

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2016

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE
In Tamil (4TA0) Paper 01
Written Paper

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Overall, the students who sat the Tamil International GCSE exam 2016 performed well.

On the whole the paper was challenging. Quality of the questions were same as the previous years and the candidates' work generally in good standard. Majority of the candidates found the paper well within their limit and attempted all questions.

Question1.

Most of the candidates understood the concept of the question and translated the words correctly. Words such as "from, but, because, over, if" A few could not write the right Tamil word for "over" in part (d). A few made mistake in forming the sentences in the grammatical order. Majority of the candidates attempted all sections of this question and score good marks.

Question 2.

The majority of the candidates understood the concept of the passage and translated very well. A very few at the lower end and could not complete the task.

Question 3.

The Tamil to English translation was about importance of sport. A majority of the candidates did the translation very well. Possibly most of them liked the topic and the words were familiar so that they understood the text and did the translation very well.

Question4.

Wide range of topics covered in the essay topic. This section was answered by all candidates. A few scored good marks. The top end of the candidates did well and more pleasant to read their essays. Lower end candidates made grammatical and spelling mistakes in forming the sentences.

(A) A few attempted this heading. Those who attempted understood the topic and showed lively imagination.

(B) The candidates who attempted this topic argued very well the advantages and disadvantages of using social media for communication. As it seems to be their daily life style they used good vocabulary.

(C) A number of candidates attempted this question and described very well. They have shown the creative thinking on their writing.

(D) A few candidates attempted this question. They explained their vision and the problem of becoming doctors.

Concluding remarks:

On the whole the paper seems well balanced and used the current topics for translations and essay writing. However I noticed in Tamil to English and English to Tamil translation, one part of the candidates used key vocabulary in Tamil while they were doing English to Tamil translation. At the same time other part i.e. Tamil to English translation demonstrated good knowledge of key vocabulary in English. This shows all candidates were good in understanding the topics well in their command of the language.

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