

WEST AFRICAN SENIOR SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION  
CLOTHING AND TEXTILES

**PREAMBLES**

The aim of this course is to produce candidates capable of making articles of clothing and acquiring a vocation from the knowledge and skills acquired in Clothing and Textiles and to use these to better their quality of life.

**OBJECTIVE**

The syllabus is aimed at testing the basic knowledge and understanding of candidates in

- (a) basic scientific knowledge in textiles in clothing construction e.g. fibres, origin and construction, blends and combination;
- (b) the selection, use and maintenance of sewing equipment;
- (c) skills in the selection of appropriate clothing for all occasions and body types;
- (d) skills in pattern making and free hand cutting;
- (e) constructing and renovating different articles of clothing;
- (f) using applied art in designing and decorating family clothing and household articles;
- (g) the development of marketable skills in the designing and construction of clothing for consumers; and
- (h) using fabrics creatively to reflect our cultural heritage and that of other countries.

**SCHEME OF EXAMINATION**

There will be two papers both of which must be taken.

**PAPER I:** (2½ hrs.) There will be thirty (30) minutes preparation time. The practical test carries 100 marks and will last 2½ hours. It will be conducted by a visiting Examiner appointed by *the West African Examinations Council*.  
Three articles are expected to be produced for coursework i.e. one each year.

**COURSEWORK**

Articles made for continuous assessment should be presented for the visiting examiners' appreciation and should include the following

Year 1            Simple blouse, shirt, shorts, tunic.

Year 2            An article for home decoration.

Year 3            An article for self or a member of the family.

It is recommended that each school should build up a library of good patterns of all types – drafted and commercial – for teaching purposes. For the practical examination candidates should be prepared to use a commercial, drafted pattern or cut free hand.

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PAPER 2 (2½ hrs) This consist of 2 sections A and B.

SECTION A: This will consist of 60 objective questions to be answered in 1 hour for 60 marks.

SECTION B: This will consist of 6 short essay questions and candidates will be required to answer four questions in 1½ hours for 60 marks.

**DETAILED SYLLABUS**

**1. Study of textile fibres and fabrics with reference to**

- (a) Origin;
- (b) Manufacture (brief);
- (c) Characteristics and properties including blends and combinations;
- (d) Simple identification tests;
- (e) Fabric construction e.g. weaves, crocheting, knitting;
- (f) Finishes;
- (g) Uses and care.

**2. Sewing Equipment**

Selection types, safe use and care of the machine and its attachments.

Other equipment

- (i) Sewing accessories;
- (ii) Cleaning equipment;
- (iii) Measuring equipment;
- (iv) Cutting equipment;
- (v) Fitting equipment;
- (vi) Factors influencing selection and estimation of equipment.

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**3. Garment Construction**

- (a) Essentials of Garment Construction
  - (i) Identification of figure types for both male and female;
  - (ii) Measurement;
  - (iii) Choice of styles for different figures;
  - (iv) Factors influencing selection and estimation of fabrics;
  - (v) Selection and purchase of materials.
- (b) **Simple patterns**
  - (i) Drafting of basic blocks e.g. bodice, skirt, sleeves;
  - (ii) Adaptation of basic blocks;
  - (iii) Choice, adaptation and use of commercial patterns;
  - (iv) Free hand cutting (Principles and practice);
  - (v) Alteration for fit and style.

**4. Basic and advanced techniques in Garment Construction**

- (a) Stitches – Types and uses
- (b) Processes and features
- (c) Laying and cutting out

**5. Application and elements of design**

- (a) Application of principles and elements of design in clothing construction and selection.
- (b) (i) Trends in fashion design for male and female;
- (ii) Colour scheme in clothing.

**6. Care and maintenance of clothes**

- (a) Stains
  - (i) types;
  - (ii) agents;
  - (iii) removal of stain.

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- (b) Dry cleaning
  - (i) Home-sponging and valetting;
  - (ii) Commercial.
- (c) Repairs and Renovation

**7. Wardrobe Planning**

- (a) Grooming
- (b) Choice of clothes and dress accessories;
- (c) Family Resources – skills, budgeting.

**8. Creative use of resources**

- (a) Patchwork;
- (b) Appliqué;
- (c) Hand and machine embroidery – traditional designs;
- (d) Crocheting and knitting;
- (e) Soft toys.

**9. Consumer Education**

- (a) Government and consumer agencies and regulations;
- (b) Principles of consumer education;
- (c) Budgeting.

**10. Career Opportunities in Clothing and Textiles**

- (a) Self employment management skills;
- (b) Other opportunities e.g. Interior decorator, florist, Laundress.

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**SUGGESTED READING TEXTS**

1. Clothing and Textiles for Senior Secondary Schools by Ministry of Education, Ghana.
2. Needlework for Schools by Melita M. Neal.
3. Needlework Notebook – Rhiannon Davies.
4. Certificate Needlework by Cecile Miles.
5. Basic Needlework by W. Bull.
6. Home Economics for Schools Books 1, 2 & 3.
7. Clothing and Textiles Books 1, 2 & 3 by NERDC.
8. Kingsway book for Needlework.
9. Dressmaking Made Simple by Gidon Lippman and Dorothy Erskine.
10. Clothes by Margaret Butler.

**ITEMS REQUIRED**

1. Sewing machine
2. Full length dressing mirror;
3. Scissors:
  - (a) Cutting out scissors or shears;
  - (b) Trimming scissors;
  - (c) Pinking shears;
  - (d) Embroidery scissors;
  - (e) Buttonhole scissors.
4. Cutting-out table
5. Sewing needles and pins
6. Tape measure

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7. Thimble
8. Stiletto
9. Tailors Chalk
10. Marking or Tracing Wheel
11. Dressmaker's carbon
12. Sewing Threads
13. Trimmings, fastenings
14. Pressing equipment
15. Bucket
16. Washing Bowls



LAUNDRY EQUIPMENT