

SSS3 ENGLISH STUDIES

ONLINE TEACHING : LESSON 2

These are the general hints as I promised you the last time we discussed Restrictive and Non-Restrictive Clauses. Don't forget to let me have your feedback as soon as possible. Also, be reminded that the purpose of the medium is in case we don't have ample time to meet before your exams start when the lock down is eventually over. So, get across to me as soon as possible, also on other aspect of your English Studies outside of this: 08037858584

So, study these hints very well.

- **HINTS ON WRITING ESSAYS (WAEC/ NECO)**

- Read through each question with an open mind. Give each some thought, then select the one you understand very well and will have sufficient point to write well on.
- Know your limitations and choose an appropriate question. If you are not good at creating a story or managing the past tense, definitely you cannot write well on a narrative essay topic.
- Note the appropriate format in answering the question you have **carefully** chosen.
- Jot down the points you want develop as they come to your mind. Arrange them sequentially as you wish to explain them.
- If you have jotted down too many points , select four good ones you wish to write on, dwelling on them at length and convincingly.
- Pay good attention to **paragraphing**. Begin each paragraph with a topic sentence. Each paragraph begins a new idea, so begin a new paragraph as you move on to new idea. However, two similar idea address that are brief can be merged into one.
- Do not write on either margin of your answer sheets. Number the questions you have chosen and are writing on as well.
- Avoid the use of high-sounding words, particularly those you are doubtful of their meanings or spellings.
- Devote the last few minutes of the time to reading over your work carefully the aim of detecting and correcting common errors, misspelt words and incorrect punctuation.
- After effecting corrections of the detected errors, read through your work once more before moving on to other sections.

GUILDLINES

- Content
- Organisation
- Expression
- Mechanical accuracy

- **❖ HINTS ON LEXIS AND STRUCTURE (WAEC/ NECO)**

- The following examination sections are to be examined:
 1. Synonyms
 2. Antonyms
 3. Idiomatic expressions
 4. Prepositional usage
 5. Registers
 6. Common errors etc.
- General Approach to answering questions in this section:

1. Understanding the question
2. Elimination method
3. Attempting the known, while avoiding the complex ones for a later time etc.

❖ **HINTS ON COMPREHENSION (WAEC/ NECO)**

Comprehension is the ability to understand a given order, message, instruction, and piece of writing or passage.

WHAT CAUSES OUR INABILITY TO COMPREHEND A PASSAGE?

1. Lack of interest (we claim that the passage is boring)
2. Efficiency of vocabulary
3. Lack of concentration

To Understand a Passage We Have to:

1. Look for the topic sentences in every paragraph of the passage. The topic sentence gives us the clue or the theme of the paragraph. It helps us to follow a discussion and understand the passage.

What Is a Topic Sentence?

It is striking or controversial statement which elicits arguments. For example; a passage that centralizes on national unity will no doubt have topic sentences as: That a Nigeria is a heterogeneous society is no erroneous claims. Other words that could be contained in some sentences being considered as topic sentences include: peaceful co-existence, homogeneity, togetherness, oneness, etc. Any sentence that carries some of these expressions as regards the topic stated earlier is the topic sentence of the paragraph.

Once we are able to detect the topic sentence, we should be able to follow the passage and understand what it is all about. The topic sentence is usually (but not in all cases) at the beginning of the passage. Sometimes, it might occur at the middle of the passage, or at the end but is not very common

Type of questions asked on comprehension passages:

- 1. Questions testing knowledge of facts of information from the passage. Here, the candidate is expected to answer questions based on the passage read. You must read the passage at least two times before attempting it. Respond to the question, using your own words as much as possible.
- Avoid lifting the words used by the writer while writing your answer, but in a situation where some technical words are unavoidable, use them.
- Avoid verbosity.
- 2. Questions on figures of speech. i.e. Irony, Simile, Metaphor, Paradox, Synecdoche, Personification, Oxymoron, Onomatopoeia, Euphemism, Rhetorical Question, Metonymy, etc.
- 3. Questions based on grammatical names and functions.
- 4. Word substitution (synonyms) in this place the similar in meaning being supplied must fit into the passage and make meaning. It must also agree in tense and number.

NOTE

Next time, I'll be reaching you on Oral English.