

Mark Scheme with Examiners' Report GCE O Level Gujarati (7616)

June 2005

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Mark Scheme with Examiners' Report

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GUJARATI 7616, MARK SCHEME

The table below shows how marks are distributed throughout the paper.

Question	Transmission Communication/Content	Quality of Language	Total for Question
1	15%	10%	25%
2	15%	10%	25%
3	10%	5%	15%
4	20%	15%	35%

Assessment criteria and mark scheme

Assessment criteria reflect the standard expected at GCE O level. It will therefore not be necessary for candidates to perform 'perfectly' in order to attract the highest marks available in each grid. References to 'standard' should be interpreted in this context.

Minor errors include, for example, the **occasional** omission of accents, incorrect gender, article, slight spelling errors.

Major errors include, for example, the **consistent** mismatching of subject and verb forms, use of inappropriate tenses and/or incorrect vocabulary.

Marks are awarded positively using the following assessment grids. The mark awarded reflects the extent to which the task as a whole has been successfully communicated and completed. To determine if a candidate should gain the upper or lower number of marks in the box it is important to refer to the boxes above and below. If the candidate's performance borders more on the performance of the box below than the box above, then the lower mark is allocated. On certain occasions, a candidate performance may require a 'best fit' mark.

Question 1 and Question 2: Translation

	Transmission
13-15	Excellent transmission skills with clear grasp of detail. Excellent transfer of inference, nuance and idiom. Pleasant to read.
10-12	A generally very competent rendering of the original text with grasp of most detail, nuance and idiom. Some passages, usually more complex, misinterpreted. Some successful attempts at rephrasing. The style is generally pleasing.
7-9	The main points, usually narrative and concrete, are conveyed successfully for the most part, although problems are encountered with more complex language. Inference, nuance and idiom transmitted successfully on occasions. Some passages misunderstood and attempts at rephrasing only partially successful. The style is not always coherent.
4-6	Only the more straightforward concrete points are transmitted successfully. Very little or no awareness of nuance and/or idiom. Several sections totally misunderstood. The style is incoherent with communication impaired at times.
1-3	Only the very basic points are transmitted successfully with some very straightforward sections totally misunderstood. The style is often incomprehensible. Communication is frequently impaired.
0	No language worthy of credit.

	Quality of Language
9-10	A very high level of accuracy with only minor errors. Confident use of a wide range of lexis and structures appropriate to the task. Excellent grasp of tense use. Very pleasant to read overall, although not necessarily faultless.
7-8	A high level of accuracy overall with however occasional basic errors, usually in more complex language. Uses a wide range of lexis and structures appropriate to the task with occasional lapses. Grasp of tense concept/time sequence generally secure although occasional lapses are evident. Pleasant to read for the most part.
5-6	Largely accurate when using simple, short phrases: incidence of error increases in more complex language. Lexis and structures appropriate to the task tend to be adequate with several items unknown. Problems at times with tense use. Some use of given adjectives and/or adverbial phrases with some degree of success. About half of what is written should be free of major errors. Not always easy to read.
3-4	Some inaccuracies in basic grammar although narrative sections, usually short and straightforward, are in general correct. Lexis and structures appropriate to the task restricted with some often quite basic items unknown. At times some fairly basic problems with tense concept/time sequence. Use of given adjectives, and/or adverbial phrases occasionally evident, though these are likely to be only partially successful. Often quite difficult to follow.
1-2	A very high incidence of basic error in all aspects of grammar, syntax and morphology. Basic lexis and structures appropriate to the task unknown. No awareness of tense concept/time sequence. Large sections totally misunderstood. Communication impaired. Very little of credit.
0	No language worthy of credit.

Question 3 - Practical application of grammar

Five sentences each worth 2 marks, plus a global mark for Quality of Language.
Marks are awarded for **Communication** as well as for **Quality of Language**.
Please refer to the following grids:

Communication	
2	Fully communicated in the target language although with some ambiguity in the expression.
1	At least half the sentence is correctly communicated in the target language.
0	No relevant communication.

The Quality of Language grid is applied **GLOBALLY** to all five sentences.

Quality of language	
5	High level of accuracy with only minor errors.
4	Level of accuracy generally secure but incidence of error increases in more complex language.
3	Accuracy variable with some basic errors.
2	High incidence of error which impedes communication at times. Inconsistent.
1	Frequent basic error with only isolated examples of accurate language.
0	No language worthy of credit.

Question 4 - Writing

This question attracts marks for **Communication and content** and **Quality of Language**. Please see the following grids:

	Communication and content
17-20	Responds fully and appropriately to the stimulus with excellent and relevant expansion. Gives detailed descriptions, expresses and justifies opinions as appropriate to the task. The time sequence is clear and unambiguous. A coherent piece of writing which is pleasant to read.
13-16	Responds to nearly all of the task although there may be some omissions. Some relevant expansion at times. Provides evidence of description, narration and opinion as appropriate to the task. Time sequence generally sound with occasional lapses. A generally well structured piece of writing. A sound attempt overall to link the piece into a coherent whole with, however, some lapses. May be a little pedestrian and predictable or somewhat over-ambitious at times.
9-12	Majority of task completed with, however, some significant omissions. There may be some irrelevance. Goes beyond a minimal response with some expansion of ideas and straightforward opinion relevant to the task. Time sequences show a degree of ambiguity at times. Comprehensible overall with some attempt to link the piece into a coherent whole. Ambiguous in places especially in more ambitious language. Tends to be somewhat predictable.
5-8	Main points of the task understood but some points totally misunderstood. Some major omissions with a degree of irrelevance and/or repetition. Level of response fairly limited with little opinion and justification appropriate to the task. Functions predominantly in simple, concrete sentences for the most part. Some evidence of correct time sequences but mostly inconsistent and insecure. Just about comprehensible overall with, however, a marked degree of ambiguity. Not easy to read.
1-4	Task generally misunderstood with little relevant information conveyed. Much ambiguity, confusion and omission. Level of response minimal with only a few relevant phrases. Communication largely impaired. Time sequences rarely correct. Largely incomprehensible with the exception of isolated items. Very difficult to read.
0	No language worthy of credit.

	Quality of Language
13-15	Predominantly accurate: free of all but minor errors in grammar, syntax and morphology. Uses a wide range of vocabulary, idiom and structure appropriate to the task with very little or no repetition. Excellent use of tense concept/time referents. Excellent examples of subordination and appropriate use of more complex structures. Clear ability to manipulate language with a high degree of accuracy to suit the purpose. Very pleasant to read, though not necessarily faultless.
10-12	Generally accurate and secure in grammar, syntax and morphology with some lapses. Accuracy less secure when more complex language is attempted. Uses a good range of vocabulary, idiom and structure, which are for the most part appropriate to the task. Attempts at more ambitious structures not always successful. Generally a secure grasp of tense concept/time referents. Manipulates language to suit the task at hand with, however, some errors. A wide range of vocabulary, idiom and structure may compensate for a lower level of accuracy. Generally easy to read despite the errors.
7-9	Fairly accurate in simple language however tends to be inconsistent in application of grammar, syntax and morphology when attempting more complex language. Range of vocabulary, idiom and structure standard and somewhat predictable. Some inconsistency in use of tense concept/time referents. Some attempts at subordination and sentence linking which are only partially successful. Attempts enhancement of fact with adjectives and/or adverbial phrases with moderate success. About half of what is written should be free of major errors. Despite inaccuracies the basic message is conveyed.
4-6	Accuracy is inconsistent with frequent basic errors in grammar, syntax and morphology. Simple, short sentences are sometimes correct but very little beyond. Range of vocabulary and structure very limited. Use of tense concept/time referents limited and often inappropriate. Limited success in attempts at enhancement of fact with adjectives, and/or adverbial phrases. Not easy to read.
1-3	A high level of inaccuracy with very frequent and basic errors in grammar, syntax and morphology. There may be the occasional correct phrase. No awareness of tense concept/time referents. Vocabulary very basic with little or no evidence of correct use of basic structures. Communication is severely impaired overall. Extremely difficult to read.
0	No language worthy of credit.

GUJARATI 7616, CHIEF EXAMINER'S REPORT

General Comments

The entry pattern and demands of the paper were similar to previous years.

These four questions would enable an examiner to make a fair assessment of the candidate's knowledge, understanding and response. At the same time, this provides a good opportunity for the cross-section of candidates with a different range of abilities to apply their knowledge of the language in the best possible way. The marking scheme is applied to ensure that the standard is maintained.

Translation passages are set to assess the candidates' flexibility in both languages and reaction to language in certain contexts. The skill of translation needs understanding of how to transfer one language to another without distorting the meaning, at the same time not giving the literal word-for-word translation but conveying the meaning in the relevant languages.

Question 1

Candidates seemed to be quite at ease with the passage. A number of candidates showed a good command - however, some were not quite comfortable with certain vocabulary.

Question 2

Candidates seemed to be quite comfortable with the passage. The flow of expression was quite noticeable. Many showed a good mastery.

Both Questions 1 and 2 are set to assess the skills and knowledge of candidates for apt translation. This year has shown better results as a whole.

Question 3

These sentences are to test the candidates' understanding of grammatical features. Most of the candidates coped well.

Question 4

A variety of topics and choices is offered to candidates from discursive to imaginative. The intention is to test the knowledge of candidates from their personal experiences to the wider issues. The two topics (a) and letter writing were popular choices, especially for (a), where the opinion of young people was vividly recorded, dealing with the topic in a matter-of-fact way.

Topic(c) encouraged quite humorous accounts of "neighbours". Those who attempted topic (b), (only 7), presented well-planned, thoughtful, and interesting accounts and scored high marks.

Overall a pleasing result. The performance of the candidates was commendable.

The 2005 paper for Gujarati was set on the similar line as previous years'. The aim was to test the fluency, free-flowing expressions, correct usage, creativity, and grammatical structures, and care with 'spelling' and 'gender', which may distort the meaning if wrongly applied.

On the whole the standard of the entry was maintained. Candidates from various centres showed good understanding and ability in dealing with the paper. The mark scheme is set in such a way as to provide a fair assessment on a positive basis. A high proportion of candidates did very well throughout the exam paper, scoring commendable marks. However, there were a few examples of below-average/average performance, especially for Questions 1 and 2, eg usage of the language and agreement of the verb with the relevant nouns and adjectives etc. However, there was evidence of fluency in the essay writing and adequate mastery by a number of candidates on the translation passages.

GUJARATI 7616, GRADE BOUNDARIES

Grade	A	B	C	D	E
Lowest mark for award of grade	64	49	35	30	22

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

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