

SINHALA

Paper 3205/01
Composition

Key messages

Generally, we have seen an average standard in the way the candidates have answered the paper. However, it is evident that a number of candidates were struggling with vocabulary and correct construction of sentences. The examiners have made all the efforts to not to penalise the candidates over their bad construction of sentences if the required parts and information were in them.

General comments

Teachers should make every effort to enrich the vocabulary of the candidates. We have seen instances where candidates have tried making words to express some ideas in the absence of required words having come into their mind. There were some instances where the candidates have even used English words instead of Sinhala words in their writings.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

Choice of most of the candidates have been either **(a)** or **(c)**. There were successful answers for both **(a)** and for **(c)**.

Very few have chosen **(b)**.

Section B

Question 2

Choice of most of the candidates have been **(a)** or **(b)**. Third choice has been **(c)**.

Very few have selected **(d)**, but those who have selected this have done it well. Very well constructed essays were written by those who have selected **(a)**.

However, very creatively some candidates have written good essays on **(b)** with their imaginations used.

Nevertheless the priority has always given to writing, construction of sentences, vocabulary and good language.

SINHALA

Paper 3205/02
Translation and Reading
Comprehension

Key messages

On average candidates have performed well in this paper. However, it would have been better if the candidates had spent some time on understanding the texts properly before any attempt to answer questions as haste has been reflected in writings.

General comments

The teachers should concentrate on expanding the vocabulary of the candidates.

It is evident that the candidates have found difficult at times to express ideas due to their limited knowledge of the language.

More attention seems to be required in encourage to read in the language.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1

Majority of the candidates have answered well for this question.

Those who have received fewer marks for this question have done so due to rushing without understanding 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 scored well for these questions (**3 to 12**) as they have been good at finding answers from the text. It must have been easier for them to find answers as short answers were accepted for the questions without the need to construct full sentences. However the intended comprehension aspect has been well demonstrated.