



ZCAS UNIVERSITY

MID SEM EXAM

SMS 2562: DEMOCRACY, POLITICS, AND INSTITUTIONS

DATE: 20th OCTOBER 2023

TIME: 16:30 – 19:30 Hrs.

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS (5 minutes reading through the paper)

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. Section A: Question One in Section A is compulsory.**
- 2. Sections B: Answer THREE (3) questions from this section.**
- 3. This examination paper carries a total of 100 marks.**
- 4. Candidates must not turn this page until they are told to do so.**

SECTION A

QUESTION 1 (This question is compulsory and must be attempted)

Improving institutions of democracy in Africa and Zambia requires addressing various political, social and economic factors.

However, each African country has its own unique context and challenges. Tailoring strategies to fit specific circumstances, involving local stakeholders and maintaining a long-term commitment to democratic principles are key to achieving sustainable improvements in democratic institutions.

Describe how the following institutions can be used to enhance democracy in Zambia;

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| a, Political parties | (10 marks) |
| b, Electoral commission | (10 marks) |
| c, Law enforcing agents | (10 marks) |
| d, Media | (10 marks) |
| Total: | (40 marks) |

SECTION B: (Attempt ANY THREE questions in this section)

QUESTION 2

Decentralization and local governance are seen as avenues through which democracy could be strengthened in Africa as a whole and Zambia in particular.

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| a, How has decentralizing resources (financial) and decision making to local governments contributed to strengthening democracy in Zambia. | (10 marks) |
| b, What challenges need to be addressed in the process? | (10 marks) |
| Total: | (20 marks) |

QUESTION 3

Some of the hinderances that African countries face in strengthening democracy include low participation of the youth and women in politics, yet the two groups constitute the majority of most African populations.

- | | |
|---|------------|
| a, How can African countries encourage greater political participation and engagement among the youth to ensure a more vibrant and inclusive democracy. | (10 marks) |
|---|------------|

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| a, How can African countries encourage greater political participation and engagement among the youth to ensure a more vibrant and inclusive democracy. | (10 marks) |
|---|------------|

b, What strategies can be employed to overcome cultural and structural barriers that hinder women's active participation in politics and leadership roles, thereby strengthening gender equality within democratic system. (10 marks)

Total: (20 marks)

QUESTION 4

Over the years, democracy has emerged to be a preferred form of political system in the world as opposed to other forms.

a, Using examples, distinguish the two forms of democracy, namely, Presidential and Parliamentary. (10 marks)

b, Outline conditions or characteristics that favor democracy in Africa. (10 marks)

Total: (20 marks)

QUESTION 5

In order to promote good governance and prevent emergency of an all-powerful government or one that is tyrannical over its people, some governance practices have to be exercised among the three arms of government.

Using examples, explain how the following practices are exercised in Zambia:

a, Separation of powers. (7 marks)

b, Fusion of power. (7 marks)

c, Checks and balances. (6 marks)

Total: (20 marks)

END OF EXAMINATION

