

EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT CHIEF DIRECTORATE

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2019 NSC CHIEF MARKER'S REPORT

SUBJECT:	HISTORY
PAPER:	1
DURATION OF PAPER:	3HRS
DATES OF MARKING:	30NOV-13DEC 2019

SECTION 1: (General overview of Learner Performance in the question paper as a whole)

The general performance of candidates on the history paper in November 2018 NSC examinations is just above average. This means that there are centres that are performing extremely beyond average whilst others are performing extremely well. The new cognitive demand as stipulated by the CAPS document assisted some candidates with the source based questions as well as the essay questions. Looking at the questions chosen, there is an improvement as compared to the past years, candidates are choosing two essays and one-source based question. This is of their advantage as it is easier to get a pass mark when they are marking this choice. The major challenge in choosing two source-based questions is the misinterpretation of the sources provided. Some candidates find English to be a language barrier in writing hence it is difficult for them to get average to full marks.

SECTION 2:

Comment on candidates' performance in individual questions

(It is expected that a comment will be provided for each question on a separate sheet).

QUESTION 1
(a) General comment on the performance of learners in the specific question. Was the question well answered or poorly answered?
1.1.1 This question has been poorly answered by the candidates. They relate to Democracy as if people are free to do whatever they wish.
1.1.2 The majority of candidates are performing well on this question. It is an extraction from the source. They score marks both (a) and (b)
1.1.3 The candidates are answering the question very well they score the whole four marks.
1.2
1.2.1 Almost every candidate is scoring full marks. It is an extraction
1.2.2 Most of the candidates are scoring full marks and some are getting two marks. it is only those few individuals got zero in this question.
1.2.3 Candidates are giving average to good responses.
1.2.4 The question has been answered perfectly by candidates. It is an extraction, so they are able to list the steps from the source.
1.3.1 The response is average to poor. They cannot explain why the editor of the Daily Sketch decided to publish the article.
1.3.2 This question has been poorly answered. They cannot interpret and comment on the words "ULTIMATUM TO KHRUSHCHEV MOVE THOSE MISSILES". They just extracted what is on the usual source.
1.4 The candidates are responding very poor in this question. They cannot compare the two sources.
1.5.1 The response in this question is well. It is an extraction, so they are able to extract from the source.
1.5.2 The response in this question is also well. Proposals by Khrushchev are clear and and they are able to extract from the source.
1.5.4 The response by candidates is very poor seemingly, most candidates did not understand what was asked. They do not understand "limitation"
1.6 The response of candidates in this question is average to poor. Very few of them got full marks. Some are extracting from the source even if the extraction is not answering the question.
QUESTION 2

2.1.1	Candidates are responding very well. They are able to extract Angolan liberation Movement from the source.
2.1.2	The response is average although it is an extraction.
2.1.3	The response in this question is very poor. They are unable to comment on the statement "I do not care about the oil, but do care about Africa"
2.2.1	The response is very poor. They do not link Vietnam with Angolan war. Although there are clues in this visual source but still the candidates cannot interpret.
2.2.2	The response is very poor. Candidates are getting zero. They cannot comment on the words "if you like Vietnam"
2.3	The question has been poorly answered. Candidates cannot compare.
2.4.1	The response in this question is poor, although it is an instruction.
2.4.2	The response is average to poor. Most cannot "quote".
2.4.3	The response is very good. They were able to comment on why Vorster disliked the communists. Some are extracting although they are supposed to interpret.
2.4.4	The response is poor. The candidates seems not to understand the "reliability" term to answer the question.
2.5.1	The response is good. It is an extraction from the source.
2.5.2	They cannot define the "concept. Most did not score the marks.
2.5.3	The response is average. Some are able to extract from the source.
2.5.4	The response was not good. It is average.
2.6	The paragraph writing was a challenge. They cannot explain why foreign countries became involved in the Angolan Civil War.
QUESTION 3	
3.1.1	The candidates are responding very well in this question. It is an extraction from the source.
3.1.2	The response is extremely good; most candidates are getting full marks. It is also an extraction.
3.1.3	The response in this question is very poor. Candidates are responding to one side of the question. Most of them are giving reasons based on socialism "only" whereas the question is also asking about capitalism.
3.1.4	The response in this question is perfect. I believe most of them got it right. They are able to define the concept "Black Power".
3.2.1	The response is very good. Most candidates can extract the "basics of successful revolution" from the source.
3.2.2	The response of the candidates is also good. They are able to know why Hampton emphasised a call for a revolution in USA. Interpretation is good.

(b) Why the question was poorly answered? Also provide specific examples, indicate common errors committed by learners in this question, and any misconceptions.
SECTION A: SOURCE BASED QUESTIONS
QUESTION 1
1.1.1 Candidates were unable to define the concept "Democracy" they were responding as if "democracy" is to do whatever you want or "democracy" is freedom.
1.3.1 Candidates could not explain why the editor of the Daily sketch decided to publish this article. The misconception was as if people could read it if it is on the front page.
1.4 Candidates were unable to compare the sources. In all these years comparison seems to be a challenge. They couldn't respond fully to Kennedy's standpoint on the deployment of Soviet missiles to Cuba.
1.5.4 This question was challenging to candidates. They couldn't figure out the limitations of the source. They seem not to understand the concept of "limitations". some are responding on "usefulness"
1.6 Paragraph writing need skills and knowledge. It was difficult to explain how USA responded to the deployment of missiles to Cuba. Most candidates based their explanation on how Cuban Missile crisis intensify Cold War between two super power.
Question 2
2.1.3 The response was very poor, they would not interpret their response based on the statement given " I don't care about the oil... "
2.2.1 Candidates were unable to find the message conveyed in the cartoon regarding the U.S.A's involvement in the Angolan Civil War.
2.2.2 The candidates cannot comment on the words given "if you like Vietnam, you'll love this one.." there are clues in the source, yet they could not pick up the right response. Maybe it is because Vietnam is not the focal point.
2.3 Candidates could not compare the 2 sources as it is always the case in all these years.
2.4.1 The response is very poor although it is an extraction.
2.4.4 The response was very poor. Candidates seems not to understand the concept "reliability" and based their argument on South Africa's involvement in Angola.
2.5.2 There was a problem in defining the concept "colonialism"
2.6 There was a challenge in paragraph writing. Candidates could not explain why foreign powers became involved in the Angolan Civil War.
Question 3
This question was popular in all the three questions.
3.1.3 Candidates are responding to one side of the question. Most of them are

giving reasons based on Socialism “only” whereas the question is also asking about capitalism.
3.2.4 Some cannot take a stance whether/the source is USEFUL or not.
3.3. Comparison is a challenge in all the questions
3.4.3 Candidates couldn’t score full marks although it is an extraction.
3.6 Although the paragraph question is always challenging but most candidates are able to score good marks. Some are not answering the question, they only write about black Panther Party, not the role played by Fred.
SECTION B
QUESTION 4
This question is one of the popular questions. The response to the question is average to good. Candidates are able to write the content fully. The challenge in the question is to take a stance or responding to the question correctly. Candidates are getting difficulties in sustaining the line of argument. The centres that are not performing find it difficult to discuss the question based on the statement given “ the policies of Great Leap Forward
and Cultural Revolution transformed the People’s Republic of China from an agricultural state to a modern state”
QUESTION 5
This question is not popular at all. The performance of candidates is average to poor
It is a comparative case study of Congo and Tanzania. Candidates are expected to compare the political and economic policies of the two leaders/countries but expectations are not met as much as the comparison is challenging in the
source-based questions it is worse with essay.
QUESTION 6
This is the most popular question candidates are performing well in this question.
most do understand the question. They write the content fully but the main challenge is to sustain the line of argument in some of the centres. They also write a lot of background information of which they ae not going to score marks on it.

(c) Provide suggestions for improvement in relation to Teaching and Learning
Educators should allocate time for definition of concepts in the classroom. There
must be activities focusing on level 2 and level 3 skills. The concepts must be defined in
the context of the content concerned. Educators should also pay attention to the terms
like limitation, reliability not only usefulness and try to explain to the learners how to
approach such questions. There must be provincial workshops and the main focus
should be on the taking of stance, historical concepts like “limitation” and sustaining
the line of argument. This will help all educators and at the end they will be in the
same level.

(d) Describe any other specific observations relating to responses of learners and comments that are useful to teachers, subject advisors, teacher development etc.
Writing of sources as they are, is a major problem. Educators should teach
the learners how to interpret. They should teach differences between extractions and
interpretation. There is a tendency of extracting even if they are supposed to
interpret. They also overlook the mark allocation e.g. (2x1) they write one point
instead of two. Learning facilitators should make use of all educators, especially
who are Marking the End of Year examinations so as to empower all History
educators. This must be done in an information sharing workshop and all the History
related challenges should be dealt with in terms of teaching, learning and
assessment is concerned. Topics should be approached differently especially
the essay kind of questions e.g. Do you agree with the statement?
How successful was ..
Critically discuss
To what extent
Educators should dedicate themselves in the subject they love and do good for
citizens of South Africa.