

PAN AFRICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
END OF TRIMESTER EXAMS APRIL 2022
UCC 103: RESEARCH AND WRITING (ROYSAMBU DAY, EVENING & VALLEY ROAD)

Exam Duration: 3 hours

Section A: Answer all the questions in this section (10 marks)

Q 1: Read the argument below and answer the questions that follow.

Suicides Publicized on Social Media and Teens' ER (Hospital Emergency rooms) Visits

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among teens and young adults in Canada and the United States. The research looked at the role that adolescents' increasing use of social media might play in ER visits for suicidal behavior. In his study, Naveen Poonai, MD, MSc, examined the widespread media reports about the suicide death of 15-year-old Amanda Todd and whether there was a resulting effect on suicide-related visits by youths to Ontario's emergency departments. Amanda Todd committed suicide on Oct. 10, 2012, after years of cyberbullying that she described in a YouTube video that went viral after her death.

Using 2002-2013 data from Canada's National Ambulatory Care Reporting System, researchers used an interrupted time-series analysis to examine monthly rates of emergency department visits related to suicidal behavior such as intentional self-poisoning before and after Todd's suicide. They found a no significant change in ER visits for suicidal behavior after her death. Importantly however, the authors found a significant increase in ER visits in teenagers for suicidal behavior that began in June 2011. No such increase was found among the younger children studied.

"Our results suggest that despite provincial funding initiatives and anti-bullying campaigns, ER visits for suicidal behavior in Ontario, Canada have been increasing among adolescents for the last five years. However, this increase should not necessarily be attributed to social media and future research should focus on elucidating other reasons for this worrisome trend," said Dr. Poonai, an associate professor of pediatrics and emergency medicine at Western University in London, Ontario. Dr. Poonai said the findings also support the development of a national suicide prevention strategy in Canada."

The article was authored by The American Academy of Pediatrics in 2016.

It has been retrieved from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2016-10-suicides-social-media-teens-er.html>

Questions

- i) Giving a justification, identify the claim the writer has advanced in this passage. (1 marks)
- ii) With a reason, identify a target audience for this passage. (1 marks)

- iii) What were the assumptions of the research reported in paragraph 3 and what are the findings? (2 marks)
- iv) Assuming you read the above article when doing a research, show how you would use the underlined sentence as a direct quote and correctly acknowledge the source using APA (7th edition)documentation style. (2 marks)
- v) Arrange the details of the text as they would appear in an APA reference list. (2 mark)
- vi) Explain briefly one reason why documentation of resources used in a research is important in academic writing. (2 marks)

SECTION B: Answer any THREE questions

- 2. Discuss 5 ways through which Information literacy benefits an academic writer. (10 marks)
- 3. Write an argumentative 300 word essay on how social media affects teenagers. (10 marks)
- 4. Explain the five features of academic writing that make it distinct from other types of writing. (10 marks)
- 5. Describe 5 critical thinking strategies and illustrate how they contribute to effective academic writing. (10 marks)