

Edexcel International  
London Examinations  
GCE Ordinary Level

## Mark Scheme with Examiner's Report

# London Examinations Ordinary Level GCE in Bengali (7606)

May/June 2001

Edexcel is one of the leading examining and awarding bodies in the UK and throughout the world. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers.

Through a network of UK and overseas offices, Edexcel International centres receive the support they need to help them deliver their education and training programmes to learners.

For further information please call our International Customer Relations Unit:

Tel +44 20 7758 5656

Fax +44 20 7758 5959

[International@edexcel.org.uk](mailto:International@edexcel.org.uk)

[www.edexcel.org.uk/international](http://www.edexcel.org.uk/international)

October 2001

Order Code UO 011300

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Edexcel

Mark Scheme and Chief Examiner's Report  
May/June 2001

**BENGALI 7606**

---

**Mark Scheme**

Page 1 of 7

**Chief Examiner's Report**

Page 6 of 7

**Grade Boundaries**

Page 7 of 7



## BENGALI 7606, MARK SCHEME

---

### Question 1 Translation from Bengali into English

Total marks: 25

Distribution of marks:	Communication in English	- 15 marks
	Quality of Language	- 10 marks

#### Communication - 15 marks

- 0 No language worthy of credit.
- 1-3 Very limited language. Use of inappropriate vocabulary and structures that greatly restricts communication. Substantial degree of incoherence or irrelevance. Time indications, where required by the task, are absent or unreliable. Except for isolated lexical items, would not be generally comprehensible to a reader.
- 4-6 Vocabulary and structures only just adequate, possibly some attempts for meaningful communication. Some time indication where required, but little or no evidence of coherence appropriate to the task. Just about comprehensible overall, with moments of ambiguity. Is not easy reading.
- 7-9 Vocabulary and structures although limited are generally adequate. Some appropriate use of time indication. Beginning to link sentences in order to display some coherence in writing. Comprehensible overall. Ambiguous when more complex structures attempted.
- 10-12 A coherent piece of writing, though with some lapses. Time indications, where needed. Fairly clear, and reasonable attempts at linking the piece into a whole. Vocabulary and structures generally adequate to the task. Evidence of successfully handling and dealing with complex structures appropriate to the task.
- 13-15 Vocabulary and structures are comfortably equal to the task. The time sequence is clear, and the most translated sentences are coherently linked. Pleasant to read.

#### Quality of Language - 10 marks

- 0 No language worthy of credit.
- 1-2 Shows very little understanding of language structures, formation and use of tenses. Gender and spelling extremely weak. There may be the occasional almost-correct phrase or short sentence, but this will usually be pre-learned, stereotyped idiom.
- 3-4 Can cope with simple structures and short sentences. These are syntactically more or less correct. Some evidence of correct formation and use of tenses, though there are frequent lapses. Occasional correct use of standard idiom; possibly some attempt at enhancement of fact with adjectives, and/or adverbial phrases, though these are likely to be only partially successful.

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 5-6  | Correct syntax when using simple, short phrases. For longer sentences syntax not always correct. Fairly correct use of standard idiom. Attempts enhancement of fact with adjectives and/or adverbial phrases with some success. About half of what is written should be free of major errors.  |
| 7-8  | Some attempts to vary sentences appropriate to complex structures such as subordinate clauses, pronouns, adverbial or other phrases, and a range of verb forms and tense though more difficult structures are unlikely to be wholly successful. Evidence of a range of vocabulary and structures appropriate to narrative, description, opinion and logical argument, as the task requires. High level of accuracy, alternatively, wide range of vocabulary, idiom and syntax compensates for slightly lower accuracy level. |
| 9-10 | Free of all but minor errors. Variety of vocabulary, idiom and structure used appropriately for the given passage and to avoid repetition. Confident use of pronouns, negatives and other elements, where suited to the task. Very pleasant to read, though not necessarily faultless.   |

### Question 2      Translation from English into Bengali

Total marks: 25

Distribution of marks:      Communication in Bengali - 10 marks  
Quality of Language - 15 marks

**Communication - 10 marks**

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 0    | No language worthy of credit.   |
| 1-2  | Very limited language. Use of inappropriate vocabulary and structures greatly restricts communication. Substantial degree of incoherence and irrelevance. Time indications, where required by the task, are absent or unreliable. Except for isolated lexical items, would not be generally comprehensible to a reader. |
| 3-4  | Vocabulary and structures only just adequate, possibly some attempts for meaning communication. Some time indication where required, but little or no evidence of coherence appropriate to the task. Just about comprehensible overall, with moments of ambiguity. Is not easy reading.                                 |
| 5-6  | Vocabulary and structures although limited are generally adequate. Some appropriate use of time indication. Beginning to link sentences in order to display some coherence in writing. Comprehensible overall. Ambiguous when more complex structures attempted.  |
| 7-8  | A coherent piece of writing, though with some lapses. Time indications, where needed. Fairly clear, and reasonable attempts at linking the piece into a whole. Vocabulary and structures generally adequate to the task. Evidence of successfully handling and dealing with complex structures appropriate to the task. |
| 9-10 | Vocabulary and structures are comfortably equal to the task. The time sequence is clear and the most translated sentences are coherently linked. Pleasant to read.  |

## Quality of Language - 15 marks

- 0 No language worthy of credit.
- 1-3 Shows very little understanding of language structures, formation and use of tenses. Gender and spelling extremely weak. There may be the occasional almost-correct phrase or short sentence, but this will usually be pre-learned, stereotyped idiom.
- 4-6 Can cope with simple structures and short sentences. These are syntactically more or less correct. Some evidence of correct formation and use of tenses, though there are frequent lapses. Occasional correct use of standard idiom; possibly some attempt at enhancement of fact with adjectives, and/or adverbial phrases, though these are likely to be only partially successful.
- 7-9 Correct syntax when using simple, short phrases. For longer sentences syntax not always correct. Fairly correct use of standard idiom. Attempts enhancement of fact with adjective and/or adverbial phrases with some success. About half of what is written should be free of major errors.
- 10-12 Some attempts to vary sentences appropriate to complex structures such as subordinate clauses, pronouns, adverbial or other phrases, and a range of verb forms and tenses though more difficult structures are unlikely to be wholly successful. Evidence of a range of vocabulary and structures appropriate to narrative, description, opinion and logical argument, as the task requires. High level of accuracy, alternatively, wide range of vocabulary, idiom and syntax compensates for slightly lower accuracy level.
- 13-15 Free of all but minor errors. Variety of vocabulary, idiom and structures used appropriately for the given passage and to avoid repetition. Confident use of pronouns, negatives and other elements, where suited to the task. Very pleasant to read, though not necessarily faultless.
- 

## Question 3 Translation of short sentences from English into Bengali

Total marks: 20

Five sentences, each worth 4 marks.

Distribution of marks:	Communication in Bengali	- 2 marks
	Quality of Language	- 2 marks

## Communication - 2 marks

- 0 No language worthy of credit.
- 1 At least half the sentence is correctly communicated in the target language.
- 2 Fully communicated in the target language with some ambiguity in the expression.

### **Quality of Language - 2 marks**

- 0 No language worthy of credit.
  - 1 Inappropriate tenses. About half the numbers of words used in the sentence are correctly spelt.
  - 2 Use of correct tense and vocabulary in the sentence.
- 

### **Question 4                      Short essay/letter writing (250 words)**

Total marks: 30

Distribution of marks:	Content and Communication	- 15 marks
	Quality of Language	- 15 marks

### **Content and Communication - 15 marks**

- 0 No language worthy of credit.
- 1-3 Very limited language. Use of inappropriate vocabulary and structures that greatly restricts communication. Substantial degree of incoherence or irrelevance. Time indications, where required by the task, are absent or unreliable. Except for isolated lexical items, would not be generally comprehensible to a reader.
- 4-6 Vocabulary and structures only just adequate: possibly some attempts for meaningful communication. Some time indication where required, but little or no evidence of coherence appropriate to the task. Just about comprehensible overall, with moments of ambiguity. Is not easy reading.
- 7-9 Vocabulary and structures although limited are generally adequate. Some appropriate use of time indication. Beginning to link sentences in order to display some coherence in writing. Comprehensible overall. Ambiguous when more complex structures attempted.
- 10-12 A coherent piece of writing, though with some lapses. Time indications, where needed. Fairly clear, and reasonable attempts at linking the piece into a whole. Vocabulary and structures generally adequate to the task. Evidence of successfully handling and dealing with complex structures appropriate to the task.
- 13-15 Vocabulary and structures are comfortably equal to the task. The time sequence is clear, and the most translated sentences are coherently linked. Pleasant to read.



## **Quality of Language - 15 marks**

- 0 No language worthy of credit.
- 1-3 Shows very little understanding of language structures, formation and use of tenses. Gender and spelling extremely weak. There may be the occasional almost-correct phrase or short sentence, but this will usually be pre-learned, stereotyped idiom.
- 4-6 Can cope with simple structures and short sentences. These are syntactically more or less correct. Some evidence of correct formation and use of tenses, though there are frequent lapses. Occasional correct use of standard idiom; possibly some attempt at enhancement of fact with adjectives, and/or adverbial phrases, though these are likely to be only partially successful.
- 7-9 Correct syntax when using simple, short phrases. For longer sentences syntax not always correct. Fairly correct use of standard idiom. Attempts enhancement of fact with adjective and/or adverbial phrases with some success. About half of what is written should be free of major errors.
- 10-12 Some attempts to vary sentences appropriate to complex structures such as subordinate clauses, pronouns, adverbial or other phrases, and a range of verb forms and tenses though more difficult structures are unlikely to be wholly successful. Evidence of a range of vocabulary and structures appropriate to narrative, description, opinion and logical argument, as the task requires. High level of accuracy, alternatively, wide range of vocabulary, idiom and syntax compensates for slightly lower accuracy level.
- 13-15 Free of all but minor errors. Variety of vocabulary, idiom and structures used appropriately for the given passage and to avoid repetition. Confident use of pronouns, negatives and other elements, where suited to the task. Very pleasant to read, though not necessarily faultless.
-

## BENGALI 7606, CHIEF EXAMINER'S REPORT

---

### General Comments

In May 2001, more than 850 candidates were entered for the GCE 'O' Level Bengali examination, mostly from existing centres. The entry was up noticeably on last year by about 40%. The cumulative percentage of candidates gaining A-C grades was about 98%, which is slightly higher than it was for the May 2000 examination. The mean mark across the range of candidates was about 70%.

The paper was accessible across the ability range, with differentiated text materials and relevant vocabulary. Candidates' work was assessed using a criteria referenced mark scheme. As a matter of principle, the marking was done globally without any prescriptive demands, especially on weaker candidates.

Most candidates seemed to have good literacy levels in both English and Bengali, and only a very small number of candidates were unable to cope with the demands on English in this paper.

---

### Question 1

A large majority of candidates were able to translate the Bengali passage into English with only a few spelling mistakes and with the use of correct grammatical structures. Most of these candidates scored good marks in this question. The remainder of the candidates attempted to communicate the Bengali text on the topic of tiger hunting in India in English with some success. However, the weaker candidates found some of the Bengali words and phrases, for example, বিরত, ওল্টানো, ঝুঁকি, নির্মম, বিলুপ্তির পথে, মশাচা, গাছের গুঁড়িতে, বাছুর, কলা-কৌশলের etc. difficult to translate.

---

### Question 2

The translation of the passage from English to Bengali was generally well done. There were few dialectical errors in the candidates' writing. Though most candidates could write a continuous piece of Bengali text on the floods, they missed out a number of phrases and words in the actual translation task. However, the Bengali sentences were blended in such a way that these mistakes were practically unnoticeable. A small number of candidates struggled to translate words and phrases such as: *unusable, to get past, puddles, mound, unreal, drenched, soggy, relentless, obstacle course* etc.

Overall, the candidates coped well with the English passage and translated it into Bengali with good literacy skills in both languages.

### Question 3

- (a) Most of the candidates translated this sentence into Bengali correctly.
  - (b) Although a good number of candidates coped well with this sentence, the word 'nervous' was incorrectly translated by many candidates.
  - (c) The words 'entertained' and 'informed' proved challenging for some candidates.
  - (d) A good proportion of candidates found the whole sentence difficult to translate, especially the phrase 'you're off somewhere' into English.
  - (e) Most candidates were able to translate this sentence into Bengali successfully.
- 

### Question 4

The essay option was the most popular alternative out of the two. It also seemed to be the natural choice for the stronger candidates. Although the essay on 'your favourite sport' was only popular among the male candidates, while the essay on 'an old photograph' was the popular choice for most of the candidates – male or female. Some of the essays on this topic vividly described emotions, and happy as well as sad memories. The other two essay titles were mostly written in a descriptive fashion and at times they were quite bland and monotonous. Almost all candidates followed the guidance on the number of words to be written on the essay titles.

As an alternative to one of the essays, a good number of candidates attempted the letter. The stronger candidates coherently linked their points using a variety of vocabulary, idioms and structures. Habitually, some of the candidates gave emphasis on 'planning' rather than the 'holiday experience' and so scored fewer marks on the communication criteria.

Overall, the whole cohort performed well in this examination. Generally the standards of literacy skills in both English and Bengali were found to be quite impressive in the candidates' work. Evidently, the candidates were taught both languages quite well at this level, and they were obviously trained for the assessment tasks according to the syllabus.

---

## **BENGALI 7606, GRADE BOUNDARIES**

---

Grade	A	B	C	D	E
Lowest mark for award of grade	69	58	47	42	36

**Note:** Grade boundaries may vary from year to year and from subject to subject, depending on the demands of the question paper.

---





Edexcel Publications, Adamsway, Mansfield, Notts, NG18 4LN, UK

Tel + 44 1623 450 781

Fax + 44 1623 450 481

Email: [intpublications@linneydirect.com](mailto:intpublications@linneydirect.com)

Order Code: UO 011300

For more information on Edexcel qualifications please contact us:

International Customer Relations Unit,

Stewart House, 32 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5DN, UK

Tel + 44 20 7758 5656

Fax + 44 20 7758 5959

[International@edexcel.org.uk](mailto:International@edexcel.org.uk)

[www.edexcel.org.uk/international](http://www.edexcel.org.uk/international)

Edexcel Foundation is a registered charity and a Company Limited  
By Guarantee Registered in England No. 1686164

