

# FIRST LANGUAGE URDU

Paper 3247/01  
Reading and Writing

## Key messages

All candidates are required to spare some time to read the instructions very carefully before attempting the questions. They need to read and understand the demand of the questions in order to get maximum marks. There are two parts in this paper, i.e. **Part 1 – Reading** and **Part 2 – Writing**. All candidates are required to answer all questions in part one and select one question from part two. Those who read the questions and answered carefully, they scored high or full marks.

## General comments

The majority of candidates performed extremely well and answered the questions after having read the whole passage with full care. It has been observed that this year the candidates' responses were much better. It seemed that they were fully prepared for their examination. However, as usual, there were some candidates who did not read the passage carefully and did not understand the demand of the questions; these candidates were not able to achieve good marks.

## Comments on specific questions

### **Part 1**

#### **Question 1**

A passage was given about travel and tourism and candidates were asked to answer nine questions with reference to the given passage. Many candidates were able to answer these questions correctly and were able to score either full marks or very good marks. The candidates showed a good command of language and structure, as well as content. Most candidates demonstrated the ability to write very detailed and comprehensive responses and showed confident use of complex sentences.

This question tests understanding of the content of the text, both explicit and implicit. Most candidates performed well, except **Question (iv)** many candidates could not understand the question and missed the word, 'bird' پرندے in the answer and lost one mark. In **Questions (ii)** and **(iii)**, some students mixed up their answers, but still many candidates answered these questions very well. Most candidates achieved full marks in the last question, as there were many possible points candidates could write from the paragraph.

#### **Advice to candidates**

Candidates are advised to read the passage more than once and underline the main points. Then, they should read the question and try to answer in light of the passage but in their own words to get full marks. It should be noted that if the question is worth one mark, the examiner expects one point and if it is worth four marks, four points are expected by the examiner. Candidates should take care to write neatly and use either dark blue or black pen, not pencil.

## **Part 2**

### **Question 2**

Candidates were required to write an essay on one of the four topics provided. This year almost all questions were popular.

### **Question 2**

#### **(i) Argumentative essay**

Not many of the candidates attempted question (i) (The future of joint family system, bright or dark?) They were asked to cover both aspects of the joint family system, but many candidates only describe the importance of the joint family system, and so lost marks for contents and structure.

#### **(ii) Discursive essay**

Many candidates answered this question (The basic reason of the crime is lack of education). Many candidates answered this question very well according to the demand of the question and gained maximum marks.

#### **(iii) Descriptive essay**

The demand of this question was to describe a scene of cricket match in your city ground. Many candidates lost marks at the start of the question because they added irrelevant details about things before the match starts. On the other hand, some candidates described just a few important details of the match, such as players' arrival in the field and the fact that the match was very interesting. Those who described the scene of the match with full detail scored full marks in this question.

#### **(iv) Narrative essay**

This question was of the most popular question this year. A good number of the candidates chose this question. It was a creative writing task. Many candidates who wrote on this topic did not fulfil the demand of the question. For example, many candidates did not start the essay from where they were supposed to start; so part of their story was irrelevant to the question. Some candidates were unable to bring the narrative to a suitable ending, losing marks for structure. Some candidates did not describe the fear of those noises coming from the field and how they were feeling, etc. This year most candidates did not score high marks in this particular question.

### **Advice to candidates**

Candidates are advised to spend some time to deciding which topic to write on. Once they have decided, they should write down the bullet points and write a draft, and then they should write their response. They need to read the question fully and understand the demand of the question to score high marks. Candidates are also advised to write their answers in the booklet in the correct sequence. If a continuation booklet is used, candidates should indicate this clearly on the page.

# FIRST LANGUAGE URDU

Paper 3247/02  
Texts

## Key messages

All candidates should spend time to read the instructions very carefully before attempting the questions. They need to read and understand the demand of the questions in order to achieve the highest possible marks. There are three parts in this paper, i.e. **Part 1 – Unseen passage**, **Part 2 – Poetry** and **Part 3 – Prose**. All candidates are required to answer **Question 1** and select one question from **Part 2** and one question from **Part 3**.

## General comments

The question paper was set on the prescribed texts. The majority of the candidates performed extremely well and selected questions from both **Parts 2 and 3** including unseen passage. This year, not many candidates achieved high marks when responding to **Question 1** unseen passage. Some candidates understood the demand of the questions in the paper and answered all the questions very confidently, scoring high or full marks.

## Comments on specific questions

### **Part 1**

#### **Question 1 – (Unseen Passage)**

This was compulsory question in **Part 1**. Candidates were required to read the passage and explain what complaint poet has made and how the relationship between nation and an individual has been described through imagery. Many candidates did not appear to have understood the question, and just wrote on their own ideas about the story. Those who explained the question with examples scored high marks.

#### **Advice to candidates**

Candidates are required to read the unseen passage very carefully. Read the question and understand the demand of the question. Sometimes examiner asks more than one thing in the question and to score high marks candidates have to answer all parts of the question. The bullet points given at the end of the question are there to help candidates, but it is not necessary to use these in order to score high marks. Higher marks are awarded where candidates are able to use their own words when answering the question.

### **Part 2 – (Poetry)**

#### **Question 2**

This question was on Mir Taqi Mir's ghazal and was equally popular as **Question 3**. Candidates showed that they were fully prepared for this question and they wrote excellent answers to this question. Full marks were awarded to those candidates who wrote with reference to the ghazal and quoted verses from the Mir's work in the syllabus. Most candidates demonstrated their ability to understand the sentiments expressed in Mir's poetry. However, a few candidates did not answer the question, instead writing about their own ideas, and so were not able to score high marks.

### Question 3

This question was on Syed Zameer Jafree's poem. It was another very popular question. There was a variety of answers to this question. Some candidates wrote only an essay without any reference from his poetry. Others wrote mainly about the life history of the poet and did not address the demand of the question. Many candidates gave good answers to this question with reference to the poetry and scored high marks.

The candidates who were able to appreciate the poet's use of humour in the verses scored high or full marks. It was pleasing to read that they demonstrated depth in understanding and interpreting the poet's work.

### Part 3 – Prose

### Question 4

This question was on 'Aak Thee Fakhta' by Mansah Yaad. Many candidates chose this question. Most candidates were able to answer very well and gave descriptive accounts of the author's views. In addition, they provided their own comments in appreciation of his work.

This question was very popular, and those who gave full details of the text and whose answers were full of references from the work of the author and his essay in the syllabus scored high or full marks.

### Question 5

Very few candidates gave good answers to this question. The majority simply explained the learnt extracts without concentrating on the focus (شاطر، چرب زبان اور غدار انسان) of the question. Some candidates simply reproduced the text without question's demands due to lack of comparison skills required for this question.

### Advice to candidates

Candidates are strongly advised to read the syllabus and understand the demand. All candidates are required by the syllabus to read all the set texts. They should write answers in sequence and should not mix up one with the other to avoid confusion. They should very clearly write on the top of each page which question they are answering and when they use any extra sheet, they should write which question they are continuing.