

## WEST AFRICAN SENIOR SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

### ARABIC

#### PREAMBLE

Candidates offering Arabic in the Senior School Certificate Examination should have attained appreciable standard in grammatical and conversational skills of the language. In addition, ability to read, understand and compose in standard Arabic is expected. Candidates should also be sufficiently informed in elementary Arabic Literature different periods, including West African Arabic Texts.

They should demonstrate a working knowledge of Arabic and the ability either to further their study of the language at institutions of higher learning or for further self-improvement.

There will be two written papers in ONE composite paper. Paper Three which is an oral test will also be taken by candidates. The rubrics of the test Papers will be in Arabic and English.

#### OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the examination are to test candidates' ability to:

- (i) understand simple Arabic passages by a way of answering comprehension questions;
- (ii) appropriately translate given texts from Arabic into English and vice versa;
- (iii) master basic rules of Arabic Grammar;
- (iv) apply basic rules of Arabic Grammar and techniques of essay writing on a variety of given topics;
- (v) appreciate the literary works of different periods of Arabic Literature and
- (vi) express themselves fluently in standard Arabic.

- (i) A reading passage of Arabic Texts of about 120 words. It must be on topics within the experience of the candidates e.g. incidents in the school, at home, in the market, local history and aspects of culture. (20 marks)
- (ii) Free conversation  
Candidates will be expected to talk for about 5 minutes on one of five given topics. (10 marks)

### **THE WEIGHTING**

#### **PAPER 1:**

Comprehension	-	15 marks (7.5%)
Translation	-	20 marks (10%)
Grammar	-	15 marks (7.5%)
Total	-	50 marks (25%)

#### **PAPER 2**

Composition	-	40 marks (24%)
Literature	-	60 marks (36%)
Total	-	100 marks (60%)

#### **PAPER 3**

Oral	-	30 marks (15%)
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## DETAILED SYLLABUS:

### PAPER 1 (OBJECTIVE) 50 MINUTES-50 Marks (25%)

#### COMPREHENSION, TRANSLATION AND GRAMMAR

There will be three sections: Comprehension, Translation and Grammar.

#### SECTION A: COMPREHENSION

15 questions will be set based on 3 Arabic passages of about 70 words each on topics within the experience of the candidates with 5 multiple-choice questions on each passage. The comprehension carries 15 marks

#### SECTION B: TRANSLATION

20 questions as follows:

10 questions on Arabic/English translation and

10 questions on English/Arabic translation.

The Arabic text for translation must deal with things which the candidates are familiar with. The texts must have essential vocalization and punctuation. The translation carries 20 marks.

#### SECTION C: GRAMMAR

15 questions based mainly on the principal grammatical features of the Arabic Language will be set (15 marks). Areas to be covered include the following:

Parts of Speech	
Nouns, pronouns, singular, dual, sound and broken plurals as well as relative and demonstrative pronouns.	١- الأسماء؛ المفردة، والجمع بأنواعه وأسماء الإشارة، والأسماء الموصولة، والضمائر، نواصبها.
Gender: masculine and feminine.	٢- المذكر والمؤنث.
Prepositions and construct phrases.	٣- حروف الجر، والجر بالإضافة.
Adjectives, conjunctions, the permutative and the emphatic.	٤- الصفة، والموصوف، (الزمت) والمنعوت، والعطف، والبدل، والتوكيد.
Verbs: The perfect, the imperfect and the imperative.	٥- أفعال الفعل؛ الماضي، والمضارع.
Particles governing imperfect verbs	٦- الجوازف والشرط.
Nominal and verbal sentences.	٧- الجملة الاسمية والجملة الفعلية.
Kana, Inna and Zanna and the respective associates.	٨- التواسخ؛ كان وأخواتها، إن وأخواتها، وظن وأخواتها.



Transitive and intransitive verbs, the five verbs and conjugation of verbs.	٩- الأفعال الخمسة، والأفعال الخمسة، وتفسيرها (من واحد إلى ألف).
Numbers (from one to one thousand.)	١٠- الأعداد (من واحد إلى ألف).
Active and passive voices.	١١- الفاعل، ونائب الفاعل، والمفعول، والمجهول.
The verbal noun, the active participle, the passive participle, the elative and special adjectival forms.	١٢- المصدر، واسم الفاعل، واسم الفعل، والفعل، واسم التفضيل.
Objects, adverbs and the vocative	١٣- المنصوبات، المفعول به، والمفعول معه، والمفعول فيه (الظرف)، والمفعول لأجله، والمفعول المطلق، والحال، والمنادى.
The diminutive, nouns of instruments, nouns of place and time and the relative adjective.	١٤- اسم التفضيل، واسم الآلة، واسم الزمان، والمكان، والنسب.

## PAPER 2: COMPOSITION, AND LITERATURE (2HRS)

### PART 1: COMPOSITION (40 MARKS)

The composition in Arabic will be about 120 words. Four essay topics will be set; one of them should be formal or informal letter. Only one of the topics should be chosen.

Consideration will be given to orderly and coherent presentation of ideas, use of appropriate diction and style, as well as correct spelling, punctuation and grammar. The type of the essay will be narrative, descriptive, argumentative or in the form of a dialogue. The composition carries 40 marks.

### PART II: LITERATURE (60 MARKS)

There will be five questions in this part spread over the four periods of Arabic Literature. Candidates will be required to answer four questions in all- a compulsory question and any other three.

The Sections are:

الفصل (١) : النصوص العربية لحرب أفريقيا.

SECTION A: WEST AFRICAN TEXTS : (1800 TO DATE)

- ١- عبد الله بن فودي وقصيدته : الرد على قصيدة غوني البرنوي،  
من كتابه : تزئين الورقات .
- ٢- زكريا حسين ومسرحيته : العيد المبجل
- ٣- مالك مي ألغوا در من ايا : لماذا يكرهوننا؟

1. Abdullahi bn. Fodio and his poem: alRadd 'ala asidati Ghoni al-Barnawi.
2. Zakariyau Oseni and his play: "al-'Amidul- Mubajjal".
3. Salisu Maianguwa Durumin Iya and his story: Lima dha yakrahunana?"

الفصل (٢) : الشعر والنثر في العصور الحديثة (١٧٩٨ - إلى يومنا)

SECTION B: ARABIC POETRY AND PROSE IN THE MODERN PERIOD (1798 C.E. TO DATE)

- ١- أحمد شوقي وقصيدته : الديع والتعلب وخذعوها
- ٢- إيليا أبو ماضي وقصيدته : الطلاس (جئت لا أملك -)
- ٣- مرتضى بدماهي وكتابه "مستقبل اللغة العربية  
في نيجيريا (الفصل الأول والثاني).

1. Ahmad Shawqi and two of his poems: "ad-Dik Wath-Tha'lab", and "Khada'uha".
2. Ilya Abu Madi and his poem: "at-Talasim" (Ji'tu la a'lam... .)
3. Mutadha Bidmos and his book: Mustabalul Lughatil-'Arabiyyah (Chapters One and Two.)

## الفصل ج: الشعر والنثر في العصور الإسلامية (٦١٠-١٧٩٨م)

### SECTION C: POETRY AND PROSE IN THE ISLAMIC PERIODS (610-1798C.E.)

- ١- حسن بن ثابت وقصيدته: "إن الذوائب من فخر  
وأخوتهم"
- ٢- النبي محمد صلى الله عليه وسلم وخطبته في فتح مكة
- ٣- علي بن أبي طالب وخطبته في الجهاد بإخلاص
- ٤- النقائض بين جرير والفرزدق

1. Hassan Ibn Thabit and his poem: "Inna Dhawa'iba min fikhrin wa'ikhwatihim... .)
2. The Prophet (P.B.U.H.) and his sermon: "Fathu Makkah".
3. 'Aliyy and his sermon: al-Jihad bil-Ikhlās.
4. An-Naqā'id bayna Jarir wal-Farazdaq.



## الفصل د: الشعر والنثر في العصر الجاهلي (٥٠٠ - ٦١٠ م)

SECTION D: POETRY AND PROSE IN PRE-ISLAMIC PERIOD (500-610 C.E.)

- ١- عمرو بن كلثوم وفخره "النوني"
- ٢- زهير بن أبي سلمى وقصيدته الحكيمة الميمية
- ٣- تماضر الخنساء وقصيدته من مرأيها: الذكر الدائم
- ٤- قيس بن ساعدة الأيادي وخطبته في سوق عكاظ  
"أيها الناس"
- ٥- زهير بن أبي سلمى وقصيدته الحكيمة الميمية

1. 'Amr Ibn Kulthum and his Fakhr Poem.
2. Antarah bn. Shaddad and his Poem: "Lamma Ra'aytul Qawma aqbala Jam'uhum"
3. Al-Khasa' and her poem: ad-Dhikrud-Da'im.
4. Quss Ibn Sa'idah al-Iyyadi and his sermon in 'Ukkaz Market: Ayyuhan-Nas... "
5. Zuhayr Ibn abi Sulma and his philosophical poem (al-Mimiyyah.)

### PART THREE: ORAL TEST (30 MARKS)

The Oral Test which constitutes Paper THREE, carries 30 marks. It will be conducted by a visiting examiner.

The test will include:

PREScribed TEXTBOOKS (LITERATURE)

- ١- عبد الله بن محمد بن فودي : تزيين الورقات ، مطبعة جامعة ابادن .
- ٢- مرتضى درماصي : مستقبل اللغة العربية في نيجيريا دار النشر الإسلامية لاغوس ١٩٩٧م
- ٣- أحمد الإسكندري والآخرون : المفصل في تاريخ الأدب العربي (الأول والثاني) وزارة المعارف العمومية ، القاهرة .
- ٤- زكريا حسين : المأدبة الأدبية للطلاب العربية في غرب أفريقيا دار النور أوتش .



#### RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS

The contents of the following books will not be tested directly but knowledge acquired through reading them will help in achieving better standard in the entire examination.

##### (A) COMPOSITION, COMPREHENSION, TRANSLATION AND ORALS

- ١- سيد حمزة هالان : المرشد في الإنشاء العربي (الكتاب الأول والثاني، دار النشر الإسلامية، لاغوس ١٩٨٢م).
- ٢- اسحاق أوغنيبي: القصص الشعبية عن السلخانة عند اليورباوين، إبادن وكو.
- ٣- محمد بدیع شریف و سلیم حکیم والحاج حسین آدم: العربية الجديدة في تيجريا الكتاب الثالث لوتخاني إكيجا لاغوس.
- ٤- قاموس جيد عربي - انجليزية - عربي

##### (B) GRAMMAR

- ١- محمد أبروم الصهابي : متن الأجرومية - القاهرة.
- ٢- علي الجارم ومصطفى أمين : النحو الواضح مدارس المرحلة الأولية الجزء ١-٢ المعارف - القاهرة.
- ٣- محمد عبد الحليم حجاب : العربية الحديثة : الجزء ١-٢ دار النشر الإسلامية، لاغوس.

- 4 - I.A..B. Balogun and Z.I. Oseni: A Modern Arabic Course  
Book 1, Lagos: Islamic Publications Bureau 1982.
- 5 - David Cowan: Modern Literary Arabic. London: Cambrigde  
University Press and Lagos: I.P.B.
- 6 - J.A. Haywood and H.M. Nahmad: A new Arabic Grammar of the  
Written Language. London Lund Humphries, 1965.

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