



## HISTORY

### PREAMBLE

The syllabus will test candidates’

- (a) knowledge of their national histories from earliest times to 2000 with emphasis on the relationship between the peoples and states;
- (b) intellectual capacity and skills of historical interpretation and analysis;
- (c) ability to use acquired skills in relating the past to the present;
- (d) appreciation of factors that make for national unity and global understanding;
- (e) exposure and appreciation of the similarities and differences in the National, social and political institutions;
- (f) knowledge of the main historical developments in West Africa from earliest times to 2000;
- (g) ability to relate events in their country and West Africa to those of the outside world;
- (h) ability to present clear, relevant and logical arguments.

To achieve these aims, the examination shall consist of two papers, Papers 1 and 2; both of which must be taken.

PAPER 1 will cover West Africa and the Wider World from the earliest times to 2000.

PAPER 2 will be on the national histories of The Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone from the earliest times to 2000.

### EXAMINATION SCHEME

There will be two papers – Paper 1 and Paper 2, both of which must be taken. The papers will be composite and will be taken at one sitting.

PAPER 1: This will be a multiple-choice objective test of fifty items. Candidates will be required to answer all the questions in 1 hour for 40 marks.

PAPER 2: This will be a 2 hour essay type test containing sets of questions on the histories of member counties. Each set shall be made up of three sections, Sections A, B and C.

The sections for the sets of questions for Nigeria, Sierra Leone, The Gambia and Liberia shall be on the following periods of their histories:

Section A .. .. From the earliest times to the 1800

Section B .. .. 19<sup>th</sup> Century

Section C .. .. 1900 – 2000



Those for Ghana will be as follows:

- Section A .. .. Landmarks of African history: From the earliest times to AD 1800
- Section B .. .. Ghana and the wider world: From earliest times to AD1900
- Section C .. .. Ghana: AD 1900-1991

Each section, for each country, shall have three questions. **Candidates will be required to answer questions on the countries in which they are taking the examination in their home countries.** They will answer four questions in all, choosing at least one question from each section. The paper will carry 60 marks.

## **DETAILED SYLLABUS**

### **PAPER 1: For all candidates**

#### **WEST AFRICA AND THE WIDER WORLD FROM EARLIEST TIMES TO 2000**

##### **1. Historiography and Historical Skills**

What is History and why do we study History? Sources of History; Historical skills (ancient and modern approaches); Prospect of ICT in historical studies.

##### **2. Trans – Saharan Trade**

Origin, organization and the effects on the development of West African states.

##### **3. Islam in West Africa**

Introduction, spread and effects.

##### **4. European Contact with West Africa**

Reasons for their coming, immediate effects and West African reaction

##### **5. Trans-Atlantic slave trade**

Origin, organization, effects and suppression.

##### **6. Christian Missionary Activities in West Africa**

The suppression of slave trade. Christian Missionary activities and their impact on West Africa.



### **7. The Scramble for and Partition of West Africa**

The Industrial Revolution, Scramble for colonies, Colonial subjugation, Occupation and West African reaction.

### **8. Colonial Rule in West Africa**

Patterns of colonial rule, consolidation of European culture in Africa, colonial economy and the underdevelopment of Africa: colonial Africa and the two World Wars.

### **9. Problems of independent West African States**

Nature of politics: neo-colonialism and economic underdevelopment, unequal development within states and instability, the Military in West African politics, boundary disputes and threat to West African Unity.

### **10. West Africa and international organizations**

- (i) United Nations Organization (U.N.O.)/United Nations (U.N);
  - (ii) Organization of African Unity (O.A.U)/African Union (A.U.);
  - (iii) Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);
- Etc.

Membership, aims and objectives, achievements and failures.

## **PAPER 2: NATIONAL HISTORIES OF THE GAMBIA, GHANA, LIBERIA, NIGERIA AND SIERRA LEONE UP TO 2000**

### **THE GAMBIA (For candidates in The Gambia only)**

#### **SECTION A: THE GAMBIA FROM EARLIEST TIMES TO 2000**

##### **1. Historiography and Historical Skills**

What is History and why do we study History; sources of History; Historical skills (ancient and modern approaches); Prospect of ICT in Historical Studies.

##### **2. Origin, political, social and economic organization of the following:**

- (i) The Wollof;
- (ii) Mandinka;
- (iii) Fula;



- (iv) Jola;
- (v) Krio(Aku);
- (vi) Serahuli;

**3. Indigenous crafts and industries;**

Pottery, salt making, iron working, soap making, leather works, weaving, carving, tie and dyeing, boat building – technology; social and economic importance.

**4. Early European contact**

Trade, Christianity and impact.

**5. Introduction, spread and effects of Islam.**

**6. The Gambia and the trans-Atlantic slave trade:**

Origin, organization and effects

**SECTION B: THE GAMBIA IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

**7. Suppression of the slave trade and its effects**

Campaigns against kings of Barra, Sabiji and Fuladu.

**8. The founding of Bathurst (Banjul)**

**9. Christian Missionary activities and their impact**

**10. The Soninke-Marabout wars, jihadist leaders**

Colonial government's reaction to religious disturbances, 1850 to 1880.

**11. Resistance to European Colonialism**

Foday Kombo Sillah, Foday Kabbah Dumbuya and Musa Molloh Baldeh

**SECTION C: THE GAMBIA FROM 1900 TO 2000**

**12. British Colonial administration**

Indirect Rule and the role of traditional rulers



13. **Economic and social developments in the colonial period**
  - (i) agriculture; attempts at diversification,
  - (ii) transportation and communication,
  - (iii) education,
  - (iv) health services
14. **Development of local Government**
15. **The struggle for and regaining of independence**
  - (i) Emergence and role of trade unions and political parties,
  - (ii) Internal government,
  - (iii) Independence negotiations,
  - (iv) Senegambia relations before independence.
16. **Development after independence**
  - (i) attempt at national government,
  - (ii) the Republican Constitution,
  - (iii) parliamentary government; multiparty politics, political realignment
  - (iv) social and economic developments,
  - (v) Senegambia relations,
  - (vi) 1981 attempted coup d'état,
  - (vii) 1994 coup d'état – AFPRC,
  - (viii) The Second Republic – 1996 to 2000
17. **The Gambia and the**
  - (i) United Nations Organization (U.N.O.)/United Nations (U.N);
  - (ii) Commonwealth of Nations/ The Commonwealth;
  - (iii) Organization of African Unity (O.A.U)/African Union (A.U.);
  - (iv) Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

## GHANA

(For candidates in Ghana only)

### **SECTION A: LANDMARKS OF AFRICAN HISTORY (FROM EARLIEST TIMES TO 1800)**

#### **1. Introduction to African History**

- a) History as a subject of study



- b) Sources of African History
- c) Methods of African History

## **2. African pre-history up to 500 B.C**

- a) Hunters and gatherers, etc.
- b) Beginning of village/community life.

## **3. Civilizations of North Africa from 3000B.C To A.D 1800**

- a) Pharaonic Egypt
  - i. emergence of Lower and Upper Kingdoms.
  - ii. development of:
    - Farming technology (irrigation),
    - Metal technology (ship building),
    - Engineering technology (pyramids).
  - iii. development of:

African arts and sciences, writing, mathematics, commerce, military organization, architecture etc.

- iv. Introduction of Christianity and Islam

- b) Northern Africa-Berber

- (i) indigenous civilization.
- (ii) economy, metal technology etc.,
- (iii) external relations with the Phoenicians /Greeks, Carthaginians, Romans and Arabs.

## **4. Civilizations of the Horn, East and Central Africa**

- (a) Axum:
  - (i) Rise of Axum- factors responsible
  - (ii) Major achievements in Arts, Technology etc.
  - (iii) Introduction of Christianity and effects.
- (b) Emergence of Ancient Ethiopia (Abyssinia); rise of Solomonic line of Kings, conflicts – internal and external
- (c) Bantu Civilization
  - (i) Definition, origin and spread



- (ii) Study of examples of Bantu complex societies:
  - (a) Zimbabwe,
  - (b) Mapungubwe
  - (c) Kisale;
- (d) Swahili Civilization of the East African Coast:
  - (i) Definition and origins of Swahili Civilization
  - (ii) Economy
  - (iii) Metal Technology
  - (iv) Architecture
  - (v) City Based Civilization
  - (vi) The Swahili Language

## 5. West Africa – Civilizations and Cultures

- (a) General characteristics of West African Sudanese states and kingdoms:

Location, social and political organizations, economic, religious, technological developments, citing examples from:

- (i) Ghana
  - (ii) Mali
  - (iii) Songhai
  - (iv) Kanem-Bornu
  - (v) Hausa States
- (b) The trans –Saharan trade: origin, organisation and effects on the development of the states.
  - (c) Forest and Coastal States:  
General characteristics of West African Coastal States and kingdoms (Ife, Oyo, Asante, Mende-Temne, Dahomey, Igbo): social, political and economic organization, intra-regional trade, religious and technological developments.

## **SECTION B: GHANA AND THE WIDER WORLD; FROM EARLIEST TIMES TO AD.1900**

### 6. Introduction to the History of Ghana

- (a) Sources and Methods



(b) Pre-history of Ghana -50,000B.C. – A.D 1700

- (i) Hunters and Gatherers
- (ii) Kintampo culture- farmers and village builders (2000 BC – AD 500)
- (iii) The first townsmen in Ghana: Begho, Bono-Manso etc.(AD1000-1700)

## 7. The peopling of Ghana

(a) Peoples of Ghana

- (i) Northern zone
- (ii) Forest zone
- (iii) Coastal zone

(b) The rise of states and kingdoms:

General characteristics i.e. factors for rise, attainment level etc.

- (i) Northern zone e.g. Dagomba, Manprugu, Gonja and Nanumba.
- (ii) Forest zone e.g. Denkyira, Akwamu, Akyem, Asante.
- (iii) Coastal zone e.g. Fante, Ga, Anlo.

## 8. Social, Cultural, Political and Economic Developments in Ghana in the Sixteenth Centuries

(a) Political systems:

- (i) Centralized communities e.g. Asante, Dagomba;
- (ii) Non- centralized communities e.g. Sisala, Chamba
- (iii) Theocratic communities e.g. Ga-Adangbe, Guan
- (iv) Comparison of the three systems.

(b) Social organizations- religion, kinship systems e.g. matrilineal and patrilineal: festivals, rites and ceremonies associated with various stages in the life cycle (marriage, birth, puberty and death)

(c) History of medicine as practised by various peoples:

Some examples of medicinal items and uses (botanical and zoological aspects of medicine)

(d) Pre- colonial technological advancement: brass casting, gold working, pottery etc. Their

- (i) processes





- (ii) products
- (iii) importance
- (e) Art forms e.g. Adinkra symbols, textiles, Kete, Adowa dance forms.
- (f) Economy:
  - (i) subsistence economy: fishing, farming, craftworks, hunting and gathering.
  - (ii) exchange economy
    - local trading e.g. salt, kola nuts
    - long distance trading e.g. leather, gold, beads
  - (iii) importance of long distance trade

## 9. European contact

- (a) Europeans on Ghana Coast
  - (i) reasons for their coming
  - (ii) immediate effects
- (b) Changing patterns of trade: AD1500- 1900:
  - (i) trade with Europeans- gold, ivory etc.
  - (ii) Atlantic slave trade- nature volume and contributions to the development of the Americas,
  - (iii) effects of slave trade on Ghana;
- (c) The Scramble for and partition of West Africa.
  - (i) causes
  - (ii) Berlin Conference
  - (iii) major recommendations.
  - (iv) the effects on West Africa.

## 10. Social and Political Development AD 1500- 1900

- (a) Activities of the Christian missionaries:
  - (i) opening of churches and setting up of schools and colleges.
  - (ii) establishment of medical facilities
  - (iii) literacy work: translating the Bible into local languages, providing dictionaries, reducing local languages into writing etc.
- (b) Political Developments:
  - (i) Effects of European presence on local politics
  - (ii) The Bond of 1844



- (iii) Aborigines Rights Protection Society.

## **SECTION C: GHANA (AD 1900-1991)**

### **11. Social, Economic and Political Developments (AD 1900- 1957)**

(a) Nationalist activities and political changes from 1900 to 1957.

- (i) Early Nationalist organizations: Aborigines Rights Protection Society (ARPS), National Congress of British West Africa (NCBWA), Gold Coast Youth Conference, West African Youth League.
- (ii) Early Nationalists e.g. John Mensah Sarbah, J. Casely Hayford, Kobina Sekyi.
- (iii) Later Nationalist Parties:
  - United Gold Coast Convention (UGCC)
  - Convention People's Party (CPP)
  - National Liberation Movement (NLM)
- (iv) Later Nationalists: J.B. Danquah, Kwame Nkrumah, Paa Grant

(b) Social and Economic Developments:

- (i) education
- (ii) health and sanitation: etc.
- (iii) religion
- (iv) agriculture- cocoa, oil palm, copra, coffee, fishing; etc.
- (v) transport and communications: railways, roads, harbours, airways, telegraph and postal services and mass media.
- (vi) mining – gold, diamond, bauxite, manganese, etc.
- (vii) timber and other forest products.
- (viii) the work of Sir Gordon Guggisberg;

### **12. Post-Independence Ghana**

(a) The Nkrumah Era

- (i) Social developments
- (ii) Economic developments
- (iii) Political developments



- contributions to African unity and world peace
  - development of one party state.
- (iv) The fall of Nkrumah regime;

(b) Post Nkrumah Era:

- (i) causes of rapid changes of government
- (ii) social and economic character of each regime:
  - National Liberation Council (N.L.C)
  - The Second Republic 1969- 1972
  - The National Redemption Council (NRC) & The Supreme Military Council Era (S.M.C) 1972-1979.
  - The Uprising of 1979 (May 15, and June 4) and the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC).
  - The Third Republic 1979- 1981;
  - Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) 1981- 1991.

### 13. Ghana in the Comity of Nations

(a) Contributions, benefits and challenges of Ghana's membership of

- (i) United Nations Organization (UNO); / United Nations (UN)
- (ii) Commonwealth of Nations;
- (iii) Non-Aligned Movement (NAM);
- (iv) Organization of African Unity (OAU); African Union (AU)
- (v) Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);
- (vi) African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries (ACP/EEC)

### **LIBERIA**

**(For candidates in Liberia only)**

#### **SECTION A: LIBERIA FROM EARLIEST TIMES TO 1800**

##### **1. Historiography and Historical skills**

What is History and why we learn history; sources of History; historical skills (ancient and modern approaches); prospect of ICT in Historical Studies.



**2. Land and People**

- a. Main geographical zones of Liberia.
- b. Demographic, Ethnic, Linguistic distribution (Kru, Bassa, Krahn, Gio, Mano. Grebo, Lorma, Kpelle, Belle, Mandingo, Vai, Kissi, Gbandi, Gola, Dey, Mende).

**3. Migration**

- a. Migration due to war, pestilence, drought, overpopulation.
- b. Introduction, spread and effects of Islam.

**4. Kingdoms, Chiefdoms and Confederacies:**

- a. Political Institutions.
- b. Social, religious and cultural activities (weaving, blacksmithing).

**5. European Contacts** – Liberia (economic and social effects).

**6. Trans Atlantic Slave Trade** (origin, organization, effects, suppression)

**SECTION B: LIBERIA IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

**7 The effects of Colonization movements on Liberia.**

- a. The coming of migrants from the USA, the Caribbean and the Recaptives to Liberia.
- b. The establishment and administration of settlements by the American Colonization Society and other Organizations.
- c. Christian missionary activities and impact.

**8. The formation and significance of the Commonwealth of Liberia:**

- a. Problems, conflicts and cooperation between the settlers and indigenous people.
- b. Territorial expansion and its effects.

**9. Declaration of Independence:**

- a. The reasons for and the significance of the Declaration of Independence.
- b. The Constitution of 1847 and its importance.
- c. The origin and development of political parties.
- d. The administration of Joseph .J. Roberts
- e. Edward J. Roye and the ruling class.

**10. Liberia's relationship with the outside world:**



- Diplomatic recognition by Britain, France etc.

**11. Problems of land acquisition.**

- Encroachment by the British and French beyond the agreed colonial boundaries.
- Expansion into the interior

**SECTION C: LIBERIA FROM 1900 TO 2000**

**12. Political Development**

- The roles of Presidents David Coleman and Arthur Barclay.
- The origin and development of political parties up to 2000.
- Exportation of labour; the Fernando Po crisis, intervention of the League of Nations.

**13. The administration of Edwin Barclay, William V.S Tubman, William R. Tolbert Jnr.**

**14. 1980 coup d'état and Samuel K. Doe**

- Beginning of the civil war (ECOWAS intervention/ ECOMOG activities).
- Interim government – 1990- 1994; 1994 – 1997.
- Administration of Charles Taylor (1997-2000).

**15. Economic development and the spread of education.**

**16. Liberia and the**

- United Nations Organization (UNO)
- Organization of African Unity (OAU)/ African Union (AU)
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
- Mano River Union (MRU)

**NIGERIA**  
**(For candidates in Nigeria only)**

**SECTION A: NIGERIA FROM EARLIEST TIMES TO 1800**

**1. Historiography and historical skills**

What is History and why we study History; sources of History; Historical skills (ancient and modern approaches); Prospect of ICT in Historical Studies.



## 2. Land and peoples of Nigeria:

Main geographical zones in Nigeria: impact of the environment on human activities e.g. hunting, fishing, farming, etc.

## 3. Centers of ancient civilization:

Nok, Ife, Igbo Ukwu, Benin.

## 4. (a) Centralized and non-centralized states:

- (i) Kanem and Borno;
- (ii) Hausa;
- (iii) Nupe;
- (iv) Oyo;
- (v) Benin;
- (vi) Igbo;
- (vii) Efik;
- (viii) Tiv.

(b) Inter-group relations: economic activities, intermarriages, bilingualism, etc.

(c) Impact of migrations; wars and politics on inter- group relations.

## 5. Indigenous crafts and industries;

Pottery, salt making, iron working, gold mining, soap making, leather works, weaving, carving, bronze casting, tie and dyeing, bead making, boat building – technology; social and economic importance.

## 6. External Influences

- (a) Contact with North Africa: trans-Saharan trade, Islam(Borno and Hausaland) and impact
- (b) Early European contact with coastal states; trade, Christianity and impact

## 7. Nigeria and the trans-Atlantic slave trade

Origin, organization and effects

## **SECTION B: NIGERIA IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**



**8. The Sokoto Caliphate:**

Establishment, administration, relations with its neighbours and impact of the Sokoto jihad on Nigeria.

**9. Borno under the Shehus:**

The emergence of El-Kanemi, developments under El-Kanemi and Shehu Umar, development under the later Shehus, the fall of Borno.

**10. Christian Missionary Activities** – activities, impact.

**11. Yorubaland in the 19<sup>th</sup> century**

Era of Ibadan dominance; increased British pressure on Yorubaland;

**12. Benin in the 19<sup>th</sup> century**

**13. The first phase of the British conquest of Nigeria: 1851-1900**

**SECTION C: NIGERIA FROM 1900 TO 2000**

**14. The second phase of the British conquest in Nigeria 1900- 1960**

- a. The early phase 1900-1914: the amalgamation of 1914 and its significance
- b. Later phase 1914-1960
  - (i) central administration;
  - (ii) indirect rule;
  - (iii) the colonial economy;
  - (iv) social developments.

**15. The decolonization process in Nigeria, 1922-1960**

Origin of nationalism, nationalist movements after the Second World War, the road to and the attainment of independence.

**16. Nigeria since independence**

- a. the First Republic, 1960-1966;
- b. the coups d'état, military rule, civil war and reconstruction, 1966-1975;
- c. the military administration - Murtala/Obasanjo regime of 1975-1979;
- d. the Second Republic, 1979-1983;
- e. the return of military rule - Buhari/Idiagbon regime, 1983-1984
- f. The Ibrahim Babangida regime, 1985-1993
- g. Interim national government and Abacha regime, 1993-1998;
- h. Transition to fourth republic and Olusegun Obasanjo administration;



- i. Emerging issues up to 2000: poverty, corruption, youth unemployment, religious crisis, terrorism, etc.

## 17. Nigeria and the

- a. United Nations Organization (U.N.O.)/United Nations (U.N);
- b. Commonwealth of Nations;
- c. Organization of Unity (O.A.U)/African Union (A.U.);
- d. Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);
- e. Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

## 18. Global issues

West Africa in Diaspora; Racism, Debt relief and International aids;  
Peacekeeping and socio-political interest of developed societies; World peace (armament, nuclear science); Millennium Development Goals (MDGS).

### SIERRA LEONE

(For candidates in Sierra Leone only)

#### SECTION A: SIERRA LEONE FROM EARLIEST TIMES TO 1800

##### 1. **Historiography and Historical Skills**

What is History and why do we study History; sources of History, Historical skills (ancient and modern approaches); Prospect of ICT in Historical Studies.

##### 2. **Origin, political, social and economic organization of the following:**

- (i) Temne;
- (ii) Mende;
- (iii) Limba;
- (iv) Loko;
- (v) Susu;
- (vi) Mandingo;
- (vii) Sherbro/Bullom.

##### 3. **Indigenous crafts and industries:**

Potters, salt making, iron working, gold mining, soap making, leather works, weaving, carving, tie and dyeing, boat building – technology; social and economic importance.

##### 4. **Mane Invasions**





5. **Early European contact**  
Trade, Christianity and impact.
6. **Introduction spread and effects of Islam.**
7. **Sierra Leone and the trans-Atlantic slave trade:**  
Origin, organization and effects

**SECTION B: SIERRA LEONE IN THE 19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

8. **The founding of the settlement colony of Sierra Leone to the declaration of the Crown Colony.**
9. **The emergence of the Krio and their subsequent decline**
10. **Christian Missionary activities and their impact**
11. **The role of the colonial government in contacts between the colony and the hinterland.**
12. **The activities of Samori Toure in Sierra Leone**
13. **Declaration of the Protectorate and the Hut Tax War**

**SECTION C: SIERRA LEONE FROM 1900 TO 2000**

14. **The administration of the colony and constitutional developments up to 1947**
15. **The administration of the Protectorate:**  
Indirect rule and the Protectorate Assembly
16. **Economic and social developments in the colonial period**
  - (i) Agriculture
  - (ii) Mining
  - (iii) Transportation and communication
  - (iv) Education
  - (v) Health.



17. **Political and constitutional developments from 1947 to the regaining of independence in 1961.**
  
18. **Sierra Leone from independence to 2000:**
  - (i) The era of the Margais – 1961
  - (ii) Military rule – National Reformation Council,
  - (iii) The administration of Siaka Stevens,
  - (iv) The administration of Joseph Saidu Momoh – outbreak of the rebel war.
  - (v) Military rule – National Provisional Ruling Council,
  - (vi) The administration of Ahmed Tejan Kabbah up to 2000.
  
19. **Sierra Leone and the**
  - (i) United Nations Organization (U.N.O.)/United Nations (U.N);
  - (ii) Commonwealth of Nations;
  - (iii) Organization of African Unity (O.A.U.)/African Union (A.U.);
  - (iv) Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);
  - (v) Mano River Union (MRU).