

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER JULY 2011

TITLE OF PAPER : ECONOMIC HISTORY OF WEST AFRICA

COURSE CODE : H302/IDE H302

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

- INSTRUCTIONS :**
- 1. ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS
CHOOSING AT LEAST ONE FROM EACH
SECTION**
 - 2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN
GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR**

SECTION A**Question 1**

Discuss the different agricultural methods used by pre-colonial West African societies in the production of food crops. What impact did food production have on these societies?

[25 marks]

Question 2

With reference to the trans-Saharan and trans-Atlantic slave trade, critically assess the contribution of external trade to West African economic growth.

[25 marks]

Question 3

Discuss the different strategies employed by the British in their efforts to abolish the slave trade in the 19th century. How did the other European countries react to such efforts?

[25 marks]

Question 4

Closely examine the development and organization of legitimate trade in West Africa during the latter half of the nineteenth century.

[25 marks]

SECTION B**Question 5**

Discuss the main features of the economic policies implemented by the British and French in their West African colonies between 1900 and 1939. [25 marks]

Question 6

Would you agree with the view that the transportation network in colonial West Africa was designed not to promote regional economic integration but to facilitate the speedy transfer of raw materials from the interior to the coast? [25 marks]

Question 7

With reference to the marketing system of cocoa in colonial Ghana and Nigeria, examine and explain the cocoa hold ups of the 1930s. [25 marks]

Question 8

Discuss the efforts of independent West African states towards regional economic integration in the 1970s and early 1980s. [25 marks]