**NAME: OGBUDO PRAISE IFEANYI MATRIC NO: 19/ENG02/040**

**COURSE CODE: GST 122 COURSE TITLE: COMMUNICATION IN ENGLISH**

**QUESTION: Write a report, of not more than two pages, on the Corona virus pandemic and the effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians.**

**SOLUTION:**

**CORONA VIRUS AND THE EFFECT OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS**

**The Virus**

Coronavirus disease 2019  which is known as COVID-19 is an [infectious disease](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infectious_disease) caused by [severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Severe_acute_respiratory_syndrome_coronavirus_2) (SARS-CoV-2). Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. There is no certainty about the real cause of the disease and no specific vaccine has been developed to cure the disease.

**The Index Case**

The outbreak was identified in Wuhan, China, in December 2019. It was declared to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30 January 2020, and recognized as a pandemic by the World Health Organization on 11 March 2020.

**The Statistics**

As of 16 April 2020, more than 2.06 million cases of COVID-19 have been reported in 210 countries and territories, resulting in more than 137,000 deaths. More than 517,000 people have recovered, although there may be a possibility of relapse or reinfection. The deaths per diagnosed cases varies significantly between countries.

**The Management Protocol**

Recommended preventive measures for COVID-19 include regular hand washing with soap and water or sanitizer, covering one's mouth when coughing or better still coughing into the elbow, maintaining about 3 feet distance from other people, and monitoring and self-isolation for people that are suspected to be infected.

**The Indigenous cases**

The first confirmed case of the pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 in Nigeria was announced on 27 February 2020, when an Italian citizen in Lagos tested positive for the virus. On 9 March 2020, a second case of the virus was reported in Ewekoro, Ogun State through a Nigerian citizen who had contact with the Italian citizen. The number of verified cases has continued to rise since then leading to the roll out of a number of measures by the Federal Government to contain the spread of the disease.

**Domestic Measures**

* The Federal Government of Nigeria announced the strengthening of surveillance at the five international airports in the country to prevent the spread of coronavirus.
* The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control also announced same day that they had already set up coronavirus group and was ready to activate its incident system if any case emerged in Nigeria.
* The Federal Government set-up a Presidential Task force to address the challenges of COVID and to provide daily report.
* The Federal Government announced the lockdown of Lagos State, Ogun State and the FCT, for a period of two weeks from 11pm on 30 March, ordering the citizens of the affected areas to stay in their homes, banning travel to or from other states and announcing the shutdown of businesses and offices, exempting hospitals, food processing, petroleum distribution, banks, power generation and private security companies. The government also exempted workers in telecommunication companies, broadcasters, print and electronic media staff who couldn't work from home. The Federal Government also suspended the movements of all passenger aircraft all over the country, including commercial and private jets.
* The FG also arranged a social intervention programme which made palliatives available for distribution to the poor citizen to cushion the effect of the hardship of lockdown and movement restriction.
* Many State Governments also imposed similar movement restrictions to contain the spread of the virus in their respective States.

**The Effect of the Lockdown**

The Lockdown and movement restriction imposed in many States is not without implications to the Nation and its citizenry. Some of the effects are as follows:

* Wage earners and daily income earners will feel the effects of hunger as they have no source of income. The vast majority of people outside of the formal system are hit by the lockdown.
* Increased crime: criminals and hackers are also exploiting the situation to scam the citizens. There are also reported cases of theft and robberies fueled by idleness, loss of jobs and frustration.
* Increased domestic violence particularly against women are very likely.
* Physical and health effects: The downside of self-isolation or social lockdown resulting into symptoms like traumatic stress, confusion and anger, all of which are exacerbated by fear of infection, having limited access to supplies of necessities, inadequate information or the experience of economic loss or stigma.
* Economic Effect: The lockdown has led to reduced business opportunities, drop in govt revenue, increase in loans, and drop in GDP.
* The lockdown might also lead to delay in salary payment, drop in savings, loss of employment, increase in unemployment rate and finally increase in debts.