

ARABIC LANGUAGE

Paper 8680/21
Reading and Writing

Key Messages

In order to do well in this paper candidates should:

- expand their range of vocabulary by reading more widely, and learn antonyms;
- practise use of all types of pronouns;
- learn correct conjugation of verbs;
- practise use of correct cases of the verb, particularly with the accusative particles;
- practise the agreement of adjectives;
- select *relevant* information when responding to comprehension questions and the summary.

General Comments

Overall, the standard of answers was good and it was clear that candidates were well prepared for this examination. There were some very interesting opinions expressed in **Question 5 (b)**.

Candidates should be reminded not to copy out sections of the text and, as far as possible, they should use their own words and phrases, particularly in response to **Questions 3, 4 and 5**.

Comments on Specific Questions

Question 1

The majority of candidates managed to provide correct synonyms in this question.

Question 2

Most candidates performed well in this question, however **(a)** and **(b)** proved to be more challenging for some candidates. In **(b)** some candidates omitted the letter waw in **يُعوّد**, overlooking the fact that the verb conjugation needed to match the future tense negation particle.

Question 3

Many candidates answered this question well. In **(c)** candidates were required to identify in paragraph 4 four traditional features of a well-educated person. Many candidates provided only three features.

Question 4

There were some very good responses to this question. Many candidates managed to identify the correct information from the passage. Although in **(d)** many candidates only provided one function of the communications programmes.

Question 5

There were many good answers to this question by candidates who managed to select the relevant ideas from both texts and summarise them in their own words in a well-structured manner.

- (a) A number of candidates did not manage to mention 10 ideas about the influence of technology on people's lives. Candidates are reminded to adhere to the word limit and to avoid generalisations which are usually too vague to score marks.
- (b) There were a number of interesting responses to this question and many candidates described the influence of technology on their daily lives and how much they depended on it.

ARABIC LANGUAGE

Paper 8680/22
Reading and Writing

Key Messages

In order to do well in this paper candidates should:

- expand their range of vocabulary by reading more widely, and learn antonyms
- practice use of all types of pronouns
- learn correct conjugation of verbs ,especially irregular forms
- practise use of correct cases of the verb, particularly the accusative
- practise the agreement of adjectives
- practise selecting *relevant* information from *both* articles to write a summary

General comments

Overall candidates appeared to be well-versed in the expectations of this exam. More confident candidates were able to answer questions in their own words with sound grammar and spelling. Weaker candidates either struggled to understand the texts or to express ideas in their own words.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

Candidates were asked to look for antonyms of the stated vocabulary. The correct answers were as follows:

- أ . كل
ب . يقل، يصغر، يضمحل، يتفرد .
ت . السهلة، البسيطة، المرنة .
ث . سوء .
ج . قبيحا، بشعا .

Many candidates misunderstood the question, writing synonyms instead of providing antonyms. Some incorrect answers were as follows:

- أ . قسما، جزءا، اختراعا، قطعة، شكلا .
ب . يزداد، تزداد، يتقوى، يزيد .
ت . المتدفقة، فائقة، مهمة، متفرقة، المتحرك، غير المعقدة، ثانوية .
ث . خير، لطيف، جمال .
ج . مهما، اختراعا جديدا، اهمية، مقبولا، فرعيا، طبيعيا، ممتعا، جيلا .

Question 2

Candidates were asked to rewrite sentences using the words stated in brackets. The correct answers were as follows:

- أ . انتشر الفن على طول المساحة الجغرافية الإسلامية .
ب . لن تكون النافورات مجرد بذخ .
ت . إنها وجه من فلسفة الحضارة الإسلامية .
ث . هذا الأسلوب هو منهج إسلامي .
ج . يحمل صحن النافورة مئة أسدٍ .

Almost all candidates answered (ب) and (ج) incorrectly therefore teachers should be reminded to focus on use of the accusative and of numbers. Some incorrect answers were as follows:

- انتشرت الفن . أ
لن تكن، لن كان . ب
انها وجهه، انها وجهة . ت
منهج اسلامية . ث
منة اسداً، منة اسداً، منة اسود، منة اسدة . ج

Question 3

The majority of candidates have answered this question well.

Question 4

The majority of candidates have answered questions (أ), (ب), (ت) and (ث) well. Many candidates were unable to answer question (ج) fully. In some instances, candidates copied sections of the text instead of writing in their own words.

Question 5

Candidates made a good attempt at this question. They must be reminded to summarise both articles rather than heavily relying on the first article alone.

ARABIC LANGUAGE

Paper 8680/31

Essay

Key Messages

Essays written for this paper need to be accurate in terms of language used, with ideas well organised and coherent. Arguments need to be supported with examples when necessary. In some Centres, it was observed that a number of candidates wrote very similar introductions which seemed to have been prepared before the exam. It is highly recommended for teachers to advise their students to be more creative and provide their own vision in their writing.

General Comments

This is an essay paper for which candidates are required to compose one essay from a choice of five topics. The essay is marked out of 40, with 16 marks for the Content and 24 marks for Quality of Language.

Candidates who scored highly in **Question 1** provided more relevant examples about the duties of students towards their schools and families. Strong answers to **Question 2** were characterised by focussing on how familial problems can result in an increase of crime. Some students provided personal examples in this instance. **Question 3** responses which scored well delved into examples where athletes have exceeded expectations in the fields of work and study. High performing responses for **question 4** were characterised by being able to debate that job seekers do not need to solely depend on their academic qualifications to attain a job. The best **Question 5** responses considered different opinions on animal experimentation and analysed the reasons behind each stance.

Comments on Specific Questions

Question 1

This question was popular, and answered by many candidates. Candidates discussed and gave examples of how students can strike a balance between their studies and their family commitments.

Question 2

This topic was less popular. Candidates discussed how domestic family issues can affect the increase of crime in society.

Question 3

This question was the most popular among candidates. A large number of the responses were high in calibre. Most of the essays began with the importance of the sports in general. They then gave examples of how practising sports can improve one's performance academically as well as in the workplace.

Question 4

This essay choice was attempted by a number of candidates. Within some centres, candidates shared the opinion of how knowing someone can at times trump their lack of academic qualifications. Candidates expressed their opinion clearly.

Question 5

This essay prompt was the least popular, answered by very few candidates.

ARABIC LANGUAGE

Paper 8680/32

Essay

Key Messages

Essays written for this paper need to be accurate in terms of language used, with ideas well organised and coherent. Arguments need to be supported with examples when necessary. In some Centres, it was observed that a number of candidates wrote very similar introductions which seemed to have been prepared before the exam. It is highly recommended for teachers to advise their students to be more creative and provide their own vision in their writing.

General Comments

This is an essay paper for which candidates are required to compose one essay from a choice of five topics. The essay is marked out of 40, with 16 marks for the Content and 24 marks for Quality of Language.

Candidates who scored highly in **Question 1** provided more relevant examples about the duties of students towards their schools and families. Strong answers to **Question 2** were characterised by focussing on how familial problems can result in an increase of crime. Some students provided personal examples in this instance. **Question 3** responses which scored well delved into examples where athletes have exceeded expectations in the fields of work and study. High performing responses for **question 4** were characterised by being able to debate that job seekers do not need to solely depend on their academic qualifications to attain a job. The best **Question 5** responses considered different opinions on animal experimentation and analysed the reasons behind each stance.

Comments on Specific Questions

Question 1

This question was popular, and answered by many candidates. Candidates discussed and gave examples of how students can strike a balance between their studies and their family commitments.

Question 2

This topic was less popular. Candidates discussed how domestic family issues can affect the increase of crime in society.

Question 3

This question was the most popular among candidates. A large number of the responses were high in calibre. Most of the essays began with the importance of the sports in general. They then gave examples of how practising sports can improve one's performance academically as well as in the workplace.

Question 4

This essay choice was attempted by a number of candidates. Within some centres, candidates shared the opinion of how knowing someone can at times trump their lack of academic qualifications. Candidates expressed their opinion clearly.

Question 5

This essay prompt was the least popular, answered by very few candidates.