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 and 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	-	4 items
		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	-	3 items
			22 items

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

Section C: Culture

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

Customs	–	4 items
Institutions	–	4 items
		8 items

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 candidates' 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 consonant elision.

(d) Tone and tone notation.
(e) The Igbo alphabet.

Part III: Grammar

Two questions will be set for candidates to answer only 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 (nkọkịrịkọ/akụkọ dike)
(g) Myths (nkọmịrịkọ/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 ndị Igbo-asụsụ, ejiji, omenala, ekpemekpe , agbambọ, dg.
ii. Ekele ndị Igbo n'oge dị icheiche.
(b) Mmemme -ọjị, ịtụ nzụ, ịkwọ aka ụtụtụ, ịgọ ọfọ, dg.
(c) Nnabata ọbịa.
(d) Ọmụmụ nwa - ile ọmụgwọ, ibi ugwu, ikupụta nwa, ịgụ aha, ịzụ ahịa nwa, ịhụ eze, dg.
(e) Nkwenye - ịlọ ụwa, ọgbanje, nrọ, ihi/isi anụ, ịha/ịchụ mmiri, dg.
(f) Emume - ọfala, ịbọ ụzọ, ịwa ji/iri ji, igbu ewuukwu,iru mgbede, ịwa akwa, akwamozu, ịgba mkpe, ịgụ afọ, mbarị, ụdara, dg.
(g) Egwuregwu – egwu ụmụaka, ịgba/ịchụ oro, ịtụ okwe, ịzụ nchọrọkọtọ, ịkpọ okwe, mgba, ịkpọ ọga, okoso, egwu ọnwa, dg.
(h) Nsọala/Arụ - ihensọ, ebensọ, anụnsọ, osisinsọ, ime ibeeńe.

Institutions – Ewumewu

(a) Ewumewu ọchịchị - ezinaụlọ, ndị eze ọdịnala, nze na ọzọ, ụmụọkpụ/ụmụada, otu ọgbọ, otu nzuzo, otu inyomdi, ụmụnna, ogbe, obodo.

(b) Ewumewu mmekọrịta mmadụ na ibe ya - alụmalụ, ezinaụlọ, ịgọ ọgọ, nwanwa/nwadiala, ịgba ndụ, ịgba orikọ
(c) Echichi - Lọọlọ, Iyọm, Ọmụ, Ezeji, Jioke, Atama.

(d) Abamaba - Mmọnwụ,Ọkọnkọ, Ekpe, Ọmabe, Odo, Dibịa.

(e) Ewumewu akụnaụba – ike ekpe, iri ekpe, ala na ihe dị na ya.

(f) Akaọrụ - ịkpụ ụzụ, ịgba nta, ịkụ azụ, ọrụugbo, ịkwa nka, ịkpụ ite, dg.

(g) Ewumewu ofufe - ịgba afa, ịchụ aja, dg.

(h) Ngwa ofufe - ọfọ, ikenga, okpesi, ogu, ọtọnsi , dg
(i) Ihe ofufe - Ndịichie, Arụsị, Ikenga, Ala, Mmụọ mmiri, Arụsị/ Agbara dịka Ogwugwu, Ahịajiọkụ, Agwụ, Amadịọha, Kamalụ, Agbala, Ibini Ụkpabị, Ojukwu, Igwekaala, Idemmili, dg.

LIST OF SELECTED TEXTS FOR WASSCE IGBO 2026-2030

WRITTEN LITERATURE

PROSE

TITLE	PUBLISHER	AUTHOR
Jụọ Obinna	University Press Plc., 1993	Tony Ubesie

DRAMA

TITLE	PUBLISHER	AUTHOR
Otu Mkpisi Aka	Longman Nigeria (Learn Africa), 1979	J. C. Maduekwe

POETRY

TITLE	PUBLISHER	AUTHOR
Akụnuche	Pacific College Press Ltd.: Obosi, 2014	Inno Uzọma Nwadike

Abụ Ndị A Họpụtara (Selected Poems)

1. Ọchịchị 18 - 19
2. Onye Ndu 22 - 23
3. Nne Ọma 29 - 30
4. Oke Ọchịchọ 40 - 41
5. Asịla M Na Ọ Dị Mma 53 - 55
6. Ihe Ụwa 60 - 61
7. Jiri Nwayọọ 62 - 63
8. Eziokwu 65 - 66
9. Mma 67 - 69
10. Nwaanyị 92 - 94
11. Aja Ala 101 - 103
12. Ala Igbo 108 - 111
13. Ndụ M N'ụwa A 131 - 132
14. Ọjị 150 - 151
15. Ụwa Emebighị 151 - 154
16. Amamihe 168 - 169
17. Ndụ Nwaanyị 178 - 180
18. Nna M Ọgoenyi 181 - 184
19. Ụlọakwụkwọ 192 - 193
20. Akwa Nnabụenyi Ugonna Bere 249 - 252

ORAL LITERATURE

AKOMAKỌ

TITLE	PUBLISHER	AUTHOR
Mbe Agaba	Akajon Publishers: Awka, 2014	F. O. F. Onwudufor

POETRY

TITLE	PUBLISHER	AUTHOR
Abụ Agụrụọnụ Ndị Igbo	University of Nigeria Press Ltd.: Nsukka, 2020	G. I. Nwaozuzu

Abụ Ndị A Họpụtara (Selected Poems)

1. Ụtụ Chara N'elu 4 - 6
2. Otu Ibiri 8 - 9
3. Nnabe Akuwaala Akwa Ọkwa 9 - 12
4. Onye Kụgburu Nwankelu 13 - 15
5. Agbagbuu M Nwannụnụ m - o 19 - 23
6. Onye Kọọ Ji 28 - 29
7. Anyi Agawa Mba 33 - 34
8. Nnabe Agawa Nga Ebuleako 38 - 41
9. Ọ Sara Anya 46 - 47
10. Mgbe O Suru 60 - 61
11. Alụọ M Di Poliis 87 - 88
12. A Dị Ndu 92 - 93
13. Ndi Biara Ije Unu Were Ekele 95
14. Eluụwa Bu Ọlịli 98 - 100
15. Nwa Amaka 112 - 113
16. Egwu Orimando 113 - 114
17. Ihe Dị Mma 121 - 122
18. O Rule, O Rule 123 - 124
19. Ma Ọ Bughi Ma Nwa 126 - 127
20. Onye Wụ Enyi Ọnwụ? 141 - 142