

FIRST LANGUAGE URDU

Paper 3247/01
Reading and Writing

Key messages

All candidates are required to spend some time reading the instructions very carefully before attempting the questions. They need to read and understand the demand of the questions in order to get maximum marks. There are two parts in this paper i.e., **Part One Reading** and **Part Two Writing**. All candidates are required to answer all questions in **Part One** and select one question from **Part Two**. Those candidates who read the questions and answered carefully scored high or full marks.

General comments

The majority of the candidates performed extremely well and answered the questions after having read the whole passage with full care. Some candidates did not seem to have read the passage carefully and properly and did not understand the demand of the questions; they were not able to achieve good marks. Some candidates mixed up the questions and wrote their answers under the incorrect question, for which they could not achieve any marks.

Comments on specific questions

Part One

Question 1

A passage was given about films and candidates were asked to answer seven questions with reference to the given passage. A large majority of candidates were able to answer these questions correctly and were able to score either full marks or very good marks. The candidates showed a good command of content. Most candidates demonstrated the ability to write very detailed and comprehensive responses and showed confidence use of complex sentences.

In this question only content was assessed; language and structure were not assessed. Most candidates performed well, except in **Question 1(iii)** where they were asked to write who was responsible for the problems of cinemas with four details and **Question 1(v)** where they were asked to write on the role of music in films and give four details. Some candidates misunderstood the questions and answered in general not with the reference to the text, and hence lost marks.

Advice to candidates

Candidates are advised to read the passage very carefully more than once and underline the main points. Then they should read the question and try to answer in the light of the passage, using their own words to get full marks. It should be noted that if the question is worth 1 mark, the Examiner expects one point and if it is worth 4 marks, four points are expected by the Examiner. Candidates should always write neatly and tidily and in the spaces provided and use either dark blue or black pen, not pencil. If they cross out an answer and write somewhere else, it is very important to mention on which page the new answered has been written and also answer should be clearly marked with the correct number of the question.

Part Two

Question 2

Candidates were required to write an essay on one of the four topics provided. This year **Question 2(i) and 2(iv)** were very popular.

Argumentative essay

- (i) The majority of candidates who attempted **Question 2 (i)** (Can education be achieved only in schools) were able to give their opinion with fully argued response with examples and completed their essay in a very good form and scored high or full marks. Some candidates did not understand the question properly and they just explained the importance of education in general. These candidates scored low marks.

Discursive essay

- (ii) A very few candidates attempted this question (love for one's country is a natural feeling). Some candidates who attempted this question were in favour of the question and some of them were against. The candidates who attempted this question wrote excellent responses.

Descriptive essay

- (iii) The demand of this question was to describe a scene of a visit to a hilly area with your family. From the writing of majority of the candidates, it appeared that they had all visited hilly areas with their families, and they described the scene very well. On the other hand, some candidates described the preparation of the visit, giving irrelevant information not needed for the question, and so they scored low marks. Those candidates who described the scene, for example the roads, mountains, clouds, weather, waterfalls and people selling different things, scored full marks in this question.

Narrative essay

- (iv) A good number of the candidates chose this question. This question required creative writing. Many candidates who chose this question did not fulfil the demand of the question. For example, most candidates did not start the essay from where they were supposed to start; hence part of their response was marked as irrelevant. Some candidates were unable to finish the story well, losing marks for structure. Some candidates did not describe the feelings when they did not follow the instructions of their parents. Those who fulfilled the requirement of the question scored high marks in this question.

Advice to candidates

Candidates are advised to spend some time first on to decide the topic they want to write. Once they have decided, they should write down bullet points and make a draft essay, and then they should write their response. They need to read the question fully and understand the demand of the question to score high marks. Candidates are also advised to write their answers in the booklet in the proper sequence. If additional pages are used, candidates should indicate clearly the number of the question they are answering.

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Paper 3247/02
Texts

There were too few candidates for a meaningful report to be produced.