

REGULATIONS

1. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) examination is conducted annually by the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate (MES).

1.2 School Candidates

The examination is designed primarily as a school examination. Candidates may be presented as school candidates if they satisfy the Regulations made by the Minister in accordance with the Education Act 1957 as amended.

1.3 Private Candidates

1.3.1 Candidates below the age of 13 on January 1, following the CPE examination, may be entered for the examination on producing evidence of having taken the examination previously.

1.3.2 However, in exceptional cases, candidates below the age of 13 on January 1, following the CPE examination, who are not attending government, aided or registered primary schools and who have not taken the CPE examination may be entered for the examination at the discretion of the Director.

1.3.3 Candidates above the age of 13 on January 1, following the CPE examination, may enter for the examination without any restriction.

1.4 The interpretation of the Regulations shall rest with the Director of the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate.

2. SUBJECTS FOR THE EXAMINATION

2.1 Compulsory Subjects

<i>Subject Code No.</i>	<i>Name of Subject</i>	<i>Subject Code No.</i>	<i>Name of Subject</i>
110	English	141	Science
120	Mathematics	142/142R*	History & Geography
130	French		

2.2 Optional Subjects (Asian Languages/Arabic)

<i>Subject Code No.</i>	<i>Name of Subject</i>	<i>Subject Code No.</i>	<i>Name of Subject</i>
150	Hindi	190	Marathi
160	Urdu	200	Arabic
170	Tamil	210	Modern Chinese
180	Telugu		

142R* is a paper set for candidates from Rodrigues.

3. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Candidates taking the examination must enter for at least *five* subjects but for not more than *six*. These must include the *five* compulsory subjects.

4. CONDITIONS FOR THE AWARD OF A CERTIFICATE OF PRIMARY EDUCATION

The minimum requirements to obtain a Certificate of Primary Education are as follows:

Grade E in each of the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- French

together with an overall of 35% of the total marks in

either English
 Mathematics
 French
 Science
 History & Geography

or English
 Mathematics
 French
 Science
 History & Geography
 an Asian Language / Arabic

5. GRADING

5.1 Each subject will be graded on a seven-point grade system, namely: A+, A, B, C, D, E, U (unclassified).

5.2 These gradings represent the following performances:

Grade	Unit	Marks
A+	6	90 and above, up to 100
A	5	75 and above but less than 90
B	4	60 and above but less than 75
C	3	50 and above but less than 60
D	2	40 and above but less than 50
E	1	30 and above but less than 40
U	-	Below 30

5.3 It is not the policy of the Syndicate to disclose marks.

6. GRADE AGGREGATE

The Grade Aggregate is the sum total of the units obtained in the *best four* subjects.

7. METHOD OF ENTRY

7.1 Entry Forms

- 7.1.1 All entries by schools recognised by the Ministry of Education & Human Resources and PSSA must be made on the forms/diskettes provided by the MES and must be returned by the prescribed date.
- 7.1.2 Pupils attending recognised secondary schools, below the age of 13 on January 1, following the CPE examination, may be presented for this examination to improve their results provided they have previously passed such examination.

7.2 Private Candidates

- 7.2.1 Entries from private candidates must be made in person on the prescribed forms available at the MES in the month of March/April.
- 7.2.2 On registration, private candidates under 18 years should produce their original Birth Certificate and two passport-size photographs for an MES Identity Card.
- 7.2.3 Candidates who are 18 years and above should produce their National Identity Card and their original Birth Certificate.

7.3 Late Entries

Late entries may be accepted until **end of September** on payment of a late entry fee. However, late entries from visually impaired candidates, requiring the use of Braille question papers, should be submitted by **end of June**.

7.4 Transfer of Entry

(applicable to government/aided primary schools only)

Candidates may not change their examination centre once the timetables are issued. However, consideration may be given to special cases supported by evidence which must include a signed statement made by the Head Teacher of the school agreeing to accommodate the candidate and a transfer certificate from the Ministry of Education & Human Resources.

8. ARRANGEMENTS FOR CANDIDATES WHO ARE HANDICAPPED OR AFFECTED BY ADVERSE CIRCUMSTANCES

8.1 General Arrangements

- 8.1.1 The MES will consider making special arrangements for candidates who:
- (a) suffer permanent or long-term handicaps;
 - (b) suffer a temporary handicap during the examination.
- 8.1.2 These provisions are intended to remove, as far as possible the effects of the handicap on the candidates' performance and thus enable them to demonstrate their level of attainment. However, the special arrangement is not to give such candidates an unfair advantage over others.

8.1.3 Applications for special arrangements or consideration must be submitted to the MES together with the entries on the prescribed form available at the MES. Such requests should be supported by a medical certificate. MES may ask the applicant to be examined by a Government Medical Officer.

8.1.4 No special arrangements may be made by a centre unless prior approval has been obtained from the MES.

8.2 Additional Time

Candidates suffering from some handicap may be given additional time as appropriate.

8.3 Candidates with Hearing Impairment

Candidates with hearing impairment are allowed to use hearing aids. However, the centre should make its own arrangements.

8.4 Candidates with Visual Impairment

The MES will make arrangements to provide visually impaired candidates with enlarged print question papers.

In severe cases, arrangements will be made for candidates to take the examination in Braille.

8.5 Candidates with Other Handicaps

If a candidate is handicapped by an injury, such as a fractured arm that prevents the writing of answers, the MES may provide the necessary assistance to him/her during the examination.

8.6 Hospitalised Candidates

8.6.1 The MES may make arrangements for candidates to take the examination in hospital/clinic. Such arrangements can be made only if the institution concerned agrees to provide the necessary facilities.

8.6.2 A request for such arrangements should be made to the MES in good time.

9. TIMETABLE

The timetable which includes detailed instructions is issued to all candidates well before the examination.

10. DISQUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES

10.1 Attention is drawn to the “*Instructions to Candidates*” issued before each examination.

10.2 If a candidate has been involved in any breach of such *Instructions* or in any irregularity, misconduct or dishonesty whatever in connection with the examination or any of the papers, he/she may be expelled from the examination and be refused further

admission thereto. His/her papers or the results thereof may be cancelled and he/she may be refused entry in subsequent examinations.

- 10.3 If breaches of such *Instructions* are widespread at any examination centre, or if the circumstances in which the examination is held at any examination centre are unsatisfactory, the entire examination at that centre or any one or more papers or the results thereof, in relation to all the candidates at that centre, may be cancelled.
- 10.4 The attention of candidates, teachers and the public in general is drawn to the Regulations made under Section 14 of the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate Act No. 4 of 1984 and to the Criminal Code (Supplementary) (Amendment) Act No. 10 of 1985.

“Any person who commits an offence under these Acts shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 10 000 rupees and/or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.”

11. ISSUE OF RESULT SLIPS, CERTIFICATES, STATEMENTS OF ATTAINMENT AND STATEMENTS OF RESULTS

- 11.1 **Result slips** are issued to all candidates taking part in the CPE examination.
- 11.2 A **Certificate of Primary Education** is awarded to candidates who pass the examination.
- 11.3 A **Statement of Attainment** is awarded to candidates who pass in at least one subject.
- 11.4 For school candidates, result slips, certificates and statements of attainment are sent to Heads of institutions concerned.
- 11.5 For private candidates, result slips, certificates and statements of attainment are sent to them by post.
- 11.6 The MES reserves the right to correct the information given on the result slips, which are sent out before the issue of certificates.
- 11.7 Duplicate copies of certificates and result slips are **not** issued. However, a **Statement of Results** may be obtained, on application, from the Syllabus/Records Section of the MES against payment of a prescribed fee.

The following information is required:

- (a) full name and address;
- (b) name of centre and candidate's index number;
- (c) name of school (if any);
- (d) year of examination.

Applicants who are below the age of 18 years should produce their original Birth Certificate/Student's Identity Card. Those who are 18 years of age and above should produce their National Identity Card.

12. REVIEW OF SCRIPTS

- 12.1 A candidate who is not satisfied with his/her examination result may apply to the Director of the MES for the review of his/her scripts.
- 12.2 Such application must be made by the candidate/responsible party *at latest 2 weeks* as from the date of the release of results.
- 12.3 All such applications must be made on the official forms available at the MES, and the appropriate fee paid for the review of scripts.
- 12.4 **In no case will the review of scripts be done in the presence of the candidate concerned or his/her representative, nor will the answer scripts be shown to him/her or his/her representative.**
- 12.5 The outcome of the review of the scripts will be communicated to the candidate/responsible party within a reasonable period of time.
- 12.6 A candidate shall be entitled to a refund of the fee if, after the review of his/her scripts, his/her results are modified.
- 12.7 The MES will not be responsible for any loss or damage or any inconvenience caused to the candidate, consequent to the review of scripts or delay in communication for reasons beyond control.
- 12.8 The decision of the MES on the result of the review of scripts shall be final.

13. CORRECTION / CHANGE OF NAME

13.1 Correction of Name

- 13.1.1 Application for correction of name may be considered within one month from the date of issue of result slips. A fee will be claimed.

The following documents should be produced:

- (a) the original Birth Certificate;
 - (b) a letter from the Head of the institution, where the candidate was entered for the examination;
- or* a letter, in the case of a private candidate.

- 13.1.2 No correction will be made after the expiry of that period.

13.2 Change of Name

- 13.2.1 If a change of name has been made after the entries have been processed, the MES should be notified immediately so that necessary amendments may be made before the examination.

- 13.2.2 No amendment will be made after the examination.

14. EXAMINATION REPORTS

- 14.1 Examination reports on the performance of candidates are circulated to all primary schools and public libraries at the end of the first term following the examination.
- 14.2 Copies of these reports are available on the MES website or may be consulted at the Syllabus/Records Section of the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate.
- 14.3 These reports are also available on sale at the Syllabus/Records Section of the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate.

15. REGULATIONS AND SYLLABUSES

- 15.1 Copies of the Regulations and Syllabuses are available on the MES website or may be consulted at the Syllabus/Records Section of the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate.
- 15.2 Copies of the Regulations and Syllabuses are also available on sale at the Syllabus/Records Section of the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate.

16. PAST EXAMINATION PAPERS

- 16.1 Papers set at recent examinations are available on the MES website or may be consulted at the Syllabus/Records Section of the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate.
- 16.2 The copyright of the question papers shall rest with the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate.

SYLLABUSES

INTRODUCTION

The following subjects will be examinable:

- English
- Mathematics
- French
- Science
- History & Geography
- Asian Languages/Arabic

The first **five** subjects are compulsory for all children.

For each subject, the syllabus spells out the general objectives of the examination, the domains/areas/topics, assessment objectives and learning competencies.

The specification of levels of performance in terms of competencies is meant to facilitate teaching and learning and to contribute to the improvement of standards of performance in schools.

A description of each paper, with details about the type of questions to be set, is also given.

In each of the subjects English, Mathematics, French, Asian Languages/Arabic, there is **one paper of 1 hour 45 minutes**. For each of the subjects Science and History & Geography, there is **one paper of 1 hour**.

Each paper consists of two sections as follows:

- (i) Section A, carrying 60% of the marks, assesses Essential Learning Competencies (ELC). Questions set in this section test the acquisition of basic skills and abilities
- (ii) Section B, carrying 40% of the marks, assesses mainly Desirable Learning Competencies (DLC). Questions set in this section test higher order skills

It must be emphasised that the examination syllabus indicates only the areas and competencies that are tested in the CPE examination. It is derived from the teaching syllabus, which is broader and more comprehensive and which includes all the skills and attitudes that children should be helped to develop.