

Edexcel International
London Examinations
GCE Ordinary Level

Mark Scheme with Examiner's Report

**London Examinations Ordinary Level GCE in
Tamil (7644)**

May/June 2001

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For further information please call our International Customer Relations Unit:

Tel +44 20 7758 5656

Fax +44 20 7758 5959

International@edexcel.org.uk

www.edexcel.org.uk/international

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

TAMIL 7644

Mark Scheme

Page 1 of 3

Chief Examiner's Report

Page 2 of 3

Grade Boundaries

Page 3 of 3

TAMIL 7644, MARK SCHEME

Question 1: Translation from Tamil into English

This part of the paper is marked out of thirty.

- 25 negative marks, subject to usual deductions for errors and omissions
 - 1 mark off for serious error or omission
 - ½ mark off for minor error or omission
 - up to 2 marks off for a phrase or part of a sentence which distorts the meaning of the message in the sentence
 - up to 4 marks for spelling
 - 5 positive marks for elegance/fluidity of expression
-

Question 2: Translation from English into Tamil

This part of the paper is marked out of thirty.

Marks should be distributed in the following way:

- correct decoding 7
 - correct encoding 8
 - linguistic accuracy 8
 - cohesion/fluidity 7
-

Question 3: Sentences Testing Grammatical Knowledge

This part of the paper is marked out of fifteen.

Deduct ½ mark for each minor error.

Question 4: Short Essay

This part of the paper is marked out of twenty-five.

Marks should be distributed in the following way:

- relevant content 10
 - quality of language 10
 - accuracy of spelling 5
-

TAMIL 7644, CHIEF EXAMINER'S REPORT

General Comments

Considering the examination as a whole, the most striking weakness observed in a large number of responses was the inadequate command of literary Tamil. The main problem was with spelling. Candidates and their teachers should be advised to pay more attention to orthography and also to the construction of sentences. In addition, it was rather disappointing to find candidates unable to write correctly the Tamil words for 'world', 'mountain', 'water', 'food', 'days', 'nights' etc. It must be noted that those who obtained low scores were weak in both Tamil and English.

Question 1

The Tamil passage given for translation into English presented an autobiography of an old book. The responses received to this question were encouraging. However, many candidates showed a lack of lexical skills, both in English and Tamil. It was noticed that there were two or three sentences that most candidates had difficulty in understanding and that was taken into consideration while marking the answers.

Question 2

It was obvious that the candidates did not have much difficulty in comprehending the given English passage. However, the mistakes made in spelling and in the construction of sentences while rendering the passage in Tamil were considerable.

Question 3

A good number of candidates were able to translate the sentences with an acceptable degree of accuracy. However, mistakes committed in spelling and in simple structures accounted for lower scores.

Question 4

Most of the candidates selected topic (b) 'The most unforgettable day in my life', while topic (a) 'Science in daily use' was the next favourite. By and large, the candidates had interesting experiences and ideas to express. But their inability to write clearly, accurately and sequentially in Tamil led to lower scores.

TAMIL 7644, GRADE BOUNDARIES

Grade	A	B	C	D	E
Lowest mark for award of grade	75	57	40	35	30

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

Order Code: UO 011335

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

www.edexcel.org.uk/international

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