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FOREWORD

This booklet contains reports written by Examiners on the work of candidates in certain papers. **Its contents are primarily for the information of the subject teachers concerned.**

TAMIL

GCE Advanced Level

Paper 9689/02
Reading and Writing

General comments

Candidates performed well in this paper generally. Their comprehension of word, meaning and concept was good. When they gave answers for **Questions 3** and **5** some of the answers deserve to be appreciated. For example:

மனிதனரப்போல் மனம் கொண்டவையாக செயற்படுவனவாக பறவைகளும் விலங்குகளும் இருக்கின்றன. வந்தாரணமாக கிளி, நாய், காரணம், சில வேளைகளில் நாய்கள் கூறுவனவற்றைக் கிளி திரும்பக் கூறும். இதேபோல்தான் நாயும் சில வேளைகளில் சிந்தித்துச் செயல்படும்.

But even then Examiners saw some of the words and phrases not fully understood by the candidates. Candidates should be reminded that full sentences are required in the answers – answers in note style are unlikely to score full marks.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

Candidates understood this question well. Most of the candidates found it difficult to answer (a) and (d).

Question 2

Some candidates did not understand this question and had obviously not been prepared for it. They have to use these words in their own sentences. Candidates did not understand the word

உரைப்பாசிரியர்

Most candidates interpreted this word as *teacher* instead of *commentator*.

Question 3

Candidates answered all parts of this question. However, most answers consisted of sentences taken directly from the passage, resulting in poor scores. Candidates should be trained to use their own words in their answers.

Question 4

Candidates were able to comprehend and give reasonable answers but as stated earlier the answers were taken directly from the passage. Some answers also consisted of single words. Candidates should be trained in writing answers in full sentences, in their own words.

Question 5

Some candidates tried to answer this question in their own words, but many struggled with the second part of the question.

Paper 9689/03

Essay

General comments

A satisfactory performance in this paper. Candidates' ability in dividing the essay into several points and discussing the issues giving subtitles, deserves appreciation. A good effort with style, with only few language errors. An example follows:

ஒரு நாட்டில் சுற்றீறர் இருந்தால் அந்த நாடு விளரவில் வளர்ச்சி அடைகிறது. நாடு எங்கும் அமைதி இருக்கும், அதன் பொருளாதாரத்துக்கும் மிக உதவியாக இருக்கும். கல்வி உட்பட பல தன் நாட்டில் உள்ள ஏழககளையும் உதவி கொடுப்பான். அவன் நியாயத்துக்காக வேலை செய்வான். எல்லாருடைய நலத்துக்காகவும் நினைத்து உழைப்பான். கல்வி சுற்றவன் உண்மையாக முழு மனிதனாக இருக்கிறான்.

Comments on specific questions**Question 1**

A few candidates attempted this question. Only the first part of the essay was discussed. The problems found in the Indian sub continent were identified and analysed but no attempt was made to find out the solution to change the scenario.

Question 2

A popular question generating good responses. Candidates wrote well about education and its contribution to the development of human beings. The subtitles and sequencing points were good. However most of the candidates based their answers on the Thirukkural Test rather than develop their own ideas. They could have gone further and considered general issues relating to the making of a fully developed man. This is usually lacking in the answer.

Question 3

This question was also popular. Answers were restricted to the influence of TV, internet, cell phone etc. and analysed the pros and cons of modern technologies to the development of Human Resources in the society.

Question 4

Only a few candidates attempted this question. Answers were made in the form of an essay instead of writing in the style of a newspaper article, failing to address the question fully.

Question 5

This question was not attempted.

Question 6

Only a few candidates attempted this question. Some of them only mentioned the present, without talking about their aspirations for the future and as a result scored poorly.

Paper 9689/04
Texts

General comments

Candidates performed well in this paper. All candidates were able to give the answer in essay form to the expected length and level. Candidates found some difficulty in maintaining the length when the question was split into two parts i.e. (i) and (ii). Their response to some questions was very good, for example:

தேழி அகவன் மகளைப் பார்த்து தலைவியின் கவலைக்கு அவள் சொண்ட களவுதான் காரணம். ஆதலால் அவள் நன்னெடுங்குன்றம் பாடிய பாட்டைப் பாடு என்கிறாள். அதாவது தலைவன் தலைவிக்காகப் பாடிய பாட்டைப் பாடிமேயு கேட்கிறாள். எதற்காக இப்படிச் சொல்கிறாள் இத்தப்பாடலைப் பாடினால் தலைவியின் கவலை நீங்கி மகிழ்ச்சி அடைவதோடு அவளது பெற்றோருக்கும் தங்கள் மகனின் நிலை விளங்கும் என்பதனால் தான். அதுமட்டுமல்ல அவர் நன்னெடுங் குன்றம் பாடிய பாட்டைப் பாடினால் அவரை அவளுக்குரிய காதலரென உணர்த்த முடியும். இவ்வாறுதான் தேழி மெலிந்த தலைவியின் கவலைக்கு என்ன காரணம் என்பதனைக் கூறுகிறாள்.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

- (i) Candidates only gave the meaning of the lines of the poem in a few sentences.
- (ii) This part was not well understood and as a result answers were very brief.

Candidates should be reminded that answers should be at least 500 words for the whole question.

Candidates did not understand the question and only gave a summary of the poem. Examiners expected them to infer and bring out the real meaning of the words of the friend when she asked the old lady to repeatedly sing in praise of the hillock. The inner meaning of the poem needs to be explained in the classroom.

Question 2 (அ)

- (i) This answer was given from the given two couplets and the candidates were expected to explain:

கன்வித்தமிழ் எத்தனையோ அழியா பகழ் பெற்ற நூல்கள் தொன்றியுள்ளன அனைவரும்
திருக்குறள் ஒன்று தெய்வப் புலவராகிய உவமைகளை
என்னென்ப ஏனை எழுத்தென்ப இவ்விரண்டும்
கன்னென்ப வாரும் உயிர்க்கு
என்று திருவள்ளுவருடைய சிறப்பு ஆகும்.

- (ii) Candidates were expected to write in detail about the need and importance of education using the given concepts, but only the meaning of the concepts was given.
- (ஆ) Candidates performed better in this question.

Question 3 (அ)

(i)(ii) As above, candidates were not clear about how to answer the passage-based question. Answers should be like an essay, using the passage as a base.

(ஆ) Again, candidates performed better in this question.

Question 4

Candidates performed satisfactorily in this question as they managed to refer directly to the passage in their answers.

Question 5 (அ)

The performance was satisfactory.

(ஆ) Some of the candidates were able to write the lines from the poem and were really able to bring out the meaning of this poem with some analysis and presenting it with a well structured essay.

முத்தர்கள் கவிஞர் இயற்கையில் உள்ள பழவகைகளைத் தமிழா ஒட்டிட்டுப் பண்கிறார். பண்புமுத்தர்களிடையில் உள்ள சுவையான களை கரும்பின் முற்றிய சாறு பனிமலர்களில் கிடைக்கிற தேன் நல்ல பசுவின் பால் தென்னை யரத்திலிருந்து கிடைக்கும் குளிர்ச்சியான இளநீர் மூலிகை இனிமையான பழங்களாகும். ஆயினும், இவற்றைவிட தமிழ் மனமும் இனிப்பானது.

Question 6 (அ)

No candidates attempted this question.

(அ) The summary of the message about the hall was well made.

Question 7

(அ) Candidates understood the stories and were able to give the answer in essay form.

Question 8

Only a very few candidates attempted question (அ) and were able to give the summary of the story as was expected. The second question (ஆ) was not attempted by anyone.

Paper 9689/05

Prose

General comments

Performance was overall satisfactory. Most candidates were able to cope with this translation. Some candidates had difficulties with the choice of correct words for the following: heavy rains, traffic, skidded and passerby.

An example of a better translation:

சென்ற வெள்ளிக்கிழமை மாலை நேரத்தில் ஒரு சாலை விபத்து நடைபெற்றது. கடுமையான மழையும் காற்றும் வண்டி ஒட்டுவதற்குத் தடைபடிக் இருந்தன. வண்டி போக்குவரத்தில் தேரிகல் ஏற்பட்டது.