

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION
2020/2021 EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER: MAIN

TITLE OF PAPER: DATA JOURNALISM

COURSE CODE: JMC 430

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer **THREE** questions.

Question One is compulsory.

Spelling and grammar will count in grading.

Use your own examples to illustrate your answer(s).

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN
GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR**

QUESTION 1 (Compulsory)

- In 2018, the Kingdom of Eswatini went to the polls to elect *Bucopho, Tindvuna Tetinkhundla* and Members of Parliament. Using the data provided in the tables below, write a data story for the *Uneswa Herald*.
- Calculate the percentages of females nominated by gender per region and throughout the country.
- Calculate the voter turnout in percentages per region as well as the overall turnout.

(40 Marks)

Nominated Candidates by Gender, Region and Elective Office (2018)

REGION	BUCOPHO		INDVUNA YENKHUNDLA		MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT		TOTAL	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Hhohho	490	181	331	96	267	126	1088	403
Lubombo	406	121	258	76	217	65	881	262
Manzini	714	221	431	113	407	126	1552	460
Shiselweni	569	177	334	98	293	87	1196	362
Total	2179	700	1354	383	1184	404	4717	1487
Percentage %								

Source: Elections and Boundaries Commission, National Elections Report 2018.

Secondary Election Voter Turnout by Region (2018)

REGION	REGISTERED VOTERS	TOTAL VOTERS	VOTER TURNOUT (%)
Hhohho	147 927	90 179	
Lubombo	109 799	67 171	
Manzini	175 202	100 258	
Shiselweni	114 498	73 290	
Total	547 426	330 785	

Source: Elections and Boundaries Commission, National Elections Report 2018.

National Election Results by Gender and Region per Elective Office (2018)

REGION	BUCOPHO		INDVUNA YENKHUNDLA		MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Hhohho	62	17	12	3	15	0
Lubombo	53	3	9	2	11	0
Manzini	86	16	16	2	16	2
Shiselweni	84	15	14	1	15	0
Total	288	48	51	8	57	2
Percentage (%)	13	87	86	14	97	3

Source: Elections and Boundaries Commission, National Elections Report 2018.

QUESTION 2

a) What is data journalism?

(2 Marks)

b) Explain the significance of data journalism in this age and era.

(3 Marks)

c) What are the three important skills in data journalism?

(3 Marks)

d) Data literacy is a new language and we all have to be fluent in it. Discuss, aiding your answer with examples.

(12 Marks)

QUESTION 3

a) Explain the significance of using Geographic Information Systems in journalism.

(3 Marks)

b) Steve Doig states that Microsoft Excel is a powerful tool useful for journalists. Discuss, giving examples to support your answer.

(8 Marks)

c) Complete the table below (in your answer folder).

Spread sheet	Microsoft Excel	Google SpreadSheet	Open (Libre) Office
Usage			
Data Storage			
Needs Internet			
Installation Required			
Collaboration			
Sharing Results			
Visualizations			

(9 Marks)

QUESTION 4

- a) Data Journalism is a collaborative effort. Discuss, giving examples where this is evident.

(5 Marks)

- b) Give a background of the Pandora Papers.

(5 Marks)

- c) Discuss distinctions, if any, between data journalism and investigative journalism.

(5 Marks)

- d) Give a brief summary of Last Moyo's article titled "Data Journalism and the Panama Papers: New Horizons for Investigative Journalism in Africa".

(5 Marks)

QUESTION 5

Discuss the challenges of data journalism in the Kingdom of Eswatini, illustrating your answer with examples.

(20 Marks)

QUESTION 6

- a) Ethics is fundamental in the journalism profession. Discuss any four ethical issues associated with data journalism, aiding your answer with examples.

(12 Marks)

- b) Boyle (2001) argues that when numbers are attached to a problem, it might make the problem look more important than it originally is. Do you agree? Discuss, aiding your answer with examples.

(8 Marks)