

Ibibio syllabus

Every examinable topic area in WAEC Ibibio, in one place — with how the papers are structured and answers to common questions. Compiled by waeccbt.com; not an official WAEC document.

How the papers work: Drawn from the NERDC senior secondary Ibibio curriculum. Papers 1 and 2 form a composite paper taken at one sitting; rubrics in Ibibio, answers in Ibibio using the standard orthography and metalanguage. Paper 1: 60 multiple-choice items in 1 hour for 60 marks — Section A Language 30 items (comprehension 2 short passages 10, composition/letter 4, sound system 6, grammar 6, translation 4), Section B Literature 22 items (basic principles of literary appreciation 4; oral prose 3, poetry 3, drama 3; written prose 3, poetry 3, drama 3, set-book based except the 4 appreciation items), Section C Culture 8 items (customs 4, institutions 4). Paper 2: composition paper, 2 hours, 100 marks — answer 6 of 13 questions: Section A (essay/letter of about 300 words on one of 5 topics, advised 45 minutes; sound system 1 of 2; grammar 1 of 2), Section B (oral literature 1 of 3; written literature 1 of 3, six set books), Section C Culture (1 of 2). Maximum 160 marks scaled to 100%.

1. Paper 1 — Objective (1 hour, 60 marks)

- Section A Language: 30 items — comprehension 10, composition/letter 4, sound system 6, grammar 6, translation 4
- Section B Literature: 22 items — literary appreciation 4; oral prose, poetry, drama 3 each; written prose, poetry, drama 3 each
- Section C Culture: 8 items — customs 4, institutions 4

2. Paper 2 Section A — Language (answer 3)

- Part 1 Essay/letter writing: one of 5 topics, about 300 words, not more than 45 minutes — narrative, descriptive, argumentative, expository, dialogue, proverbial, letter writing
- Part 2 Sound system (1 of 2): vowels, consonants, the syllabic nasal — production by place and manner; phonetic and phonemic classification
- Syllable structure; sound processes — vowel harmony; assimilation of loan words; tone and intonation — high, low, falling, rising
- Part 3 Grammar (1 of 2): word structure and formation — root, affixes, suffix, prefix, compounding, borrowing, reduplication
- Word classes — noun, verb, adverb, pronoun, adjective, conjunction, preposition; grammatical categories — number, person, tense, negation
- Phrases and clauses — structure and functions; sentences — simple, compound, complex; interrogative, declarative and negative; punctuation marks

3. Paper 2 Section B — Literature (answer 2: one oral, one written)

- Oral literature: prose (folktales, legends, proverbs, riddles), poetry (songs, ballads), drama (traditional drama) — three set books, one question each, answer one
- Written literature: prose, poetry, drama — three set books, one question each, answer one
- Basic principles of literary appreciation

4. Paper 2 Section C — Culture (answer 1 of 2)

- Traditional occupations (mme ubok utom) — fishing, farming, trading, hunting, palm-wine tapping, weaving, pottery, canoe-building and others
- Family structure (ubon/ekpuk); religious institutions — Abasi, ndem, ibok, ndukpo
- Traditional food — kadi, fufu, efere; funerals (ikpo)
- Traditional festivals — new yam, farming and other usoro; taboos (ibet)
- Traditional education; coronation (uyad ntinya); maiden fattening (mbopop); traditional rites
- Traditional societies; the Ibibio world view; naming in Ibibio

Frequently asked questions

How is the WAEC Ibibio exam arranged?

Two papers at one sitting. Paper 1 has 60 objective items (30 language, 22 literature, 8 culture) in 1 hour for 60 marks. Paper 2 is a 2-hour composition paper for 100 marks in which you answer 6 of 13 questions. The 160 marks are scaled to 100%.

Which six Paper 2 questions do I answer?

One essay or letter, one of two sound-system questions, one of two grammar questions, one of three oral-literature set-book questions, one of three written-literature set-book questions and one of two culture questions.

What essay types may be set?

Narrative, descriptive, argumentative, expository, dialogue, proverbial and letter writing — five topics are offered, you write one in about 300 words within 45 minutes.

What does the sound-system question cover?

Vowels, consonants and the syllabic nasal (place and manner of articulation, phonetic and phonemic classes), syllable structure, vowel harmony, assimilation of loan words, and tone and intonation — high, low, falling and rising.

What grammar is examined?

Word formation (root, prefix, suffix, compounding, borrowing, reduplication), the seven word classes, number, person, tense and negation, phrases and clauses, sentence structure and function types, and punctuation.

How does literature work?

Six set books: three oral (prose, poetry, drama) and three written. A question is set on each; you answer one oral and one written. Paper 1 literature items also come from these books apart from four on literary appreciation.

What culture topics are tested?

Traditional occupations, family structure, religious institutions (Abasi, ndem, ibok, ndukpo), foods, funerals, festivals, taboos, traditional education, coronation, maiden fattening, rites, societies, the Ibibio world view and naming.

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