



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

COMMON COURSE

COURSE CODE: DAS 100/NDTW 110/

COURSE TITLE: COMMUNICATION SKILLS I

DATE: 10TH DECEMBER, 2018

TIME: 1430 - 1630 HRS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer ALL questions

*This paper consists of **FOUR** printed pages. Please turn over*

SECTION A: READING SKILLS

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

(20 marks)

I hate to tell you this, but your kid is spoiled. Mine aren't much better. That, in essence, is the finding of a recent media poll. Most of us think most of our kids are overindulged, materialistic brats.

I bring this issue up to talk about a controversial study that deals with corporal punishment-spanking — and it has outraged those who oppose the practice while rearming those who support it.

Dr. Diana Baumrind studied 164 families from the time their children were in pre-school until they reached their 20s. She found that most families used some form of corporal punishment.

She further found that, contrary to what we have been told for years, giving a child a mild spanking (defined as open-handed swats on the backside, arm or legs) does not leave the child scared for life.

Baumrind makes a distinction between the minor punishments practiced by most parents who spank and the harsher variants practiced by a tiny minority (shaking and blows to the head or face, for example).

For my money, there was always something spurious about the orthodoxy that assured us all corporal punishment, regardless of severity, was de facto abuse.

Nevertheless, we bought into it, with the result being that parents who admitted to spanking were treated as primitive dolts and heaped with scorn. They were encouraged to negotiate with misbehaving children in order to nurture their self esteem. But the orthodoxy was wrong on several fronts.

In the first place, it is plainly ridiculous to equate a child who has been swatted on the butt with one who has been stomped, scalded or punched.

In the second, the argument that reasonable corporal punishment leads inevitably to mental instability always seemed insupportable and has just been proved by Baumrind's study.

Don't get me wrong, contrary to what its proponents sometimes claim, corporal punishment is not a panacea for misbehavior. Rearing a child requires not just discipline, but also humour, love and some luck.

I have seen too many children behave with a sense of entitlement to believe it is. Heard too many teachers tell horror stories of dealing with kids from households where parents are not sovereign, adult authority not respected. So the pertinent question is not: to spank or not to spank? Rather, it is who's in charge here? Some folks think it's abuse when you swat a child's backside.

But maybe, sometimes, it's abuse when you don't.

(Adapted from The Allyn & Bacon Guide to Writing by John Ramage, John Bean and June Johnson. Boston: Longman, 2012-KCSE 2016 PP2)

- (a) What does the author mean when he says "most of us think most of our kids are overindulged, materialistic brats". **(2 marks)**
- (b) According to the author, what is the effect of mild punishment? **(2 marks)**
- (c) What is the controversy in the passage? **(3 marks)**
- (d) What are the two major findings of Dr. Diana Baumrind's study? **(2 marks)**
- (e) What is the author's personal view about corporal punishment? **(4 marks)**
- (f) Identify two other words that the author uses in the passage to mean mild corporal punishment? **(2 marks)**
- (g) Use two illustrations from the passage to explain the author's use of informal language. **(3 marks)**
- (h) Explain the meaning of each of the following words as used in the passage.
 - (i) materialistic **(1 mark)**
 - (ii) panacea **(1 mark)**

SECTION B: LISTENING SKILLS

- (a) Explain the types of listening that a student would employ in the following circumstances:
 - (i) Seeking to understand a speaker's idea and then offering the idea back to the speaker to confirm that the idea has been understood correctly. **(1mk)**
 - (ii) Listening to instructions on how to perform an activity **(1mk)**
 - (iii) Note taking is one of the skills of active listening. Describe any **TWO** ways that you would use to effectively make notes.

(4mks)

A friend of yours could not remember anything after a lecture. Explain any **FOUR** barriers that may have contributed to the situation. **(4mks)**

SECTION C: LIBRARY SKILLS

- (a) One reason Gloria never goes to the library is that she spends a lot of time locating the resources she wants. Explain to her how to solve her problem using the catalogue. **(4 marks)**
- (b) Explain the various types of libraries. **(4 marks)**
- (c) Use the APA citation style to reference a book which was published in 2010 by East African Educational Publishers. Authors: Magdaline Wamboi and Theodora Wamunyinyi. Title: Discourse Analysis: Theories of Personality. Published in Nairobi. **(2mks)**

SECTION D: STUDY SKILLS

- (a) Explain various types of study plans that you can use during your private studies **(3mks)**
- (b) You have realized that some colleagues of yours waste a lot of time before they settle to study. What pieces of advice would you give them to help them study effectively? **(4mks)**
- c) A study group can be beneficial in many ways. State any **THREE** benefits of a study group **(3mks)**

SECTION D: EXAMINATION SKILLS

You have been invited by a head teacher in your local primary school to Advice the pupils on how they should ensure they adequately prepare their KCPE Examination, briefly explain on the skills discussed. **(10 marks)**

SECTION E: ORAL SKILLS

You have been called upon by the Principal of your former High school to give a speech on the benefits of Higher Education. Write the speech you will give

taking into account that your primary audience is the students in your former high school. **(10marks)**

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