

ARABIC

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 question which candidates found most challenging was **Question 1**.

Candidates need to practise grammatical structures such as the dual, and the five verbs in all cases. Candidates should also read widely and practise summarising. They should pay attention to correct spelling. Candidates should avoid copying out sections of the texts. Their answers should demonstrate selection of appropriate ideas from both texts.

Comments on Individual Questions

Question 1

Only a few candidates managed to answer this question correctly. Examiners were looking for answers such as the following:

- أ- يعمدون: يلجأون ، يتجهون، يقصدون
- ب- المفرطة: الزائدة، المتجاوزة، الكثيرة
- ت- يختلس: يسرق، يأخذ خفية
- ث- فيض: كثير، زائد ، جمّ
- ج- الوسيلة: الطريقة، الوساطة

Question 2

Examiners were looking for answers which provided the required grammatical structure.

The most common mistakes included the following:

- أ- الإعلان أمران مطلوبان
- ب- ما يهمننا أكثر هو الطفل التي هو أكثر تأثراً وتضرراً
- ت- ويتجهون ليأكل كيساً من البطاطس
- ث- إنها لم تختار الشخص المناسب لأدائها
- ج- رجال الأمنون يترك عملهم

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 following is part of an answer which scored good marks:

- أ- الإعلانات التجارية هي التي تدخل بيوتنا بدون إرادتنا عبر وسائل الإعلام.
- ب- عندما يقوم بتعريف المستهلك بالمنتج الجديد.
- ت- لكي يتعرف الناس على منتجاتهم ولكي يروجوا لها.
- ج- عندما يعلم بعضها حب الذات والأنانية والسرقة واللهجة العامية.

The following is an example of an answer which did not contain what Examiners were looking for:

- ت- ليحص على أكثر فوائد في السوق.

Question 4

This question was well answered by a large number of candidates. 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 an example of an answer which did not contain what Examiners were looking for:

ت- الصحف والمجلات والسينما والإنترنت.

Question 5

Candidates were required to (a) summarise positive and negative aspects of the media as outlined in the two texts and (b) write about their own experience at home with regard to watching television programmes with their family.

Many candidates lost marks for the following reasons:

- (a) Some candidates copied out portions of text from one or both Texts.
- (b) Some candidates copied out irrelevant sections of the text.
- (c) Some candidates wrote about ideas in the Texts which were unrelated to the question.
- (c) Some candidates wrote using poor quality of language.

The following is an example of a good answer to **part (b)**:

بعد عودتي من المدرسة، أكل طعامي، ثم أقوم بإعداد الواجبات المدرسية، وبعد الانتهاء منها أجلس مع أمي وأبي وإخوتي لنشاهد بعض برامج التلفزيون. وفي إحدى المرات وقع خلاف بيننا جميعاً. فأمي أرادت مشاهدة البرنامج اليومي عن الطبخ، وأبي أراد مشاهدة مباراة كرة القدم للبطولة العالمية، وأنا كنت أريد مشاهدة فيلم مثير جداً عن الفضاء، وأما أختي فقد كانت تريد مشاهدة برنامج الأطفال اليومي. ولم نعرف كيف نحل المشكلة، وأبي لايسمح لنا بمشاهدة التلفاز وحدنا.

The following is an example of an answer to **part (a)** which did not contain what Examiners were looking for:

أ- في السابقين كثيراً من السلبية الجوانب وكثيراً من الايجابية لوسائل الاعلان والاعلام المرئية . فالإعلانات يخدعون الناس بأن يحصلون على منتجاتهم في الأسواق. الطريقة التي يعلن لنا بها هي طريق تلعب بعواطف الزبون ويستخف بعقولهم فهذا الطريقة على إنجاب المال غير إيجابية ولكن الاعلانات قد تكون إيجابية بأن نعرف الأفراد والجمهور على المنتجات الجديد التي قد تكون مهم ومحتاج.

ARABIC

<p>Paper 8680/03 Essay</p>
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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 achieved by the candidates were reasonably consistent: overall performance was generally satisfactory, and there were very few seriously inadequate essays; on the other hand, the number of outstanding performances was also smaller than in some previous years. Most essays had coherent lines of argument and were reasonably well structured, though the arguments were sometimes a little unimaginative, and at times simplistic. The best essays were grammatically sound and stylistically elegant. There appeared to be less reliance on memorised material than in scripts from some previous years, though some candidates exhibited a tendency to boost their word count by the inclusion of lists.

As in previous examinations, there were frequent grammatical errors, for example in the use of the *idaafa* construction, word order, and the distinction between case markers, e.g. between *-uuna / -iina* in the plural, and *-aani / -ayni* in the dual.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

This proved a popular question. Most essays were reasonably well written, though the range of ideas was rather limited, with most candidates concentrating on different attitudes to the Internet and other new technology.

Question 2

This question, on the media, attracted fewer candidates, and the quality of the answers was rather variable.

Question 3

This topic proved quite popular. Many of the essays were well written, though the range of ideas expressed was again a little limited. Some candidates successfully illustrated their answers through the use of proverbs or other popular sayings.

Question 4

Fewer candidates attempted this question, on developing countries, but the essays produced were generally competently written.

Question 5

Almost no candidates attempted this question.