

NEPALI

Paper 3202/01

Paper 1

General comments

Although the overall performance of the candidates was satisfactory, there were some who wrote only a few lines in answer to most of the questions. Consequently, as a whole, candidates performed worse than last year.

Few basic grammatical errors were evident, but wrong spellings were frequent, which was somewhat surprising at this level, especially because Nepali is a phonetic language. Performance would have undoubtedly been better had candidates read more widely, e.g. newspaper articles, in order to boost their spelling and vocabulary.

Individual questions

Section A – Composition

Most candidates attempted the two compositions they had to write successfully. A few candidates did not have basic essay writing skills, which was illustrated by the fact that their essays lacked structure. Candidates are reminded that they have to plan their essay before they start writing.

Section B – Translation

Most candidates struggled in this section. Some tried to translate only a few sentences or even left out all. The main reason for this was that candidates lacked the necessary vocabulary and grammatical skills in Nepali and English to tackle the task properly. Echoing a point made at the beginning of this report, candidates should be reminded that they need to read widely in preparation for the exam in order to increase their vocabulary and stylistic skills. Candidates who do not read newspapers or books in Nepali risk losing out on scoring marks in this section of the exam, and this will have a detrimental effect on their overall performance.

Section C - Comprehension

About half of the candidates struggled to find the correct answers to the questions even though the information was clearly available from the text. This suggests that candidates need to practise their comprehension skills more thoroughly in future, using past papers.