

HINDI

Paper 3195/01

Composition

General comments

The vast majority of candidates were comfortable with the format of this paper, requiring them to write a report or a letter and an essay in Hindi. Most candidates managed to accomplish both tasks within the time allocated. At the lower end, there were scripts with poor spelling and syntax errors. Other frequently-made errors included incorrect verb and subject agreement, and malformation of singular, plural, masculine and feminine words and incorrect sentence endings.

In the majority of scripts there was clear evidence of good quality of language, such as correct spelling, appropriate use of vocabulary and grammatical structures. The content of most work was good with imaginative use of Hindi and originality of thought.

Comments on specific questions

Paper 1

Section A – Letter, Report, Dialogue or Speech

Question 1 required candidates to write a letter to a relative about a family function and proved to be slightly more popular than **Question 2**, writing a report. The majority of candidates managed, as always, to score high marks in this section of the paper. At the lower end, some candidates had difficulty conveying how they felt after the event. There is a common tendency among most candidates to write more words than required. The instructions clearly state that about 120 words should be written, but many write about two pages. Teachers are advised to remind candidates of the importance of writing to the required the number of words as stated in the rubric.

In **Question 2** candidates were required to write a report on a fire in a market for their school magazine. Most candidates used the guidelines properly and gave a good account of events and provided a logical progression to their narrative. Some reports scored very good marks, while most of the others were of a good standard. A small number of candidates mixed up or conflated the information they were supposed to provide about their reaction to the fire with the reaction of their friend. Such candidates would often lose some marks as their accounts were not always clear. Again, the majority of candidates wrote nearly two pages, ignoring the word limit. Candidates therefore need to be reminded to observe the word limit, since concision is an important writing skill in itself.

Section B – Essay

The most popular topic in this section was **Question 3**. The majority of candidates wrote very good essays in which they described the advantages and disadvantages of tourism for their country, and scored high marks. A few candidates did not read the question properly and wrote about the advantages and disadvantages of tourism in relation to themselves rather than to their country. This adversely affected the marks these candidates were able to score as they could only be awarded content marks in accordance with the relevance of their work to the topic.

A very small number of candidates demonstrated a poor grasp of Hindi spelling and grammar. They often misinterpreted the question as a result.

The second most popular choice was **Question 4**. Many candidates produced solid work and scored good marks. The information provided in their essays was often very interesting, original, and imaginative and most candidates remembered to provide a good ending to their story. A few candidates had difficulty in

understanding the topic and dealt with it as if it was about a person rather than an emergency. Near the end of the exam, candidates were often poor as a result as they missed the key word in the context of this essay.

Question 5, which was a discursive essay topic about appearance, was the least popular. Nearly 50% of candidates who selected this topic managed to score good marks. Some of the better essays were thought provoking and showed an excellent sense of audience.

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Paper 3195/02
Language Usage and Comprehension

General comments

Most candidates demonstrated a good command of key vocabulary and an excellent knowledge of Hindi grammar. A number of candidates used correction fluid, ignoring the instructions on the answer booklet.

All candidates appeared to have understood the rubric instructions. The majority scored good to high marks. Common aspects of concern are referred to below.

- A1** On the whole this exercise was attempted well. The majority of candidates managed to score full marks while a few candidates at the lower end typically struggled with **Questions 4 and 5**.
- A2** Again, the majority of candidates did well and scored full marks. A very small number of candidates had insufficient idiomatic knowledge of the Hindi language.
- A3** Quite a few candidates had difficulty choosing the appropriate form of the verb to agree with the subject and grasping the tense in which the original sentence was written.
- A4** The majority of candidates scored very high marks in this exercise.
- B5** Most candidates managed to do well and some even scored full marks. None of the questions were done particularly badly, although the more challenging questions posed problems for candidates of lesser ability.
- C6** Together with **Exercise C7**, this exercise discriminated well between different levels of ability.
- 33** This question was answered well by the majority of candidates. They were awarded content marks according to the number of reasons they gave for the delay in the arrival of the boat.
- 34** This question was attempted well by the majority of candidates. Some of the candidates, however, could not give all the four details asked for.
- 35** Candidates attempted this question well and provided good examples from the text to illustrate that the area had remained relatively unaffected by modern life.
- 36** This question was challenging for weaker candidates but more able candidates responded very well.
- 37** This question was challenging and most candidates did not score full marks as they provided only one or two details. Nevertheless, some outstanding candidates were able to get full content and language marks.
- 38** This synoptic question tested comprehension at a higher level and only a minority of candidates scored full marks. A sizeable number of candidates was unable to provide any details of the visitor's enjoyment of his canal boat journey. Close reading of the text would have revealed the many pieces of evidence in the text that attest to this.
- C7** A large number of candidates did well on this challenging exercise.