

Your platform Change how we teach children

By Cosmas Enyasu

The greatest pain the intellectuals face is to be led by the irrelevant people who are educated and presumed not just to be informed but transformed by what they have come across in the academia. Irrelevance is worse than ignorance – Abraham Lincoln. Prof. Abdu Kasozi, you appealed for the repealing of the education structure by suggesting a need for wide reading outside the field one is engaged. Whereas there are students

that really read widely; gathering information on various fields, this kind of reading is what Robert Malhland terms as informational reading, a gathering of data and seeking information.

A friend of mine came seeking counsel as to why people misunderstand her. I gave her one of Kennedy Eugene's book, *Free to be Human* because it explores the inner barricades which all of us erect in our own journey to attain freedom and meaning in life.

She came back after about one and half hours that she had finished! Though not a bulky book about 170 pages, I expected a meditative reading from her with keen attention to chapter seven – a transformational form of reading so to say which takes into consideration quality.

Information has to be deciphered so as to lead to the transformation of one's life. Informational reading is a precursor to transformational reading which has much to do with the development

of one's intellectual ability given that; one engages the inner power (introspection) with the information at hand. I am sure my friend did not do this and yet it is in this kind of reading that one's heart and mind blend together; creating from within an interest to go on and on as one turns the pages.

I would highly recommend transformational reading to be fostered in institutions as it leaves one with solid knowledge that can be objectively subjected into criticism. It

takes time to learn this kind of reading and requires a serene atmosphere in order to be in touch with the self and information.

That is why it is appropriate to begin as early as primary school level, to break and transcend the tendency trussing pupils only on tips of passing.

The writer is a student at St. Paul's National Seminary, Kinyamasika

How can I study abroad?

I completed a certificate of technical teacher education at Kyambogo University. I also have an advanced certificate in motor vehicle technician. I want to study mechanical engineering from outside Uganda. How can I do it?

Alex Bagambagye, Instructor, Kibatsi Technical Institute, Ntungamo.

Sarah Namuli, the commissioner for technical education in the ministry of education, says that

countries like Japan, Korea and Belgium usually offer scholarships for Ugandan students to pursue vocational studies abroad. She, however, advises that you study a diploma first so that you can be eligible for admission to a bachelor's degree course. Diplomas are offered at Uganda technical colleges located countrywide.

After the diploma, you could then seek for scholarship opportunities online at various embassies or even seek information from the ministry.

Can I resit O, A level and my degrees remain valid?

I am a teacher. I have a bachelor and Master's degrees in education but my O' and A' level certificates are disapproved. Can I resit O and A level and my degrees remain valid?

John

the university, only after you have sat for these two levels of education. This means that, even if you resit O' and A' level, this will not make the degree you already have, valid. This is because you obtained the degrees possibly on the basis of fake certificates.

You will have to repeat all education levels if you want to get a degree.

The National Council for Higher Education guidelines clearly expect you to get admitted to

Q & A

Every teacher needs advice. Send your questions to mwalimu@newvision.co.ug and our expert will answer them



One can upgrade for a degree in medicine under the diploma entry scheme

Can I apply for a degree in medicine and surgery?

I acquired a first class diploma in comprehensive nursing. Is it possible to apply for a degree in medicine and surgery? If not, is it possible with a degree in clinical medicine?

KG

To be admitted under the diploma holders' entry scheme, one is expected

to possess at least a second class lower diploma in a field related to his desired degree course.

Dr. Rose Nabirye, a senior lecturer at Makerere University, says nursing and medicine are related, which means you can be admitted. You can also apply through the mature age entry scheme, you are aged 25 years and above.

How do I get a degree after O' level?

I sat for O' level 10 years ago and I have four years' experience in laboratory work. Where can I start from so that I also get a degree?

Anonymous

With the 10 years' experience, it means you are aged above 25 years. If this is the case, you can apply for admission to a university degree programme through the mature age entry scheme. Under this scheme, you will be required to sit and pass the University Mature Entry Examination, which is normally an aptitude test set by the national council for higher education.

How will I ever get on the payroll?

I completed Primary Teachers College in 2011. Since then I have been teaching at a government primary school in anticipation of getting onto the payroll which as not yet come to pass. Will I ever get on the payroll?

James, Iganga

Daniel Nkaada, the commissioner for primary education at the education ministry says that you need wait until either the district or ministry advertises for teaching posts.

He says, when you apply, you should wait for the normal process to take its course of vetting the applicants and appointing the successful ones.

As you go through, you will be required to accept the appointment and report for duty so that the district authorities can include your name on the payroll. Nkaada says there are no shortcuts and that it is not necessary for you to teach before being appointed.

If you have any question which you want answered. Write to us on mwalimu@newvision.co.ug