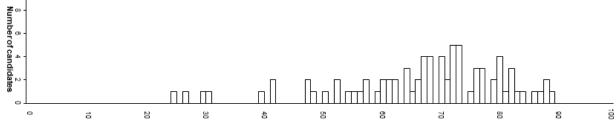


Summary report for candidates on the 2014 WACE examination in Children, Family and the Community Stage 3

Year	Number who sat	Number of absentees
2014	79	3
2013	62	1
2012	55	3

Examination score distribution



Summary

The written examination consisted of three sections with candidates being required to attempt all questions in Sections One and Two and to choose two of the three questions in Section Three. The mean for the written paper was 67.42%. Candidate scores for the examination ranged from a minimum of 24.94% to a maximum of 90.39%. The means for Sections One, Two and Three were 70.25%, 73.73% and 58.81% respectively.

General comments

In summary, for this cohort, Section One, Two and Three posed little difficulties for the majority of the candidates. Candidates, however, continued to find it difficult to explain the relationship between concepts. For example, to explain the relationship between social cohesion, social systems and a sustainable society. Candidates also found it difficult to apply their knowledge rather than just recall content, for example candidates could describe two different types of primary sources but fared poorly on discussing the use of primary source information in assisting an individual, family or community group. Similarly, candidates were able to describe a type of secondary source of information but failed to discuss satisfactorily the use of an advocacy skill to support the individual, family or community group.

Advice for candidates

- Ensure you clearly mark in your question/answer booklet the page number if your answer extends beyond the space provided.
- Read the extended response questions carefully and note the mark allocation for each question and plan time and writing accordingly.
- Make effective use of your reading time for planning.
- Ensure you have revised all areas of the course and not have limited yourselves to a focus on some of the content dot point, for example the theorists.
- Note the key verbs used in a question and respond to the question accordingly for example, ensure you know the difference between a question requiring them to 'provide', 'describe', 'explain', or 'discuss'.
- Write answers that address the specific focus of the question not simply restate all the
 information they can recall that relates to the topic. For example in Question 18 (c) some
 candidates failed to discuss how the similarities between the Vygotskian and the Piagetian
 theories could be incorporated when working with individuals, instead tending to recall the
 similarities only.

Comments on specific sections

Section One: Multiple-choice

Attempted by 79 Candidates Mean 7.03(/10) Max 10.00 Min 4.00

Section One posed few difficulties for the majority of the candidates. Questions 4, 5 and 8 were the most difficult and Questions 1, 2, 9 and 10 the easiest. All candidates attempted the 10 multiple-choice questions. The areas of the course most poorly answered in this section included the concept of ethics, human rights and examples of secondary sources. More time in the teaching and learning program may be required in these areas.

Section Two: Short answer

Attempted by 79 Candidates Mean 36.87(/50) Max 50.00 Min 11.27

In Section Two, short answer Question 12 was the easiest with a mean of 90.44% while Question 15 was the most difficult with a mean of 65.90%. Candidates performed well in Section Two indicating that they had engaged effectively with the course content and were able to apply their knowledge. However, it was evident that some candidates identified minimal aspects of concepts and provided brief and not always relevant examples that related to trends, barriers, influences, strengths and theories that affect the individual, family or the community. Better candidates provided detailed, relevant and accurate examples of global trends or issues, and clearly linked the relationship between concepts, for example between social cohesion, social systems and a sustainable society and between access to resource directly created by a cultural, political and economic policy or law.

Section Three: Extended response

Attempted by 79 Candidates Mean 23.52(/40) Max 38.00 Min 0.00

Section Three contained three questions from which candidates had to answer two. The majority of candidates chose Question 19. Only thirty-five of the seventy-nine candidates choose Question 17. Candidates seem to find Section Three more difficult compared to Sections One and Two. Stronger candidates provided highly structured and analytical responses using specific and appropriate terminology and supporting evidence.