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FIRST LANGUAGE GERMAN

<p>Paper 0505/02 Reading and Directed Writing</p>

General comments

A very small number of candidates sat this Paper. Success depended partly on the ability to understand the texts and write in good German, but partly also on the ability to read the question carefully in order to work out what type of response was required. The majority of candidates showed through their responses that they had understood both the texts and the questions.

The standard of work ranged from excellent to satisfactory; many candidates coped well with **Question 1** and were able to write a good speech in answer to **Question 2**. One candidate omitted to answer **Question 2** and therefore lost valuable marks. Most candidates were able to use an appropriate register for **Question 3**.

Grammar and spelling were much improved on last year.

Comments on specific questions

Erster Teil

Question 1

Most candidates found both texts accessible and there were only very few misunderstandings. On the whole, the quality of summaries was good. Better candidates were aware of the correct register and understood that colloquialisms and informal language should be avoided in summaries, unless quoted from the text. One candidate did not summarise the texts, but rather wrote about them.

Question 2

On the whole, the answers to this question were good. A number of candidates produced well structured speeches in which they set out to argue why it was good for children to have pets while also discussing the difficulties which could arise with having pets. All candidates understood the task and the register was, on the whole, appropriate.

Zweiter Teil

Question 3

On the whole, this question produced good answers. Most candidates were aware of the structure of a formal letter. The best letters described the *Projekt* and argued why it should be introduced into their own schools.

<p>Paper 0505/03 Continuous Writing</p>

General comments

There were very few candidates this session and their performance ranged from excellent to poor. On the whole, spelling and grammar were not as accurate as in previous years.

Comments on specific questions

Only three topics out of the nine available were chosen.

Question 3

The only candidate to choose this topic produced German of a high standard and demonstrated a sophisticated development of ideas by producing a confident, well structured essay.

Question 5

Unfortunately, the few candidates who chose this topic appeared not to have grasped the meaning of the title and showed only very basic linguistic skill. Errors in spelling and grammar included *anstad* instead of *anstatt*, *immoment* instead of *im Moment*, *bestätt* instead of *besteht*, *tecknologie* instead of *Technologie* and confusion between the use of *das* and *dass*.

Question 7

Candidates demonstrated a good command of German although there were some basic linguistic mistakes, such as *Här* instead of *Heer*, *lass* instead of *las*, *bad* instead of *bat*, as well as errors in punctuation.