



Oral component

GENERAL COMMENTS

Students' performance in 2005 was generally good. There were some outstanding and some very poor performances, especially in the Discussion. Nevertheless, some students presented very good research skills and performed very efficiently in this section, although it was obvious that some students had undertaken less research for their Detailed Study this year.

Overall, accuracy of pronunciation and the level of appropriateness in the use of vocabulary were good. Many students adopted good communicative strategies such as using body language, eye contact and expressive presentation. Some students made a few grammatical mistakes but these were generally not very serious.

Too many students did not address the assessors correctly. In Polish culture, young people should not address an older person as 'you'. Teachers should make their students aware that the proper address form is *pan* or *pani*.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Section 1 – Conversation

The overall performance of students in the Conversation section was good, both in their knowledge of the subjects under discussion and their language ability, pronunciation and grammar. Students were generally successful and confident in conversing on various topics about their personal world. However, some students were unable to advance the conversation adequately, which restricted their ability to deal with the content and interact with the assessors.

Section 2 – Discussion

As in previous years, there was not a great variety of interesting and imaginative topics in 2005. Schools generally chose the same topics as in 2003 and 2004. Some students chose the topic 'Customs in Polish culture' (mainly religious holidays), while others discussed the Polish city Kraków and mainly talked about the monuments, history and beauty of the city.

Many students did not use a variety of sources for their research; for example, some students only spoke about the food they eat during the Christmas holiday without demonstrating any research in the area. This approach did not easily lead to further conversation.

Students' reports were generally of a good standard. However, this year assessors again noticed a lack of visual material used to support the reports. Most of the reports were introduced successfully and some were very well developed. The level of language used in this task was good. Some students were well-prepared for the discussion of their chosen sub-topic and were open and eager to express their own knowledge and opinions.