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## FOREWORD

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This booklet contains reports written by Examiners on the work of candidates in certain papers. **Its contents are primarily for the information of the subject teachers concerned.**

# URDU

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## GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Paper 8674/04  
Texts

### General comments

The overall impression is that candidates were fully prepared to meet the demands of this Paper.

With this syllabus in its second year it is evident that most Centres have achieved the right balance between the various skills in their teaching programs. The overall standard was exceptionally good.

There were a few examples of candidates having learned – and thus reproduced - longer questions, but generally and more appropriately, candidates referred closely to the text and used simple and short quotations in support of the argument of their essays. The key criterion for success is close knowledge of the text, and those candidates who know their texts well in terms of both subject matter and style were those who did well.

Other popular types of questions were those which referred to the presentation of the characters by the writer, again such questions require candidates to examine characters as constructs. Narrative and descriptive approaches to character are therefore inappropriate and do not meet the requirements of the assessment objectives.

There were not too many prepared answers in evidence, though some candidates were clearly answering a previous question, not the one set.

Addressing the specific requirements of the questions seemed to cause some candidates difficulty. In all cases where candidates chose an alternative focus for their answers they could not possibly be successful.

Candidates should practice adjusting the length of their answers to meet the demands of the question and its mark allocation. By writing too much or too little candidates risk wasting time and losing valuable marks.

This Paper was well done by the majority of candidates, who appeared to have been well prepared for the examination. Candidates grasped the implications of the questions quite well, and on the whole they succeeded in matching their chosen text to the question very aptly.