

TAMIL

Paper 3206/01

Composition

General comments

In general, candidates performed quite well on this paper, with some performing very well indeed. The topics in both sections were popular with candidates. In **Section A**, topics (a) and (c) were the ones most often selected, and in **Section B**, topic (c) was the most popular.

Candidates seemed to have organised their time in the examination well, and there were no rubric infringements.

The most common errors occurred in spelling, and in using letters in the correct form, such as

1. ண - ணா - ந 2. ல - ள - ழ 3. ர - ற 4. கீழ - கிழை

Comments on individual questions

Section A – Letter, Report, Dialogue or Speech

Candidates were asked to write a response of approximately 120 words to one of the three given topics.

The performance of the candidates in this section of the paper was quite varied.

In their responses, the stronger candidates made fewer spelling errors than those who took last year's examination, and showed that they could write fluently and accurately. Weaker candidates struggled to construct sentences accurately, and also made frequent errors of syntax and spelling.

Section B – Essay

Candidates were asked to write one essay of approximately 200 words, from a choice of four topics.

Again, the performance of the candidates in this section of the paper was quite varied.

The weaker candidates tended to struggle with spelling, and a lack of vocabulary resulted in repetition and answers that were too brief.

Stronger candidates wrote accurately and with fluency, and displayed a good grasp of syntax and spelling; responses usually contained coherent, well-organised arguments.

TAMIL

Paper 3206/02 Translation and Reading Comprehension

General comments

On the whole, candidates performed quite well on this paper, and many showed good understanding of the texts. Weaker candidates tended to score more marks on this paper than on Paper 1.

Candidates seemed to have organised their time in the examination well, and there were no rubric infringements.

Comments on individual questions

Section A – Translation

In general, candidates performed well in this section, expressing themselves well in both English and Tamil.

Section B – Reading Comprehension

Almost all candidates demonstrated a sound understanding of the text when giving their answers.

Most candidates did very well on **Questions 1, 4 and 6**, giving the correct answers.

Unfortunately, whilst many candidates performed well on **Question 3**, a number of candidates misunderstood this question and gave answers that were not appropriate.

Even the strongest candidates failed to collect full marks on **Questions 2 and 7**, with most picking up 3/4 marks and 4/5 marks respectively.

In general, spelling was more accurate in **Section B** than in **Section A**.