

# Examiners' Report/ Principal Examiner Feedback

## Summer 2010

IGCSE

### IGCSE Arabic (4308) Paper 2

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## Paper 2

### General Comments

The candidates in this paper were asked to choose two topics out of six, and to write around 300 words about each of them. The maximum mark for each was 30. The 30 marks were awarded to content and communication (18 marks), language application (6 marks) and accuracy of writing (6 marks).

The questions were set to cover a variety of topics, and writing styles. Generally, candidates' responses were accurate and the tasks were fairly understood. A popular topic among candidates was question 4 which required candidates to write about the environment in relation to health, and how the protection of the environment can be considered as the protection of mind and health. A considerable number of candidates rushed into writing about the environment with little or no reference to its effect on health, and hence could not score well in this question.

Question 3 proved just as popular as question 4. Candidates were required to write a conversation with a friend convincing him/her to stop smoking. Most of the candidates who attempted this question demonstrated good ability and understanding, and were able to secure high marks. A small number of candidates who chose this question were able to write the acceptable number of words but they gave very little material relevant to the task, and therefore did not score as well as other candidates who concentrated more on the task itself.

A good number of candidates attempted question 1 and most were successful in their response to the required task, with the exception of the very few who lost marks because they misunderstood the task. Instead of describing their thoughts and feeling at the beginning of the autumn term, they either wrote about their feelings as they were headings towards the summer holiday, or they restricted themselves to the description of their schools, with little or no illustration of their feelings as required by the question.

Question 2 required candidates to choose an item which has had a great effect on them from their personal diary which they would like to tell everyone about. A reasonable number of candidates tried this question, but the highest marks were awarded to those who referred to their diaries, picked the item they wished to select, gave details of what happened with reference to time and place and showed why they valued it to be the one which is worth telling other people about. A very small number of candidates misunderstood the task, and wrote a story or a letter to a friend with no reference to their diary and their feelings, and hence were not able to score well here.

Questions 5 and 6 were not as popular as the other four questions, but most of the candidates who responded to them were able to write satisfactorily and secure good marks.

# Grade Boundaries

Overall Mark boundaries

Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
100	75	68	61	55	42	30	18	6

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