

HINDI LANGUAGE

Paper 8687/02
Reading and Writing

Key messages

In order to do well, candidates should continue to:

- develop their Hindi vocabulary to help them fully understand the text
- use different tenses appropriately and correctly
- use their own words and avoid lifting answers from the text
- write in grammatically correct sentences, especially the noun-verb-gender agreement
- write their answers based on information from the text, rather than using their own knowledge from outside the texts.

General comments

Candidates engaged well with the topic.

Most candidates attempted all the questions. This ensured that they had the best chance of achieving marks. All candidates should remember that a blank answer will receive 0 mark. It is always best to try to answer, as it may be possible to award marks.

The marks available for each question show the number of points needed in the answer. Candidates should always try to write the expected number of points.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1 (a)–(e)

Candidates were expected to find words in Text 1 which conveyed the same meaning as the words given in the questions. Candidates found **Questions 1(a), 1(b) and 1(e)** the most challenging.

Question 2 (a)–(e)

Candidates were asked to construct their own sentences using the given words/phrases. Most candidates were successful, however in **Question 2(b)** निर्भरता was confused with निर्भयता. In **Question 2 (c)** कगार पर and कार्यवित्त were either not understood or not attempted. A small number of candidates lifted sentences from the text, which could not be rewarded.

Questions 3 and 4

Questions 3 and 4 assess candidates' comprehension and writing skills by asking questions from two short texts about aspects of a topic.

Question 3

3(a)

3 marks were available for this two-part question. The strongest candidates were able to identify the 3 pieces of information that were required.

3(b) and 3(c)

Weaker candidates had trouble with the key words व्यवसाय and ऊर्जा स्रोत, resulting in incorrect or partial answers.

3(d)

This was answered well by most candidates.

3(e)

4 marks were available for this question. The stronger candidates remembered to draw all the information from the text. Some weaker responses contained general knowledge instead.

Question 4

4(a) and 4(b)

There was a tendency for weaker candidates to lift material directly from the texts, without tailoring the information to meet the specific requirements of the question.

4(c), 4(d) and 4(e)

Candidates generally performed well in these questions.

Quality of Language (Questions 3 and 4)

Most candidates were able to express the information from the text in their own words, with a good level of accuracy. Where candidates lifted chunks of material from the texts, this could not be rewarded as it did not demonstrate the candidates' own use of language.

Question 5

5(a) Candidates engaged well with the summary writing exercise. Good candidates structured their points systematically and succinctly, keeping well within the word limit.

5(b) This question asked candidates to express their personal response to the topic. Candidates expressed their own ideas well.

Language

The language used by good candidates was mostly accurate. Some complex sentences were used to express ideas. Common tenses and regular verbs were mostly correctly formed. Weaker candidates tended to make persistent errors with tenses, nouns, adjectives and verb agreement.

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Paper 8687/03
Essay

Key messages

Candidates should ensure their essay answers the question that has been asked, rather than being an essay on the general topic area.

It is advisable to take a short time to plan the structure of the response before beginning to write, to improve the overall quality of the essay.

Candidates should take care over spelling. A firm grasp of grammar is needed, and an area of focus could be singular and plural forms of words, which seems to have caused problems this year.

General comments

Many interesting essays were seen, with a wide variety of performance. Better candidates showed a good understanding of the question, an ability to sustain an argument with points and evidence, and a high standard of language which included a variety of vocabulary and idioms.

It is important to take care over the structure of the response. A tightly focused piece reads very well and will be rewarded accordingly, whilst an answer with few links between sub-points can lead to a meandering answer which will gain few marks.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

This topic was 'human relations'. The question was on the idea that the real test of human relations only occurs at the time of a crisis. Candidates who chose to answer this question showed that they understood the topic clearly and they were able to give some interesting viewpoints. Most candidates included some valuable suggestions and developed their points with good examples.

Question 2

This topic was on whether the primary responsibility of law is to provide security of the nation and ensure justice for citizens. Very few candidates attempted this question. Most answers were limited, demonstrating an incomplete understanding of the question.

Question 3

This question was on the topic of 'work and leisure'. The question asked if it is necessary to achieve good health and efficient work in today's fast world and busy life. This question was attempted by many candidates. Most candidates who attempted this question supported the idea of setting time aside for rest and activities other than work. Most candidates effectively articulated their reasons for taking time out for rest and family time.

Question 4

This year's topic of 'war and peace' was attempted by very few candidates. In order to do well, candidates needed to discuss the link between war and various conditions.

Question 5

This question was focused on the topic of the environment. Specifically, candidates were asked to debate the question of whether humans have forgotten their relationship with the environment because of greed for uncontrolled industrial expansion. Several candidates attempted this question. Good answers focused on industrial expansion as required by the question. Weaker candidates included reasons that did not explicitly explain the human greed. These answers meandered around the topic instead of addressing the question.