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Paper 3195/01 Composition

General comments

The majority of candidates performed very well in both sections of the paper. Judging by the depth of response it would seem that most candidates managed their time efficiently. At the lower end there were some scripts with poor spelling and a high incidence of grammatical errors, but generally the quality of language was of a high standard.

The most frequent errors were made with subject/verb agreement (particularly in sentence endings) and the formation of plurals.

Comments on specific questions

Paper 1

Section A - Letter, Report, Dialogue or Speech

Credit was given for imaginative use of language, originality, appropriate structure and linguistic accuracy.

The majority of candidates attempted **Question 2** requiring them to write a speech for a school assembly on the topic of the Internet. Most candidates addressed the bullet points to good effect. A few candidates did not refer to all the bullet points and thereby lost out on marks. **Question 1**, a dialogue between a smoker and non-smoker, was attempted by a smaller group of candidates. Most of them managed to score good marks. A small number of candidates did not address all the bullet points and focussed on their own views on smoking instead. A very small number of candidates wrote their response in the form of an essay, which was not the required format.

Section B- Essay

The majority of candidates chose the narrative essay, i.e. **Question 4**. Many candidates wrote very lively and detailed stories, scoring good marks. Some of the candidates struggled to present a logical order of events, which often led to confusion on the part of the reader. In such cases, an essay plan would have helped to establish a coherent plot.

The second-most popular option was **Question 5** ('मोबाइल फ़ोन लाभदायक भी हो सकते हैं और मुसीबत की जड़ भी'). Most candidates could easily relate to this topic and many essays were of outstanding quality. They often justified their arguments by giving suitable and persuasive examples. All but a small number of candidates at the lower end managed to score high marks. These weaker candidates typically showed inadequate knowledge of grammar and spelling.

Nearly all of the candidates who chose **Question 3** wrote essays which were interesting to read and closely argued. They scored good marks as a result.

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Paper 3195/02

Language Usage and Comprehension

General comments

The performance on this paper was generally of a high standard. Nearly all candidates managed to address all questions in the time given.

Those candidates who scored the highest marks often proved themselves to be equally competent in all sections of the test, including **Section C** which is aimed at testing candidates' productive language skills. Only a small number of candidates revealed a poor grasp of Hindi spelling and grammar.

Comments on specific questions

- A1 The majority of candidates managed to score full marks while a few candidates at the lower end struggled with the grammatical demand of this exercise. Most of the weaker candidates experienced difficulty with **Question 2** where they often misspelled their answer, e.g. स् + उक्ति.
- **A2** The majority of candidates scored good marks for this exercise.
- A3 This exercise was attempted well by the majority of candidates. However, quite a few had difficulties with subject/verb agreement, often confusing masculine and feminine endings. For example, the answer to Question 11 should have been कार चलाई जा रही है but some wrote कार चलाया जा रहा है In Question 14, the answer should have been गाना सिखाया जा रहा है while some wrote गाना सिखाई जा रही है'।
- A4 The majority of candidates scored high marks, with quite a few attaining full marks.
- **B5** This exercise was completed well by most candidates. Nearly all managed to score high marks.
- C6 33 This question was answered well by the majority of candidates, providing all the information required. A few responses lacked some of the points of comparison mentioned in the text and could therefore only be credited partially.
 - This question was attempted well by almost all candidates but a few missed out bits of information and therefore lost out on some of the marks available.
 - Most candidates were able to convey four of the guide's physical features in their own words, while weaker ones struggled to name more than one or two.
 - 36 This question was answered well by nearly all candidates.
 - 37 Again, a majority of candidates scored good marks but some gave fewer than the four details required.
 - This question was aimed at the strongest candidates as it tested global understanding of the text. A number of candidates at the upper end of the ability range scored full marks. Most candidates answered the question only in part and were credited accordingly.
- This question was answered well by a large number of candidates. Most made effective use of synonyms to clarify the meaning of the underlined words in the exercise.