

LET'S READ

Magazine

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Literacy for Change

.Poems.Articles .Narratives

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Welcome to Let's Read Magazine!

Let's Read is a magazine that features stories and articles by children. The magazine is a platform for young writers around the country. In this magazine, you will find fascinating stories and articles from young writers. Indeed, our children have demonstrated and displayed their talent which this magazine has tasted. What is so encouraging is that they are telling their own stories using their own style.

The aim of this magazine is to give the pupils a voice to air their views. Not only that but also build creativity among them. The magazine will also help to develop writers and market them to the readers as part of a project to develop writers.

The magazine also aims to reduce the high illiteracy levels among pupils in rural and urban areas. It is a fact that our schools today have some learners that cannot read and write.

Hence, to help improve reading and writing skills among the learners, this publication will act as a motivating tool to them.

The magazine will also act as a source of material for both teachers and learners as it contains articles and narratives written in scholarly style. Therefore, we would like you, our readers, to enjoy each and every text published in this magazine.

Thank you

ZWC TEAM

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PERCEPTION IS KEY TO A HAPPY LIFE

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WHY SHOULD WE READ AND WRITE?

Reading and writing are among the most important life skills one needs in order to successfully be a productive member of society. The ability to read and write is very important, especially to a pupil.

Reading opens doors to numerous worlds and adventures. Through the pages of a book, one is able to discover hidden places, hidden people, hidden stories, hidden characters, hidden qualities and indeed hidden knowledge. For a pupil, reading is one of the key skills needed to ensure that one performs well in school work. Through reading, one is able to research and understand what is being taught in class. In fact, teachers give notes so that pupils should read them!



Writing is another key skill someone needs. For pupils, this is the skill they use to show how much they have learnt in class. Tests, assignments and examinations are assessed through what is written by the candidate. You can have a lot of knowledge or wisdom but if you do not write that down in a test or exam, the marker will not know or guess that you have all that wisdom or knowledge.

Apart from being important in school life, reading and writing are also important in adult life. From college or university level to the world of work, one needs the skills of reading and writing in order to be successful.

Reading is important at work as most careers require one to know how to read. For instance, to be an accountant, a lawyer, a nurse, an engineer, a pilot, a teacher, all these need one to know how to read. Even blue collar jobs require reading!

Writing is indispensable in the world of work. There are reports, minutes, memos, notices, and files which needs one to write.

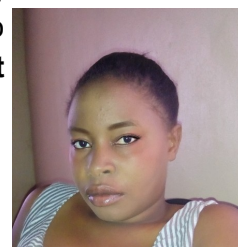
Even in a home environment, someone needs to read and write. Someone needs to know how to read utility bills and how to write budgets!

In society, reading and writing are very important. At the hospital or clinic, prescriptions are written down and one needs to know how to read them in order to follow. In a bank one needs to know how to read and write so that they can transact successfully.

The points highlighted above show how important reading and writing are. This is why, as ZWC, we are encouraging every boy and every girl to take interest in reading and writing. Develop a culture of reading. Read on a daily basis. Read for pleasure, for school, for knowledge, for any reason, **just read!** Develop a culture of writing. Write something everyday. Learn how to write poems and write some. Write a novel or a short story. Write a book, **just write!**

By Mercy N. Mwale

Avid Reader and Prospective Writer



We are One

Different species of fish in the ocean
 Different flowers in the garden
 Same air shared by them
 Same sunlight falls on them

The love is in the air
 We just need to capture
 If we follow no one will be distressed
 Like in public a man in dressed

We are not apart
 We have the same heart
 We have the same eyes
 Then we can share the sight

Lunda or Luvale makes no difference
 Such must be crashed living no chance
 Why have created walls
 So high and strong
 Boundaries of wealth
 And those pride
 Some of tribal
 And race

Who made the truth messenger to go numb
 Who will unite us like ants
 We must break those boundaries
 Bring our scattered world together
 We hope for togetherness on the floating Planet

Never again separate
 Like ants in action
 With that great passion
 Leading aloud that rhythm of eternity
 We will forever respect humanity

By Chanda Kalyati

Zambezi Boarding Secondary School

**POEMS****STOP CHILD MARRIAGES**

*Child marriage! Child marriage!
 It has become a thorn in our
 flesh*

*Oh what a pity to a Zambian
 child*

*Leaving their dreams behind –
 thoughts that bring sorrow*

*Sorrow of thoughts about their
 future of tomorrow*

*Oh parents, I love you so much
 But why marrying me off over a
 simple herd of cattle?*

*Is it poverty or the love of
 money?*

*All this you will have once you
 educate me,*

*For we small bushes are tomor-
 row's forest!*

MTUNGO DANA

ZAMBEZI PRIMARY SCHOOL

ARTICLES

SAVING: BENEFITS AND FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN YOU WANT TO START SAVING

Saving is regarded to be important in our day to day lives. It is loved by many people because of the support it gives them in their times of need. Though saving is important, its benefits and factors to consider before you start are not known by many people. These are some of the benefits and factors to consider when you want to start saving;

Saving is one way of being money smart. This is being able to use your money wisely and reasonably. Saving provides a financial backbone to a person in a way that one can always turn to his/her savings in times of need. It can also help one to plan for future events, for example, saving money for college, for capital and also for miscellaneous (money kept in a home in case of an emergency)



Money cannot be kept at just any place; it has to be secured from harm such as theft or burning. People are advised to keep their money in institutions such as banks. A bank is an institution that provides safe money keeping services and also storage of valuables like jewelry. One can open an account, either a savings account or fixed deposit account.

Banks provide good security services for funds and valuables which is why they are advisable. For young people, they can be money smart by putting away small amounts even as little as a fifty ngwee everyday in a container that is tightly closed with an open slot on top so that one can throw in whatever little money they have, knowing that it will be useful one day.

Saving can also be done through investing money in businesses so that one will have profit at the end of the day which will be more than what he/she started with. However, before one can start this form of saving, he/she must have a reason for saving their money. You must have a goal that you will achieve by saving your money in a business.

One must also think of how he or she will be spending their money. Budgeting is very important before you can start saving. You must divide your money for expenditure, saving and for miscellaneous. A person must be strict when it comes to funds, you must be disciplined because saving is not an easy task but very helpful in the end. Saving helps one to avoid misuse and over spending.

Being money smart is an important aspect in one's life, and through saving, one will be preparing him/herself for the future, emergencies and changes in circumstances; for no one knows tomorrow. So let us save for a better future, a better Zambia, a better Africa and a better world. It does not matter how poor one is, put away whatever little you have, having in mind that it will help you one way or the other.

By; **MWAKA CHISALA**

KIKOMBE SECONDARY

THE EFFECTS OF STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION ON SCHOOL GOING CHILDREN

Stigma can be described as a quality that significantly discredits an individual in the eyes of others. Discrimination, on the other hand, occurs when a distinction is made against a person that results in their being treated unfairly and unjustly on the basis of their belonging or being perceived to belong, to a particular group.

HIV stigma often leads to HIV discrimination, for stigma is a process and not a thing. It is something people do to others. Stigma can result in people being denied services, jobs, friendship and so on. This rejection is a form of discrimination. So if a school going child is HIV positive, it can cause that child to be devalued and ashamed and other children may feel they are superior. Stigma can also lead a school going child have an invisible but strongly felt mark given to people that make him or her feel different from others.

Poor psychosocial health – as a person child with HIV may isolate themselves by dropping out of school or even having relationships with others. They can also begin to have mental health problems by becoming depressed and suicidal or start to abuse drugs and other substances.

Responding to HIV with blame, or abuse towards people living with HIV is wrong. The only way to make progress against the epidemic is to replace shame with solidarity, and fear with hope.

END CHILD STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION TODAY!!

BY: MAUSELINAH LUWAYA

CHITOKOLOKI SECONDARY SCHOOL



EARLY PREGNANCIES ARE A DETERRENT TO A GIRL CHILD

In this article, which says that early pregnancies are a deterrent to girl child education, as a girl child I agree with this statement. It is not good for a child to get pregnant while she is still young.

There are many causes of and challenges of early pregnancies. Some people are raped by men because of not knowing the man's behaviour. Drugs and alcohol abuse also contribute. Girls who drink beer won't know what will happen to them when they are drunk. She will start calling boys so that she will have sex with them. At last, she will discover she is pregnant.

There are many challenges of early pregnancies. Education is disturbed when a girl gets pregnant. It reduces opportunity for the girl to be educated. If you will have a child while at school, people will start talking about you that you have no value or you are a second hand. It causes psychological disturbances. This means that if you are pregnant, the first thing which you will be thinking about is to kill your unborn child as if it's the one who told you to have sex with boys!



Stigma is another challenge. This means that the same friends who were telling to have sex will be the first ones to laugh at you when you get pregnant. You will even lose friends!

There are many ways of how to reduce early pregnancies. One is by waiting until you are old enough to be in marriage. Do not rush for marriage while you are still young. Do not include yourself in group influences. Some groups are not good to join because they influence others to do what they have never done themselves. Do not include yourself in sexual activities whereby you start admiring those who are having it. Choose good company; choose friends who can encourage you about school by avoiding dark places and corners.

Many girls and boys say that charity begins at home, but for me some charity are not supposed to begin at home, e.g. sex. Please girls and boys let us focus on school and think about what you want to become in future.

NYONGI GLORIOUS

CHITOKOLOKI SECONDARY

WAYS OF CONSERVING AND PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

The environment we live in today is not the environment that was there years back. The environment is depleting bit by bit, that is why there is need to conserve and protect it. Some of the ways of conserving and protecting the environment are discussed below:

One of the ways of conserving and protecting the environment is through stopping or reducing the use of disposable plastics. This is because plastics do not easily decompose when disposed. They also block pipes and drainages. They litter the environment and make the environment unpleasant to look at. That is why the use of plastics should be banned; people should instead start using shopping bags.

Another way is through growing encouraging organic farming. The food we eat today are grown with pesticides and other chemicals. These chemicals degrade the soil, therefore, making it infertile after some time. If one plants his or her own vegetables and grows them without chemicals, one will have organic food of excellent quality, beneficial for both one's personal health and the environment as land will be less intoxicated with chemicals.

Trees are a source of oxygen, so if each and every person plants a tree, then it means the air quality will be cleaner. Pollution will also reduce along with global warming and greenhouse effects. Trees also protect the soil from erosion and provide us with fruits, berries and leaves for food.



North Western PEO's Office grounds

Composting is another way of protecting and conserving the environment. Bins in the garden represent an excellent opportunity to avoid littering, at the same time; they are reliable sources of natural manure, thereby adding more fertility to the soil.

Another way of conserving the environment is by using rechargeable batteries. If batteries are thrown away, they become a hazardous enemy to the environment.

Moreover, recycling is also another way of protecting and conserving the environment. All disposables and plastics litter the environment, so it is better if they are recycled or reused so as to reduce land pollution.

In conclusion, the environment has to be conserved and protected so that the future generations to come will not suffer.

By: LIKOLA CLARICE
ZAMBEZI BOARDING SECONDARY SCHOOL



A KIND MAN IN OUR COMMUNITY

In our community there is a kind man who helps old people and poor people. He has a kind heart. One day he found an old woman carrying firewood. The kind man saw her and helped her by carrying the firewood. He carried the firewood to her house and that is how the kind man helped the old woman.

By: MUSANVU BRINESS

MUSHONA PRIMARY SCHOOL



ROLE OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS IN PROMOTING GIRL CHILD EDUCATION

The sustainability and progress of all regions of the globe depend on the success of both man and woman. That is more reason why traditional leaders who wish to see their localities develop, need to promote education of both girls and boys, especially girl child education which has lagged behind for some time.

Firstly, traditional leaders must eliminate some cultural practices which hinder girl child education, such as the belief that a girl must not go to school because her place is in the kitchen.



CHIEF ISHIMA SANKEN'I VI OF THE LUNDA PEOPLE OF ZAMBEZI IS AN ADVOCATE OF GIRL CHILD EDUCATION IN HIS CHIEFDOM

Secondly, traditional leaders must work to reduce poverty levels in their localities by ensuring equal rights to education for both girls and boys. When girls are provided with equal rights and equal access to education, they can go on to participate in business and economic activities. This increases earning and income of girls and women, thereby, combating current and future poverty through them providing for the entire family.

The other thing is that traditional leaders should make sure that there are increased literacy levels among their subjects. Of the 163 million illiterate youths across the globe, nearly 63% are female. Offering girls education props up literacy rates and pushes forward development in struggling regions.

Lastly but not the least, traditional leaders should make it known to the people that the future must not belong to those who bully women. It must be shaped by girls who go to school and those who can live their dreams just like boys.

In conclusion, traditional leaders must be in the forefront to promote girl child education to develop the world and make it a better place to live in by securing a girl child's future by giving them education.



By: RABECCA MUTEBA
ZAMBEZI BOARDING

MOTIVATION CORNER

“ ITS ONLY YOU; AND ONLY ABOUT YOU”

- We have unique abilities
- We break out of the bondage
- We must flourish

Many times we have blamed people for our situations. We have blamed people for our own failures. We have sometimes blamed them for things they know not. Yes! it could be true that somehow somewhat, they are a cause of our misery and failure.

However, we have control over our lives. We have to wake up and take responsibility. I am one of those that thought that the second person was important to shape my future. I thought certain things were to be available in order for me to be happy and successful. One of them was money. I thought, I was to have money before anything. But later, I realised that was not good thinking. In fact, I was wrong. I later came to realise, that it was not about money, but me. I came to realise late that all I needed was within me. I regret the time I worsted in blaming others for my failures. I grumbled and complained, but when I realised that all was within me, it was the turning point of my life. Hence, as time went by, I came to realise that I had to take responsibility in order to be happy and successful. In fact, it was about making the right decisions. One of them was to be happy regardless of the situation and circumstance I found myself in.

That is why I am saying its only you and only about you.

We have unique abilities

The first thing we must understand and realise: is the different and unique abilities we all have. These abilities are placed in the inner part of our lives. The greatest challenge we all have is failure to realise our abilities. If we can manage to realise our abilities, we can then see and project how far we can go. We have to learn to understand and accept the situations that come around us. Tough moments will always be there. How we respond during these tough moments matters the most. Actually, what is important is how we handle and respond to tough situations. We can realise that we have the power within ourselves that can overcome such hard times. We have also to understand that time is the greatest healer and it is the reason I always say, 'time brings all things to justice'. Said, "Tough times never last, but tough people do." It is not the situation that matter, but how you one responds to it.

Secondly, don't magnify the problem. Look at the problem as something that you can handle. Actually, all problems are within our ability to handle them except a few. There is no situation or problem whatsoever that is beyond our strength. What is important is to understand that we have a role to play and put in the best as we handle what we can. The secret lies in how we look at the situation we find ourselves in and how we react to it matters the most. If we magnify the challenge, it is possible that we will be defeated by it. When we are faced with a challenge and we magnify it, that reduces the inner invisible strength which is the source of our strength in difficult moments. And that inner invisible strength has the power to give us the ability to overcome. The inner ability is very important. It helps us as we go through tough times. It is not about the idol, or magic powers, all lies within us. Hence, perception plays a major role in the way we lead our lives. The key is to take responsibility.

We have just to break away from the bondage

We have to come out the bondage of blame game. We have to realise, that it is our duty to take responsibility.

Most of us are chained in by chains of blame. We condemn others for our on challenges and problems. I know certain things are unbearable and we have no ability whatsoever to change them. But you can also agree with me that most of the challenges we had passed through, we did not just take responsibility.

This bondage is in our minds. Our minds are chained to an extent that we are unable see our abilities especially when we are in a pool of challenges. In most cases, we go round the same challenges year in and year out without finding a solution. Reason, failure to acknowledge our own challenges and taking responsibility.

We have to flourish

If you can realise that its only you and only about you, only then will you flourish. When we take responsibility and realise our abilities, we will be able to flourish. Growth does not come overnight. It comes with hard work and self realisation that you can make it. God has put that in us. If we know that secret, it is the greatest gift we can ever receive. Those that drive their energy to find solutions they break the chains of challenges and their lives are always unique and admirable

People are called heroes not from without, they are because they endured challenges that seemed beyond their abilities and to those around them. They also felt the way you did, and the way I have always felt when I am amidst challenges. Regardless of the misfortunes, they never allowed that to sit them down. They had to stand up and take responsibility. Today, they are icons of success. We read their names on bill boards, in news papers, on the internet, magazines and all medias. It is because they took responsibility. If you take responsibility, you will see how challenges will endorse you as their greatest person and winner in life. Hence, remain positive and confess positivity all times.

Therefore, it's only you and only about you. Then you will win.



BY; PHIRI DANIEL
LIFE COACH

IMPORTANCE OF SPORTS TO PUPILS

Sports are very good for keeping the body fit and it also helps to prevent some diseases because of the energy involved through the process of respiration. Football is one sport that can be useful to the body to keep fit. Football cannot just keep the body fit, but it can also change someone's life to another level. Football has got some advantages when you are at school. When you start playing football at school, the school will be responsible for your welfare and the school will be supporting you in different ways like paying for your school fees; all you have to do is put in effort to be the best player.



Players from DanGid United Football Academy

If you are found to be the best player, the school will support you even up to completion of your education. You will be supported when you go in the league and if you are found to be the best player, you will be taken into under 18 of the Zambia National Team. If you impress your coach, you will be taken into the senior national team and your life can be changed.

By **MASUMBA WEZZY**

MALOLA PRIMARY SCHOOL



DanGid Academy boys during a training session.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ICT

The importance of ICT is that people find it easy to talk to others who are in distant places. The use of cell phones has reduced the cost of sending letters through postage because with sms its cheaper; someone can send many of them and they reach within a short a time.

SALUMAYI KASANDA



MUSHONA PRIMARY SCHOOL



THE IMPORTANCE OF NUTRITION IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Nutrition is a process by which nutrients are assimilated by a living organism. A nutrient is substance that is needed for an organism to grow, produce and survive. Nutrients are classified in many categories e.g carbohydrates, proteins and vitamins which are used as energy by our bodies. Others are mineral nutrients e.g calcium, sodium, iron are necessary for body postures.

Nutrients like carbohydrates e.g. sugar, glucose, cellulose and starch are mostly found in foods like maize, cassava e. t. c and are the ones which builds our bodies to be strong and health in order for us to perform our given tasks properly. This then leads to the development of both the community and the country because the more healthy the people are, the more work is done.

The other nutrients are proteins which are found in food samples like meat, fish and eggs. Proteins are important to our bodies because they are the ones that repair and build our bodies. They are also an important building block of bones, muscles, skin and blood.

Vitamins are also important building blocks of nutrition (**which is the process of intake/ assimilation and use of nutrients by the body**) these vitamins are in many groups like A, B, C, D and K. when these vitamins and mineral nutrients act together, they perform many functions in our bodies. They make up bones, heal wounds, and bolster our immune systems. They also convert the food we eat like meat, fish, pumpkin seeds, vegetables and others into energy which is needed for us to work well in our farms, companies, schools and also in hospitals.

So, nutrition is very important in national development. I am therefore, encouraging everyone to take interest in making sure that such sources of these nutrients are made available to everyone. Because it is only when we are healthy, that we can develop our communities and our lovely country Mother Zambia.

Remember to live healthy if we are to be wealthy.

By Mumbi Yowano

Zambezi Day Secondary School



REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD

EVERYONE IS A SECURITY GUARD!

Proverbs 4:23

"Guard your heart with all diligence for out of it are the WAYS of life"

What is to Guard?

It means NOT to leave on the open or leave without security or watch over. Every person guards either something or someone. People guard or put security on their families, houses, business places, accounts etc by putting a pin code or a lock. Nobody leaves an open life when they are matured. Among many other things people guard, they forget to guard their MINDS and HEARTS. Lack of guarding these two has led to major world problems. If they can put a security code on their hearts, then all will be secured. However, many Secure all and leave their hearts without security.



By Pastor Daniel Kalwala

Winners Chapel International Church, Zambezi Branch

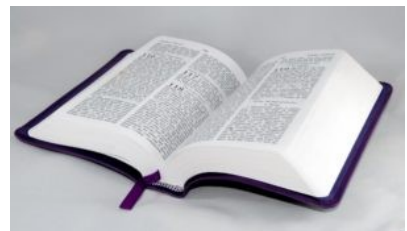
DANGERS OF NOT GUARDING THE HEART AND MIND

1. People suffer from health challenges.
2. Some suffer from waste of time.
3. Others suffer from waste of resources.
4. More suffer from frustration, depression and regrets.
5. In fact others suffer from misdirection
6. More people suffer from slow motion.

HOW TO GUARD YOUR HEART AND MIND

1. Choose right friends no matter what you need.
2. Choose to think positive no matter the pressure.
3. Choose wisely what comes and leaves your life.

God loves you so much such that he made you a GUARD so that you don't have to suffer all these.



BE A SECURITY GUARD AND ENJOY YOUR LIFE !



KANSANSHI EDUCATION QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME: AN ETERNAL LEGACY

First Quantum Minerals (FQM), 80% shareholder in Kansanshi Mining Plc, believes its business success comes from people. Our core values of **Bolder, Smarter, Driven, and Together with No One Left Behind** are a poignant statement of our belief. Our staff, our communities and our leaders, working together in pursuit of a common good, drive us to tread where few dare to, motivate us to continually stretch the realms of possibility and to keep dreaming of a better world for all. Education lies at the heart of this indomitable spirit of our people. And we go to great lengths to invest in education in order to achieve that spirit.

The Kansanshi Education Quality Improvement Programme (KanEQulP) is our strategy for investing in the transformation of public education in Solwezi, Zambia. We have invested in understanding the root causes of the state of education in the country in general and in Solwezi in particular, and have identified the key drivers for the required change.

Through KanEQulP, we do not only assist schools with badly needed resources for teaching and learning at pre-school and primary school levels, but also provide continuing professional development for school management and classroom teachers. We assist school management to develop and live the values, knowledge and skills needed to lead schools for wholesome and future-oriented education, and teachers to provide rich, exciting and educationally challenging experiences that turn out learners who can reason and solve real life problems. KanEQulP aims to produce school management and teachers whose conception of education **is learning for understanding and for life, and not thoughtless rote learning** that is only to be demonstrated in tests and examinations. Rote learning cannot take Zambia and FQM to the frontiers of success and development. Through KanEQulP, FQM is indeed helping in the re-orientation of education in the country, and through it, leaves behind a legacy with eternal value.

CAREER PAGE

JOURNALISM AS A CAREER

ZWC conducted an interview with a journalist on what it means to take journalism as a career, read on and find out;

ZWC: What is your name?

Ms. Kuwema: My name is Emily Kuwema

ZWC: Tell us briefly about yourself:

Ms. Kuwema: I am a vigilant woman who takes every opportunity as a blessing. I have a grade 12 certificate and a diploma in journalism and public relations. Before obtaining my diploma, I worked for ZNBC as a part time presenter on a show called Kids TV.

ZWC: What are your hobbies?

Ms. Kuwema: Reading, traveling, watching historical documentaries and writing.

ZWC: What is your career and where do you work?

Ms. Kuwema: I am a journalist and I work for Times of Zambia Newspaper.

ZWC: What motivated you to choose this career?

Ms. Kuwema: Firstly, I have always wanted to be on TV. Since childhood, I loved the thought of being on TV speaking to the masses despite not working for a TV station. Secondly, I have always loved the idea of rubbing shoulders with the rich and famous especially law makers such as presidents and ministers. As a lover of travelling, I saw journalism as an opportunity to travel around the World for free (hahahaha!). And lastly, I have always loved the thought of having information first hand and being able to pass it on. Also, I love to help whenever I can. Journalism for me is a way of speaking for the voiceless. And if I was to mention who inspired me it would be Jacqueline Tembo, a ZNBC broadcaster.



Miss Emily Kuwema—Journalist, Times of Zambia

ZWC: What qualities should one possess for the job you do?

Ms. Kuwema: One must have nose for news, none partisan, stamina to work under pressure, good ethics, must be truthful and honest.

ZWC: What are the merits of your job, and how marketable is your career?

Ms. Kuwema: Journalists get a chance of meeting all sorts of people especially interesting people including the government, business and community leaders. People that an ordinary person can't have access to. Journalists are able to feed their curiosity as they are paid for reading and writing. As a journalist you are given a press pass which would give you access to venues for covering the news and paid travel. (b) There is what we call a by-line; this is an accreditation of the author which comes with a lot of recognition from other sectors. People are able to know your name and what you are able to offer as a journalist. It raises the practitioner's recognition.

ZWC: What advice would you give pupils who want to become like you?

Ms. Kuwema: Like I said being a journalist requires one to travel to different places or fields to get the news and following up all leads. Hence, I would advice pupils who would like to become journalists to embrace travelling and follow their interest because at the end of the day you have to love what you do for you to succeed.

ZWC: Any other comment you can make?

Ms. Kuwema: It is your attitude and not your aptitude that determines your altitude; this means it is how you approach a challenge or situation and not because of your ability that determines the end results.

ZWC: Thank you very much for your answers and agreeing to be interviewed by us

Ms. Kuwema: You are welcome.

NARRATIVES

The Story of the Three Animals

There lived a snake, a rat and a hare. One day, the hare and the rat were looking for food in the farm. In the same farm lived a frog. The snake was building his house in the grass. When the snake saw the hare and the rat, he said, "rat!" . "I am here", he rat replied. When all of them met together, the hare and the rat were looking for food. Snake showed them kindness.

He gave them the food they needed.

Thereafter, snake asked them to do him a favor. He asked them to render him some help. He asked them to help him build his house. The two friends did what they were asked to and their friendship grew to greater heights.

One day, rat went to pay a visit to snake. The snake welcomed him to his house. When they had chatted and they were about to go, then snake told the rat that he was hungry. In the twinkling of an eye, the snake had to bite the rat. The rat died and when the frog saw what had happened, vowed not to trust a snake anymore.

Kamboyi Jasper

Chinyingi Primary School

Make Hay While the Sun Still Shines

In the land of Chiwano, lived two close friends Jessy and Sharon.

The two loved each other. Their friendship is what they call, ' Step here, I also step there.' They were found together all the time. At this time, they were all in the tenth grade.

They did almost everything together like twins. During studies, they would go for studies together and that encouraged them to work hard and remain focused.

When they were about to get in to grade 12, Jessy changed her life style. To hit the nail on the head, Jessy thought she had grown old enough to enjoy her life. Every time, her friend went to pick her up to go for studies, Jessy wouldn't accept. Sometimes, she would even say bad things to her friend. She had joined even a bad group of girls who were at school for nothing but pleasure. Studying became an option to Jessy.

Sharon continued working hard as Jessy continued with her games.

When time for exams approached, that's when Jessy became serious. She wanted to fatten the cow on the day of slaughter. However, it was too late to gather something.

When they wrote their final exams, Sharon passed very well. She was in fact one of the best students at her school in that year. Jessy failed everything and she was the talk of the day as her behavior becoming a mirror for other people to refer to.

Jessy learner that it is important to make hay while the Sun still shine.



Margin Mwini

Zambezi Boarding Secondary

The Obedient boy

Once upon a time, lived a woman with her son. The boy was obedient but could not do the right thing. One day, the boy's mother sent him to buy the needle so that she can sew his clothes. As usual, the boy left. On his way back, he met a girl with a basket of maize. The boy then asked the girl to carry the needle for him in the basket. The girl innocently accepted and the needle was put in to the basket. Suddenly, the needle dropped out of the basket. When he reached, his mother was surprised to see him come home without anything. As usual the boy apologized.

However, whenever the boy was sent, he would go but he never did exactly what he was told to. It was now becoming unbearable. People of the community started getting concerned. They didn't know what such a handsome and well built boy could do such a thing.

One day his mother decided to take him to the pastor at the nearby church. The Man of God welcomed them.

After the mother had explained about the boy, the Man of God responded that the boy was destined for greater things, but the devil always wanted to destroy the boy's future.

The Man of God did not waste time, he started praying for him. When he was being prayed for, the demons confessed that they wanted to destroy the boy because he was one of the great. After a long prayer time, the boy was delivered.

From that day onwards, the life of the boy changed. He became a responsible boy than ever and his mother and the members of the community were all delighted with the boy. They had earned God's favor and he lived a blessed life thereafter.

Thomas Ndumba : Malola Primary School



The Tree That Produced Food

Every week with my lovely friend Peter we went hunting . One of them was a young stun boy. He had a funny name called Chimwinu, educationally called savior. His grate father gave him this name because of his good behavior.

One day, we decided to go hunting. We had four dogs. Two were black and the other two were white and brown dogs respectively. Whenever we found an animal, a dog with a matching color was the one that could catch it. We could catch small and big animals. We surely hunted week in, week out.

One day, we were lucky. We hunted four different animals similar to the colors of the dogs. It was a great day, indeed the spirits of our forefathers were with us.

As we continued, we discovered that the dogs had disappeared. We started searching for them but no avail. Few minutes later, we saw the smallest dog coming from a big hall under a very big tree. We could however hear then barking inside the hole and all we thought was, may be they could have seen an animal. We tried to wait for the dogs for a while, but we were waiting for the air. It now became dark that we could not wait any more.

The following morning, we informed our parents what had happened. They then decided to accompany us. When we reached the hole, our dogs came out. However, it was amazing and surprising at the same time to see what was happening to the tree. The tree was changing colors. Few minutes later, it stated producing fruits of different types.



The tree was amazing. I remembered my parents sleeping without food. However, with the presence of that tree in our community, it meant there was no need to sleep without food. From that day onwards, my village learnt how to appreciate nature. Since then, our head man encouraged all members of the village to preserve trees, in short nature.

By: **Kampewu Mufuka**

Chitokoloki Day Secondary School.

Snake in the Grass

Once lived a man in a village of Chishibwe. His name was Chobe the great hunter. He was called so, because he was the only hunter who used to hunt animals in a big forest of Shibwe which many hunters feared. The forest of Shibwe was feared by many hunters and herd boys because of its dangers. Moreover, it had many paths which looked alike and that would confuse the herd boys that they would even get lost.

The forest was separated from the village by a small river called Lungevungu. In the evenings, people would see animals come to drink water in the same river.

Many people in the village had cattle. Every day after grazing, the herd boys would take the animals at the river to drink water. As time went on, the boys started to discover that once they took the animals to the river, they started missing. It became the story of the village that once the animal crossed the river, it would disappear.

Once an animal disappeared in the forest of Shibwe, Chobe and the other hunters, they would go to search for it. Once found, the hunters would be compensated. As time went by, Mukata the prophet, gave prophecy from the gods that only Chobe was allowed to go and search for the lost animals in the forest of Shibwe. The gods had spoken, and no one was to rule out what came from the gods. They says, "All wisdom came from the gods, hence obedience was key to live at peace with the gods. "

It now became a thorn in the flesh. Their cattle started missing, and Chobe the hunter, would sometimes find them and sometimes not. It now became a concern and many people in the village became confused. Some elders said, "the gods and spirit of our forefathers are not happy, that is why all these calamities have befallen us." Indeed, it was now more than cattle that was going missing.

On the other side, Chobe was now everywhere. Being the only one who was given an opportunity to search for the animals in the forest of Shibwe, he became rich. He had now animals beyond five hundred.

One day, Mukata the great eye of the gods, called for a meeting. Everybody in the village was invited and every ear of the village was eager to listen what was to come from the oracle. All members of the village sat down waiting to hear what will come out from the mouth of Mukata. The village elders sat at the center of the meeting as per tradition.

Then Mukata stood up and said. " Good morning my fellow village men, children of our land. " They responded as they clapped...kwakwakwakwa..to show respect to the gods.

Then he continued, " I want to thank you to have come to hear from the gods. What is here today, is nothing, but what goes up must come down. They say, the loudest drum is the first to break.

Many families have lost their cattle and other treasures of the family because one thing, a snake in the grass." He said.

He continued, "Someone has been doing this behind your backs. He had clothed our eyes with a dark blanket. Now the gods have seen, and they have opened our eyes."

People looked at each other with a suspicious eye. They didn't know who was the suspect.

Then he said, "The man who has been behind this is Chobe the great hunter." Everyone was surprised and immediately people demanded for justice.

They elders asked Chobe if what the gods had said was true. He confessed that it was true. The elders ordered him to give back all he had stolen to the owners. He was then banished from the village for 5 years.

By: **Lovely Chama**

Zambezi Day Secondary School



POEMS

Dreams

Life is full of dreams
 Some are a dream so bright it beams
 Imagined in such a manner that it dreams
 Success is guaranteed that it seems
 Carrying in your head so much perfection
 So you give it enough attention
 For its a thing of affection
 You have grown up believing in things
 From your toddler days
 Up to your teen
 What if that dream could no longer be seen?

Taonga Phiri
Solwezi Urban Primary School



Corruption

You are bad,
 You are a disease,
 You have made my country poor,
 You have made my people suffer.

You make my people beg,
 As if they are not rich.
 Many are wearing hungry jackets,
 Like empty sachets,

Many are oppressed,
 Like a thieves imprisoned,
 Because of you corruption.
 Like stranded passengers at a station.
 Though just a dream,
 I hope for that corrupt free country,
 Where truth is an anchor,
 To all things.

Rachael Musopa
Kimasala Primary School



Stop Child Marriage

Child marriage!
 Let us stop early marriage
 Take that girl to school
 To achieve their dreams
 For that is their future

If you don't educate them
 Their dreams are shattered
 In that girl there is the future
 Of our mother Zambia.

In that girl there is a teacher
 A preacher
 An engineer
 And soldier

The girl needs your support
 And protection
 Her voice needs to be heard
 She is crying in a loud voice
 Saying
 I need your protection.

Mirriam Mpembe
Kimakolwe Primary School

I Need your Support

*I am a girl child,
 Parents I need your care,
 Teachers I need your attention,
 Government I need your protection,
 So that I complete my education*

Twamet Mwafwa
Kawama Primary School

A NARRATIVE

A SNAKE IN THE GRASS

Kapita Amman

Chitokoloki Day Secondary School.

Once upon a time, there was an old man named Andende, who lived in Musaki village. Andende had a lot of good friends whom he shared his life with. Among his friends, were children below the age of 18. He spent a lot of time with them and he shared a number of issues with them including different folk-tales. As a result children loved him as they say, "To term a dog, throw bones to it."

Andende looked innocent and he never quarreled with anybody in the village and it is the reason people knew him as a good man.

On a dark day, one of the girls was found raped. Everyone was so astonished that they vowed to punish the offender. Andende was even among the people when the crowd was crying for the punishment of the offender.

Raping young girls became the order of the day. The challenge was always to find the offender which became a nightmare to members of the community.

Others were also perplexed as to why Andende befriended young people. Furthermore, he only befriended kids between the ages of 11 - 15 especially girls. Others justified that were nice stories he shared with the kids that him win their hearts. However, that remained a puzzle to solve. Others also said that, he was not found with his fellow elders, because he was avoiding conflicts with other people. A lot came through. One old man also said that there was nothing wrong, he was teaching the young ones how to keep themselves in future.

One day, early in the morning, a young girl went to see him at his house. When the young child arrived, Andende told the girl to go inside so that he can tell her a story. The girl went in, he caught her and went with her in bed. The girl tried to resist, but the man was too strong for the girl to overcome. He forcefully had sex with her, as a result the young girl was badly injured. Just by her looks, one would tell that she was hurt. When she reached home, the mother noted that something had gone wrong with her daughter.

When the girl was asked, she refused to disclose. Andende had warned the girl that once she did she would face his wrath.

The mother insisted and forced the daughter to disclose the predator who had eaten the unripe fruit of her daughter. The girl was caught with fever of fear. She then later disclosed that it was Andende. The girl's mother did not even hold to the grass, she quickly reported the matter to the police. Sooner or later, Andende was apprehended by the police.

People in the village were astonished with this old man especially what he was doing to the innocent young girls. People thought he was wise and upright, while he was a snake in the grass.

Thereafter, mothers were encouraged to warn their daughters to stay away from such barbaric men and Andende who was jailed for 15 years.

IMPACT OF THE MAGAZINE

A magazine is one of the important documents which become an important tool for disseminating vital and educative information in any given community. "Let Read Magazine" is a newly launched document in Zambezi district. It has been initiated by vibrant men and women whose vision is to improve on education and awareness among communities.

HOW THE DOCUMENT HAS IMPACTED ON THE YOUTHS

For those who have contributed in terms of writing articles, have become models for the rest of the other young generation to copy from. They have been admired by their fellow youths and that alone is going to attract massive competition among them. As end result, more youths will participate and in turn improve literacy in the district. The article writers have also developed self esteem which will encourage them to do much more than they did previously. Hence, the objective of developing writers becoming a reality.

IMPACT OF THE DOCUMENT ON THE COMMUNITY

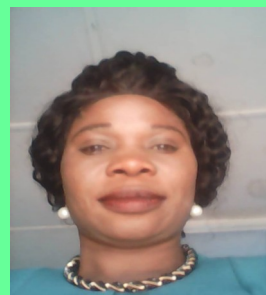
The publication has various articles, comprising of different educative information which will bring about awareness amongst people and improve on best ways of approaching life.

RECOMMENDATIONS

As schools, we need to encourage and support the young teachers who came up with this initiative so that they can put in more efforts to improve on the project, especially that it will be a good platform for improving literacy levels among pupils of all grades in various schools and districts.

Written By Emily Machayi

Zambezi Day Secondary School Headteacher



ARTICLES

HOW CAN A VIABLE BUSINESS TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE AND THE COMMUNITY



An interior view of Delta Camp and Fisheries Shop, an example of a viable business—Zambezi District

In my article, I would like to write on the transformations of a viable business to my life and the community. A viable business is a business which is able to survive and succeed. It can transform one's life in the following ways;

A viable business helps someone become more knowledgeable in the sense that he/she will discover new ways of conducting the business to ensure it survives

and succeeds.

A viable business also helps someone to be exposed, which means that you will be interacting with different people from different walks of life. For example, when you are a Zambian businessman, you will be meeting people from different countries such as China, America, and many others.

At community level, a viable business creates more jobs and most of them are local jobs, whereby many people in the community get employment, which will improve their standards of living.

Viable businesses can also transform the community by providing a wide range of goods and services where the community members can choose from.

A community can also be transformed by a viable business through innovation and competition. This implies that, a viable business can stand out from the crowd in order to survive. It must serve a legitimate need in the community and do better than its competitors.

In conclusion, viable business can transform the community by increasing the tax base. This simply means that when local residents shop at malls and businesses within their communities, their tax stays within the local economy, which may help to improve the community.

By: Thomas Kapijimpanga

Kimakolwe secondary School

RESPECTING TEACHERS IN SCHOOLS



At our school, we like respecting our teachers. Respecting teachers in schools is very important because if you don't respect your teachers, then who is going to teach you? Who is going to teach how to read and how to write? We must be obeying our teachers in schools. If you want to be educated very well, then you must obey your teacher. If you want to have a bright future, you must obey your teacher.

There was one boy who was very honest, he never hesitated to obey the teachers at school. But one of his friends never liked to listen to the teachers because he was not a good boy. He only wanted to beat his friends

and stirring trouble at school. The honest boy used to tell his friend that what he was doing was not good, he should be obeying his teachers and behaving well. However, the bad boy did not listen to the good boy. He did not even know how to respect and listen to his parents at home where he came from.

After they wrote their exams, the bad boy failed such that his friends started laughing at him. That was when he learnt that it is important to listen to your teachers and do what they tell you to do.

Respecting teachers in schools show that you have manners where you're coming from. Children must respect all elders and know how to speak to people who are not of our age. So children let us respect our teachers, so that we can have a better life, better education and better jobs in the future. If you obey your teachers, you will know a lot of things in the world. If you are a child, you need to be educated because without education you cannot do any job.

QUILEN MUZEYA
MBONGE PRIMARY

FINANCIAL LITERACY – SAVING

Why do we save?

We save money because we cannot predict the future. We put some money aside just in case of some emergencies. We can save money to be used for future use. It is also good to save because it helps us avoid debts.

How can children save?

We can save our money by creating a PIGGYBANK and giving our parents to keep it for us safely. We can also find a secret place where to store our money. Another way is you can create a small business and save your money through it. This is how we can save our money.

JEREMIAH CHOOVULA
MUSHITALA PRIMARY

IMPORTANCE OF SELLING GOODS AND MAKING A PROFIT

Entrepreneurship is a very important aspect in the country. It makes the country's economy stable. It is important to sell goods and make profit in the following ways;

It creates employment for the youths. Many youths are not employed because they depend on the government for employment. But entrepreneurship can help those youths who are not employed. By doing so, crime in the country is reduced. It also reduces prostitution in the country. By reducing prostitution, the high rates of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) is reduced, HIV inclusively.

It also reduces the high rates of poverty in the country. Instead of just depending on imports, our country can increase the standards of exporting goods to other countries, hence generating revenue in the country. It also helps the country to be respected by other countries. It puts the country on the world map, for instance, the way Zambia is fairing in copper production.

JACQUELINE MASEBELA
MUSHITALA PRIMARY SCHOOL

MORE ARTICLES

EXAMINATION LEAKAGES AND MALPRACTICES



Education is said to be the key to success, but that is not always the case because of the negative factors which influence the education sector. These factors include poverty, lack of learning materials and examination leakages and malpractice.

Examination leakages and malpractices refer to the immoral behaviour where candidates are provided with illegal information during the examination. This can either be answers written for the candidate or invigilators telling the candidates what to write and do.

Many candidates depend on leakages and malpractices during exams. This dependence makes them dull because they fail to study. This immoral behaviour does not only affect the education sector but the national development as well in various ways.

Workers that graduated through the use of leakages and malpractice lead to low development in many sectors. In the education sector, some teachers fail to teach their pupils. This also happens in the health sector where even health workers fail to properly administer medicines to patients.

At universities and colleges, there is a shortage of places because of the huge number of passing because of leakages and malpractice. This makes it difficult for those who passed without leakages to enter tertiary institutions.

In order to fight this vice, pupils should be encouraged to have self trust. Some learners think that they cannot pass the exams without engaging in malpractices. This is because they lack self trust and conviction. Encouraging them to believe in themselves and their abilities will make them not depend on leakages and malpractices.

Well qualified teachers and enough learning materials should be provided to pupils. This will improve the academic performance of the learners. Therefore, no candidate will depend on leakages to pass the exams. Those who are involved in examination leakages and malpractices should be suspended in order to make those that wanted to do the same thing to stop. This will stop the supplying and using of illegal information during examinations.

Therefore, in order to improve our education and national development, all members of the public should work together to fight this vice. This will improve the quality of living and all affected areas in all sectors.

By CHINYAMA BRIGHT

KIKOMBE SECONDARY SCHOOL

KNOW YOUR SUBJECT

Literature in English



Wilson Tembo

Lecturer: Language Arts,
African Christianity University,
Lusaka.

The title of this article is simply, “*Literature in English*”. On surface value, this is a banal title. It does neither excite the reader nor does it demonstrate an artistic attributes. But the title has a profound meaning and is intended to provoke some intellectual stimulation. **The Ministry of Education** settled for this title because it was realised that Zambian learners needed to learn from the various forms of Literature in the World. One may assume that as a colony of the British Empire, Zambia should have been studying “*English Literature*”. This means, studying Literature from England! “*Literature in English*” denotes learning Literature from *any part of the world* written in English.

There have been some *reactions* and *responses* to this. Renowned authors like Ngugi wa Thiong'o have resorted to writing in their mother tongue. In the same vein, a cry to promote native languages has been made world over. In Britain, some Welsh nationals have advocated the promotion of their language. In Zambia, we have called for the promotion of our local languages. Interestingly for Ngugi wa Thiong'o, the books he has written in Kikuyu are translated into English. The late Chinua Achebe's response to this cry is that he would rather write in English to express the African mind. This is what he says in his article: ‘*The African Writer and the English Language*’. In his book, “*Morning Yet on Creation Day Essays*”

*“Those of us who have **inherited** the English language may not be in a position to appreciate the value of **the inheritance**. Or we may go on resenting it because it came as part of a package deal which included many other items of doubtful value and the positive atrocity of racial arrogance and prejudice, which may yet set the world on fire. But let us not in rejecting the evil throw out the good with it.”*(Emphasis mine)

He has a point and the reality is that even the reader of this article is able to follow the argument because it is in English. It is the language we inherited and we have seen how it has been used to unite us in Zambia. Further, he says:

“But, for me, there is no other choice. I have been given this language and I intend to use it...”

Chinua Achebe proved himself as an outstanding and indisputable author internationally. His writings come under the umbrella of “*Literature in English*” The reason why the subject is offered is that we want our learners to develop intellectually, emotionally and linguistically. Our learners are not restricted to any national literature. Through the vehicle of Literature in English, our learners traverse the frontiers of this world to reach many parts of this world. You may ask, what about Zambian Literature written in English? Many teachers of the subject are not averse to having books written in English by Zambians. The standard that these books must meet is that there should be elements of literature in them that would help the teacher teach the learners what Literature is all about. The teacher wants the learners to know: ‘theme, setting, characterisation, plot, style, language ... literary devices used in writing such as irony, sarcasm, humour, personification,



flashbacks, allusions.’ A simple story with no intellectual stimulation is of no value to the learner nor to the teacher. We want our learners to aspire to do better than George Orwell who wrote “*Animal Farm*” or even Fwanyanga Mulikita who wrote “*Shaka Zulu*”.

One who reads; leads!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Complaint over of a Divided Nation.

I write to you challenging the challenges increasing at rapid rate in Zambia today. Of late, Zambia seems to be getting divided through tribalism.

I must mention that Zambia is a beautiful and blessed nation. A country does not belong to one or specific group of age. Children, youth, elders and adults. This country belongs to everyone or every group of people found in this country. All Zambian citizens must enjoy the privileges and peace of the country.

According to our founding father Dr. Kaunda's motto: 'One Zambia, One Nation', means we are all one. This implies that it does not matter which ethnic group one belongs to, all must be treated equally.

All humans must understand, that we are all Zambians regardless of the tribe or race. In addition, we must forgive one another and work together as Jesus commanded us. By so doing, we can overcome all forms of injustices. We must remember that we are a Christian nation.

Therefore, lets respect one another as we are all one. One Zambia, One Nation

Concerned Pupil,

Chizozu Secondary School

I write to register my total approval of the community participation in keeping the environment clean. I am particularly sure that if the community participates in keeping the environment clean, the environment will really be beneficial to our health. They say; a clean environment in equal to a clean nation.

The following will be benefits of community participation in keeping the environment clean;

- There will be improved good health in the community.
- There will be a reduction in the number of people dying from diseases such as cholera.
- A clean environment discourages breeding of disease vectors. Diseases like Bilharzias' will be prevented if we keep our water sources clean. Sources like rivers, wells, boreholes, lakes and other sources where we get water from must be kept clean.
- It also encourages a spirit of working together and appreciating a clean surrounding.

For the above reasons, I feel the government should put a day for cleaning the environment and tell the community, not just the civil servants, to participate in cleaning activities.

Thank you.

Patriotic Pupil

SPECIAL MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM ZWC

Gonzaga University 'Gold Team' 2019

Special thanks to Gonzaga University students' Gold Team that came to Zambezi in 2019 led by Prof. Armstrong, for their support to the work of Zambezi Writers Corner. ZWC would like to thank you for the support you rendered for the production of this magazine. We hope this is not the end, but the beginning of the many times you are going to support this initiative. ZWC is hopeful that your support will yield results in helping improve reading and writing skills among the learners of Zambezi district. Thanks ZAG UP –Team 2019.



Gonzaga Gold Team 2019 with ZWC Team

DEBS Office-Zambezi

Appreciation also goes to the Zambezi DEBS office which has been very supportive from the beginning of the Develop a Writer project. Therefore, as ZWC we appreciate the office for their support. We trust that our relationship and common goal to help a pupil attain high level of reading and writing skills, will last for a long time. Thank you.



ZWC with Kansanshi Foundation

Kansanshi Mining Plc

With much gratitude, we would like to thank Kansanshi Mining Plc, through its Kansanshi Foundation—Education Department, for the cordial partnership with ZWC. Our partnership clearly shows that Kansanshi Mining Plc has embraced the Develop a Writer project. This partnership is a great motivation to the many junior writers and readers in our schools. Our hope and wish is that our partnership will be an everlasting one.

A PICTORIAL NARRATIVE

BY: Ketty Chivundu
Zambezi Primary School



MY MOTHER IS MY BEST FRIEND



Who is my best friend?

My mother is my best friend

She takes me to school everyday, while others are going on their own



She looks after me all the time while she is supposed to be sleeping



Why is she my best friend?



Because she gives me food every time I am hungry

She reads me a bed time story every night before I go to sleep.



She sings for me everyday and that is why she is my best friend!



THE IMPORNTANCE OF READING AND WRITING TO A LEARNER



A learner is a person who is learning in order to acquire knowledge and skills. Writing is knowing literary work, in that to write means to put letters, words or other symbols on a surface especially with the use of a pen or pencil or any other writing tool on a paper. Reading is a way in which something is interpreted. Therefore, it is very important for a learner to know how to read and write.

In the first place, the importance of reading and writing to a learner is that it can easily help the learner to understand the meaning of school or rather the meaning of education. For a learner to be in school, he/she must know how to read and write, especially at primary level.

Pronunciation of words is taught at primary level were a learner is expected to acquire the ability of reading and writing stories to develop the ability in reading and writing.

Handwriting is another important skill of reading and writing to a learner. For instance, a learner might have an opportunity to write a letter requesting for something. The hand writing in this case helps the one reading to see the written contents clearly. The words must be readable.

In addition to the importance of reading and writing, is that it helps the learner to prepare adequately for the examinations or tests. If the learner knows how to read and write, it can be easy for him/ her to write exams or tests.

Employment after school is one important area where a learner is expected to know how to read and write. The government would never want to employ a person who cannot read nor write, because reading and writing are essential when it comes to the day to day reports required at the given work place.

In summary, the importance of reading and writing to a learner are as follows; understanding, pronunciation, hand writing and proper preparations for examinations.

Therefore, primary teachers must work hard in helping learners for them to know how to read and write.

By **wilson Nkuwa**

ZAMBEZI DAY SECONDARY SCHOOL



The Role of Citizens in Keeping the Environment Clean

In every country, it is the role of every citizen to keep the environment clean, that will help to keep the whole country clean.

Many African countries, except a few, have challenges on this matter. Zambia is not an exception. Zambia has many areas that are polluted, especially markets. A lot of rotten organic matter, plastic materials and other litter are thrown around everywhere and citizens do very little to keep these areas clean. The danger is that the polluted markets and other areas become the main cause of eruption of diseases such as cholera, diarrhea and typhoid. These diseases cause a lot of deaths among the citizens. This also affects the country's economy as government spends huge sums of money to combat the diseases.

If citizens take the role to keep their environment clean, it reduces the pressure of such fatal diseases and the country remains healthy. The reason being the environment we live in is what makes up the country clean. In addition, if each and every member of the community can be environmentally conscious, then the whole country will be clean and safe for habitation. By so doing, it will reduce the rate of infections among the members of the community.

Citizens must also avoid the cutting down of trees. It is the role of citizens to keep the environment clean and green. Avoiding deforestation is a great move towards a green environment. Government has good policies, but it is citizens that foster the implementation as they are the ones that are direct users of the natural resources. Therefore, let's work together in keeping our environment clean

By **Sarah chipilipili**

Zambezi Boarding Secondary School





It takes the Whole Village to raise a Child: Providing Solidarity towards a Child's Education.

By Patrick Kaleng'a -Former Zambezi Boarding School pupil (2002-2006).

Background

It is not debatable that education is very cardinal to the life of every individual. This is even very important in the current century that is moving at a lightening pace given the various technological advancements at every corner of society. Education has been attributed to having brought about several benefits to individuals and society. In fact, education has been used as an effective tool for the transformation of individuals, communities and the world. This is even very true for a rural community like Zambezi district where low levels of education attendance is a reality. Nelson Mandela once said that; ‘*Education is the most powerful weapon which one can use to change the world*’.

Benefits of Education

There are several benefits that education brings forth onto individuals, societies and countries. The following are selected benefits;

Reduction of poverty in individuals, families and communities.

Increased income and boosting of economic growth in individuals, families and communities

Reduced fertility rates through acquisition of reproductive health information and delay to start having children.

Promotion of gender equality in society, education is an equalizer.

Having known these life changing benefits that education brings forth unto society, it is therefore important to state here that these benefits can only be achieved by the entire society supporting the education system, to make sure that the learning environment for every child is conducive. The child must be supported in achieving their educational dreams by everyone around them. The parents, the community, the government, non-governmental organisations and the private sector must support the school going child, for the child to achieve their dreams. In fact, it is said that; ‘*it takes the whole village to raise a child*’’, this is also true with educating a child.

Role of Parents and Community in Education of a child

The old golden sayings of our fore fathers always guided us that charity began at home. It is at home that a child's future is crafted before being launched into the school, it is at home that a child's learning and education is reinforced and consolidated after school. It is an undisputed fact that parents are the ones who bring children into life, it is simply their responsibility to make sure that the child grows up responsibly and that the child gets educated. Therefore, parents or family, are one of the direct holders of educational work and development of a child.

It must be stressed that parents and the family act as a critical cell of love and respect and they dominate the understanding, affection, sacrifice and care of children. Therefore, parents build the family environment, in which society lives, laughs, plays and develops its children. Parents take a crucial role, when it comes to their children's development and education, as parents themselves are the ones who need to take care of their children's physical and intellectual development, till the point they get independent and ready to face the challenges of the society. Parents must be aware of the development of children, but at the same time they need to understand and support the need for education of their children.

Parent's and the community's support are, therefore very important in the comprehensive and successful education of a child or pupil. What teachers teach at school must be reinforced by the parents and community at home as parents can greatly influence the child's behaviour and performance at school. The parents and teachers must be pulling in the same direction and not different ways.

Continue reading this article in the next issue of LET'S READ magazine!

Early Pregnancies

Early pregnancies are a thorn in the flesh our country Zambia today. The effects cannot be over emphasized. The first one being that, sometimes it hinders the progress of girls who are the future women of our nation. The reason being that, it's not everyone who manages to go back to school after pregnancy.



The other issue is that some children born when their mother is not well empowered, are not well taken care of. Therefore, some end up on the street. Such children end up being thieves. Some are involved in bad vices which become a cost to the country. In fact some of such children are intelligent enough. However, their status deprives the nation with a human resource which could have helped in many ways to develop the country.

Therefore, early pregnancies must be discouraged at all cost and all stakeholders must be involved in the fight against early pregnancies.

Rayford Mangisha

Kamiteto Primary School



How Children Save Money

As children, we save money so that, when there is a problem, the same money can help us in time of need.

Saving money is good. That money can help when we need it the most. The same money can also help to attain good education. When one is sick or our selves, that money can still help us to meet the costs of the sickness.

We can save money using the following means;

We can save money in the bank. It is safer to save money in the bank because it cannot easily be stolen. Moreover, even when you need it, it cannot easily be accessed even if we need it the most. Nowadays, we can save money through mobile money services which is even easier and quick to access during emergencies.

I therefore, encourage my fellow children to develop the habit of saving.

Moses Sakayoya

Kandemba Primary School

I See your Pain

In horror I watch as your body struggles and falls
Your skin goes slack and cling to your bones
Your once groomed hair drops off and it is gone
Deeper than all this is your pain from your friends.

Those you called your own turned to leave you alone
Alone with your thoughts
Alone as you face the end just ahead
Alone and frightened about what is to happen in the
near future

To never see this beautiful world again
We should take a minute
And think about this we see
We must all get involved in what we see
Tomorrow
It could be your sister or brother
A friend or teacher
Or even your parents
Even be you or me

So let's reach out
To those that are infected
Mind about the affected too
Indeed, we are all affected too.

Blessed Mwale

Tunvanganai Primary School

MESSAGE FROM AUNTIE SUE

Hello boys and girls, this is Auntie Susan, but you can just call me Auntie Sue. Do you have a problem you cannot share with anyone? Do you need someone to talk to and open to? Do you feel alone and with nobody to help you? Well guess what, there are plenty of people willing to help you. Some of these people are right there at your school and are called GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING teachers. They are ready to help you, just be free and open up to them.

If you cannot do this or you have nobody to talk to, I am here to listen and offer advice. Send to me any challenges and personal problems you are going through, and I will pray with you and advice you. Send your questions and challenges to this number via whatsapp: **+260 977 362 597**



READ ON!

STOP CHILD MARIAGES

Parents of nowadays are forcing their children in marriages as their source of income. But you parents let me ask you,

When the child will be suffering will you be there?

Na! You will not be there and that's why we are saying BANAMAYO and BASHITAATA twa mi popwela, try not to encourage us in marriages but take us to school so that we can become successful people and in the future you will also benefit.

DON'T FORGET, CHILD OF TODAY, LEADER OF TOMORROW!

GILLIAN KAFWEMBE

TUMVANGANAI PRIMARY SCHOOL

GRADE 6

Education

Education is key to success
Parents allow your children to go to school

Because education is important in life

For you be successful,
You need education.

Parents you are key,
in your children's education.
Don't send them to sell on the market.

But send them to school.
Parents hear my prayer,
I am humbly asking you,
To take your children to school,
As education is key to success.

Priscilla Mulanunka
Tuvwanganai Primary School



WE ARE ONE

Celebrating a shared future of unity, development and prosperity

Yes we can attain a developed Zambia – its possible
United we stand, divided we fall! Zambia is a haven of peace and prosperity

Although we may have many languages, we are one Zambia, one Nation.

Celebrating a shared future of unity, development and prosperity

Yes we can attain a developed Zambia – its possible
Our forefathers laid a foundation of unity, let us unite and work as one

Abash to corruption

Abash to vandalism

Say no to hate speech

Say no to tribalism

MUKUWA SEPO

ZAMBEZI PRIMARY SCHOOL



ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Agro—business is a good entrepreneurship venture

Entrepreneurship means buying and selling goods to make a profit. It can also be a kind of business where one makes products for sale. Goods for sale can be in form of foodstuffs like making scones. It can also be engaging in gardening to grow vegetables for sell. Dress making also can be a kind of business through which one makes dresses and have them sold to people.

Entrepreneurship is good because it helps a person generate income in order to support oneself and others. The profit made can be used to do other things like building a house to stay in. The profit can also be used to expand the business. When the business has expanded, it can even employ other people. Entrepreneurship also helps to create employment in this way. This employment will empower people. Empowerment helps people to be independent and also be able to look after others.

In conclusion, it is a very welcome idea that people engage themselves in entrepreneurship in order to generate funds for various things in their lives.

OSHANCY MWANSA
ST. MARY'S SPECIAL SCHOOL

MORE POEMS



CORRUPTION

Corruption! Corruption! Corruption!
 It is now a profession
 It is spreading like an infection
 That needs an instant cure and medication
 It works like a termite
 Eating everything day and night
 It is a malicious cancer
 Deep rooted posing a danger
 We only take and acquire
 That also with no true desire
 We hardly raise our voice
 As if we have no choice
 Root cause are we!
 Not they, he or she
 Lets pledge to fight
 To erode this termite

MUKE MBUMBA

CHINYINGI PRIMARY SCHOOL

Child Marriage

It is a parasite
 That sacks our blood as children
 And make us anemic
 And now our brain is pale

Children and parents
 Let's fight this parasite
 That is sacking our future
 In the name of early marriage

Parents don't marry off your children
 Because of money
 Money will finish
 But education is for their entire life.

Obed Poho

Roswell Mwepu

Saviour Kashindi

Kimasala Primary School

Education

Education you are wonderful,
 You are the key to success,
 You are the people's progress,
 The light in darkness.
 Without you,
 There will be total darkness.

I will be blind,
 I will be no where,
 I will be lost,
 Indeed, I will be dead.



Boys and girls have the desire to learn,
 It will give you the future,
 That you desire,
 Education is for all,
 The rich and the poor,
 Education is power.

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BHD
 photography

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DEVELOP A WRITER PROJECT



Develop a writer is a project initiated by Zambezi Writers Corner with a view to develop writers in the district, province as well as the country at large. The whole essence of the project is to help reduce the high illiteracy levels among the learners. Therefore, through this project, we believe that it will encourage learners to read and write as some topics selected will require learners to research widely. This process will help learners develop their reading and writing skills.

For this to be achieved, it requires collective effort from all stakeholders who should participate fully in helping to develop the reading and the writing skills of our learners.

Therefore, we are asking the corporate

world, partners, friends and well-wishers to help in any way possible to make the project a success. Your donation and contribution will definitely help reduce the poor reading and writing levels in our learners and also develop writers in the country.

You can donate or contribute anything as the call is noble.

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