

SOCIAL STUDIES 2

1. GENERAL COMMENTS

The standard of the paper had not changed compared to that of the previous years.

The performance of the candidates was slightly lower as compared to that of the previous year.

2. SUMMARY OF CANDIDATES' STRENGTHS

The Chief Examiner noted that some of the candidates were well versed in the following topics:

- (i) the negative effects of colonization on Ghana;
- (ii) ways of improving the health needs of the youth;
- (iii) the symbols of national unity;
- (iv) measures to be taken to improve agricultural output in Ghana;
- (v) various ways Ghanaians demonstrate their culture.

3. SUMMARY OF CANDIDATES' WEAKNESSES

Some of the candidates found it difficult to answer questions on the following topics:

- (i) ways in which education can cause change in the society;
- (ii) ways to sustain unity in various ethnic groups in Ghana;
- (iii) definition of political stability;
- (iv) ways indisciplined behavior affect individuals in the society;
- (v) the contribution of NGO's to the development of Ghana;
- (vi) ways of resolving conflicts in the society;
- (vii) application of knowledge on scale to calculate actual distance;
- (viii) benefits of relief features.

4. SUGGESTED REMEDIES

- (i) Candidates and teachers should have detailed discussions with examples from their environments to improve candidates understanding of some topics such as calculating actual distance using knowledge on scales.

- (ii) Teachers must assist candidates to know the contributions of NGO's to Ghana's development;
- (iii) Candidates need more knowledge from teachers, on how education can cause change in societies;
- (iv) Teachers must assist candidates to know the relief features in Ghana and their benefits.

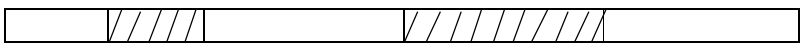
5. DETAILED COMMENTS:

- Q1. (a) (i) State three forms in which the scale of a map can be expressed with the aid of an example each.**
(ii) If the distance between Town A and Town B on a map is 12.5 cm, calculate the actual distance on the ground using a scale of 1cm to 4km.
- (f) Outline four benefits that can be derived from the relief features of Ghana**

This question was not popular among the majority of candidates. The question was divided into two parts (a and b). In part 'a' Candidates were required to state the forms in which the scale of a map can be expressed with the aid of an example each and also calculate the actual distance on the ground, with a given scale. Majority were not able to give the right examples to the various forms which the scale of a map could be expressed and could not also calculate the distance on the ground using the given scale. They lost majority of the total mark awarded. Candidates were required to give answers such as

- 1) Statement scale eg. 1cm to 5 metres or 1 inch to 1 mile
- 2) Representative fraction/ratio scale eg. 1:500 or 1/500
- 3) Linear scale eg.

2 0 2 4 6

- 4) 

The second part of the 'a' section of question 1 was attempted by few candidates who could not calculate the actual distance on the ground from Town A and B. Below is the answer expected from candidates.

Calculate the distance between town A and town B on a map.

Scale = 1cm to 4 km
 Distance on the map = 12.5cm **(1 mark)**
 Therefore, Actual distance = 4km x 12.5cm **(1 mark)**
 Answer = 50 km **(1 mark)**

In the ‘b’ part of the question, candidates were expected to outline the benefits derived from the relief features of Ghana. Those who attempted this performed poorly and lost valuable marks. Some of the points the chief examiner expected were:

- (i) Lowlands facilitate road constructions;
- (ii) Lowlands provide good sites for grazing;
- (iii) Used as tourist attractions;
- (iv) Highlands serve as settlements for defensive purposes.

Q.2 (a) (i) List four ways in which Ghanaians demonstrate their culture.

(ii) Name an example each of the ways in which Ghanaians demonstrate their culture as listed in 2(a)(i) above.

(b) Highlight *four* ways in which education can cause change in the society.

(c) State four symbols of national unity.

This question was the most popular among the candidates. The question was in three parts, *a*, *b* and *c*. They understood the question and presented relevant answers to parts ‘a’ and ‘c’. Almost all those who attempted this question scored the full marks in the ‘a’ part, which required them to list ways in which Ghanaians demonstrate their culture and name an example each of the ways in which Ghanaians demonstrate their culture. Some answers expected include:

1. Festivals: Aboakyer, Kundum, Homowo, Damba, Hogbetsotso etc.;
2. Dance: Adowa, Boboobo, Kpanlogo, Takai etc.;
3. Music: Dirges, occupational songs, highlife songs, gospel songs etc.;
4. Staple food: Fufu, Kenkey, Akple, Tuozaafi etc.;
5. Occupation: Fishing, carving etc.

The ‘b’ part expected the candidates to highlight four ways in which education could cause change in the society. Many were unable and left this section unanswered and therefore scored nothing. Below are some of the ways expected to be highlighted by candidates:

- (i) through music and dance;
- (ii) through fashion;
- (iii) change in language/learning other languages.
- (iv) acquisition of skills;

The performance of candidates at the ‘c’ part was quite good. Majority were able to state the symbols of national unity expected from them and scored the full mark awarded to this part of the question.

Some of the answers expressed by candidates include:

- (i) the national Flag;
- (ii) the Ghana Coat of Arms;
- (iii) the National anthem;
- (iv) the National Pledge.

Q3. (a) State four ways by which the unity of the various ethnic groups of Ghana can be sustained?

(b) Highlight four negative effects of colonization on the people of Ghana.

Question 3 was one of the most popular questions candidates answered. This question was divided into two, that is **a** and **b**. The ‘**a**’ part required from the candidates to state four ways by which the unity of the various ethnic groups of Ghana could be sustained. This was well answered with the exception of few candidates who deviated. The following are some of the answers expected from candidates:

- (i) Respecting the culture of other ethnic groups;
- (ii) Encouraging inter-ethnic marriages;
- (iii) Encouraging celebration of national festivals;
- (iv) Promoting local music and dance.

In the ‘**b**’ part, candidates were expected to highlight four negative effects of colonization on the people of Ghana. Although candidates answered satisfactorily, some candidates highlighted on positive effects instead and lost some marks.

Below are a few of the points expected to be raised and explained by candidates:

- (i) Depopulation through slave trade/exploitation of human resource;
- (ii) Loss of self-esteem and respect;
- (iii) Introduction of new system of governance;
- (iv) Increased taste for European goods and services.

Q4. (a) (i) What is political stability?

(ii) List four factors that can promote political stability in Ghana.

(b) Highlight four ways in which conflicts can be resolved in the society.

This was another popular choice of question by the candidates. This question was in two parts, 'a' and 'b'. The 'a' part required the candidates to define "political stability" and list factors that could promote political stability in Ghana. Candidates who attempted this question could not define "political stability" in the 'a' part and lost some marks. However, they were able to highlight ways in which conflicts can be resolved in the society correctly to gain a few marks. Performance from candidates was average. Below are some of the correct answers expected from the candidates:

Definition of political stability

This is a situation in a country where governance, **peace and security** as well as **harmonious living** exist **for a long time** without any **violent interruption**.

List of factors that can promote political stability in Ghana

- (i) There should be freedom of speech;
- (ii) There should be the existence of free and fair elections/ periodic elections;
- (iii) The avoidance of dictatorial rule;
- (iv) The avoidance of discriminatory policies by government.

The 'b' part expected candidates to highlight four ways in which conflicts can be resolved in the society. Many candidates failed to highlight some of these ways and scored very low marks. Candidates' performance on this question was quite poor. Below are some of the ways expected to be highlighted by the candidates:

Ways in which conflicts can be resolved in the society

- (i) Mediation – A third party assists to resolve problems;
- (ii) Arbitration – A third party declares the one who is right or wrong;
- (iii) Negotiation – Each party in the conflict is ready to sacrifice part of its interest so that compromise or consensus is reached for sound resolution;
- (iv) Adjudication- Parties resort to court of law to determine who is right or wrong according to the facts of the case and also the application of the law;

- Q5. (a) State *four* ways of improving the health needs of the youth in Ghana**
- (b) Highlight *four* ways by which indisciplined behaviour affects the individual in the society.**

Question 5 was a popular question among the candidates which was well answered. The question was in two parts. The first part asked the candidates to state ways of improving the health needs of the youth in Ghana.

Candidates stated the ways of improving the health needs of the youth in Ghana satisfactorily and scored the full mark awarded. Some of the answers included the following:

Ways of improving the health needs of the youth in Ghana

- (i) Adequate reproductive health education;
- (ii) Parents must take their children for periodic medical check-ups;
- (iii) Encouraging the youth to exhibit good hygienic behaviours;
- (iv) Adequate education on substance abuse and its consequences.

The second part required candidates to highlight four ways by which indisciplined behaviour affects the individual in the society.

Some candidates were able to list the measures but here again were not able to expound by explaining and citing examples in order to score the full marks allocated.

Many, wrote one word answers and others either wrote nothing or deviated all together.

Performance of candidates on this question was average. Some of the ways expected to be highlighted include:

Ways by which indisciplined behaviour affects the individual in the society

- (i) It can bring illness on the individual;
- (ii) Can bring disgrace/Loss of respect;
- (iii) Can cause injuries to the individual;
- (iv) High rate of school dropouts/ apprenticeship dropout;
- (v) High rate of poverty.

Q6. (a) Highlight *four* ways in which Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) contribute to the development of Ghana.

(b) Outline *four* measures that can be taken to improve agricultural output in Ghana.

This was a well attempted question by few candidates and was also in two parts, (a) and (b). The first part demanded from candidates, four ways in which Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) contribute to the development of Ghana. The few that attempted this question performed quite well. Answers expected from candidates were as follows:

Ways in which Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) contribute to the development of Ghana

- (i) Setting up schools in rural areas;
- (ii) Assisting with infrastructure to preserve some tourist sites;
- (iii) Provide relief and humanitarian services, eg clothing, food, etc.;
- (iv) Assisting in the control and eradication of diseases.

The 'b' section demanded from candidates to outline four measures that could be taken to improve agricultural output in Ghana. Majority were able to outline measures that could be taken to improve agricultural output in Ghana. However, a few just listed the points and could not explain and expound their points well. It was a well attempted question with high marks scored. The following are a few of the points the examiner expected:

Measures that can be taken to improve agricultural output in Ghana

- i) Use of agro-chemicals to increase yield;
- ii) Technical assistance from extension officers / public education of importance of agriculture;
- iii) The use of modern technology;
- iv) Easy access to loans to raise capital/low interest credit facilities to farmers.