**Life Orientation Term 1 Task**

**Assessment Task Part 1 (there are two parts)**

**Due Date 17 February 2021**

**Marks: 19**

**The Covid-19 Pandemic**

The variant, first identified in South Africa, is predominant and powering record case numbers in South Africa and the sub-region. It has been found in Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Comoros, Zambia and in 24 non-African nations. “The variant has spread quickly beyond Africa and so what’s keeping me awake at night right now is that it’s very likely circulating in a number of African countries,” said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, the World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional Director for Africa.

WHO is working to track and tackle new variants by helping countries build and boost the complex genomic surveillance capacities needed to detect and respond to the new variants, shipping samples to sequencing laboratories and providing supplies and technical guidance. Such laboratories have been set up in several African countries.

“In addition to the new variants, COVID-19 fatigue, and the aftermath of year-end gatherings risk powering a perfect storm and driving up Africa’s second wave and overwhelming health facilities,” said Dr Moeti. “Africa is at a crossroads. We must stick to our guns and double down on the tactics we know work so well. That is mask wearing, handwashing and safe social distancing. Countless lives depend on it.”

1.1 What do you understand by 501Y.v2? (2)

1.2 What is meant by the concept genomic surveillance? (3)

1.3 The 2nd wave has caused negative effects to the school calendar. Analyse any 5 of these effects. (4x2) (8)

1.4 In your own opinion, is the WHO doing enough to track and tackle the spread of the pandemic world-wide especially in Africa? Give reasons for your answer. (2x3) (6)