



2012

Languages: Punjabi GA 3: Examination

Oral component

GENERAL COMMENTS

In general, students were well prepared for the 2012 Punjabi oral examination.

Many students were able to engage with assessors in Section 1. In Section 2, a wide range of topics was chosen for the Detailed Study. Some students used excellent spoken language. Some brought visual aids to the examination to support their topic and were able to use them effectively to complement the Discussion.

Section 1 – Conversation

In this section, students were required to talk about their personal world, interests, family and friends, school and future aspirations. Many students communicated well, listened carefully and answered questions appropriately. However, the less successful students were not well prepared for this part of the examination and these students found it difficult to advance the conversation. In general, students were able to describe their hobbies and school subjects in Punjabi; however, some students struggled to do this and used English words. The less successful students required a significant amount of support from assessors to maintain and advance the conversation. Some students were able to self-correct errors successfully.

Section 2 – Discussion

In this section, students give a one-minute introduction and there is a seven-minute discussion of a selected Detailed Study topic. Some students were able to advance the exchange appropriately and effectively, and showed evidence of excellent preparation and sophistication in language use. However, very few students demonstrated thorough preparation of their chosen topic and most students needed support from assessors.

It is important that teachers assist students in choosing topics and sub-topics for the Detailed Study. It is advised that students be given the opportunity to practise discussing their chosen topic and sub-topic in a range of class activities throughout the year. Teachers should also ensure that students have enough content for the Detailed Study so students are able to elaborate on their chosen topic. Some chosen topics were well beyond students' language skills, which led to poor results for students.

Students are advised to speak only in the Punjabi language during the oral examination. Students and teachers should also check examination requirements to ensure that all aspects are met. Many weaker students demonstrated a lack of understanding of the content of their Detailed Study.