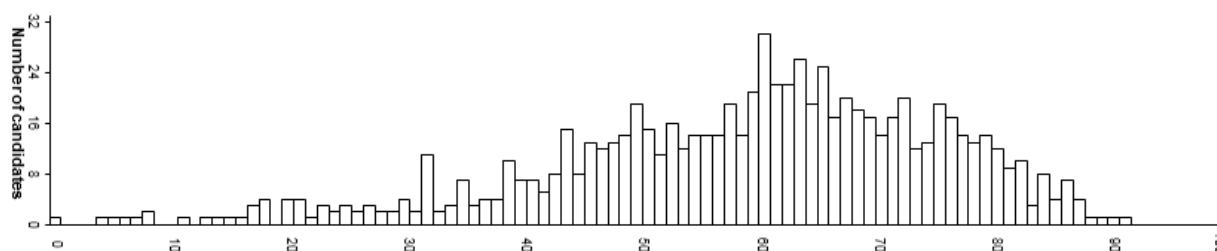




## Summary report for candidates on the 2015 WACE examination in Business Management and Enterprise Stage 3

Year	Number who sat	Number of absentees
2015	796	15
2014	634	15
2013	696	7

### **Examination score distribution - Written**



### **Summary**

The mean of this year's examination paper was 59.31%. The paper was a good discriminator, producing scores ranging from 0.00% to 91.60%. The standard deviation was 16.64%. Reliability of the examination paper was 0.83. The sectional means were: Section One: (Short answer), 59.08% and Section Two (Extended answer) 59.98%. Correlation of the section marks with the total marks was good, indicating that there was consistency across sections/questions within the paper. Candidates demonstrated capability in discipline knowledge as per syllabus content in both factual recall and the analysis and interpretation of data, and were most challenged by items requiring critical thinking in terms of their self-directed, written responses.

### **General comments**

The paper covered the major syllabus points and gave candidates an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge in a logical and clear manner. However, often responses from the candidates were general in nature and lacked application to the scenarios provided. It appeared that many candidates did not read the question and only responded to part of the question, that is, they addressed the syllabus dot point in terms of general response but did not contextualise that response to the context provided in the set question.

In Section One candidates found the questions of varying difficulty with means ranging from 43.93% to 78.81%. When reading the individual comments for each question (shown below) it can be seen that candidates demonstrated knowledge of the syllabus dot points, however required development in application. Section Two had means ranging from 45.71% to 64.27%, the lower maximum mean indicative of candidates' need to demonstrate critical thinking and application in the extended response section. Candidates displayed a clear preference when attempting to answer from a choice of two out of three questions, preferring Question 8 (717 candidates attempted this question) and Question 7 (623 candidates), while only 240 candidates attempted Question 9. The penmanship of many of the candidates made it difficult to read the responses and award full marks.

### **Advice for candidates**

- you need to understand why there is reading time allocated to papers and how to utilise it effectively
- read questions thoroughly
- apply source material and reference(s) to cases studied in responses where required

- you should aim to use appropriate business terminology, in particular syllabus dot points, throughout the examination
- learn to write responses addressing the question and its specific application/context, as opposed to regurgitating rehearsed responses covering only the syllabus dot point
- learn and practise penmanship; this is important to allow markers to award the full range of marks to candidates

***Comments on specific sections and questions***

**Written examination**

**Section One:** Short answer

Attempted by 795 Candidates	Mean 35.47(/60)	Max 58	Min 2
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**Section Two:** Extended answer

Attempted by 793 Candidates	Mean 24.0(/40)	Max 37.6	Min 0
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