Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit  
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate Examination, 2012

HOME ECONOMICS – SCIENTIFIC AND SOCIAL

ORDINARY LEVEL

CENTRE STAMP

WEDNESDAY, 6th JUNE – AFTERNOON, 2.00 to 4.30

280/320 MARKS

Instructions to Candidates

Section A  There are twelve questions in this section.  
Candidates are required to answer any ten questions.  
Each question carries 6 marks.  
Write your answers in the spaces provided on the examination paper.

Section B  There are five questions in this section.  
Candidates are required to answer Question 1 and any other two questions.  
Question 1 is worth 80 marks.  
Questions 2, 3, 4 and 5 are worth 50 marks each.  
Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

Section C  There are three questions in this section.  
Candidates are required to answer one elective question to include  
part (a) and either part (b) or part (c).  
Candidates who submitted Textiles, Fashion and Design coursework for  
examination may attempt only Question 2 from this section.  
Electives 1 and 3 are worth 80 marks each.  Elective 2 is worth 40 marks.  
Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

You must return your examination paper with your answer book at the end of the examination.
Section A

Answer any ten questions from this section.
Each question is worth 6 marks.
Write your answers in the spaces provided.

1. In relation to proteins, indicate with a tick (✓) whether each of the following statements is true or false. (6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protein</th>
<th>True</th>
<th>False</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proteins are large molecules made up of smaller units called amino acids.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albumin is the protein found in egg white.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peas, beans and lentils are examples of high biological value protein foods.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Complete the following statements in relation to the properties of starch using the words listed below. (6)

   *insoluble, gelatinisation, hygroscopic*

   Starch can absorb moisture from the air because it is _______________________.
   
   When starch is heated, it swells, bursts and absorbs the liquid in a process known as _______________________.
   
   Starch is ________________________ in cold water.

3. List three biological functions of water. (6)

   (i) ________________________________________________
   
   (ii) ________________________________________________
   
   (iii) ________________________________________________
4. What is meant by the term *anaemia*? (6)

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

List two sources of haem-iron.

(i) ____________________________                     (ii) ______________________________

5. Name two food sources of *each* of the nutrients listed below suitable for a vegetarian. (6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutrient</th>
<th>Source 1</th>
<th>Source 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protein</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin B</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Name three classes of fruit and give one example of each class. (6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of Fruit</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>3.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Explain the term *food additive*. (6)

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

State two disadvantages of using additives in food.

(i) __________________________________________

(ii) _________________________________________
8. Give two reasons why food production in small businesses and home enterprises is increasing. (6)

(i) __________________________________________________________

(ii) __________________________________________________________

Name two major Irish food exports.

(i) ________________________________ (ii) ________________________________

9. Explain the term PRSI. (6)

____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

State two benefits of PRSI to the individual.

(i) __________________________________________________________

(ii) __________________________________________________________

10. Listed below are six properties of textiles. Tick (✓) three properties required when choosing textiles for household use. (6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties</th>
<th>Tick (✓)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Durable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colourfast</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irritant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windproof</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flammable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absorbent</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
11. Name **one** renewable energy source and **one** non-renewable energy source. (6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Renewable Energy Source</th>
<th>Non-renewable Energy Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

State **two** different methods of reducing energy consumption in the home.

(i)  

(ii)  

12. Identify **two** factors that influence consumer choice when purchasing goods and services. (6)

(i)  

(ii)  

Name **one** statutory body concerned with consumer protection.

Statutory Body  

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Section B
Answer Question 1 and any other two questions from this section.
Question 1 is worth 80 marks. Questions 2, 3, 4 and 5 are worth 50 marks each.

1. The National Adult Nutritional Survey (2011) asked participants to rank in order of importance to them six factors which affect food choice. The results are presented below.

(Irish Universities Nutrition Alliance)

(a) Using the information presented in the chart above comment and elaborate on the six factors which affect a person’s choice of food. (24)

(b) Give an account of vitamin C under each of the following headings:
   - main food sources
   - biological functions
   - effect of deficiency
   - role in mineral absorption. (24)

(c) Identify ways of retaining Vitamin C when (i) preparing and (ii) cooking foods that have a high Vitamin C content. (12)

(d) The following items of information are generally included on food packaging. Explain the benefit to the consumer of each item.
   - list of ingredients
   - weight
   - nutritional information
   - best before date
   - country of origin. (20)
2. ‘Cereals account for the major part of carbohydrate intake in the diet.’

(a) Identify the main sources of cereals in the Irish diet **and** state why some people avoid / limit their intake of cereals. (20)

(b) Give an account of the nutritive value of cereals. (15)

(c) **Explain food fortification.**
Comment on the increasing consumption of fortified food products. (15)

3. **Adolescence is a time of rapid growth and development.**

(a) Outline **four** factors that affect the dietary requirements of adolescents. (16)

(b) Having regard to current healthy eating guidelines and the specific dietary needs of adolescents, plan a menu (3 meals) for **one** day for a family with teenagers. (18)

(c) Discuss **four** changes in the eating patterns of Irish adolescents from the beginning of the twentieth century. (16)
4. ‘Budgeting has become an ever more important household task in recessionary times.’

(a) Discuss four of the principle guidelines that should be followed when drawing up a budget for a family. (20)

(b) Describe four different ways a consumer could reduce expenditure when managing the household budget. (12)

(c) Outline three reasons why it is important for a family to save money and name two saving schemes suitable for a low-income family. (18)

5. (a) (i) Describe four functions of the modern family. (20)

(ii) Give two examples of how the state provides support to parents in carrying out these functions. (8)

(b) Outline three changes in modern society that has affected gender roles in the family. (12)

(c) Explain how the Family Law (Maintenance of Spouses and Children) Act, (1976) protects the family. (10)
Section C
Answer one question from this section
Candidates who submitted Textiles, Fashion and Design coursework for examination may attempt only Question 2.

Elective 1 - Home Design and Management (80 marks)
Candidates selecting this elective must answer 1(a) and either 1(b) or 1(c).

1.(a) The diagram below indicates the stages involved in the treatment of water before it enters the home.

(i) Explain four of the stages involved in the treatment of water to make it safe for human consumption and domestic use. (20)

(ii) In relation to the cold water supply system in a house, state the function of each of the following:
  - ball cock/valve
  - stop cock
  - overflow pipe
  - mains pipe. (20)

(iii) Describe two methods of reducing the amount of water used in the home. (10)

and

1.(b) ‘Planning permission is required for all building projects unless the type of development is exempt under planning regulations.’

(i) Why is it necessary to obtain planning permission? (6)

(ii) State the difference between outline and full planning permission and describe the procedure involved in obtaining full planning permission. (24)

or

1.(c) (i) Identify and discuss three factors that should be considered when planning the interior design of a house. (15)

(ii) Give a brief account of three safety considerations that should be taken into account when planning and fitting out a family bathroom. (15)
Elective 2 - Textiles, Fashion and Design (40 marks)
Candidates selecting this elective must answer 2(a) and either 2(b) or 2(c).

2.(a) Shown below is a traditional school uniform.

(i) Comment on the suitability of the school uniform as shown above. Refer to:
   - function
   - shape
   - proportion. (12)

(ii) Suggest a suitable fibre for the school cardigan and give a reason for your choice. (6)

(iii) Describe one method of applying a school crest. (7)

and

2.(b) ‘The successful combination of fashion and style is the main aim of the clothing industry.’

(i) Name one Irish designer and comment on his/her contribution to the fashion industry. (6)

(ii) Discuss the contribution of accessories to current fashion trends. (9)

or

2.(c) ‘A wide variety of commercial patterns are available to meet consumer needs.’

(i) Identify three factors that should be considered when selecting commercial patterns. (6)

(ii) List the stages that should be followed when laying out a pattern on fabric. (9)
Elective 3 - Social Studies (80 marks)
Candidates selecting this elective must answer 3(a) and either 3(b) or 3(c).

3.(a) ‘Social changes occur for a variety of reasons and have had a significant impact on family life in Ireland.’

(i) Discuss **two** effects of **each** of the following on family life in Ireland:
- more people living in urban areas
- changing attitudes to marriage
- changing attitudes to parenting
- improvements in the provision of social welfare. (40)

(ii) Name **and** give details of **one** initiative that has helped maintain the population in rural areas. (10)


3.(b) ‘Work occupies a larger part of life than any other single activity.’

(i) Identify **and** discuss **four** of the key reasons why people work. (20)

(ii) Outline the protection provided by the Protection of Young Persons (Employment) Act, (1996). (10)

or

3.(c) ‘Improvement of student achievement has always been one of the main goals of education.’

(i) Name **and** give details of **two** education programmes designed specifically to help retain young people in second level education. (18)

(ii) State **two** benefits to the student of **each** programme named. (12)