YORÙBÁ

PREAMBLE:

This examination syllabus is based entirely on the Yoruba curriculum developed by NERDC in 2007.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The syllabus is designed to:

(a) enable candidates to speak, read and write competently in Yoruba and communicate effectively with other speakers of the language;
(b) familiarize candidates with the sound system, grammatical structures and other features of Yoruba Language;
(c) acquaint candidates with the necessary tools needed for a thorough appreciation of Yoruba speech usage, literature and culture (customs and institutions).

SCHEME OF EXAMINATION

The examination will consist of two papers, Papers 1 and 2. It will test the following aspects of Yoruba Language: comprehension, composition, sound system, grammar and translation. It will also test selected texts of oral and written literature as well as Basic Principles of Literary Appreciation, Customs and Institutions. The rubrics shall be written in Yoruba.

PAPER 1 shall contain 60 multiple-choice objective questions on Language, Literature and Culture. The paper shall have three sections, Section A, B and C. Candidates will be required to answer all the questions in 1 hour for 60 marks. The questions shall be distributed as follows:

Section A: LANGUAGE

Comprehension (2 short passages)	-	10 items
Composition	-	4 items
Sound System	-	6 items
Grammar	-	6 items
Translation	-	4 items
	-	30 items

Section B: LITERATURE

Basic Principles of Literary Appreciation			-	4 items
Oral Literature	-	Prose - 3		
	-	Poetry - 3	-	9 items
	-	Drama - 3		

Written Literature	-	Prose - 3 Poetry - 3 Drama - 3	-	9 items
				22 items

Section C: CULTURE

Customs	-	4 items
Institutions	-	4 items
		8 items

Total = (30 + 22 + 8) = 60 items

CONTENT

The content for Paper 1 shall be the same as for Paper 2

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

PAPER 2: Shall be essay type questions on language, literature and culture. It will also have three sections, Sections A, B and C, have a 2-hour duration and carry 100 marks.

Candidates will be required to answer six questions in all: three questions from Section A; two questions from Section B and one question from Section C. They will also be required to answer all the questions in Yoruba using the official Yoruba orthography and metalanguage.

CONTENT

Section A: LANGUAGE

Composition

Candidates are advised to write 300 words and spend not more than 45 minutes on this section. The essay will be any of the following types:

(i) Narrative
(ii) Descriptive
(iii) Argumentative
(iv) Expository
(v) Dialogue
(vi) Debate
(vii) Letter writing

Sound System

Candidates will be required to answer one question from the two to be set.

Areas to cover include:

(i) Vowels, Consonants and Syllabic nasal
  (a) their production in terms of place and manner
  (b) their basic phonetic and phonemic classification
(ii) Syllable structure
(iii) Sound processes, e.g. vowel harmony
  assimilation
  elision
(iv) Sound system aspect of the orthography
(v) Tones and tone notation

Grammar

Candidates will be required to answer one question from the two questions to be made available.

Areas to cover are:

i. Word structure and word formation
ii. Numerals: basic and derived
iii. Word classes: nouns, verbs, adverbs, pronouns, adjectives, etc
iv. Grammatical categories: subject, object, complement, predicate, number, person, tense, aspect, mood, etc.
v. Phrases and clauses
vi. The structure and type of sentences.

SECTION B: Literature

This section is made up of Oral Literature and Written Literature.

Oral Literature – Prose, Poetry, Drama

In Oral Literature, there will be 3 set books covering the different genres. 1 question will be set from each set book and candidates will be required to answer any 1 of the 3 questions.

Written Literature – Prose, Poetry, Drama

In Written Literature, there will be three set books covering the different genres. One question will be set from each set book and candidates will be required to answer any one of the three questions.

SECTION C: Culture

This section will consist of questions on customs and institutions. Two questions will be set and candidates will be required to answer any one of them.

Areas to cover will include:

Customs
(i) Make-up and adornments
(ii) Indoor and outdoor games
(iii) Pregnancy and its care
(iv) Naming
(v) Home training: greetings, respect for superiors, cleanliness, tolerance, integrity, hard work, etc.
(vi) Yoruba foods
(vii) Non-verbal communication
(viii) Funerals: traditional and modern methods
(ix) Inheritance: traditional and modern methods.

Institutions
(i) Traditional occupations
(ii) Marriage
(iii) Politics: family structure, age grades, chieftaincy, Obaship, etc.
(iv) Child care
(v) Ancestors
(vi) Yoruba beliefs about Olodumare (God), deities/divinities, other invisible forces, etc.
(vii) Modern religions: Islam, Christianity, etc.
(viii) Economy: adverts, money lending, cooperative efforts, etc.

NB: To enhance the teaching of this language, it is recommended that schools provide audio-visual materials such as television sets, radios, tape-recorders and tapes, cameras, charts and artefacts.

SELECTED LITERATURE TEXTS FOR 2026 - 2030

WRITTEN LITERATURE

PROSE - ÌWÉ ÌTÀN ÀRÒSỌ
Ogún Ọmọdé - AKÍNWÙMÍ ÌṢỌLÁ
Publisher: University Press Plc, Ìbàdàn, Ọ̀yọ́ State (1990)

POETRY - EWÌ ÀPILẸ̀KỌ
Èdè Abínibí àti Àwọn Àròfọ̀ Mìíràn - OLÚFẸ́MI ADÉWỌLÉ

Publisher: Krownkom Publishers, Iléṣà, Ọ̀ṣun State (2019)
2026: pp. 1 - 50
2027: pp. 51 - 83
2028: pp. 84 - 116
2029: pp. 117 - 152
2030: pp. 153 - 216

DRAMA - ERÉ ONÍTÀN
Òtẹ̀ Ọ̀yẹ̀ - OLÚṢỌLÁ FÁDÍYÀ
Publisher: Genius Books Publishers, Ìbàdàn, Ọ̀yọ́ State (2020)

ORAL LITERATURE

PROSE - ÌTÀN ÀRÒSỌ
Àkójọpọ̀ Àlọ́ Ìjàpá (Apá Kejì) - ADÉBÓYÈ BABALỌLÁ
Publisher: University Press Plc, Ìbàdàn (2021)

DRAMA - ERÉ ONÍṢE
Eégún Aláré - LÁWUYÌ ÒGÚNNÍRAN
Publisher: Golden Pen Publishers, Ibadan (2022)

POETRY - EWÌ
Ojúlówó Oríkì Ifá (Apá Kínní) - ÀKÀNỌ́ FÁSÍNÀ AGBOOLÁ
Publisher: Project Publications Limited, Lagos (1989)
2026: Èjì Ogbè, Òyèkú Méjì, Ìwòrì Méjì àti ọ̀rọ̀ àlàyé lórí wọn.
2027: Òdì Méjì, Ìrosùn Méjì, Òwónrín Méjì àti ọ̀rọ̀ àlàyé lórí wọn.
2028: Òbàrà Méjì, Òkànràn Méjì, Ògúndá Méjì àti ọ̀rọ̀ àlàyé lórí wọn.
2029: Òsá Méjì, Ìká Méjì, Òtúrúpọn Méjì àti ọ̀rọ̀ àlàyé lórí wọn.
2030: Òtúrá Méjì, Ìrẹtẹ̀ Méjì, Òṣé Méjì, Òfún Méjì àti ọ̀rọ̀ àlàyé lórí wọn.

REFERENCES

LANGUAGE

Bamgbose (ed): (1983)	Iwe Ede Iperi Yoruba Vol. 1 YSAN/NERDC	
Awobuluyi (ed): (1990) UPL/NERDC	Iwe Ede Iperi Yoruba Vol. II	
Egbe Akomolede ati Asa Yoruba, Nigeria: (1988)	Eko Ede Yoruba Ode Oni SSI - III	Macmillan
Ajayi W.B.: (1989)	Egberun Ibeere Ewonidahun	Heinemann

Mustapha D-et al: (1983)	Osupa Ede Yoruba I-III	Nelson
" " (1987)	Iwe Eko Ede Yoruba Titun I-III	UPL
Owolabi, O. et al: (1984)	Ijinle Ede ati Litireso Yoruba	Evans
Babalola, A. et al: (1988)	Iwe Imodotun Yoruba I-III	Longman
Awoyale, Y. et al: (1984)	Eko Ede Yoruba Ode Oni JSI-III	Macmillan
Egbe Akomolede ati Asa Yoruba, Nigeria: (1986)	Yoruba Gbode	Macmillan
Odujinrin, J.S.A.:	Modern Lesson in Yoruba Part I-III	Odujinrin Publishers
Awobuluyi, O. (1978)	Essentials of Yoruba Grammar	UPL
Bamgbose, A. (1967)	A short Yoruba Grammar	Heinemann
Akinlade, Kola: (1987)	Owe Pelu Itumo	Longman
Fabunmi, M.A.(1969)	Yoruba Idioms.	AUP
Delano, I.O.	Owe Lesin Oro	UPL
Koseemanii, Supo: (1987)	Owe ati Asayan Oro Yoruba	Vantage
Olopade, A: (1991)	Asayan Akanlo – Ede Yoruba	Gbemi Sodipo Press
Adewoyin, S.Y. (2006)	Imo Ede, Asa ati Litireso Yoruba 1-III	Corpomutt Publishers

LITERATURE

Alaba and Ogunsipe: (1982)	Iwe Afinimona Lori Awon Iwe Fagunwa	Nelson
Ogunsina, Bisi: (1981)	Iwe Akoyawo Alaye lori O le ku	UPL
Egbe Akomolede ati Asa Yoruba, Nigeria: (2007)	Ewi Yoruba Lakotun 1-III	Evans

CUSTOMS AND INSTITUTIONS

Ladele, T.A.A. et al (1986)	Akojopo Ijinle Asa Yoruba	Macmillan
Adeoye, C.L.: (1985)	Igbagbo ati Esin Yoruba	Evans
Opadotun, O.: (1966)	Aroko	Vantage
Adeniji, A.A.: (1987)	Ogun ni ile Yoruba	Longman
Adeoye, C.L.: (1982)	Oruko Yoruba	UPL.