# Annual School Textbook Survey 

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Consumer Affairs Commission (CAC) conducted its annual school textbook survey during the period July 24-31, 2023. Data was obtained from every parish, except Hanover, where no known bookstore was identified. A sample of Fiftyeight (58) bookstores were visited, however data was obtained from 57 outlets: 20 were in the Greater Kingston Metropolitan Area (GKMR) ${ }^{1}$ and 37 in Rural Towns.

A total of 175 popular textbooks was surveyed, consisting of one hundred and four (104) secondary level, fifty-nine (59) primary level and twelve (12) infant level textbooks covering nineteen (19) subject areas.

Data analysis involved the calculation of the average, maximum and minimum price for each textbook as well as availability. Point to point comparative analysis included 157 books common to the two survey periods (2022 and 2023).

## Summary of Findings:

On average, the prices of school textbooks increased by $\mathbf{9 \%}$ overall. The average price increase in the GKMR was $9 \%$ and $8 \%$ among rural towns. Most ( $62 \%$ ) price increases were between $1 \%$ and $10 \%$, followed by $17 \%$ of textbooks which increased between $11 \%$ and $20 \%$. A small percentage ( $9 \%$ ) of texts had price increases of over $20 \%$, where 3 books ( $2 \%$ ) recorded average price increases of over $50 \%$. Average price reductions (between $1 \%$ and $10 \%$ ) were observed in $8 \%$ of school textbooks, while the average price of 5 books ( $3 \%$ ) remained relatively constant.

As it relates to availability, it was observed that Infant Level books were more readily available in July 2023 when compared to August 2022. Some bookstores, however, indicated that they would be receiving new stock soon. As such, the availability of books was expected to increase by late August or the first week in September 2023. Notwithstanding, Infant level textbooks were widely available in over 79\% of outlets surveyed. Whereas Primary level texts were readily available (in over $50 \%$ of outlets surveyed), except for Grade 6 books which were available in $46 \%$ of outlets. Literature Novels were available in $48 \%$ of outlets; however, Grades 7-9 and CSEC/CAPE books were available in 34\% and 30\% of outlets surveyed respectively.

[^0]On average, there was a $31 \%$ difference between the highest and lowest price observed for textbooks islandwide, except for literature novels, where the average was $75 \%$. This was due to differences in the cover (hard /soft), publishers and sources. Within the GKMR and among Rural Towns however, the average difference was $12 \%$ and $28 \%$ respectively, among all textbooks, except for literature novels, where the difference between the highest and lowest price was on average $49 \%$ and $62 \%$ respectively.

More bookstores have increased the use of technology such as WhatsApp messaging. Consumers were also directed to use social media and webpages for price enquiry and order placement; with the option to either collect the books at the store or have them delivered.

Parents and guardians are therefore encouraged to use the online options available to them.

## OVERVIEW OF TEXTBOOK SURVEY PERFORMANCE OF THE ECONOMY

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AND INFLATION

The analysis of the Consumer Affairs Commission's (CAC's) Annual Textbook Survey must be interpreted, bearing in mind the trends in the local and global economy which impact the pricing and availability of these textbooks. Among these are the rate of inflation and the movement in the foreign exchange rate.

The latest data from the Statistical Institute of Jamaica on inflation indicate that the Point-to-Point inflation rate for the period of July 2022 - July 2023 was $6.6 \%{ }^{2}$.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Since the last survey in August 2022, the Jamaican dollar has undergone fluctuations against its major counterparts ${ }^{3}$. It ultimately depreciated by $1.95 \%$ when compared to the US Dollar, moving from a monthly average rate of J\$152.89: US\$1.00 to J\$155.41: US\$1.00. Similarly, in comparison to the British Pound, the Jamaican Dollar depreciated in value by $9.97 \%$, moving from a monthly average rate of $J \$ 182.11$ : GBP $£ 1.00$ to $J \$ 200.26$ : GBP $£ 1.00$.


FIGURE 1. MOVEMENT OF JA\$ AGAINST US\$ BETWEEN AUGUST 2022 AND JULY 2023

[^1]```
JMD:GBP EXCHANGE RATE, JULY 2022 - JULY 2023
205.00
200.00
195.00
190.00
1 8 5 . 0 0
1 8 0 . 0 0
175.00
170.00
165.00
160.00
1 5 5 . 0 0
Aug-22 Sep-22 Oct-22 Nov-22 Dec-22 Jan-23 Feb-23 Mar-23 Apr-23 May-23 Jun-23 Jul-23
```

FIGURE 2. MOVEMENT OF JA\$ AGAINST GBP BETWEEN AUGUST 2022 AND JULY 2023

## SURVEY: BRIEF INTRODUCTION

The annual textbook survey was conducted by the Consumer Affairs Commission (CAC) between July 24 and 31, 2023. The survey is geared towards providing consumers with information that will assist them to cost-effectively discharge their responsibilities as parents/guardians; and presents researched evidence concerning textbooks as critical consumer items to key stakeholders.

Of the 58 known bookstores visited, price and availability data were obtained from $56^{4}$ bookstores ( $97 \%$ ) islandwide, except for Hanover where no bookstore was identified. Data was collected from 20 stores in the Greater Kingston Metropolitan Area (Kingston, St. Andrew, Portmore and Spanish Town) and 37 stores in Rural Towns in 11 parishes. A total of 175 popular textbooks were surveyed, consisting of one hundred and four (104) secondary level, fifty-nine (59) primary level and twelve (12) infant level textbooks covering nineteen (19) subject areas.

## METHODOLOGY

Book Selection:
In keeping with the implementation of the National Standards Curriculum (NSC), the Ministry of Education and Youth's (MoEY) policy directive stipulates that the

[^2]MoEY Supplementary Education Resources List should comprise not more than twelve books for each grade level per subject. ${ }^{5}$ These guidelines are intended to minimize the number of books parents need to purchase for their children. The rubric is outlined in Table 1 below:

TABLE 1 MOEY'S SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THE TYPE OF BOOKS APPROVED FOR PURCHASE BY PARENTS

| Grade <br> Level | Types of Books |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{1 - 3}$ | No more than five (5) supplementary titles should be selected. This should include <br> a reader, text/workbook for Language Arts and Integrated Studies. |
| $\mathbf{4 - 6}$ | No more than six (6) supplementary titles: only workbooks for core subject areas <br> such as Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science. |
| $\mathbf{7 - 9}$ | No more than two additional books for each subject area. |
| $\mathbf{1 0 - 1 \mathbf { 1 }}$ | Schools have the autonomy to select supplementary resources based on the <br> subject areas and the individual needs of the students |

The MoEY's guidelines further indicate that parents should expect to purchase resources termed as Additional Materials Required. These include items such as geometry set, graph books, scrapbook, technical equipment and other materials that are specific to specialized areas such as Home Economics, Visual Arts and Industrial Education; and resources such as Bible, Atlas, Dictionaries, The Students' Companion, New Junior English Revised and Illustrated First Aid in English.

In keeping with the MoEY's principle of school-based management, schools are required to select and submit for approval the supplementary educational resources they deemed most suitable for their students. These books are to be selected from the 2023-2024 Supplementary Educational Resources List provided by the MoEY. The school's educational resources lists are submitted to the Evaluation \& Utilization Section/Media Services Unit of the MoEY for approval. Each year, the CAC relies on this Unit to provide information on the most popular titles on the educational resources lists submitted by schools islandwide, to update its survey instrument.

During the 2023 review exercise, with the guidance of the Evaluation \& Utilization / Media Services Unit of the MoEY, the CAC removed 7 textbooks and

[^3]revised eight (8) secondary and twelve (12) primary books which had new editions available. Additionally, seven (7) secondary level books and two (2) primary level titles were added due to their popularity. These changes resulted in an overall increase of 2 books (173 in 2022 to 175 in 2023) in the number of books surveyed. Once a draft survey instrument was designed, it was submitted to the MoEY's Evaluation \& Utilization Section/Media Services Unit to ensure that the texts selected were in line with their guidelines. The remainder of the survey instrument was left mostly unchanged to facilitate comparative analysis.

The CAC's survey officers were provided with a list of the books along with their respective International Standard Book Number (ISBN) ${ }^{6}$ and specific information to facilitate the correct identification of the book being surveyed (that is, a picture of the book, names of authors and editions). The survey officers were also provided with a list of bookstores within a particular geographical area where they would collect the price data. Data was captured and submitted using SurveytoGo, a mobile data collection application. The CAC research staff reviewed the prices and confirmed selected book prices with retailers.

## Bookstore Selection:

A sample of Fifty-eight (58) bookstores or $81 \%$ of 72 known bookstores were visited: 21 were in the Greater Kingston Metropolitan Area (GKMR) ${ }^{7}$ and 37 in Rural Towns islandwide. The criteria used to select the outlets was based on the likelihood of the bookstore to stock most of the popular books in the CAC's sample. Regarding the major book chains, over 50\% of branches of Bryan's Bookstores Ltd, Sangster's Bookstores and Kingston Bookshop were included in the sample.

## ANALYSIS

Data analysis involved the calculation of the average ${ }^{8}$, maximum and minimum price for each textbook as well as availability. Availability refers to the number of stores surveyed that had the textbook in stock at the time of the survey. Thus,

[^4]the term 'readily available' signifies that the book was found in at least $50 \%$ of the bookstores surveyed.

For comparative analysis, 157 textbooks common to the two survey periods (2022 and 2023) were used. The analysis included common titles which had been revised as this represents one of the reasons for the changes in price and availability of textbooks at the time of the survey.

## PUBLICATION FACTORS AND PRICE VARIATIONS

There are several factors which could account for price dispersion among outlets. Some of these factors originate with the publisher and could include:

a) Book Design<br>$\checkmark$ Illustrative component (e.g., colour vs. black \& white)<br>$\checkmark$ Method of binding (e.g., cased sewn vs. spiral bound)<br>$\checkmark$ Quality of paper<br>$\checkmark$ Type of cover (e.g., hardcover vs. paperback)<br>$\checkmark$ Number of pages<br>b) Print Quantity<br>$\checkmark$ This determines unit production costs<br>c) Print Centre<br>$\checkmark$ Some of the Print Centres are located in China, India and Singapore<br>$\checkmark$ They utilize more modern technologies and tend to be more economical.

d) Edition
$\checkmark$ Reprint vs. new edition.
e) Fluctuations in Exchange Rates overtime
$\checkmark$ This may be further complicated by dollar versus sterling sources.
f) The retailer may also introduce
$\checkmark$ Variations in the cost of delivery
$\checkmark$ Bulk vs. special delivery
$\checkmark$ Variations in mark up
$\checkmark$ Membership/ loyalty programmes.

## LIMITATIONS

- Essentially, limitations in resources - money, manpower and time - meant that the number of texts to be surveyed needed to be representative yet at a manageable level. The CAC's methodology includes selecting the most popularly requested texts based on the MOEY's review of the educational resource lists submitted by the schools. Furthermore, the texts must fall within the guidelines of the MOEY. This means that certain popular additional texts may have been excluded from the sample, although they are not prohibited by the MOEY. The selection of CSEC/CAPE texts was limited, as schools do not have to submit these for review by the MOEY. With the guidance of the MOEY, the CAC carried forward most of the popular texts surveyed in previous years, with some amendments.
- Some popular titles were unavailable at the time of the survey as they were being revised, the books were out of stock or not sold by the outlet.
- Some novels were available from various publishers. In instances where multiple versions of the novel were present in the outlet, the CAC recorded the least expensive copy of the text.
- Some outlets sold used texts as well as new ones. For uniformity, only the price data of new books was reported and analysed.
- System error resulted in the omission of price information for one outlet.


## DATA SUMMARY <br> JULY 2023 TEXTBOOK PRICE OBSERVATIONS

## Availability

The Annual School Textbook Survey was conducted at a time when most bookstores were expected to have received their new stock but would still have residual stock from previous years. The dates were selected based on the recommendation of the Book Industry Association of Jamaica (BIAJ) with whom the CAC had consulted. Observations revealed that while the availability of secondary levels books was generally low, Infant and Primary Level texts were readily available in most outlets visited, except for grade 6 primary levels books and the grades one to six Rainbow Reading Series. The CAC was advised that the Rainbow Reading Series was being revised at the time of the survey and the new editions would not be available until early August 2023.

The low availability levels of some popular titles were explained by some outlets reporting that they had not yet received their new stocks at the time of the survey.

## Prices

On average, there was a $31 \%$ difference between the highest and lowest price observed for textbooks islandwide, except for literature novels, where the average was $75 \%$. This was due to differences in the cover (hard /soft), publishers and sources. Within the GKMR and among Rural Towns however, the average difference was $12 \%$ and $28 \%$ respectively, among all textbooks, except for literature novels, where the difference between the highest and lowest price was on average $49 \%$ and $62 \%$ respectively.

The major observations on textbook prices based on geographic location and grade levels are summarized below:

## ALL ISLAND

## - Infant School texts

- Observed in $79 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average price J\$1,734.66
- Highest price observed J\$2,400.00
- Lowest price observed J\$800.00


## - Primary School texts

## Grade 1

- Observed in $53 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average price J\$1,993.37
- Highest price observed J\$3,000.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,300.00


## Grade 2

- Observed in $56 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average price J\$2,118.54
- Highest price observed J\$3,000.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,075.00


## Grade 3

- Observed in $51 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average price J\$2,174.66
- Highest price observed J\$3,000.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,320.00


## Grade 4

- Observed in $52 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,287.88
- Highest price observed J\$3,770.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,480.00


## Grade 5

- Observed in $57 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,657.60
- Highest price observed J\$4,935.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,320.00


## Grade 6

- Observed in 46\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,568.60
- Highest price observed J\$4,285.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,751.00


## PEP Textbooks

- Observed in 50\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,232.15
- Highest price observed J\$3,100.00
- Lowest price observed J\$900.00


## Grades 7-9 texts

- Observed in 34\% of stores
- Average cost J\$2,517.50
- Highest price observed J\$5,440.0
- Lowest price observed J\$996.00


## CSEC/CAPE texts

- Observed in $30 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$4,050.19
- Highest price observed J\$11,795.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,250.00


## Literature Novels

- Observed in 48\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,967.56
- Highest price observed J\$4,350.00
- Lowest price observed J\$955.00

GREATER KINGSTON METROPOLITAN REGION (GKMR)

- Infant School texts
- Observed in $85 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$1,761.18
- Highest price observed J\$2,110.00
- Lowest price observed J\$990.00


## - Primary School texts

## Grade 1

- Observed in 70\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,012.56
- Highest price observed J\$3,000.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,551.00


## Grade 2

- Observed in 70\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,196.52
- Highest price observed J\$2,943.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,550.00


## Grade 3

- Observed in 66\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,222.43
- Highest price observed J\$2,943.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,600.00


## Grade 4

- Observed in $69 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,304.69
- Highest price observed J\$3,195.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,550.00


## Grade 5

- Observed in 72\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,671.93
- Highest price observed J\$3,750.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,512.00


## Grade 6

- Observed in 61\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,583.14
- Highest price observed J\$3,300.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,937.00


## PEP Textbooks

- Observed in 64\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,238.00
- Highest price observed J\$3,100.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,000.00


## Grades 7-9 texts

- Observed in $54 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,613.21
- Highest price observed J\$5,440.00
- Lowest price observed J\$966.00


## CSEC/CAPE texts

- Observed in 46\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$4,119.17
- Highest price observed J\$11,795.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,343.00


## Literature Novels

- Observed in 69\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,976.78
- Highest price observed J\$4,150.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,101.00


## RURAL TOWNS

- Infant School texts
- Observed in 77\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$1,716.86
- Highest price observed J\$2,400.00
- Lowest price observed J\$800.00


## - Primary School texts

## Grade 1

- Observed in $51 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$1,864.71
- Highest price observed J\$2,320.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,300.00


## Grade 2

- Observed in 48\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,064.08
- Highest price observed J\$3,000.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,075.00


## Grade 3

- Observed in 43\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,135.51
- Highest price observed J\$3,000.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,320.00


## Grade 4

- Observed in 44\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,263.75
- Highest price observed J\$3,770.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,480.00


## Grade 5

- Observed in 50\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,647.97
- Highest price observed J\$4,935.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,320.00


## Grade 6

- Observed in 38\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,547.50
- Highest price observed J\$4,285.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,751.00


## PEP Textbooks

- Observed in $42 \%$ of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,227.83
- Highest price observed J\$3,100.00
- Lowest price observed J\$900.00


## Grades 7-9 texts

- Observed in 25\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,450.59
- Highest price observed J\$5,440.00
- Lowest price observed J\$996.00


## CSEC/CAPE texts

- Observed in 25\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$3,677.17
- Highest price observed J\$10,720.00
- Lowest price observed J\$1,250.00


## Literature Novels

- Observed in 37\% of stores surveyed;
- Average cost J\$2,940.69
- Highest price observed cost J\$4,350.00
- Lowest price observed J\$955.00

Table 2 Price Observations for 2023

| Region | Leve1 | $\qquad$ | Availability <br> \% | Max (Highest Price Observed) |  | Min (Lowest Price Observed) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | J\$ | TEXT | J\$ | TEXT |
| ALL ISLAND(56 outlets) | Infant | 1,734.66 | 79\% | 2,400.00 | INFANT INTEGRATED PHONICS WORKBOOK 3 <br> (Age 5 years) by Lunett Fearon and Maureen McLean <br> INFANT INTEGRATED STUDIES WORKBOOK 3 (Age 5 years) by Maureen McLean and Lunett Fearon | 800.00 | RIGHT START INTEGRATED READER by Valrie Brown |
|  | Primary | 2,297.99 | 52\% | 4,935.00 | NEW JUNIOR ENGLISH REVISED (New Caribbean Edition) by Haydn Richards, Pamela Mordecai and Grace Walker Gordon | 900.00 | HOW SMART ARE YOU? <br>  <br> PROBLEM-SOLVING by <br> B.B. Anders \& S.E. Bennett |
|  | Grade 7-9 | 2,517.50 | 34\% | 5,440.00 | RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR JAMAICA: IDENTITY BOOK 1 (Second Edition) by Catherine House, Michael Keene, Grace Peart and Davia Bryan-Campbell. <br> RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR JAMAICA: WORSHIP | 996.00 | ENCORE TRICOLORE <br> 2: NOUVELLE EDITION GRAMMAR <br> IN ACTION by S. <br> Honnor \& H. MascieTaylor. |



| Region | Level | Average Price | Availability | Max (Highest Price Observed) |  | Min (Lowest Price Observed) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | J\$ | \% | J\$ | TEXT | J\$ | TEXT |
| GKMR(19 outlets) | Infant | 1,761.18 | 85\% | 2,110.00 | INFANT INTEGRATED PHONICS WORKBOOK 3 <br> (Age 5 years) by Lunett Fearon and Maureen McLean <br> INFANT INTEGRATED STUDIES WORKBOOK 3 (Age 5 years) by Maureen McLean and Lunett Fearon <br> INFANT INTEGRATED MATHEMATICS WORKBOOK 3 (Age 5 years) by Maureen McLean and Lunett Fearon | 990.00 | RIGHT START <br> LANGUAGE ARTS <br> INTEGRATED <br> WORKBOOK (Series B) by Valrie Brown |
|  | Primary | 2,326.89 | 68\% | 3,750.00 | NEW JUNIOR ENGLISH REVISED (New Caribbean Edition) by Haydn Richards, Pamela Mordecai and Grace Walker Gordon | 1,000.00 | HOW SMART ARE YOU? <br>  <br> PROBLEM-SOLVING by <br> B.B. Anders \& S.E. Bennett |


| Region | Level | Average Price | Availability | Max (Highest Price Observed) |  | Min (Lowest Price Observed) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | J\$ | \% | J\$ | TEXT | J\$ | TEXT |
|  | Grade 7-9 | 2,613.21 | 54\% | 5,440.00 | RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR JAMAICA: IDENTITY BOOK 1 (Second Edition) by Catherine House, Michael Keene, Grace Peart and Davia Bryan-Campbell. <br> RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR JAMAICA: WORSHIP BOOK 2 (Second Edition) by Catherine House, Michael Keene, Grace Peart and Davia Bryan-Campbell. <br> RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR JAMAICA: STEWARDSHIP BOOK 3 (Second Edition) by Catherine House, Michael Keene, Grace Peart and Davia Bryan-Campbell. | 996.00 | ENCORE TRICOLORE 2: NOUVELLE EDITION GRAMMAR IN ACTION by <br> S. Honnor \& H. MascieTaylor. <br> ENCORE TRICOLORE 3: NOUVELLE EDITION GRAMMAR IN ACTION by S. Honnor, H. Mascie-Taylor \& M. Spencer |
|  | CSEC/CAPE | 4,119.17 | 46\% | 11,795.00 | SOCIOLOGY, THEMES <br> AND PERSPECTIVES <br> (Eighth Edition) by Michael <br> Haralambos \& Martin Holborn | 1,343.00 | OXFORD SCHOOL <br> FRENCH DICTIONARY <br> (2017 Edition) by Oxford Dictionaries. |


| Region | Level | Average Price J\$ | Availability <br> \% | Max (Highest Price Observed) |  | Min (Lowest Price Observed) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | J\$ | TEXT | J\$ | TEXT |
|  | Literature Novels | 2,976.78 | 69\% | 4,150.00 | THE SILVER SWORD by Ian Serrailier. <br> THE ENCHANTED ISLAND by Ian Serrailier | 1,101.00 | JULIUS CAESAR by William Shakespeare. |
| RURAL TOWNS <br> (37 outlets) | Infant | 1,716.86 | 77\% | 2,400.00 | INFANT INTEGRATED PHONICS WORKBOOK 3 <br> (Age 5 years) by Lunett Fearon and Maureen McLean <br> INFANT INTEGRATED STUDIES WORKBOOK 3 (Age 5 years) by Maureen McLean and Lunett Fearon | 800.00 | RIGHT START <br> INTEGRATED READER by Valrie Brown |
|  | Primary | 2,268.11 | 45\% | 4,935.00 | NEW JUNIOR ENGLISH REVISED (New Caribbean Edition) by Haydn Richards, Pamela Mordecai and Grace Walker Gordon | 900.00 | HOW SMART ARE YOU? <br>  <br> PROBLEM-SOLVING by <br> B.B. Anders \& S.E. Bennett |


| Region | Level | Average Price | Availability | Max (Highest Price Observed) |  | Min (Lowest Price Observed) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | J\$ | \% | J\$ | TEXT | J\$ | TEXT |
|  | Grade 7-9 | 2,450.59 | 25\% | 5,440.00 | RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR JAMAICA: <br> STEWARDSHIP BOOK 3 <br> (Second Edition) by Catherine House, Michael Keene, Grace Peart and Davia Bryan-Campbell. | 996.00 | ENCORE TRICOLORE <br> 3: NOUVELLE <br> EDITION GRAMMAR IN ACTION by S. Honnor, H. MascieTaylor \& M. Spencer |
|  | CSEC/CAPE | 3,677.17 | 25\% | 10,720.00 | SOCIOLOGY, THEMES AND PERSPECTIVES (Eight Edition) by Michael Haralambos \& Martin Holborn | 1,250.00 | OXFORD SCHOOL DICTIONARY (Fully Revised 2016, Pocket Size) by Oxford Dictionaries |
|  | Literature Novels | 2,940.69 | 37\% | 4,350.00 | THE YOUNG WARRIORS by V.S. Reid <br> GREEN DAYS BY THE RIVER by Michael Anthony | 955.00 | MACBETH by William Shakespeare |

## PRICE AND AVAILABILITY MOVEMENT

An island wide 9\% increase in average price of textbooks was observed against the background of a $6.6 \%$ point to point inflation rate between July 2022 and July 2023 and the $1.95 \%$ depreciation in the JMD to its US counterpart for the period August 2022 to July 2023.

It was also observed that the average price increase among outlets located in the Greater Kingston Metropolitan Region recorded a similar average price increase of $9 \%$ and $8 \%$ among outlets located across rural towns islandwide.

Comparative data was available for 157 books: 12 Infant, 55 Primary, 36 Grade $7-9,36$ CSEC /CAPE and 18 Literature novels. Observations of movements in availability was limited, because the 2022 sample excluded most of the outlets within 3 major book chains: Kingston Bookshop, Sangster's Book Stores and Bryan's Book Stores. Price data had however been obtained from their online stores and verified with the data collected at one store branch of each store chain.

Notwithstanding this limitation, it was generally observed that Infant Level books were slightly more available in July 2023 when compared to August 2022. Moreover, this analysis represents an accurate reflection/representation of data captured by our survey officers on textbook prices for various outlets located islandwide.

## Average Price Changes Observed (Islandwide)

- Most books ( $62 \%$ or 97 ) recorded price increases between $1 \%$ and $10 \%$. This was followed by Twenty-Seven books (17\%) which recorded price increases between $11 \%$ and $20 \%$.
- This was true across grade levels, revealing that the average price of most Literature novels (72\%) and texts at the Primary (67\%), Grades 7-9 (61\%), Infant (58\%) and CSEC/CAPE (50\%) levels increased between 1\% and 10\%. (see Figure 4 below).
- There were five (5) books that recorded price increases ranging from $21 \%$ to $30 \%$. These books were all in the high school categories (Grade 7-9, CSEC/CAPE and Literature Novels). Six books (6) had price increases between $31 \%$ and $50 \%$. These price increases were observed at all levels except among Infant level books. Moreover, three (3) books, one at the Primary level, and among Grade 7-9 and CSEC / CAPE books recorded an average price increase over $50 \%$.
- The highest average price change was $97 \%$ (J\$3,200), recorded by the Agriculture For CSEC (New Edition Revision Course) written by Sahadeo Ragoonanan (Paperback). This change could be explained by the fact that the book had been revised ${ }^{9}$.
- It was noteworthy that the average price of five or 3\% of secondary level (3 CSEC / Cape and 2 Grade 7-9) books remained relatively constant or recorded zero price change.
- Some average prices recorded reductions in their average price. Twelve books ( $8 \%$ ) recorded price declines ranging from $1 \%$ to $10 \%$. These declines were seen in all other categories of books, except at the Infant level.
- Two (2) CSEC/CAPE books had price decreases, ranging from $11 \%$ to $40 \%$. Of note was the $34 \%(\$ 846.50)$ reduction in the average price of one CSEC /CAPE English text - Oxford School Dictionary (Fully Revised 2016, Pocket Size) by Oxford Dictionaries.
- The major observations in the movement of textbook prices based on geographic location and grade levels are summarized below:

[^5]
## Average Percentage Changes by Grade Levels (All Island)



FIGURE 3: AVERAGE PERCENTAGE CHANGE BY GRADE LEVEL (ALL ISLAND)

## ALL ISLAND

- Infant School texts
- Average price increase of $J \$ 162.28$ (10.59\%)
- The price change observed ranged from an increase of J\$80.48 (4.7\%) to an increase of J\$263.68 (15.42\%)
- Primary School texts
- Average price increase of J\$204.78 (10.58\%)
- The price change observed ranged from a reduction of J\$68.40 (2.69\%) to an increase of J\$813.44 (51.6\%)
- Grade 7-9 texts
- Average price increase of $J \$ 188.65$ (8.98\%)
- The price change observed ranged from a reduction of $J \$ 149.29$ (3.77\%) to an increase of J\$931.57 (72.38\%)
- CSEC/CAPE texts
- Average price increase of $J \$ 273.89$ (7.46\%)
- The price change observed ranged from a reduction of J\$846.50 ( $34.11 \%$ ) to an increase of $\mathrm{J} \$ 3,200$ ( $96.97 \%$ )
- Literature Novels
- Average price increase of $J \$ 188.86$ (6.62\%)
- The price change observed ranged from a reduction of J\$52.90 (3.23\%) to an increase of J\$528.70 (21.81\%)


## GKMR

- Infant School texts
- Average price increase of $J \$ 178.53$ (12.1\%)
- The price change observed ranged from an increase of J\$72.66 (4.2\%) to an increase of $J \$ 193.30$ (19.86\%)
- Primary School texts
- Average price increase of $\mathrm{J} \$ 198.47$ (10.65\%)
- The price change observed ranged from a reduction of J\$7.95 ( $0.54 \%$ ) to an increase of $J \$ 856.94$ (54.7\%)
- Grade 7-9 School texts
- Average price increase of J\$216.63 (9.41\%)
- The price change observed ranged from reduction of J\$244.00 (19.68\%) to an increase of J\$935.33 (72.25\%)
- CSEC/CAPE texts
- Average price increase of J\$211.68 (6.18\%)
- The price change observed ranged from a reduction of J\$860.00 (30.18\%) to an increase of $J \$ 2,159.40$ (42.79\%)


## - Literature Novels

- Average price increase of J\$179.89 (6.65\%)
- The price change observed ranged from a reduction of J\$284.13 (10.37\%) to an increase of J\$479.17 (18.88\%)


## RURAL

- Infant School texts
- Average price increase of J\$148.94 (9.3\%)
- The price change observed ranged from an increase of J\$82.51 (4.85\%) to an increase of J\$261.07 (15.31\%)
- Primary School texts
- Average price increase of J\$190.21 (9.9\%)
- The price change observed ranged from a reduction of J\$258.29 (10.26\%) to an increase of J\$776.03 (49.12\%)
- Grade 7-9 School texts
- Average price increase of J\$130.28 (7.51\%)
- The price change observed ranged from a reduction of J\$523.33 (12.28\%) to an increase of J\$868.75 (67.8\%)
- CSEC/CAPE texts
- Average price increase of J\$236.47 (6.58\%)
- The price change observed ranged from a reduction of J\$655.50 (31.02\%) to an increase of J\$2,850 (86.36\%)
- Literature Novels
- Average price increase of J\$152.12 (4.98\%)
- The price change observed ranged from a reduction of J\$223.25 (13.55\%) to an increase of J\$540.33 (23.01\%)

TABLE 3 PRICE CHANGE OBSERVATIONS 2022-2023

| Region | Level |  | Range in Average Price Change (\%) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Lower End |  | Upper end |
| ALL ISLAND | Infant | 10.59\% | 4.7\% | INFANT INTEGRATED STUDIES WORKBOOK 1 (Age 3 years) by Maureen McLean and Lunett Fearon | 15.42\% | INFANT INTEGRATED PHONICS WORKBOOK 2 by (Age 4 years) Lunett Fearon and Maureen Mclean |
|  | Primary | 10.58\% | -2.69\% | RAINBOW READERS: A JAMAICAN READING SERIES GRADE 2 by Roma Sinanan and Uriel Narinesingh | 51.6\% | PRIMARY SCIENCE FOR THE NATIONAL STANDARDS CURRICULUM MISSION: SCIENCE WORKBOOK 6 (Second Edition) by Terry Hudson and Debbie Roberts |
|  | Grade 7-9 | 8.98\% | -3.77\% | HOLY BIBLE (REVISED STANDARD VERSION) Published by the Bible Society | 72.38\% | STP MATHEMATICS FOR <br> JAMAICA GRADE 9 <br> WORKBOOK 3 (Second <br> Edition) by Sue Chandler, Ewart Smith and I. Bettison |
|  | CSEC/CAPE | 7.46\% | -34.11\% | OXFORD SCHOOL DICTIONARY (Fully Revised 2016, Pocket Size) by Oxford Dictionaries | 96.97\% | AGRICULTURE FOR CSEC <br> (New Edition Revision Course) by Sahadeo Ragoonanan (Paperback) |
|  | Literature Novels | 6.62\% | -3.23\% | MACBETH by William Shakespeare | 21.81\% | FRANGIPANI HOUSE by Beryl Gilroy |


| Region | Level | Average Price Change (\%) | Range in Average Price Change (\%) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Lower End |  | Upper end |  |
| GKMR | Infant | 12.1\% | 4.2\% | INFANT INTEGRATED STUDIES WORKBOOK 1 <br> (Age 3 years) by Maureen McLean and Lunett Fearon | 19.86\% | RIGHT START MATHEMATICS <br> INTEGRATED WORKBOOK (Series B) by Valrie Brown |
|  | Primary | 10.65\% | -0.54\% | CHEETAH PEP ABILITY PRACTICE QUESTIONS by Dr. Paulette Trowers | 54.7\% | PRIMARY SCIENCE FOR THE NATIONAL <br> STANDARDS CURRICULUM MISSION: SCIENCE WORKBOOK 6 (Second Edition) by Terry Hudson And Debbie Roberts |
|  | Grade 7-9 | 9.41\% | -19.68\% | ENCORE TRICOLORE 2: NOUVELLE EDITION GRAMMAR IN ACTION by S. Honnor \& H. MascieTaylor | 72.25\% | STP MATHEMATICS FOR JAMAICA GRADE 9 WORKBOOK 3 (Second Edition) by Sue Chandler, Ewart Smith and I. Bettison |
|  | CSEC/CAPE | 6.18\% | -30.18\% | OXFORD SCHOOL DICTIONARY (Fully Revised 2016, Pocket Size) by Oxford Dictionaries | 42.79\% | CARIBBEAN STUDIES FOR CAPE EXAMINATIONS <br> (Second Edition) by J. Mohammed |
|  | Literature Novels | 6.65\% | -10.37\% | ANIMAL FARM by George Orwell | 18.88\% | FRANGIPANI HOUSE by Beryl Gilroy |
| RURAL | Infant | 9.30\% | 4.85\% | INFANT INTEGRATED STUDIES WORKBOOK 1 (Age 3 years) by Maureen McLean and Lunett Fearon | 15.31\% | INFANT INTEGRATED PHONICS WORKBOOK 2 by (Age 4 years) Lunett Fearon and Maureen Mclean |


| Region | Level | Average Price Change (\%) | Range in Average Price Change (\%) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Lower End |  | Upper end |  |
|  | Primary | 9.9\% | -10.26\% | RAINBOW READERS: A JAMAICAN READING SERIES GRADE 2 by Roma Sinanan and Uriel Narinesingh | 49.12\% | PRIMARY SCIENCE FOR THE NATIONAL <br> STANDARDS CURRICULUM MISSION: SCIENCE WORKBOOK 6 (Second Edition) by Terry Hudson And Debbie Roberts |
|  | Grade 7-9 | 7.51\% | -12.28\% | HOLY BIBLE (REVISED STANDARD VERSION) Published by the Bible Society | 67.8\% | STP MATHEMATICS FOR <br> JAMAICA GRADE 9 <br> WORKBOOK 3 (Second <br> Edition) by Sue Chandler, Ewart Smith and I. Bettison |
|  | CSEC/CAPE | 6.58\% | -31.02\% | OXFORD SCHOOL DICTIONARY (Fully Revised 2016, Pocket Size) by Oxford Dictionaries | 86.36\% | AGRICULTURE FOR CSEC <br> (New Edition Revision Course) by Sahadeo Ragoonanan (Paperback) |
|  | Literature Novels | 4.98\% | -13.55\% | MACBETH by William Shakespeare | 23.01\% | FRANGIPANI HOUSE by Beryl Gilroy |

## CONCLUSION

Each year, a main feature of back-to-school preparations for the new school year is the acquisition of school textbooks. Depending on the grade level, parents/guardians can expect that textbooks would account for a large proportion of the back-to-school budget. The CAC's annual school textbook survey provides information to parents on the prices and availability of popular textbooks. The findings revealed that some books were still not readily available at the time of the survey, due to their revision.

The prices observed showed that some outlets had stocks from last year and that the prices were less varied within the GKMR than they were across parish lines. Overall, infant level books cost on average $J \$ 1,734.66$, while the average price of primary level texts was $\$ 2,299.97$. Secondary texts for grades $7-9$ cost an average of $\mathrm{J} \$ 2,517.50$ while the average cost of CSEC/ CAPE texts was $J \$ 4,050.19$. Literature novels were available on average for $J \$ 2,967.56$ relative to publisher and other factors.

The data revealed that the average price of most books increased in line with inflation, while some books recorded price reductions.

Textbooks were generally available in over $44 \%$ of outlets surveyed. Some bookstores had, however, indicated that they would be receiving new stock soon. As such, the availability of books was expected to increase by the end of August, but this could also mean increased prices.

It is worth noting that consumers do have several options available to source textbooks. Outside of the traditional option of visiting the store and purchasing books, there are also online sources, including WhatsApp through which texts/ supplies can be sourced and parents are encouraged to explore these options.

The CAC also encourages consumers to shop around and take advantage of lower priced old stock and discounts where they exist. Membership discounts were also available at some locations as well as layaway plans. Some bookstores offer second-hand 'almost new' books at lower prices which can be another way for parents to cut costs. Parents are encouraged to check with the schools to ensure the books are still relevant, especially as it relates to the correct edition of each text and in keeping with the Primary Exit Profile (PEP) curriculum. They can also confirm with bookstores if the texts on-shelf are the latest or current edition. They are also advised to closely examine workbooks and student books before purchase, to prevent purchasing the incorrect book as these books have similar covers.

## APPENDIX

SUBJECT AREAS

|  | SUBJECT AREAS | B00KS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | FOREIGN LANGUAGES | Spanish |
|  | FOREIGN LANGUAGES | French |
| 2 | GEOGRAPHY | Geography |
|  | GEOGR | Atlas |
| 3 | GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING | Guidance and Counselling |
|  |  | Chemistry |
|  |  | Biology |
| 4 | NATURAL SCIENCE | Physics |
|  |  | Integrated Science |
|  |  | Primary level Science |
| 5 | HOME ECONOMICS | Clothing and Textiles |
| 5 | HOME ECONOMICS | Food \& Nutrition |
| 6 | MATHEMATICS | Mathematics |
|  | MATHEMATICS | Numeracy |
|  |  | Novels |
| 7 | ENGLISH LITERATURE | Poems |
|  |  | English Literature |
|  |  | Accounting |
| 8 | BUSINESS | Computer |
|  |  | Management |
|  |  | Business |
| 9 | CARIBBEAN STUDIES | Caribbean Studies |
|  |  | English Language |
|  |  | Communication Studies |
| 10 | ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND | Dictionary |
|  | COMMUNICATION STUDIES | Literacy |
|  |  | Reading |
|  |  | Writing |
| 11 | HISTORY | History |
| 12 | ECONOMICS | Economics |
| 13 | SOCIOLOGY | Sociology |
| 14 | RELIGIOUS EDUCATION | Religious Education |
|  | RELIGIOUS EDUCATION | Bibles |
| 15 | AGRICULTURE | Agricultural Science |
| 16 | SOCIAL STUDIES | Social Studies |
| 17 | VOCATIONAL STUDIES | Metal Work |
|  |  | Technical Drawing |
|  |  | Electrical Installation |

## OUTLETS SURVEYED

| BOOKSTORES | ADDRESS | TOWN |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| KINGSTON |  | 3 |
| Kingston Bookshop (Lower) | 70b King Street | DOWNTOWN |
| Sangster's Book Stores | 93 1/2 King Street |  |
| The Book Depot | 38 Langston Rd | EAST KINGSTON |
| ST. ANDREW |  | 10 |
| Book Express | 12 Studio One Boulevard, Kingston 5 | CROSS ROADS |
| Bryan's Bookstore | Springs Plaza, Kgn 10 | HALF-WAY TREE |
| Kingston Bookshop | Springs Plaza, Kgn 10 |  |
| Sangster's Book Stores | Springs Plaza, Kgn 10 |  |
| Stationery World \& Book Centre | 5 Sandringham Avenue, Kgn 10 |  |
| Urban Bookstore \& Publisher's (New Kgn ) | Shop \#13, New Lane Plaza, Kgn 10 |  |
| Booksmart Stationery \& Supplies | Maes Building, 43a Caincurran Avenue, Kgn 20 | WASHINGTON BOULEVARD \& ENVIRONS |
| Kingston Bookshop | Boulevard Supercentre, Kgn 20 |  |
| Sangster's Book Stores | Sovereign Centre, Kgn 6 | LIGUANEA |
| Kingston Bookshop | 115 Hope Road, Kgn 6 |  |
| ST. CATHERINE |  | 11 |
| Kingston Bookshop | 31 East Trade Way, Portmore Town Centre | PORTMORE |
| Sangster's Book Stores | Lot 8 Portmore Town Centre, |  |
| The Book and Stationery Place | Portmore Mall, |  |
| Books to Go | Shop 8 AMC Plaza, Port Henderson |  |
| Economic Book Centre** | 4a Oxford Street, Spanish Town P.O. | SPANISH TOWN |
| Angel's Book and Variety Store | Angel Plaza. |  |
| Sangster's Book Stores | Shop \# 37, Sagicor Shopping Centre, Burke Road |  |
| Kingston Bookshop | The Oasis Shopping Centre Shop 6, March Pen Road |  |
| Books \& Bites | Shop \#4-5 Eastside Plaza, 35 East St, | OLD HARBOUR |
| Edu-Tech Supply Centre | 56 King Street, Linstead | LINSTEAD |
| R \& P Grocery Plus | Guys Hill | GUY'S HILL |
| CLARENDON |  | 2 |
| Young's Book Store | 27-29 Main Street, May Pen | MAY PEN |
| Winmar's Bookstore | Shop 1, Zela Plaza, May Pen P.O. |  |
| ST. ANN |  | 4 |
| Brown's Town Books \& Stationery | 4 St. Hilda's Drive | BROWN'S TOWN |
| Direct Books \& Stationery | 34 Main Street |  |
| Catalyst Bookstore \& Stationery | Shop 44 Ocean Vill Shopping Centre | OCHO RIOS |
| Bryan's Bookstore | Shop 12-15, Island Plaza |  |


| BOOKSTORES | ADDRESS | TOWN |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MANCHESTER |  | 4 |
| Super Deals Bookshop | Main Street, Spalding P.O. | SPALDING |
| Manchester Institute of Learning Bookstore | 3 Timber Trail, Mandeville | MANDEVILLE |
| A-Z Bookshop and Tiny Tots | Shop 30 Mandeville Plaza |  |
| Okazion Stationery | Willow Gate Plaza, Mandeville P.O. |  |
| ST. ELIZABETH |  | 5 |
| Chapter 5 Book Shop | Shop \#8a, Pines Plaza, Junction P.O. | JUNCTION |
| G \& J Stationery \& School Supply | Williamsfield District, Maggotty P.O. | MAGGOTTY |
| Arts 'N' Things Shop | 1 Manifest Plaza, Santa Cruz | SANTA CRUZ |
| A-Z Bookshop | Mid-Town Plaza, Santa Cruz |  |
| Andjos Data Processing | 1 Institution Drive, Santa Cruz |  |
| WESTMORELAND |  | 3 |
| Jevon's Enterprise | Little London, Little London P.O. | LITTLE LONDON |
| Possession Books \& Stationery | Shop 16, In Thing PLaza, 44 Beckford Street | SAVANNA-LA-MAR |
| Pill Box Pharmacy | 17 Lewis Street |  |
| ST. JAMES |  | 4 |
| Kmar Books \& Cyberflex | Shop \#4, Phillips Plaza, Anchovy P.O. | ANCHOVY |
| Chambers Bookstore | 3 Barracks Road, Montego Bay | MONTEGO BAY |
| Henderson Bookstore | 27 St. James Street, MONTEGO BAY P.O. |  |
| Sangster's Book Stores | Shop 103 Baywest Plaza, Montego Bay |  |
| TRELAWNY |  | 4 |
| Advent Pharmacy | 7 Water Square | FALMOUTH |
| Trelawny Book Supplies \& Pharmacy | 19 Market Street |  |
| Cat D's Books, Stationery\& Supplies | 2-4 Tharpe Street |  |
| Wakefield Book and Variety Store | Wakefield | WAKEFIELD |
| ST. MARY |  | 4 |
| Annotto Bay Bookshop | Main Street | ANNOTTO BAY |
| Highgate One Stop Bookshop | Main Street | HIGHGATE |
| Port Maria Book \& Record Centre | Mannings Plaza | PORT MARIA |
| Books Stationery \& Supplies | 27 Stennett Street |  |
| PORTLAND |  | 2 |
| Port Antonio School Shop | 24 Harbour Street, Port Antonio P.O. | PORT ANTONIO |
| Hamilton Bookshop | 37 West Street, Port Antonio P.O. |  |
| ST THOMAS |  | 2 |
| Hilda Maud | Main Street | YALLAHS |
| Lee's Books \& Things | 20 Queen Street | MORANT BAY |

[^6]
## SURVEY INSTRUMENT

CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMISSION
An Agency of the Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce
SCHOOL TEXTBOOK SURVEY - JULY 24-31, 2023


## CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMISSION <br> An Agency of the Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce

SCHOOL TEXTBOOK SURVEY - JULY 24-31, 2023

| $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \text { SUBJECT } \\ \text { AREA } \\ \text { /LEVEL } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | TITLE | ISBN | PRICE | COMMENTS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION: THEORY \& PRACTICE (Third Edition) by E.L. Donnelly | 978-0174450740 |  |  |
|  | ENGLISH MATTERS FOR JAMAICA (Second Edition) - GRADE 7 WORKBOOK (with online listening exercises) by Julia Sander (Advisors: Caprece McLeary, Tenesha Gordon) | 978-1380018038 |  |  |
|  | ENGLISH MATTERS FOR JAMAICA (Second Edition) - GRADE 8 WORKBOOK (with online listening exercises) by Julia Sander (Advisors: Caprece McLeary, Tenesha Gordon) | 978-1380018045 |  |  |
|  | ENGLISH MATTERS FOR JAMAICA (Second Edition) - GRADE 9 WORKBOOK (with online listening exercises) by Julia Sander (Advisors: Caprece McLeary, Tenesha Gordon) | 978-1380018052 |  |  |
|  | WRITING IN ENGLISH: A COURSE BOOK FOR CARIBBEAN STUDENTS (Second Edition) by Hazel Simmons-McDonald, Linda Fields and Peter Roberts | 978-9766373696 |  |  |
|  | DEVELOPING PROFICIENCY IN C.X.C. ENGLISH A - PAPER 1 MULTIPLE CHOICE (Revised Edition) by Roy Narinesingh and Ina vds Narinesingh | 978-9769630888 |  |  |
|  | GLENCOE LANGUAGE ARTS GRAMMAR AND LANGUAGE WORKBOOK GRADE 9 | 978-0028182940 |  |  |
|  | POCKET OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY (Eleventh Edition ) Edited by Maurice Waite | 978-0199666157 |  |  |
|  | OXFORD STUDENT'S THESAURUS (2016 Edition) | 978-0192749390 |  |  |
|  | OXFORD SCHOOL DICTIONARY (Fully Revised 2016, Pocket Size) by Oxford Dictionaries (Paperback) | 978-0192747105 |  |  |
|  | A COW CALLED BOY by C. Everard Palmer | ANY |  | Insert Publisher/Type Cover |
|  | THE SILVER SWORD by lan Serrailier | ANY |  |  |
|  | THE ENCHANTED ISLAND by lan Serrailier | ANY |  |  |
|  | THE YOUNG WARRIORS by V.S. Reid | ANY |  |  |
|  | MACBETH by William Shakespeare | ANY |  |  |
|  | SUNSONG 1 by Pamela Mordecai and Grace Walker Gordon | 978-0582765559 |  |  |
|  | SUNSONG 2 (Revised Edition) by Pamela Mordecai, Edited by Grace Walker Gordon | 978-0582089136 |  |  |
|  | BITE IN 1 (New Edition) by Cecil Gray | 978-0175663866 |  |  |
|  | BITE IN 2 (New Edition) by Cecil Gray | 978-0175663873 |  |  |
|  | FRANGIPANI HOUSE by Beryl Gilroy | ANY |  |  |
|  | OLD STORY TIME (CSEC Student Edition) by Trevor Rhone | 978-1408245149 |  |  |
|  | JULIUS CAESAR by William Shakespeare | ANY |  |  |
|  | MY FATHER, SUN-SUN JOHNSON by C. Everald Palmer | ANY |  |  |
|  | FULL CIRCLE by C. Everald Palmer | ANY |  |  |
|  | ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY by Mildred D. Taylor | ANY |  |  |
|  | OF MICE AND MEN by John Steinbeck | ANY |  |  |

## CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMISSION <br> An Agency of the Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce

SCHOOL TEXTBOOK SURVEY - JULY 24-31, 2023

| SUBJECT <br> AREA <br> /LEVEL | TITLE | ISBN | PRICE | COMMENTS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | GREEN DAYS BY THE RIVER by Michael Anthony | ANY |  |  |
|  | OVER OUR WAY by Jean D'Costa \& Velma Pollard | ANY |  |  |
|  | TWELFTH NIGHT by William Shakespeare | ANY |  |  |
|  | ANANSI by Alistaire Campbell | ANY |  |  |
|  | FOR THE LIFE OF LAETITIA by Merle Hodge | ANY |  |  |
|  | ANIMAL FARM by George Orwell | ANY |  |  |
|  | A WORLD OF POETRY (Third Edition) Edited by Mark McWatt and Hazel Simmons-McDonald | 978-1510414310 |  |  |
|  | A WORLD OF PROSE (Third Edition) Edited by David Williams and Hazel Simmonds-McDonald | 978-1510414327 |  |  |
|  | DIME WORKBOOK 1 SPANISH FOR CARIBBEAN SECONDARY SCHOOLS (Second Edition with Audio CD) by Sally SeetahalMohammed (Series Editor: Jeannette Allsopp) | 978-0230455443 |  |  |
|  | DIME MUCHO WORKBOOK 2 SPANISH FOR CARIBBEAN SECONDARY SCHOOLS (Second Edition with Audio CD) by Sally Seetahal-Mohammed (Series Editor: Jeannette Allsopp) | 978-0230455467 |  |  |
|  | DIME MUCHO MÁS WORKBOOK 3 SPANISH FOR CARIBBEAN SECONDARY SCHOOLS (Second Edition with Audio CD) by Sally Seetahal-Mohammed (Series Editor: Jeannette Allsopp) | 978-0230455481 |  |  |
|  | ¿QUÉ HAY? CUADERNO 1 (Second Edition) by Christine Haylett,Jeffrey Britton,Margaret Leacock,Yorley Mendez,Georgia Pinnock,Angie Ramnarine,Lesbia Tesorero | 978-0198425854 |  |  |
|  | ¿QUÉ HAY? CUADERNO 2 (Second Edition) by Christine Haylett,Jeffrey Britton,Margaret Leacock,Yorley Mendez,Georgia Pinnock,Angie Ramnarine,Lesbia Tesorero | 978-0198425939 |  |  |
|  | ¿QUÉ HAY? CUADERNO 3 (Second Edition) by Christine Haylett,Jeffrey Britton,Margaret Leacock,Yorley Mendez,Georgia Pinnock,Angie Ramnarine,Lesbia Tesorero | 978-0198426011 |  |  |
|  | ENCORE TRICOLORE 1: NOUVELLE EDITION GRAMMAR IN ACTION by S. Honnor \& H. Mascie-Taylor | 978-0748794980 |  |  |
|  | ENCORE TRICOLORE 2: NOUVELLE EDITION GRAMMAR IN ACTION by S. Honnor \& H. Mascie-Taylor | 978-0748795000 |  |  |
|  | ENCORE TRICOLORE 3: NOUVELLE EDITION GRAMMAR IN ACTION by S. Honnor, H. Mascie-Taylor \& M. Spencer | 978-0748795024 |  |  |
|  | OXFORD SCHOOL FRENCH DICTIONARY (2017 Edition) by Oxford Dictionaries | 978-0198408017 |  |  |
|  | ADVANCED FRENCH VOCABULARY (Second Edition) by Philip Horsfall | 978-0748757800 |  |  |
|  | OXFORD SCHOOL SPANISH DICTIONARY (Revised 2017) by Oxford Dictionaries | 978-0198407997 |  |  |

## CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMISSION <br> An Agency of the Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce

SCHOOL TEXTBOOK SURVEY - JULY 24-31, 2023

| $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline \text { SUBJECT } \\ \text { AREA } \\ \text { /LEVEL } \end{array}$ | TITLE | ISBN | PRICE | COMMENTS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | SKILLS IN GEOGRAPHY IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS by V. A. Rahil | 1114000001 |  |  |
|  | CARIBBEAN SCHOOL ATLAS (Fifth Edition) For Social Studies, Geography \& History. Editoral Advisor: Professor Mike Morrissey | 978-1510434660 |  | Hodder Education |
|  | GEOGRAPHY WORKBOOK FOR CSEC (Revised Edition) by Deroll A Barrett | 978-9768202864 |  |  |
| GUIDANCE \& COUNSELLING | LIFE LESSONS: A PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKBOOK FOR TODAY'S SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS - GRADE 7 EDITION by Karen A.P. McGibbon | 978-9766109356 |  |  |
|  | LIFE LESSONS: A PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKBOOK FOR TODAY'S SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS - GRADE 8 EDITION by Karen A.P. McGibbon | 978-9766109363 |  |  |
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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Kingston, St. Andrew, Spanish Town and Portmore

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ STATIN (2023) "New release: Consumer price index July 2023" retrieved from https://statinja.gov.jm/PressReleases.aspx. Retrieved August 14, 2023
    ${ }^{3}$ BOJ (2023) "Monthly Average Exchange Rate" retrieved on August 14, 2023 from https://boj.org.jm/market/foreign-exchange/historical-fx-rates/

[^2]:    ${ }^{4}$ The prices obtained from Economic Book Centre in Spanish Town were omitted from the analysis as most texts were used. No data was received from Urban Bookstore \& Publishers.

[^3]:    ${ }^{5}$ MoEY (2023) - Bulletin 101/2023 "REVISED GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL'S EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES LIST FOR 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR", p1

[^4]:    ${ }^{6}$ International Standard Book Number (ISBN) is a 10 or 13-digit number identifies a specific book, an edition of a book, or a book-like product (such as an audiobook).
    ${ }^{7}$ Kingston, St. Andrew, Spanish Town and Portmore
    ${ }^{8}$ Arithmetic mean

[^5]:    ${ }^{9}$ New Edition Agriculture for CSEC (Revision Course) by Sabaddeo Ragoonanan (Paperback) was the edition surveyed in 2022.

[^6]:    ${ }^{* *}$ Economic Book Centre sells both new and used books. This data was therefore excluded from the analysis.

