

# **SOCIAL STUDIES**

## **1. GENERAL COMMENTS**

The standard of questions set for this year was good and compared with that of the previous year. Some questions demanded straight forward answers while others demanded some amount of analysis from candidates.

## **2. SUMMARY OF CANDIDATES' STRENGTHS**

Commendable features/improvements noted in candidates' answers which should be encouraged were;

- (i) Language and facts were systematically and cohesively presented.
- (ii) Very good hand writing were presented by some candidates.
- (iii) Strict adherence to rubrics of the paper
- (iv) Questions were answered on fresh pages and were well numbered.
- (v) Good understanding of the questions was displayed by majority of candidates.

## **3. A SUMMARY OF CANDIDATES' WEAKNESSES**

- (i) Some candidates did not follow the instructions of the paper and went ahead to answer more questions than required.
- (ii) A section of the candidates lacked clarity of expression and orderly presentation of materials.
- (iii) Few candidates did not show understanding of the subject.
- (iv) Few candidates presented very bad handwriting that could not be read.

## **4. SUGGESTED REMEDIES**

- (i) Teachers should try to complete the syllabus before students are presented for examination.
- (ii) Teachers should stop the practice of teaching only selected topics and cover all topics so that candidates will not have problems with the selection of questions.
- (iii) Teachers should give sufficient exercises to students, mark them and discuss their weaknesses with them.

- (iv) Terminal examination based on topics taught and on the model of the BECE paper should be a continuous practice and convention in all schools.
- (v) Adequate supervision of public schools should be encouraged because the few private schools' papers marked were far ahead of the public schools in terms of the quality of answers provided.

## 5. DETAILED COMMENTS

### Question 1

- (a) **Identify the vegetation types numbered on the map as follows I, II, III, IV and V.**
- (b) **Highlight five benefits of water bodies in Ghana.**

This question seemed to be popular with most candidates who did justice to it. About 80% identified the vegetations and highlighted five benefits of water bodies.

On the other hand some candidates flopped because they mixed up the vegetations.

### Question 2

- (a) **What is cultural change?**
- (b) **Explain four factors responsible for cultural change in Ghana.**

This was also attempted with some amount of success. The explanation or definition of cultural change was not well presented. Most candidates could not state the factors responsible for cultural change in Ghana, let alone factors that contribute to cultural change.

### Question 3

- (a) **Highlight any four contributions of Ghana to the United Nations Organization.**
- (b) **In what four ways has Ghana benefited from the United Nations Organization?**

Most candidates listed points for their answers instead of following the rubrics of the questions. They failed woefully to explain the points.

In some cases, answers meant for (a) went to (b) and vice versa. The answers were mixed up and this resulted in some candidates obtaining low marks.

#### **Question 4**

- (a) What is separation of powers?**
- (b) Outline four advantages of separation of powers?**

This was one of the well answered questions.

Aside the marking scheme definition, most of the candidates were able to write definitions in their own words.

Most candidates outlined the four advantages but others could not, although their definitions were alright. Nonetheless it was one of the popular questions for candidates.

#### **Question 5**

**In what five ways can Ghana reduce her dependency on foreign financial support?**

Not well answered. Most candidates who attempted this question could not explain how Ghana can reduce her foreign financial dependency syndrome.

#### **Question 6**

- (a) Describe four ways through which human resource can be developed in Ghana.**
- (b) State two reasons why labour is not fully used in Ghana.**

This question was not popular with most candidates. The few who attempted it scored low marks as they could not explain how human resource is not fully utilized in Ghana.