

WASSCE SC 2022 ENGLISH LANGUAGE 2 ESSAY

SECTION A

1. Write a letter to your friend in another school telling him or her about your future career and how it will be beneficial to your country.
2. The National Scholarship Secretariat is organising an essay competition on the topic: *The menace of fake drugs in the society*. Write your entry.
3. As a former senior prefect, write a letter to the principal of your school on the occasion of its 60th anniversary celebration, congratulating him and offering **three** suggestions for the improvement of the school.
4. A new principal has just been posted to your school. As the senior prefect, write a welcome address on behalf of the students, pointing out **three** areas of need in the school.
5. Write a story which illustrates the saying: *Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown*.

SECTION B

6. Read the following passage **carefully** and answer the questions on it.

Alani was the seventh child of his family. When he was growing up, there was scarcely enough to go round. His mother was a petty trader while his father worked as a clerk in one of the ministries. But Alani was an intelligent child and performed brilliantly at school. This endeared him to his teachers. He represented the school at all competitions and won many laurels. While he was in Basic Six, he won a scholarship to study at any school of his choice to university level. The future was indeed bright for him. However, having to constantly struggle with his siblings for the sustenance provided by their parents turned him into an aggressive child.

After graduation, Alani got a job with a reputable accounting firm. He travelled far and wide and was trained extensively. He rose through the ranks and became one of the top executives. After a while, he decided to establish his own firm. His firm flourished because of his hard work, dedication and the huge amount of money and time he invested in the venture. After just a few years, the firm became a household name.

However, things took a bad turn. Alani's success went to his head. He became pompous. He would get angry at the slightest provocation. He refused to take the advice of his employees, considering them all beneath him. Even when his workers had good suggestions for improvement, he would not listen. Often times, he would treat even his clients shabbily. He began to lose clients one by one and his profits dwindled. His firm was on the rocks and he started to blame his employees for the downturn in his business. He became suspicious of every move and action taken by his workers. Soon, Alani became a bitter man. He lost the respect of his workers because he often quarrelled with them.

However, Alani's secretary, who was his pioneer staff, did not give up on him. She tried to talk to him and refused to resign when other members of staff were putting in their letters. When five of his workers resigned on the same day, that decided it! He realised that he just had to turn his life around. He went for counselling and began to turn over a new leaf. It was during one of the counselling sessions that he met a business mogul. They got talking and the man was impressed with Alani's knowledge and expertise. They formed a partnership and Alani's business began to grow again. Alani had learnt a useful lesson: those who are endowed with success should nurture it with humility.

- (a) What endeared Alani to his teachers?
- (b) Mention **two** factors that accounted for Alani's success in business.
- (c) Why did Alani's business almost collapse?
- (d) What was ironical in Alani's blaming his employees for the downturn in his business?
- (e) What incident made Alani have a rethink?
- (f) on the rocks. What is the meaning of this expression?
- (g) ... who was his pioneer staff... (i) What grammatical name is given to this expression as it is used in the passage? (ii) what is its function?
- (h) For each of the following words, find another word or phrase which means the same and which replace it as it is used in the passage: (i) laurels; (ii) sustenance; (iii) reputable; (iv) venture (v) pompous; (vi) dwindled.

SECTION C

7. Read the following passage **carefully** and answer the questions on it.

Armed robbery is one of the most condemnable crimes in contemporary society. People have been maimed or killed for their money or belongings in the past, but never has robbery with violence been experienced on such a large scale as observed recently. Armed robbery is typically motivated by the desire to obtain money and valuables. However, some armed robbers engage in the crime with the intention of boosting their status. Whatever the motivation, the act is inhumane and can result in injury and sometimes the death of the victims.

It is rather unfortunate that in almost all modern societies, there are always groups of unemployed young people. Some are unemployable because they have little or no education and lack of skills. What is even worse, these young people are often unprepared for and unwilling to do any manual work to earn an honest living. They tend to blame society for their plight and retaliate by indulging in acts of crime and lawlessness. They grab money and valuable properties of their victims to enable them to survive in a society which seems to ignore them. To reduce the instances of armed robbery, parents should do their best to nurture their children in the right way because charity begins at home. They should instil good values in them and should not hesitate to correct them early in life when they bring home something that does not belong to them.

The rich, on the other hand, who are mostly the target of armed robbers provide another cause. Some show off their wealth ostentatiously, live flamboyantly, go about in flashy and sophisticated cars, hop from one exotic island to another on holidays, and brag about all their escapades on social media much to the annoyance and envy of the unemploy youth. To bridge the gap between the haves and the have-nots, the government should provide the basic necessities for its citizens. Social services should be made available to those without jobs. The provision of such amenities to cater for the entire populace would help to improve the

living conditions of the unemployed and underemployed. The adequate provision of infrastructure would ensure that every individual has access to the basic comforts of life.

The breakdown of traditional system, resulting in the loss of morals and spiritual values, has made wealth the only thing of value in the eyes of the youth. The ostentatious display of ill-gotten wealth is applauded and the society hardly questions its source. Many young people therefore engage in all manner of nefarious activities including armed robbery to make money in order to enjoy the delights and comforts of modern life and, above all, be celebrated by their society. Law enforcement authorities can further reduce the spate of armed robberies by monitoring places known for high incidence of the crime. Constant and intrusive patrols of crime-prone areas can deter potential offenders.

- (a) In three sentences, one for each, summarise the factors that make some youths go into armed robbery.
(b) In three sentences, one for each, summarise how armed robbery can be reduced.

ANSWERS TO WASSCE SC 2022 ENGLISH LANGUAGE 2 ESSAY QUESTIONS

SECTION A

1.

Tonad Leaders Academy,
Bodija,
Ibadan,
Oyo State.

9th June, 2022.

Dear Cletus,

I trust that you're doing great. My guy, I sincerely apologise for my inability to reach out to you since the beginning of this term. I've actually been very busy preparing for the forthcoming SSCE. How are things at your end? I must confess that I've since made up my mind to study law after my secondary education and pursue a carrier as a lawyer. Our school's excursion to the prestigious Obafemi Awolowo University – a great and beautiful sight to behold – was an eye-opener for me. While there, I got to know that lawyers are referred to as 'learned', while people in other fields of study are regarded as just being 'educated'. Consequently, I decided to become a lawyer. I'm convinced it'll be highly beneficial to Nigeria if I become a lawyer as it will afford me the opportunity to contribute significantly to its legal system.

As a lawyer, I'll be versed in the matters of law and so will be able to give guidance on how our society should run. For instance, where there seems to be a conflict between political or public office holders on the running of Nigeria, I'll be able to wade in and guide them in a way that the business of governance will go unhindered.

Furthermore, being a lawyer will also enable me to help in educating the populace on the position of law regarding any matter. This means that I'll be in a better position to enlighten my fellow Nigerians appropriately whenever some issues relating to law are not clear to them.

Also, by virtue of my training, I'll be able to function effectively as a human rights advocate in defence of the powerless and the vulnerable in the society. I'll take it upon myself to stand up for the rights of the masses to ensure equity, fairness and justice, thereby contributing my own quota to the development of our nation. This will engender peace, stability and orderliness while deepening the rule of law in our society and the nation at large.

Moreover, to ensure sanity in the Nigerian political class and crisis-free democratic rule in Nigeria, I'll be among the lawyers that will play prominent roles at election tribunals. This will enable me to contribute to ensuring peaceful resolutions of electoral disputes in Nigeria.

Tobi, as discussed above, it will be highly beneficial to Nigeria if I become a lawyer because of the role I will play by giving guidance on how our society should run, educating the Nigerian populace on the position of law, becoming a human rights advocate, and ensuring sanity in the Nigerian political class and crisis-free democratic rule in Nigeria.

I want to believe that you are preparing for the examination too. I advise that, as we study hard, we should also pray to God to crown our efforts with success. Do take good care of yourself and extend my warm regards to Muiz, Sunkanmi and Aunt Mary when next you hear from them.

Your friend,
Tope.

2. THE MENACE OF FAKE DRUGS IN THE SOCIETY

I write to intimate you on the menace of fake drugs in our society and to also throw more light on some of the causes while proffering possible solutions. From the medical point of view, drugs are chemical substances that can be taken into the body orally or by just applying directly on the body and, in some cases, by injection so as to perform specific functions. These functions include relief from certain forms of discomfort, cure from an ailment or the management of different kinds of sicknesses and diseases based on recommendation by medical practitioners.

Worldwide, and in Nigeria specifically, the menace of fake, adulterated and substandard drugs cannot be over-emphasised. The business of fake and substandard drugs has become very widespread and lucrative in Nigeria. The primary motivation for fake drugs can be traced to corruption and deep-seated greed at the expense of human lives. In spite of the efforts of different regulatory and law enforcement agencies, there seems to be no end in sight to the activities of these criminal activities. The consequences of fake drugs in our society and the way out will be discussed.

One of the consequences of fake drugs in the society is the deterioration of health. Many people have suffered great pain and loss on account of fake and substandard drugs in circulation today. After spending huge sums of money to purchase drugs, many have had their health situation worsened and complicated after taken those fake drugs.

Loss of lives is another painful consequence of fake drugs circulation in our society. A good number of people have lost their lives in the process. There was a case of a woman who was sick last year. Sadly, the drugs purchased by her husband resulted in her death simply because the drugs were fake. Ironically, the criminals smile to the banks after making their victims to shed tears. This is a frustrating situation in our dear country – Nigeria.

Similarly, the menace of fake drugs in our society has led to loss of revenue for some producers of genuine drugs. This is occasioned by the fact that people are now scared of buying drugs from them because of the bad stories they have heard about the existence of fake drugs from wicked pharmaceutical companies that produce fake drugs. The activities of fake drug manufacturers are reprehensible. In order to curb this menace, suggested solutions are subsequently proffered.

The government needs to be decisive in dealing with culprits to serve as deterrent to others. This can be done by arresting the producers of fake drugs.

Similarly, relevant government agencies such as the National Agency for Food and Drug administration and Control, the Ministry of Health and the National Orientation Agency should collaborate and intensify effort at sensitising the public on how to identify fake and substandard drugs.

Further, government can leverage on the potentials of technology in curbing the circulation of fake and substandard drugs. With the aid of technology, identifying fake drugs would become easier thereby avoiding the dangers associated with its use.

I am sure that if the suggested solutions are considered by the government and other stakeholders in Nigeria, the menace of fake drugs in our society will surely be brought to its knees.

Kayode Oguntuase

SS 3A

Government Secondary School,

Abeokuta,

Ogun State

3.

Plot 6, Uncle Willy Close,
Ikeja,
Lagos State.

9th June, 2022.

The Principal,
Edith International College,
Ikeja,
Lagos State.

Dear Sir,

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF EDITH INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

I write to convey my heartfelt congratulations to you, sir, on this important occasion of the 60th anniversary of our prestigious college. Edith International College has gone through different stages of development over the years to attain its present status. This milestone, no doubt, is largely attributed to the purposeful leadership you have offered over the years. The virtues of hard work, discipline, patience and sound morals that you demonstrate combined to give the school a towering image above other schools. It is, therefore, a matter of personal joy for me to have you piloting the affairs of the school at this time.

After spending the whole of my college life in Edith International College, and being entrusted to serve in the capacity of a senior prefect, I have come to regard the school as my second home which I cannot detach myself from. On account of this strong bond with the school, I now see myself as an important stakeholder. Therefore, sir, permit me to make some quick suggestions on how to further improve the school.

First and foremost, the school urgently needs a functional borehole to ease the challenge of irregular water supply. The public water which the school currently depends on is highly irregular. This has led to a very poor hygiene situation among students, especially in the hostels. Please, use your good offices to champion the provision of a functional and reliable borehole.

Secondly, it has been observed that the books in the school library, though well equipped for the comfort of students and teachers alike, are quite old. To keep the knowledge level high, as has been the tradition of our school, there is a need to get the library stocked with up-to-date and relevant books for the benefit of the students, especially as the Senior School Certificate Examination approaches. Provision of up-to-date and relevant books will boost the confidence of the students when sitting the Senior Secondary Certificate Examination.

Furthermore, apart from the normal first aid service that we have in place, there is a need to construct a well-equipped clinic or dispensary that can serve both staff and students. The student population has grown steadily over the years and there have been cases of students coming down with malaria and other ailments at odd hours that require urgent medical attention beyond the first aid. It is said that health is wealth. Therefore, I appeal to you to see to it that a well-equipped clinic or dispensary is constructed for students and staff.

The issues raised above are provision of a functional borehole, stocking of the school library with up-to-date and relevant books, and construction of a well-equipped clinic or dispensary. And I look forward to seeing immediate action on the issues so as to bring relief to students and staff, thereby creating a more conducive environment for teaching and learning.

Congratulations once again, sir.

Long live Edith International College!

Yours faithfully,



Adedeji Adewuyi
(Former Senior Prefect)

4. **A WELCOME ADDRESS BY FIDELIS OMONI, THE SENIOR PREFECT OF DELSU SECONDARY SCHOOL, ABRAKA, ON THE OCCASION OF THE WELCOME PARTY ORGANISED FOR THE NEW PRINCIPAL, MRS HELEN KORI-SIAKPERE, ON MONDAY, 20TH JUNE, 2022**

The Principal, Mrs Helen Kor-Siakpere,
The Vice Principal Administration, Mr Sam Akatugba,
The Vice Principal Academics, Mr Dike,
PTA Chairman, Chief Abel Erumere
Our Esteemed Teachers,
Fellow students,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very delighted to address you, once again, as the Senior Prefect, on the welcome party organised for our new principal, Mrs Kori-Siakpere. I addressed this august gathering last month when our former principal, Dr(Mrs) F. Igborgbor retired from this noble school. At that occasion, I had the opportunity, on behalf of the students of DELSU Secondary School Abraka, to recount the glowing attributes and achievements of our retiring principal, a worthy woman of emulation, a deaconess and a very peace-loving personality.

Today, I stand before you, once more, but this time around, to welcome our new principal who also happens to be a woman. God has continued to bless us with women principals. May I crave the indulgence of all students of this school here present, to stand up and give a resounding applause to our new principal, Mrs Helen Kori-Siakpere, as a way of welcoming her to this school and to remind her that we all love her.

Ladies and gentlemen, when we heard that she was the new principal posted to our school, our joy knew no bounds. Some of my colleagues in the hostel danced and sang praises to God almost throughout the night when the news of her arrival filtered into their ears. This is not unconnected with the fact that her achievements in her former school were second to none! We heard of how she transformed that school, Ebor Secondary School, from a village school to an International School of high repute.

Mrs Kori-Siakpere, I wish to formally, on behalf of the entire students of this school, welcome you officially. We are all ready, especially the prefects, to work with you to make sure that this school is equally transformed just as you did in your previous school.

It is on this note that I want to inform you, of the three basic areas of need which, I believe, will go a long way towards assisting you realise your dreams of becoming the best principal that this school has ever had. First among them is the need to create a sports arena for us. The age-long aphorism that says, "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" readily comes to mind. This is what our school has been suffering. It has always been work, work and work! No play! I am not saying that we want to be playing, playing and playing! No! I am aware that "all play and no work makes Jack a mere toy."

All I am saying is that we need a sports arena where we can, not only exercise our body, but also display our talents. It will interest you to know that our Sports Prefect, Muiz Alabi, used to be the best sprinter in his primary school days. If you see him now, he is not only very big in size, he is also now very lazy despite the fact that he is the prefect in charge of sports. I am very sure that if this school had a sports arena, he would be able to do exercises and shed some of the fats in his body. Coupled with that is that some of us are talented in other areas of sports. Sunday Adewuyi is a good footballer, Ngozi Akpati is a good table tennis player. I believe if we are given the opportunity, the school can get a good football team and we can win medals and promote not only the name of our school, but also the names of our families.

We also need to revive our Literary and Debating Society. This society in the school is on the verge of extinction. We are aware that the school became very popular in the state in particular and in the country in general due to the robust literary activities that took place in the school since the school's inception till late 2015. Our school won awards in quiz, essay and debate competitions through the effort of the teachers who spearheaded the Literary and Debating Society with the likes of Mr Aghogho Agbamu and Mr Matthias Iroro. Unfortunately, after they were transferred from the school, the society has gone down the drain.

One other area of need in the school is the urge to wake up our Cultural Club! It is sad to know that, these days, many of us cannot speak our indigenous languages and we do not know enough about our cultures. There is a foreign domination of our languages, cultures and traditions. Things is not good enough. I want to plead with you, ma, that there is an urgent need to promote our cultures and traditions. Most of the students cannot speak their native languages even though there is a very disturbing rule in this school that, "vernacular speaking is highly prohibited." I want you to please look in that direction so as to encourage our students to embrace their cultures.

In conclusion, please know that we all love you! The students love you! The teachers love you! Welcome once again, to DELSU Secondary School, Abraka. Together, we shall make this school great again!

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for your time. Thank you for honouring our invitation to attend this programme even at short notice. Thank you for organising this welcome party for our new principal, Mrs Helen Kori-Siakpere. God bless you!

Long live DELSU Secondary School!

Fidelis Omoni,
Senior Prefect
Delsu Secondary School,
2021/2022 Session.

5. UNEASY LIES THE HEAD THAT WEARS A CROWN

Dr Alex Roy-Omoni sat at the balcony adjacent to his room. He smiled after he had finished the second bottle of beer. He remembered some years back when he was the Chairman of Actors Guild of Nigeria (AGN), Delta State Chapter. He flashed back to the events that took place within the first month of assuming office and muttered to himself, "He that fights and runs away may live to fight another day." He checked his wristwatch and discovered that it was time to watch the Nigeria's Super Eagles' match with Sao Tome and Principe. He had lost confidence in the Super Eagles who disappointed him during the last Africa Cup of Nations. Though disappointed, he still had hopes that it was not all over with the team. A few days before, he had watched the team struggle to beat the boys from Sierra Leone. He finished the last drop of the drink and went to his living room. Who knows, he thought, the Super Eagles might give him something to cheer at the end of the match.

Some years back when he was the State Chairman of AGN, it was not the type of life he bargained for before contesting for the position. He had thought that life was going to be a bed of rose if he was elected into the exalted position of the number one citizen among the actors and actresses in the state.

When the results of the elections were announced and he was adjudged the winner, he thanked Good and resumed immediately in his office, hoping to start "enjoying life." No sooner had he resumed than he realised that as the new leader of AGN, it was a different ball game.

Immediately after being sworn in, he received many letters of complaints from different members of the guild over the way they were being treated by their local leaders. He decided to see what he could do to attend to all cases brought before him. This made him travel almost everyday from his base in Asaba to all the nooks and crannies of state.

On one of the occasions, while he was in his office, about to close for the day at 6 p.m., his phone rang. He was needed at Agbor to rescue some of his members who were arrested at a location. His presence was needed to convince the police officers that the boys were members of AGN. He drove off immediately from Asaba to Agbor. On his way, he escaped by a whisker, the onslaught of some bandits who pursued him in order to kidnap him and this made him arrive late at Agbor.

After series of negotiations with the Police in Agbor, he thought of going back to Asaba, but the encounter with the kidnapers made him to change his mind. He decided to sleep over in Umunede, a neighbouring town. Hardly had he checked into his hotel room when he received an urgent call, this time, from the Commissioner for Culture and Tourism. The Commissioner had instructed him to see him urgently in Asaba, latest 10 p.m.!

"What kind of life is this?" he thought within himself. He remembered he had not seen his family for the past two weeks just because he was the State Chairman of a guild. He wondered what would have been the case if he was the Governor of the state.

He became sad when the hotel manager had refused to refund his money which, according to the manager, was the policy of the hotel. He left in annoyance but arrived safely in Asaba at 11.25 p.m., after all plans for him to see the Commissioner the following morning fell on deaf ears!

When he arrived at the Commissioner's office, he was taken aback by the calibre of people already waiting for him. He saw the Senior Staff Adviser to the Governor on cultural matters, flanked by the Personal Assistant to the Governor and the Chairman of Oshilim Local Government.

The Commissioner did not waste time to inform him that a message came very late from the Governor that they would all accompany him to a function in Warri and that latest 8 a.m. the following day, all those to accompany the Governor must be at the Governor's office. Dr. Alex was confused. "Is this what leaders pass through? No time for themselves and their families?" he muttered to himself. He was extremely tired, but he had no choice but to comply. He was further dazed when he was told that he would not be allowed to go back

home to avoid lateness! Along with the others, they slept in the Commissioner's house. By the time they arrived the Commissioner's house, it was 1:45 a.m.

At 9 a.m., Dr Alex was still sleeping and snoring heavily when a kick from the Commissioner woke him up. The Commissioner reprimanded him for being lazy and not alive to his responsibilities. At this juncture, he thought in his mind that it was time to resign from the position. After all, this was never the kind of life he bargained for when he decided to contest for the seat.

The Governor and the convoy arrived Warri at 11 a.m. and were warmly welcomed by the people. Dr Alex and the others sat on the designated seat arranged for them. The occasion lasted for hours. While he was seated, he did not know when he slept off. A tap from the Governor's PA made him know that the Governor was about to leave and they all must rise to accompany the Governor back to Asaba.

The journey back to Asaba was tedious and stressful. On their way back, the PA told him that the Governor had mandated him to represent the state at the Trade Fair scheduled to begin the next day at Abakaliki. At first, he told the PA that he would not be available for the programme because he was having an appointment with his doctor same day. This was a lie he had to tell to avoid the Governor's mandate. He quickly retraced his steps when the PA reminded him of the consequences and implications of turning down the Governor's directive.

By the time he arrived Abakaliki, he was not only fagged out, but he also passed out! When he was revived back to consciousness, he saw himself in the hospital, attended to by a team of doctors. When he was told all that had happened to him after enquiries, he made up his mind finally to resign from the position because he realised, finally, that uneasy lies the head that wears a crown. As he rested on the hospital bed, he exclaimed, "I cannot kill myself, because I am wearing the crown as the State Chairman of AGN. When I get back to Asaba, I must resign."

6(a) His intelligence and brilliant performance at school

(b) (i) Hard work and dedication (ii) the huge amount of money and time invested in the venture

(c) He became proud and highly temperamental.

(d) What was ironical in Alani's blaming his employees was that his employees offered him useful/good suggestions, but he turned a deaf ear.

(e) Resignation of five of his workers on the same day

(f) Experiencing difficulties OR Likely to fail OR In a terrible situation/state/condition

(g) (i) Adjectival clause (ii) It qualifies the noun 'secretary'.

(h) (i) honours, awards, accolades, commendations, credits

(ii) support, provision, subsistence, livelihood

(iii) renowned, respected, famous, esteemed, prominent, distinguished, trustworthy

(iv) business, enterprise, investment, undertaking

(v) proud, conceited, arrogant, big-headed, cocky

(vi) decreased, diminished, reduced, lessened, depreciated, deteriorated

7(a)(i) Youths engage in armed robbery with the intention to boost their status.

(ii) They engage in armed robbery to obtain money and valuables.

(iii) They engage in armed robbery due to unemployment.

(b)(i) Parents should instil good values in their children and should not hesitate to correct them early in life.

(ii) Monitoring of places with high incidence of crime by law enforcement authorities

(iii) Provision of social amenities by the government