**NAME: TUESIMI FAVOUR ORITSETSOLAYE**

**MATRIC NUMBER: 19/LAW01/251**

**COURSE TITLE: COMMUNICATION IN ENGLISH II**

**COURSE CODE: GST 122**

**ASSIGNMENT TITLE: FORMS OF WRITING**

**QUESTION**

Write a report, of not more than two pages, on the Coronavirus pandemic and the effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians.

**CORONAVIRUS, A GLOBAL PANDEMIC**

The first known case of Coronavirus popularly known as Covid-19, dates back to 17 November 2019, where a 55-year-old individual from Hubei province in China may have been the first person to have contracted COVID-19 according to the [South Morning China Post](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/3074991/coronavirus-chinas-first-confirmed-covid-19-case-traced-back%22%20%5Ct%20%22https%3A//www.livescience.com/_blank). Which is more than a month earlier from when a number of local health authorities reported clusters of patients with pneumonia of unknown cause, which were linked to a seafood market in Wuhan, China, which is in Hubei province, at the end of December 2019. Scientists now suspect this coronavirus, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, originated in bats and somehow hopped to another animal, possibly the pangolin, which then passed it on to humans. The disease is now spreading rapidly between people without any animal intermediary.

The first confirmed case of the [pandemic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019%E2%80%9320_coronavirus_pandemic%22%20%5Co%20%222019%E2%80%9320%20coronavirus%20pandemic) of [COVID-19](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coronavirus_disease_2019%22%20%5Co%20%22Coronavirus%20disease%202019) in [Nigeria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigeria%22%20%5Co%20%22Nigeria) was announced on 27 February 2020, when an Italian citizen in [Lagos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagos%22%20%5Co%20%22Lagos) tested positive for the virus, caused by [SARS-CoV-2](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Severe_acute_respiratory_syndrome_coronavirus_2%22%20%5Co%20%22Severe%20acute%20respiratory%20syndrome%20coronavirus%202). On 9 March 2020, a second case of the virus was reported in [Ewekoro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ewekoro%22%20%5Co%20%22Ewekoro), [Ogun State](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ogun_State%22%20%5Co%20%22Ogun%20State), a Nigerian citizen who had contact with the Italian citizen. As more cases of the virus were recorded in states like Lagos, Edo, Oyo, Ogun, Delta and FCT, states government in line with the Federal government began to take preventive measures to reduce or stop the spread of this pandemic in Nigeria. The federal government announced the indefinite closure of Universities across the country, also affected states announced the indefinite closure of their public and private schools with the addition of a ban on religious gatherings of over 50 worshippers. As the number of cases began to rise, states like Lagos, Delta, Rivers, Edo, Kadanu, Osun and Abuja among others reviewed their previous ban on public gatherings of more than 50 persons and changed it to a complete ban, enforcing it on all public gatherings including weddings, seminars, conferences, burials and any other large gatherings in the state under any banner or organisation.

The economic assistance that the government has announced in response to the virus has exposed inadequacies in Nigeria’s social protection systems and risks excluding the country’s poorest and most vulnerable people. Millions of Nigerians observing the COVID-19 lockdown lack the food and income that their families need to survive. The lockdown does not apply to those providing [essential services](https://twitter.com/MBuhari/status/1244326530374938624?s=20" \t "https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/14/_blank), such as food distributors and retailers, including market stalls selling food and groceries, which[the government has said](https://www.tvcnews.tv/covid-19-lockdown-markets-to-open-from-10am-to-2pm-daily-fg/%22%20%5Ct%20%22https%3A//www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/14/_blank) can operate for four hours every 48 hours. The lockdown, however, [prevents many Nigerians working in informal sectors](https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/31/africa/nigeria-lockdown-daily-wage-earners-intl/index.html%22%20%5Ct%20%22https%3A//www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/14/_blank) from traveling to work or conducting their business. Local food vendors and traders have [expressed fears](https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/31/africa/nigeria-lockdown-daily-wage-earners-intl/index.html%22%20%5Ct%20%22https%3A//www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/14/_blank) over their ability to feed their families during the lockdown, with their daily earnings their only source of sustenance. An increase in food prices as a result of the lockdown also means that many cannot stock up on necessities. The informal sector, in which [more than 80 percent](https://www.wiego.org/sites/default/files/publications/files/Women%20and%20Men%20in%20the%20Informal%20Economy%203rd%20Edition%202018.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22https%3A//www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/14/_blank) of Nigerians work, includes a wide range of occupations, from street traders, taxi drivers, tradesmen, and artisans to food vendors and hairdressers. In Lagos alone, according to research by nongovernmental organizations, [65 percent](https://ng.boell.org/sites/default/files/uploads/2017/02/budgit_final_report_30.1.17.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22https%3A//www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/14/_blank) of the estimated [25 million](http://mepb.lagosstate.gov.ng/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2019/11/11.0-LAGOS-SOCIO-ECONOMIC-PROFILE.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22https%3A//www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/14/_blank) people work in the informal sector. Informal workers have lower incomes, often do not have savings, health insurance, or pensions that provide a basic social safety net, and [72 percent](https://www.wiego.org/sites/default/files/publications/files/Women%20and%20Men%20in%20the%20Informal%20Economy%20-%20A%20Statistical%20Brief%20-%20for%20web.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22https%3A//www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/14/_blank) are poor. A lot of Nigerians both male and female have resorted to highway rubbery in broad daylight and also the burglary rates has also increased.

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