

ARABIC AND ARABIC LANGUAGE

Paper 8680/02
Reading and Writing

General comments

Overall the standard of answers this session was good and there is clear evidence of an improvement in the standard since last session in the quality of language and accuracy of answers. The questions which candidates found most challenging were **Questions 1 and 2**.

Candidates need to practise grammatical structures such as *kaana* and its sisters, the dual case, sound feminine plurals and demonstrative pronouns. Candidates should also read widely and practise summarising. They should pay attention to correct spelling. Candidates should avoid copying the author's phraseology when answering **Questions 3, 4 and 5**.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

Most candidates who attempted this question did not manage to produce satisfactory answers. Examiners were looking for synonyms of the stated vocabulary.

Acceptable answers included the following:

امسأ وأ ، اهلوصأ - أ
تاشوروملأ وأ ، تاداعلأ - ب
أضج وأ ، عجش - ت
ليقارعلأ وأ ، لصاوفلأ وأ ، عناولأ - ث
تمحزم وأ ، ةصاغ وأ ، تمخفم وأ ، ةينغ وأ ، ةئيلم - ج

Question 2

The standard of answers to this question was better than for **Question 1**, but candidates still found difficulty in handling the relevant grammatical structures. The most common errors were as follows:

يملعلأ مدقتلأ تبكأو يتلأ ةعيرسلأ ريغتملأ دصر - أ
أزيهم نيبولسأ رفوت - ب
ةرصاعملأ وشارتلأ اهميمصت يف يعور اهلحانج ةيموكحلأ تاهجلأ تاشنأ - ت
يبعشلأ شوروملأ اب فيرعتلأ يلعلعملعلا تاناجرهملأ اذه فادهأ نمو - ث

Question 3

Examiners were looking for answers which demonstrated candidates' comprehension of Text One, expressed in the candidates' own words and style of writing. The majority of candidates copied phrases from the author's text.

The following is part of an answer which scored good marks:

لمحتو دلجلأ وربصلك قديمحلأ قالخالأ وةعئارلأ ةيونعملأ تاورشلأ نم ملعتلل شارتلأ قسارد يلعلانجرهملأ عجشي - ت
ةصاخلسفنلأ و تاذلأ يلعلالكئالأو ةيلوؤسلأ
نع ةيح ةروص ريفوتلأ وهف يناتلأ ببسلأ امأو . قمعأو روغأو حضوأو لصفأ ةروصلأ نوكت يكمل وهف لوألأ ببسلأ امأ - ث
ةينفلأ وةيفاقشلأ هتالالدو هبناوج لكب ميذقلأ خيراتلأ

Question 4

Examiners were looking for answers which demonstrated candidates' comprehension of Text Two, with good use of language and expressed in the candidates' own words. The following is part of an answer which was written in the candidate's own words, but was not up to the expected level of language use:

بسرعلا ودبلا نالكو. ؤل يال لك فسكلملا يرهامجل روضحل ايف لثمت ييتلا عطقنم ريظنلا نأ ناجرملا حاجن لعل ليلدلا -ت
يبنجالا مهوريبك ممدعو ناجرملا اذه نودمشي
يف اقلتخمو اديج ايدب ايش مدقتت نأ تدعو دقف يذلا طاشنلا يه يراجتلا قيوستلا او ؤحايستلا ؤرئاد ت امامته ا -ج
نينطاوملا نيب ؤحراجلا ؤيب ؤشل ليلدب نايواستم ثارتلا او عبالا نأل لوبقملا يريهامجل رارمتسا ظفحو ناجرم
ؤلودلا يفي نيينعمل او

Question 5

Candidates were required to write a summary on the importance of creativity and its relationship to cultural and artistic life, and on how creativity can play a role in protecting the environment in large cities.

Many candidates did not score good marks for the following reasons:

- (a) They copied out portions of text from one or both texts.
- (b) They used irrelevant sections of the text.
- (c) They wrote using poor quality of language.

ARABIC AND ARABIC LANGUAGE

Paper 8680/03

Essay

General comments

The question paper gave a choice of six titles, with the overall mark being out of 40: 24 marks for language and 16 for content. The standards attained by the candidates varied considerably. Overall, the level achieved by the candidates was satisfactory, though there appeared to be fewer outstanding essays than in previous years. The best essays were grammatically sound and well-structured, with coherent lines of argument, but a number of essays were deficient in some or all of these respects. On the plus side, there was less reliance on memorised formulae than in scripts from the previous year, and there were no discernible instances of 'pre-learned' essays being submitted as scripts.

As in previous examinations, there were frequent grammatical errors, for example in the use of the *idaafa* construction, and in case endings, and some candidates continued to demonstrate an inadequate grasp of the principles of Arabic word order. Some candidates tried to include proverbs or other short maxims in their answers to illustrate their points, but these were not always effectively related to the main thrust of their answers.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

This proved a popular topic. Many essays were well written, although not all answers were well structured: many candidates devoted too much space to the structure of the family, leaving little room to discuss its place in society.

Question 2

This also proved a popular topic. Again, many essays were well written, though some essays showed a tendency towards 'padding', through the incorporation of strings of vocabulary items.

Question 3

Only a very few candidates chose this topic. The few essays produced were, however, generally of high quality.

Question 4

This question produced some interesting answers, including some that drew on the candidates' own personal experience.

Question 5

This question, on the environment, proved very popular, and elicited a number of excellent answers, though overall the quality was rather variable. The most interesting answers were often related at least partly to local circumstances in the candidates' own countries.