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**Matric no:** *19/sms14/002*

**Course title and code:** *Communication in English (GST 122)*

**Assignment:** *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.*

What is the Coronavirus?

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. The virus was first discovered in Wuhan, china late 2019. It was claimed to be causes by an animal in a wet market in Wuhan and was transmitted from person to person. Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment.  Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness. The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes, so it’s important that you also practice respiratory etiquette (for example, by coughing into a flexed elbow).

It has affected 185 of 195 countries of the world, according to Aljazeera more than 170,000 people have died from Covid-19 and has reported more than 2.4 million cases and more than 651,000 people have recovered from this pandemic. In Nigeria there are said to be 665 cases with 22 deaths and 188 recoveries. The first confirmed case of the [pandemic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019%E2%80%9320_coronavirus_pandemic) of [coronavirus disease 2019](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coronavirus_disease_2019) in [Nigeria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigeria) was announced on 27 February 2020, when an Italian citizen in [Lagos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagos) tested positive for the virus, caused by [SARS-CoV-2](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Severe_acute_respiratory_syndrome_coronavirus_2). On 9 March 2020, a second case of the virus was reported in [Ewekoro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ewekoro), [Ogun State](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ogun_State), a Nigerian citizen who had contact with the Italian citizen.

These events lead to the declaration of a lockdown that began on the 30th of March mostly in the key cities affected such as Lagos, Abuja and Ogun state. After which was accompanied by an inflation in prices of goods which has continually been devastated

the low income population, they are locked up in their homes, no jobs, no source of income, some of these people live on the daily wages they get from little jobs or errands. With them not being able to leave their homes they can’t make that money or eat even and considering the price rise in the market. These events have led to insecurity in the major states, there has been reports of stealing among the people, and some low income earners are outraged by the extended lockdown. This has increased the insecurity of the nation and released fear in the land. These are moments when government officials need to step up not just to ensure the safety of the people but also provide food and assist with shelter for these people, we live in a wealthy nation and have funds to assist the less privileged. Even in the case of electricity the government should ensure (not just during this lockdown) that there is constant electricity supply in all homes across the country.

The halt in business activity may also pose as a treat to all businesses especially the small scale businesses with stocks crashing business may have their for seen profits turn to losses, things such as property (land) owners may have to increase their prices, some businesses who are struggling to survive with no customers buying products and absence of business operation would lead to business failure. Both globally and nationwide the stock markets have been affected by the Covid 19, travel agencies have been hit the hardest with the dead rates and infected cases constantly rising, the tendency for people travelling is low and governments have banned international travel and even travel within states in Nigeria. The transportation cost of moving from place to place within a state has being tripled in price. The exchange rate value has been on a slow but steady rise, due to the economic situation of the world.

If the economy isn’t strengthen we maybe be leading the country into another economic recession due to this pandemic. Government should introduce an economic stimulus to the industry especially where funding is concerned.  A halt on payment of interest charges on cost of funding should be put in place to help developers cut down on their losses.