**GST122 ASSIGNMENT OF FORMS OF WRITING**

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**19/MHS11/123**

**PHARMACY**

**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.**

The coronavirus (COVID-19) is an infectious disease cause by a newly discovered coronavirus. COVID-19 is the disease caused by the new coronavirus that emerged in China in December 2019. COVID-19 symptoms include cough, fever, shortness of breath, muscle aches, sore throat, unexplained loss of taste or smell, diarrhea and headache. COVID-19 can be severe, and some cases have caused death. The new coronavirus can be spread from person to person. It is diagnosed with a laboratory test.

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.

As a result of the pandemic it has caused lockdowns in parts of the world. Nigeria took action and caused lockdown is some parts of the country. This would definitely have its own effect on different sectors, areas and people. Here are some of the effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement;

* Locking people down at home in the Nigerian context is like asking people to go hungry for the duration of the lockdown. More than 60 per cent of Nigerians survive on daily pay from menial jobs and petty trading. A lockdown means their means of daily livelihood have been locked down. The plight of private sector employees is no better. Many private employers have maintained a ‘no salary during lockdown’ stance, or at best a 50 per cent pay cut. Some have even completely laid the workers off. Labour must agitate for full pay for workers, whether private or government employed, for as long as the lockdown lasts.
* Pangs of hunger will lead to widespread anger. Protests in different forms are already being seen within the communities. People are protesting against a lockdown without palliatives, against the high-handedness of law enforcement agents, and even rejecting all manner of palliatives that smack of insult to their intelligence, such as packs of food that are not enough to feed a family of six in 2 weeks being distributed to be shared among 60-80 families in a cluster. This protest mood that is brewing has the potential to transform into a movement that would pose a serious challenge to the lockdown if the hunger question is not resolved. It could also get a lot worse, as we are beginning to see in some places in Lagos and Ogun States where a layer of lumpen youth, pushed to extreme hunger by the lockdown, go on mass looting of shops and houses, carting away ordinary people’s food and belongings.
* The loss of income will be the immediate concern for individuals who have been contributing to household consumption through their entrepreneurial activities and engaged in hand-to-mouth self-employment. It would be hard for such individuals to participate on the lockdown when their households depend on them for consumption.
* The Nigerian lockdown effect on education and higher institutions is going to cause likely unequal interruption in students’ learning and school calendar. There’s disruption in internal assessment and the cancellation of public assessment for qualifications or their replacement by an inferior alternative.
* A psychological effect on the people of the nation Nigeria is that there is a high street that the current crisis has brought upon employees as well as organisations and with the lockdown not knowing when it would end, the emotional challenged employees are confronting have increased manifold.

As for the essential employees in the medical field and other fields they are under extreme worry of being infected by coworkers or patients. There’s also the worry of going to work and being stopped and disturbed by the police because they were out and not in their homes.