

HINDI LITERATURE

Paper 8675/04

Texts

Key messages

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

- answer the required number of questions, in accordance with the instructions provided on the front cover of the examination paper
- plan their work carefully
- focus on the specific question asked rather than on re-telling the story.

General comments

A wide range of performance was seen. A number of candidates demonstrated a good understanding of the texts. There was an improvement in candidates' adherence to the rubric instructions: only a few candidates infringed the rubric by attempting to answer both parts (k) and (kh) of the same question.

Paying close attention to the wording of questions was an area for improvement. Many candidates tried to provide plot summaries instead of addressing the different sub-parts of their chosen questions. Some candidates seemed not to have understood their chosen questions in full.

In weaker performances, there were quite a few cases of candidates offering pre-learned answers that lacked relevance.

Not all candidates were able to express themselves in Standard Hindi.

Comments on specific questions

Part 1

Question 1

- (k) There were a few strong answers, but the majority of the candidates who attempted this question did not analyse Kaushalya's mental state or offer any interpretation of the verses.
- (kh) Performance on this question was generally weak. Most answers did not refer to 'nirgun sadhna'. Only a very small minority of candidates produced examples from the text to support their answers.

Question 2

- (k) This question was sometimes answered well. Most candidates were able to give the gist of the poem. In many cases, however, certain lines did not seem to have been understood well by candidates. Very few candidates made a satisfactory comment on the 'भाषा एवं भाव सौंदर्य'.
- (kh) Performance on this question was generally satisfactory. Some found it difficult to interpret and develop Pant's and Mahadevi's conceptualisation of "भाषा एवं भाव सौंदर्य".

Question 3

- (k) This was a popular question and the context was usually identified correctly by candidates. However, only a minority offered a complete interpretation.

- (kh) Many candidates attempted this question. Answers were not always clear regarding each of the periods. Sometimes the answers showed some confusion. Very few candidates produced any examples in support of their answers.

Question 4

- (k) This question proved to be very popular with candidates. In general, performance was reasonably good. Some candidates gave very passionate descriptions of the 'मूल समस्या'. Only a few candidates showed understanding and appreciation of how to explain 'कथा वस्तु'.
- (kh) This was another popular question. Most candidates attempted it well and wrote passionately about the character of Savitri.

Questions 5(k) and (kh)

These questions were attempted by many candidates. In most cases, candidates seemed to find the questions straightforward and answered with passion. However, very few of those who attempted (k) gave a comment on the appropriateness of the title of the story.

Questions 6(k) and (kh)

Very few candidates attempted these questions. In general, those who did produced interesting answers. An area of weakness in answers to 6(kh) was that most candidates did not fully comment on the conflict in the mind of the hero.