

Examiners' Report
June 2012

GCE Arabic 6AR01 01

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Introduction

This paper was set to cover all areas of the specification. It consists of 3 sections testing reading, grammar, translation skills and writing. The time allocated is more than enough for average candidates who studied the areas in the specification. It was comparable to previous years. Generally most candidates coped well. Passages were set to be current and of interest to candidates.

Passage 1 is about current research in food and nutrition. This is one of the topics which candidate should be familiar with. Questions 1 and 2 relate to this passage, and both questions are straightforward.

Passage 2 is also current and covers cultural issues in the Arab world. The purpose was to use enough language structures to test candidates' grammar.

Passage 3 was meant to be more complicated so that it stretched more able candidates and allowed them to express opinion through their answers in question 5. Question 4 is another question relating to this passage: it requires knowledge, deep understanding of the passage and rich language.

Passage 4 is the translation question. This is a text about safe driving. It is also very current and students should understand it. Yet there were candidates who found terms a bit challenging.

In the last question (marriage through the internet), the stimulus and question were very well received by candidates generally. It is contemporary and relevant to the age group, as it addressed social issues and concerns as well as modern technology.

Question 2

The question was clear and the answers were mostly straightforward. Student's responses to the question were good. Some students responded incorrectly to some parts of the question particularly to 2(d) and 2(e). A few students copied a whole sentence or sometimes gave words which are not in the text. They either did not read the rubric or did not understand it.

Question 3

This question was fair, the text was relevant, most candidates understood it and their marks were good. Candidates need to put the vowels correctly.

Question 4

Candidates performed well on this question. However, there was a problem with the connection of the (جاء لـ) to the letter (ج) and there was evidence that a good number of candidates are not familiar with the rule concerning (لصـولـا).

Question 5

The majority of candidates answered all sections correctly apart from 5(d). There were some excellent answers especially by those who read the passage carefully. Some candidates failed to answer 5(b) and 5(e).

السؤال رقم ٥

أجب عن الأسئلة التالية باللغة العربية حسب ما جاء في النص.
استخدم عباراتك الشخصية بقدر الإمكان.
(a) ما معنى كلمة بيمارستان ومن أي لغة أُخذت؟

(2)

كلمة بيمارستان تعني دار المرضى وأُخذت من اللغة الفارسية

(b) ما أهم ما اشتهر به بيمارستان النوري في القرن الثاني عشر؟ (أذكر اثنين).

(2)

١. اشتهر كمركز لدراسة الطب
٢. وكان واحداً من ثلاث مستشفيات موجودة في دمشق

(c) اذكر اثنين من الأشياء التي يمكن أن تشاهداها الآن في متحف بيمارستان النوري.

(2)

١. الحيوانات المصنفة
٢. قاعات تحتوي على نماذج لوصفات الطب العربي لأشهر العلماء العرب

(d) ما العناية التي كان يتلقاها المريض من البيمارستان؟ (أذكر نوعين).

(2)

١. كانت وسائل الراحة وطرق العلاج والأطعمة التي تقدم للمريض تشبه القصور الملكية
٢. وكان يعطى المريض (نوملاً) نفوداً ساعة أثناء فترة نقاهته

(e) ما فوائد البيمارستان الآن؟ اذكر فائدتين.

(2)

١. أول فائدة الروية نموذج في هندسة المعمل السلوجوتي، ثاني فائدة هي التعرف على ما قدمه علماء الطب العرب في عصرهم الذهبي



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is a very clear and neat answer, scoring full marks for all parts of the question and also scoring full marks for language quality.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Always read the whole the text well, to understand it before you answer the questions. Also read all the questions first, to avoid giving answers and then find that you need them for later questions.

Question 6

Question 6 was generally answered well by most students. However, in some cases some of them struggled to find the relevant vocabulary. In some cases the title was misunderstood and the safe was translated to Amina (an Arabic girl's name). Candidates did not know how to translate lane: some used routes and others used directions and/or turn. 90 degrees changed to passengers with a weight of 90 kilograms. Many used side mirror and not side mirrors. Only a few managed to translate the world (أصوصخ) the rest overlooked it or glossed over it.

النص الرابع

السؤال رقم ٦

ترجم القطعة التالية إلى اللغة الإنجليزية. احرص على أن تكون ترجمتك واضحة.

إرشادات لرحلة آمنة

لتستمتع برحلة آمنة، عليك اتباع إرشادات المرور. لا تتجاوز السرعة المحددة في كل الأوقات. قف عند إشارة المرور عندما يكون الضوء أحمر وأيضاً عند عبور المشاة. انتبه لما يكتب على اللوحات في طريق المرور السريع.

تجنب الحوادث عند تغيير المسار، ضع المرايا الجانبية للسيارة على زاوية ٩٠ درجة. انظر في المرآة قبل تغيير المسار. لا تتخط المركبات الأخرى حتى تتأكد من خلو الطريق من المركبات.

لا تستعمل الهاتف النقال ولا تشغل بالتحديث مع أصدقائك أثناء قيادة السيارة. كل هذا يضمن لك رحلة آمنة.

Rules / Advice for a safe trip

In order for you to enjoy a safe trip, you must follow the rules of the road (the Highway Code). Do not exceed the specified speed (the speed limit) at any time. Stop at the traffic lights when the light is red, and also when pedestrians are crossing. Pay attention to what is written on the signs on the motorway. As a resident when changing lanes, put the car's mirror at a 90° (large) angle. Look in the mirror before changing lanes. Do not overtake other vehicles until you have been told (made sure) that the road is empty of vehicles. Do not use a mobile phone and do not become distracted with talking to your friends while driving the car. All of this (these rules) will ensure a safe journey for you.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This is an excellent translation, with excellent transfer of meaning, showing an awareness of nuance and idiom, and very good language.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Read the whole text (including the title) first. Translate full sentences not word by word. Avoid literal translation and paraphrasing.

Note language differences; for example; lots of (and) in Arabic. Recognize proper nouns: you transliterate, not translate them.

Read your translation to see if it makes sense in English.

Question 7

Question 7 was a very interesting question, and many students answered very well. Its touched on contemporary topics (i.e. marriage via the internet) and their clash with traditional Arab culture, presenting an interesting debate for the students.

Overall, Question 7 brought plenty of constructive opinions about the threats and dangers of using the internet without monitoring. Students enjoyed the topic and wrote about interesting ideas and personal experiences. A good number of essays were excellent and the students understood exactly the requirements of the task. However, many students thought that it applied to women and not both sexes hence they focused on reasons which apply to women. Some analysed the effect of the internet on society rather than on marriage via the internet. A very strong cultural/religious influence was reflected in their answers.

النص الخامس

الزواج عن طريق الإنترنت

بالرغم من سهولة الاختلاط بين الجنسين وإتاحة فرص اللقاء في أماكن العمل والدراسة تجد إعلانات الزواج على صفحات الإنترنت حتى من فئات المتعلمين مثل:

(فتاة عربية، في الثلاثين من العمر، على قدر من الجمال، حاصلة على ماجستير في الاقتصاد وتعمل بمؤسسة كبيرة، ترغب في الارتباط بشاب عربي متعلم، يقدر الحياة الزوجية).

السؤال رقم ٧

أكتب مقالاً باللغة العربية (١٨٠-٢٠٠ كلمة) حول هذا الموضوع.

يجب أن يشمل المقال النقاط التالية:

١. العزوبة والعنوسة؟ ثلوث.
٢. ارتفاع تكاليف الزواج
٣. أسباب هذه الظاهرة في رأيك؟
٤. الرضا عن الزواج

• ما أسباب هذه الظاهرة في رأيك؟

• ما المشاكل أو الصعوبات التي يمكن أن تحدث؟

• كيف يمكن التغلب عليها؟

الزواج عن طريق الإنترنت.

أتاح لنا الإنترنت، بكل زخاهاياته وتسهيلاتة، فرص لنشر الإعلانات. ولم يُوجد نطاق محدد أو أنواع محددة للإعلانات، بل امتدت لتشمل إعلانات للبحث عن زوج أو زوجة.

(بداية هذه) بدأت هذه الظاهرة في الجرائد والمجلات، ثم بدأ الناس باستعمال
الانترنت لكونه أسرع وأرضى ~~والأفضل~~ إقبال الناس صار عليه أكثر. نشأت
مواقع متخصصة لهذا النوع من الإعلانات، طلبها بعد الشخص ~~(بإيجاد الوسيلة)~~
بإيجاد ~~(الوسيلة)~~ الشريك المناسب ~~(للمرء)~~ له.

كثيرة هي العوامل التي دفعت هذه الظاهرة إلى الانتشار منها ارتفاع
~~(نسبة)~~ نسب العزوبية والعنوسة، فقد لا يجد الشاب فتاةً في عائلته أو في نطاق
عمله أو دراسته تتمتع بالصفات التي يريدونها في شريكة حياته. أما بالنسبة إلى
الفتاة، من يتقدم لخطبتها قد لا ~~(يتمتع)~~ بحمل صورة فارس الأحلام لديها، لذلك ترفضه، أو
لا يتقدم أحد على الإطلاق لذلك تبدأ مخاوف العنوسة تراودها وتنشر معلوماتها
الشخصية على الانترنت.

سبب آخر لنشر إعلانات الزواج هو ارتفاع العمر وارتفاع تكاليف الزواج في
منطقة الشاب، لذا يتأمل إيجاد زوجة من منطقة أخرى الزواج بها ~~(سيكلفه أقل)~~
~~(سيفكده أقل)~~ كما أنَّ الإطلاق ياهم في كثرة إعلانات الزواج.

من المشاكل التي يمكن أن تمت بسبب هذه الإعلانات، عدم موافقة الأهل على هذه الطريقة من التعرف على الزوج أو الزوجة، أو بعد التحدث ومع الشخص لفترة و التعلق به، يتفاجئ أن ليست كل المعلومات الموجودة على الانترنت صحيحة، وفي النهاية كما يتناسب الشخص مع بعضهم بعضهم البعض.

يمكن التغلب على هذه المشاكل بمهارة الأهل دائماً و قضاء فترة زمنية كافية للتعرف على الشخص قبل الارتباط به، والتأكد بأن الموقع المستخدم لنشر الإعلانات كما يوفر معلومات شخصية جداً للناس، وله قوانين جيدة لمنع الهاكرز.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This is an excellent answer. The task is understood and the response is wholly relevant, convincing and well developed, with excellent language quality. The candidate has used appropriate language, correct grammar and spelling, gaining 24 marks for content and 16 for language quality.



ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Read the stimulus and understand it.
Then read the points and follow them.
Find how you could expand the points.
See what else is relevant.
Your introduction should not be long, you only have 200 words.
Finish with a good conclusion. Check your answer at the end. Remember that for repeated spelling mistakes you will be penalized once, but if you vary the spelling you will be penalised every time it is wrong.

Paper Summary

There were some excellent performances this year. This shows that teachers are getting more familiar with the exam requirements and students are practising on past papers. Language quality seemed to be improving overall this year, though there were some candidates who made mistakes at the basic level.

To improve performance:

- All candidates are advised to familiarize themselves with rubric and marking principles and criteria.
- Candidates should have basic grammatical knowledge. Those who are aiming for high grades should have a good knowledge of AS grammar and structures. This is essential for all questions especially Q5 & Q7.
- Candidates and teachers are strongly advised to read examiner's reports, practice past papers and use mark schemes.
- For all reading questions (1, 2, 4 and 5) candidates should read the text carefully before answering questions. They are also advised to read all the questions before starting to answer.
- In Q4 note that words to fill the gaps are from the box given not from candidates' own vocabulary. Candidates need to apply their knowledge of grammar to fill the gaps e.g.; see if the gap requires a verb, noun, plural singular etc.
- For Q7 candidates should read the question carefully, understand it then make sure they have covered all bullet points. To achieve high grades candidates should present their own views supported by examples and sound argument.
- The time allowed for this paper is enough to answer and to check the answers. Candidates are advised to check their answers.
- Reading stories, newspapers magazines is the best way to improve language quality. It gives vocabulary and expressions and improves spelling and grammar.

Grade Boundaries

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