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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.**

AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE

GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Paper 8679/01

Speaking

General comments

Most candidates appeared to be very well prepared for the Speaking tests, and, as a result, most scored high marks.

Comments on individual sections

Presentation

In general, candidates gave well organised presentations on a range of interesting topics. There was a high degree of accuracy in pronunciation and linguistic accuracy and a wide range of vocabulary was used.

Topic Conversation

Most candidates spoke fluently and responded with little or no hesitation with answers that were relevant to the questions posed by the Examiner.

General Conversation

Candidates showed that they could express themselves clearly and spontaneously when talking about a range of subjects and issues. Candidates' use of the language was, on the whole, very good.

Paper 8679/02

Reading and Writing

General comments

Most candidates possessed reasonably good writing skills and a fairly wide range of vocabulary. However, there were a number of candidates who resorted to copying some of their answers directly from the texts for which they could not receive credit.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

A number of candidates struggled with parts **(a)** and **(b)**, but most coped well with the remaining questions, especially **(d)** and **(e)**.

Question 2

- (a)** Most candidates gave excellent answers here.
- (b)** A number of candidates appeared to have interpreted the question wrongly.
- (c)** Most candidates struggled to find the right answer.
- (d)** Most candidates gained good marks here.

Question 3

Most candidates answered these comprehension questions better than they did **Questions 1 and 2**.

- (a) Most candidates answered correctly.
- (b) Most candidates answered correctly.
- (c) A number of candidates failed to give more than one reason.
- (d) Most candidates did well here.
- (e) Most candidates found this question challenging.
- (f)(g) Most candidates scored full marks.

Question 4

- (a) Most candidates got the correct answer.
- (b) Most candidates answered well, giving all the required details.
- (c) Most candidates did not know what this expression meant.
- (d) Most candidates answered the two parts of the question correctly.
- (e) The majority managed to find the four differences asked for.
- (f) This question posed no problems for most candidates.

Question 5

- (a) Many candidates struggled to answer this question as their vocabulary was too limited to write a comprehensive response.
- (b) Most candidates did as the task required of them and gave a personal response to the question. A very small number, however, resorted to copying chunks from the two texts.

<p>Paper 8679/03 Essay</p>
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General comments

Most candidates showed good writing skills and the ability to argue and draw conclusions in relevant, well-planned essays.

Comments on individual questions

Question 1

Most candidates who chose this topic did well. In particular, one candidate argued that foreign tourists should study the culture of the country they want to visit to ensure they treat the places they visit and the people that live in them with respect.

Question 2

Most candidates seemed to agree that youths will develop independence if they are not interfered with too much by their parents. However, not all were able to back up their claims with convincing arguments, which meant that their essays read more like a list of opinions, rather than a persuasive and coherent whole.

Question 3

Candidates were able to present both advantages and disadvantages of vegetarian eating and/or a vegetarian lifestyle. One candidate went further and wrote an interesting essay in which they compared a vegetarian diet with another popular diet.

Question 4

Only a very small number of candidates chose this topic.

Question 5

On the whole, the response to this topic was excellent, with most candidates giving detailed and well-illustrated descriptions of the past, present and future state of the language in South Africa. Most used a wide range of vocabulary and idioms.

Question 6

The response to this topic was, generally, disappointing as suggestions for improvement of safety in public spaces were often rather vague and not well thought out.