



NEWSPAPER REPORTING

Tuesday 9th September 2025

Examination Duration

- 3 hours

Important Notes

- Pay attention to any words in **bold**.
- Mark allocations are indicated in brackets [] after each question.

Answer Booklets

- Ensure each answer in your answer booklet is **clearly labelled** with the question number as it appears on the exam paper.
- Use bullet points when making lists in your answers do **not** use additional numbers or letters.
- Start every question on a **new page** in your answer booklet.
- Rewriting the question as it appears on the exam paper in your answer booklet is **not** required.

Permitted Materials

- Notes or textbooks are **not allowed**.
- Non-programmable calculators **are allowed**.

Advice

- Read each question carefully before writing your answers.
- Use the full 3 hours and review all your answers thoroughly.



NEWSPAPER REPORTING

Tuesday 10th

...appears on

ANSWER ANY FIVE QUESTIONS FROM THE FOLLOWING EIGHT QUESTIONS

1. Write up the following information to produce a lead story of 250-300 words including a headline.

[20 marks]

- A deluge of mud and debris has buried homes and farmland, leaving a trail of destruction.
- Emergency responders are working tirelessly to locate over 200 people reported missing.
- The landslide struck after heavy rains in a mountainous region of West Java, Indonesia.
- Entire families are feared trapped under collapsed homes and structures.
- The area, known for its coffee plantations, has seen significant rainfall over the past week, saturating the soil and triggering the collapse.
- Many of those missing were workers on nearby farms or residents in the affected village.
- A local school and a marketplace were among the buildings swept away or buried in mud.
- The mudslide also damaged roads and bridges, cutting off access to the disaster zone.
- Rescue crews, supported by helicopters and excavators, are working to clear debris and reach isolated areas.
- The confirmed death toll has risen to 15, but officials warn it will likely increase.
- Indonesian President Joko Widodo visited the site, pledging swift action to assist victims and ensure stronger disaster preparedness.
- The region is prone to landslides, with inadequate drainage and deforestation worsening the risks.
- This tragedy raises urgent questions about the environmental impact of deforestation and unregulated construction in vulnerable areas.

2. Describe **ten** guidelines that investigative reporters must follow when conducting investigations, using examples to support your description.

[20 marks]

3. Discuss **ten** factors an editor must consider when deciding whether to publish a story, using examples to support your description.

[20 marks]

4. The introduction and opening paragraph of a story are used to gain the attention of the reader.

Write the headline and opening paragraph to the following news Story 1 and Story 2 using approximately 100-150 words:

(a) **Story 1**

- A cup of tea a day keeps stress at bay
- Drinking green tea, black tea, and herbal infusions can help reduce anxiety levels.
- Consuming 2-3 cups daily may lower stress hormones by up to 30%.
- Study conducted with 1,200 participants.
- Results published in the *Journal of Nutritional Therapy*.
- Tea contains polyphenols and amino acids that promote relaxation and mental clarity.
- Steeping tea for 3-5 minutes enhances its stress-relieving properties.
- Chamomile and peppermint infusions also contribute to better sleep and reduced anxiety.
- Dr. Michael Carter from the International Tea Research Institute commented on the findings.
- He stated, "Tea is a natural, accessible way to support mental well-being."

[10 marks]

(b) **Story 2**

- Skydiver clings to survival after mid-air parachute collapse
- An experienced skydiver narrowly escaped death following a collision at 2,000 feet.
- The collision caused their parachute to malfunction, leaving them in freefall.
- Both individuals landed together using a single functioning parachute.
- James Carter became entangled in the parachute lines of fellow skydiver Sarah Lee.
- The incident occurred during a high-altitude training jump over Nevada.
- Over 500 skydivers were participating in the event.
- The collision happened moments after the pair exited the aircraft.
- Carter's parachute collapsed, forcing him to grab onto Lee's harness for safety.
- Despite the terrifying ordeal, both landed unharmed using Lee's parachute.
- The pair were part of a professional skydiving team practicing advanced formations.

[10 marks]

5. (a) State the importance of putting names and faces to statements.

[2 marks]

- (b) Discuss the **nine** Rs of interviewing.

[18 marks]

6. Describe the practices, approaches and techniques a district reporter must follow when reporting on their area.

[20 marks]

7. Writing to create impact is a key skill for every journalist.

Describe **ten** techniques that journalists can use to write for impact, using examples to support your description.

[20 marks]

8. (a) Explain the difference between hard news and soft news.

[4 marks]

- (b) Describe **eight** sources of news, using examples to support your description.

[16 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS