

GUJARATI

Paper 3199/01
Composition

General comments

The majority of candidates performed to a high standard. Very few candidates scored low marks.

Candidates who performed well wrote in a fluent manner using correct grammar, complex sentence structures and a wide range of vocabulary. Their ideas were interesting, often exciting and well presented. Many candidates utilised idioms and proverbs to make their language richer.

Nevertheless, there were errors of spelling and grammar in the writing of some candidates, although sentence construction and word order were generally accurate. Work was also mostly organised in paragraphs, as required. However, noun, verb, adjective and gender agreement could still be improved upon. While some candidates managed to write enough words, their essays lacked interest.

The rubric was followed correctly, with each candidate answering one question from each of the two sections.

Comments on specific questions

Section A – Letter, Report, Dialogue or Speech

Question 1

Very few candidates attempted this question. Although candidates were required to include all four points given, some did not develop each point equally or omitted one or two. In the case of some work there was a lack of a good introduction and/or conclusion.

Question 2

This question was very popular. All candidates presented their letter in a correct format. Most of them started with a good introduction and concluded well. The majority of candidates wrote about the need for a park, a computer room or a study room. A few did not write enough about the first bullet point.

Section B – Essay

Questions 3 and 4 were more popular than **Question 5**.

Question 3

Over a third of the candidates chose this essay. Some referred in detail to the decision taken by the school governors, as required. Others wrote a general essay about the advantages of exercise, which was not quite what they were asked to do. Others also wrote about the disadvantages, e.g. loss of learning time. Only a few candidates concluded their essay properly.

Question 4

This was quite a popular choice. Many essays were interesting with a degree of suspense. Most candidates identified the mysterious object as an alien spacecraft. They described the exterior and the interior of the spaceship and its alien passengers. Some wrote about a falling star.

Question 5

This essay was less popular than the other two. Candidates wrote about how advertisements could be good or bad and gave good examples in both cases. A small number of candidates did not understand the title correctly. They wrote about newspapers and television instead of the advertisements that appear in them. Some good candidates lost out on marks because of this. Candidates are reminded that they must read the task carefully before they plan and write their essays.

GUJARATI

Paper 3199/02

Language Use and Comprehension

General comments

The majority of the candidates performed very well. A small number of candidates did not do well as they appeared to be unfamiliar with the requirements of the syllabus. Candidates who performed well wrote answers in their own words in **Section C**.

Comments on specific questions

A1

Most candidates scored good marks. Some lost marks because of incorrect spelling.

A2

Most candidates scored well. Most incorrect answers generally occurred at **Question 2**.

A3

Most answers were communicated correctly but marks were often lost due to inaccurate spelling or grammar. Some candidates found it difficult to write the correct form of the verb in some of their answers.

A4

More candidates scored higher marks in this exercise than in the past years. Candidates seemed to understand the passage as a whole and appeared not to rush the exercise. There was little evidence of guesswork this year.

B5

Most candidates scored well. The last three questions caused some difficulty for less able candidates.

C6

The candidates who scored well answered in their own language and wrote answers that were to the point. Others copied too much detail from the text. The last two questions proved to be difficult for candidates of average ability. This may be because answers were to be derived from more than one paragraph in the passage. Some questions were left unanswered by a small number of candidates.

C7

As in the past, very few candidates scored full marks. It seemed that candidates knew the meaning of words but could not find an equivalent word or definition to express the meaning clearly in Gujarati.