can also result from medical conditions such as endocrine disorders, neuromuscular disorders, heart/kidney failure, and certain genetic syndromes.

(b) At night, sleep apnea causes stopped breathing, loud snoring, gasping, and frequent waking to urinate.

During the day, it leads to sleepiness, fatigue, poor focus, headaches, and dry mouth.

(c) Sleep apnea can be managed with medical devices like PAP/CPAP machines, mouthpieces, or implants to keep the airway open during sleep.

Lifestyle changes such as eating a heart-healthy diet, maintaining a healthy weight, and avoiding alcohol and smoking also help reduce or prevent it.

ENGLISH ESSAY (TYPE F)

(3)

No. 5 Unity Hostel,
Government Secondary School,
Obiagu, Enugu.
15 July, 2026.

The Principal,
Government Secondary School,
Obiagu, Enugu.

Dear Sir,

COMPLAINT ABOUT THE POOR CONDITION OF THE SCHOOL LIBRARY AND SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

I write with respect to draw your attention to the poor condition of our school library, and to suggest some ways through which the situation can be improved for the benefit of all students.

Our school library has for a long time served as the main source of knowledge for students in preparation for WAEC, NECO, and other examinations. Unfortunately, over the past two years the condition of the library has deteriorated to a point where it is no longer serving its purpose effectively. At present, the state of the library is a source of concern to many of us who depend on it for research and for private study during free periods and after classes.

The first problem is the condition of the building itself. The roof leaks during the rainy season, and as a result many of our books have been damaged by water. The windows are broken, so dust and insects get into the library on a daily basis. The chairs and tables are few and most of them are old and unstable. Students often struggle to find a comfortable place to sit, especially during the period before examinations when the library is usually full.

The second problem is the shortage of relevant and current books. Most of the textbooks on the shelves are outdated editions from the 1990s. There are very few novels, reference materials, and past question papers for WAEC and NECO. Students in the science classes hardly find any up-to-date books on Physics, Chemistry, and Biology with diagrams. Those of us in the arts also lack materials on Literature, Government, and Economics. Because of this lack, many students now prefer to stay outside under the trees with their personal textbooks instead of making use of the library.

Another issue is the poor system of management within the library. There is only one library attendant who is always overwhelmed with the number of students that come in. Books are not properly arranged according to subjects, and there is no record system for borrowing and returning books. As a result, many useful books get missing, and students are discouraged from making use of the facility.

In view of the problems stated above, I would like to humbly suggest some ways of improving the library. First, the leaking roof and broken windows should be repaired, and the floor should be cleaned and polished on a regular basis. New chairs and tables should be provided so that more students can sit in comfort during study periods.

Second, new and relevant books should be purchased from bookshops and publishers. Donations can also be requested from old students, NGOs, and parents through the PTA. A special section for WAEC and NECO past questions and for JAMB materials will be of great help to students in the senior classes.

Third, the library should be staffed with at least two trained attendants who will keep the books in order and manage the issue of borrowing. A timetable can also be drawn up for different classes to use the library on specific days in order to avoid overcrowding.

Sir, a good library is the heart of any school, because it promotes reading culture and academic excellence among students. With your support and intervention, I believe our library can be transformed into a place that we will all be proud of.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to seeing positive changes in our library.

Yours faithfully,

Adaeze Okafor
Senior Prefect
(Academics)

(4)

THE EFFECTS OF ELECTORAL MALPRACTICE ON DEMOCRACY

Democracy is often described as the government of the people, by the people and for the people. It gives citizens the right to choose their leaders through free, fair and credible elections. Elections are expected to reflect the wishes of the people and ensure that only qualified and popular candidates assume public office. Unfortunately, in many developing countries, including Nigeria, electoral malpractice has become a serious challenge. Instead of allowing the people's votes to determine the outcome of elections, dishonest individuals manipulate the process for their selfish interests. Electoral malpractice includes vote buying, ballot box snatching, intimidation of voters, falsification of election results, multiple voting and violence. These illegal practices have devastating effects on democracy and national development.

One major effect of electoral malpractice is that it destroys the credibility of elections. When elections are manipulated, citizens lose confidence in the electoral process because they believe that their votes no longer matter. As a result, many people become discouraged from participating in future elections. Low voter turnout weakens democracy because the government may not truly represent the wishes of the majority of the people.

Another effect is the emergence of incompetent and unqualified leaders. When elections are rigged, capable candidates who genuinely have the support of the people may lose to those who rely on fraud and manipulation. Such leaders often lack the competence, vision and integrity needed to govern effectively. Instead of focusing on development, they spend public resources rewarding those who helped them gain power unlawfully. This leads to poor governance, corruption and slow national development.

Electoral malpractice also encourages political violence and insecurity. During elections, supporters of rival political parties may clash over allegations of rigging or vote buying. Ballot boxes may be snatched, innocent people injured and lives lost. In some cases, properties worth millions of naira are destroyed. Such violence creates fear among citizens and discourages peaceful political participation, which is essential for a healthy democracy.

Furthermore, electoral malpractice promotes corruption. Politicians who spend huge sums of money to buy votes or manipulate election results often see public office as an opportunity to recover their expenses. Instead of serving the people honestly, they embezzle public funds and award contracts unfairly. This weakens public institutions and denies citizens access to quality healthcare, education, good roads and other essential services.

Another serious consequence is the loss of public trust in government. Citizens expect elected leaders to represent their interests and fulfil campaign promises. However, when leaders gain power through fraudulent means, they often feel less accountable to the people. This creates frustration, anger and disappointment among citizens. Some people may even resort to protests, civil unrest or anti-government activities because they feel their voices have been ignored.

In addition, electoral malpractice damages the country's international reputation. Foreign investors are often reluctant to invest in countries where elections are characterised by violence and fraud. They fear political instability and uncertainty. Consequently, the nation loses valuable investment opportunities, employment opportunities and economic growth.

To reduce electoral malpractice, the government must strengthen electoral laws and ensure that anyone found guilty of election fraud is punished without fear or favour. The electoral commission should be independent, transparent and well-equipped to conduct credible elections. Security agencies must remain neutral and protect voters instead of assisting politicians. Civic education should also be intensified so that citizens understand the importance of rejecting vote buying and other illegal practices.

In conclusion, electoral malpractice is a serious threat to democracy because it undermines free and fair elections, encourages corruption, promotes violence, weakens public confidence and hinders national development. Every stakeholder, including the government, political parties, security agencies, civil society organisations and the electorate, has a responsibility to protect the integrity of the electoral process. Only through transparent, peaceful and credible elections can democracy truly flourish and deliver the dividends of good governance to all citizens.

Daniel Okeke

Elite Crop School, Ikeja, Lagos.