

SOCIAL STUDIES 2

1. **GENERAL COMMENTS**

The standard of the paper this year compares favourably with that of previous years. There was slight improvement in the performance of candidates this year.

3. **SUMMARY OF CANDIDATES' STRENGTHS**

- (a) Commendable features noted were as follows:
- (b) The rubrics were generally followed
- (c) Some candidates had good understanding of the following topics:
 - Health needs of Ghanaians
 - Natural disasters
 - Effects of ethnic conflicts
- (d) Most candidates had legible handwriting
- (e) Majority showed good understanding of the questions.

4. **SUMMARY OF CANDIDATES' WEAKNESSES**

The weaknesses of candidates are varied. These include the following:

- (a) Spelling errors.
- (b) Most candidates did not understand the following instructional words in the questions: Outline, Describe and State.
- (c) Lack of knowledge and understanding questions on the following topics:
 - Conflict management,
 - Characteristics of the North East trade winds in Ghana,
 - Effects of North - East trade winds,
 - International co-operation.

5. **SUGGESTED REMEDIES**

- (a) Candidates need to be helped to improve on their command of the English language
- (b) Teachers are to treat all topics in the syllabus before candidates write the examination.
- (c) Candidates need to practice with past questions
- (d) Candidates should be guided to write their answers in meaningful sentences and expound on them where necessary.

DETAILED COMMENTS

- Q1. (a) List *five* examples of natural disasters.**
(b) Outline five ways by which the physical environment can be protected from degradation.

This question tested candidate's knowledge and understanding of natural disasters and measures that could be adopted to protect the physical environment from degradation.

The question was presented in two parts (a) and (b).

The (a) part was well listed but was laced with several spelling mistakes. Some candidates had problems with understanding the (b) part of the question and therefore deviated. The deviations include understanding the question to be issues that cause accidents and deaths.

Others did not provide actual ways by which the physical environment can be protected from degradation, instead provided answers such as avoid illegal mining, avoid overgrazing, avoid soil erosion etc, which did not amount to practical ways of protecting the physical environment and therefore lost some marks.

The following are some of the expected responses:

- The use of appropriate technology,
- Setting up conservation of forests,
- Public education,
- Re-cycle of resources,
- The use of lesser known resources, etc.

- Q2. (a) List *five* characteristics of the North East Trade winds in Ghana**
(b) Describe *five* effects of the effects of the North East Trade Winds in Ghana.

The question was in two parts, (a) and (b) and both tested knowledge and understanding of the climate of Ghana with reference to the north east trade winds in Ghana.

The question was not so popular with most candidates as most of the candidate who attempted it deviated. Candidates could not distinguish between characteristics and effects of the north east trade winds; instead, some candidates stated the following as characteristics erroneously, *bleeding of lips, drying of crops, drying of clothe, etc.*

The following are characteristics of the north east trade winds in Ghana:

- The winds blow from the north east of Ghana to the south- west of Ghana in terms of direction of winds
- The Winds are normally dry
- The Winds do not bring rainfall
- The winds bring along dust
- The winds blow around the months of November to March etc.

The (b) part of the question requested for the effects of the north-east trade winds in Ghana and was well answered by most candidates.

- Q3. (a) (i) Define conflict management**
- (ii) List *five* sources of conflict in society.**
- (b) Outline four effects of ethnic conflicts in Ghana**

Question 3 was on the topic conflict management and effects of conflicts in Ghana.

It was a popular question as most candidates answered it. Some candidates defined conflict resolution and conflict prevention instead and lost marks. Some candidates misunderstood the question on sources of conflict in society as referring to places where conflicts take place such as the markets, lorry station, chief palaces, etc. and therefore lost marks.

Sources of conflicts in Ghana include:

- Intolerance
- Suspicion
- Poor media report
- Tribal/ethnocentrism
- Abuse of human rights
- Location of/siting of public facilities etc.

The (b) part of the question expected the following as good answers

- Loss of property
- Loss of lives
- Prevents/retards developments
- Creates instability/insecurity
- Leads to famine etc.

- Q4. (a) List *four* ways through which Ghana cooperate with other nations.**
(b) Outline four reasons for which Ghana co-operates with neighboring countries.

Question 4 was on the topic international cooperation in which candidates were tested on the knowledge and understanding of the topic. It was not popular with candidates as the few who answered this question performed badly.

The various ways through which Ghana cooperates with other nations include

- Political
- Social
- Cultural
- Sports
- Educational military
- Technical etc

The reasons for which Ghana co-operates with neighbouring countries include:

- To fight common interest
- Sharing of common ideas
- Relief assistance
- Solicit financial assistance
- Create wider markets
- Military assistance etc.

- Q5. Outline *five* ways by which State Owned Enterprises differ from Private Owned Enterprises.**

Candidates were required to outline ways in which State-owned enterprises differ from private owned enterprises. It was popular with candidates as most of them scored high marks.

Few candidates were unable to bring out the differences using the right conjunction or links to present their points and therefore lost some marks.

Conjunctions such as but, whereas, whilst etc are to be used to show the differences and not separate points for each one of the enterprises. Examples include:

- State owned enterprises are set up by central governments while private owned enterprises are set up by private individuals
- State owned enterprises are owned by the state while private owned enterprises are owned by individuals/group of people etc.

Q6. (a) State *four* ways by which the health needs of Ghanaians can be improved.

(b) Outline *four* ways by which improved health of people can contribute to national development.

Candidates were expected to state ways by which the health needs of Ghanaians can be improved and outline ways by which the improved health needs of people can contribute to national development.

Only a few of the candidates answered the question. They generally performed poorly.

The health needs of people can be improved through the following:

- Provision of potable water
- Health insurance schemes
- Improved nutrition
- Regular exercises
- Public education etc

Some of the expected answers on how improved health needs of the people can contribute to national development include:

- Produce ready and available human resources
- May reduce absenteeism due to excellent health
- Can translate to high productivity
- Can reduce government expenditure on health etc.