



**ASSESSMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCE ANSWER SCRIPT OF 2016 HSLC EXAMINATION
OF BOSEM**

W. Jyotirmoy Singh, Ph. D.

Associate Professor, D. M. College of Teacher Education, Imphal



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The contributor is the Additional Head Examiner for Social Science (Head for History Section), High School Leaving Certificate Examination (HSLCE) of Board of Secondary Education Manipur (BOSEM) for the last six years. This paper is developed based on the experiences of the contributor

Class Ten Examination is one of the most important examinations in one's life. It in fact is the first public examination for every student. It needs standardized examination which is to be of same level for all students and a competent examining body to conduct such standardized examination. Like every other state, Class Ten Examination known as High School Leaving Certificate Examination (HSLCE) is conducted by BOSEM. HSLCE is conducted in five compulsory subjects – Modern Indian Language (MIL), English, Mathematics, Science and Social Science and in one optional subject – anyone from Computer Science, Home Science and Thang Ta.

HSCLE'S Social Science Question paper of BOSEM consists of four sections: Section A – Geography, Section B – History, Section C – Political Science and Section D – Economics. This paper seeks to find out the experience of the HSLCE 2016 examiners of BOSEM. More than 120 examiners from the Government and non – Government schools evaluate Social Science answer scripts of the said examination. Questionnaire was given to all of them. Only 73 (60.8%) of them responded to the questionnaire.

I Category wise examiners examining HSLCE's Social Science Answer Script of BOSEM:

Year	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	+26	Total
GM	1	2	2	2	-	2	9
GW	9	3	2	1	-	-	15
NGM	5	7	9	8	6	6	41
NGW	2	1	1	1	1	2	8
Total	17	13	14	12	7	10	73

Time taken by the examiner in examining the answer script and average hour they spent in examining the answer scripts were included in the questionnaire. Order in the number of questions answered by the students, and remuneration were also included in this study.

The questionnaire was asked in the form of closed question with opportunities given to the respondent to answer in five scale format of – HA – Highly Agree, A – Agree, O – OK, DA – Disagree and HAD – Highly Disagree. Often some of the respondent did not respond to a particular question. When there were no responses from them it was marked as NR.

Key Terms

BOSEM Board of Secondary Education Manipur.

HSLCE High School Leaving Certificate Manipur.

MIL Modern Indian Language

II Time taken in examining Answer Script:

II. 1. Time taken to evaluate one answer script (per minutes)

Minutes	5	10	15	20	20+	NR	TOTAL
Total	15	19	23	5	3	8	73

Most of the examiner takes 5 – 15 minutes to examine an answer script. This may mean that the questions are set objectively and it may have enabled the examinees to answer the questions without much deviation from one another. This reflected the standard of the questions of Social Science of BOSEM.

II.2. Average Hours spent per day for evaluating the answer scripts (per hours):

Hours	2	4	6	8	8+	NR	TOTAL
Total	-	4	29	29	5	6	73

Most of the examiners (79%) spent 6 – 8 hours in examining the answers scripts. If an examiner takes 10 minutes to examine answer script, he may examine 6 answer scripts / hour and 42 answer scripts / day if he sits for seven hours to examine answers in a day. It also means that 4200 answer scripts were examined everyday by 100 examiners. This also means that it would take around eight days to examine 33,000 answer scripts. This year around 33, 000 students appeared for the HSLCE. This year it takes less than 20 days to examine 33,000 answer scripts.

Many points can be inferred from the above two statement. One, the question must have been set objectively and the examinees might have answered without any deviation. This may lead to the examiners to examine the answer without taking much time. The daily presence of the examiners for 6 -8 hours also helped in examining the answer script within a stipulated time.

Thus appointing adequate examiners and ensuing that questions are set objectively must have helped in examining the answer scripts within a stipulated time.

III Order of the student's answers in response to questions.

	HA	A	O	DA	HDA	NR
1 In more than 50% of the answer script examined so far, examinees did not answer in order i.e. Q.1, Q.2, and Q.3. Q.32, Q.33, Q.34.	39	15	8	7	1	3

More than 74% of the examiners state that the students did not write the answer in ascending order. Most of them often jumped the Question order in answering the question. This often creates problem to the examiners and takes more time in examining the answer script.

This problem of the examiner is to a great extent a genuine one. Often the students answer the same question twice. This creates quite a headache for the examiners. To address this problem instruction maybe given to the examinees to answer their question in ascending orders. Another option maybe writing answers number in the answer script, so that the students have to answer the question only in the answer number earmarked for the particular question.

IV. Map Questions

		HA	A	O	DA	HDA	NR
1	Most of the Map of India drawn by the students are not satisfactory	24	18	21	6	2	2
2	Question relating to map can be asked by supplying map to the students.	15	13	13	21	5	6

The skill asked question in Social Science consists of Drawing and locating skills. In the Drawing Skill the students were asked to draw a Map of India. Only four marks were earmarked in Social Science – two each in Geography and History Section. Only one (1) mark was awarded in drawing the Map of India. Even around 50% of the examiners states that Map of India drawn by the students was not satisfactory. And it was difficult in awarding one value point for it. (IV.1)

Considering the limited mark allocated in drawing, it will be better if map were supplied to the examinees and asked them to locate or label the places. (IV.2)

V. Answer scripts re – evaluation by Head Examiners

		HA	A	O	DA	HDA	NR
1	Head and Additional Examiner(s) re-examining answer scripts of examinee scoring over 60 marks (80%) is appropriate.	34	20	10	2	-	7
2	Re-examination of answer scripts by Head and Additional Examiner(s) is helpful.	35	24	7	1	-	6
3	Presence of Head examiners for most of the time is necessary.	35	28	8	-	-	2

BOSEM appointed one Head Examiner and two Additional Head Examiners for examining Social Science subject of HSLCE. The three Head Examiners are selected from different subjects of Social Science. No two Head Examiners are from the same subjects. The Head Examiners perform many duties during the examination. At the beginning of the examining works, the Head Examiners usually examine five to ten answer scripts of every examiner and allow the examiner to proceed with the examination work if they are found satisfactory.

Another exercise undertaken by the Head Examiners is the further examination of answer script of those who were marked above 80% by the examiners. At times examiners may under mark if the examinee answer script crossed above 80% (V.1). While some of them tend to over mark. To enable the examiners to mark judiciously, the Head Examiners re-examine those scripts and advise the examiners where marks are needed to be awarded and where they over mark. In the initial stage some

differentiation were witnessed but as the examination work progressed, all the examiners were able to arrive at uniform markings.

And around 75% of the examiners commended them, especially the Head Examiners re-examining answer scripts above 80% or more (V.2).

As the Head Examiners generally examine scripts of 80% and above, the Head Examiners present of the time in the Hall / room where the examining of answer script are carried out (V.3).

These exercises had been carried on for the last six years. It has been a tedious one. However, one significant outcome is that not much students have applied for re-evaluation of their answer scripts.

The numbers of re-evaluation and also application for availing their answer scripts by the examinees through RTI in Social Science in the last two years is around 200 (0.6%) only from around 33,000 examinees. This can be interpreted as an efficiency of the examiners in examining the answer scripts.

VI.1. Remuneration given by BSEM for evaluating Social Science answer script of HSLC

2016 examination is appropriate

	HA	A	O	DA	HDA	NR	TOTAL
Total	4	8	19	28	10	4	73

In 2015, the remuneration for examining every answer script was Rupees Nine. If an Examiner examined 50 scripts per day, his/her remuneration will be around Rs. 450. They generally spent 6 -7 hours in examining the scripts. Considering the time spent by them in examining the scripts they hold that the remuneration is not appropriate. More than 50 % of the examiners feel that the remuneration given to them for examining answer scripts was not sufficient. They want raise in remuneration.

VI. 2. Remuneration given by BSEM for evaluating Social Science answer script of HSLC

2013 examination should be: (Rs.....)

Rupees	10	15	20	20+	NR	TOTAL
Total	16	12	9	5	31	73

The examiners were not uniform in expressing their desire in regards to their desire for raise in remuneration. Their opinion ranges from Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 and above. However, 21.9% of them want the remuneration to be Rs. 10 per answer script, while 16.3 want Rs 15 and 12.3 want Rs. 20. To be realistic, it might not be possible for BOSEM to suddenly raise remuneration to Rs. 20 per answer script or above. But it can be raised gradually. Sensing the opinion of the examiners BOSEM, this year increased the remuneration to Rs. 10. This is a welcome step. To enhance the integrity of the examiners and paper setters Examination Reform of NFG, NCF – 2005 also voice for increase in the remuneration of the paper setting and examination of answer script. It is firmly believed that BOSEM should also increase the remuneration of paper setters and examiners.

Conclusion

Most of the examiners takes 5 – 15 minutes to examine an answer script. This may mean that the questions are set objectively and it may have enabled the examinees to answer the questions without much deviation from one another. Also, most of the examiners (79%) spent 6 – 8 hours in examining the answers scripts. This may be one of the reasons for the completion of examining of answer scripts of HSLCE of BOSEM within stipulated time.

More than 60% of the examiners state that the students did not write the answer in ascending order. This often creates problem to the examiners and takes more time in examining the answer script. This problem must be addressed at the earliest.

Only one (1) mark was awarded in drawing the Map of India. Considering the limited mark allocated in drawing, it will be better if map were supplied to the examinees and asked them to locate or label the places.

The Head Examiners at the beginning of the examining works, the Head Examiners usually examined five to ten answer scripts of every examiner. They also further examined answer script which were awarded 80% and above by the examiners. And around 75% of the examiners commended this task of the Head Examiners.

More than 50 % of the examiners feel that the remuneration given to them for examining answer scripts was not sufficient. They want raise in remuneration BOSEM, this year increased the remuneration to Rs. 10. To enhance the integrity of the examiners and paper setters Examination Reform of NFG, NCF – 2005. It is firmly believed that BOSEM should also increase the remuneration of paper setters and examiners.

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