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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.**

ARABIC

GCE Ordinary Level

Paper 3180/01
Composition

General comments

The majority of candidates performed well.

Recommendations

- Candidates should be more fully aware of the Arabic grammatical rules and gender.
- Candidates should choose topics they feel confident about.
- Candidates should pay more attention to reading and writing skills to attain a higher level of proficiency.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

- (a) Candidates who chose this topic described familiar places in their country well.
- (b) This was the most popular topic for candidates as it was a familiar event in their country. Also they were familiar and well trained in letter-writing technique. Some candidates were not able to express themselves coherently and showed that for some candidates more practice is needed in letter writing.
- (c) Most candidates who chose this form managed to write a dialogue quite well. Some candidates would benefit from more practice of this form of writing.

Section B

- (a) Candidates answering this question wrote about personal and imaginary situations relating to the topic.
- (b) Some candidates narrated their own experiences in countries they had been to before and wished to revisit. Others wrote about countries that they had read or heard about and that they wished to visit.
- (c) The few candidates who chose this topic tried to write about their first school with a rather limited vocabulary.
- (d) Candidates who chose this topic narrated what had happened to them in an interesting style that read well and made sense, and they gain good marks for their efforts.

General comments

Overall, the standard of candidates' answers was slightly higher compared to the previous year.

Recommendations

- Candidates would benefit from paying more attention to spelling rules, punctuation marks, and hand-writing.
- Candidates would benefit from further practice in translation by studying model translated passages in order to improve their standard.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

Generally, this passage was well translated. However, two words caused problems for some candidates. The word '*forest*' was wrongly translated into '*jungle*', '*zoo*' and '*florist*'. The word '*wolves*', was translated into '*foxes*', '*lions*', '*hyenas*', '*bears*', '*flies*' and '*insects*'.

Question 2

Most candidates managed to translate this passage adequately and correctly. Candidates are advised not to use the word *and* between English sentences so often as this conjunction is used differently from the equivalent word in Arabic.

Section B

Nearly all candidates were able to answer all the questions confidently, and obtained full marks.