

English Language (All Probatoire series & specialties)
00-6005

CAMEROON GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION BOARD

Probatoire Technique and Probatoire De Brevet de Technicien Examinations

JUNE 2016

Date: Monday 23 May 2016

Series/ Specialties	All Series & Specialties
Subject Title	English Language (All Probatoire series & specialties)
Subject Code No.	00-6005
Type of Exam	WRITTEN
Weighting (Coef.)	SEE INSIDE

Duration: See Inside

General Instructions

Candidates are reminded of the necessity for good English and orderly presentation of material

Content: QUESTIONS

Specific Instructions

This paper comprises **FOUR** sections. You are required to choose only the **ONE** section that corresponds to your series or specialty.

SECTION 1: - Probatoire F, CI & Probatoire de Brevet de Technicien (All Series)

SECTION 2: - Probatoire ACA, CG, ACC & FIG

SECTION 3: - Probatoire de Brevet de Technicien ESF

SECTION 4: - Probatoire de Brevet de Technicien III

NOTE:

Ignore the page numbers on the bottom left of this page.

Turn over

SECTION 1: - Probatoire F, CI & Probatoire de Brevet de Technicien (All Series)

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

Peace-Work-Fatherland

MINESEC / CGCE BOARD

BACC F & BT ALL SERIES EXCEPT ESF & III

SESSION _____

Time allowed: 3hrs

Coef: 2

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PART 1: ESSAY (8marks)

Write an essay of between 400 – 450 words on any ONE of the following topics of your choice:

1. "Technical education is better than general education". Do you agree?
2. The causes and consequences of malaria in developing countries.
3. Describe the process involved in cooking any dish of your choice. Make sure you talk about how the dish is prepared and served.

PART 2: READING COMPREHENSION (7 marks)

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions below it. Use correct English sentences and, as far as possible, your own words:

A Building, a Dwelling Place

A building is a man-made structure with a roof and walls standing more or less permanently in one place. Buildings come in a variety of shapes, sizes and functions, and have been adapted throughout history for a number of factors, from building materials available, to weather conditions, to land prices, ground conditions, specific uses, and aesthetic reasons.

Buildings serve several needs of society – primarily as shelter from weather, security, living space, privacy, to store belongings, and to comfortably live and work.

Ever since the first cave paintings, buildings have also become objects or canvasses of artistic expression. In recent years, interest in sustainable planning and building practices has also become an intentional part of the design process of many new buildings.

Residential buildings are called houses or homes, though buildings containing large numbers of separate dwelling units are often called apartment buildings or apartment blocks to differentiate them from 'individual' houses. Houses may also be built in pairs (semi-detached), in terraces where all but two of the houses have others either side; apartments may be built round courtyards or as rectangular blocks surrounded by a piece of ground of varying sizes. Houses which are built as a single dwelling

may later be divided into apartments or bedsitters; they may also be converted to other uses e.g. an office or a shop.

Building types may range from one-room wood-framed, masonry, or adobe dwellings to multi-million dollar high-rise buildings able to house thousands of people. Increasing settlement density in buildings (and smaller distances between buildings) is usually a response to high ground prices resulting from many people wanting to live close to work or similar attractions. Other common building materials are brick, concrete or combinations of either of these with stone.

Other buildings may be damaged during the construction of a building or during maintenance. There are several other reasons behind building damage. They include accidents such as storms, explosions and subsidence caused by mining or poor foundations. Buildings may also suffer from fire damage or flooding in special circumstances. They may also become dilapidated through lack of proper maintenance or alteration work improperly carried out.

Adobe is one of the oldest building methods in which clay and sand mixed with water. Often, chopped straw or other fibers are added for strength. The mixture is then allowed to dry in the desired shape. Usually adobe is shaped into bricks that can be stacked to form walls.

Various claims are made about the optimal proportions of clay and sand (or larger aggregates). Some say that the best adobe soil contains 15% - 30% clay to bind the material together. Others say equal proportions of clay and sand are best to prevent cracking or fragmenting of the bricks. Sometimes adobe is stabilized with a small amount of cement or asphalt emulsion to provide better weatherproofing. The blocks can either be poured into moulds and dried, or pressed into blocks. Adobe colored with clay and polished with natural oil makes an attractive and resilient floor.

To protect the walls and reduce the cost of maintenance, adobe buildings usually have large overhanging eaves and sizeable foundations. Adobe can be plastered over with cob or lime-based mixes for both appearance and protection. Adobe has good thermal mass, meaning that it is slow to transmit heat or cold. It is not a good insulator, however, so insulation can be added (preferably on the outside), or a double wall built with airspace or insulation in between. The traditional thick, un-insulated adobe has proven to perform best in regions without harsh winters or where daily sunlight is predictably available during those cold periods.

(www.google.com Pm (construction))

QUESTIONS:

1. a) What other name is given to residential buildings? (½ mark)
b) What is the difference between residential homes and apartment buildings? (½ mark)
2. Buildings for centuries today have been adapted for a wide range of factors. Identify four of them. (1 mark)
3. a) Give two reasons to show how a building can be damaged (1 mark)

b) Identify two reasons why buildings are necessary in the society as a whole nowadays?
(½ mark)

4. a) What is the difference between a human habitat and the general environment? (½ mark)

b) Why is there an increasing settlement density in buildings? (1 mark)

5. VOCABULARY (2 MARKS)

Give the contextual meaning of each of the following underlined words in the passage:

i) variety (½ mark)

ii) aesthetic (½ mark)

iii) dilapidated (½ mark)

iv) weatherproofing (½ mark)

PART 3: SUMMARY (5 marks)

In 60 words, summarize the factors responsible for the different shapes of buildings nowadays.

SECTION 2 Probatoire ACA, CG, ACC & FIG

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace – Work – Fatherland

PROBATOIRE ACA, ACC, FIG, CG

SESSION

Time allowed : 3hrs

MINESEC - CGCE BOARD

Coef : ACA : 4

ACC, FIG, CG : 3

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Answer All Questions

PART 1 : ESSAY (8 marks)

Write an essay of about 400 – 450 words on one of the following topics. You are reminded of the necessity for good English and orderly presentation of your material.

- 1) A strange event that left everyone puzzled.
- 2) My life in Secondary school.
- 3) Why Technical Education remains the best option.

PART 2: READING COMPREHENSION (7 marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Use your own words as far as possible.

Social networking has become hugely popular. It took 38 years for radio to reach 50 million users, 13 years for television to attract the same number, and 4 years for the Internet to do so. The social networking site, face book, gained 200 million users in one recent 12-month period.

Convenience is one reason given by many that will cause them join this issue of social networking. The issue of a friend haven e-mailed every one of his/her friends at the same time makes life easy and convenient, so says many when interviewed.

Teenagers, represent the largest segment of the population using social networking sites. Though statistics have proven that, nearly two thirds of the users of the most popular social network are 25 years of age or older, in 2009, the largest percentage of increase came from those over 55. To most individuals another reason why they join the social networking site is because of media pressure. There's this belief fostered by the media that if you don't stay super connected with people, you will have no friends. And having no friends is like having no life, you are nothing.

Nevertheless, millions of youths use social networking sites, and for some it has become the preferred method of communication. To them, it's as if people forget about you if you are not on a social network. As a result, many use it because of school activities. To some, their teachers use a social network by posting messages to tell them when they have a quiz coming up. There was a student who said if he doesn't understand something he can post a message to the teacher who solves the question either in Mathematics or whatever the subject. On the other hand, some parents do allow their mature children to use a social networking site and they supervise their use of it. A social network is a powerful tool, and your parents are rightly concerned about how you use it. Children should not think that parents are invading their privacy by doing so. The fact that it is a social networking – like virtually any use of the Internet – it has its dangers. Though some said they are tempted to join social networking because of employment reasons. To them, people looking for employment use social networking to connect with others. Sometimes this helps them to find a job. To others, it acts as an advertising tool because it allows clients to see current graphic – design projects.

There are two aspects of social networking that deserve your serious consideration, your opinion and your time. Privacy might be the last thing on your mind when it comes to a social network. After all, isn't it the whole idea to reach the people? Nevertheless, not taking precautions can lead to disaster. Even if you are the world's greatest extrovert, likely you would agree that there are at least some things that should not be revealed to just anyone, like home addresses, e-mail addresses, times when nobody is at home. But many young people and adults have unwillingly shared such details with strangers. Always remember that when it comes to the Internet, "privacy" is merely a relative term. Large websites back up their databases and what we put in cyber space never truly goes away; we have to consider it permanent because there is likely a copy somewhere, to think otherwise is foolish.

Not only your privacy but also your time should be considered. Budgeting your time is one of the greatest challenges when it comes to any use of the Internet, including social networking. Time is like money, if you spend it all in one place, you won't have enough left when you need it.

Social networking site has as its objective to make profit, mainly through advertising. Advertisers have much to gain. If you share your information too widely, if you spend too much time online, or if you use a social network, protect your privacy and monitor the amount of time you spend on it. *(Source: Awake July 2011)*

QUESTIONS

- 1) Why is privacy merely a relative term when it comes to the Internet? (1 mark)

- 2) Which is one of the greatest challenges when it comes to any use of the internet, including social networking? (1 mark)
- 3) What does the author mean when he says: "time is like money"? (1 mark)
- 4) A social networking site is primarily (1 mark)
- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) A business | b) a social club |
| c) a form of entertainment | d) a source of education |
- 5) What advice has the author given on social networking at the end of his writing? (1 mark)
6. Give the meaning of the following words as used in the passage:
- | |
|---------------------------|
| a) Hugely (0,5 mark) |
| b) Convenience (0,5 mark) |
| c) Invading (0,5 mark) |
| d) Monitor (0,5 mark) |

PART 3: SUMMARY (5 marks)

In not more than 80 words of continuous writing, consider why many people might be tempted to participate in social networking in our society today.

SECTION 3: Probatoire ESF

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace – Work – Fatherland
MINESEC-CGCE BOARD

PROBATOIRE de BT-ESF
SESSION: _____

Time : 3 hours
Coef.: 3

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

SECTION I: ESSAY (8mks)

Choose ONE topic to write about from the list below. You are advised to write clearly and effectively, to spell and punctuate correctly, and to ensure that your writing is appropriate in style and content. Avoid obscene language and do not disclose your identity. You should write between 450 – 500 words.

- 1) "Technology has brought more evil than good". Discuss.
- 2) Give a description of how your favourite dish is prepared.
- 3) You attended a traditional festival in your village. Give an account of the events. The name of your village is Chiba.

SECTION II: READING COMPREHENSION (7 mks)

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below it in complete English sentences. Use your own words as far as possible.

BIRTH AND CIVIL REGISTRATION

Birth registration, the official recording of the birth of a child by government is a fundamental, human right and an essential means of protecting a child's right to a name and identity. Both the convention of the rights of a child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the child recognize the right of every child to be registered immediately after birth. Without legal registration, other rights are difficult to claim. Birth registration establishes formal proof of a child's name, existence and age. This proof can help protect the child against child marriage, under-age recruitment into the armed forces and against child labour. By having a national identity, it is easier to fight abuse and child trafficking. Proof of age can protect adolescents from being prosecuted and sentenced as adults. It can also assist in tracing unaccompanied and separated children. Not being counted leaves a child vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, which is particularly crucial for children from marginalised groups

Birth registration may be required for children to access health care, education and other social services and social assistance. It contributes to gender equality. It is also essential for a country's statistics and the planning of social services. In Cameroon, Birth certificates are needed

when establishing National identity cards and passports. Despite efforts to promote universal birth registration, provision for registration of all children at birth is still a major challenge for many countries in the region. Only 40% of children from West and Central Africa are registered at birth. Reasons for non-registration of infants include: discrimination against ethnic or religious groups, refugee populations, exclusive use of official language in birth registration forms and procedures.

A growing number of countries are using the immunization maternal and child health check up to register births. There is also the use of mobile phone text messaging to transmit information about new-born children to the civil registrar's office. There is a need for greater political commitment and investment in comprehensive civil registration systems to ensure that efforts to register children at birth meet the required standards, are consistent and sustainable.

The conference of African Ministers responsible for Civil Registration held in August 2010 in Addis-Ababa has given renewed impetus to continent - wide efforts to promote and strengthen civil registration and vital statistic systems. This initiative, coupled with innovative technological solutions and new partnerships across health and education sectors, offers the most ambitious and promising undertaking to achieve universal civil registration across the continent. The support and encouragement provided by the African Union and its Regional Economic Commissions (ECOWAS, ECCAS, etc.) will be vital to ensure that countries do not slip back and that progress made is maintained.

Source: UNICEF / Wcaro09/Vidhyarthi

QUESTIONS:

- 1) What is birth registration? (1 mk)
- 2) Write down four things that birth registration can protect a child from (2 mks)
- 3) List two ways in which a birth registration document can be used in Cameroon.(1 mk)
- 4) Where is a birth registration document issued in Cameroon?(1 mk)
- 5) **Vocabulary:** Give the antonyms or synonyms as indicated in brackets of the following words used in the passage .(2 mks)
 - a) encouragement (antonym)
 - b) strengthen (synonym)
 - c) against (synonym)
 - d) registration (antonym)

SECTION III: SUMMARY (5 marks) In about 60-80 words ,summarise the benefits a country stands to gain by adopting a birth registration policy.

SECTION 4: Probatoire IH

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix — Travail — Patrie

MINSEC — CGCE BOARD

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace — Work — Fatherland

PROBATOIRE DE BT IH

Session

Time Allowed 3hrs

Coef. 3

English Language

SECTION A: ESSAY 8 MARKS

Write an essay of between 450 and 500 words on ONE of the following topics. Credit will be earned for legibility, accuracy and orderly presentation.

1. Describe the house you would one day like to live in.
2. Life in the countryside is better than life in the city. Do you agree?
3. Write to Franky, a friend in the fashion business Limbe explaining how he can get the most out of an upcoming trade fare in that town. Consider your name is Mpah Fastman and that your address is P.O. Box 57 Edea.

SECTION B: READING COMPREHENSION 7 MARKS

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions below it. Use correct English sentences and, as far as possible, your own words.

Fashion Designing

Fashion design is the art of the application of design and aesthetics or natural beauty to clothing and accessories. Fashion design is influenced by cultural and social latitudes, and has varied over time and place. Fashion designers work in a number of ways in designing clothing and accessories. Some work alone or as part of a team. They attempt to satisfy consumer desire for aesthetically designed clothing; and, because of the time required to bring a garment onto the market, must at times anticipate changing consumer tastes.

Fashion designers attempt to design clothes which are functional as well as aesthetically pleasing. They must consider who is likely to wear a garment and the situations in which it will be worn. They have a wide range and combinations of materials to work with and a wide range of colors, patterns and styles to choose from. Though most clothing worn for everyday wear falls within a narrow range of conventional styles, unusual garments are usually sought for special occasions, such as evening wear or party dresses.

Some clothes are made specifically for an individual, as in the case of haute couture or bespoke tailoring. Today, most clothing is designed for the mass market, especially casual and everyday wear.

Fashion designers can work in a number of many ways. Fashion designers may work full-time for one fashion as 'in-house designers' which owns the designs. They may work alone or as part of a team. Freelance designers work for themselves, selling their designs to fashion houses, directly to shops, or to clothing manufacturers. The garments bear the buyer's label. Some fashion designers set up their own labels, under which their designs are marketed. Some fashion designers are self-employed and design for individual clients. Other high-fashion designers cater to specialty stores or high-fashion department stores. These designers create original garments, as well as those that follow established fashion trends. Most fashion designers, however, work for apparel manufacturers, creating designs of men's, women's, and children's fashions for the mass market. Large designer brands which have a 'name' as their brand such as Abercrombie & Fitch, Justice, or Juicy are likely to be designed by a team of individual designers under the direction of a designer director.

Fashion designers work in different ways. Some sketch their ideas on paper, while others drape fabric on a dress form. When a designer is completely satisfied with the fit of the toile (or muslin), he or she will consult a professional pattern maker who then makes the finished working version of the pattern out of card or via a computerized system. The pattern maker's job is very precise and painstaking. The fit of the finished garment depends on their accuracy. Finally, a sample garment is made up and tested on a model to make sure it is an operational outfit. Myriam Chalek, owner and founder of Creative Business House explains that most of the time fashion designers only have a fashion concept; the technicality and construction is not thought through during the visual conception and sketching process. Hence, the fashion designer needs to meet with a pattern maker and

sample maker to figure out if the sketch on paper can be brought to life according to its vision.

Fashion design is generally considered to have started in the 19th century with Charles Frederick Worth who was the first designer to have his label sewn into the garments that he created. Before the former draper set up his *maison couture* (fashion house) in Paris, clothing design and creation was handled by largely anonymous seamstresses, and high fashion descended from that worn at royal courts. Worth's success was such that he was able to dictate to his customers what they should wear, instead of following their lead as earlier dressmakers had done. The term 'couturier' was in fact first created in order to describe him. While all articles of clothing from any time period are studied by academics as costume design, only clothing created after 1858 could be considered as fashion design.

It was during this period that many design houses began to hire artists to sketch or paint designs for garments. The images were shown to clients, which was much cheaper than producing an actual sample garment in the workroom. If the client liked their design, they ordered it and the resulting garment made money for the house. Thus, the tradition of designers sketching out garment designs instead of presenting completed garments on models to customers began as an economy. 'Fashion designing is a passion, it comes from the heart' quoted a famous designer (Shannon McGHEE) who lives in Jamaica.

(Wikipedia – Fashion Designing)

Questions:

1. Who is a Fashion Designer? (1 mark)
2. What is a Fashion Consumer's desire? (1 mark)
3. What must Fashion Designers take into consideration when attempting to design clothes?
(1 mark)
4. What are the different ways in which designers work? (1 mark)
5. Who was the term 'couturier' first created to describe? (1 mark)

PART C:**SUMMARY****(5 marks)****VOCABULARY****(2 marks)**

Give a synonym for each of the following words as suggested in the passage (where they are underlined):

- a) Fashion (0.5 mark)
- b) Varied (0.5 mark)
- c) Functional (0.5 mark)
- d) Full-time (0.5 mark)

SECTION C: SUMMARY 5 MARKS

In one paragraph of not more than 80 words, and in your own words as much as possible, summarize the different aspects of fashion design mentioned in the passage.