

# Welcome!

**Please scroll down to read introductory information**

*WordPub*

**BECE**

# **Social Studies**

**Past Questions and Answers**

**2014**

**Junior High School  
Years 1, 2 & 3**

**Compiled by:**



© 2018 Word Publishers. All rights reserved

Unauthorized distribution and/or reproduction of this document prohibited.

## **CONTACT**

### **Email:**

[info@wordpub.org](mailto:info@wordpub.org)

### **Telephone:**

(+233) 030 295 1486,  
(+233) 020 893 0787,  
(+233) 057 860 0052,  
(+233) 024 850 6613.

### **Postal Address:**

Word Publishers,  
P.O. Box NT 583,  
Newtown – Accra,  
Ghana.

### **Location:**

7 Tunemete Street,  
Dzorwulu-Accra,  
Ghana.

### **Website:**

[bece.wordpub.org](http://bece.wordpub.org)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- The **West African Examination Council** - for the BECE Social Studies past questions used in this document.
- **Ernest Bentil** and **Daniel Baani** – for your invaluable contribution to this work.
- **Mr Eric Arthur** – for your expert counsel and assistance
- **Ruth, Baaba and Fiifi Arthur** – for your relentless support
- **Teachers, parents and educational institutions** – for your continuous patronage and tireless efforts at ensuring quality education for the 21<sup>st</sup> century child
- Junior High School **students** – you are the ultimate reason for this work.

## DEDICATION

To the Lord **Jesus Christ**, our Saviour and soon-coming King

**JUNE 2014**

## **SOCIAL STUDIES 1**

### **OBJECTIVE TEST**

**45 minutes**

1. Some Ghanaians mishandle the *Cedi Notes* by
  - A. burning it
  - B. crumpling it
  - C. saving it
  - D. spending it
  
2. A **major** way of spreading HIV and AIDS is through
  - A. eating in public places
  - B. indiscriminate sexual relations
  - C. mosquito bites
  - D. shaking hands with infected persons.
  
3. Adolescent abstinence from sexual related activity is
  - A. chastity
  - B. health
  - C. paternity
  - D. sincerity
  
4. The set of guidelines for governing a nation is provided by the
  - A. constitution
  - B. council of state
  - C. judiciary
  - D. legislature
  
5. What a person is obliged to perform as a duty in the society constitutes his / her
  - A. achievements
  - B. dignity
  - C. responsibility
  - D. rights
  
6. The physical environment of Ghana can be protected through
  - A. drying industrial waste
  - B. practicing traditional farming
  - C. redirecting river channels

- D. recycling of waste materials
7. Promoting national unity in Ghana greatly depends on
- A. kindness
  - B. politics
  - C. religion
  - D. tolerance
8. The **most** effective measure for reducing the rapid population growth in Ghana is promoting
- A. adolescent counselling
  - B. women empowerment
  - C. gender equality
  - D. girl-child education
9. Which of the following situations is an effect of rapid population growth in Ghana?
- A. Decrease in food production
  - B. High dependency burden
  - C. High standard of living
  - D. Low productivity
10. Pressure on social facilities in urban areas is **mainly** created by
- A. decrease in imported goods
  - B. high cost of living
  - C. rural-urban drift
  - D. urban-rural drift
11. Community conflicts are **best** settled through
- A. arbitration and reconciliation
  - B. court ruling
  - C. government intervention
  - D. police action
12. Which of the following conditions is an effect of ethnic conflicts?
- A. Decrease in government expenditure
  - B. Frequent interruption of electricity supply
  - C. Interruption of development projects
  - D. Overdependence on foreign goods
13. Government policies are implemented at the District levels by the
- A. Chief Executive
  - B. Co-ordinating Director
  - C. Presiding Member
  - D. Regional Minister
14. Maintenance of law and order in the country is the **main** function of the

- A. airforce
  - B. army
  - C. navy
  - D. police
15. The highest authority in the traditional area is the
- A. clan head
  - B. divisional chiefs
  - C. lineage head
  - D. paramount chief
16. Which of the following factors promotes political stability in a country?
- A. Food security
  - B. Free education
  - C. Rigid constitution
  - D. Rule of law
17. Which of the following features is **not** an efficient way of sustaining political stability in a country?
- A. Avoidance of dictatorship
  - B. Free and fair elections
  - C. One party system
  - D. Press freedom
18. Poor drainage system in our cities result in
- A. earthquakes
  - B. erosion
  - C. floods
  - D. landslides
19. The Poll Tax Ordinance was passed in 1852 **mainly** to raise money to pay salaries of
- A. Christian missionaries
  - B. cocoa farmers
  - C. Colonial employees
  - D. Gold Coast chiefs
20. Which of the following activities is the **most** outstanding contribution of Ghana to the United Nations Organisation?
- A. Donation of relief items
  - B. Payment of dues
  - C. Settlement of refugees
  - D. Provision of troops for peace-keeping operations
21. Which of the following international organizations is the **largest** financial contributor to Ghana's developmental projects?
- A. African Union (AU)

- B. Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
  - C. The Commonwealth
  - D. United Nations Organization.
22. The **first** political party formed in the Gold Coast was the
- A. Convention People's Party (CPP)
  - B. National Liberation Movement (NLM)
  - C. United Gold Coast Convention (UGCC)
  - D. United Party (UP)
23. Which of the following settlements is a feature of a slum?
- A. Dispersed settlement
  - B. Linear settlement
  - C. Overcrowded settlement
  - D. Planned settlement
24. Cocoa production is classified as
- A. cottage industry
  - B. primary industry
  - C. secondary industry
  - D. tertiary industry
25. Pension benefits of Ghanaian workers are managed by the
- A. Bank of Ghana
  - B. Ghana Commercial Bank
  - C. Social Security and National Insurance Trust
  - D. State Insurance Company
26. Private businesses help in developing the nation when they
- A. increase their profit
  - B. import consumer goods
  - C. pay appropriate taxes
  - D. produce more goods
27. The **main** reason for establishing state owned enterprises is to
- A. create competition in the country.
  - B. generate foreign exchange for the country.
  - C. generate profit for the state.
  - D. provide essential service to the public.
28. Landmarks are important features used in finding
- A. cardinal points
  - B. compass points
  - C. direction
  - D. layout

29. The **main** benefit of tourism to Ghana is that it
- A. encourages inter-tribal marriages
  - B. enriches our culture
  - C. is a major foreign exchange earner
  - D. promotes political stability
30. Ethnic conflicts must be avoided because they slow down
- A. economic development
  - B. rural-urban migration
  - C. tribal disintegration
  - D. urban-rural migration
31. A scale of map expressed as a ratio is known as
- A. linear scale
  - B. simple fraction
  - C. representative fraction
  - D. statement scale
32. The integrity of the nation can be defended by
- A. educating the youth
  - B. encouraging immigration
  - C. cleaning the environment
  - D. reporting saboteurs
33. One basic right of every Ghanaian is the right to
- A. fair wages
  - B. personal liberty
  - C. stand for election
  - D. vote in general election
34. Which of the following situations may not create instability in the Ghanaian society?
- A. Denial of justice
  - B. Gender equality
  - C. Party rivalry
  - D. Workers' demonstration
35. The **major** reason for establishing castle schools by the Europeans was to
- A. educate the people on human rights
  - B. educate their own children
  - C. introduce formal education to the people
  - D. teach religious knowledge.
36. The **main** reason for the abolishing of the slave trade was the
- A. difficulties in the trade

- B. inhuman nature of the trade.
  - C. lack of finance.
  - D. lack of market for slaves
37. Which of the following features forms part of our social environment?
- A. Atmosphere
  - B. Buildings
  - C. Land
  - D. Religion
38. Habitats of endangered species of animals can be protected through the creation of
- A. forest reserves
  - B. land guards
  - C. tourist centres
  - D. veterinary clinics
39. The **most** effective agency of cultural change is
- A. drama
  - B. education
  - C. language
  - D. music
40. The motto in Ghana's Coat of Arms is
- A. Freedom and Love
  - B. Independence and Freedom.
  - C. Freedom and Justice
  - D. Unity and Integrity.

**END OF PAPER**

**JUNE 2014**

## **SOCIAL STUDIES 1**

### **OBJECTIVE TEST**

### **ANSWERS**

1. B. crumpling it
2. B. indiscriminate sexual relations
3. A. chastity
4. A. constitution
5. C. responsibility
6. D. recycling of waste materials
7. D. tolerance
8. D. girl-child education
9. B. high dependency burden
10. C. rural-urban drift
11. A. arbitration and reconciliation
12. C. Interruption of developmental projects
13. A. Chief executive
14. D. police
15. D. paramount chief
16. D. Rule of law
17. C. One party system
18. C. floods
19. C. Colonial employees
20. D. Provision of troops for peace-keeping operations
21. D. United Nations Organization
22. C. United Gold Coast Convention (UGCC)
23. C. Overcrowded settlement
24. B. primary industry
25. C. Social Security and National Insurance Trust
26. C. pay appropriate taxes
27. D. provide essential service to the public

- 28. C. direction
- 29. C. is a major foreign exchange earner
- 30. A. economic development
- 31. C. representative fraction
- 32. D. reporting saboteurs
- 33. B. personal liberty
- 34. B. Gender equality
- 35. B. educate their own children
- 36. B. inhuman nature of the trade
- 37. D. Religion
- 38. A. forest reserves
- 39. B. education
- 40. C. Freedom and Justice

**JUNE 2014**

## **SOCIAL STUDIES 2**

### **ESSAY**

**1 hour**

*This paper consists of **three sections**: I, II and III.  
Answer **three questions only**, choosing **one question from each section***

#### **SECTION I THE ENVIRONMENT**

*Answer **one question only** from this section*

1. (a) Differentiate between a map and a sketch. [4 marks]  
(b) List the **four** main cardinal points that are used in showing direction. [4 marks]  
(c) State the **two** main seasons and the periods in which they occur in Ghana. [4 marks]  
(d) Describe how a cyclonic rainfall occurs. [8 marks]
2. (a) List any **two** major relief features in Ghana. [4 marks]  
(b) List **four** oceans of the world. [4 marks]  
(c) Outline **four** ways by which the forest vegetation in Ghana can be preserved. [12 marks]

#### **SECTION II GOVERNANCE, POLITICS AND STABILITY**

*Answer **one question only** from this section*

3. (a) Explain the term *colonization*. [4 marks]  
(b) Highlight **four** positive effects of colonization on Ghana. [16 marks]
4. Outline **five** contributions of the District Assemblies to the development of Ghana. [20 marks]

#### **SECTION III SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

*Answer **one question only** from this section*

5. (a) State **four** reasons why people embark on tours to different places. [4 marks]  
(b) Explain **four** ways in which tourism is important to the development of Ghana. [16 marks]
6. (a) Explain the term *natural disaster* and give **two** examples. [4 marks]

- (b) Outline **four** reasons why a good layout is necessary for a descent settlement. [16 marks]

**JUNE 2014**

## SOCIAL STUDIES 2

### ESSAY

## ANSWERS

**NOTE:** *Sample essays are not provided because some students tend to memorize them instead of using them as a guide, thereby promoting monotony in their essays and hence, negatively affecting their creativity.*

### SECTION I THE ENVIRONMENT

*Answer **one** question **only** from this section*

1. (a) **Differences between a map and a sketch.**

#### SUGGESTED ANSWERS

MAP	SKETCH
A map is drawn to scale	A sketch is not drawn to scale
A map is an accurate representation of an area	A sketch is an inaccurate representation of an area
A map must be dated	A sketch needs not be dated
A map must have a key	A sketch needs not have a key

- (b) **The four main cardinal points that are used in showing direction.**

#### SUGGESTED ANSWERS

North, south, east and west

- (c) **The two main seasons and the periods in which they occur in Ghana.**

#### SUGGESTED ANSWERS

The wet season and the dry season

The wet season is from March to October

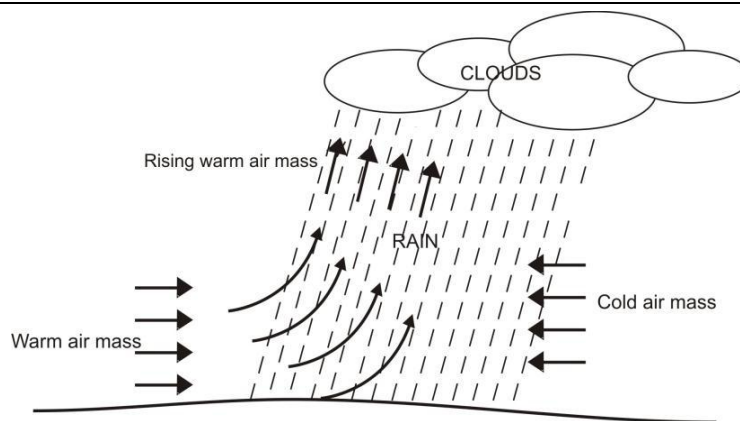
The dry season is from November to February

(d) **How a cyclonic rainfall occurs.**

SUGGESTED POINTS FOR YOUR ESSAY

- (i) Two air masses (one warm, the other cold) meet and form a front.
- (ii) The warmer air rises over the colder air, since it is lighter /has lower density
- (iii) As the warm air continues to rise, it cools and condenses to form cumulus clouds as a result of temperature fall within the troposphere.
- (iv) As the cooling continues, the clouds condense further and fall as rain

SUGGESTED DIAGRAM FOR FORMATION OF CYCLONIC RAINFALL



2. (a) **Two major relief features in Ghana**

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

- (i) Mountain Afadjato,
- (ii) Akwapim-Togo range
- (iii) Mampong scarp,
- (iv) Gambaga escarpment, etc

(b) **Four oceans of the world.**

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

- (i) Arctic ocean,
- (ii) Atlantic ocean,
- (iii) Pacific ocean,
- (iv) Indian ocean
- (v) Antarctic / Southern ocean

(c) **Four ways by which the forest vegetation in Ghana can be preserved**

SUGGESTED POINTS FOR YOUR ESSAY

- (i) Planting more trees to replace ones that have been cut down / felled – (Reforestation)
- (ii) Ensuring that only trees of a certain minimum size can be felled – (Controlled felling)

- (iii) Empowering government agencies that are responsible for forest preservation to work more efficiently (eg, the Environmental Protection Agency and The Forestry Commission)
- (iv) Planting trees to create a forest – (Afforestation)
- (v) Prosecuting / penalizing offenders who flout the forest preservation laws / by-laws / ethics to serve as a deterrent to others.
- (vi) Creating forest reserves – forests that are kept from human exploitation
- (vii) Preventing overgrazing by cattle and other animals
- (viii) Preventing bushfires by public education and other measures
- (ix) Planting trees on farms for various reasons – (Agroforestry)

## SECTION II GOVERNANCE, POLITICS AND STABILITY

*Answer one question only from this section*

3. (a) **Explanation of the term *colonization*.**

### SUGGESTED ANSWER

Colonization is the process by which one country takes control of the administration of another. The controlling country is termed the colonizer, whereas the country being controlled is the colony. In most cases, the colonizer exploits the markets and resources (human, natural, mineral, financial, etc) of its colony.

- (b) **Four positive effects of colonization on Ghana.**

### SUGGESTED POINTS FOR YOUR ESSAY

- (i) **Formal Education** – Introduction of formal education by the establishment of schools and colleges
- (ii) Introduction of currency notes and coins as the medium of exchange which led to a better commercial system
- (iii) **Christianity** – The spread of Christianity
- (iv) **Legal System** – The introduction of the formal legal system for a better and fairer system of adjudication / settlement of disputes
- (v) **Health** – The establishment of clinics and hospitals and the training of health professionals, which helped to improve the delivery of health to the people
- (vi) The development of alphabet for local languages, which led to writing and reading of local languages and English

- (vii) **Agriculture** – The introduction of better agricultural implements and methods, which supported commercial agriculture.
- (viii) **Architecture** – The introduction of new and improved physical structures, which were much stronger and beautiful – a number of which are still standing strong to date.
- (ix) **Tourism** – The forts and castles used by the colonizers have now become tourist sites out of which the state still gets revenue.
- (x) **Infrastructure** – The development of better infrastructure, eg, roads, railway lines, harbour, etc, which has significantly improved the economy of the country.

**4. Five contributions of the District Assemblies to the development of Ghana.**

SUGGESTED POINTS FOR YOUR ESSAY

- (i) Promoting and supporting productive activity and social development in the district
- (ii) Construction and maintenance of certain social amenities such as markets, drains, schools, etc
- (iii) Mobilization of resources at the local levels for development of the district
- (iv) Planning and development of the district
- (v) Ensuring ready access to Courts in the district for the promotion of justice
- (vi) Co-operation with appropriate national and local security agencies, for the maintenance of security and public safety in the district;
- (vii) Development, improvement and management of human settlements and the environment in the district;
- (viii) Maintenance of law and order, by the making and enforcing of by-laws to maintain peace and stability.

**SECTION III**  
**SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**5. (a) Four reasons why people embark on tours to different places.**

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

- (i) Educational purposes – to get firsthand knowledge about places and people.
- (ii) Recreational purposes – for leisure / entertainment
- (iii) Religious /Spiritual purposes – to fulfil a given religious requirement
- (iv) Therapeutic /Health purposes – for relaxation / rejuvenation of their physical bodies
- (v) Cultural awareness – to learn about other cultures
- (vi) Traditional / Cultural purposes – to identify with (feel a part of) a particular culture or tradition.
- (vii) Adventure to acquire artefacts

**(b) Four ways in which tourism is important to the development of Ghana.**

SUGGESTED POINTS FOR YOUR ESSAY

- (i) Foreign exchange earner for Ghana
- (ii) Source of revenue to the government of Ghana.
- (iii) Tourist sites promotes the development of communities
- (iv) Source of employment for citizens
- (v) Promotes environmental preservation
- (vi) Helps to attract foreign investors into the country
- (vii) Gives a boost to the local artefacts industry

**6. (a) Explanation of *natural disaster* with two examples.**

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

A natural event that causes great damage or injury or loss of life

**or**

A major adverse event, usually causes extensive damage to life and property, resulting from *natural* processes of the Earth

**or**

Extreme, sudden event caused by natural factors that injure people and damage property

Examples of natural disaster: flood, earthquake, hurricane, volcanic eruptions

**(b) Four reasons why a good layout is necessary for a decent settlement.**

SUGGESTED POINTS FOR YOUR ESSAY

- Easy accessibility in times of disasters
- Easy access of utility services
- Easy movement of citizens within the settlement
- Prevention of floods
- Easy directions to places of choice