

HINDI LITERATURE

Paper 8675/04

Texts

General comments

This report covers both A level and AS candidates for Hindi Literature Paper 4. This year's candidates generally performed better than last year. A large number of candidates demonstrated that they were familiar with the texts and were reasonably well prepared. Some candidates seem to have memorized prepared material, which they simply produced irrespective of whether it had any relevance to the extracts / poems in the question. The handwriting and spelling had improved and more candidates were able to write in standard Hindi.

Comments on specific questions

Part 1

Question 1

- (k) Some candidates did quite well on both parts of the question. Some failed to focus on the extract, and wrote about Lord Krishna as a child based on other parts of the poem, which they had come prepared with. In the second part some candidates failed to realise that they had to give examples of the 'alankar' from the text.
- (kh) Quite popular with candidates. They produced very good answers with examples. Many candidates, however, did not fully concentrate on the Vibhishan–Ravan dialogue which would have helped them to write about Lord Rama's character. Instead they talked about Lord Rama as described by the poet Tulsi.

Question 2

- (k) There were a few good answers to this popular question, as compared to (kh) about Mahadevi. Some were able to respond to the question and discuss the poet's pain and conflict as the background to the poem. A few covered the whole poem successfully, but many limited themselves to only certain parts of the poem. One group put a new interpretation by saying that the poet, Nirala wanted the poem to be an example of patriotism, a kind of call for national awakening among the youth.
- (kh) Very few candidates chose this question about Mahadevi. Among those who did, some found it difficult to understand the difference between 'kaavya saundarya' and 'bhaav saundarya'.

Question 3

- (k) Very popular question. Most candidates demonstrated their understanding of the extract very well, though some again discussed only part of the extract.
- (kh) Well answered by a large number covering all the three parts properly. However, a few missed out on one or the other part.

Question 4

- (k) Generally good answers, but quite a few candidates got carried away by the problems between Kamla and Purna, and lost focus on Sumitra's character.

- (kh) A very popular question. Candidates seemed to share Premchand's feelings about the problems faced by women and other social problems in society at the time. They wrote with passion.

Part 2

Question 5

- (k) Another popular question. Most candidates found this question straightforward and answered it with passion because they got an opportunity to share the story writer's opinions on capitalism, poverty, selfishness, blind belief which were endemic in society. .
- (kh) As in past years the story of Lahna Singh inspired the candidates. Generally a well-answered question. Different candidates chose to highlight different aspects of his character.

Question 6

- (k) Unfortunately only a tiny number of candidates felt inspired by Abhimanyu's story. Their answers were satisfactory, not brilliant.
- (kh) Again this year quite a few candidates answered this question. They succeeded in portraying the characters of both Jackson and his mother, also about poverty and honesty, how they could go hand in hand.

Suggestions for teaching:

1. It would very useful if teachers organized sessions on "How to analyse questions and plan their answer?" A copy of the past paper could be distributed among the candidates for discussion in the lessons. A greater emphasis should be put on the 'language and style' of the authors.
2. Although spellings had improved, candidates should be encouraged to learn the correct spelling of characters. .
3. Teachers should remind their candidates that they should not answer both **Questions (k) and (kh)** of any question. **ONLY ONE OF THESE CAN BE ACCEPTED!**