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FOREWORD

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.**

PORTUGUESE

GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Paper 8664/02 Reading and Writing
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General comments

Most candidates coped well with this Paper.

Many candidates did not write legibly and the presentation of their work did not make it easy to read their answers. Some candidates left no space for the Examiner, no space between one answer and the next and they wrote on practically every available space. Some Centres did not provide appropriate or sufficient paper for their candidates to write presentable answers. Some candidates did not present their work in the order that their answers were written. Candidates are expected to make an effort to submit work that is immediately legible and well presented.

Many candidates were unsure of various aspects of grammar, including spelling (even of words borrowed from the texts), tenses, punctuation, etc.

Comments on specific questions

Section 1

Question 1

Most candidates answered most parts correctly.

(a) The most common wrong answer was *definia*.

There was no consistently wrong answer for the other parts.

Question 2

Most candidates answered most parts correctly, but very few answered all parts correctly. Sometimes candidates added their own words to the ones given in brackets and/or did not write the complete sentences or did not use the words in brackets.

(a) Examples of wrong answers: *Antigamente não corrião perigos difusos; Antigamente não corriam perigos.*

(b) Many candidates were unable to cope with this question, as in: *sem que exista a mesma tonalidade; sem que tereriam a mesma tonalidade; sempre que tinham varias tonalidades; sem que terem várias tonalidades; sem que deixe de haver varias tonalidades; sem que haja cores distintas; sem que as tonalidades; sem que váriem.*

A few candidates did not attempt to answer.

(c) Examples of wrong answers: *Todos nos podemos ser bem sucedidos; todos podem suceder; todos nós pomos suceder.*

(d) A few candidates did not attempt to answer and there were many wrong answers, as in: *no futuro o contacto com as drogas for mais fácil; no futuro facilitou-lhe-ia...; no futuro foi mais fácil...; no futuro facilitara-lhe...*

- (e) There were a few blanks and many wrong answers, as in: *se bem que continua presente; se continue presente; embora já tenha passado, o perigo ainda se mantém; embora se mantenha; se continua-se; se emborem continuar presente.*

Question 3

Most candidates answered most parts well but usually they missed one or more details. Many simply copied word for word from the text, often with spelling mistakes.

Section 2

Question 4

Most candidates answered most parts well, but many copied word for word from the text, often with spelling mistakes. Where more than one detail was required, candidates did not write full answers.

Question 5

Candidates had to write a total of 140 words for parts (a) and (b) and not 140 words for each part. Many candidates ignored the instruction and wrote well in excess of the required number of words. No credit is given for words written in excess and therefore many candidates did not gain the marks allocated for part (b). Some candidates did not indicate the part of the question they were answering.

Answers had to reflect what had been read in the two texts. Although there were some good answers, many candidates did not ensure they followed all instructions and their answers were poor in many aspects, as in:

Nos dias de hoje um mundo está difícil, as pessoas trabalham mais e a economia nunca está estável, e por isso as pessoas têm de trabalhar mais e dedicação menos tempo aos filhos. Estes que ficam em casa com a empregada...

and

Os jovens ficam muito indecisos com a aproximação do adultério que consiste na responsabilidade do futuro...

Paper 8664/04

Texts

General comments

As last year, the majority of candidates were able to answer the questions in this Paper in a satisfactory way. They answered the passage questions well and wrote well-balanced and well-planned essays. They were well prepared and well taught and this was reflected in their answers. Most questions were attempted.

However, some candidates were not well prepared for this examination. They had not read their texts and they did not know how to analyse a passage or how to write an essay. If they had any knowledge about a book they struggled to convey it. They sometimes just told the story, and not always accurately, without any reference to the questions asked. As last year, a few candidates just copied passages from the books they were allowed to take into the examination room. Some of the candidates did not read the instructions and thus failed to answer the appropriate questions.

Nevertheless, as last year, most candidates managed to express themselves in accurate language and to manipulate the material necessary to answer the questions well.