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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.**

URDU

GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Paper 8674/04

Texts

General comments

The majority of candidates performed reasonably well. Some candidates produced work of a high standard. These candidates, who appeared to be well prepared, showed that they had read the set texts thoroughly, understood them in depth and had considered the issues that the texts raised. They were able to apply their understanding and present a discussion relating directly to the question being asked. Some candidates however, showed little knowledge and understanding of the set texts. These candidates had difficulty putting across essential information and ideas and showed a lack of analysis technique. In some cases it was clear that some candidates had not read the set texts themselves and were relying on pre-learnt material about the text that was produced, but which bore no relevance to the specific question being asked. Marks cannot be given for material that is irrelevant to the question.

Some scripts were very difficult to read because of poor presentation by the candidates, and in some cases hand writing was illegible. Some candidates crammed their answers into a very small space, then crossed the answers out and made scribbled corrections, making it very difficult to get a clear picture of their writing. Many candidates greatly exceeded the recommended word limit. These lengthy responses often included much material that was irrelevant and candidates' writing tended to deteriorate in terms of both quality of content and language. Candidates should be given practice in applying their understanding to the specific requirements of the question, and in bringing a focus to their answer.

Some answers relied too much on narrative and memorized oddments. Candidates are required to discuss evaluations of the texts and be able to support their ideas and responses with close reference to the texts. Some candidates gave too much emphasis to the introduction rather than on the tasks to be accomplished according to the question.