

IGCSE Afrikaans as a Second Language (0548)

Are there any syllabus changes for 2003?

Yes. As of 2003, Centres will no longer receive notes on how to conduct the oral tests in a separate despatch. All notes on conducting the oral tests are included in the new syllabus for 2003 (pp. 14-18) as is a master copy of the working mark sheet. Centres will be required to photo copy this master copy for each candidate.

What resources are available to support this syllabus?

The following resources are available from CIE Publications:

- Past Papers.
- Subject reports. Booklets containing reports written on the work of certain IGCSE examinations (November 1999 and November 2000 are available)

Does the oral communication paper (Paper 5) contribute to the assessment of the final, overall grade?

No, but candidates **must**, in addition to the papers which do contribute to the assessment of the final grade, offer Paper 5, which will be certified separately by grades 1 (high) – 5 (low).

Are students allowed to take dictionaries into the examination room?

No. Dictionaries are not permitted.

What is the period for conducting the Speaking tests?

The window for conducting the Speaking Tests is usually from mid-September until the end of October, but please **always** consult the final IGCSE timetable for the relevant year and session.

For IGCSE Speaking tests, what is the deadline for submitting cassettes and working mark sheets to the moderator?

Once your Centre has completed its tests, you should despatch mark sheets and cassettes for moderation as soon as possible. Please do not wait until the end of the examination period before sending these items.

Must I be accredited by CIE before conducting and assessing the IGCSE Afrikaans as a Second Language Speaking test?

Accreditation from CIE is not required in order to conduct the IGCSE Speaking test.

Who marks the Speaking tests?

It is the responsibility of the person conducting the Speaking tests to mark them. The tests should be marked as they are being conducted. Examiners should mark the 'live' candidate and not a recording.

How should I go about choosing someone to conduct and assess the Speaking tests at my centre?

Ideally, a teacher at the school should conduct and assess the Speaking tests. Where this is not possible and it is necessary to look for someone outside the school, you should look for someone who is fluent in the language, preferably with teaching experience and with experience of conducting other oral examinations. It is important that the person appointed takes the time to familiarise him/herself with the requirements of the examination before conducting and assessing any 'live' Speaking tests. The examination syllabus contains all the information the examiner will need and should be sent to him/her to read before the day of the examination. If it is not possible to send the syllabus to the examiner beforehand, then, on the day of the examination, you should arrange for him/her to arrive at

the Centre 1-2 hours before conducting and assessing the first Speaking test, in order that they can read through the instructions contained in the syllabus.

What happens to my (Centre's) Speaking marks when they arrive at the moderator?

The Moderator listens to your sample and looks at the marks that you have awarded to ensure that they are in line with the international standard. If your marks are in line, then they will not be changed. If they are not, then an adjustment will be made to bring them into line, eg the marks will be raised if you have marked your candidates severely, or lowered if you have been too generous. A report on your conduct and assessment of the Speaking tests will be sent to your Centre with the results.