

Examiners' Report

GCE O Level Hindi (7620)

June 2006

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The paper was well received by the majority of candidates and all questions were attempted. The majority of the candidates produced a high standard of work and scored good marks. A very small number of candidates did not score as well, due to spelling mistakes and poor quality of language which made very difficult for examiners to read their answers. The overall performance of candidates has improved in all sections of the paper.

Question 1

Question one had addressed the topic of shopping. Particular reference was made to shopping in Indian markets, with bargaining being an essential skill to buy goods cheaper. This question was generally well answered by most of the candidates and they scored good marks. The candidates' demonstrated good understanding and familiarity with the vocabulary used in the passage. The majority of the candidates understood the language, context and content, and were able to translate the passage into English by using the appropriate vocabulary. A small number of candidates couldn't translate the passage in full and omissions of key phrases and ideas were left.

The common mistakes and difficult words or phrases were as follows:

सौदेबाज़ी :	'bargaining' – A majority of candidates used 'dealing or making a deal'.
एक ही दाम :	'Fixed price' a few candidates translated this 'as same price', 'final price' or 'only one price'.
निर्धारित :	'Determined' – A lot of candidates found this word difficult to translate into English but they understood what it meant.
सैलानी :	'Visitor' – Many candidates used 'foreigner' instead.
वैध :	'Legitimate' in this context but some less able candidates translated it as a 'doctor or chemist'.

As all candidates were familiar with the situation portrayed in the extract, most of them were all able to convey the meaning into English language.

Question 2

In this question, the candidate was asked to translate a passage regarding travelling and working abroad. A number of points were covered such as substandard jobs and working longer hours for less pay. Candidates demonstrated good understanding of the vocabulary and language used in the passage. A majority of candidates completed the task successfully, by using an accurate and wide range of vocabulary. The words and phrases which were commonly omitted, misunderstood or translated in an incorrect context are as follows:

Tourist industry: 'पर्यटन उद्योग' but it was translated as 'पर्यटन विभाग' .
Hotspot: 'जिस जगह बहुत लोग जाते हैं' was not translated by a majority of candidates.

While marking this question it was felt strongly that the situation portrayed in the extract was received well by all candidates.

Question 3

This question was well attempted by many candidates, and they have managed to score maximum marks. However, spelling mistakes, syntax errors and verb agreements were often found on this section. A small number of candidates had difficulty in translating park as it has been adapted by Hindi language. Another common error was the omission of key words in translated Hindi sentences. On the whole all candidates did well at this question and they managed to score very good marks.

Question 4

This question required candidates to write an essay of between 200 to 250 words on one of the four given topics.

The most popular choice was (A) 'an unforgettable incident in your life'. A great majority of candidates wrote good essays, writing about their personal experiences and views.

Second popular choice was (D) 'writing a letter to their friend asking him/her to go to see a concert'. They wrote good letters persuading their friends to come with them to see the concert.

A small number of candidates chose (B) an essay on Mobile phones – 'A blessing or a curse'. These candidates described the importance of having a mobile phone giving their views on the matter and explaining their disadvantages. Choice (C) 'What if all fast food restaurants were to close?', was

the least favourite and was attempted by a very small number of candidates. Their essays were very interesting to read and candidates scored good marks.

All of the topics were appropriate and candidates had a lot to write about as they were based on their immediate experiences. On the whole, the language content and style of writing appeared to be of a good standard and a majority of candidates managed to score good marks.

Concluding remarks

On the whole this paper appeared to be fair and well balanced. Although most candidates showed adequate knowledge of key vocabulary, many spelling mistakes and syntax error were found. Candidates should devote more time to learn the grammatical and syntactical rules of sentence structure as well as spelling as these are keys to score maximum marks. Overall standard of work produced by the candidates seemed to be of a better standard than previous year.

GRADE BOUNDARIES

Grade	A	B	C	D	E
Lowest mark for award of grade	76	68	61	56	42

Note: Grade boundaries may vary from year to year and from subject to subject, depending on the demands of the question paper.
