



University of Fort Hare
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UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE

JUNE EXAMINATION

2023

ACADEMIC PRACTICES AND REASONING

APR 111

DURATION: 3 HOURS

MARKS: 100

EXAMINERS: MRS. R. SCOTT

DR. N. LANDA

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

- 1. PLEASE NOTE THAT MARKS WILL BE DEDUCTED FOR INCORRECT SPELLING AND GRAMMAR.**
- 2. NUMBER YOUR ANSWERS CORRECTLY.**
- 3. PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION PAPER WITH YOUR ANSWER BOOK.**

Question 1:

Unemployment increases to record breaking 32.5%

Thuletho Zwane *City Press*, 23 February 2021

The country's official unemployment rate jumped to record highs of 32.5% in the fourth quarter of 2020 from 30, 8% in the third quarter of 2020. Statistician General Risenga Maluleke said this is the highest unemployment rate since the start of the first Quarterly Labour Force Statistics (QLFS) Report released in 2008. Stats SA shows that the number of unemployed persons increased by 701 000 to 7.2 million compared to the third quarter of 2020, resulting in an increase of 1 million unemployed persons.

The QLFS report also shows that the expanded definition of unemployment, which also includes discouraged work-seekers, increased by 235 000 (8.7%) in the fourth quarter. "This is the highest unemployment rate recorded since the start of the QLFS in 2008. Moreover, the labour force participation rate was also higher in quarter four of 2020 as compared to quarter three of the same year. He added: "The unemployment rate according to the expanded definition of unemployment decreased by 0.5 of a percentage point to 42,6% in quarter four of 2020 compared to the previous quarter."

The latest QLFS shows that even as unemployment increased, employment also increased. Maluleke said this is because during quarter three and quarter four of 2020, the national lockdown regulations were relaxed, which allowed travelling, "and this played a role in people actively looking for work". Formal sector employment increased by 189 000 and informal sector employment increased by 65 000. Private households employment increased by 76 000 and employment in Agriculture increased by 2 000. "Employment increased in all industries, except finance and mining. The industries which gained the most jobs were community and social services at 170 000 jobs and construction at 86 000," said Maluleke,

In terms of how provinces performed, the latest QLFS shows that the largest decreases in employment were recorded in Gauteng, down by 528 000 jobs, followed by KwaZulu-Natal where 210 000 people lost their jobs. These provincial job losses are followed by the Western Cape, Eastern Cape and Limpopo who lost 180 000 jobs, 148 000 jobs and 119 000 jobs respectively.

Statis SA explains that in a quest to protect South African citizens from the coronavirus pandemic, the country's government announced a national lockdown, which brought about a shutdown of the economy. This resulted in a shock in the labour market and a big change in the way people went about doing their work.

According to Stats SA some people worked from their usual places of work or from home and continued to receive salaries during lockdown while others received reduced salaries. However, the challenge was in those people who had to discontinue work where it was not clear if they would return to the same jobs or businesses after the lockdown. Of those who continued to receive pay during the lockdown, some had a reduction in their pay/salary during the lockdown. "There seems to be some relationship between the level of education and reduction in pay/salary. "Those with higher levels of education had higher chances of receiving a full salary than those with lower levels of education in both quarter three and quarter four of 2020," said Maluleke. He added that about nine in every 10 employed graduates continued to receive full salaries, compared to 81,2% of those with less than matric as their highest level of education.

Added to this, the report also shows that there are about 10,3 million young people (29.8%) aged 15–24 who were not in employment, education or training (NEET). "This is 2,2 percentage points lower than in quarter four of 2019 – before the pandemic. In this age group, the NEET rate for both males and females decreased by 2,2 percentage points each. "However, the NEET rate for females remains higher than that of their male counterparts in both years," said Maluleke.

Questions:

1.1 Show evidence of **CRITICAL READING** on the text. (*Please note that for this question to be marked, you must submit your question paper with your answer book.)

(25)

1.2 Is this text an example of **ACADEMIC** or **NON-ACADEMIC** English? Give reasons for your answer.

(5)

1.3 Provide **CONTEXTUAL DEFINITIONS** for the following words from the text:

A. statistician (paragraph 1)

B. quest (paragraph 5)

C. pandemic (paragraph 5)

(2 x 3 = 6)

1.4 What is your opinion of this article? Provide valid reasons to support your answer.

(4)

Total for Question 1: 40

Question 2:

Select the correct answer from the alternatives given below. Write down only the letter and not the entire word/phrase.

2.1 Air is another word for atmosphere. Earth's atmosphere is made up of various gases, with nitrogen (78%) and oxygen (21%) being the most important ones. Various small particles including dust, water, smoke and pollen are also found in the atmosphere. Most of the other planets also have atmospheres but they're quite different to the one on Earth.

The above extract has characteristics of:

- a. academic English
- b. non-academic English
- c. both academic and non-academic English
- d. none of the above

2.2 Academic English is:

- a. objective
- b. casual
- c. formal
- d. both (a) and (c)

2.3 Most academic writing is a combination of:

- a. discursive and narrative
- b. expository and descriptive
- c. discursive and expository
- d. expository and narrative

2.4 Logic is:

- a. the study and practice of reasoning
- b. used to convince people to agree with us
- c. (a) only
- d. both (a) and (b)

2.5 Beliefs:

- a. vary from person to person
- b. both (a) and (d)
- c. are based on facts
- d. are based on supporting reasons

2.6 The denotative meaning of a word is the ----- meaning.

- a. direct
- b. indirect
- c. literal
- d. both (a) and (c)

2.7 The statement "It can be argued that social media has a negative effect on the development of social skills among youth" is a /an:

- a. debatable
- b. opinion
- c. fact
- d. none of the above

2.8 A fact is:

- a. a point of view held by an individual
- b. debatable
- c. verifiable
- d. both (a) and (c)

2.9 Reasons:

- a. provide evidence for an argument
- b. are statements you think of in order to convince people of your belief
- c. may contain facts and opinions
- d. all of the above

2.10 An argument is:

- a. intended to prove something
- b. a set facts and the connections between them
- c. a set of opinions
- d. both (a) and (b)

Total for Question 2:10

Question 3:

Explain the Ambiguity/ connotation in each of the following examples:

3.1 They are cooking apples.

(4)

3.2 Insurance salesmen are frightening people.

(4)

3.3 I saw bats.

(2 X4 = 8)

3.4 Somebody complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen that said: 'Parking Fine.'

(4)

Total for Question 3: 20

Question 5:

Read the following article and answer the question below:

Assisted suicide

A man was ordered to face a murder trial for the killing of his wife, who was suffering from Lou Gehrig's disease as well as severe heart disease. As a result of this disease, she could not talk or walk and had to be fed through a tube in her abdomen. One day, his wife managed to scrawl a note in which she asked her husband of forty-eight years to kill her. The husband was described as a loving spouse who was devoted to caring for his wife. The man gave his wife an injection of ground-up sleeping pills. The wife became unconscious after the sleeping pills were administered, but she did not die. The distraught husband carried his wife to the car where he attached a vacuum-cleaner hose to the exhaust pipe and ran it into the car. He got into the car, along with the family pets, intending to kill his wife, himself, and the pets. After twelve hours, the man woke up to find his wife and one of the family pets dead. The level of carbon monoxide in the wife's blood was not high enough to kill a healthy person but enough to kill his frail wife.

The man was ordered to stand trial for killing his wife. His lawyer argued that it was a crime of "passion and compassion." The prosecution said that what the man did was illegal and that he should be sent to jail. Assisted suicide is a source of debate across the country. In Oregon, there is a "death with dignity" law. This law allows a doctor to prescribe a lethal dose of barbiturates to patients who have less than six months to live. Since the law took effect in 1997, 292 people have asked their doctors to prescribe drugs to end their lives. **

Was the man described above guilty of murder? Should he go to jail? What were the man's values? Should laws be changed to allow assisted suicide?

What is your opinion on this subject? Write a paragraph (between 8 – 10 lines) clearly stating your opinion and providing valid supporting reasons (with evidence).

Total for Question 5: (13)

GRAND TOTAL: 100

N.B. PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION PAPER WITH YOUR ANSWER BOOK SO THAT THE 'CRITICAL READING' QUESTION CAN BE ASSESSED.