

SINHALA

Paper 3205/01
Composition

Key messages

In order to do well in this paper, candidates should:

- ensure that they answer one question from **Section A** and one question from **Section B**
- adhere to the word limits specified
- ensure that their work is legible, accurate and logically presented
- ensure that they present their responses in the form stipulated in the question (e.g. letter, dialogue, etc.)
- show an awareness of the conventions of paragraphing and sentence structure
- demonstrate adequate control of grammar, punctuation and spelling
- understand and be able to employ a range of apt vocabulary
- be able to order and present facts, ideas and opinions
- plan their use of time for each question and allow time for thorough checking of their work.

General comments

In general, candidates performed fine on this paper. However, efforts should be made to enrich the vocabulary of the candidates. It was noted that some candidates have tried making up words to express their ideas when they were unsure of the proper vocabulary. This could be remedied by encouraging candidates to read wider variety of books, articles etc.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

Choice of most of the candidates has been (c).

There were successful answers for both (a) and for (b). Very few have chosen (d).

Section B

Question 2

Choice of most of the candidates has been (b).

Second choice has been (a) and third choice has been (c). Very few have selected (d).

SINHALA

Paper 3205/02
Translation and Reading
Comprehension

Key messages

In order to do well in this paper, candidates need to make sure that they express themselves in clear, correct and concise language. In addition, candidates need to:

- ensure that they plan their time for each question and allow time for thorough checking of their work
- ensure that their work is legible and logically presented
- read the translation passages carefully before beginning to translate.

General comments

An average standard was seen with the scripts. Some candidates have performed well. However, some answers reflect the lack of understanding of questions by the candidates. It is vital to train the students to read and understand the questions prior to making any attempt to answer, as this is the key element in reading comprehension.

Some candidates showed difficulty in candidates finding words to express ideas due to their limited knowledge of the language.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

The majority of the candidates have answered this question well.

Those who performed well in this question took the time to ensure they understood the text properly.

Question 2

Compared to **Question 1**, this question has not been answered to its best by most of the candidates. This is due to their inadequate vocabulary and the difficulty in finding appropriate words to translate.

Attempts for enrichment of vocabulary for future candidates is highly recommended.

Section B

Majority of the candidates have performed well for these questions as they have been good at finding answers from the text. The intended comprehension aspect was well demonstrated with this question.