



**NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA**  
**PLOT 91, CADASTRAL ZONE, NNAMDI AZIKIWE EXPRESS WAY JABI, ABUJA**  
**FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION**  
**2024\_1 EXAMINATION**

**COURSE TITLE:** NEWS REPORTING/WRITING  
**COURSE CODE:** JLS823  
**CREDIT UNITS:** 3  
**TIME ALLOWED:** 3 HOURS  
**INSTRUCTION:** ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

1. (a) Provide a detailed explanation of the role of a reporter in the society. **(5½ marks)**  
(b) Describe the four-fold functions of the press. **(12 marks)**
2. A reporter's news judgement or ability to identify newsworthy events is critical. Discuss any five elements of the news. **(17½ marks)**
3. (a) What is a house style? **(5½ marks)**  
(b) As a reporter, you need to write your copy in a lively way. Explain how this can be achieved through the use of appropriate tenses and punctuations in radio. **(12 marks)**
4. (a) What is contempt of court? **(5½ marks)**  
(b) Explain any three ways in which a journalist can commit contempt of court. **(12 marks)**
5. Reporters structure their leads in a variety of ways, in addition to emphasising one or the other of the five W's and the H. Describe any five lead writing styles. **(17½ marks)**