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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**.

BENGALI

GCE Ordinary Level

Paper 3204/01
Composition

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Letter, Report, Dialogue or Speech

Question 1

A significant number of candidates copied both the addressee's and the sender's address as printed in the original question paper, rather than put them in their appropriate places in their letters. Many candidates ignored the word limit specified in the question paper and some even exceeded it by four times.

Question 2

The vast majority of the candidates successfully attempted this task, although some ignored the bullet points, hence deviating from instructions. A sizeable number wrote an excessive number of mostly irrelevant words. Most, however, used the opportunity to exercise and display their, often considerable, extended writing skills.

Section B

Essay

Question 3

Although this topic was one of the most popular, a large number of candidates did not manage to establish their argument very well.

Question 4

Only a handful of candidates attempted this task, some of whom found it quite challenging.

Question 5

This was the most popular topic in this section. Candidates performed well in general, and some made proper use of their imaginative writing skills in this task. On the whole, these essays were enjoyable to read, and candidates employed a wide variety of idioms, appropriate vocabulary and impressive sentence structures. A large majority of candidates, again, ignored the word limit, nevertheless.

> **Paper 3204/02**
>
> **Language Usage and Comprehension**

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question A1

Separation/Combination of Words

Almost all the candidates attempted to do all five parts of this task, irrespective of their ability. The majority of candidates performed quite well, whilst a few did not always apply their common sense. Most candidates scored marks, in some cases for partially correct answers.

Question A2

Idioms, Proverbs and Words in Pairs

This question required a sound knowledge of how Bengali is used. Some candidates filled in the gaps without having thoroughly read the sentence in which the gaps were placed.

Question A3

Sentence Transformation

Most candidates struggled to do well on this question, and only a handful of candidates managed to answer the question adequately.

Question A4

Cloze Passage

Most candidates were able to show their linguistic abilities in this task without any problem.

Section B

Question B5

MCQ Comprehension

In general, candidates performed quite well in this exercise, although a number of candidates were confused about choosing between the second or fourth option for **32**.

Section C

Question C6

OE Comprehension

The vast majority of candidates simply copied whole paragraphs from the text in their answers to particular questions, regardless of relevance. As a result, careless copying of text led some to lose out on marks.

Question C7

Vocabulary

Candidates' performance was varied in this task. Only a handful of candidates managed to answer all the questions correctly, whilst the majority had difficulty in defining some of the words.