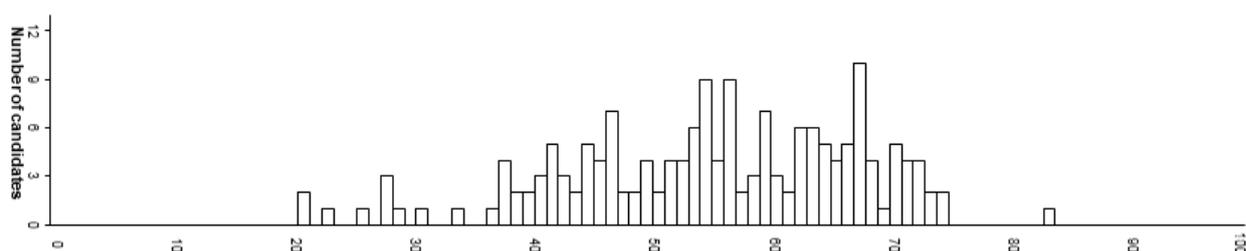




## Summary report for candidates on the 2014 WACE examination in Outdoor Education Stage 3

Year	Number who sat	Number of absentees
2014	170	7
2013	304	7
2012	261	4

### Examination score distribution



### Summary

The examination had a mean of 55.43%. Candidate scores for the written examination ranged from a minimum of 21.11% to a maximum of 83.79%. The standard deviation was 12.36%. The section means were: Section One: Multiple-choice 73.47%; Section Two: Short answer 53.68% and Section Three: Extended answer 47.15%.

Candidates appeared to have sufficient time to complete the paper with the majority completing all required questions. Candidates were capable of both factual recall and the analysis and interpretation of experimental data, and were most challenged by items requiring self-directed, written responses (Section Two and Section Three). There was a sound selection of content allowing candidates to demonstrate their breadth of knowledge while not disadvantaging candidates who are weak in certain aspects of the diverse Outdoor Education syllabus.

### General comments

Items in the Section One (multiple-choice) worked very well. Questions 3, 13, and 14 were the most difficult, with means just above or below 50%. In Section Two (short answer) Questions 22a, 24a, 24b and 26a had means less than 50%. In question 24 candidates were able to correctly identify the conflict management strategies and a small number of candidates' incorrect answers were from another model that was in a previous year's syllabus and not from the current course content. Otherwise, candidates demonstrated a lack of differentiation between the management strategies. Question 26a had the lowest mean of 1.16 (max. marks 4). Many candidates were unable to show correct working for calculating a magnetic variation for a westerly error moving east. In Section Three (extended answer), candidates found the questions of approximately equal difficulty for each extended answer. Candidates who achieved excellent results for the paper were those who could construct concise, logical answers, addressing all components of the questions asked. Outstanding answers were clear and concise and did not only demonstrate a good understanding of the course content but were able to provide strong connections with relevant examples.

*Advice for candidates*

- Read questions fully and ensure you understand the meaning of key verbs used in the question.
- Aim to write answers that address the specific focus of the question, not simply restate all the information you can recall that relates to the topic (especially in the extended answer section). Use the correct terminology and support the information by providing strong links and examples relating to outdoor experiences.
- Ensure that you do not repeat answers in a different context as many of the questions were examining breadth of knowledge and no further marks were given for repetition even if in a different context.