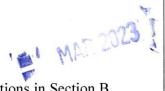BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION

SFM 121: OFFICIAL STATISTICS

Time: 3 hours

Candidates may attempt ALL questions in Section A and at most two questions in Section B.
Each question should start on a fresh page.

Section A (40 marks)

Candidates may attempt ALL questions being careful to number them A1 to A5.

A1.a) The price of a machine

   in 2017 is $3 000

   in 2018 is $2 000

   in 2019 is $1 000

   Construct a price index for the machine with base year 2018. [3]

b) The price of a car in 2011 is $6 000, in 2016 is $8 000, and in 2021 is $9 000.

   Construct a price index for the car with base year 2011. [3]

c) Calculate the Paasche Price Index for January 2020 for each of the following with base January 2019. For my travel costs. My weekly travel costs are train cost to and from work, and bus cost to and from the town centre. The cost and number per week are as follows: [6]

	Price 2019	**Quantity 2019**	**Price 2020**	**Quantity 2020**
Train cost	$1.85	10	$2	6
Bus cost	$0.75	4	$1	4

A2. Explain the importance of official statistics. [10]

A3. Outline six strategic goals of the Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency. [6]

A4. Explain how the ZIMSTATS fulfils its role of advocacy and dissemination of statistical information. [8]

A5. Explain an economic transaction. [4]

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Section B (60 marks)

Candidates may attempt two questions being careful to number them B6 to B8.

B6. Conduct a swot analysis of the ZIMSTAT. (30)

B7. a) Relate how the following objectives of NSDS2 can be met:

   i.   Develop capacities within NSS [7]

   ii.   Strengthen civil registration system, administrative records, surveys and censuses and other sources of data [7]

 b) You are given the following balance of payments data

   Merchandise exports   100

   Merchandise imports   125

   Tourism exports   90

   Insurance imports   80

   Income receipts from abroad (profit – multinationals)   110

   Income payments (interest payments) to foreigners   150

   Increase in home country's ownership of assets abroad   160

   Increase in foreign ownership of assets in home countries   200

   Assuming that unilateral transfer equal zero, find the merchandise trade balance, net exports, the current account balance, the capital and financial account balance and the Official Reserve Assets. [10]

 b) Describe the balance of payments identity and discuss its implications under the fixed and flexible exchange rate regimes. [6]

B8. a) Explain the following terms:

   i.   Labour statistics [5]

   ii.   Population census [5]

   iii. National accounts [5]

   iv.   School net enrolment ratio [5]

 b) Examine the role of the following departments of the ZIMSTAT:

   i.   Information technology [5]

   ii.   Accounts section [5]