

# Design briefs



**HEALTH STUDIES: STAGE 2**  
**WACE Examination design brief**

Exam paper sections	Supporting information
<p><b>Section One</b>  <b>Multiple-choice</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20% of total mark</li> <li>• 20 multiple-choice questions</li> <li>• All questions compulsory and of equal value</li> </ul> <p>Suggested time: 30 minutes</p>	<p>Multiple-choice questions provide candidates with an opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of course content.</p> <p>Stimulus material for questions could include diagrams, graphs, tables, media scripts or photographic images.</p>
<p><b>Section Two</b>  <b>Short response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% of total mark</li> <li>• 4–5 questions</li> <li>• All questions compulsory and of similar value</li> <li>• Questions may consist of several parts</li> </ul> <p>Suggested time: 90 minutes</p>	<p>Candidates will be assessed on their understanding of health skills and concepts, and ability to apply the skills of critical thinking and analysis.</p> <p>A series of both closed and open items should be used. They could be scaffolded by having parts to the question to allow candidates to respond at increasing levels of difficulty. Items should enable candidates to respond in alternatives to continuous prose for example labelled diagrams, mind maps and dot points.</p> <p>Stimulus material for questions could include case studies, diagrams, graphs, tables, media scripts or photographic images.</p>
<p><b>Section Three</b>  <b>Extended response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30% of total mark</li> <li>• Students choose two (2) questions from four</li> <li>• Questions may consist of several parts</li> </ul> <p>Suggested time: 60 minutes</p>	<p>Candidates will be required to respond to two (2) questions from a choice of four.</p> <p>This section of the examination tests the candidates' ability to apply the skills of critical thinking and analysis. Candidates are encouraged to use their school-based learning experiences in responses. Extended responses to Stage 2 should be well scaffolded.</p>

**Other considerations**

The Health Studies WACE examination will have three sections. All sections are compulsory. A combined question/answer booklet will be used, where space for answers is allocated. A separate response sheet for Section 1 (multiple-choice) will be provided.

**Examination length**

The total examination length is three hours with an additional 10 minutes reading time (total 3 hrs 10 min).

**Permissible materials**

The general materials permitted for use in the Health Studies WACE examination are stationery comprising pens, eraser or correction fluid, a ruler.

**HEALTH STUDIES: STAGE 3**  
**WACE Examination design brief**

Exam paper sections	Supporting information
<p><b>Section One</b>  <b>Multiple-choice</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20% of total mark</li> <li>• 20 multiple-choice questions</li> <li>• All questions compulsory and of equal value</li> </ul> <p>Suggested time: 30 minutes</p>	<p>Multiple-choice questions provide candidates with an opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of course content.</p> <p>Stimulus materials may be included in this section. Stimulus material may include diagrams, graphs, tables, media scripts or photographic images for analysis.</p>
<p><b>Section Two</b>  <b>Short response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40% of total mark</li> <li>• 4–5 questions</li> <li>• All questions compulsory and of similar value</li> <li>• Questions may consist of several parts</li> </ul> <p>Suggested time: 75 minutes</p>	<p>Candidates will be assessed on their understanding of health skills and concepts, and ability to apply the skills of critical thinking and analysis. Candidates will also be assessed on their ability to compare and analyse multiple data sets.</p> <p>A series of both closed and open items that are scaffolded will be used. Questions will have parts to the question to allow candidates to respond at increasing levels of difficulty.</p> <p>Stimulus material for questions will be used and may include case studies, diagrams, graphs, tables, media scripts or photographic images.</p>
<p><b>Section Three</b>  <b>Extended response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40% of total mark</li> <li>• Students choose two (2) questions from four</li> <li>• Questions may consist of several parts</li> </ul> <p>Suggested time: 75 minutes</p>	<p>Candidates will be required to respond to two (2) questions from a choice of four.</p> <p>This section of the examination tests the candidates' ability to apply the skills of critical thinking and analysis. Students will be provided with a selection of health issues and asked to design an inquiry using appropriate models and frameworks from their studies. They may also be required to draw on a health promotion experience.</p>

**Other considerations**

The Health Studies WACE examination will have three sections. All sections are compulsory. A combined question/answer booklet will be used, where space for answers is allocated. A separate response sheet for Section 1 (multiple-choice) will be provided.

**Examination length**

The total examination length is three hours with an additional 10 minutes reading time (total 3 hours and 10 minutes).

**Permissible materials**

The general materials permitted for use in the Health Studies WACE examination are stationery comprising pens, eraser or correction fluid, a ruler.