

Examiners' Report

GCE O Level Turkish (7646)

June 2006

delivered locally, recognised globally

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7646 TURKISH, CHIEF EXAMINER'S REPORT

Turkish O level is a small but successful subject, that has grown over the years and this year was no exception.

The majority of candidates found the paper accessible and a good proportion of candidates performed very well and scored high marks. The overall performance of candidates showed that the standard of literacy including the transmission skills to and from the target language was very good. Turkish subject teachers took note of last year's report and students were well prepared.

The demand of the exam paper was similar to previous years, except for question 4 which had an extra essay choice in the form of a letter. This new genre proved to be a success with many candidates.

All the essay titles were of equal popularity and most candidates scored very highly in this section of the exam paper. Able candidates showed an excellent level of Turkish and used a wide range of idioms and phrases and vocabulary such as 'chat rooms'.

Question three tested the candidates knowledge of Turkish grammar. It was a fair and accessible question and most candidates did very well in this section. However, less able candidates failed to identify and transmit specific grammar points.

On question two, candidates were asked to translated a passage regarding the world of the internet. This passage proved to be accessible to all students as it contained many universal technical terms. Candidates identified and transmitted effectively the main points of the text and were able to produce coherent and accurate version of the original text into the target language.

Question one was accessible to all candidates with a good understanding of Turkish as well as English. However, this question proved to be slightly more demanding than the others, mainly because the majority of the candidates do not possess a good command of English. Question one has always been the most difficult one for candidates over the years and the same problem was endeavoured this year. Nevertheless most candidates attempted to translate the Turkish passage into good English and some did very well.

One of the most common problem was the translation of 'masal' as 'history' rather than 'story'. This shows that candidates must practice their translation skills prior to the exam.

Overall this was a good paper and most candidates scored above C. It was a pleasure marking so many good papers and very pleasing to see so many non-native Turkish candidates taking the exam. It was even more pleasing to award so many candidates with high marks.

7646 TURKISH - GRADE BOUNDARIES

Grade	A	B	C	D	E
Lowest mark for award of grade	70	55	41	36	30

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