

## **APPENDICES**

## APPENDIX A

### Academic Staff Sociocultural Questionnaire

1 Do you believe students in the Vhembe district have experienced serious deficiencies in their Language education?

Explain what the deficiencies are?

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2 If there are deficiencies, are these attributable to:

2. 1 Limited academic skills in the Mother Tongue

2. 2 Second language acquisition

2. 3 Resistance to interaction in the English Language

2. 4 All of the above

2. 5 Any other, please specify Explain:

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3 Do you think the society in the Vhembe district discourages transparency?

3.1 How does this affect the expression of opinion?

Explain:

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3. 2 Do you think the above has an effect on the students' ability to express personal opinion?

Explain:

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3. 3 Would the above have a bearing on students' ability to argue on issues in writing? If so Explain:

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3. 4 Do you think the above impacts on the students' ability to express themselves without fear of censure?

Explain:

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4 Do you think students believe that the printed word enshrines/ represents absolute truth which cannot be contested?

Explain:

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5 Are there gender differences in the way male and female students express their opinions? Explain

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6 Please add any information that you think will add value to the knowledge of the sociocultural learning context of our students.

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## APPENDIX B

### Student Sociocultural Questionnaire

1. Where is your home (where you live)? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What languages do you speak? \_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_ 2 With whom? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Which high school do you come from? \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ District.
4. Were you taught in English all the time? No/Yes \_\_\_\_\_
5. If not, which other language was used? \_\_\_\_\_.

**B. Answer Yes or No against the statements that follow:**

6. When using English, I feel:

6.1 Not so sure in conversation Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_

6.2 Confident in writing Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_

7. Learning the basics of the English sentence structure at university is

a) necessary. Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_

b) not necessary. Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_

c) it is important. Yes/No \_\_\_\_\_

**C Mark with an in the appropriate column below according to whether you agree with the statements or not using the following key:  
[(AL= always, S= sometimes, R=rarely]**

8. When I meet people that I do not know I:

	AL	SM	R
a) avoid conversation	_____	_____	_____
b) tend to use my MT	_____	_____	_____

9. When I meet people who need help and they speak English I:

AL SM R

a) avoid them	_____	_____	_____
b) tend to speak to them in my MT	_____	_____	_____
c) cooperate and use English	_____	_____	_____
10. Do you ever talk on the telephone in English?	AL	S	R
	_____	_____	_____
11. Do you wish you used English quite often?	YES	NO	
	_____	_____	
a) If Yes, Why? _____			
b) If No, why not? _____			

## APPENDIX C

### Mother Tongue Questions

#### Northern Sotho Language Questions

- Q1.** *What was the aim of the missionaries in Africa?*
- Q2.** *Give four publications by John Bennie.*
- Q3.** *Give three methods of language classification based on linguistic facts.*
- Q4.** *Give and explain different stages in the evolution of a language.*
- Q5.** *Write short notes on the thematic meaning of sentences in Northern Sotho.*
- Q6.** *The applied verbal extension could bring into a word various nuances of meaning. With four suitable Northern Sotho examples, illustrate these.*
- Q7.** *Give a brief discussion of Carl Meinhof's contribution to the development of Bantu Linguistics under the following: His short background history; The contents of Das Tshi – Venda; The contents of Die Bedeutung des Sotho fur die; The contents of Grundriss einer Lautlehre der Bantusprachen: The contents of Der Koranadialekt der Hottentitischen.*

#### Tshivenda Language Questions.

- Q8.** *Historically, the way of writing words differs from the way we speak. Discuss this statement giving appropriate examples in Tshivenda.*
- 9.** *With suitable examples show how gender ( males and females) could be referred to in Tshivenda.*

**Q10.** *Show with suitable examples, which language groups have influenced Tshivenda dialects.*

**Q11.** *Lombard et al. (1985) put it vividly that extensions occur between the verbal root and the ending. Discuss how these extensions (only five) may affect meaning in Tshivenda lexical items.*

**Q12.** *Leech (1981) distinguishes four major types of oppositions. Name and discuss each one of them giving Tshivenda examples.*

**Q13.** *Discuss the content, scope and delimitation of the field of study in syntax.*

**Q14.** *Giving Tshivenda examples briefly discuss Theta Theory as employed in Tshivenda.*

**Q15.** *Discuss how you could classify verbs in Tshivenda.*

### **Xitsonga Language Questions**

Most of the Xitsonga questions were in Xitsonga and translations had to be sought from the department for each individual question. For the sake of uniformity with the other two first languages, it was considered convenient to put the English versions first for ease of reference.

**Q16.** *[Give a detailed explanation of the concept translation. To support your answer, quote from relevant authors].Hlamusela hi vuenti theme ra vuhundzuluxo. Seketela nhlamulo ya wena hi ku tshaha vatsari van wana*

**Q17.** *[Discuss your understanding of “languages of use in parliament”. With extracts from some authors support your discussion].Kanela (discuss) leswi*

*u twisisaka swona hi “language(s) of use in parliament”. Nkanelo wa wena wu fanele wu seketeriwa hi mintshaho ya vatsari van wana.*

**Q18.** *[Explain the concept “code switching” under the following headings: Metalinguistic function; Directive function; Referential function]. Hlamusela theme ra “code switching” ehansi ka tinhlokomhaka leti landzelaka: Metalinguistic function; Directive function; Referential function.*

**Q19.** *[Explain three types of language planning].*

*Hlamusela tinxaka tinharhu ta “language planning”*

**Q20.** *[What is historical comparative linguistics]?*

*Xana mpimanyiso wa tindzimi i yini*

**Q21.** *[What is genetic classification, Discuss.]? Xana maavelo ya jenetiki hi wahi Kanela*

**Q22.** *[The short story “Poetry is witchcraft” is so much related to the proverb “chicken does not take care of a friend’s”]. [Critically support or disagree with this ideology]. Xirungulwana xa “vusiwana i vuloyi” xi fambelana swinene ni xivuriso lexi nge “A yi hleteri xa munghana” Pfumela kumbe u kaneta Kanela*

**Q23.** *[The short story “A witch has no colour” creates an ideology that a human being is not satisfied with what he has]. [In a discussion critically agree or disagree].*

*Xirungulwana xa “noyi u hava muhlovo” xi kombisa hilaha swi nonohaka hakona ku va munhu a enela hi leswi a nga na swona. Pfumela kumbe u kaneta Kanela*



## APPENDIX D

### Sample argument essays (English Department)

#### PROMPT

***Should parents be able to control the lives of their children (13-21years old)***

#### S1

*Yes, in my opinion parents should be able to control the lives of their children aged between 13 and 20 years of age. Parents are custodians of children. They are the people who brought these children to this world in the first place. Therefore, for parents, this custodianship is a God-given right. For this reason, they have the right to control the lives of their children because they know right from wrong. Also they have the best interests of their children at heart. Thus, the choices that these parents make for their children will almost always be the right ones.*

*Controlling children's lives requires experience and love. In these two respects, parents are the best equipped to do this. Through years of experience and watching other people raise their children, parents are the best people that children can trust their lives with. The other option is for children to put their trust in their friends. Needless to say, friends are often friends when things are going right. One quote rightly put is: 'when days are dark, friends are few'. Parents are therefore dependable at all times.*

*Most psychologists believe how a child is raised will determine the kind of adult that the child will become. Controlling a child is part of raising a child. This is so because we live in a world where there are several forms of control. We are controlled how fast we can drive a car; we are controlled where we can build a house; where we can fish and do other things. In other words, our lives are controlled. Therefore, the sooner a child learns this, the better.*

*Children often like to assign blame when things go wrong; they often blame one person or another. Society also attributes the way an adult behaves to the way in which s/he was raised. Therefore, responsible parenting is a must. Secondly in the long run, both the parent and child will benefit because the parent is a citizen in this world, they can differentiate right from wrong. Children must be told, for example, when to come home and which friends to play with. They can also be advised which sport to play, which career would be good for them and so on. Through proper control, the child soon realizes these truths because s/he is not born with this knowledge.*

*Some people associate control with abuse. Control can sometimes be abuse. However, many parents are caring individuals who would kill to protect their children. Therefore, the argument that control equals abuse does not hold water. Control is what teaches the child to be a disciplined, responsible member of society. Even when control means using the cane*

*once in a while, this is not bad, as long as it is not excessive. The English have a saying, "spare the rod and spoil the child." Children who are not controlled think the world out there is uncontrolled, that one can do as one pleases. When children grow up with this attitude, often they learn the truth when it is too late. Control forms an important part of parenting. Children must be controlled, even if this means using the cane.*

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## **S2**

*First of all the word 'control' itself takes us back to the dark-old-days of apartheid and torture and just because of those days, I don't think that anybody in South Africa deserves that punishment again. Controlling a human being is like punishing a human being and that is bad enough. What I would like parents to do though is to show their teenage children the right path because yes, it is very essential for parents to monitor the lives of their teenagers but not control them.*

*In my opinion good and caring parents are the ones who not only love but also respect their teenage children enough to guide them on everything from academics down to sex. It is best for parents to counsel their children before they even put their foot wrong so that those children know whom to blame when things are not going their way. And children on the other hand, have to help their parents help them because obviously for progress sake, parents and children have to meet halfway.*

*The more parents guide their teenage children in the right way and not control their lives, the more civilized and independent these children will become and that is exactly what our continent (Africa) needs right now. Children who are not free make a lot of idiotic errors because they live a one sided life, life of being afraid of making mistakes, perfect life and they can't progress in life because they don't do something but not to do something (sic) and time is very limited for people like that. Controlling parents are taking two steps backwards as they cannot be with their children every minute, for instance when they pass their O'levels and go to universities or colleges, the pathetic job of controlling will be wasted. It is better for parents to stop the old and boring controlling job and start talking sense to their teenagers before it is too late.*

*The relationship between parents and their children must not be like that of a policeman and a dangerous criminal where there is always that tension and hatred. It must be healthy and interesting and neither of the two should be afraid to approach the other because good and fruitful communication is the only way out.*

*Our country needs responsible and reliable leaders in future and as children, we learn leadership qualities from the people close to us and more especially our parents and I don't think we must learn the control qualities from them because they are too smart for that. And also it is quite useless to control what you will not control for life and it is best to advise because advice is there for good.*

*We know as teenagers that our parents love us, yes, you care about us very much but controlling is just not an alternative but good communication and understanding between us is the way. Good parents will always advise their children and not control them because controlling is bad and wrong.*

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### **S3**

*I think that parents should be able to control their children's lives especially those of 13-20 years. A teenager's life is the most complicated one especially nowadays. They face challenges that lead them sometimes into making wrong decisions. They are not aware of what is happening out there and they are afraid to face the world alone. They may think that they know a lot but the truth is they do not know anything and there is still a lot ahead of them. They cannot tackle every problem they meet alone without the help of their parents.*

*Children of 13-20 years are irresponsible and do not use their minds properly. They just think that life is all about having fun and being happy all the time. Whenever they come across a little problem they just wish they were dead or even think that everybody hates them. If their parents are around them and able to share with them their experiences everything can be easier and manageable.*

*Moreover, children believe that if our parents do not allow us to go to the bash, parties, and other enjoyable places is because they do not love us. I think it is because they know how stupid we can be sometimes. They know that we are influenced by anything. We do not understand the difference between good and evil. When something looks good we don't look at where it originates from and the outcome of it. We just go with the flow.*

*Children think that parents control us too much but I think parents are just protecting us from the evil things the world can lead us into. We have the problem of teenage pregnancy. I think for a child to fall pregnant when she is still very young is determined by her parents. They should teach their children about this stage of life and tell them everything they will come across, from erection to masturbation, sex and every single detail because they have been there. They should also know their children's whereabouts, who they are dating and their real friends.*

*We also have the case of alcohol and drug abuse. This situation is getting worse everyday. Young people throw themselves into danger by doing drugs and alcohol abuse, which result in crime. This is because parents are not involved in their children's lives. They neglect them. According to Keith and Sylvia, neglected and brutalized children grow up unbalanced and need only minor frustration. I think this happens because of lack of communication between children and their parents. Parents do not realize their children are living in a cruel world outside their home. They do not even care what they do. I think teenage pregnancy and drug abuse are the major problems that occur due to parents' ignorance.*

*Parents should be there for their children at this stage physically and emotionally. They should have time to communicate with them. They*

*should give them their own space and let them express their thoughts. They should not always scold their children because it makes them become even more intoxicated (sic). Crosson-Tower (1999) concludes that parental interest in the child means that parents and children give each other positive reinforcement.*

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#### **S4**

*In my opinion parents have a responsibility towards the lives of their children irrespective of their age. Parents should control their children's lives as long as they are staying with them. I believe that children between the ages (13-20 years) need support in everything they do from their parents. It is the duty of each and every parent who care and love the future and life of his/her children to control their lives.*

*Turning thirteen to twenty years does not mean you are old enough to be able to make your own decisions without the assistance from your parents. Children between these ages cannot take good decisions alone. They need to be taught and advised about the reality of life by their parents. They should control the lives of their children so that they cannot suffer the consequences in their future life. In most cases children delude themselves and their parents on what they don't know and what they do know.*

*It is a very good time or stage that parents must be realistic with their children about the facts and reality of life in general. Children between these ages are going through various changes in their bodies and life. This is the appropriate time for parents to control the lives their children because at this stage children can get wrong information about these changes in their bodies from their friends. All these make children to get confused and frustrated. As a caring and loving parent, they should sit down and discuss sexual related issues with their children before they get lost.*

*As we all know charity begins at home. Parents have an obligation to control and teach their children how to behave well so that they have good manners and respect other people and their lives. Failure to do or play this role, the children will get out of hand. It is quite sad when one notices children who are behaving badly especially at school or church. Once people notice that, they conclude that parents failed to take control of their children's lives.*

*Finally to control your children's lives does not mean you don't love them. It shows that you really love and care about their lives and their future. Parents have the responsibility to control their children's lives as long as they are staying with them so that they cannot get frustrated. Children at this stage are still young. They do not think ahead, they need full support from their parents all the time. They need help from parents when they need to take decisions of their future life and everything they might decide or do. Parents must cherish their children all the time.*

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## **S5**

*We are living in an era of profound changes. Where there is no clear distinction between parents and children. Children want to rule over their parents. Certainly this is wrong. Parents need to control their children. This is the norm and culture of our society.*

*As much as parents should control their children, this should not in any way mean oppression of the children. Parents need to establish a good relationship between them and their children. It is crucial for parents to control their children because they have a certain experience of life. This does not mean parents should dictate every term in the family but rather the views of children should also be afforded a hearing.*

*This means there should be a clear understanding between parents and children. There should be mutual respect. For instance, parents should not decide for children which career to pursue in life because the future belongs to the children with lots of opportunities but the final decision lies with the children.*

*In the same vein children should respect the rules and regulations of their parents. They should not disrespect the rules and regulations of their parents in the name of freedom. These days children misuse their rights to the point of literally dancing on top of their parents' heads. For instance, they do girlfriend and boyfriend stuff when it only suits them, not considering what their parents are saying. This is the reason most of the teenagers are vulnerable to the pandemic and communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).*

*This does not only damage the lives of the children but also kills the morals of our society. To avoid this social degradation, parents need to take control of their children, after all that is the reason human beings are parenting animals. At some stage in life children would reach adulthood stage and this is the duty of parents through good parenting to lead them to that stage.*

*In conclusion, I should say that a good society is made of mutual respect and understanding between children and their parents. So, parents should control their children taking into consideration the views of the children. This establishes a good relationship and a sense of respect between parents and children*

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## **S6**

*First and paramount one has to understand the role of a parent and child respectively. A parent is a mother/father who gave birth to a baby and is bringing up and caring about that baby. Being a child means you are still young and not fully developed or grown up. Hence, you need your parental guidance and control, for you to grow up and be a respected person in a society.*

*Parental guidance and control helps the child to have good personality, behaviour and respect in a society. Children who are raised by the firm*

hand of their parents are usually identified the first time you speak to that child. Moreover, the street kids, thieves, drug addicts and most criminals are suffering the consequences of lacking control of their parents.

A parent gives life to his/her child. By so saying, I mean he/she teaches a good way of living to his/her child so that it will be useful in the entire life of that child. By the time the child is grown up and mature enough, he/she starts applying what he/she is taught by his/her parents. Being mature and grown up, I mean when one is at least above 21 and no longer depends on parents for most things, one can now stand on ones own. S/he can even initiate a family and be a parent.

However, parents give direction to their children, for they cannot be there to lead them in their parent hood. Then, this is the time a child takes that direction when he is still under the control of his parents.

It is not that when parents control their children they do not give them freedom. They do but the freedom must be accompanied by responsibility. Parents are accountable and responsible for their children's freedom at the time the children are between 13 and 20.

When you are at this age, this is the time you get more advise from your parents. They teach you what is right from wrong. This is the time you realize how much they love you. This is the time they tell you about lofty goals so that you make correct choices and good decisions to achieve your goals. This is the time they teach you about being kind and gracious. They teach about being moral in life you can have a better future.

In the light of all the above, a child will be a responsible parent at his own parenthood for he has grown up being taught morality his parents when controlling him from doing bad. Then yes, parents must control their children's life between 13 and 20.

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## **S7**

Parents do not have the right to control their children's life. Everybody on earth is an individual and no one should expect someone to live exactly like him/her. Yes, it is true parents should be responsible for their children's lives, but there is no way they can control them.

The role of the parents is to give guidance and not to control their children's lives. For example a child after matric decides to follow a career in Media Studies at university level, and parents force him/ her to study Bcom., because the parents are controlling this child, s/he ends up with no choice. The child takes Bcom and ends up failing miserably because s/he is not good in Maths and Accounting but because parents are controlling him/her, the child ends up with no choice but to follow the stream that they want because after all, they are the ones who are going to pay the fees. That child takes Bcom. Degree and fails miserably. Parents will not stand it. They will say many bad things and accuse him/her of not studying but forget that he did not want Bcom because s/he knows that s/he is poor in Maths.

*What I am trying to show is that if parents control their children's lives, they must be careful of the consequences and usually they are not good at all. If parents are controlling their children's lives they must be careful and they must be aware of the pressure and hard time they are giving their children. Not everything in the child's life should be controlled by parents unless the child is misbehaving like for example if a is changing men, parents should give her advice and show her the right way because controlling her will just make matters worse.*

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## **S8**

Children are also human beings and they also have the right to decide what they think is best for them. Children are also entitled to the right to self-determination, and parents should at least try to provide the best guidance they can afford, but not to control. Children must not be denied the right to decide for themselves.

*Controlling your child's life has a negative impact on the child. Children who are told what to do tend to develop dependency syndrome, low self-confidence and low self esteem. They may not be able to make important personal decisions, for example, choosing a partner. It is, however, very important that parents respect the child's right to self-determination and not violate that right. It is, however, true that parents should at least try to give their child the best they can but they must know where and when to interfere with the child's life.*

*If one can look at the high rate of suicide amongst children it is often caused by the parents 'interference' into their child's life. Gone are those when parents has to decide for their children. It's time that parents allow their children to exercise their constitutional rights to self-determination. Previously parents where turned with the responsibility of controlling their children's lives this was common particularly from the African perspective. One may argue that it has really helped those children to be respectful and yes it is true but the question becomes, were they respectful or just doing what they were told to do? We are now living in a democratic world where there are lots of challenges to be faced and children have not acquired basic skills of decision-making, particularly from their childhood to be able to face the challenges.*

*This world requires someone who is independent in term of decision making, someone who believes in himself and someone who is determined to face whatever challenges in life. There are a number of student in almost all institutions of higher learning who are studying for degrees, which they never dreamed of but just doing what they were told and most of them are never successful. Parents should do their children a favour by not interfering into the children's lives but provide adequate guidance instead of controlling.*

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## **S9**

Children are born and they learn to be under the control of their parents. They learn that their parents are what made them. When the children grow they expect their parents to respect them and stop controlling them but when it comes to parents it does not matter how old a child is but they still consider them to be children.

*Looking at today's lifestyle, if parents stop controlling their children between 13 and 20 years, these children will grow up not knowing what is right or wrong. They grow up knowing that whatever they do if they are not affected it is right thing to do.*

*Parents are the ones that made us what we are and the way they do their things can determine us to become good parents in the future. It is not easy to control children at this kind of age because they go through stages of growing but parents try their best to do a perfect job.*

*Children between the age of 13 and 20 years go through many obstacles in their lives due to the stage of growth. And they tend to listen to their friends (peer group pressure) more than their parents which in the end, most of them their lives become unbearable in a way that some turn to become parents at an early age. Some decide to run away from home because they are ashamed of themselves. Some commit suicide due to life becoming too much to bear. And some become infected with HIV/AIDS or other diseases but in the end they think back to what their parents were trying to do for them and for some it is too late to go back to the their parents.*

*Children who are under the control of their parents gain more knowledge of what is right or wrong and yet it does not mean that they follow those rules, they become aware of what life holds. The duty of the parents is to control children who fall under the mentioned age group because they are still legally under their parents' control.*

*Most children that are under their parents' control turn out to be more responsible and can handle most of the experiences in life. It is the parents' duty to control their children at this age and in the end the control from parents turn these children to become good human beings.*

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## **S10**

*The behaviour of a teenager is most complicated. It needs a closer look and parent's guidance. The teenager stage is one of the stages in which youths these days are failing to behave themselves. Parents are also failing to control the person in this stage of maturity. His behaviour needs parents' intervention. Therefore, parents should control the life of a teenager.*

*Children at the age of between 13 and 20 need to be treated in a manner that they will be responsible for all actions they take. Only parents can control how they act and how they react towards serious situations. The high parental guidance they get, the more motivated they become. A child is taught to be responsible at home. Because charity begins at home.*



*A teenager needs to be controlled, he/she does not need to be independent. As long as he/she is still under parental care, that is what they deserve. Teenagers need parental back up as to how to decide, react and solve problems. Teenagers always cry over their careless decisions. No independence for teenagers if parents do not want to end up regretting. As long as he/she is a child under the parents' house, he/she deserves to be controlled.*

*The deeds of today determine the behaviour of tomorrow. The tomorrow man/woman is being built now, and tomorrow he/she will be a parent. The parents' race is to build today's youth to be tomorrow's parents. What he/she is today determines what he/she will be tomorrow. So, parents take care of your children and control them.*

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### **S11**

*I think parents have the right to show the way and lead their children to what they think is right and for their moral good. Children who are between the ages of thirteen and twenty are in a turbulent and overlapping stage. They are shading away their childhood, on the other hand, and entering adulthood on the other. This stage brings with it confusion if parents do not vigilantly give guidance and control to their children. It is the time for teenagers to have friends mostly of the opposite sex. Without controlling them, children would become vulnerable in accepting bad behaviours from their peers, thinking that it is the appropriate way of doing things.*

*Having two kids who are now in their teens, I can see that this is the most frustrating period of all the stages to both parents and children. As a parent, you need to be vigilant to make them follow what you think is right for them. If you slacken in your control and guidance, they can quickly see it and continue with their wayward dealings. Constant control and guidance could make them walk in the right direction, thus, giving them more confidence.*

*However, the control and guidance should not be very strict as these would make them rebellious. They must see that their parents are doing all what they can to make their world for the best. They must see that there are giving all what they think is right in preparation for their forthcoming adult world.*

*The control that parents should impose on their children should be for the benefit of their children not for the satisfaction of their (parents') whims.*

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### **S12**

*Parents play a vital role in their children's lives because they teach them everything about life, responsibility, decision-making but this doesn't mean that they always have to take decisions or control them.*

*Most parents tend to confuse control and guidance. They use control and think that they are guiding their children. What they do not understand is*

*that things are changing and children want to explore and sometimes discover things on their own.*

*There are advantages and disadvantages of control when it comes to children. If children are given freedom they tend to use it in a wrong way especially when parents do not show any interest in their affairs more especially teenagers because if there's no control from parents they may come back home late, associate themselves with people who are not good examples in their lives. People who always give them good advice if parents do not have control in their children's lives they might even think that they are not loved and they may even feel rejected because I believe that a concerned mother is a good mother. Children who grow up in families where they are given freedom and parents do not interfere in their matters often result in being drug abuse victims from peer pressure, crime and also teenage pregnancy.*

*Control is good when used in the right way. Parents must guide and sometimes control their children but also let them make their own decisions and discover what and how life is like. Parents and children who talk to one another when having problems often have a good relationship and parents sometimes trust and believe them to make their own decisions and control is used in the right and correct or proper way.*

*In conclusion, I can say that control is needed between parents and children but has to be exercised in the right way. Parents have to understand that children will not remain children forever. They sometimes in life have to make their own decisions.*

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### **S13**

*Parents are children before they become parents themselves. For them to play good parental roles in their children's lives, they have to go through different developmental stages where responsibility plays a huge role. Eventually, as our parents go through these developing stages of maturity, independence as well comes into the picture along with other important key factors.*

*As much as parents were children before, children themselves will eventually become parents with good parental duties to deliver and with good intentions only, but control is not a key factor in achieving that. The fact of the matter is that no human life on earth would want their lives controlled by anybody, including parents.*

*Parents have the right to overreact and worry where the lives of their children are concerned without being controlling. Over-protection is normal in all kinds of relationships, but control causes a drift in a relationship. Controlling parents don't achieve the goal of building their children properly, but instead destroy them totally and causes eternal emotional, mental and psychological scars.*

*Parents only wish and want the best for their children and that can be achieved through guidance and teaching children responsibility and*

*independence. At a later stage in life, children will get to understand the reason their parents brought them up in that manner and thereby put all the teaching into practice.*

*A child needs to know where s/he is going and what s/he wants in life on their own without parents attempting to drive them into what they would want them to do or be. Children need to know that life is not a bed of roses and that it is the survivor of the fittest and the only way to know that for sure, is for them to experience hardships on their own. Children need to be cautioned and guided, but not controlled because an independent child is capable of looking at oneself through tough times and learn with time that though times never last, but tough people do.*

*It is like sending a child off to university and wanting to control them financially by dictating how children spend their money. Those children never learn how to handle their own finances even at a late stage in life. Controlling parents are doing great job of turning their own children into low self-esteemed, discouraged, sad, incompetent and irresponsible people. Parents have all the right to love care, educate, guide, protect and give them rules and regulations, but certainly not to control and run their lives. Everyone is free to express how he or she want to live his or her lives.*

433

## **S14**

*I do not think that parents should control the lives of their children because those children are also human beings. If a parent takes full control of the life of his/her child he denies the child the time to practice responsibility. What parents must do is to give their children advice on how to be a responsible person in life. A person of between 13 to 20 years is no longer regarded as a child as he/she is about to reach adulthood. So parents must not control their lives.*

*If parents want their children to follow their footsteps, They must teach them to behave well, not to control their lives. Parents must be the first people to guide their children so that they may not go out and get bad ideas from their schoolmates. If one is between 13 and 20, that person is able to differentiate between good and bad and so if parents can show their children the way in an acceptable manner, their children will be law abiding people but if they control the lives of their children, those children will go out seeking happiness and pleasure in an incorrect way.*

*A child who grows up in a family where parents control the lives of their children starts to think that the parents do not trust them, so they have to do naughty things so that they may not trust them for real. Children are able to differentiate between love and harshness.*

*I don't think that controlling the life of your child is a way of showing love or care, but you need your child to fear you and not respect you. Parents who love their children do not control their lives but when the child reaches some stages of growth such as puberty and adolescence, they start equipping them for life. Parents have to tell their children that because you*

*are 13 now you are becoming a young man so you don't have to behave like a child any more, you have to move from childish things and start behaving like person who is about to reach adulthood. The parents must also tell the child that they are not giving him a license to street behavior, but he must go according to their wish.*

*Most children whose parents control their lives end up being useless people in life because it is hard to stay with people who control your life. Parents who control the lives of their children think they are teaching them to live according to their wish but those children feel like they are in a prison of some kind as they do not have control on themselves.*

*Children who grew up in families where parents control their lives seem to have problems at school because they don't stop thinking of their situation at home. Some parents even tell their children not to have friends or select friends for them. These kinds of parents usually select children of their family friends to be their children's friends instead of telling them to choose good friends so that they may not encounter problems in their friendship.*

*Some children whose parents control their lives end up as teenage mothers and fathers because they think that doing that is one way of making the parents aware that controlling their lives hurt them. Some children become drug users because they think that drugs keep their minds away from their parents.*

*If children from this kind of families get a chance to be alone, where the parents are not around they do something, which a person who is fresh minded can never do. These children happen to do naughty things because they do not get a chance to think for themselves because of harsh parents who think that they want to build their children by controlling their lives.*

638

## **S15**

*Parents should control their children's lives, but to a certain extent. Parents could be either bad or good depending on how they live. Many parents are good to can control their children's lives but they are also erroneous as all people are. Parents are duty bound to nurture and groom their children up to a certain stage whereby children have their own responsibilities and wills. Children have their rights to choose partners, institutions of higher learning, clothes and some few others, but not all of them as parents are there to check the wrongs.*

*Children are products of a family institution that is entirely governed by parents. Therefore, children are there to be equipped with norms and values of the society in which they live. Parents should with all cost see to it that their children are not a disgrace to society. Parents should make sure that children are all at home at a certain time to protect them from bad things which lurk in the dark, like getting involved in gangs and mugging people.*

*Parents play a pivotal role in their children's lives. Orphans and street kids are doomed to failure in everything that they could think of doing for the betterment of their lives due to lack of parental care. They tend to lead bad lives like robbing people and car hijacking in order to fend for themselves. If their parents were alive they would have given them good advice and nurture them accordingly and be better people. The escalation of teenage pregnancy is also caused by lack of parental advice. Children prefer reserved parents to talkative parents. They do not want to be ruled off from what they have engaged themselves in, for example hanging around with boys and doing all sorts of things at a tender age. If parents do not stop them from doing all those bad things, they tend to be unruly and end up pregnant by students who do not work that could also jilt them. Parents are there to control their children until they are married and start their own families.*

*Parents do have some facets of life where they know that they should not control their children. The issues of choosing marriage partners, universities and degrees they want to pursue and some sensitive issues as well. Parents also have control on the kind of clothes children should put on because it is their money which buy for them. Indecent clothes, which leave their children like whores, cannot do them good. Parents prefer all good to their children to bad things.*

*In conclusion, I would emphasise that parents should have at least ninety percent control over their children. They are there to build and not to destroy. They are there to teach and not to learn. Children are there to learn and obey. A rebellious child is a thorn to the parents, cancer in the flesh or virus in the blood. Children of this caliber are doomed to death as the bible speaks it out.*

503

## **S16**

*The period when children are between the ages of 13-20 years is the adolescent stage. During this stage children do not want to be told what to do, they tend to do what they think is right and decide to ignore what everybody else says. Parents should exercise a degree of control and not control their children's lives entirely.*

*Parents should not control their children because once they do, they become too dependant on their parents and they fail to make decisions by themselves. It is true that you may lead a horse to the water but you won't force it to drink. The same applies to adolescents, you can show them what to do but they choose to do what they are told is wrong. Teenagers would rather learn from their mistakes.*

*When parents control their children's lives, the children end up being rebellious and going out of their way to go against their parent's will. Parents usually want to "run" their children's lives because they want what is best for their children. They think that by controlling children's lives their*

*children will respect them, but in actual fact their children will be afraid of them.*

*Parents should ease up during this stage. Adolescents do not want parents who shout and scream everytime they do something wrong. Neither do they want parents who ground them or give them beatings anytime they are late. They would rather have parents who communicate with them; establish the problem and find a solution peacefully. Parents should try to understand their children as they also passed the same stages. Parents should also try to understand that times are changing and influences are becoming more each day. Parents should try to examine the relationships between their children and the other children and should try to offer advice and support.*

*Parents should not control their children's lives, they should have control in their children's lives. Parents should not dictate to their children as to what to do with their lives, they should rather show them the right way. When correcting children, parents should show/tell children their mistake and should suggest a better way of doing things.*

*When parents become overprotective, the more their children want to escape their grip. "Being overprotective is just as bad as being underprotective".*

382

### **S17**

*Parents should not control the lives of their children but they should guide, advise, teach them to respect and communicate. That will enable children to open up to their parents. I believe parent is another word for love, respect and responsibility.*

*These days things have changed, there are dangerous things that teenagers are involved in. But parents should not control their children as they will confuse their children. They should tell them the consequences of the dangerous games they are playing.*

*There is no bond between the controlling parents and their children and as a result children will not disclose or ask questions about their experiences. That is why we have the highest rate of Aids infected teenagers.*

*Research shows that approximately 90% of teenage pregnancy and drug abuse are controlled children. As they do things without responsibility because their parents never taught them. These children only behave themselves in the presence of their parents. Children must not do good things because of the threat they get from their parents. They have to be able to identify good things from the bad ones. They have to learn to choose things that will also give them confidence in what they do.*

*Responsibility is something which is indestructible and parents must strive to show that to their children. Then we can have responsible teenagers who stick to their words and plans.*

*Children have to be taught how to maintain their dignity. As Africans believe that it takes a real parent to raise a child.*

*It's the parent's duty to maintain their relationship with their children by means of communication. Then children will be able to share secrets and experiences with their parents and they will learn to trust and believe in each other.*

*By giving children freedom of speech, we can fight the endemic disease, drugs as well as alcohol. There are some children who really need help and to be guided.*

*We have also to bear in mind that children were not allowed to discuss anything with their parents in the past. But these days things have changed. There must be communication between the parents and the children.*

*Parents should learn to be polite and friendly when they talk to their children even when there is a problem. That will enable children to tell the truth before they are asked and they will maintain a good relationship.*

*Children must learn from the best and if parents display love, respect and responsibility so will the children. Then we can have responsible future leaders in our country.*

424

## **S18**

*In the past parents controlled each and every activity that took place in the lives of their children. Due to historical background and traditional rules, teenagers did not have any problems following the rules.*

*In the materialistic world we live in, it is necessary that parents control the lives of their children. Our daily life is based on acquiring material things which leads teenagers into bad behaviour and they end up being criminals. It is important for parents to know the feelings and needs of their children. This will lead to a very good relationship between them. They must have a good approach when trying to solve a problem because teenagers don't understand or don't want to accept the mistakes they do.*

*Due to disagreements in families, most children run away from home. They end up as street kids because most parents tend to abuse their children when they break the rules and they don't try to look at the problem and try possible solutions.*

*Parents need to be taught about the stages which teenagers undergo in their lives. This will give both the parents and the children a broad mind of how to solve their problems and maintain a good relationship between them.*

*Children also need financial support from their parents, without money they won't be able to go to school and will be illiterate for the rest of their lives. In the society we live in, we need educated people or people need to be educated in order to survive.*

*Without financial support from parents, children end up begging for food or eat out of dustbins in the streets. This leads to a corrupt society because*

*those street kids start stealing in order to survive. Parents need to provide for their children for as long as they are young and unemployed.*

*Children who grow under parental guidance have a brighter future and can improve the economic standard of their families and poverty is reduced. Therefore I think that should parents be given a chance by their children to control their lives, there would be less number of street kids and crime in our society.*

356

### **S19**

*I think parents are very important in the lives of their children. So I think parents must be able to control their children's lives because they have experience in as far as life is concerned.*

*I think parents must be able to control their children, because children need support in order to grow properly and parents are the only ones who can give children full support. So, if parents are not able to control their children, children will receive less support and motivation because support and motivation are very important to the lives of children, so parents must be able to control their children. Children cannot live properly without support and motivation from parents. Parents are more important to the lives of their children as far as support and motivation are concerned.*

*Parents must be able to control the lives of their children, because they must discipline their children. Parents are also important in disciplining. Children need discipline, so if they aren't able to be controlled by their parents where will they get discipline. For instance, we can compare two children, one who is controlled by his/her parents and one who is not controlled by his/her parents, we will find that the one who is controlled by his/her parents will be more disciplined than that one who is not controlled. And if children could be given a chance to be independent, our tomorrow nation will lack discipline.*

*I also think that parents must be able to control their children because parents have experience in as far as life is concerned. So they (parents) must teach their children what life is all about and they have to teach them to differentiate between what is good and what is wrong. Parents have to warn their children about all bad things they experienced, so that children are aware. Children can grow much better if they are controlled by their parents because they will be able to gain some experiences on how to live a better life from their parents. Because experience is said to be the best teacher, parents will teach their children much better by using their experiences.*

*I also think parents must be able to control their children because children need to be guided and advised. Children need good guidance and advice in order to be successful. So parents are good at guiding and advising. I think parents are the first people whom we can say that they give children good guidances and advices, I think there is no parent who can give his/her*



*children bad guidances and advices. So I think parents should control the lives of their children.*

440

## **S20**

*Life is a long journey and it is sometimes unfair. There are lots of splinters, nails and pins which will stab you in your way of life, so you have to get someone to help you through and take them out and there are also the long, darkest tunnel in life you will need someone especially your parents to help you get out and walk in the light.*

*Many children often get lost because they claim to know what is right and wrong while they are less experienced. Some of them end up being gangsters, streetkids and even thugs. But under the control of parents teens might not become the thugs because parents act as our centre pivots and they also sharpen our future and by so doing they become our role models, our inspiration. And through the parents' control we are also taught to be responsible enough about our lives when grown and become responsible parents.*

*As we know that failure is the womb and we have to be willing to fail, our parents help us to overcome always failing and lead us to greener pastures. Through the control of our parents on our lives we are able to notice ourselves easily because they are supportive and enlightening on our lives. Those teens who end up being gangsters and thugs they had never allowed their parents to control them, they never respect, they never let them lead them and show them the light. Now teens are able to pursue their studies and become responsible caring and loving mothers and fathers. As we know that charity begins at home we have to obey our parents. We have to allow them to control our lives they have the experience on what is happening in this global world.*

*As we know that for a cub to catch prey it has to be taught and shown by its mother how to catch we also have to appreciate the love, support and the control our parents are providing on the days of our lives. There is no bird that can fly with one wing, it needs both the two wings to make it and feed itself in order to survive. So let us let the parents control our lives so that we are able to get out of the dark tunnels and go to greener pastures.*

392

## **S21**

*Yes, parents should be able to control the lives of their children from the age of 13 to 20 years. If parents want the lives of their children to be successful, they must control them so that those children end up having a bright future and be respected by other people.*

*Most of the children when they reach the age of 13 to 20 years, there are lots of challenges or problems that they come across. For instance boys when they reach the age thirteen, some start smoking dagga, drinking beer, walking around at night. Sometimes they become gangsters. At*

*sometime they carry guns and knives. When walking around at night, these boys you will find them stealing other people's property.*

*It is important for parents to get involved in the lives of their children so that they are able to teach them what is good or important in life.*

*If you want your children to be intelligent at school you must always be involved in their lives. Parents must be influential in the lives of their children to avoid misunderstandings between a child and a parent*

*Challenges or problems that girls from the age of thirteen to twenty find themselves are such that as a parent you must be able to teach them how to behave themselves as girls. Another thing you must not allow them to take their own responsibility of taking care of themselves because that will lead them to become prostitutes and some will end up being raped.*

*Girls are to become mothers of tomorrow, by that do not allow them to walk around at night because you will find that those girls are going to enjoy themselves at the beerhalls. This is not the responsibility of the child but is for you as a parent to prevent such things by controlling your children even if it is tough.*

*Boys and girls like to get involved in relationships only to find that when time goes on he/she does not know how to handle problems with the partner and that will result in lack of concentration at school, some of them end up committing suicide because there no one to help them.*

*Parents must control the lives of their children. Parents must not allow them to be independent, even if a child don't want to be controlled, parents must just do it because at the end your children will thank you when they start to realize the good thing in life than the bad things.*

418

## **S22**

*Parents are not supposed to control the lives of their children instead they have to guide them to follow the right track of life. These days many children go out of the parents' hands because of strict control from their parents. Children who are being controlled when they go to tertiary institutions e. g. universities they start to live their own lives and to control themselves.*

*If children don't have enough guidance in life at home, they start behaving like fools or cowards and they abuse drugs, alcohol and even come up with wrong ideas such as thinking of raping and stealing. Children who receive proper guidance at home have no problem of facing the world on their own*

*because they know what life is all about and expectations in the society and they also know how to guide their fellow students at school.*

*Parents are not supposed to control the lives of their children because children who are being controlled know only the rigid rule, they are not flexible, they stick to what they have been told by their parents and which is wrong especially to the teenagers of this day. Parents must leave their children to explore the world on their own, they must only intervene if they see that they are taking a wrong track. Parents are there for guidance and take care of their teenagers only not to control them. Both parents and children must build good relationships not to be a ghost of someone.*

*Parents must play the good role for their teenagers because they are the leaders of tomorrow who need to know what is going on out there, so parents must not interfere of what their children needs to do, all they can do is to give them good ideas and help them with what they cannot cope with and always advise them about what is good and what is not good. Parents have to give their children a great chance to face the world alone this would help them when their parents are gone or dead.*

344

### **S23**

*If there is one thing that really makes us feel our humanity, it's the relationship with our parents, the love and support that they give us. Our families mould our early lives but sometimes we must stand up and do things for ourselves.*

*Children may have the same age or equal physically, but this does not mean they are both mature enough to be independent. Children are different, some become mature at a very young age and others take a long time before they reach their maturity. Parents must give their children freedom depending on their maturity.*

*Decision is the sign of responsibility. Youth are ignoring the fact of being responsible for their actions. Some expect their parents to solve their problems and there are others who are standing up and facing their problems. There is no way we can allow parents to give freedom to those who are failing to make choices.*

*Employment is playing a major part in our lives. Children must be able to support themselves before they become independent. Children are facing a major problem of unemployment today. Parents must give their children independence when they have jobs.*

*Parents are helping their children financially and emotionally, children must understand and appreciate that children before they become independent they must be able to support themselves. No matter how grown up you are, when it comes to your parents you are still a child.*

236

## **S24**

*Many parents face challenges of raising their children. They try hard to conquer this moral dilemma of whether they should exercise control or not over their children, especially teenagers, whereas others have tried and accepted defeat.*

*Parents always do their best to equip their youngsters , they also expect their children to see how they (parents) desire the golden gleam shines brighter on their little ones before their time as teenagers.*

*Defining parental control*

*Quoting Diana Baurid (1968, 1971) demonstrating on parental control or authority as it is sometimes called, there are clear differences between three parental styles; the first one being the authoritative parenting which is high in both demandingness and responsiveness, another is called authoritarian parenting which is also high in demandness but low in responsiveness, lastly, we also have what we call permissive parenting which is low in demanding but high in responsiveness.*

*I strongly support the demonstration as given by the psychologists Dione Baurid. It is clear and perhaps in my own view it is rather practical than theoretical knowledge of understanding the psychology of adolescence. I also think parents should control the children only under certain circumstances. Naturally speaking almost every human being – wise or foolish grow lacking the ability or capacity to act and react on certain matters, so parents should be there to guide and teach and to some children this might be viewed as ways of controlling. For example a teen-boy and girl of thirteen years cannot sign marriage contract without the acknowledgement of their parents though the law may permit such contract but parents should be involved and if they criticize it with a reasonable doubt it should be considered though might seem controlling the children's lives.*

*I am of the opinion that parental control should exist but to undermine the children as to dictate to them without reasons. In other words it should be fair and just caring in our mind that it is of course reasonable and not completely limiting. The root must emerge from the foundation of love and concern and above all this it should be reasonable. Their concern, not that it should be only tactful but should show the real concern and responsibility that is normal and acceptable to the social (perhaps also social conditions) norms of life. For example all best guidance should be given to help teenagers overcome the problems and every aspect ; like relationships, dating and teaches them the moral orientation.*

*Sometimes children might choose a life of their own because rebellious undisciplined or change to anything else which goes opposite with normal life. But many parents and children who long to have good family. Parents should learn to share their feelings towards each other as parents and children rather than exercising the spirit of authority to control.*

*Yes, in my opinion parents has the right to be able to control the lives of their children who are 13-22 years because they have to be shown or taught what live is all about so that they do not have to rush into things that*

*can destroy their lives or their tomorrows and become suffering their whole life.*

525

## **S25**

*Yes each and every parent should be able to intervene in their children's lives because person of 13 years does not even know how life is about when you do not have any guidance in your site, so that parents have to sit down with their children because they are still under parental guidance and they do not have rights to do things without noticed their parents. Parents can even control the live of a person of 22 years, even if he/she is matured because she has the right to be a family man or wife and have children. But parents has the task of noticing this child from being a good person in life who is going to be respected one day because parental guidance is the main thing that need to be done in every child even if has become over 21 years, parents are needed in the other side to show the right way or direction how to deal with something like problems, sickness which are known by elders, so that they need to be on the other side helping their children's lives because they are still not having knowledge about what is going to happen in their lives in the mid 30s to 40s. parents should be able to control the lives of their children because many young people are infected by dangerous diseases which they do not even know because parents does not like to sit down and talk to their children about something which is not good. Things like having sex with elder people while you are still under age. Those who are 21 years and above have to be taught how to protect yourself from being pregnant while you are still not have achieved something good in your future and they have to be able to control their children's lives by teaching them or giving them information about bad things that occurs while you are under the influence of alcohol and drugs and hanging up with people who does not even care about their future. Parents should be able to control the lives of their children by giving them*

*information about how to manage yourself when you become a household name or member so that you can manage your family in good condition without vandalizing up things.*

384

## **S26**

*Contribution of parents in the lives of their children gives the children direction of life. If parents can just sit down and watch what is going on in their children, they won't benefit anything, the results of all this will be heartbreaks in parents. At the age of 13 and 20 is were the children starts to do many things as peer groups.*

*In a circumstances where children are grouping themselves in most groups they learn to control themselves and they do need an adult to can calm them even though they are doing wrong things. In peer groups you may find that they start to use drugs and alcohol together with crime.*

*If parents can be close to their children, guiding them, showing them the beauty of life. Those children grow up having knowledge of life, even though they are in the age were they will be forced to do many things as to prove they are clever to peer group, those children wont lose direction because they know what live really mean in their lives. Communication between parents and children is essential.*

*Sometimes children thoughts maybe their parents does not love them because parents are living their lives and not saying anything in the lives of their children. Some of the children are street kids and criminals because of a distance which was between them and parents. Lack of communication may lead children to have wrong thoughts because children need love, care and guidance from their parents.*

*Parents must really contribute in the lives of their children because children cannot stand by their own doing good things. For now the whole world is wondering about crime and aids. These things are connected with young*

*people especially between the ages of 13 and 20, crime is committed by children who does not go to school when everyone is too far from them.*

*Some young people are victims of aids because of lack of knowledge. Parents are having a duty to talk to their children about sex. Parents who do not talk to their children about sex need to consider whether they would rather bury them. Ignorance is the enemy that must be defeated. Some parents make a big deal about talking to children about sex and some say it is against their culture.*

*Loving parents give their children sexual education in a normal and even fun way, it protects children from sexual predators and Hiv. How can a child tell his parents he/she is being sexually molested if the family has never spoken about sex? Parents who talk to their children about what life is they create friendship between them and children.*

*Parents must not just rush children to school and expect the teachers to teach their children everything in life, there will be some things that parents will need to be helped with teachers to help their children, teachers teaches children in school and parents teaches their children in the home. Some parents expect teachers to take responsibility in their lives of their children but lovely parents helps their children to understand what life really mean.*

519

## **S27**

*Some of our parents can build us a better future if children give them their responsibility. Parent also want the best for their children. According to the word of God the bible tells us that children must obey their parent rules so that they can live a long and happy life.*

*I remember the story of those two brothers from the bible one brother asked his father to give him his belonging because he had no one to look after him he misused all the property that his parent gave him. He suffered until he went back to his parent and asked them to forgive him, it shows us that children cannot control their lives.*



*Children has the right to make decision in some issue for an example to choose their career and so many other things but our parent has more power to our lives as long as we live under their roof they have to control us. The word of God says respect your father and your mother and you will live a long time in the land I am giving you.*

*Let our parent control their children's live for a brighter future and they have more experience in life than children.*

204

## **S28**

*These days we find that children under the age of 12-20 years have to be controlled as they are living under pressure at fast world.*

*Children have to be controlled because some of them live the life they don't want to live but because they sees others doing things they think that they have to do that. They think that it is the way of living real life. They do things under pressure so that the groups of friends they are living with cannot take them as fools.*

*Because some teenagers don't want to be called fools by their peers they put their life at risk. Others put themselves at risk by smoking because they see their friends smoking dagga, drugs or even cigarettes they started thinking that it is better for them to smoke too. They think that those who are smoking are enjoying themselves. They think that those are living life which is enjoyable, life which is good and desirable. Then their parents have to settle down and tell their children that there is nothing enjoyable in smoking.*

*Some teenagers when they reached the age of 13 or 14 they started thinking that it is their time to have sex. They think that it is their time to enjoy themselves by having sex. When a boy reaches the age of 14 he think that he have to prove that he is a man by having sex with a girl. They think that girls can let them down if they don't have sex. When a girl*

*reached a stage of adolescence she thinks that she is capable of having a boyfriend now and she have a right to have sex as it is her time.*

*Some teenagers have sexually transmitted diseases because they are having sex when they still young and when they are infected they are afraid of telling their parents what is happening in their bodies as they think that their parents will beat them. So parents have to sit down and talk about sex life with their children tell them the advantages and disadvantages of having sex when you are still young.*

*Parents have to control their children when they are still young like when they are at the age of 5-10 years. They have to tell them rules of the house like time at which they have to come back home. They have to know what will be done if they get home late and this will make parents to be able to control their children even when they are teenagers I mean when they are 13-20 years.*

*I think that parents have to have a good friendship with their children so that they will be able to control them because these days life is too fast.*

562

## **S29**

*Youth is a person in a development period from the age of 12 up until 22. it is a transitional period of consideration of biological, cognitive and social changes. Parents play an important role in this world. They try their level best in order to see us having bright future.*

*Youth are people who grow up with a dream of achieving a goal and high hopes. And if our parents are not controlling us we won't be able to achieve our goals and our dreams will never come true. If our parents were not here to control us we will be living dirty lives and no one will ever respect us. Our parents must control our lifes so that we must be able to face the world. They are helping us from doing crime , evil doings etc and we as children when the age of 13-20 we tell ourselves that now I am old enough I can do anything I want at any time and I have the rights to do so. And when*

*our parents are trying to help we tell them that this is our time but when we are having problems or when things are difficult we run to them for help. God made our parents so that they must take care of us. A child must respect his/her parents it doesn't matter you are a father or mother now. Our parents are still respecting our grandmothers. So why we as children copy from what our parents are doing in life. Our parents are going to be happy seeing us suffering and not having good life. Parents should be able to control the lives of their children and they don't they will be no respect in this world and life will be useless for children. Children will not be able to face the challenges of this world being alone. All they need is their parent's care, love, guidance and etc.*

323

### **S30**

*Parents must play a very vital role in their families more especially for their children. They should give them support and teach them how to live real life because it is their duty. Children between the age of 13-20 are still under the control of their parents.*

*These days children are the victims of rape. So to defeat this enemy rape, parents should control the life of their children because rights have limits they should talk about sex with them does not destroy them or mislead but drive them to the real life. Parents who don't talk to their children about it they have to change their mind. Loving parents give their children information about sex in normal way. How can a child told his or her parents that he/she is sexually abused whereas their parents has never spoken about sex.*

*Parents should control life of their children in a right way not by beating them when they did something wrong. They have to remember that words are stronger than stick. Most of children who always being controlled by stick they never change their life so if a child made a mistake you have to sit down with him and talk to him.*

*Some culture allows children to be punished to make them stronger. A loving beating gives child strength it is necessary to make sure that discipline is taught in a correct way. They said for an example if a thief commit crime and left unpunished then what will stop him from doing that again. The same applies to children if they do something wrong and left unpunished they will continue doing that. Children must be punished but for the right reason.*

*Parents should control the life of their children between the age of 13-19 (teenagers). These days these are victims of Aids because of lack of advice from their parents. Parents should love their children and talk with them about sex and the consequences of it. Most of the teenagers they thinks that they grow enough and they did not need the support from their parents. That is why teenage pregnancy develops. She think that she will have child support grant not knowing that it will not support that child forever and some misuse that money they increase poverty. So as to say parent should play important role on the life of their children , educate them we must teach our children about real life.*

*Children expect to get love and the tender care from her parents. Some children become street kids because of a lack of guidance. Teachers have to control children also because they are parents they have to give better education. We have to know that education is the key to a better future. An uneducated child add to the growing number of criminals. Parents have to tell their children about Hiv and Aids and STD to decrease the spread of this diseases. They will end up having successful children who will take care of them one day.*

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## Honours Sample essays (English Department)

### PROMPT

***In your opinion, is it better to finish higher education in South Africa or Overseas?***

**S31**

*As a South African I prefer to do my higher education in South Africa. Education is gaining new knowledge in different areas of life. Education is the key to a successful life.*

*It is better to do higher education in South Africa as a South African, because most of the knowledge that is acquired in tertiary institutions has to be put into practice after completing a diploma or degree.*

*It is wise to do practicals in the place where one intends to work and live so that it becomes easy to get used to the place and work. It takes a person who can afford to study overseas. Most South Africans are poor and it is not easy for them to afford to study overseas. Unless sponsored by companies which takes mostly the intelligent students to get scholarships to overseas. Such an opportunity is not for everyone who wishes but the chosen few.*

*Some people say studying overseas gives you a chance to mix with people of different countries, I agree with the idea. It is good for a person to be familiar with different cultures of different people. But South Africa is a multi cultural society. It' population is made up of people from different cultures and communities. For example many students even at primary and secondary schools get to mix with students from different cultures and*

*communities at an early age. And even at tertiary level there are many institutions or universities that are made up of students from different communities and cultures.*

*For instance, universities such as the University of Cape Tow, Wits University and Rau are just a few of the places where you have students who are black, white, Indian, coloureds from many African countries, from Europe etc. even at our institution, Univen, we have a bit of that mix even if there are no white students. So whether you are studying overseas or in South Africa you will meet all these people and learn to work and live with them.*

*Some can say it is wise to study overseas maybe because the standard of education might be higher, but we must consider the fact that there is a possibility of one to acquire knowledge overseas but is unable to use it in South Africa. Technology in South Africa is not the same with the technology Overseas.*

*The most important issue is not the place where knowledge or education was acquired but education itself is important. It can be a challenge to travel and get to know places while studying but one can be educated without going Overseas. It is better to study where there is access to practice in the field of study and where it might be easy to use that knowledge in a better way.*

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**S32**

*It is better to do your education in Overseas simply because overseas educational system is more advanced and helpful as compared to South African education.*

*The Overseas education involves a lot of practicals and technological skills, which is more important for human survival and existence. For instance in Japan and China in a tender young age of three you are taught how to manage and budget money which proves to be more helpful and important. Overseas education in terms of teaching people in the younger age the way of surviving through innovation and wisdom. That reflects the vital part that Overseas education plays which also towards economic viability and as such the hardships of life and escalation of a serious global problem (unemployment) will be curbed. In spite of education that one would have from Overseas one can produce machines equipment which can be helpful in making finished goods from South African wealth (gold) which South Africa supply approximately 48% in the world. Due to lack of proper skills no one can make something worthwhile. The best way of gaining skills is through studying Overseas.*

*South African education deals more about theories than practical things like studying about olden personalities e. g Aristotle, Socrates rather than putting more stress on life beneficiary skills on how to implement those those theories to make something more important. The journalism for instance in Univen specifically as South African higher learning institution more theoretical than practice which proves ineffectiveness of South African education. This ideas emanates the research and observations I have made as a student of journalism. These hinders South African citizens to possess important, necessary skills as compared to Overseas countries which gives Overseas based education more values as compared and contrasted against South African education. The Overseas based education can help South Africa as one the third world state to improve and maybe to match or even to surpass those superpowers like United States of America (USA) which will also dispel the notion that if you*

*leave your native country, you lose everything including patriotism, loyalty and pride. Because you gain skills from Overseas education, and plough back to benefit your own country (SA) which really proves that the idea of studying Overseas is helpful especially when you started your lower education in South Africa. Because the culture will still be within you. Then when combined both lower South African and higher education becomes more effective.*

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### **S33**

*Doing the higher education in Overseas is better than doing it in South Africa. The person can come back more sophisticated and highly educated as the standard of learning is not on the same level.*

*Overseas countries are well developed and there are lots of facilities that can be used to encourage higher education. Students who are doing higher education Overseas in well developed countries are better because they will also accumulate higher developed education through highly skilled teacher but are obviously not compared because they are vary, found in different place, developing and developed.*

*When you are doing higher education in Overseas you will be meeting many different people from different countries who have different cultures, values and beliefs and they will also be using different languages. Here you have the advantage of learning of learning other foreign languages and you also be able to identify cultures and you will know that this people are from this culture, they believe in this and that and by knowing that you will be building your status quo.*

*The standard of learning and teaching overseas is higher than the standard of learning in South Africa. Overseas teachers are obviously highly qualified as they are also found in highly developed countries cause to my point of view I think development in a country is also determined by the standard of education or rate of successful people in the particular country.*



*Doing higher education Overseas also benefit South Africa as a whole because those student if they are employed there Overseas they come home rich with foreign money which strengthen our economy.*

*The person who is doing higher education Overseas brings back new unknown well products in our attention so that South Africa will benefit from the production of new products.*

*Higher education Overseas is also better in the issue of technology. Technology in Overseas countries is developed so students who are doing higher education there could be familiar with technological products and sometime have the ability to create something technological.*

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### **S34**

*It is good to do your higher education Overseas. First you will broaden your mind by traveling to that place and you can see the difference between the countries South Africa and Overseas.*

*When you study Overseas and you finish your degree you have good chance to get a job Overseas countries most of them are well developed and the standard of education is very high.*

*When you get your education from Overseas and you come back to South Africa you get any job so easy. The employer from South Africa they don't look at your qualifications they want to know first where are you coming from or where you studied your education.*

*In South Africa people who are educated they are not working because of lack of jobs. But foreigners are the ones who holds jobs in this country because of their best higher education. Because they are coming from Overseas.*

*Because of that most of people who are from Overseas are not educated they fake their wrong qualifications and come to South Africa and they know that they are going to get a job.*

*You can find that a person is a lecturer but he passed only standard 9 because of that South Africans they don't want to employ South Africans*

*they want those from Overseas. So it is good to do your higher education Overseas because you will get more experience and many chances to get work.*

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### **S35**

*A comparison of standards of education between Overseas countries and South Africa has become a hotly debated topic in recent years. This is partly necessitated by South Africa's transition to democracy and the ever-increasing question of South Africa's skills levels and its preparedness to address its new challenges.*

*Education is a universally important phenomenon both locally and abroad. It plays a crucial role in equipping countries to adequately address unique challenges faced by them. The impact of such education is largely determined by the levels of development of the various countries. Regardless of this act, education remains important in helping countries sustain and in some instances improve their respective lot.*

*Any comparison of education between Overseas and South Africa education is not complete without taking into account the various stages at which those countries are in development.*

*The education of third world countries is largely development oriented whereas that of first world countries is mainly focused on industry and technology. South Africa is situated between the two extremes and can best be described as a second world countries since it displays elements of both first and third world countries.*

*Taken from a development perspective, South Africa's education appears to be best suited for local circumstances and as such preferable over Overseas education. However, when industrial and technological considerations become an imperative, the education of Overseas countries such as Japan and the United States of America take the lead.*

*This situation doesn't make any type of education lesser than another. The main considerations should be whether it is relevant to prevailing local*

*circumstances and whether it meets the educational demands of a specific country at any given time.*

*It is arguable that South Africa currently needs both kinds of education. This will ensure that it meets demands placed upon it in terms of development, industry and technology.*

*In order to achieve the above objectives, South Africa has to nurture its own home grown development –oriented education system and import industry and technology education from Overseas countries. The two sets brought together help advance South Africa as a country and are, in a sense, complementary to each other.*

*This emphasizes the point that instead of merely stating the advantages of the local education system with those of the Overseas education system, and the disadvantages of both an approach is adopted according to which both systems of education are compared in an integrated manner taking into account both their weak and strong points respectively.*

*It is a fact that comparatively speaking, a perception has been created that Overseas education ranks over and above South Africa education. Although this is partly true, it doesn't go the whole way in that it stops short of acknowledging the contribution of South Africa's own development education system.*

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## **APPENDIX E**

### **Geography Honours Sample essays**

#### **PROMPT**

***Discuss the role of Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) may play in our understanding of Environmental Conservation.***

#### **G1**

*Indigenous knowledge system is regarded as the way in which the indigenous people use to conserve the environment. It was therefore seen as derived science.*

*Through culture and belief the indigenous people have adopted strategies which they would to conserve the environment.*

*The environment was conserved through agriculture, health care, food production, education and also conservation.*

#### *Agriculture*

*The indigenous people used to spend most of their time in the field. This has also made them to come up with strategies for conserving the environment.*

*Through shift cultivation the indigenous people tend to realize that the soil is no longer fertile and this has made them to move to other area.*

*Such movement have made or allowed the unfertile soil to gain its state for the soil to become fertile like the way in which it was before.*

*The indigenous people also have another strategy of conserving the environment and it is called pastoralism.*

*Pastoralism are those people who used to have lots of livestock. They did not want them to feed from one area for a long time because such an area might not be having enough food after a long time.*

*They also have to move from one point to another (from point A to B). this has also allowed the pastors to be back to its original state as they will be moving from one point to another.*

#### *Health care*

*The indigenous people have also found vegetations which are not supposed to be disturbed for any other purpose rather than for health care.*

*Plant species such as Aloe vera was not supposed to be disturbed because it was used for medical purposes. Aloe vera was used for pimples even today people practice that that strategy.*

#### *Food Production*

*In the past indigenous people used to feed themselves on wild fruits. So these have made them to avoid cutting trees which provides them with food for survival.*

*Plant species such as the fig tree it was not suppose to be cut down because it provide them with food.*

*The same applies to Morula tree. It was one of those fruit trees which was used for many purposes. Its fruits was used as a source food and it was also used for making traditional morula beer.*

#### *Education*

*Through culture and beliefs of the indigenous, their means of conservation have been existing to date. This have become as a part of education because it have merged with our great grand father's and even today such practices still exists.*

*Through inheritance education have been spread from generation to generation*

#### *Environmental Conservation*

*The indigenous people have come up with strategies of conserving the environment for decades. This means that conservation was practiced long time ago before it even become as a subject which is introduced at higher institutions today and at the school level.*

*Environment need to be conserved for future generations. Besides for future generation human beings and environment interact. Both depend on each other for survival. Human beings cannot live without vegetation and vegetation also depend on human beings.*

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## **G2**

*Indigenous knowledge is the knowledge used by our ancestors in order to serve society. Indigenous means the origin. It is the origin of plant and animal species. Biodiversity knowledge system means epistemology and ontology. This is the idea about knowledge. How knowledge is invented or created, how it is used or misused.*

*Every society has a way of conserving nature. And also a way of passing knowledge from one generation to the next. This passing of knowledge from generation to generation can be done through language.*

*According to Herbert Vilakazi in his journal (2000), the knowledge that we have as Africans is as important as that knowledge for the Western. The only idea is that when those people came to Africa, they rob us. They took our knowledge for granted. They never took into consideration, they labeled our knowledge as evil and theirs as Christianity. If the African knowledge was not that important, we would not be alive because they would have destroyed everything including plants suitable for medicine and the like.*

*In our tradition (the Venda tradition) there are some procedures that are used in order to maintain the environment. For example in agriculture. The pastoralism herd their animals in a certain area, when they realize that that area is no longer having food for their livestock, they shift to another area. In some cases, they used to divide the area into subareas/stratus. They may divide it into four areas for example. They will herd their flock in point A, when they see that point A is no longer productive they move to point B, then point C and point D. when they finish point D, they know that the first*

*point will have generated again. They move to point A and do the same. By so doing their flock never starved because of shortage of food.*

*Indigenous people were very much intelligent when they go for wild animals, they don't kill the young ones and the pregnant ones. They take it as taboo. They say that the young animals have got no enough good meat. By so doing, those animals were protected and give birth to another ones.*

*Indigenous people had some rituals or beliefs which they use to protect valuable or important places. For example, Tshipise, Sagole Spar, Nwanedi reserve etc. they say that it is taboo to go there. If you go there something bad may happen to you or you may even die. And by so doing the area remain protected.*

*Some plants that are good for medical purposes were also conserved. For example, Mutavhasindi. They say that if you want to go there you should go there at night , without clothes and you should be a clan to a certain family. If you are not a member of that family, you were totally rejected to that place. By so doing the Mutavhasindi remained protected even today.*

*Indigenous people use wood for fuel purpose because they know that people may cut all the plants even those that provide food for them, they say that A is not all plant that are fit for fire. People are not allowed to cut the Morula plant (as an example<sup>0</sup> for wood purpose, especially when this plant is not dead. If you are found that you chop it you may be caught even today. This knowledge helped a lot because those plants are still available even today.*

*In our understanding of environmental conservation today, we should know that we are not the ones who developed the idea of conservation. This environment has been conserved long ago by our ancestors. If it were not conserved, some of the species would have been extinct by now. Our ancestors be appreciated for what they have done. If we look today areas like Mphephu resort, Mutavhasindi, Tshipise and the like are now valuable than before. They are now for tourism purposes.*

*Plants like Aloe (tshikhopha) are still used for medical purposes even today. The language used by our ancestors to pass these knowledge from generation to generation should not be overtaken. They have to be rewarded or appreciated for what they have done.*

*What I can conclude is that without indigenous knowledge system, we would have been extinct or die, we would suffer without plants for medical purposes. Some of the animals like elephants, zebras would be extinct as even indigenous knowledge is still important even today.*

735

### **G3**

*Indigenous knowledge systems (I.K.S.) was described as knowledge indigenous people or other defined society which evolved over time hence drawn from generation to generation through process of communication.*

*Indigenous knowledge system was used by Warren as a synonym of local experience where he define it as unique to a particular culture. To be indigenous according to Mathias Mundy, a knowledge should be active component of culture hence bestowed used and communicated by member of that culture.*

*In contrast to correlation of tradition as I already said, indigenous knowledge system is dynamic rather than being static meaning that it is subjected to constant changes through indigenous experimentation. Local people generate new knowledge every day by observing their environment hence test new knowledge through errors and experience. They also include new technologies in their knowledge systems.*

*Indigenous knowledge system as related to agriculture and conservation of biodiversity it contain wide range of local experience in natural resources used and management techniques.*

#### *Shift cultivation*

*Shift cultivation is an indigenous practice that help to mitigate and reduce possibility for an environmental degradation. Cultivating from block A in*



*1991 and shift to block B in 1992 provide chance for block A to recover, this strategy work in a sustainable manner to the environment.*

*Incomplete clearing of vegetation.*

*Clearing vegetation but leave stump and tall trees helps the root systems to adhere to soil during rainfall. This reduce potential for erosion. Even shallow ploughing which is now known as minimum tillage is crucial as well.*

*Slush and burn*

*Slush and burn proved to be useful as a indigenous practice because on forest zone many plant proved to be in a state of continuous adaptation. Burning process helps in enriching soil fertility rather than burying green composts. Many species proved to be enriched by exchange of gene from their relative weeds because of this burning process.*

*Taboos*

*Taboos is also used as indigenous practice for managing biodiversity. Other places are not allowed to be harvested as they are regarded holy place or as contain spiritual items. If you kill a black wild cat, you will not have children in future and your family member will die one by one. Because of this allegations; black cat was conserved.*

*Indigenous knowledge system adopted to a wide range of local condition hence provide abundant of food supply while on the other side mitigate potential for disease, diseases and pest problems. If make use of wide range of species and world race which vary in the reaction against pest and disease problem. It produce sustainable utilization of natural resource through experience of farmer who did not depend on scientific information and market.*

*Indigenous knowledge systems have been available up to this recent outsiders but more information were ignored for a number of reasons. It was criticized that during colonial era, Africans had little knowledge to impart and their indigenous practice were too primitive hence were against*

*Western and Asian techniques. Indigenous practice like slash and burn were criticized of being destroying forest and soil fertility hence was responsible for environmental degradation.*

510

#### **G4**

*The indigenous knowledge system and the conservation of the environment are having the relationship. The indigenous knowledge can be defined as the knowledge that is used by the particular group of people and this knowledge is found in a particular area. The indigenous knowledge system is the knowledge that is originally found in the particular area and this knowledge are used by the people that live in that particular area. Different culture have different knowledge and these knowledge is normally passed from one generation to the other generation by mouth.*

*The indigenous knowledge played a role in the understanding of environmental conservation. The use of the indigenous knowledge help in the understanding of the environment and the problems that human can cause in the environment and as a result of this the indigenous knowledge help to reduce the environmental problem such as overexploitation of resources by human beings.*

*Because of the indigenous knowledge people were using the indigenous system in maintaining and conserving the environment and this was proven useful. Indigenous knowledge and the environmental conservation should not be separated, this is because the indigenous knowledge system help or assist in the conservation of environments e.g. Indigenous knowledge system use the taboos as another technique of conserving the environment. By using these taboos, people are not allowed to use or exploit the natural resources of the particular area. This is done by formulating certain taboo which on the other hand, put some constrain to the people in using the natural resources. E.g. people are not allowed to go to certain areas that particular group of people believed that the spirits of their ancestors are found at that particular area e.g. mountains. As a result*

*of this that particular environment is being conserved or protected. This means that the problems of the depletion of natural resources in that area cannot be experienced.*

*The indigenous people used to practice their agricultural activities and they preferred to use the organic waste from their animals as manure and this help to protect the nutrients in the soil and also provide the environment for the micro fauna. This means that the nutrients from the soil is maintained by the use of the indigenous knowledge system.*

*Environmental conservation is influenced by the indigenous knowledge because the indigenous knowledge help in the people's understanding of the environment.*

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## **G5**

*Indigenous knowledge is important in the conservation of the environment. Indigenous people have knowledge on how to preserve the environment even though they were not using scientific and written down laws. It was based on agriculture, health care, conservation and food.*

### *Agriculture*

*Culturally, there were areas that were restricted from cultivation, areas like steep slopes. People were not allowed to grow their plants their. Fields and places for grazing were put to rest for certain periods, allowing those places to regain natural vegetation.*

### *Food*

*Trees which bears fruits were not allowed to be used as wood or to be cut down. It was a taboo. By so doing , they preserved food from these trees, for example, baobab tree, morula. That is why we still have these kinds of trees in our areas.*

### *Healthcare*

*Trees and plants that are used as medicine are not allowed to be used as wood for fire or to be cut down. If you are found cutting those trees and you are not a sangoma, you would be charged. For example, an aloe plant.*

### *Conservation*

*Some of the areas were conserved. Areas like Funduzi – not everybody was allowed to go there. These preserved the natural vegetation around the area. There are geographical and environmental ways of preserving natural environment. Geographical is divided into aquatic and terrestrial.*

*Aquatic – plants and animals in water are protected or conserved. For example, introduction of seasonal fishing, if fishing is to be done throughout the year, then all fish in the river or specific dam will be extinct. Funduzi – people are restricted to go there, only specific people are allowed to go to that place, so vegetation around the area and aquatic animals are protected.*

*Terrestrial – not everybody is allowed to go to Thengwe and cut Mutavhasindi. It is the Mutavhasindi people who are allowed to cut it during the night and being naked. That is why Mutavhasindi is still protected.*

*People need to protect and preserve environment because we depend on environment for protection, food and others. Vegetated environment controls good climatic condition. Vegetated area will be cool. Deserted areas are too hot. Bad impact on the environment brings bad results back to us. We must protect the environment in order to enjoy the benefit of good and conserved environment.*

*Knowledge and understanding about the environment and how to conserve it is passed from generation to generation through cultural education. Parents pass the knowledge to their own children. Children pass knowledge to grand children. Environmental conservation is bound to cultural, belief and language of specific people. Every society have ways have ways of caring for nature, these ways are passed from generation to generation.*

445

### **G6**

*Indigenous knowledge can be defined as the indigenous knowledge that indigenous people have gained from their ancestors. It can be defined as*

*derived science which pass from one generation to the next generation within the particular culture of a specific geographical area. It plays an important role in the understanding of an environment.*

*Indigenous knowledge can be discussed based on the following. They are the basis of Agriculture, Food, Health and also Education.*

#### *Agriculture*

*Indigenous knowledge can help us in our understanding of environmental conservation because it will give us knowledge of better and conserving agricultural activities, such as cultivation.*

#### *Shift method of cultivation*

*When using this shifting method of cultivation, it will be making the previous cultivated area to gain like before. And by so doing biodiversity is conserved. Even the species will get some shelter, species such as rat, hare.*

*Method of cultivation will also be in horizontal shape so as to avoid erosion, denuding our environment. By so doing the fertile soil layer would be kept for a long period. Unlike replacing the fertile area with fertilizer which is a chemical and harm the soil forever.*

#### *Pasteurisation*

*This means that indigenous knowledge will make us to conserve our environment by dividing our camps into small suitable camps for our livestock. They will be grazing in the camp for one month and the next month they move to the next camp instead of keeping our livestock in one area for a long period.*

#### *Sacred places*

*Indigenous knowledge will make people to understand that not all people are subject to enter in the secret place at any time without the consent or permission of the indigenous people or king in a particular tradition. Example, not all people are allowed to enter Funduzi lake the way they like. There are some indigenous laws that they/one should follow e. g. first timer should look at Funduzi lake under his/her waist. You don't look at it directly*

*at your first time. Hence trees next to that lake are regarded wholly [sic]. Indigenous knowledge will help us understand our environmental conservation with respect of medication.*

#### *Health*

*With medication – some trees in Venda are used for medical purposes. When somebody is ill, such a person can get a portion of such a tree and get healed. Example, Mutavhasindi tree it is used for men's health. For that matter that would mean that indigenous knowledge is very much important. If someone do not know such place and tree, he can just get in and endanger himself because the place would not be supposed to be visited by any one.*

*This means that by conserving those trees, big animals such as baboons, will have shelter.*

*Fruit – some trees are conserved for fruits, by so doing it will help people with fresh air in the atmosphere. Example, trees such as “Munambelo”, Muzwilu will help us with good fruits and wild animals will get food from them and that would be the way of conserving our species.*

499

#### **G7**

*Indigenous knowledge is the knowledge of indigenous people. That is the knowledge of the particular people originated in that particular place. The indigenous knowledge is being inherited from generation to generation through time.*

*Indigenous knowledge has been used over many years to solve the environmental problems and other associated problems. Vilakazi Herbert in his journal of 2002 has discussed how African indigenous knowledge has helped in conserving the biodiversity or the environment as a whole. He had shown that the Western culture had changed the way of thinking of Africans and they look down upon their knowledge. Vilakazi (2002) has said that even before the Western people come to our country indigenous people still had their own ways of conserving nature.*

*If one can take a look at the way the lakes, like lake Funduzi has been conserved by indigenous people, one can be able to understand environmental conservation. The indigenous people has protected that lake and there are some taboos which makes people not to go near the lake or exploit the resources near or at the lake.*

*The indigenous people used to practice shifting cultivation which helped to conserve the environment. By practicing shifting cultivation it means that they were cultivating at a particular place and after some years they will go and start cultivating at the other place. This type of cultivation helped because the other place which has been cultivated was given time to regain its ecological state. It was able to regain its power again before it could be cultivated again.*

*By knowing the kind of knowledge one may understand that land does not need to be cultivated over and over again because it can lose its ecological state completely. The use of fertilizers has degraded the quality of land if people would have practiced shifting cultivation the land would be in its good quality.*

*Through indigenous knowledge the indigenous people have protected the species like the Mutavhasindi. This type of species are known for their healing powers and other uses. The indigenous people has protected these species so as to conserve them. This implies that these type of species can be utilized by the present as well as the future generation.*

*These species has been protected so that people may not exploit these species as they wish. For people to exploit these species they have to first ask permission from the chief and there is a way in which they are exploited.*

*Environmental conservation has been practiced even by the indigenous people. In the past when people needed to cultivate, they did not just cultivate anywhere but they had to get permission from the chief and he will show them where to cultivate. People were not cultivating on the ecological fragile areas like river valleys. The chief will show people where to cultivate*

*and when to cultivate. The chiefs had knowledge of environmental conservation and knew that if people cultivated on the ecological fragile environments, they would experience some environmental damage or problems.*

*By understanding the indigenous knowledge system, one can get a clear picture of how the nature was conserved and there were no side effects. Indigenous knowledge is very important and should be practiced presently to conserve the natural environment.*

*When one needs to understand environmental conservation, the way indigenous people conserve the environment needs to be taken into consideration. The Western way of conserving the environment usually has side effects.*

569

## **G8**

*Indigenous knowledge refers to the knowledge that the indigenous people has inherited from their ancestors. On the other hand, the indigenous knowledge systems refer to the tools that the indigenous people use to conserve nature and their well-being. Indigenous knowledge systems looked at five key concepts as a way of conserving the environment.*

### *1. Through Agriculture*

*for agriculture to be sustainable, the indigenous people used different techniques. The indigenous people used waste products from the animals as fertilizer, these fertilizers does not contain any chemicals that can harm the soil. They also practiced shifting cultivation. In this case, the indigenous people used to cultivate a particular place for a certain period of time. After that specific period they leave the place to rest and gain its original state. They will then come back to that place a long period of time.*

*Indigenous people also practiced pastoralisation, in this case, the farmers used to move from one grazingland to another with their herds. They spent a particular period at a certain place and move to the other place. They leave the place to rest and gain its original state. Shifting cultivation and*



*pastoralisation was done in order to prevent environmental threats such as soil erosion that leads to land degradation.*

## *2. Health Purpose*

*The indigenous people used to conserve some of the plant species for health purposes. Some of those plant species were a cure for certain diseases. For example, Aloe was conserved because it was known as the cure for various diseases. Mutavhasindi also conserved for health reasons.*

## *3. Food Production*

*Some of the wild trees were conserved because they produced wild fruits that could serve as the source of food when hunger strikes. People were not allowed to cut those trees because they are of great importance.*

## *4. Education*

*In order to sustain the indigenous knowledge, the indigenous people were able to teach the younger generation. Therefore the knowledge was passed from generation to generation.*

## *5 Environmental Conservation*

*The natural environment was also conserved through the use of indigenous knowledge systems. The indigenous people had their own cultural beliefs and also uses taboos to conserve the natural environment. For example in aquatic environment, there was a season that people go fishing also people were not allowed to pick up water from the hot springs e.g. Mphephu resort hot springs.*

*In another aquatic environment, for example, lake Funduzi was also conserved using taboos, no one had access to the lake, people had to ask permission first from the ancestors and also people were not allowed to pick water from the lake.*

*An example of a terrestrial environment will be the conservation of Mutavhasindi. Not all the people had access to that particular plant species. A particular clan had access to it and only males. It was also a taboo to pick up even a leaf from it. Therefore it was also conserved through beliefs and taboos.*

*Indigenous knowledge systems could still be useful if applied in the modern world. Maybe some of the diseases could be cured through use of indigenous systems. We could also have a sustainable natural environment if we consider beliefs and taboos that the indigenous people had.*

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## **G9**

*Indigenous knowledge system can be defined as the knowledge that people acquire from their ancestors and pass this knowledge from generation to generation. It's a people's derived science. Indigenous knowledge system is influenced by culture, tradition and values of a specific culture. By using indigenous knowledge there was conservation of agriculture, food, health and also aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem.*

*Agriculture – Indigenous people used to cultivate rotationally. For example shifting cultivation. People used to cultivate a one place maybe for five years continuously. After five years they then change to another area where it is fertile. By doing so, the first area will go back to its fertile state. By doing so they are conserving the soil.*

*Those who were hunters know that there are certain animals that according to some culture were not supposed to be killed. For example female animals and young animals were not supposed to be killed as this could bring bad luck to a community. By doing so they were conserving lots of animal species.*

*Pasteurization was also a way of conserving the environment. The farmers used to change where their animals graze after a particular period. This promote the conservation of grass and trees.*

*Other fruits and herbs were not allowed to be eaten as a result of this indigenous people were conserving trees. Some other trees were not supposed to be cut down. They inherited from their ancestors that cutting those tree for wood purposes is a taboo.*

*There are local examples here in Limpopo. In Nzhelele area there is a lake called lake Funduzi. This lake was believed to be belonging to the*

*Tshiavha clan. People were not allowed to go there except the Tshiavha clan. Even the tshiavha was not suppose to go there any time. They only goes when there were rituals such as ancestors worship when they were praying for something. That lake was very rich with water, trees around, animals outside and inside water and also grass and fertile soil. It was conserved by believing in the taboos. People that if you can just go there, the ancestors will be angry with you. They can injure you, bring bad luck to your family and even kill you. Indigenous knowledge here played a major role of conserving the environment. They believed that the lake had supernatural powers.*

*Another example is that at Thengwe area there is a tree that has been conserved. The tree is called Mutavhasindi. This tree is believed that it belongs to the Mutavhasindi clan. People were and are still not allowed to go there and exploit the trees. It is even not allowed to pick only its leaves. That tree has medical values. Only traditional healers can exploit it. It is believed that those who are allowed access to that tree they must go there at night being naked. Through taboos that tree has been conserved and also the forest around is conserved because there is a fence around. The tree has medicinal value. Through indigenous knowledge the spot has become a tourist attraction area.*

*Herbert Vilakazi in his journal encourages the African indigenous knowledge should be taken seriously. He said that it is time now that we goes back to our roots. Indigenous knowledge can be used continuously to conserve the environment. The future generation could have some choice of resources as the present one.*

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### **G10**

*indigenous knowledge system is the knowledge of indigenous of indigenous people. This knowledge is not the knowledge that any one can find in the books or any other documents, the indigenous people were passing it to another generation through mouth.*

*Indigenous knowledge systems were not taken into consideration. But it was seen that the inclusion of indigenous knowledge in the environmental conservation can yield positive results in the sense that there will be a suitable environment which the future generation can have the same choice of which the present generation has.*

*As population is growing at an alarming rate, it also increases pressure on the environment. Most activities that people practice put more pressure on the physical environment, those activities can lead to irreversible impact such as flooding, desertification and degradation.*

*The indigenous people have their own ways of protecting the environment. For example when they practice agriculture (intensive agriculture) they plant trees around the agricultural plot as a way for preserving their crops from the wind. By doing so these trees hold the soil so that the soil cannot easily be eroded by water during heavy rainfall and irrigation. They were also not using fertilizers and pesticides to improve agricultural productivity. They were using the waste of cattle and goods to make the soil to be more productive. By doing that they minimize the chances of land pollution*

*Indigenous people were not using machinery to clear out vegetation, instead they were using manpower or labour power for clearing vegetation by doing so they were also minimizing chances of environmental destruction. In terms of ploughing in the highland they used terraces to protect the soil from erosion during heavy rain, they used stones to protect that erosion.*

*Shifting cultivation was most important method of cultivation. This type of method involves the shifting of cultivation from one area to another. They were doing this to avoid the so called unproductivity of soil. If for example the area were cultivated last year (2004) they skip one year or two years so that the area will regenerate. They used to move from one plot to another in different years. This method nowadays is called crop rotation.*

*Another method used to conserve the environment is pastoral nomadism. In this method people were moving from one area to another together with*

*their cattle or any other domestic animals. They may go to an area where there is enough grazing and build their shelter to stay there temporarily until the cattle graze all over the particular area. When there is no longer enough grazing, they can travel for a long distance until they find another place with enough grazing and also build their shelter with sticks and grass. This processes conserves the environment because when they left the area, the grazing will also regenerate.*

*Indigenous knowledge system also play a role in understanding of environmental conservation because there are also some trees which the indigenous people used for healing especially by traditional healers. For example there is a tree in Mutare area. That tree is called a big tree. People are not allowed to use that tree only the traditional doctors are allowed to use it but in a sustainable manner.*

*There are also some lakes around Limpopo Province which are used for taboo. Ordinary people are not allowed to swim of to use the water from those lakes. Examples are lake Funduzi.*

*Having seen the knowledge that indigenous people have, one can judge that this knowledge is most important for environmental conservation. By tapping indigenous knowledge systems we can have a sustainable environment that can meet future generations.*

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## **Appendix F**

### **INTERVENTION STRATEGY**

In order to assist students to develop the ability to express themselves in argument writing, the strategy “reading – analyzing – writing” is recommended. As pointed out in the preceding chapters, linking reading to writing is deemed to be effective, because reading facilitates the acquisition of information, experience and knowledge. When students are helped to recognize logical thinking in what they read, it is envisaged that they would be able to use the knowledge to organize and develop ideas in their own writing.

The text below is used as an initial sample text for practical application.

#### **The conviction of Ntelamo Zileng’i**

In 1996 Ntelamo Zileng’i was convicted of killing her baby Kaiko while camping quite close to the Thate Vondo Sacred Forest in the Vhembe District of Limpopo Province. In my opinion, Ntelamo should not have been convicted for Kaiko’s murder as there is a lot of conflicting evidence.

Firstly, there is the issue of the blood found in the car. It was alleged that it was baby’s blood. However, the methods used to identify the blood were later found to be unreliable and the blood could have come from an adult.

Another piece of conflicting evidence concerns the wild dog. Ntelamo claimed that Kaiko was taken by a wild dog. Some of the other holiday campers said that they did not see any wild dog, but there were several who confirmed Ntelamo’s story, and who stated that they heard a wild dog’s cry just before Kaiko disappeared.

And finally there is the matter of the baby’s romper which was later found with holes in it. The prosecution maintained that the holes could only have been made by a pair of nail scissors. These scissors were the ones the prosecution claimed Ntelamo used to murder her baby. The defence on the other hand demonstrated that the holes could just as easily have been made by a wild dog’s teeth.

In the light of the conflicting evidence, I believe that it was wrong to convict Ntelamo Zileng’i without definite proof of her guilt.

#### **Suggested Procedure**

The procedure to be followed falls into two stages, namely: Language Input and Writing Practice. One of the key points that must be kept in mind when searching for materials is to choose appropriate sample materials that are

both of interest and of informational value to the learners. The interest and information value are supposed to motivate the learners into reading and writing. In addition, the materials should be well-constructed so that they illustrate principles of good organization.

### **First stage: The language input**

The text entitled 'The conviction of Ntelamo Zileng'I' is used as a sample to show what an argument essay can be like and also to introduce some of the cohesive elements used, the overall organization, and the methods for developing the main idea. The students are asked to read the input very carefully. Then they are asked to analyze the organization and content.

In analyzing a given paragraph, the students are assisted in recognizing (a) the topic sentence, (b) the supporting details, (c) the development, and (d) the techniques of support. For example, the following questions could help the students in eliciting the required information:

1. Underline the topic sentence and circle the key words that express the main idea of the text.
2. Find the statement that expresses the viewpoint.
3. Find the supporting details and the paragraph pattern.
4. Note the important elements of the text.
5. Note the concluding statement.

From the sample text above, the students may come up with the following:

1. Ntelamo Zileng'i was convicted of killing her baby while...
2. Thesis statement: *should not have been convicted for Kaiko's murder as there is a lot of conflicting evidence.*
3. Supporting details based on evidence: first (argument point 1 + counter argument); another (argument point 2 + counter; and finally (argument point 3 + counter).
4. Introduction; Development; and Conclusion.
5. Conclusion: Restatement of viewpoint: In the light of...

In analyzing the text, the students have to be enabled to know how each part contributes to the whole (structure). Then the students are helped to analyze the various components: i) the overall organization and paragraph structure, ii) the topic statement or controlling idea and supporting details, iii) devices used to ensure coherence, iv) the methods of development, and v) the function of each paragraph.

The rationale behind this activity is to develop students' discourse competence receptively and assist them in acquiring the sense of organization. The conscious analysis of the models that the students are given enables them to outline and write their own arguments more effectively.

## **The second stage: Writing Practice**

With the knowledge gained from the comprehensible input, students should be ready to write their own tentative arguments. This stage has a built-in process for the students, namely: : Brainstorming = Writing = Revision.

### **Brainstorming**

When students are assigned a topic from among those they had already suggested, they are divided into groups of four or five for discussion. They discuss freely while putting down words, facts and ideas that are connected to the topic. Once this part is over, they move to individual work with their notes. The students could be given topical issues like:

1. In your opinion, should the courts be lenient or hard on those shoplifting offenders?
2. Write an essay in which you argue either for or against the idea that the state should look after old people.
3. In your opinion, should the laws and churches enforce mandatory HIV and AIDS testing before any man and woman can get married?

### **Writing**

After the brainstorming session, the students can now begin to organize their ideas armed with the notes from their discussions. They first formulate a topic statement, a sentence containing the main viewpoint with more than one support which reflects the structure of the argument. Then they expand the thesis statement into several topic sentences that could begin each body paragraph of the argument.

The following questions could act as the guidelines for the students as they revise their arguments:

1. Does your argument have three parts; introduction, development, and conclusion?
2. Does your thesis statement clearly indicate your viewpoint about the topic?
3. What supports (evidence) have you provided for your thesis statement?
4. Has your argument included a logical counter-argument?
5. Has your conclusion been arrived at logically through the argument?
6. Are your sentence structures grammatically correct including punctuation.



### **Peer Evaluation**

After the individual writing session, the students swap their argument essays. They read, analyze and evaluate one another's work on content, organization and language using the checklist given below.

#### Checklist for peer-evaluation:

Locate the essay's thesis statement and the topic sentence of each body paragraph. Make a distinction between relevant and irrelevant information, and underline irrelevancies. Make some suggestions on a piece of paper for improvement.

This approach is not the only one that can be adopted in a reading, writing content-based strategy. It is one of many, but facilitators may choose what best meets the needs of their learners. This approach creates room for cooperation with content facilitators at the appropriate time.

This is for initial argument writing. For specialists in English, some introduction to discursive analysis could be accompanied by a sophisticated text,

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