JAMB SYLLABUS

USE OF ENGLISH

1. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) syllabus in Use of English is to guide the candidates in their preparation for the Board's examination. It is designed to evaluate the candidates' ability to:

(i) communicate effectively in both written and spoken English.

(ii) use the English Language for learning at the tertiary level.

2. The syllabus consists of three sections:

SECTION A: Comprehension/Summary

SECTION B: Lexis and Structure, and

SECTION C: Oral Forms

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DETAILED SYLLABUS/CONTENTS

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
A. Comprehension/ Summary (a) description (b) narration (c) exposition (d) argumentation/persuasion (i) Each of the two passages to be set (one will be a cloze test) should reflect various disciplines and be about 200 words long. (ii) Questions on the passages will test the following: (a) Comprehension of the whole or part of each passage. (b) Comprehension of words,	Candidates should be able to: i. identify main points/topic sentences in passages; ii. determine implied meaning; iii. identify the grammatical functions of words, phrases, clauses and figurative /idiomatic expressions; iv. deduce or infer the writer's intentions including mood, attitude to the subject matter and opinion.

phrases, clauses, sentences, figures of speech and idioms as used in the passages.	
(c) Coherence and logical reasoning (deductions, inferences, etc).	
(d) The Life Changer, Khadija Abubakar Jalli	
(e) Synthesis of ideas from the passages.	
NOTE: *By synthesis of ideas is meant the art of combining distinct or separate pieces of information to form a complete whole.*	
B. Lexis and Structure	Candidates should be able to:
(a) synonyms	i. identify words and expressions in their ordinary, figurative and idiomatic contexts;
(b) antonyms	
(c) homonyms	

(d) clause and sentence patterns	ii. determine similar and opposite meaning of words;
(e) word classes and their functions	iii. differentiate between correct and incorrect punctuation and spelling;
(f) mood, tense, aspect, number, agreement/concord, degree (positive, comparative and superlative) and question tags	iv. identify various grammatical patterns in use;
	v. interpret information conveyed in sentences.
(g) punctuation and spelling	
(h) ordinary usage, figurative usage and idiomatic usage are to be tested.	
NOTE: *Idioms to be tested shall be those that are formal and expressed in standard British English.*	

C. Oral Forms	Candidates should be able to:
(a) Vowels (monothongs and diphthongs)	i. make distinctions between vowel types;
(b) Consonants (including clusters)	ii. differentiate between consonant types;
(c) Rhymes (including homophones)	iii. identify correct accentuation in individual words and connected speech.
(d) Word stress (monosyllabic and polysyllabic)	
(e) Intonation (words emphatic stress)	
NOTE: *Emphatic stress involves the placement of normal stress on words in an utterance for the purpose of emphasis.*	

D. THE STRUCTURE OF THE EXAMINATION

SECTION A: Comprehension/Summary

(a) 1 comprehension passage – 5 questions

(b) I cloze passage – 10 questions

(c) 1 reading text – 10 questions

SECTION B: Lexis and Structure

(a) Sentence interpretation – 5 questions

(b) Antonyms – 5 questions

(c) Synonyms – 5questions

(d) Sentence completion – 10 questions

SECTION C: Oral Forms

10 questions

Total: 60 questions