

Student Profile

Name: **Joseph Chonza**

Gender: Male

Date of Birth: 18th December 1994

Place of Birth: Mongu

Guardian: Namushi Litebele

Relationship: Aunt

Profession: Shop Owner

Primary School: Mumana Basic School

Secondary School: **Chalo Trust School**

2012 Level: **Grade 11**



Family Background:

Joseph lives with his aunt, Namushi Litebele, in Kaunda Square. He was born and lived in a village in Western Mongu with his father, mother, brother and sister. Village life was extremely difficult at times, especially since the family only produced enough food for consumption and not for sale. Paying for many necessities was extremely tough and so Joseph would have gone without much of an education were it not for his aunt who took an interest in his development.

Namushi had once been kept by an aunt of hers and greatly benefited from the financial support she received. She was able to finish her secondary school and also completed a course in education, qualifying her to be a teacher. Because of this, she decided to take care of Joseph. However, she had difficulty finding a job and ended up working in a shop in Kaunda Square Market. Despite their financial difficulties, Namushi is proud of Joseph and continues to give support to her relatives in the village. Joseph and Namushi both commented that the KF scholarship has had an enormous impact on his family—notably, it has allowed his family to continue to fund his brothers' educations and made it possible for the family to afford rent and more food.

Joseph's Educational Background:

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Primary - Mumana Basic School

When Joseph moved in with Namushi, he was enrolled at Mumana basic school. Here is where he began to show his aunt just how bright he really was. Starting from grade one, Joseph was placed among the top three positions in his class and continued to do so all the way until grade seven. Perhaps this is due to the love he has for inspiring teachers.

At Leopards Hill Secondary School

Grade 8

Joseph made a smooth transition at Leopard's Hill School, achieving first and second position in the majority of his classes. While in the first term he struggled to understand and apply mathematics and English language, through practice and hard work, he improved markedly over the course of the year.

Grade 8 Academic Achievements:

- First position in Civics, Agricultural Science and Geography
- Second position in Religious Education
- "Smartest" (best-dressed) boy in the junior school

Grade 9

Joseph has continued to excel at LHS during grade nine. He has remained at second position in his class across all three terms, competing constantly with Mailess, another KF student. At the prize giving ceremony at the end of the year, Joseph received awards for the best student in civics and history. He also gave a speech about a class trip to a local compound, speaking powerfully and eloquently. Joseph also continues to impress his classmates on the field, receiving prizes in the 100, 200, and 800 m races and javelin competitions during Sports Day. A highlight from term two came when Joseph and the rest of the grade 8s and 9s took a trip to Parliament to learn about the Zambian legislature. This was right along the lines with his career interests in law. Joseph completed his grade 9 national exams at the end of the term, and is expecting high results.

Grade 10

Joseph has had a somewhat difficult academic transition to Grade 10. In Term 1 and 2 he dropped to 7th then 8th position in his class and has struggled with English and Mathematics. He is very unhappy with his results and took some time for self reflection before commencing Term 3. He believes he may have been overworking himself to the point where studying was negatively affecting his grades. He plans to revert to the strategies that worked for him in Grade 9 during Term 3. Already, he feels that he is doing better and is looking forward to better marks in Term 3.

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Outside of class, Joseph has seen great success this year. He recently took 1st position in the 1500 meter race and 2nd in the 200 meter. In Term 2, he was appointed President of the Wildlife Conservation Club at school. Recently, he has been named the Sport Prefect at Leopards Hill. This means he is responsible for all the sports activities at his school and for arranging inter-school tournaments.

Joseph's Interests:

Joseph plays on the soccer team at Leopard's Hill as right wing midfielder. He also participates in athletics and often wins prizes in javelin, obstacle course, 200 meters, 3000 meters, and long jump. He is also a talented chess player.

Joseph has also joined the Junior Engineering Technical Science Club (JETS) where they learn practical applications of biology, chemistry and physics. "After teachings, the teachers give us a quiz to compete amongst the junior students. JETS is a very educational club, therefore, I acquire more knowledge from JETS than any other club."

Community Service

During holidays, Joseph has been offering lesson in reading to children under the age of 7 in his community. He usually reads them stories to help them with understanding English language, then asks them questions to test their comprehension. Since he has moved, he is looking to work with two other KF students to begin a football and education-based service project.

Career Interests:

Joseph wants to be a lawyer when he completes his education because of his interest in current affairs.

Joseph's Role Model:

Joseph looks up to Bill Gates because he is inventive, hard-working, and ambitious. "My role model is Bill Gates because he is one clever man who thought of improving technology."

What others think of Joseph:

His teachers describe him as an "excellent and focused student" and an "inspiration to teach in class."

Joseph's Thoughts

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At the 2010 prize giving ceremony: “those in the compound we visited, among other things, do not have adequate running water. We must fight against such injustices by using our education to change our communities.