

FIRST LANGUAGE KOREAN

Paper 0521/01

Reading

General comments

Most candidates produced work of a high standard, and only a small number performed poorly. Nevertheless, even the weaker candidates were able to show that they had understood the two texts in this question paper at a basic level. Most answers given were relevant.

As was the case in June 2007, some candidates did not write their answers in full sentences. Candidates are again reminded that their responses are assessed on quality of Language as well as Content. Using bullet points or a list of notes can have a negative influence on marks awarded for Language, even if the answers are correct.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

The sub-questions were answered very well and in sufficient detail by the majority of candidates. Perhaps due to the small number of candidates entered, there was no discernable pattern of incorrect answers.

Question 2

The majority of candidates successfully linked and explored the themes common to both passages. Weaker candidates, some of whom had performed reasonably well in the previous question, struggled with the increased demand of this task. Echoing an observation made before, a few candidates did not present their answer in an appropriate summary style. Such candidates often presented their answer in the format of a list of notes instead, and therefore lost out on valuable language marks.

FIRST LANGUAGE KOREAN

Paper 0521/02

Writing

General Comments

In general, candidates in this session demonstrated a good command of Korean, including the ability to use appropriate words and grammar with few spelling mistakes. As for language (style and accuracy), candidates are reminded that in order to score highly, they will need to use more complex sentences with some sophisticated expressions rather than just simple sentences.

In terms of the discussion, most candidates wrote relevant answers with appropriate supporting arguments. However, at times, the logical development of ideas was lacking. As for description and narration, some descriptive essays lacked description and focused instead on narration of events. While in general the stories were quite imaginative, better coherence in developing the story would have made them more effective.

Candidates are reminded to pay attention to their handwriting – responses which cannot be deciphered will not gain marks.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

- (a) 동물에게도 사람과 같은 권리가 있는지, 동물에게는 어떤 권리가 인정되어야 하는지 자신의 생각을 설명하십시오. This question asked about animal rights – whether the animal can have the same rights as human beings and what kind of rights the animals should be given. The candidates who chose this question developed their ideas by drawing on their common sense. Those who supported their argument with appropriate examples and logical arguments achieved more highly.
- (b) 인간의 성격은 타고 나는 것인지, 길러지는 것인지 토론하십시오. Discuss if our personality is what we are born with or changes throughout our lives. The candidates who answered this option wrote about other people, which was an acceptable approach.
- (c) ‘거지에게 돈을 주는 것은 옳지 않다’는 주장에 대해 어떻게 생각하는지 설명하십시오. What do you think about the argument ‘it is not right to give money to beggars’? The majority of candidates chose this question. Some developed the argument by discussing the problem from the viewpoint of society, focusing on what causes it, from a humanistic point of view, and also looking at the influence on society. In general, the responses were of a good standard.
- (d) 민주주의의 발전을 위해 자유와 평등 중에 어느 것이 더 중요하다고 생각하는지 논하십시오. Discuss what is more important for democracy – freedom or equality. Too few candidates chose this option for general comments to be made.

Question 2

- (a) 자신이 살고 있는 도시나 마을의 관광안내서를 쓰려고 합니다. 자신의 도시나 마을에 대해 묘사해 보십시오. Describe your town or city where you are living for a travel guide. This was a popular topic. Some candidates, however, did not seem to grasp the necessity of writing a travel guide with description, and a few were rather factual.
- (b) 학교 점심시간의 모습을 묘사해 보십시오. Describe lunchtime at school. This was the most popular topic. Some of the writing focused too much on narration, but others contained a good mixture of descriptions and feelings.
- (c) 지금 소설을 쓰려고 합니다. 주인공은 어느 집에서 열린 파티에 초대를 받았습니다. 소설의 시작을 써 보십시오.
<우선 주인공이 집에 도착하는 것에 대해 쓰십시오. 그 집에는 이미 많은 사람들이 있습니다. 대부분이 모르는 사람입니다. 그들과 소개를 나누고 있는 동안 파티가 시작됩니다.>

Write the beginning of a story about a party that you are invited to where you don't know most of the people in the party. Some candidates wrote a good story with reasonable cohesive events and character setting. A few wrote the whole story – beginning to end – which is not required in this question.

- (d) 당신은 부모님과 대화를 나누고 있습니다. 이 장면을 '부모 자식간의 사랑'이라는 글의 중요한 부분이 되도록 이야기를 만들어 보십시오.

Write a story that shows love between parents and children. There were too few responses to make general comments about this question.