



**NAMIBIA UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

FACULTY OF COMMERCE, HUMAN SCIENCES AND EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGES

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DISTANCE EXAMINATION PAPER	
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INSTRUCTIONS
1. Answer ALL the questions. 2. Read all the questions carefully before answering. 3. Number the answers clearly

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF _10_ PAGES (Including this front page)

Section A: Reading comprehension

[30 Marks]

Read the text below and answer all the questions that follow.

The Impact of Green Hydrogen on African Countries

As the world transitions to more sustainable energy sources, Africa is emerging as a potential leader in green hydrogen production. Green hydrogen, created through the electrolysis of water using renewable energy, offers a carbon-free alternative to fossil fuels. Africa, rich in renewable energy resources like solar and wind, is well-positioned to tap into this growing sector. Countries such as Namibia, South Africa, and Morocco are already investing in green hydrogen projects, recognizing its potential to transform their energy landscapes. With the right infrastructure, Africa could become a global hub for green hydrogen, supplying energy to both domestic and international markets.

Economically, green hydrogen represents a significant opportunity for African countries. The green hydrogen industry could create millions of jobs, from the construction of renewable energy facilities to the development of hydrogen infrastructure like pipelines and storage systems. This would not only help diversify African economies but also reduce dependence on volatile commodity exports, which many nations currently rely on. Green hydrogen could open new markets, particularly in Europe, where demand for clean energy is growing. African countries could become major exporters of green hydrogen, securing a place in the global clean energy economy.

In addition to economic benefits, green hydrogen can help African countries achieve energy independence. Currently, many African nations import large quantities of fossil fuels to meet their energy needs, placing a financial burden on their economies. Green hydrogen offers a chance to generate clean energy domestically, reducing reliance on imports and improving energy security. Furthermore, it can complement other renewable sources, like solar and wind, to provide reliable and stable energy to areas with limited access to electricity. This would enhance the quality of life for millions of people in remote and underserved regions.

Environmental benefits are another compelling reason for Africa to embrace green hydrogen. Africa is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, such as rising temperatures and extreme weather events. By investing in green hydrogen, African countries can reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to global climate goals. Furthermore, green hydrogen can decarbonize industries such as mining, cement, and steel production, which are traditionally high emitters. In doing so, African countries can protect their environments while simultaneously becoming more competitive in the global market.

However, there are challenges to overcome before Africa can fully realize the potential of green hydrogen. High initial investment costs, technological limitations, and the need for clear regulatory frameworks are significant hurdles. Many African countries lack the financial resources and technical expertise needed to develop green hydrogen infrastructure at scale. International partnerships and investments will be crucial to overcoming these challenges. Strategic collaborations with global energy companies and financial institutions, as well as support from multilateral organizations, can help African countries build the capacity needed to lead in the green hydrogen economy.

In conclusion, while green hydrogen presents a transformative opportunity for African countries in terms of economic growth, energy independence, and environmental sustainability, realizing its full potential will require overcoming significant challenges. The continent's rich renewable energy resources position it well to become a global leader in green hydrogen production, but issues such as high initial investment costs, technological constraints, and the need for strong regulatory frameworks remain. International partnerships and strategic collaborations will be essential in addressing these barriers, enabling Africa to harness green hydrogen for long-term economic development and environmental protection

1. Which African countries are currently investing in green hydrogen projects? (2)
2. What potential role could Africa play in the global green hydrogen sector? (2)
3. How could the green hydrogen industry affect job creation in Africa? (2)
4. How can green hydrogen help Africa respond to the impacts of climate change? (2)
5. What challenges must African countries overcome to fully realize the potential of green hydrogen?
(2)
6. Why are international partnerships important for the development of green hydrogen in Africa? (2)
7. What kind of organizations are mentioned as important in supporting Africa's green hydrogen development? (3)
8. Discuss two economic benefits of green hydrogen for African countries. (2)
9. Mention one global market where African countries could export green hydrogen.
(1)

10. Describe how green hydrogen can help African countries achieve energy independence. (3)
11. Mention two environmental benefits of green hydrogen for Africa. (2)
12. Discuss two challenges African countries face in realizing the potential of green hydrogen. (2)
13. Describe the role of international partnerships in overcoming the challenges related to green hydrogen development in Africa. (3)
14. Discuss why Africa is well-positioned to become a leader in green hydrogen production. (2)

SECTION B: Grammar

Total [30 Marks]

Read the short passage below and answer the questions below

My name is Lucy Blevins. I am a very lucky person because I make my **living(i)** doing what I love, **painting(ii)** beautiful pictures. I have loved **painting(iii)** for as long as I can remember. I love **to paint(iv)** so much that I painted my first masterpiece when I was just four. I had a bedroom with walls the color of the summer sky. One day, when Mom was not looking, I gathered up my paint pots and painted a summer scene on one blue wall. I painted myself and my dog Clyde in a meadow filled with daisies.

I painted the sun above us, peeking out from behind a fluffy white cloud. I was just finishing the painting when Mom walked into my room. Her mouth dropped open and she stood absolutely still. "I'm in big trouble," I remembered thinking to myself. So I was really surprised when Mom said, "The picture is beautiful!" The picture stayed on my bedroom wall and is still there today, nearly 30 years later. I see it every time I go home to visit Mom. My mom is **thinking(v)** of opening an arts studio with all the pieces she collected over the years.

1. **Indicate whether the sentences below are in Direct or Indirect speech.** [3]
 - a) "I am in big trouble", I remembered thinking to myself. (1)
 - b) Mom said, "the picture is beautiful". (1)
 - c) Lucy says that she is a talented artist. (1)
2. **Change the sentences in question (1) above to the opposite speech.** [8]
3. **Identify the voice in the following sentences.** [3]
 - 3.1. I painted my first masterpiece when I was just four.
 - 3.2. Mom had hung the painting on Lucy's bedroom wall.
 - 3.3. Lucy paints beautiful pictures.
4. **Change the above sentences in (3) into the opposite voice.** [3]
 - a) I painted my first masterpiece when I was just four. (1)
 - b) Mom had hung the painting on Lucy's bedroom wall. (1)
 - c) Lucy paints beautiful pictures. (1)
5. **Indicate whether each word bolded and numbered (i-v) in the passage above is a: gerund, participle or infinitive.** [10]
6. **Complete the following sentences with the correct verb form in brackets.** [3]
 - a) Lucy and her mom (admires) the paintings. (1)
 - b) She (have) mastered the art of painting. (1)
 - c) Clyde (dance) in a meadow filled with daisies. (1)

SECTION C: Critical reading

[40 Marks]

The Evolution of Education in the Digital Age

Introduction

Education has undergone significant transformations over the decades, particularly with the advent of digital technology. From traditional classrooms filled with chalkboards and textbooks to modern online platforms that allow for remote learning, the landscape of education is evolving rapidly. This passage explores the key changes in education brought about by technology, the benefits and challenges of these changes, and the implications for students and educators.

The Rise of Online Learning

The emergence of the internet has revolutionized the way we access information and learn. Online learning platforms such as Coursera, edX, and Khan Academy provide courses from top universities and educators worldwide. These platforms allow students to learn at their own pace and choose subjects that interest them, making education more personalized than ever before. Moreover, they offer accessibility to those who may not have the means to attend traditional institutions due to geographic or financial constraints.

In addition to formal education, social media platforms have become powerful tools for informal learning. Websites like YouTube and forums like Reddit provide users with tutorials and discussions on a plethora of topics. This democratization of knowledge enables anyone with internet access to learn new skills or deepen their understanding of various subjects.

Blended Learning Models

One significant trend in modern education is the adoption of blended learning models, which combine traditional face-to-face instruction with online components. This approach allows educators to leverage the strengths of both methods. For instance, teachers can use in-person classes for discussions and hands-on activities while assigning online coursework for students to complete at home.

Blended learning offers several advantages, such as increased flexibility and a more tailored learning experience. Students can revisit online materials at their convenience, ensuring they grasp concepts before moving on.

Additionally, teachers can utilize data from online assessments to identify areas where students may be struggling and adjust their instruction accordingly.

The Role of Technology in Engagement

Engagement is crucial for effective learning, and technology has introduced innovative ways to capture students' attention. Gamification, for example, incorporates game-like elements into educational content, making learning more interactive and enjoyable. Platforms like Duolingo use points, levels, and rewards to motivate users to practice language skills regularly.

Furthermore, virtual and augmented reality technologies offer immersive experiences that enhance understanding and retention. For instance, medical students can practice surgical procedures in a virtual environment, gaining hands-on experience without the risks associated with real-life surgeries. Such tools can bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application.

Challenges of Digital Education

Despite the numerous advantages of digital education, there are significant challenges that need to be addressed. One major concern is the digital divide—the gap between those who have access to technology and those who do not. Students in underprivileged areas may lack reliable internet access or the necessary devices, hindering their ability to participate in online learning.

Moreover, the over-reliance on technology can lead to diminished critical thinking and problem-solving skills. While online resources are abundant, not all information available is accurate or credible. Students must learn to navigate the vast ocean of information critically, discerning reliable sources from unreliable ones.

Another concern is the potential for decreased social interaction. Traditional classrooms provide opportunities for students to collaborate, engage in discussions, and develop interpersonal skills. In contrast, online learning can lead to feelings of isolation and a lack of community among students. Educators must find ways to foster connections, even in virtual environments.

The Future of Education

As technology continues to advance, the future of education will likely see further integration of digital tools.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is already making its way into educational settings, offering personalized learning experiences and adaptive assessments. AI can analyse a student's performance and adjust the curriculum to meet their individual needs, providing tailored support.

Additionally, the role of educators will evolve. Teachers will become facilitators of learning rather than mere dispensers of information. Their focus will shift to guiding students in developing critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative skills necessary for success in a rapidly changing world.

Conclusion

The evolution of education in the digital age presents both opportunities and challenges. While technology has the potential to enhance learning experiences and accessibility, it also requires careful consideration of the associated issues. As we move forward, it is essential to strike a balance between leveraging digital tools and maintaining the fundamental principles of education. By addressing the challenges head-on, we can create a more inclusive, engaging, and effective educational landscape for future generations.

Read the passage above and answer the following questions: [2x10=20 Marks]

1. What is the primary focus of the passage? (2)

- A) The history of traditional education
- B) The impact of digital technology on education
- C) The future of online learning
- D) The role of teachers in modern classrooms

2. Which of the following is a key benefit of online learning platforms? (2)

- A) They require physical attendance.
- B) They offer courses from top universities.
- C) They limit access to information.
- D) They eliminate the need for textbooks.

3. What does blended learning combine? (2)

- A) Traditional and online instruction
- B) Only online learning
- C) Physical education and art
- D) Independent study and group work

- 4. How does technology enhance student engagement?** (2)
- A) By providing more textbooks
 - B) By making learning less interactive
 - C) Through gamification and immersive experiences
 - D) By focusing solely on lectures
- 5. What is a significant challenge associated with digital education?** (2)
- A) Increased access to information
 - B) Enhanced critical thinking skills
 - C) The digital divide
 - D) Improved collaboration among students
- 6. What role might artificial intelligence play in future education?** (2)
- A) It will replace teachers entirely.
 - B) It will provide personalized learning experiences.
 - C) It will limit student access to resources.
 - D) It will eliminate the need for assessments.
- 7. According to the passage, what is a potential downside of online learning?** (2)
- A) Greater flexibility in scheduling
 - B) Decreased social interaction
 - C) Access to a wider range of courses
 - D) More engagement with educators
- 8. How can educators address the challenges of online learning?** (2)
- A) By eliminating technology from the classroom
 - B) By encouraging social interaction in virtual environments
 - C) By focusing solely on traditional methods
 - D) By restricting access to online resources
- 9. What is the author's stance on the evolution of education?** (2)
- A) It is entirely negative.
 - B) It has only positive aspects.
 - C) It presents both opportunities and challenges.
 - D) It is irrelevant to modern society.
- 10. What is one-way educators' roles are expected to change in the future?** (2)
- A) They will teach more traditional subjects.
 - B) They will focus on being facilitators of learning.
 - C) They will limit student access to technology.
 - D) They will rely solely on standardized testing.

QUESTION 2: SUMMARY WRITING

[20 Marks]

Write a summary of the passage in no more than 120 words. Your summary should cover the key points about the evolution of education, the impact of technology, and the associated challenges and future implications.

[The End]