

# FASHION AND FABRICS

## SUBJECT 6051

### PAPER 03

#### GENERAL COMMENTS

Most candidates made skirts and these scored well. Blouses were very few with most of them having either limited or repeated processes. Very few incomplete garments were submitted.

Fabrics used were generally easy to handle. One centre, however, used heavy drill, which was very thick and difficult to manipulate. A few centres also used very dark colours like navy blue and bottle green which made the assessment of stitches difficult.

A great improvement was noted on the quality of work produced. Most garments had enough processes, with a good mixture of hand and machine work.

Garments were generally neatly packed in trunks. A few centres, however, used cardboard boxes which were not secure.

#### COMMENTS ON INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS

##### 1. GENERAL APPEARANCE

(a) Pressing and cleanliness

Most garments were clean and well pressed. A few garments showed inadequate pressing on seam lines, pleats and darts. Over-handling was often seen on buttonholes and zips.

(b) Cutting out

Main pieces were generally cut on grain. Very few waistbands and pockets were off grain.

(c) Labelling

Candidates scored well. There was, however, one centre which stapled labels onto the garments. Another centre had names on Vilene while another centre had labels on the bags and not on the garments.

## 2. FULLNESS

Darts, pleats, tucks and gathers were commonly used. Some centres had one method of disposing of fullness and this disadvantaged the candidates.

(a) Darts

The lines of stitching were usually smooth and tapering but most darts lacked points. Candidates also lost marks on evenness of length where many darts were worked. Securing and pressing were well done.

(b) Pleats

Pleats were generally flat but not even in width and spacing. Top stitching was well done although some candidates used very small stitches.

(c) Tucks

These were done by few candidates and were generally flat and well secured. Some candidates lost marks on evenness of width and spacing. A few centres had tucks stitched right through, making them a decorative process and this disadvantaged the candidates.

(d) Gathers

This was done by very few candidates. Gathers were suitable for fabrics but position and distribution were unevenly done.

(e) Elastic without casing

A few candidates in one centres worked this process and it was fairly done.

## 3. SEAMS

Open, single, overlaid, double stitched and French seams were commonly used. Some candidates were disadvantaged because some centres regarded the single and open seams as two different seams.

(a) Open seam

This seam appeared mainly as a centre back seam on skirts. Seams were generally well neatened but often too wide. Some seams were not snipped above the vent and this affected flatness. Good lines were noted on most seams.

(b) Single seam

Single seams were well stitched and of correct width but some neatening stitches were too long. Some candidates did not press the seam well, so they lacked good line on the right side.

(c) Double stitched seam

These were generally poorly done. Most seams were too wide and lacked flatness on wrong side. Manipulation of seam on pocket edges was difficult for most candidates and this resulted in raw edges showing on the right side.

(d) Overlaid seam

This was well done by most candidates.

(e) French seam

Candidates lost marks on suitability where French seams were worked on skirts. Seams lacked flatness on pocket openings and good line on the right side.

(f) Slot Seam

This was done by very few candidates and workmanship was fair.

#### 4. **OPENINGS AND FASTENINGS**

Zips, buttons and buttonholes, overlapping hems openings were common used. A few centres used hooks and eyes and press studs.

(a) Button and buttonhole

This was a very popular process. Most candidates used the correct stitch and buttons were correctly positioned. Neatening of the buttons and buttonholes was, however, rarely done. A few candidates worked blanket stitch instead of buttonhole stitch. Machine-made buttonholes were well done.

(b) Zip

Candidates who worked the lapped method scored higher than those who used the slot seam method. Most candidates lost marks on position of zip because stoppers were visible on the right side. The majority of zips lacked evenness of laps and gapping was often noted. Few centres had zip tapes not neatened. One centre neatened the side tapes of the zips. Some zip tapes were neatened but not secured.

(c) Button and loop

This was done by few candidates. Loops were often too big and of poor quality.

(d) Press studs

Stitches on press studs were often too loose and not well fastened. One centre had press studs only on the waistband. This is an unsuitable fastening because of the strain. Some candidates used blanket stitch to secure the press studs.

(e) Overlapping hems opening

This was popular on blouses. Most candidates displayed good treatment of base and neatening. Facings were generally uneven and not flat. Where candidates worked overlapping hems with seams, most seams were neither on edge nor rolled in.

(f) Fly front opening

This was used on shorts and skirts. Most lacked evenness of laps and flatness.

(g) Continuous wrap opening

This was generally well done.

## 5. NECKLINE AND WAIST FINISHES

### (a) Collar

These were generally flat and well shaped. Points and curves on most collars were not matching. Trimming, grading and snipping of the neckline seam were rarely done. Suitable methods of attaching collars were applied.

### (b) Shaped facing

This was done by few candidates. Seams were often not matching. Trimming was, in most cases, not adequately done and this affected the flatness of the facing.

### (c) Waistband

This was used by the majority of the candidates. Candidates scored well on flatness and evenness. Some waistbands, however, lacked good line on the right side and ends were not matching well. Where waistbands were stitched down, candidates did not stitch in the groove and final width of the free edge was often too wide.

## 6. ARMHOLE FINISHES

Most blouses and shirts had sleeves.

### (a) Sleeves

Sleeves varied from short to long. Arrangement of fullness was poorly done, with some garments having fullness on the garment side. Armhole seams ranged from very narrow to very wide and neatening was fairly done.

#### Sleeve edge finishes

### (i) Cuffs

These were commonly used. Ends did not match in most cases. Some enclosed seams were too wide but securing was well done.

(ii) Narrow stitched hem

This hem was often repeated at the lower edge of the blouse. Hems were not even but fairly stitched.

(iii) Plain hem

This was well done by most candidates.

(iv) Binding

Candidates lost marks on evenness but securing was well done.

**7. INSIDE POCKETS**

Most candidates worked two pockets and most of them were unevenly positioned. Some reinforcements were not functional, i.e. either too low or on single layer for fabric. Candidates scored well on neatening. Few pocket openings were either very long or very small.

**8. HEMS**

Plain hem was most popular.

(a) Plain hem

Hems were well secured with proper close hemming on seam junctions. Candidates, however, lost marks on evenness of hems and the appearance of stitches on the wrong side. Slip hemming stitches were more than 5mm apart.

(b) Narrow stitched hem

Most hems were uneven with raw edges showing at seam junctions. Most candidates lost marks because this was marked as a repeat process. One centre had three types of hems (narrow stitched, shell edged and faced hems) on one garment, that is, a skirt.

(c) Faced hem

Facings were well stitched but candidates lost marks on joining of crossway strips. Evenness also lacked in moist hems.

## 9 DECORATIVE AND OTHER PROCESSES

Some centres had two demanding processes, thus yielding bonus marks.

(a) Patch pocket

Where candidates worked two pockets, marks were lost on quality and position. Securing was well done but reinforcement lacked on some pockets.

(b) Vent

Some vents overlapped in the wrong direction. Treatment of some vents at the base was poorly done. There were no mitred corners. A few centres had vents not secured at all.

(c) Belt carriers

Securing at the top edges of most belt carriers was poorly done and this affected flatness.

(e) Hanging loops

Some fabric loops were too thick and too long.

(f) Whipping

This was done by a few candidates. Some stitches were too loose and this affected the quality.

(g) Embroidery

Some designs were not suitably positioned and quality of stitches was fair. Needle lace, tucks and appliqué work were fairly done.