2013 BECE Social Studies Past Questions – Paper One

1. The environment can best be described as

A. man and his surroundings
B. animals and non-living things
C. vegetation and non-living things
D. man and the vegetation around him

2. The social environment includes

A. settlements, churches and rivers
B. settlements, festivals and political parties
C. festivals, political parties and religious groups
D. festivals, churches and tourist sites

3. Which of the following statements is true? The

A. social and physical environments are inter-dependent
B. physical environment is independent of the social environment.
C. physical environment is never affected by the social environment
D. social environment is more important than the physical environment

4. A major environmental problem facing municipal and metropolitan assemblies in Ghana is

A. waste management
B. air pollution
C. deforestation
D. gully erosion

5. Adolescent reproductive health aims at providing education on

A. good nutrition
B. sexuality
C. good marriage
D. security

6. The period of adolescence is

A. 10 – 19 years
B. 10 – 14 years
C. 15 – 19 years
D. 12 – 19 years

7. One way of managing conflict in the Ghanaian society is

A. arbitration
B. confrontation
C. meditation
D. consultation

8. Adolescent chastity is important because it prevents

A. contraction of HIV/AIDS by the youth
B. contraction of malaria by the youth
C. the effect of peer pressure on the youth
D. the occurrence of broken homes

9. Adolescents who engage in early sex, risk

A. dropping out of school
B. increasing the size of their family
C. looking older than their age
D. losing their parents

10. The part of one's income that is not spent is one's

A. insurance
B. account
C. deposit
D. savings

11. During their migration, the Akans first settled at

A. Bono Manso
B. Dormaa Ahenkro
C. Asante Manso
D. Denkyira

12. Ethnic conflicts must be avoided because they slow down

A. economic development
B. rural-urban migration
C. tribal disintegration
D. urban-rural migration

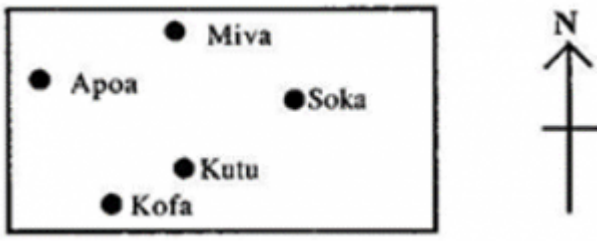
13. Unity among Ghanaians can best be promoted through

A. inter-ethnic marriages
B. formal education
C. opinion leaders
D. good environmental practices

14. Which of the following represents earth's surface or part of it drawn to a scale?

A. Layout
B. Sketch
C. Map
D. Landmark

15. Which of the towns in the sketch below lies directly south of Miva?



A. Kofa
B. Aposa
C. Soka
D. Kutu

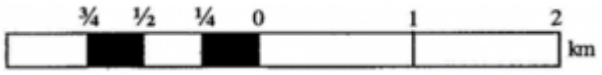
16. An important feature which can be used to show direction in a locality is called

A. landmark
B. bearing
C. compass
D. scale

17. The ratio between distance measured on a map and the actual distance on the ground is a

A. scale
B. layout
C. statement
D. sketch

18. The diagram below illustrates a



A. linear scale
B. statement scale
C. representative fraction
D. railway line

19. If the scale of a map is 1:10,000 and the distance on the map is 20 cm, then the actual distance on the ground is

A. 20 km
B. 0.2 km
C. 2 km
D. 20,000 km

20. The principle of checks and balances prevents

A. constitutionalism
B. democracy
C. dictatorship
D. patriotism

21. One way of sustaining unity among the ethnic groups in Ghana is by

A. selecting leaders through elections
B. allowing people to enjoy free movement

C. appreciating the cultural practices of other people
D. keeping troublemakers in prison

22. One reason for the migration of many ethnic groups into Ghana is

A. education
B. security
C. marriage
D. religion

23. Which of the following is a symbol of national unity in Ghana? The

A. National anthem
B. Akosombo Dam
C. Gye Nyame
D. Judiciary

24. The integrity of the nation can be defended by

A. encouraging immigration
B. reporting saboteurs
C. educating the youth
D. cleaning the environment

25. Ghana lies between latitudes

A. 5°S and 11°N
B. 5°N and 11°N
C. 5°N and 5°S
D. 5°N and 11°S

26. To promote national unity, Ghanaians are expected to be

A. patriotic
B. well paid
C. hardworking
D. highly educated

27. The people of British Togoland joined Ghana through

A. conquest
B. persuasion
C. voting
D. declaration

28. The Head of State of Ghana at independence in 1957 was

A. Kwame Nkrumah
B. The Queen of Britain
C. Gordon Guggisberg
D. Edward Akuffo-Addo

29. The process by which one country takes control of the administration of another is known as

A. acculturation
B. colonization

C. socialization
D. assimilation

30. One way by which Ghana cooperates with other countries is by

A. sending ambassadors and commissioners to them
B. lending large sums of money to them
C. allowing them to establish military bases in Ghana
D. removing all taxes on goods imported from them.

31. The first political event leading to the formal establishment of British colonial rule in the Gold Coast was the

A. signing of the bond of 1844
B. declaration of Sagrenti war
C. introduction of the Poll Tax Ordinance
D. disturbances of 1948

32. To ensure their continuous survival, private enterprises must do all the following except

A. producing quality goods
B. keeping proper records
C. paying taxes regularly
D. using only foreign labour

33. The rotation of the earth causes

A. the seasons
B. day and night
C. eclipse of the moon
D. changes in vegetation

34. According to the 1992 Constitution of Ghana, an individual can claim Ghanaian citizenship if

A. his / her grandparents are Ghanaians
B. he / she attends school in Ghana
C. he / she works in Ghana
D. his / her parents reside in Ghana

35. When two air masses of different temperatures meet, it results in

A. the formation of relief rainfall
B. the formation of cyclonic rainfall
C. thunder and lightning
D. rain shadow zone

36. A child of not more than seven years of age found in Ghana, and whose parents cannot be traced is a Ghanaian by

A. birth
B. adoption
C. registration
D. conferment

37. One basic right of every Ghanaian is the right to

A. vote in general elections
B. personal liberty
C. fair wages
D. stand for elections

38. Which of the following can constitute human rights abuse in Ghana?

A. Child labour
B. Employing an 18 year old girl
C. Dropping out of school
D. Drug abuse

39. The right to life is an example of

A. economic right
B. natural right
C. legal right
D. political right

40. When one behaves in an honest and just manner, one performs his /her

A. civic right
B. civic responsibility
C. natural responsibility
D. social right

Paper one Answers

SOCIAL STUDIES 1
SOLUTIONS
OBJECTIVE TEST

1. A. man and his surroundings

2. C. festivals, political parties and religious groups

3. A. social and physical environments are inter-dependent

4. A. waste management

5. B. sexuality

6. A. 10 – 19 years

7. A. arbitration

8. A. contraction of HIV/AIDS by the youth

9. A. dropping out of school

10. D. savings

11. A. Bono Manso

12. A. economic development

13. A. inter-ethnic marriages

14. C. Map

15. D. Kutu

16. A. landmark

17. A. scale

18. A. linear scale

19. C. 2 km

20. C. dictatorship

21. C. appreciating the cultural practices of other people

22. B. security

23. A. National anthem

24. B. reporting saboteurs

25. B. 5°N and 11°N

26. A. patriotic

27. C. voting

28. B. The Queen of Britain

29. B. colonization

30. A. sending ambassadors and commissioners to them

31. A. signing of the bond of 1844

32. D. using only foreign labour

33. B.day and night

34. A. his/ her grandparents are Ghanaians

35. B. the formation of cyclonic rainfall

36. B. adoption

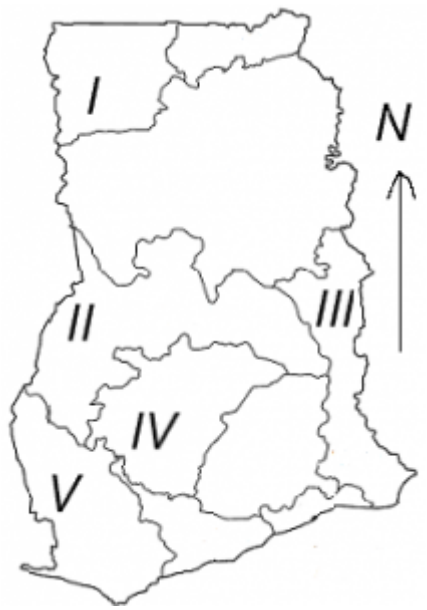
37.B.personal liberty

38.A.Child labour

39.B.natural right

40.B.civic responsibility

2013 BECE Social Studies Past Questions – Paper Two



1. (a) Study the map of Ghana shown (above) and identify the administrative regions *I, II, III, IV*
(b) Outline five ways in which mountains and highlands are important

2. (a) List **four** features of a slum
(b) Enumerate **four** measures that can be taken to prevent slums in the urban towns of Ghana

3. (a) Match the political events listed below with their corresponding activities in the table that follows
– The Poll Tax Ordinance of 1852
– The Bond of 1844

– The ‘Sagrenti’ war of 1874
– The 1948 riots
– The Yaa Asantewaa war of 1901

	Political Activity	Event
I	An agreement signed between the British government and some chiefs of the Gold Coast	
II	The war fought by the British soldiers under their leader Sir Garnet Wolsley and the people of Ashanti	
III	The disturbances that occurred in the Gold Coast after the shooting of the ex-service men by the British soldier	
IV	The introduction of a law to collect taxes from the people of the Gold Coast	

(b). Outline **four** attitudes and values needed to prevent conflict in the community

4. (a) List any **four** ethnic groups in Ghana
(b) Explain any four ways of sustaining unity among the different ethnic groups in Ghana

5. Explain **five** measures that can be adopted to improve the quality of life in the rural areas.

6. (a) What is the difference between education and training?
(b) Enumerate four advantages of using modern technology in the production of goods and services.

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SOCIAL STUDIES 2

SOLUTIONS

ESSAY

7. (a) The administrative regions

I - Upper West Region II - Brong

Ahafo Region III -
Volta Region
IV - Ashanti Region
V - Western Region

(b) Ways in which mountains and highlands are important

(i) Formation of rainfall

Highlands are important for the formation of relief rainfall. Relief or orographic rainfall forms when moisture-laden air mass / wind blows towards a highland / mountain. The rising air cools and condenses to form clouds, which fall as rain.

(ii) Sources of water bodies

Some natural water bodies, such as streams and rivers start at a high point. The high point could be a mountain, hill or other highland. The starting point of streams and rivers is known as its source. An example in Ghana is the Densu river, whose source is the Atewa- Atwiredu mountain range.

(iii) Reserves of mineral deposits

A good number of highlands have rich deposits of minerals, which are essential sources of income and foreign exchange. For instance, the Atiwa range has large deposits of bauxite and the rocky mountains of Colorado are rich in uranium and silver deposits.

(iv) Habitat for various species of wildlife

Habitat is the natural conditions and environment in which a plant or animal lives. Most highlands and mountains serve as habitat for wildlife, such as birds, pandas, snakes, etc. can safely live and reproduce.

(v) Protection of water bodies

Some water bodies, such as streams, ponds, lakes, lie in valleys or at the bases of highlands, which protect them from contamination or drying up.

(vi) Tourist attraction sites

Highlands all over the world are popular tourist sites. Tourists from all over the world visit such places for recreational and relaxation. Tourism is an important source of income and foreign exchange.

(vii) Sporting activities

Certain sports such as mountain biking, skiing, etc, require highlands to practice or do. Highlands and mountainous terrain serve as suitable places for the practice of such sports.

(viii) Scientific research and experiment

Highlands and mountains, due to their nature, are often considered favourable sites for several scientific research and experiments, especially in botany, zoology and astronomy. Examples of observatories on highlands are Mount Graham International Observatory on Mount Graham and Meyer-Womble Observatory on Mount Evans, both in USA.

(ix) Telecommunication mast placement

Highlands are suitable places for the positioning of telecommunication masts for radio, television, internet and mobile networks.

8. (a) Features of a slum

(i) Unplanned and disorganized settlement arrangement
(ii) Poor drainage
system (iii) Poor road
network (iv) Poor
sanitation
(v) Overcrowding
(vi) Lack of / inadequate social amenities
(vii) High unemployment rate
(viii) High incidence of diseases
(ix) High rate of social vices, such as stealing, prostitution, etc

(b) Measures that can be taken to prevent slums in the urban towns of Ghana. (i) Proper planning and layout of settlement

There is the need for the Town and Country Planning Department of the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology to diligently carry out their responsibility of planning and management of the growth and development of cities, towns and villages in Ghana.

(ii) Strict execution of plans and layouts

Institutions, such as the District and Metropolitan Assemblies, the Police, the Judiciary must collaborate to ensure that developers / settlers strictly adhere to the plans and layout of communities.

(iii) Proper Waste Management

Waste management operators, such as zoomlion, must be supported to offer their services at affordable rates to all settlements in urban towns.

(iv) Creation of more job opportunities in the rural areas

The government and other bodies must create more employment opportunities such as cottage industries, plantations, factories, etc in the rural areas. The existing rural industries must also be improved upon in order to make them more productive and lucrative. These measures would encourage those who move from the rural to the urban areas in search of jobs to stay and work in the rural areas and still earn sufficient income to cater for themselves and their families.

(v) Attractive government incentives for corporate bodies and firms

The government must provide attractive incentives to corporate bodies and firms to entice them to set up branches / agencies of their businesses in the rural areas. Some of these incentives could be tax rebates, tax holidays, manpower training, subsidies, award schemes, etc, which would eventually draw lots of businesses / industries to the rural areas. This should serve as motivation for rural dwellers to stay and work there.

(vi) Provision of more/ better social amenities in rural areas

There is the need for the provision of new and improved social amenities (modern infrastructure) such as public toilets, schools, potable water, electricity, information and communication services, recreational centres, etc, in the rural areas. This would make life in the rural areas more attractive and interesting. Rural dwellers would therefore be enticed to stay

(vii) Amendment of negative cultural practices

Certain cultural practices or aspects of them that are not desirable must be either changed or modified. Some of these practices are puberty rites, widowhood rites, forced marriages, female genital mutilation, etc. Certain aspects, of these practices, which are painful, shameful, humiliating or dehumanizing must be either stopped or modified to more acceptable forms. If this is done it would take away the fear that makes some people escape and hence encourage them to stay in the rural areas.

(viii) Modernisation of agricultural industry in the rural areas

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood in many rural communities. However, most youthful rural dwellers today find the use of simple tools and methods for agriculture boring, tiresome and less productive. The times when subsistence farming was enough are past and gone. What is needed in these modern times is the introduction of current state-of- the-art technology and implements in the agricultural sector in the rural areas. This ensures

higher interest in agric as well as increased yield / productivity, which would mean increased financial income for the agriculturists in the rural areas.

(ix) **Educating the rural populace on dangers involved with urban migration and opportunities in rural areas.**

It is important that governmental agencies and other socially oriented organizations render

intensive education to the rural folks. They must educate them on both the challenges involved in migrating without proper planning to the urban areas and the opportunities still available in the rural areas. Some of these challenges could be lack of accommodation, lack of employment opportunities, getting of infectious diseases, involvement in social vices due to peer pressure or stress and hence danger of being arrested and being sent to prison, etc. Some of the opportunities in rural areas are ease of accommodation, acquisition of land for business or residence, lesser temptation for social vices, etc.

SECTION III

GOVERNMENT, POLITICS AND STABILITY

9. (a) Matching:

	Political Activity	**Event**
I	An agreement signed between the British government and some chiefs of the Gold Coast	The Bond of 1844
II	The war fought by the British soldiers under their leader Sir Garnet Wolsley and the people of Ashanti	The „Sagrenti" war of 1874

III	The disturbances that occurred in the Gold Coast after the shooting of the ex-service men by the British soldier	The 1948 riots
IV	The introduction of a law to collect taxes from the people of the Gold Coast	The Poll Tax Ordinance of 1852

(b) Attitudes and values needed to prevent conflict in the community. **(i) Tolerance**

Tolerance is the willing acceptance of the views and behaviours of other people or groups of people. When this attitude of tolerance is cultivated, there will be peace and harmony in our communities and conflicts shall be prevented.

(ii) Forgiveness

Forgiveness is the act of pardoning a person or a group of persons for an offence or wrongdoing. Since in any given human society there would always be offence in one way or the other, it is necessary for people to have the willingness to forgive others, just as God also forgives our sins, when we pray and ask Him to.

(iii) Courtesy in speech and actions

Courtesy is a show of politeness or good manners towards others. There is the need to show courtesy when relating to others in order not to offend them. Courtesy is an important element in preventing conflicts.

(iv) Proper investigation

Sometimes people take vengeful actions based only on hearsay. This causes conflicts and must be discouraged. People or groups must always endeavour to do proper investigation into issues so as to ascertain the truth of a matter, and thereafter, take only prudent actions which would prevent conflicts.

(v) Respect for human rights of others

Every human being has basic human rights which must be respected by everyone. Examples of such rights are the right to life, personal liberty, dignity, etc. If people would consider and respect these rights of others, conflicts would be prevented in our communities.

(vi) Discouragement of rumour-mongering

People must desist from spreading rumours about other people or groups, and must rather be careful about what they say and how they speak.

(vii) Respect for cultures and traditions of others

People in communities, especially cosmopolitan ones, have different backgrounds in terms of race, education, religion, etc and therefore have different cultures. It is important to respect the cultures and traditions of others in order to maintain the peace and harmony in our communities.

(viii) Fairness

It is essential for fairness to be upheld by all members of the community in their dealings among themselves. This encourages harmony, discourages resentment and jealousy and therefore prevents conflicts.

(ix) Honesty

Honesty is the character of being sincere and upright. This is a very important value for people to have in order to maintain the bond of mutual trust, harmony and peace.

10. (a) Eth nic groups in Ghana

(i) Akan

(ii) Ga-Dangbe

(iii) Mole-Dagbon

(iv) Ewe

(v) Guans

(b) Ways of sustaining unity among the different ethnic groups in Ghana. (i) Encouraging inter-ethnic marriages

An inter-ethnic marriage is one that involves couples of different ethnic backgrounds, eg, an Akan man who marries an ewe woman. The higher the rate of inter-ethnic marriages, the greater the bond among the various ethnic groups and hence the greater the chance of inter-ethnic unity

(ii) Respect for cultures and traditions of others

Distinct ethnic groups have different cultures. In other words, people of different ethnic backgrounds have different ways of living. None of them should ever be considered as inferior to another. It is important to respect the cultures and traditions of others in order to maintain the peace and unity among the ethnic groups.

(iii) Emphasis on Socio-Cultural Education

Lack of knowledge of other ethnic group‟s social and cultural lifestyle causes misunderstanding, friction and disunity. It is therefore important to adequately educate people, especially the youth on social and cultural lifestyles of ethnic groups so as to promote better understanding and tolerance and hence, inter-ethnic unity.

(iv) Valuing peace and stability

The relative peace and stability that Ghana is enjoying should not be taken for granted by anyone. Peace and stability is necessary for the rapid development of the nation. Without it, there would be little or no progress or yet probably retrogression and destruction, in which case everyone loses. It is important therefore to cherish and protect the peace and stability
to sustain unity in Ghana.

(v) Being development conscious

Ghanaians must cultivate a development consciousness. If people are busy trying to develop the nation, the community and their own lives, they would find ways of coming together for developmental purposes, thereby creating a stronger bond of unity among the different ethnic group.

(vi) Encouraging multi-ethnic makeup of schools and other training institutions

Students must be encouraged to select schools outside their ethnic localities. When this happens, our schools‟ population would be multi-ethnic. Students from different ethnic backgrounds would then live and grow up together as one people, thereby fostering inter- ethnic unity.

(vii) Posting national service personnel and workers to work in other ethnic areas

National service personnel and other workers should be posted to work in ethnic areas other than theirs. This would give them the opportunity to learn and appreciate the culture and traditions of the local ethnic group, just as the locals also learn to appreciate theirs. A bond of unity should thereby be created to promote inter-ethnic unity.

(viii) Participating in the cultural events of other ethnic groups

People must develop the interest in participating in other ethnic groups‟ cultural events, such as marriages, festivals, etc. This could engender greater value and appreciation for other ethnic groups and hence increase the unity among them.

SECTION III

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

11. Measures that can be adopted to improve the quality of life in the rural areas

(i) Construction of good roads

Good roads are essential for development of any community. Good roads will make the transportation of agricultural produce, equipment and labour easier, cheaper and faster. This should in turn increase productivity and the quality of life.

(ii) Provision of electricity

Electricity is needed to operate several things that make our lives comfortable. Some of the common devices that need electricity to function are radios, television, light bulbs, refrigerators, mobile phones, fans, computers, etc.

(iii) Supply of potable water

Potable water is one of the basic necessities of life. It should therefore, at all cost, be made available to everyone in the country, including rural areas. Water is needed for most domestic activities, such as drinking, cooking, washing, etc; and also for industrial processes, such as

manufacturing and food processing.

(iv) Provision of telecommunication services

Telecommunication services such as telephone, radio, television, mobile and internet facilities are no longer a luxury, but a necessity for rapid development and higher quality of life. These services must therefore be made readily accessible everywhere, including the rural areas.

(v) Construction of affordable housing units

Shelter is another basic necessity of life. Construction of decent and affordable houses for the benefit of rural folks and other people working in rural areas should definitely make life more enjoyable for them.

(vi) Provision of modern equipment/ technology

Agriculture is the main occupation for most rural dwellers. Provision of modern equipment for farmers, fishermen and other artisans in the rural areas should greatly improve their productivity and hence their quality of life.

(vii) Building more schools and training institutes with quality facilities and staff

Children and youth living in rural areas also deserve quality education to acquire knowledge, skills and attitudes that will help them improve their lives. Adequate provision of more and better schools with excellent facilities and staff is therefore needed.

(viii) Building more health centres with high quality equipment and personnel

Health is of paramount importance, if people anywhere are to enjoy quality life. The availability of health centres with high quality facilities and personnel is critical in maintaining the general health and well-being of rural dwellers.

12. (a) Difference between education and training

EDUCATION	TRAINING
A process of learning geared towards assisting the individual to acquire knowledge, skills and attitudes that will help him/her to improve his/ her life.	A specific form of education that is aimed at acquiring expertise in a particular vocation or profession.

a

(b) Adv ntages of using modern technology in the production of goods and services

(i) Greater speed / efficiency

Correct application of modern technology should ensure less waste of time and resources. Better work can be done at a faster rate, if modern technology is employed. For instance, using an electric sewing machine would enable a dressmaker to sew better clothes much faster than using a mechanical one.

(ii) Higher accuracy

Using modern technology enhances the accuracy of work output. For instance, a document typed using a word processing application on a computer should be more accurate than one that was typed using a typewriter.

(iii) Higher productivity

Productivity is bound to increase, if modern technology is properly applied, since more products /services will be obtained from a given volume of inputs and resources. For example, a farmer who uses a combine harvester will surely harvest more farm produce more effectively than his colleague using a sickle.

(iv) Greater comfort

Most modern technologies are much more comfortable to use than older implements, since a relatively less effort applied achieves greater and better output. For instance, it is much more comfortable to grind corn using a mill than to use a stone or mortar and pestle.

(v) Increased marketability

Products that are made using modern technology tend to have better finishing and are more attractive and marketable than ones made with older technology.