



**2011**

**Languages: Bosnian GA 3: Examination**

## **GENERAL COMMENTS**

Most students were familiar with the requirements of all sections of the Bosnian written examination and were able to express themselves in clear and concise language. Some students produced relevant, creative and interesting responses, but some did not expand sufficiently on their chosen topic in Section 3 and their responses lacked detail and depth. In addition, there were numerous grammatical and spelling inaccuracies.

It is important for students to show their proficiency in using an extended vocabulary, and to use varying sentence structures rather than just one basic structure. Students are encouraged to use online texts, books, magazines, movies and newspapers in order to extend their vocabulary.

Special attention must be given to reading the questions carefully as some students missed the intended meaning of some questions. Some students answered in the incorrect language; these responses could not be awarded any marks. Students need to allow sufficient time at the end of the examination to proofread their work, as careless errors can be picked up and corrected in this way.

### **General advice to students**

- Read both reading texts at least twice before attempting to answer the questions.
- Answers must address the questions directly.
- Adhere to the requirements of the chosen text type for the written task; for example, a letter must have an address, a date, a greeting and an ending.
- Use the reading time wisely.
- Proofread all responses thoroughly and allow time to go over your answers before the end of the examination.

## **SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

### **Section 1 – Listening and responding**

Most students were able to select and apply the relevant information from the six spoken texts. However, some students failed to include all relevant information. There were some grammatical errors that included incorrect gender or an incorrect participle.

### **Part A – Answer in English**

#### **Text 1**

##### **Question 1a.**

Any five of:

- organic products from the nearby farm
- organic cheese scones
- a variety of fruits (red apples, honey pears, black grapes, strawberries, currents)
- new packaging
- organic drinks
- no soft drinks.

As the word *uštípke* is difficult to translate into English, bread roll, doughnut and scone were all acceptable answers.

#### **Text 2**

##### **Question 2**

All of:

- there are 143 contestants from four continents
- there is an international jury
- the competition is held in Singapore (it is the Singapore International Pianists' contest).

#### **Text 3**

##### **Question 3**

Any five of:

- it takes less than two hours to travel to the coast

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- it significantly reduces the time taken to travel to a number of European destinations
- TV and the Internet are provided for travellers
- it is luxurious
- carriages are available for disabled people (first and second class)
- night travel is available (with showers provided)
- tickets can be booked online (via the Internet).

## Text 4

### Question 4a.

- Positive: the rapid growth in the number of people using the Internet, which is good because some countries consider access to the Internet to be a basic human right
- Negative: the growing risk of children being exposed to potentially harmful content (via the Internet)

### Question 4b.

- Their personal information and photos might be used/accessed inappropriately.
- It is not clear who can contact children.
- One in five children has been exposed to inappropriate content.
- Demands for face-to-face meetings with unknown persons are rarely reported to the police.

### Question 4c.

- A conference is being held about these issues.
- The European Day of Internet Safety will be held on 10 February next year.

## Part B – Answer in Bosnian

### Text 5

#### Question 5

Any six of:

- let your hair relax
- let your hair dry naturally, then brush it
- get your hair cut every month
- wash your hair every second day
- use light, protein-rich shampoos
- protect your hair at the beach (by wearing a hat)
- drink cooled water
- eat fruit and vegetables.

### Text 6

#### Question 6a.

Any two of:

- there are a few very strong players in the new club
- he will have to (be under pressure to) score as many goals as possible (in order to shine)
- he is happy to pass the ball to others (to help others to achieve the best result and therefore be considered as a shining member of the team).

#### Question 6b.

- He wants to help Bosnian children.
- He wants to help all children around the globe (world).

## Section 2 – Reading and Responding

### Part A – Answer in English

In general, students were able to select and use the relevant information from the two texts. However, some students did not include sufficient information in their responses in order to be awarded full marks.

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## Text 7

### Question 7a.

The breed is named after the area that it is associated with a 'Tor', which is an open enclosure or space for keeping sheep (during the mountain pasture season).

### Question 7b.

- They are very old documents (it has been an established breed for over 1000 years).
- They are precise.

### Question 7c.

Any five of:

- calm
- friendly
- like to work
- obedient
- easy to train
- aggressive to attackers.

### Question 7d.

In 2006, the World Cynology Federation's General Committee gave its approval for Tornjaks to participate in international competitions.

## Text 8

### Question 8a.

Any four of:

- known plays are given new settings (so that Denmark becomes Turkey in *Hamlet*)
- its productions show that the plays can deal with 21st century problems/issues
- one production (*Faust*) has a future setting (2032) and deals with artificial intelligence and new technologies
- the plays are visually striking
- a live orchestra, modern dance, acrobatics and/or music can be incorporated.

### Question 8b.

- The company has toured internationally.
- The company has been selected to take part in international festivals.

### Question 8c.

A possible response could have been:

Dear friend (or a name),

Last night I saw a play called *Class Enemy*. Although the play was originally set in London (1 mark), this production of the play was set in Sarajevo/Bosnia in 2007 (1 mark). The play shows three girls and four boys waiting for the teacher (1 mark). However, the teacher does not come (1 mark), so they conduct their own class (1 mark). When the teacher finally arrives, the members of the class demand change (1 mark).

Students could write the note in very simple English as their English was not being assessed, nor was the format of their note. However, their points about the production needed to be accurate. Students did not need to respond in the same way as the response above, but the ideas needed to be clear and accurate.

## Part B – Answer in Bosnian

### Text 9

#### Question 9

Students had to write a formal letter of application (in the appropriate format for a letter) and include general details such as date, address, greeting/attention, introduction and ending. The use of clear and concise sentences and answers relevant to the text needed to be applied. Students also needed to pay attention to grammar and spelling.

## Section 3 – Writing in Bosnian

This section assessed students' ability to express ideas in fluent and clear Bosnian by producing a piece of writing of 200–250 words. There were four topics from which to choose.

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This section is assessed using the following criteria:

- relevance and depth of treatment of ideas, information, or opinions
- accuracy and range of vocabulary and sentence structures
- the capacity to structure and sequence response and capacity to use conventions of the text type.

The most competent students demonstrated excellent language skills and developed their chosen topic with interesting and creative ideas enhanced by a wide range of vocabulary. However, some students' writing lacked depth and they presented only basic ideas and information in their writing.

Students should concentrate on consolidating and revising grammatical rules and expanding their vocabulary. Writing on a variety of topics should be practised on a regular basis. Students are encouraged to incorporate more complex grammatical structures into written tasks.

## **Question 10**

Students were asked to write a diary entry about their personal experiences as a member of the Bosnian class of 2011.

## **Question 11**

Students had to write an evaluative article for the local newspaper about the advantages and disadvantages of doing volunteer work during their final year of school.

## **Question 12**

Students were asked to write an informative script for a speech for their school assembly, explaining why they were nominating their friend as school captain.

## **Question 13**

This question required students to write an imaginative story for a teenager that began with 'The world had turned upside down. Nothing was as it used to be...'