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# **Examiners' Report**

## Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2017

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE  
In Gujarati (4GU0) Paper 1

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This year the number of entries was slightly higher than last year. The paper was considered suitable and an appropriate test for the whole range of abilities. The overall performance of candidates was of a very good standard. It demonstrated secure knowledge of language and enjoyment of the subject. Most of the candidates demonstrated their knowledge and understanding of grammatical rules with accuracy and adopted an appropriate formal style of Gujarati language. It also included accuracy in spellings and style with a good range of structures presented.

The majority of candidates managed to demonstrate their translation skills for both English to Gujarati and Gujarati to English.

They showed their flexibility in communication in writing essays and letters in Gujarati. They were successful in manipulating the language accurately to organise facts and ideas, presenting explanations, opinions and information in writing.

Higher ability candidates demonstrated extensive vocabulary, idioms and structure, a secure grasp of tense concept/ time reference, use of more complex structures and a clear ability to manipulate language to suit the task.

The middle ability candidates generally performed well and were accurate, but the range they used was fairly limited. Demonstrating a wider range of language could have improved their overall quality mark. Some candidates misunderstood some points and had some major omissions along with a degree of irrelevance and repetition. There was some evidence of correct time sequences but mostly candidates were inconsistent and insecure. Quality of Language was fairly accurate and simple but there was inconsistency in application of grammar, syntax and morphology when attempting more complex language.

### **Q. 1. Sentences testing grammatical knowledge:**

The majority of candidates performed very well.

Q. 1 (a) Most of them translated correctly but a few candidates translated the word “**public**” as people (in Gujarati there are different words for public such as પુજા, જનતા, લોકો which means **people**) but in Gujarati public transport should be written as “જાહેર વાહનવ્યવહાર”.

Q. 1 (b) and (c) Almost all the candidates performed very well.

Q.1 (d) Most of the candidates performed very well.

Q.1 (e) Some of the candidates could not translate the word “Museum” in Gujarati and transliterated.

There was some evidence of the use of correct grammar for translation.

### **Q. 2. Translation into Gujarati: Transmission:**

Some candidates showed their skill with a clear grasp of detail and excellent transfer of inference, nuance and idiom.

The majority of the candidates successfully translated into Gujarati and showed their transmission skill by providing competent rendering of original text with grasp of most detail, nuance and idiom.

However some candidates failed to transmit successfully as some very straightforward sections were misunderstood.

### **Quality of language:**

Some of the candidates showed a high level of accuracy overall with occasional basic errors, usually in more complex language. They used a wide range of lexis and structure appropriate to the task, and the grasp of tone concept/ time sequence was generally secure. On the other hand some candidates showed inaccuracies in basic grammar, although narrative sections, usually short and straightforward, were in general correct; lexis and structure appropriate to the task tended to be adequate with several items unknown. Some of the candidates misunderstood large sections and there was limited awareness of tense concept/ time sequence and basic errors in all aspects of grammar.

This question was about the media, a topic candidates appear to general enjoy. A variety of good Gujarati vocabulary was used by some candidates for messages such as 'દૂત, ખબરી, સમાચારી etc.' and for engrave such as 'કોતરવું, ઘસવું'. On the other hand some translated pigeon as 'ચકલી (sparrow), પંખી (bird) or કાગલ (crows) instead of કબૂતર'.

### **Q. 3. Translation into English:**

This question was about holidays. Most of the candidates performed very well. Some of the candidates found it difficult to translate the words "તણ (stress) and ઊજણ (picnic)." Most of them misunderstood 'મણતલ' which means enjoying, but translated as 'મનતલ' which means belief.

On the whole, Question 3 performed better than Question 2, although there were similar errors for Transmission and Quality of language as in Q.2.

### **Q. 4 Essay writing in Gujarati**

There were four options for candidates to choose from; meaning they could choose the one they found most interesting and on which they felt most confident. Q. 4b was the most popular, then Q. 4c and Q. 4d. Q. 4a was the least popular.

(a) "Imagine you are the head of your school. What would you change?"

This question was attempted by only a small number of candidates. As this was about becoming a head of school the candidates described about their new ideas and thoughts of changes they would like to make to their school for the benefit of the younger generation. Those that attempted this question wrote about their experience of how they could make their school better in variety of way.

(b) "Would you prefer to live in a city or a village?"

This was the most popular question which was attempted by the majority of candidates. Candidates succeeded in writing about rural and village life and the benefits and disadvantages in cities and villages. The majority commented on liking to stay for a short while in villages but preferring to live in cities as there are more advantages than villages, especially in today's modern world where there are more facilities available in cities.

(c) "Who is your favourite Bollywood actor/actress? Why?"

This was the third most popular question. Candidates attempting it performed very well. As this was about their own interests candidates expressed their feelings about their favourite hero or celebrity and their ambitions to become like them. They also explained what is so special about their hero, discussing either the talent or the personal lifestyle which they would like to adopt.

(d) "Physical education is an important part of a child's school life. Do you agree?"

This was the second most popular question. As this was about physical education, the very health conscious candidates described it very well. They expressed their feelings about how important it is to do regular exercise in your daily life in this fast changing world. They also mentioned that ready meals are not very healthy but it's necessary to have them owing to the very busy lifestyle of today's population, so it is essential to include physical education in the school syllabus for the better future of the children.

## **Grade Boundaries**

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