WOODWORK

SUBJECT 6035

PAPER 2

GENERAL COMMENTS

The paper was suitable for the level of the candidates. The majority of candidates attempted all the set skills. Although the majority of the candidates performed below average, there were some who attempted the set piece exceptionally well. Failure to interpret the drawing correctly led to the poor performances.

COMMENTS ON INDIVIDUAL SECTIONS

1. ASSEMBLY FINISHING AND DIMENSIONS

Most of the candidates generally were able to fully assemble the set piece. However, the majority failed to work to dimensions to clean up their work pieces and to shoot ends of the pieces. Some made the right hand corners instead of the left hand corner hence they lost some marks on handing.

2. SHAPING PART A

Almost half the candidates attempted this section. Various types of shapes were produced, some appropriate and others not. Some candidates produced sawn shapes. Very few shapes were perfectly finished to a smooth surface. Some shaped the wrong pieces or on the wrong edge.

3. LAPPED DOVETAIL JOINT PART A AND B

The majority of the candidates managed to produce this joint. Very few produced through dovetails, reversed dovetails and finger joints. Quality of fit was poorly done by most candidates. Poor tool work on both sockets and tails was very common in most cases.

4. STUB TWIN MORTICE AND TENON JOINT PART B AND C

Poor interpretation of the diagram misled almost half of the candidates to produce incorrect joints. Some produced housing joints and others plain stopped mortice and tenon joints. Very few centres that provided candidates with straight grained timber and sharp tools produced very good mortices and tenons.

5. CROSS HALVING JOINT PART C AND D

This joint was fairly done by the majority of the candidates. However, many candidates produced cross halving joints with single deep trenches on either piece C or D. In this case valuable marks were lost.

6. STOPPED BAREFACED TWIN MORTICE AND TENON JOINT PART D AND A

Diagram interpretation paused challenges to the candidates. Those who failed to interpret, produced stopped mortice and tenon joints, while others produced housing joints and twin mortice and tenon joints, thus losing valuable marks. Quality of fit and tool work were a cause of concern in most cases. Stopped mortices were poorly constructed. However, there were some candidates who came up with the correct joints.

7. FIXING OF HANDLE PART E AND A

Most candidates did not shape the handle, Part E, as shown on the question paper. On screwing stages, candidates failed to countersink clearance holes. Workmanship on the screw slots in most cases was poor since screw slots were damaged. Some crews were heavily corroded because candidates used wet timber. Such screws could not be easily removed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Centres are advised to give pupils good seasoned straight grained timber.
- A provision of well set, recommended tenon and dovetail saws is encouraged.
- Candidates should use well sharpened chisels in order to produce good cuts across the grain of wood.
- Packaging of candidates' work was well done by the majority of centres. However, there were some centres that did not use transparent plastics provided by ZIMSEC, rather they used cheap weak plastic shopping bags.
- Centres are advised to make sure candidates write centre and candidate numbers on all their scripts.
- Centres are advised to SHOOT ends of their examination pieces prior to the examination day.