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***COMMUNICATION IN ENGLISH 2 (GST 122)***

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

The Coronavirus disease 19 also known as COVID-19 is a highly transmitted and pathogenic viral infection caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 [SARS-CoV-2], which emerged in Wuhan, China and spread around the world. The intermediate source of origin and transfers to humans is not known. However, the rapid human to human transfer has been confirmed widely.

Recently at the end of 2019, Wuhan, an emerging business hub of China experienced an outbreak of a novel coronavirus that killed more than eighteen hundred and infected over seventy thousand individuals within the first fifty days of the epidemic. WHO was informed by the Chinese government about several cases of pneumonia with unfamiliar etiology. The outbreak was initiated from the Hunan seafood market in Wuhan city of China and rapidly infected more than 50 people. Live animals such as bats, snake and rabbits are frequently sold at the Hunan market. On 12 January 2020, the National Health Commission of China released further details about the epidemic and suggested a viral pneumonia.

Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring any 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 illnesses/symptoms. The virus that causes COVID-19 is mainly transmitted through droplets generated when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or exhales these droplets are too heavy to hang in the air and quickly fall on floors or surfaces.

Some of the common symptoms include: fever, tiredness and dry cough. Some of the more serious symptoms include: shortness of breath, aches and pains, sore throat, and very few people will report diarrhea, nausea or a runny nose.

According to statistics there have so far been 2,478,634 confirmed cases, 651,736 recoveries and 170,389 deaths worldwide. And in Nigeria we have 665 confirmed cases, 188 recovered, and 22 deaths.

As part of attempts to limit the spread of COVID-19, government have instituted lock-down measures and banned public gatherings. The lockdown placed on Nigerians during this crisis has taking a great toll on society. The lockdown has had a major effect on the Nigerian economy. Nigeria operates a largely mono product economy solely dependent on crude oil and with the present economic realities, workers’ salaries maybe in jeopardy as many Nigerians depend on daiy wages. Small businesses, which rely heavily on foreign imports to augment their value chain, now suffer from supply shortage as well as loss of jobs. With the global economy is slipping and Nigeria is set to receive a hard hit.