

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. An epidemic has broken out in your community as a result of a poor source of water. Write a letter to your Local Government Chairman notifying him of this development and requesting his assistance in providing portable water for the community.
2. Write an article suitable for publication in a national daily on the rising cases of kidnapping in your country and suggest ways of curbing the evil act.
3. Narrate a story that illustrates the saying: *Hard work pays*.
4. You are the chief speaker in a debate on the topic: *Globalisation is a Threat to Cultural Preservation*. Write your arguments *for* or *against* the motion.

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.

Dogs can be trained to perform various tasks. These include looking after the disabled or the sick. For the mobility-impaired, highly trained canines can pick up dropped items, open and close doors, help the person in and out of a bathtub and pull off gloves, shoes and socks. These dogs, known as 'service dogs', can also be trained to push and pull wheelchairs and do other duties such as *alerting* their owners of the sound of doorbells, phones, alarm clocks and even dial "911" on large-keyed phones. Besides, these dogs provide companionship and unconditional love for the people they assist. Indeed, they are man's best friend.

For Mike, 30, who has been paralysed since he snapped his neck while falling from a rock ten years ago, his trained dog, Max, has become his constant companion and assistant. "I used to feel helpless and frustrated for having to depend on people all the time. I felt I was a big burden and nuisance to them. After Max came along, I felt much better. He is always with me and does his duties without the slightest fuss or annoyance. He is my trusted companion. With him around, I certainly do not feel lonely. In fact, I now feel much better about myself. I would say Max has *minimised* my disability and improved my general outlook."

Three years after the accident, Mike had enrolled himself as an undergraduate in a university. He lived in an apartment and had an automated wheelchair and a live-in attendant to look after his needs. "The set-up seemed good in the beginning. However, my human assistant could not always be there to anticipate my need. Once, I dropped the key to my van and I could not bend down to pick it up. On another occasion, while doing my assignment, I dropped my pen and had to wait for quite a long while before my attendant came and picked up the pen for me. With Max around, I have avoided *unnecessary* loss of time. *The uncomplaining canine* provides 24-hour assistance. He gets excited or rather happy to be of help to me. He appears to be rather bored when he has nothing to do."

Max was Mike's full-time *companion* throughout his university days. He went to the grocery store with Mike, stayed with him in the apartment and attended classes with him. "Max is highly specialized. He performs tasks to fulfil my *specific* needs any time of the day. However, training the dog is a continuous process. Of late, I have been trying to teach him to bark on command. I sometimes have bad muscle spasms that knock me forward into my lap and won't be able to get back up. My plan is that Max could bark when this happens



to get attention and help. It is by no means easy, for Max has been taught not to bark. Now, I have been barking at him to show him how to bark."

Dogs can also be trained to provide some form of "therapy" to patients in hospitals or nursing homes. "There, people with physical or mental illness can share the joy, comfort and liberating moments the canines can provide. The same can be said of Max", said Mike. "I find comfort in having him close to me. He understands my *moment* of joy or sadness", he added.

- (a) State two ways that dogs can be of help to the physically challenged. (2 marks)
- (b) How did Mike feel before the coming of Max? (2 marks)
- (c) Mention two advantages of service dogs over human assistants. (2 marks)
- (d) State one way Max helped Mike in school. (1 mark)
- (e) Why has Mike been trying hard to teach Max how to bark? (2 marks)
- (f) *The uncomplaining canine...*
 - (i) What is the grammatical name given to this expression? (1 mark)
 - (ii) What is its function in the sentence? (2 marks)
- (g) State two emotional benefits patients can get from the services provided by dogs. (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) alerting
 - (ii) minimised
 - (iii) unnecessary
 - (iv) companion
 - (v) specific
 - (vi) moment

One mark for each correct answer i.e. $1 \times 6 = 6$ 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.

When I was struggling with insomnia coupled with the pot-belly I developed that has deformed my shape, I began to look for solutions rather than causes. One day, while sitting at the balcony upstairs our story building, I saw a stout young black man with a pot-belly like me walking from one end of the street to another repeatedly. I began to wonder what the problem was. With my high level of curiosity, I quickly ran downstairs and walk to him to enquire. "Young man, I sighted you afar walking from one end of the street to another severally, what is the matter? I asked".

The Young man took a deep breath which was an indication of exhaustion before responding. "Sir, I want to lose weight and cut down fats from this pot-belly. Walking is a form of exercise. It is one of the simplest yet most effective type of exercise. It requires no special equipment, can be done anywhere, and offers numerous advantages, whether you are aiming to lose weight, burn calories, boost your mood, increase your agility, or improve your overall wellbeing, walking can be the key to achieving your goals".

To ascertain this, I visited my doctor and explained my situation in relation to the young man's explication. The doctor elucidated vividly on it and this corroborated the young man's position. Furthermore, the doctor enumerated the benefits associated with walking to our health and wellbeing.

Firstly, the doctor affirmed that if you are struggling with insomnia or poor sleep quality. Walking might be the perfect solution. Regular physical activities such as walking helps regulate the sleep-wake cycle and promotes better sleep patterns. Walking, especially during daylight hours also helps to adjust your internal system, making it easier to fall asleep and wake up strong and healthy as well as feeling refreshed.

Secondly, he unequivocally slated that the most well-known benefits of walking is its ability to help with weight management. For instance, regular walking burns calories, which can contribute to weight loss and maintenance. According to medical experts, brisk walking for thirty minutes can burn approximately one hundred and fifty calories, depending on your weight and walking pace. This calories burn serve as evidence that walking is a valuable component of any weight loss strategy.

Thirdly, walking helps to improve the mental health of an individual. It is good for the body and also beneficial to the mind. For example, frequent walking can help reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression, improve one's mood and boost the overall mental wellbeing of the walker. Walking helps the body to release endorphins, also known as

“feel-good” hormones which can enhance your mood and reduce stress. Walking out-doors provides the added benefit of fresh air and nature, which can further improve mental health. Fourthly, walking can help one who is slothful or feeling sluggish. Research shows that engaging in regular walks increases oxygen flow throughout the body and helps boost energy levels. Unlike other forms of exercise that might leave you feeling drained, walking energises and revitalises, making it an excellent option for those looking to increase their daily activity without over exertion.

In addition, walking can boost the immune system, making one less susceptible to illness and diseases attack. Frequent walking promotes the circulation of immune cells in the body, helping them to do their job more effectively. This can lead to a reduced incidence of common illness like cold and flu.

More so, walking is one of the major therapies for heart health. For a better functioning of the heart, walking helps to improve circulation, reduce cholesterol levels, and lower blood pressure. Studies have shown that walking at least thirty minutes a day, five days a week, can reduce the risk of coronary heart disease. By incorporating walking into your routine, you can strengthen your heart and reduce the likelihood of cardiovascular issues. These and many more are the benefits of this simple exercise. Go and practice it. Your pot-belly and the insomnia will disappear.

Finally, it is important to develop a culture that will help you imbibe this activity into daily routine, start small if you are new to it. Start with short distances and gradually increase your time and pace. Set goals for your walking routine. Use a pedometer or fitness tracker to monitor your progress. Make it enjoyable by listening to music, audiobooks or podcast. Walk with a buddy. It will keep you motivated and make the time pass more quickly. This was actually what helped me and I am living a good and healthy life today.

In six sentences, one for each, summarize the benefits of walking to our health.

(30 marks)

ENGLISH (TYPE A)

COMPREHENSION

(5e)

(5a)

(PICK ANY ONE)

(PICK ANY TWO)

- They retrieve dropped items.
- They assist with opening and closing doors.
- They assist disabled people in getting into and out of a bathtub
- They assist disabled people in removing their gloves, shoes and socks
- They aid in pushing and pulling wheelchairs.
- They alert their owners to the sound of doorbells, telephones and alarm clocks.

- He wanted Max to alert people whenever he collapsed and was unable to get up because of muscle spasms

OR

- He wants Max to bark and attract attention whenever muscle spasms make him fall and prevent him from getting up.

OR

- He wanted Max to bark for help whenever muscle spasms made him fall and prevented him from getting up.

(5b)

(5f)

(PICK ANY ONE)

- Mike felt frustrated and regarded himself as a burden to others because he depended on them for everything

(i) Noun phrase

(ii) It functions as the subject of the verb "provides".

OR

- Mike felt frustrated and considered himself a burden to others due to his dependence on them

(5g)

(PICK ANY TWO)

- Mike felt helpless and frustrated because he depended on others for everything and believed he was a burden to them.

OR

- Mike felt helpless and frustrated because he had to depend on other people for everything.

- They provide emotional support that helps patients cope with their condition.

- They offer companionship, making patients feel less lonely.

- They give patients unconditional love and affection.

- They bring happiness and improve patients' emotional well-being.

- They comfort patients during difficult times.

- They help reduce feelings of loneliness and depression.

(5c)

- They are available to assist at all times.
- They work willingly without complaining or causing annoyance.

(5h)

(PICK ONE FOR EACH)

(i) alerting - informing, notifying, signalling

(ii) minimised - reduced, lessened

(iii) unnecessary - needless

(iv) companion - friend, partner

(v) specific - particular

(vi) moment - time, period

(5d)

He accompanied Mike to classes

ENGLISH (TYPE A)
SUMMARY (Version I)

(6)

- A healthy sleeping routine can be achieved through regular walking.
- Excess body weight can be controlled because walking helps the body use up calories.
- Consistent walking promotes emotional wellbeing by easing anxiety and lifting one's spirit.
- Taking regular walks revitalises the body and helps overcome tiredness and sluggishness.
- The body's natural defence against diseases is strengthened through frequent walking.
- Regular walks contribute to a healthier heart by enhancing blood flow and lowering the chances of heart-related illnesses.

ENGLISH (TYPE A)
SUMMARY (Version II)

(6)

- Walking improves sleep quality by helping the body maintain a healthy sleep pattern.
- It supports weight loss by burning calories and reducing excess body fat.
- It increases energy levels and reduces feelings of tiredness and sluggishness.
- Walking strengthens the immune system, making the body more resistant to illnesses.
- It promotes heart health by improving blood circulation and lowering the risk of cardiovascular diseases.

ENGLISH (TYPE A)
COMPREHENSION & SUMMARY
(Another Sweet Version)

Question 5

(a)

Dogs can help pick up dropped items for the mobility-impaired.

Dogs can also help them open/close doors.

(b)

He felt helpless, frustrated and like a burden to people.

(c)

Service dogs are available 24 hours.

They do not complain or get annoyed.

(d)

Max attended classes with Mike and was a devoted companion during that time.

(e)

This is to enable him get help, especially during the period when he has bad muscle spasms.

(f)

(i) Noun phrase

(ii) Subject of the verb, "provides"

(g)

Patients can get joy.

Patients can get comfort.

(h)

(i) Alerting → Notifying

(ii) Minimised → reduced

(iii) Unnecessary → needless

(iv) Companion → friend

(v) Specific → particular

(vi) Moment → time

Question 6

Walking helps reset our body clock so we can sleep better at night and wake up feeling more energetic.

Going for regular brisk walks burns calories and supports both losing weight and keeping it off.

Walking triggers the release of endorphins that can lift our mood, ease stress, and fight anxiety and depression.

A simple walk can boost oxygen circulation, leaving us feeling more alert and less tired instead of worn out.

Walking regularly can get our immune cells moving, which will help protect us from catching colds and flu.

Daily walking can strengthen our heart by improving blood flow, cutting cholesterol, and lowering blood pressure.

ENGLISH (TYPE A)

ESSAY WRITING (Version I)

Question 1: An epidemic has broken out in your community as a result of a poor source of water. Write a letter to your Local Government Chairman notifying him of this development and requesting his assistance in providing portable water for the community.

25, Umuode Village,
Nkanu East Local Government Area,
Enugu State.
15th July, 2026.

The Chairman,
Nkanu East Local Government Council,
Enugu State.

Dear Sir,

REQUEST FOR THE PROVISION OF PORTABLE WATER IN UMUODE COMMUNITY

I write on behalf of the people of Umuode Community to bring to your notice a serious health problem that is currently affecting our community. An epidemic has broken out due to the lack of clean and safe drinking water. The situation has become alarming, and we urgently seek your intervention before more lives are endangered.

For several years, our community has depended on a nearby stream as its only source of water. Unfortunately, the stream has become polluted because both humans and animals use it for different purposes. During the rainy season, floodwater washes refuse and other waste materials into the stream, making the water unsafe for drinking and cooking. Despite knowing the dangers, many residents have no alternative source of water.

As a result of consuming contaminated water, many people, especially children and the elderly, have fallen seriously ill. Cases of cholera, typhoid fever, diarrhoea and dysentery have increased rapidly in recent weeks. Our health centre is overcrowded with patients, while some victims have been referred to hospitals in neighbouring towns due to the severity of their condition. Sadly, a few lives have already been lost.

The epidemic has also affected our daily activities. Many children are unable to attend school because they are sick, while several adults can no longer go to their farms or businesses. Families now spend a large part of their income on medical treatment, making life even more difficult. The fear of contracting the disease has left many residents worried and frustrated.

Sir, we believe that the permanent solution to this problem is the provision of portable water. We humbly appeal to your office to assist us by constructing motorised boreholes at strategic locations within the community. This will provide residents with safe drinking water and reduce the spread of water-borne diseases.

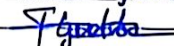
We also request that water storage tanks and public taps be installed to ensure a regular supply of clean water. In addition, health officials should visit our community to educate residents on proper hygiene, sanitation and the importance of using clean water. This awareness campaign will help prevent the outbreak of similar diseases in the future.

Furthermore, we appeal to your office to send environmental health officers to inspect and disinfect the contaminated stream and its surroundings. Medical personnel and essential drugs should also be provided to our health centre to assist in treating those who have already been affected by the epidemic.

We are confident that your administration, which has always shown concern for the welfare of the people, will respond promptly to this urgent appeal. The provision of portable water will not only save lives but also improve the health and standard of living of everyone in our community.

We sincerely hope that our request will receive your favourable consideration. Thank you for your anticipated assistance.

Yours faithfully,



Chinedu Okeke
Community Youth Secretary

English Essay (Type A)

(Version II)

Question 1

Unity Grammar School,
Obiagu Community,
Enugu North L.G.A,
Enugu State.
15 July, 2026.

The Executive Chairman,
Enugu North Local Government Council,
Council Secretariat,
Enugu.

Dear Sir,

NOTIFICATION OF WATER-BORNE EPIDEMIC AND APPEAL FOR THE PROVISION OF PORTABLE WATER IN OBIAGU COMMUNITY

I write with a deep sense of concern to bring to your notice the outbreak of a water-borne epidemic in Obiagu Community, a situation that has arisen directly from our dependence on a poor and unsafe source of water over the years.

For the past three weeks, our community health center has been overwhelmed with cases of severe diarrhea, persistent vomiting, and typhoid fever among residents of all age groups, but particularly among children and the elderly who are more vulnerable to infection. From the records at the center, more than 40 people have been treated within this short period, and many others are still managing the illness at home due to the high cost of drugs and hospital care. The fear within the community at this time is very great, because each day brings new reports of people falling sick in different households across the area.

The root of this problem lies in the absence of a reliable source of portable water within Obiagu. At present, the only water available to over 5,000 residents is a stream located at the far end of the community. This stream serves as a source of water for drinking, cooking, washing, and bathing for most families. Unfortunately, the same stream is constantly polluted by runoff from nearby farms, by waste from refuse dumps along its banks, and by activities of people who use it for other domestic purposes. As a result of this contamination, the water has become unsafe for human consumption, yet residents have no alternative because there is neither a functional borehole nor a public tap within the community.

The effect of this situation on our people has been devastating. Parents now spend most of their limited income on treatment in chemists and in the health center, while traders and artisans lose valuable working hours in the course of caring for sick family members. School attendance has also dropped, because many pupils are either sick or are kept at home to look after their parents. If this condition is allowed to continue for a longer period, we are afraid that the number of casualties will increase and the entire community will be thrown into a state of health crisis.

It is for this reason that I am appealing to your office for urgent intervention. We humbly request your assistance in the provision of portable water for Obiagu Community through the sinking of at least two motorized boreholes in strategic locations that will be accessible to all residents. In addition to this long-term solution, we also seek your support for an immediate emergency supply of clean water through tankers, so that people will have something safe to drink while work is ongoing on the permanent project. We would also appreciate a health outreach from the L.G.A health department to sensitize our people on water hygiene and to provide free treatment for those already affected.

Sir, we believe that access to clean water is fundamental to the health and wellbeing of any community. As Chairman, your commitment to the welfare of the people of Enugu North is well known, and we have confidence that you will not allow this epidemic to continue unchecked. Our community is ready to cooperate fully with your office. We can provide land for the project and mobilize youths for labor and for the protection of facilities when they are installed.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. We look forward to your swift response and to the day when our people will have access to clean and safe water.

Yours faithfully,
Chinedu Okoro

Chinedu Okoro
Sanitation Prefect,
U.G.S

ENGLISH ESSAY (TYPE A)

(Number 3 - Version I)

Question 3: Narrate a story that illustrates the saying: Hard work pays.

(3)

Success is never achieved by luck alone. It is the result of determination, discipline and consistent hard work. Many people become discouraged when they face difficulties, but those who remain focused eventually achieve their goals. The story of Musa, a young boy from my village, clearly illustrates the truth of the saying, "Hard work pays."

Musa was the eldest child in a family of six. His father was a bricklayer, while his mother sold fruits in the local market. The family struggled to survive because their income was very small. There were times when Musa had to stay at home because his parents could not afford to pay his school fees. Despite these challenges, he was determined to complete his education and make his family proud.

Every morning before going to school, Musa helped his mother arrange her fruits for sale. After school, he assisted his father at construction sites where he carried blocks and mixed cement. Although the work was stressful, he never allowed it to affect his studies. Every evening, he read his books under a rechargeable lamp because there was no regular electricity in his neighbourhood.

Unlike many of his friends who spent their weekends playing football or roaming the streets, Musa devoted most of his free time to studying. He attended extra lessons, solved past examination questions and visited the library whenever he had the opportunity. Whenever he encountered difficult topics, he sought help from his teachers instead of giving up.

Some of his classmates mocked him because he wore old uniforms and repaired sandals. Others believed that a poor boy like him could never succeed. Their comments hurt him, but he refused to be discouraged. Instead, he became even more determined to prove that poverty could not stop a hardworking person from achieving success.

As the Senior Secondary School Certificate Examination approached, Musa prepared seriously. He followed a strict reading timetable and avoided unnecessary distractions. His teachers admired his commitment and predicted that he would perform excellently in the examination.

When the examination results were released, Musa scored distinctions in almost all his subjects and emerged as the overall best student in his school. His outstanding performance attracted the attention of a charitable organisation, which awarded him a full scholarship to study Medicine at the university. His parents were overwhelmed with joy because their years of sacrifice had finally produced good results.

Musa remained hardworking throughout his university education. He graduated as one of the best students in his department and was later employed in one of the country's leading teaching hospitals. With his income, he built a comfortable house for his parents, sponsored his younger siblings through school and established a scholarship scheme for brilliant but needy students in his community.

During one of the school's graduation ceremonies, Musa was invited as the guest speaker. He encouraged the students to remain focused on their dreams and never allow temporary difficulties to discourage them. He reminded them that genuine success comes through patience, determination and hard work rather than shortcuts.

Indeed, Musa's life is a perfect example of the saying, "Hard work pays." Although he faced poverty, ridicule and many challenges, he remained committed to his goal. His dedication eventually changed his life and brought honour to his family. This story teaches us that no matter how difficult life may be, hard work, perseverance and determination will always lead to success.

(3)

Hard Work Pays

In the busy city of Enugu, there was a boy named Chinedu who lived with his mother and two younger sisters in a small compound. His father had died when Chinedu was 12, and from that time onward, money had always been in short supply within their home. The little tailoring shop his mother ran at the corner of their street barely covered rent, school fees, and food.

Chinedu was not the smartest in his class, and he was definitely not the richest. But he had one thing that set him apart: a stubborn belief that effort, with time and consistency, always leads somewhere. In JSS2, he watched his senior, Emeka, win the state science fair with a simple water filtration project. The prize included a scholarship and a new laptop. That night, Chinedu told his mother, "One day, I'll also win something like that for us." She smiled from behind her sewing machine and said, "Hard work pays, my son. But it must be your hard work, done with your own hands."

The next year, Chinedu joined the school's science club. While other students came once a week and left early, Chinedu stayed back every day after classes. He swept the lab, borrowed textbooks from the library, and watched science videos on his teacher's phone during lunch because there was no internet at home.

For the state fair in SS2, he chose a problem he knew too well: constant power cuts. In Enugu, there were frequent blackouts, and because of that, his mother often lost fabric when her sewing machine stopped in the middle of a stitch. Chinedu decided to build a low-cost solar inverter from recycled car batteries and discarded solar panels he found at a scrap market in Ogbete.

It was not an easy journey. The first three prototypes caught fire at night. The fourth worked for only 10 minutes before it died. His friends laughed at him behind his back. "Just copy a project from the internet", they said. But he remembered his mother's words. After school, he went down to the scrap market, bargained for parts, then came home and worked under a kerosene lamp until midnight. He even failed his WAEC mock math twice because he was too tired in class.

Three months later, he had a working model. It wasn't beautiful. The casing was an old paint bucket. But it could power a sewing machine, two bulbs, and charge phones for up to 6 hours on a sunny day. The total cost was just ₦18,000.

On the day of the fair, big schools came with branded booths and teams of students. Chinedu arrived alone with his paint bucket and a handwritten poster. The judges walked past his table twice. When it was his turn, his voice shook. He explained the problem, showed how he built the device from waste, and demonstrated it live. "This is for tailors and families who cannot afford generators. It's not perfect, but it works. And I built it because I had to."

That evening, the results were announced. Third place: a private school. Second: a federal college. First place: Government Secondary School, Enugu — Chinedu Okoro. The hall erupted. He won ₦500,000, a full scholarship through SS3, and a laptop. A solar company at the fair also offered to partner with him to test the design in 20 homes across the state.

Two years later, Chinedu was in 200 level studying Electrical Engineering on scholarship. His mother's shop now runs on 3 of "Chinedu's buckets." She hasn't lost fabric to a blackout since. His sisters no longer study with torchlights.

When asked about his secret by reporters, he said, "I wasn't the smartest or the richest. I just kept showing up every day, even when I felt like giving up. Hard work pays!"