

UGANDA MARTYRS UNIVERSITY  
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

2015 / 2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

BSDC 1 ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND GRAMMAR

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016

Duration: 9.00 AM \_ 12.00 PM

Instructions:

Attempt any 3 questions

Number one (1) is compulsory and you may choose the other two from the remaining questions.

1. *Read the following passage and answer the questions after it.*

It pays to plan ahead. It was not raining when Noah built the ark. The year is already months gone but we all have dreams and ambitions that we would like to **accomplish** in the current year. Gladly, we can by doing what Noah did.

Planning is **bringing the future to the present** so that we can start to do something about it now.

Dreaming is wonderful, goal setting is crucial but action is **supreme**. Some may be dreaming of getting a better paying job, lose weight, save, purchase a plot of land, travel to a new place or learn to play a music instrument.

This dreaming and aspiration is valid. This article is meant to help you set goals to make those dreams a reality.

Creating a **road map** for the year ahead and beyond is not an event. It is a process of disciplined effort that takes deliberate **incremental steps** towards our dreams executed over a consistent period of time.

Goal setting is making a plan of action based on what matters to you.

Ironically the most important benefit of goal setting is not achieving your goals, but what you do (effort) and the person you become in pursuing them. Either way you set up yourself a life long journey of continuous improvement, opening you up to a whole new understanding of self.

Life is designed in such a way that we look at the long term but our everyday life is short term. We dream for the future and live in the present. The present can produce many difficult challenges and we need powerful long range goals to help us get past those short term challenges.

Fortunately the more powerful our goals are the more we will be able to act on and guarantee that they will actually come to pass.

Goal setting is important because it provides **clarity and focus**. It shapes our dreams giving us the ability to get the exact actions we need to perform to achieve anything and everything that we desire in life. Goals are great because they force us to **stretch** and grow in ways <sup>we</sup> never have before. In order to reach our goals, we must become better.

If you do not want your goals to fly away, put them in writing. In writing our goals to be practical, there are three **cyclic** stages of: deciding on the goals, support and reward, ensure effective and efficient attainment of goal, get started now.

The only way we can decide what we want in the future and how to get there is to know where ~~we~~ we are right now and what our current level of satisfaction is.

Ask yourself two questions: High moments what went well in the previous year? Low moments: What did not go well in the previous year?

These two questions have to be answered earnestly and your answers should only be for those events that you have control over, if at all something did not go well that you could not prevent or control' it does not need to go on the list. It is important to complete that list before doing any planning. We tend to overestimate hat we can do in an average day but underestimate what can be done over the course of the year.

Looking at the previous year, you might be surprised at everything you have accomplished, and if you take this seriously, you will be even more surprised with how much you will do over the year.

As the months progress, continue with regular evaluation and **reflection** so you can see just how much ground you are gaining. With every review, scale up on your dreams and ambitions riding on the wave of this excitement; let it be a journey of continuous improvement.

Besides what went well and what did not gives you feedback on what the coming year actions will be based on to continue.

The benefit of this starting out exercise is **two-fold**. First, it gives you an objective way to look at your accomplishments in relation to the vision you have for life.

Secondly, it shows you where you are so you can determine where you need to go.

### Questions

a) What is the passage about? (5 marks)

b) Write an outline of the main points in each of the paragraphs in the passage. (20 Marks)



c) Explain the meaning of the following words and phrases as used in the passage:

- i. accomplish
- ii. bringing the future to the present
- iii. supreme
- iv. A road map
- v. incremental steps
- vi. clarity and focus
- vii. stretch
- viii. cyclic
- ix. reflection ( 15) marks
- x. two-fold

2 a) Plagiarism is an academic offence that should be avoided. Why? (15 marks)

b) How can it be avoided? (15 marks)

3. a) *Punctuate the passage below correctly.*

jingala spotted his son at once there you are he cried and started to run towards his son that's your father the boy to whom gregory was talking said in a voice suggesting incredulity that's right gregory after making a right about turn so that he could behold his father said softly in an absent minded manner as though he thought it was all a dream yes it's my father what is he doing here he remained standing there as if paralysed his hands still thrust into his pockets and continued to stare at his father who was now galloping along, still shouting there you are gregory remained speechless almost as if transfixed to the spot by some invisible force he was generally speaking a proud young man vocal and forthright in his dealing with other students especially if he had reason to consider them inferior to himself in any way he had seldom spoken of his background even more seldom of his immediate relatives for both in speech and manner he had always been at great pains to impress on the others that he was high in society his father's previous appearance at the school had been unwelcome and humiliating and in his opinion had helped reduce his standing in the eyes of the other boys the other boys knew about gregory's preoccupation with his own importance and they often made fun of him in his absence

(20 marks)

b) Write out the following jumbled sentences correctly.

- i. ran suddenly out man like the buffalo of a house the mad
- ii. punish now them should we must we if
- iii. our host misbehaved if he abused as he had enough not
- iv. punished culprits as should deserve they be

- v. held I can accountable not be crimes your crimes for
- vi. said trying risky it criminal cover to up a she was
- vii. and AIDS it died easy yet is very many avoid to have of
- viii. a truck sitting almost the faulty roadside were by run they over the *by*
- ix. please Charles a man hard very is to
- x. nail should fought foot avarice be *and*

1 Mark@ = 10 Marks

4. a) Rewrite the following sentences according to the instruction after each without changing the original meaning.

1. My mother would allow me to get only six spoonful of sugar. I had to give three to my young brother. (Combine into one sentence using ..... of which .....)
2. My brother is very understanding. I am staying with him. (Rewrite as one sentence using a relative clause)
3. She had much love for her husband. She always tried her best to please her husband. (Rewrite as one sentence using ..... whom .....)
4. The little boy saw his father. He took to his heels. (Rewrite as one sentence beginning: On .....)
5. He has to attend classes. She doesn't have to attend classes. (Rewrite as one sentence using ..... but .....)
6. When the baby gets hungry it becomes angry. It refuses to be comforted unless given some food. (Rewrite as one sentence using ..... and .....)
7. The marking of examination papers throws a lot of strain on the teachers. It is not an easy job. (Rewrite as one sentence beginning: Never .....)
8. I am going to the village this weekend. You may accompany me. You must finish your home work first. (Rewrite as one sentence beginning: If .....)
9. Some important documents of the colonial past have recently been found. They were found in the governor's official residence. They had been lying there of many years. They are treaties with local rulers. They belong to the turbulent years of our country's history. (Combine in to one sentence using which and where)
10. She found that there was no opportunity for upgrading. She resigned from the profession. (Begin: Finding ..... and rewrite as one sentence)

1.5 marks@ = 15 marks



b) Fill the following table correctly.

	Verb	Noun	Adjective	Adverb
1		portion		
2				defiantly
3			quiet	
4	practise			
5			marginal	
6	use			
7			complimentary	
8		action		
9				actually
10		generation		

½ Mark @ correct entry = 15Marks

5a.) Briefly explain the meaning of the following key words commonly used in academic writing

- i. Discuss
- ii. Assess
- iii. Account for
- iv. Explain
- v. justify

b.) University education involves a lot of academic writing and first year students always find problems doing course works given by their lecturers. What advice would you give to these students to enable them become effective in academic writing?

(20 Marks)

**END**