

# GUJARATI

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Paper 3199/01  
Composition

## General comments

The overall performance was very pleasing and the majority of candidates performed to a high standard. Very few candidates scored low marks.

Those candidates who performed well wrote in a fluent and organised manner and provided good detail in orderly paragraphs. They were able to express their feelings, thoughts and ideas clearly, and used a wide range of vocabulary with confidence. Importantly, they were able to maintain relevance at all times. Use of high quality language, as expressed in a variety of tenses, structures, idioms and proverbs, was demonstrated in many pieces of work and this made the language richer.

Nevertheless, there were spelling and grammatical mistakes in the writing of most candidates, although sentence construction and word order were generally accurate. However, noun, verb and gender agreement could still be improved. A very few candidates used very basic repetitive structures and vocabulary in their writing.

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**

Few candidates attempted this question. A wedding was the most popular event described, and this was done with great enthusiasm. Although candidates were required to include all four points given, some did not develop each point equally. A small number of candidates wrote long introductions, giving lots of background information and subsequently failed to accomplish all tasks fully.

#### **Question 2**

This question was more popular. A variety of ideas were expressed to describe the start of the fire. Most of the candidates started with a good introduction and concluded well. A few candidates conflated tasks 2 and 3 and did not develop them fully enough to score full marks. Overall, candidates expressed their feelings well and wrote very imaginatively on the effect of the fire.

### **Section B – Essay**

**Question 5** was more popular than **Questions 3** and **4**

#### **Question 3**

Few candidates chose this essay. Some wrote in great detail about the advantages and disadvantages of the tourist industry in the country and fully justified their concluding views. They showed awareness of significant detail, which is essential in a discursive essay. Other essays, on the other hand, while sound and fairly well-structured, tended to be overlong, repetitive and not very well balanced.

**Question 4**

A small number of candidates chose this essay. Most essays were engaging, imaginative and well-sustained. Candidates wrote about incidents such as natural disasters or a family feud. A very few compositions were not fully relevant and not well thought through.

**Question 5**

Most candidates chose this essay. Many expressed their views on the subject in great detail and were able to give reasons and examples to justify their opinions and views. The best candidates were able to balance different points of view on the importance of appearance before reaching a solid and lucid conclusion. Most candidates used examples from the media and the world of fashion to substantiate their views.

# GUJARATI

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Paper 3199/02

Language Usage and Comprehension

## General comments

The majority of candidates performed well, while a small number of weaker candidates struggled with the exercises which tested their comprehension and productive skills, namely **B5, C6** and **C7**.

## Comments on specific questions

### **A1**

Most candidates scored high marks. Very few lost marks because of incorrect spelling.

### **A2**

Most candidates scored good marks.

### **A3**

Most answers were communicated correctly. However, marks were lost due to incorrect spelling or grammar. Most incorrect answers occurred in **Question 12**. Some candidates answered only part of **Question 15** correctly.

### **A4**

Most candidates scored high marks. There was some evidence of guesswork, especially on the part of weaker candidates.

### **B5**

The more able candidates were able to score high marks. It appeared that some did not seem to understand the passage fully and tried to guess the answers.

### **C6**

The candidates who scored high marks were able to write their answers in their own words and in complete sentences. The majority of candidates were not able to answer **Questions 36, 37** and **38** correctly. This may be because the answers were to be derived from more than one paragraph in the passage. Some questions were left unanswered or only partly answered by a few candidates.

### **C7**

Only the stronger candidates had sufficient productive language skills to perform well here, and, as such, the exercise proved to be difficult for the majority of candidates; most were able to answer only two out of five questions correctly. Most incorrect answers occurred in **Questions 40, 41** and **43**. It appeared that candidates knew the meaning of most of the words but were not able to find an equivalent word or definition to express the meaning clearly in Gujarati.