

BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION  
FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING  
DEPARTMENT: SPORTS SCIENCE  
MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN SPORTS SCIENCE  
SM 505 SPORTS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
(PAPER 2)

**DURATION: 3 HOURS**  
(Plus 15 Minutes for case reading)

**TOTAL MARKS: 100**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

 **NOV 2023**

Section A is compulsory.

Answer three questions from Section B.

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**Section A**

**Case: These Women: Zimbabwe's neglected sports champions**

By: Grace Chirumhanzu

Kirsty Coventry, the Zimbabwean swimmer, flew out of the London empty-handed after the 2012 Summer Olympics, having had the courage to compete after suffering from pneumonia. She had haplessly trailed an American teenage sensation who, not only broke the world record Coventry had set, but was a pacesetter who denied Coventry a podium finish in a style she is strong in—the 200m backstroke.

In response, the media in Zimbabwe failed to acknowledge her struggles and appreciate her courage to even compete when the odds were against her.

“Why did she go ahead with the competition if she had been sick?”

“At her age is it not time for her to retire anyway?!”

That was the tone veiled in the reports that appeared disappointed by an athlete who “owed” Zimbabwe an Olympic medal.

On the other hand, the Golden Girl, as Coventry is affectionately known, has admitted that in swimming, the younger an athlete, the better her chances of winning. And surely Coventry is not growing any younger. She will be turning 33 years old next year and she dares to face the challenge of competing again in next year's Summer Games in Brazil.

That alone should be lauded as a bold effort.

She has already displayed her ability of being the country's medalist next year by winning gold medals at the 2015 All Africa Games in Congo-Brazzaville.

Coventry is the flagship of Zimbabwe's success at the Olympics, one of the most successful Zimbabwean sports personality of all time.

Along with her the successes of tennis ace Cara Black, the national hockey team -the golden girls- who won Zimbabwe's first gold medal in the 1980 Olympics, among other successful women in sports, can never be undermined.

Why then should our media be reactionary to women's participation in sports? Why do we get to know of these stars only when they have hogged the limelight?

Women in sports have been portrayed through the media as curtain raisers in a men's show. They never get to lead the story, and their achievements are hidden in the conclusions of big stories featuring sportsmen.

We always get to read, meanwhile in the women's category this happened. Is that an afterthought? It stands as a reminder to the rare readers who read reports to the end that, by the way, before you finish there was this woman who tried to do what the men were doing.

Young Zimbabwean girls need to grow up having dreams of representing this nation in sports and feeling it is their space. This is not possible if the national women's football, cricket, and rugby teams, among others, are treated, not just by the media, but by their own associations, like second-class citizens.

There is need for corporates to invest financially in women's sports, various associations to develop and nurture women's participation at the grassroots level and for sports journalists not to be chauvinistic in their reports.

*This piece has been published as part of a series promoting the voices of young Zimbabwean feminists, in partnership with HOLAAfrica!, a pan-African queer womanist platform, Her Zimbabwe, an initiative that nurtures young women's digital activism, and Urgent Action Fund - Africa, a pan-African feminist fund. Follow us on Twitter: @HOLAAfrica, @herzimbabwe, @UAFAfrica.*

**Tasks:**

- i. Comment on the behaviour of the media in the case above and the possible impact on women athletes. (10 marks)
- ii. In response to the case, **"These Women: Zimbabwe's Neglected Sports Champions."** by Grace Chirumhanzu, prepare a presentation on the promotion of women athletes in Zimbabwe. (30 marks)

## Section B.

1. Kicking AIDS Out (KAO) is a project of the EduSport Foundation, an NGO based in Zambia, and is designed by and for African citizens to implement sport-based educational programmes to improve HIV awareness and prevention in African.

### Task:

Design a sport-based educational programme to improve HIV awareness and prevention in a selected rural area in Zimbabwe. (20 marks)

2. Abuse of drugs and other intoxicating substances is becoming a pandemic among the youth. As a sports scientist you have been invited to present at a programme aimed at stopping drug abuse among the youths.

### Task:

Prepare a paper on intervention strategies to stop drug and substance abuse in the community through sport activities among the youths in Zimbabwe. (20 marks)

3. Prison inmates can sometimes be lonely and inactive, which can affect their physical and social health.

### Task:

Prepare a paper on how you can improve the physical and social health of convicts and also prepare them for life after serving their prison sentences through sport. (20 marks)

4. Orphans and other disadvantaged children lead a life of suffering and hopelessness. Sport can be instrumental in giving the disadvantaged children hope and improved life.

### Task:

Prepare a presentation on how you would use sport to improve the social and economic lives of the orphans and disadvantaged children. (20 marks)

5. Best sustainable agricultural practices can be promoted through sport. You have been invited to present at a field day on how sport can be used to achieve food security in rural areas in Zimbabwe.

Task:

Design a paper on how food security can be promoted through sport in rural Zimbabwe. (20 marks)

END OF PAPER