

## **IGBO**

### **PREAMBLE**

A sound knowledge of the Igbo language, literature and culture is a fundamental need for all who desire the comprehensive knowledge of the Igbo people. Based on this, the Igbo syllabus is designed for candidates studying Igbo. Adequate care has been taken to ensure that candidates go through the rubrics of the Igbo language. The syllabus covers such important areas of the language as the sound system, grammar, culture, worldview, etc.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE SYLLABUS**

The objectives of the syllabus are as follows:

- To enable candidates to speak, read and write Igbo properly and communicate effectively in it;
- To familiarize them with the sound system, grammatical structures and other features of the Igbo language;
- To expose the candidates to Igbo culture – customs, institutions, worldview, etc;
- To provide them with the necessary tools needed for creative writing and appreciation of Igbo language and literature.

### **SCHEME OF EXAMINATION**

The examination shall consist of two papers, Papers 1 and 2; both of which shall constitute a composite paper and shall be taken at one sitting. The rubrics of the papers shall be written in Igbo. Candidates will be required to answer all the questions in Igbo using the standard orthography metalanguage.

**PAPER 1** will consist of sixty multiple choice objective questions all of which should be answered within 1 hour for 60 marks. The paper will have three sections, Sections A, B and C. The questions in the sections will cover the following aspects of the subject:

Section A: Language  
Section B: Literature  
Section C: Culture

#### **Section A: Language**

This will contain thirty multiple choice questions on language distributed as follows:

|                                  |   |          |
|----------------------------------|---|----------|
| Comprehension (2 short passages) | - | 10 items |
| Composition/letter writing       | - | 4 items  |
| Sound system                     | - | 6 items  |

|             |   |                |
|-------------|---|----------------|
| Grammar     | - | 6 items        |
| Translation | - | <u>4 items</u> |
|             |   | 30 items       |

### Section B: Literature

Will contain twenty-two multiple choice questions on literature distributed as follows:

|   |        |                        |
|---|--------|------------------------|
| Basic Principles of Literary Appreciation | -      | 4 items                |
| Oral Literature-                          | Prose  | - 3 items              |
|   | Poetry | - 3 items              |
|   | Drama  | - 3 items              |
| Written Literature                        | -      | Prose - 3 items        |
|   |        | Poetry - 3 items       |
|   |        | Drama - <u>3 items</u> |
|   |        | <u>22 items</u>        |

In this section, all questions other than those on Basic Principles of Literary Appreciation will be based on the setbooks for Paper 2.

### Section C: Culture

This will contain eight multiple choice questions on culture distributed as follows:

|              |   |                |
|--------------|---|----------------|
| Customs      | - | 4 items        |
| Institutions | - | <u>4 items</u> |
|              |   | <u>8 items</u> |

**TOTAL: (30+22+8) = 60 items**

**PAPER 2:** Will be a composition test and will also have three sections, Section A, B and C.

The sections will cover the parts of the syllabus indicated below.

Section A: Language

Section B: Literature

Section C: Culture

Candidates will be required to answer six out of the total of thirteen questions to be made available. The paper will take 2 hours to complete and carry 100 marks.

Further details on the structure of the paper as well as its requirements are given below.

### **Section A: Essay**

This section will consist of the following three parts, Parts I, II and III:

Part I – Composition/Letter writing

Part II – Sound System

Part III – Grammar

#### **Part I: Composition/ Letter Writing**

Candidates are advised not to spend more than 45 minutes on this section. There will be five topics from the following essay types and candidates will be expected to write on one of them in about 300 words:

- (1) Narrative;
- (2) Descriptive;
- (3) Argumentative;
- (4) Expository;
- (5) Dialogue;
- (6) Debate;
- (7) Letter writing.

#### **Part II: Sound system**

Two questions will be set for candidates to answer one of them. The questions will test candidate's basic knowledge of the following areas:

- (a) Igbo Phonemes: Vowels, Consonants, the Syllabic nasal,
  - (i) their production, and
  - (ii) their classification.
- (b) Syllable Structure.
- (c) Sound Processes: vowel harmony, vowel assimilation, vowel elision and consonants elision.
- (d) Tone and tone notation.
- (e) The Igbo alphabet.

#### **Part III: Grammar**

Two questions will be set for candidates to answer one of them. The questions will test candidate's knowledge of the following areas:

- (a) Spelling rules.

- (b) Word formation.
- (c) Igbo dialects and Standard Igbo.
- (d) Loan words.
- (e) Igbo metalanguage (new words).
- (f) Word classes: The noun, verb, pronoun, conjunction, preposition, etc.
- (g) Grammatical categories: tense, number and person.
- (h) Phrases and Clauses: their types and functions.
- (i) Sentences: i. their constituents and types.  
ii. Sentences containing Direct and Indirect Speech.
- (j) Lexis and Structure.
- (k) Punctuation marks.

## **Section B: Literature**

This section will consist of two parts, Parts I and II as follows:

Part I: Oral Literature – Prose, Poetry and Drama

Part II: Written Literature – Prose, Poetry and Drama

### **Part I: Oral Literature**

Three questions will be set for this part and candidates will be required to answer only one of them. All questions in this section will be based on the prescribed texts.

In this part, candidates will be required to have basic knowledge of the following:

- (a) Definition and characteristics of oral Literature
- (b) Classification and functions
- (c) Literary devices
- (d) Folktales (ifo)
- (e) Anecdotes (ụkabụilu)
- (f) Legends (nkọkiriḱo/akụkọ dike)
- (g) Myths (nkọmiriḱo/akụkọokike/mmalite)
- (h) Poems (abụ)
- (i) Songs (uri)
- (j) Proverbs (ilu)
- (k) Riddles (agwụgwa)
- (l) Chants (mbem)
- (m) Oral drama (ejije ọnụ)
- (n) Tongue twisters (okwuntụhi)

### **Part II: Written Literature**

Three questions will be set for this part and candidates will be required to attempt only one. All questions in this section will be based on the prescribed texts.

## Section C: Culture

Two questions will be set on culture and candidates will be required to attempt only one.

Candidates should be familiar with Igbo customs and institutions as aspects of the culture. The following areas will be covered.

### Customs – Omenala

- (a)i. Njirimara ndi Igbo-asusu, ejiji, omenala, ekpemekpe, agbambo, dg.
- ii. Ekele ndi Igbo n'oge di icheiche.
- (b) Mmemme -oji, itu nzu, ikwo aka ututu, igo ofo, dg.
- (c) Nnabata obia.
- (d) Omumu nwa - ile omugwo, ibi ugwu, ikuputa nwa, igu aha, izu ahia nwa, ihu eze, dg.
- (e) Nkwenye - ilo uwa, ogbanje, nro, ihi/isi anu, iha/ichu mmiri, dg.
- (f) Emume - ofala, ibo uzo, iwa ji/iri ji, igbu ewuukwu, iru mgbede, iwa akwa, akwamozu, igba mkpe, igu afo, mbari, udara, dg.
- (g) Egwuregwu – egwu umuaka, igba/ichu oro, itu okwe, izu nchorokoto, ikpo okwe, mgba, ikpo oga, okoso, egwu onwa, dg.
- (h) Nsoala/Aru - ihenso, ebensu, anunsu, osisinsu, ime ibeebe.

### Institutions – Ewumewu

- (a) Ewumewu ochichi - ezinaulo, ndi eze odinala, nze na ozo, umuokpu/umuada, otu ogbo, otu nzuzo, otu inyomdi, umunna, ogbe, obodo.
- (b) Ewumewu mmekorita mmadu na ibe ya - alumalu, ezinaulo, igo ogo, nwanwa/nwadiala, igba ndu, igba oriko
- (c) Echichi - Loolo, Iyom, Omu, Ezeji, Jioke, Atama.
- (d) Abamaba - Mmonwu, Okonko, Ekpe, Omabe, Odo, Dibia.
- (e) Ewumewu akunauba – ike ekpe, iri ekpe, ala na ihe di na ya.
- (f) Akaoru - ikpu uzu, igba nta, iku azu, oruugbo, ikwa nka, ikpu ite, dg.
- (g) Ewumewu ofufe - igba afa, ichu aja, dg.
- (h) Ngwa ofufe - ofo, ikenga, okpesi, ogu, otansi, dg
- (i) Ihe ofufe - Ndichie, Arusi, Ikenga, Ala, Mmuo mmiri, Arusi/ Agbara dika Ogwugwu, Ahiajoku, Agwu, Amadioha, Kamalu, Agbala, Ibini Ukpabi, Ojukwu, Igwekaala, Idemmili, dg.

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS FOR WASCCE IGBO**

| YEAR      | PROSE                                   | POETRY                       | DRAMA                   |
|-----------|---|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1981-83   | Oral Qmalinze                           | Abx Na<br>EgwuregwuQd[ nala  |                         |
|           | Written Urunwa<br>JxqObinna             | Akpa Uche<br>Eke Nne         | Obidiya                 |
| 1987      | Oral                                    | Abx Na EgwuregwuQd[ nala     |                         |
|           | Written Chinagqrqm                      | Xtara Nt[                    | Ugomma                  |
| 1988      | Written Obiefuna                        | AkpaUche                     | AkxFechaa               |
| 1989      | Written Xwaezuoke                       | Akpa Uche                    | AkxFechaa               |
| 1990      | Written Xwad [ egwu                     | Nkemakqlam                   | Obidiya                 |
| 1998-2000 | Oral Qka Mgba                           | MbemnaEgwu Igbo              |                         |
|           | Written Dinta<br>QkpaAkxEriEri AkpaUche | AkqBxNdx                     | Qnxkwube<br>OkweAgbaala |
| 2002-2005 | Oral Qmalinze                           | Abx Na EgwuregwuQd[ nala     |                         |
|           | Written Jxqchi/Adaeze                   | Xtara Nt[<br>EchicheMiri Emi | UdoKaMma<br>Ajq Obi     |
| 2006-10   | Oral Qka Mgba                           | Abx Akwamozu                 |                         |
|           | Written IheQjqGbaaAfq                   | Echiche                      | NwataBulieNnaYaElu      |
| 2011-15   | Oral Mbediogu                           | Abu Na Egwuregwu             |                         |
|           | Written QjaDufuo Dike Uche Bx Akpa      | AtxrGxGa-EpuMpi              |                         |

**LIST OF IGBO TEXTS FOR CONSIDERATION: 2016-2020**

|        | <b>ORAL</b>                             | <b>WRITTEN</b>                               |
|--------|---|--|
| PROSE  | <b>Ezennnxx</b><br>Agxgx M.O.           | <b>xwa Ad[ gh[ Ka Echere</b><br>Kannngozi F. |
|        | <b>Eke Na Egwurugwu</b><br>Nwadike I.U. | <b>NdidiAmaka</b><br>Okoro C.L               |
|        | <b>Qka Mgba</b><br>Iroaganachi J.       | <b>AnxGbaaAjqqsq</b><br>Qfqmata C.           |
|        |   | <b>xwa Bx Agha</b><br>Nwadike I.U.           |
|        |   | <b>QdiXkonaMba</b><br>Okebalama C.N.         |
|        |   | <b>OkeSoroNgwere</b><br>Okechukwu Ihejirika  |
| POETRY | <b>Abx Akwamaozu</b><br>Xzqchukwu S     | <b>AkqnaUche</b><br>Echebima G.N             |
|        | <b>MbemnaEgwu Igbo</b><br>Qgbalx F.C.   | <b>Akqnuche</b><br>Nwadike I.U               |
| DRAMA  |   | <b>Nke M JiKa</b><br>Nwaozuzu G.I.           |
|        |   | <b>Amagh[ Igbo AsxOyibo</b><br>Okeke C.      |
|        |   | <b>Nka D[ naNt[</b><br>OkoroEmeka            |
|        |   | <b>Afere</b><br>Chukwuemeka O.               |
|        |   | <b>Ka{ Ma Nke A.....</b><br>AgxgxM.O         |