

GENERAL COMMENTS

- Grade 12 AS/NSSCAS is the first time that this examination is been written thus comparisons cannot be made to previous years' examinations. However, it is evident that most of the candidates are unable to express themselves in writing and to address the audience (audience writing). There are still few candidates that use English terms in their writing. There is great concern of dialectic language use in writing, as candidates write as they speak and do not write the words in correct way.
- The majority of the candidates could understand and answer the question paper to the best of their abilities, although some of them have limited vocabulary and could not expressed themselves very well. Some of the candidates could not interpret some of the questions well – refer to Comment on specific questions.
- Some of the candidates' do not understand the difference between the beach and the coastal areas.
- The use of capital letters in the middle of sentences where it is not applicable, and as well as punctuation marks.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

SECTION A: IMAGINATIVE WRITING (descriptive /narrative)

- 1 Chosen by most candidates; however, they were expected to write about their life after the graduation. Many opted to write about their own career choices, not answering the question that required them to talk about one career from which they graduated. They were unable to create sense of character and enthusiasm which brought their marks down. Some candidates did their best to answer this question by indicating that they developed their communities and a nation at large.
- 2 It was attempted by most of the candidates and they did not understand the question very well, because some of the candidates do not know the difference between the beach and the coastal the candidates got confused to write about the coastal town instead of the beach. The candidates were supposed to describe the place and the characteristics and the behaviors of the people at the beach.
- 3 It was chosen by few candidates, however there was a misinterpretation of the summer or winter day. Some candidates wrote activities that are done during spring instead of winter. These candidates were supposed to write two pieces with contrasting information (Ideas) one is about a day in winter and another is a day in summer. In their writing they must create the mood and sense of place. There was rare contrast between the two pieces written.
- 4 This being chosen by number of candidates if not most. This question the first highest chosen question candidates could relate it to their own experience, prevailing injustice and anger. Some candidates wrote it as witnesses to certain incidents which made their writing weaker in expression of required senses. Candidates where supposed to describe the attitudes of an unkind teacher and in their writing they were expected to indicate an injustice (unfairness, discriminations, nepotism, favoritism and inequalities) and anger (being bitter e.i. beating candidates without a reason, unnecessary punishment and insulting candidates)

SECTION B: WRITING FOR THE AUDIENCE (discursive /argumentative)

- 5 Very few candidates chose this topic and minority of them answered the question correctly. The remaining candidates answered the question incorrectly. The structured composition of the book review they had to write was incorrect as the candidates failed to grasp the concept of what they were required to do and only managed to describe and narrate stories.

Candidates were expected to give the following:

- Bad behaviour
- Peer pressure
- Bullying
- Use of alcohol and drug abuse
- Use of technological devices

The above mentioned can be seen as the challenges young people have in the uncertain times. A candidate who wrote bad behaviour could have given an example of being disrespectful to parents. The candidate that gave the example of peer pressure could have indicated pressure for one being pressured into using drugs and alcohol, dropping out of school, joining gangs, bullying and not listening to elders. Candidates that fall down this path can then end up in places like correctional facilities due to these actions. Technological devices can also be used as a platform for candidates to learn wrong social norms like how to behave, dressing inappropriately, watching porn and becoming active without knowing consequences just to mention a few.

- 6 Majority of the candidates chose to write a motivational speech. Most of the candidates had a lot of understanding for this topic and answered it correctly. Very few candidates had no knowledge or understanding of the question and failed to answer it appropriately. Candidates that failed to answer the question appropriately, only wrote that candidates should be encouraged to study hard and help their family only. Some shared that guardians and teachers are to help candidates learn so that candidates can grow up to assist their parents.

Candidates were expected to give the following:

- If a person studies hard they are able to change the world at large, change their community or even their country. People are able to do this by being innovative, either by creating something that can be productive to the community or people at large.
- Educated people can also help change their community by changing people's beliefs about certain things like the stigma of HIV & AIDS. They can also assist in studying viruses' variants or diseases and help come up with cures for example a cure for novel Corona Virus.

There is a policy "Education for All", that caters to every learner be they are disabled physically, mentally or be going through adult education.

- 7 A certain number of candidates chose to write these formal letters to the Newspaper. Very few candidates answered this question appropriately and the rest failed to grasp the concept. Those that failed to grasp the concept wrote that they believe that the government should be the one to assist the people and the question requested the community to help.

Candidates were expected to give the following:

- Those that argued for the community to donate could have stated that: The community should assist the impoverished with clothes, food or money to help pay for their children to go to school. They could also have written that the community should come up with fundraisers that raise money for the people that are in poverty to help them.
- Those that argued against the community to donate could have stated that: It is not necessary for the community to donate as they are supposed to alleviate themselves out of poverty. Majority of people believe that all people are mostly given the same opportunities and they failed to grasp them and take chances in life that leads them to poverty. People also believe that they should use their own talents like planting, creating arts and crafts just to mention a few.

- 8 A minimal number of candidates chose to write the Magazine article. And most of those that chose this topic failed to give the appropriate answers. The candidates focused on the athletes Christine Mboma and Beatrice Masilinge as well as Peter Shalulile. They wrote about their favorite sport codes/teams and forgot to mention recent completions/events in which the national team perform well as a national team.

The candidates were expected to answer as follows:

Candidates were expected to write any article about how the national team made them proud. The Candidates could have boasted about the strength of our National Rugby or Cricket team and talked about how they are putting Namibia on the map. The Candidates were expected to talk about the progress of the national teams and also motivate the nation as the teams did not go on to win the cups. They could have then written optimistically so as to assuage the nation and create a sense of hope for the next sporting activity. This then can also be used to motivate the teams or those taking part in national sports.

POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS

- The teachers should teach candidates to interpret different questions as candidates only understands one word from the question and start to answer the question;
- Give candidates training on how to identify keywords in different type of questions;
- The marking scheme/grid should be used to train the candidates on expected ways of how questions should be answered on each section.
- Candidates should be exposed to different type of reading materials for them to be able to answer longer pieces, and to make their writing pieces more interesting and stronger in vocabulary as well.
- Practical exposes to questions should be done at Centre's, so candidates can be familiar with writing of two (2) contrasting pieces for one question as in the question paper.
- In conjunction with the syllabus and other available materials plus Oshindonga Orthography Edition 3 (latest) should be used to avoid unnecessary misspelling of words. Candidates must be taught the right orthography e.g omufupi AND NOT omfupi, onda hala AND odahala; osekundosikola AND NOT secondele
- Learner need to be taught the sound e.g. okanona AND okaana, okusindana AND NOT okuvena;
- Short vowels nana not naana; sho AND NOT SHOO
- Long vowels inaa AND NOT iinaa