

1. GENERAL COMMENTS

It is imperative for all teachers to consult the coursework manual for Fashion and Fabrics, as all guidelines and procedures, pattern pieces and order of work of how to complete all specimens are clearly stipulated in this document.

Most candidates demonstrated average as well as high standards in this component. It was noticed that most teachers have the total ability to assist and encourage candidates during the preparation of the coursework files. However, some candidates' work proved that some teachers had neglected to supervise and monitor candidates during practical lessons. Candidates found their own way to complete their practical work without the teacher's assistance. Nevertheless, one could not ignore the dedication, hard work and honesty showed by some teachers towards their tasks and exercises.

2. COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES

PRACTICAL FILE

- Each file should contain a specimen A, B, and C. These small specimens include different processes and decorative stitches as prescribed in the learning content of the syllabus under theme 7 and 8.
- It is the teacher's responsibility to make sure that all candidates have a working knowledge of all the processes mentioned in theme 7 and 8.
- The teacher should demonstrate the different processes to candidates in order to prepare them for the garment to be completed. However, it is important to stress cleanliness/neatness during the working procedures because candidates **are not allowed to wash any of these samples/ specimens after or during completion.**
- After completion of the different processes they should be placed in either a flip file or plastic pockets in a ring binder (practical file).
- The teacher should put the school stamp and date on the samples/ specimens before submitting them for external moderation.
- **NB:** The teacher should inform candidates that the practical files are part of the Coursework and that, should some of the processes not be completed; it will affect the total mark at the end of grade 11.

ACCESSORY and GARMENT

- The candidate with the guidance of the teacher should select an accessory that he/she could wear with the garment to be sewn in grade 11.
- The candidate with the guidance of the teacher should select a garment that he/she could wear.
- The garment should at least include the following: an opening, a collar, an edge finish, a facing, a hem, some fullness, a sleeve and a zipper as well as other fasteners.
- Candidates should concentrate on the functions of the sewing machine and the over locker.
- Attention should be given to machine skills
- Hand skills should be developed

- The accessory should at least include decorative stitches, a seam, a hem, fullness, an edge finish and any fastener.

Points for improvements:

1. Teachers should ensure that none of the processes are omitted from any specimens.
2. All prescribed processes should be included on all small specimens.
3. Sewing and over locker machine tension should be adjusted accurately and correctly to ensure very neat seams and edge finishes.
4. Three or more decorative stitches should be demonstrated on specimen A.
5. Width of seams should be correct with a width of 1.5 cm seam allowances.
6. Candidates should demonstrate a variety of hand stitches on all specimens, accessory and on a garment.
7. Ensure sharp and even corners on the collars.
8. Wrong side of the button should be correctly completed with a blanket stitch.
9. Facings should be attached to the inside of the shoulder seam with a blanket stitch to prevent it from rolling over to the right side.
10. Wrong sides of all specimens should be neat without loose threads, so candidates should cut off all the loose threads on the wrong side.
11. Candidates should adjust long zippers and work a blanket stitch at the end of the zipper.
12. Some candidates have omitted the sleeve cuff from the specimen, which is a requirement and it should be attached by all the candidates.
13. Candidates should be trained how to overlock the raw edges as most candidates lack this skill.
14. All raw edges should be neatly neatened with an over locker stitch or zigzag stitch.
15. Teachers using pattern pieces from the manual should enlarge them to an A3 size before cutting out the pattern pieces and not A4 which is too small.
16. Grading of seams should be done to remove bulkiness and ensure professional finish in a garment.
17. Candidates should not wear their garments for a longer period of time except for fitting purposes. Some centres submitted soiled, dirty garments which is not acceptable and equally reduces the overall appearance of the garment.

Interpretation and manipulative skill of the coursework

- A few centres are not familiar with a new coursework manual
- Most garments constructed by candidates displayed good fit and most styles suit candidates perfectly well. This indicates that these candidates will be able to use their garments in future as well as be able to construct their own garments.
- Most garments show good colour combination with thread corresponding with the colour of the garment.
- Most garments were neat on the right side. However, the wrong side of garments need serious attention from all teachers. Candidates should be strongly encouraged at all times to neaten and cut off all the loose threads.
- Most centres interpreted the pattern correctly which is really recommendable.

- The use of sewing machine and over locker.
- Good and quality photographs were submitted by most centres, for which they are commended.

3. POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS

It is appreciated that many centres have complied with all the administrative procedures that are required for moderation purposes.

It was noticed that most centres put in extra effort by submitting neatly completed samples and garments, well organised files and beautiful designs. This made the moderation exercise much easier.

In addition, centres are encouraged to submit all samples, accessory and garments for moderation.

It is further strongly recommended that centres should establish controlling measures, whereby another teacher/ subject head/ HOD other than the subject teacher who is involved in entering the marks on the MS1, should ensure that marks are transferred correctly on the MS1 form. Absentees should also be clearly marked e.g. 999

NB: Teachers are motivated to stamp every specimen, accessory and garment on the wrong side with a dated school stamp.

Schools are advised to purchase coursework files for all their candidates. DNEA will return those files to schools after a certain period of time.

Schools with only a few candidates are strongly advised to market the subject and register more candidates, of at least 15 or more, if it is possible.