WEST AFRICAN SENIOR SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

JUNE 2022

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

THEORY PAPER

SECTION A – ESSAY

(50 marks)

Answer one question only from this section. All questions carry equal marks. Your answer should not be less than 450 words. You are advised to spend about 50 minutes on this section.

1. Your younger brother was caught gambling in school and has been suspended for a term. Write a letter to him stating three consequences of his suspension and advising him to turn a new leaf.

2. The major streets in your locality are littered with dirt. Write an article suitable for publication in a national newspaper stating three things that could be done to arrest this situation.

3. Students in your school have complained about the quality of food served in the dining hall. As the Senior Prefect, write a letter to the headmaster explaining the students' grievances and suggesting at least three ways in which the problem can be remedied.

4. As part of activities to mark your school's Founder's Day, your house has been selected to give a speech on the topic: **Hard work is the key to success**. Write your speech.

5. Write a story which illustrates the saying: **The early bird catches the worm.**

SECTION B – COMPREHENSION

(20 marks)

You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions on it.

I recall an escapade with three of my classmates some fifty years ago. I was on my way to the latrine during the first half of the morning break when three of my classmates invited me to join them.

Excitedly, without asking where they were going and for what, I hurriedly excused myself and joined them. They made for the nearby bush, and again, without questioning, I followed. On and on they led the way while I followed.

The biggest boy leading the group stopped at a hut by the wayside. Together we entered and very quietly each changed his uniform for dirty and torn outfits, already prepared for that day. It was now clear: we were heading deep into the bush, armed with machetes. I did not like the idea at all; rather, this was a hunting expedition. Here was I, the only one still in school uniform, with my trousers held up, feeling that I was in the wrong company. Everything, to my agony, pointed to hunting with some big boys. I felt I should not be there. Hesitating, I turned and wanted to go back, but the thought of being called a coward and the fear of their reaction made me decide to forget it and go along with them.

(Note: The original source text for the comprehension passage and its questions contained significant OCR/typing errors. The passage above has been cleaned for readability. The specific comprehension questions that followed were incomplete or missing in the material provided.)

SECTION C – SUMMARY

(30 marks)

You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions on it.

The game of football appears to have global acceptance and has outstripped all other games. What is so incredible about the popularity of football that it has equalisation worldwide? It is the beautiful spectacle of the game of football that ensures that no single player or official can work without the other for a successful match.

On the football pitch, each team of players is focused on one objective – to put the ball into the opponent's goalpost. Since a team is made up of eleven individuals, each very skilled, it is expected that on each side, managing each player is more so under the coach who encourages each player to blend his moves with those of the other players. The defence, the wings, the backs and the midfielders must ensure that their hallmark skills are

harmonised if they are to score a goal.

Moreover, each player has a specific role assigned to him on the field which is dependent on the role of the others. A player must perform his role. A forward, for instance, takes up the role of a striker. The players thus depend on one another to succeed. Accordingly, when a goal is scored, it is the combined efforts of all the players in the team that have produced the goal, which justifies the compliment of the coach. This explains why in football it is necessary for each player to rely on the other.

There is also the referee whose decisions constitute the final authority on the field. No matter who you are, whether a player or a coach, you cannot defy a referee's decision. It is this aspect of the game that ensures that numbers do not rule the game. Even though they sometimes do, there is order because all participants have to obey the referee.

This game can teach society some lessons. A society is made up of people with diverse occupations. Each person's role is necessary to ensure a speedy and smoothly living community. You cannot live independently of other members. There is, therefore, a need for cohesion and harmony. This can be achieved only if those diverse occupations are organised around a coordinated whole. Each person's occupation is of little significance on its own. But it becomes helpful to society only if it is harmonised with others to produce an integrated whole. This is how society benefits from human diversity.

Each person in society is dependent on another person just as it happens in the game of football. A person can function properly only because someone else has used an opportunity for them to excel. Individuals cannot excel if other people refuse to support them. This is how society works. Members depend on one another.

A society can degenerate into a wild mass or chaos if there is no recognised authority. Given the passion and frenzy associated with football, it is amazing that there isn't more disorder at football events. There is order. There is civil behaviour even when one team loses. Order prevails because everyone accepts that the governing rules of the game must be obeyed. This is what society needs to recognise.

(a) In three sentences, one for each, summarize three important features associated with the game of football.

(b) In three sentences, one for each, summarize three lessons that society can learn from the game of football.

End of Theory Paper