FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, MINNA
SCHOOL OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND MEDIA TECHNOLOGY
SECOND SEMESTER 2013/2014 SESSION EXAMINATION
MCT 225: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WRITING FOR THE MEDIA

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY **FOUR** QUESTIONS

TIME ALLOWED: **TWO** HOURS

1 (a)   Explain the meaning of science and technology beat reporting.
  (b)   State and explain any two ways in which science and technology beat reporting is important to a news organization.
  (c) Elaborate on any major challenge associated with science and technology   beat reporting.

2 (a)   Attempt any five definitions of science and technology news.
  (b)   Identify any ten (10) sources of science and technology news.
  (c) State any five qualities of good science and technology news.

3 (a)   Discuss any five (5) principles of effective science and technology writing.
  (b)   Enumerate any ten (10) useful tips for effective science and technology reporting.

4 (a)   With clear examples, examine any five (5) specific rules for science and technology writing.
  (b)   Of all journalism writing styles, which one do you think is most suitable for science and technology writing. Justify your answer.

5 (a)   Explain with clear examples how the following are challenges to effective   science and technology reporting: (i) systematic corruption, (ii) endemic   poverty, (iii) information hoarding, (iv) illiteracy and ignorance of the importance of science and technology, (v) poor   data base.
  (b)   With a career in science and technology reporting, express how you could   be effectively self-employed.

6 (a)   Using relevant examples elucidate the importance of science and technology to:
        (i) Politics, (ii) security and safety, (iii) poverty alleviation, (iv) sports, (v) entertainment.
  (b)   As a science and technology reporter covering the ebola fever outbreak in   Nigeria, articulate any five (5) sources through which you would have obtained information to report that first case of ebola fever in Nigeria involving Patrick Sawyer.