



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
14/16 AHMADU BELLO WAY, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES
OCTOBER 2013 EXAMINATION

COURSE CODE: ENT 330
Credit Unit: 2
COURSE TITLE: BUSINESS FORECASTING
TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTION: Attempt Question 1 and any other two (2) questions of your choice. Question one (1) carries 30 marks while others carry 20 marks each. Present your answer legibly and logically using relevant examples.

Question 1

- A) Identify and briefly explain the four components of time series.
- B) consider the data given bellow:

Year	Sales of Crude Oil in Barrels ('000)
1	14
2	17
3	15
4	23
5	18
6	22
7	27

Using the above data, forecast for the eighth (8) year using the least square method.

- C) Outline five drawbacks of the moving average method.

Question 2

- A) With the aid of relevant formula, describe the simple moving average method.
- B) In what ways is forecasting important to businesses?

Question 3

- A) Discuss five guiding principles on market demand forecasting.
- B) In chronological order, starting from the first to the last, highlight the steps involved in forecasting.

Question 4

- A) Define business forecasting and highlight the areas where business forecasting can be applied.
- B) Explain two methods of profit forecasts.

Question 5

- A) Give three key limitations to business forecasting.
- B) write short notes on the following qualitative forecasting methods:
 - i. *Delphi Method*
 - ii. *Scenario Writing Method*