

ISIZULU AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Paper 0531/01
Reading and Writing

Key message:

In order to do well in this examination, candidates should:

- in Exercise 1, keep answers brief and to the point as too much information can invalidate a response and create the impression that the candidate has not understood the question
- in Exercise 2, carefully select the information required from the source text
- in Exercise 3, read the bullet points and the source text very carefully to ensure their notes are relevant to the heading
- in Exercise 4, answer succinctly in their own words by avoiding copying word-for-word from the source text, and keep to the word limit
- in Exercises 5 and 7, use paragraphs and carefully proofread their response
- in Exercise 6, carefully read the text and check their answers to ensure they are relevant.

General comments

While some candidates performed very well, and did not have too many problems providing the correct answers, others struggled. Some candidates had trouble understanding the questions and the texts in the reading exercises and/or did not attempt to write a letter in **Exercise 5** or provide views and opinions in response to **Exercise 7**.

Some candidates did not attempt **Exercise 6** and/or **Exercise 7**, or attempted only them only in part.

It seems that some candidates had difficulty managing their time, and thus ended up leaving some of the questions unanswered. It would be beneficial, therefore, for candidates to practise writing past exam papers under exam conditions to make sure that they are able to manage their time effectively.

It is also important to stress that candidates should try to answer questions in full, as half marks cannot be awarded.

Candidates should be encouraged to write as clearly as possible; marks cannot be awarded for illegible responses.

There were some improvements in terms of avoiding the use of Ndebele words, like *hatshi*, in an isiZulu exam. However, Ndebele words, such as the following, did crop up from time to time and should be avoided:

- 'kumbe' (*noma* = or)
- 'njalo' (*futhi* = also)
- 'gada imoto' (*thatha imoto* = to go by car/take the car)
- 'abashana' (*abantwanalizingane* = children)
- 'khathezi' (*manje* = now)
- 'amabala' (*amagamamazwi* = words)
- 'izibizo' (*amagama* = names (of a person))
- 'ukubala' (*ukufunda* = read/learn)
- 'ngoMvulo' (*ngoMsombuluko* = on Monday)
- 'thaba' (*jabula* = to be happy) – the word *thokoza*, used in both Ndebele and isiZulu, could also have been used
- 'buya' (*fika* = to arrive/get to) ('buya' in isiZulu means to return)
- 'inhloko' (*ikhanda* = head of a human being; in isiZulu *inhloko* refers to the head of an animal)

Comments on specific questions

Exercise 1

Some candidates did not answer the first two questions, while others left the first four out. A small number did not attempt the exercise at all.

- (a) The word *'phumula'* was not be accepted, as one can rest somewhere else too. The word *lala* (past tense *lele*) was needed to achieve a mark
- (b) Some of the wrong answers given were:
- *'Ukwazi ukuphumula uvika unomdlandla'*
 - *'Imibhede yakwa Bed King yasiza iqolo/intofontofo'*
- Some responses made little sense, e.g.:
- *'Abantu abakebile bathenga eBed King'*
- (c) Candidates had few problems answering this question. Mistakes included:
- *'Imibhede yabo intofontofo njalo (futhi)'*
 - *'Abazwani uma bephenduka ebusuku'*
- (d) This question was well attempted.
- (e) Quite a large number of candidates gave one part of the answer and were not able to achieve full marks.
- (f) Some candidates offered no response. Wrong answers included:
- *'Nxa ingekho ingekho esimaiesfonde bakunike esinye'* – unclear because of the many spelling mistakes.
 - *'Ngoba odokotela abaningi bayayiwooma'* – also unclear because of spelling mistakes.
- (g) This was also mostly answered correctly although there were some who did not give any response or answered it incorrectly, giving the impression that the question was not understood, e.g.:
- *'Bazoshintsha umbhede wakho'*

Exercise 2

In general, candidates did well in this exercise.

- (a) Hardly anyone got the first part wrong. Mistakes included *'ithuba lokuya phesheya'* or *'eziyi-18'*.
- (b) Candidates who had this wrong often did not understand the word *ubulili* (gender) and therefore wrote incorrect answers, such as:
- *'Isifiso sokuya phesheya'*
 - *'emgwaqeni uBurn drive 70 ku Mandela'*
 - *'Njengamashumi amabili'*
 - *'angama-30'*
- (c) This question was well understood, on the whole. Some wrote *'akanayo iselula''anginayo''akula'*, which was unclear.
- (d) Some candidates only supplied half of the answer needed and could not be credited the mark, e.g.:
- *'Qedile'* (finished with what?)
 - *'Ezimfundweni zolimi'*

- *'Uqedile esikoleni'*

Candidates should ensure that they answer in full sentences where needed to avoid leaving out parts of the required answer.

(e) Only very few answered this answer incorrectly.

(f) This question was generally well answered. Wrong answers included:

- *'Usebenza njengomsizi esitolo'*
- *'UNonkusinakekela nokuzwisisa okukhulu kabi'*
- *'Ungumhlengikazi'* – this is only a small part of the answer

(g) The question was not always properly understood. Incorrect responses included:

- *'Burn drive'*
- *'Ngishayela nginomatric'*
- *'ulimi'* (too brief)

(h) The word *'abashana'* was not be accepted, as it is not an isiZulu word. There were also a couple of candidates who did not attempt the question.

(i) Some wrote *'unyaka owodwa'*, which is incorrect as it is 18 months and also not *'amahora-30'* or *'unyaka'*.

Exercise 3

Generally, fewer candidates had problems with this question than in the past. Candidates should be careful, however, not to give half answers; this is not enough to obtain a mark.

Some spelling mistakes led to confusion, e.g.:

- *'nokusho amathathu nemisho'*
- *'Sifiso sokuphesheya'*
- *'Abasilisa bazi amagama amalutshwane'* (the meaning of the last word is unclear)

The influence of Ndebele was sometimes evident, as in *'nokutsho'*. Candidates are reminded not to add a *t* in front of *sh*, as this is usually not done in isiZulu, unless it is absolutely needed, as in *tshela*, or *tshengisa*. It may be useful to remind speakers of Ndebele of words such as *shaya*, *sho*, *shukula*, where the *t* is not used in isiZulu, but for which a *t* is added in Ndebele.

Exercise 4

There were some good responses for which some candidates achieved full marks, but, as in the past, there were some who did not attempt this question. A small number did not focus on the reasons why children start speaking later and wrote instead about the support parents could give to their children, which was not what was asked for.

Some paragraphs were too disconnected, making it difficult to understand what candidates were trying to communicate. There were also answers which contained a lot of repetition, which limited the score.

Candidates are reminded they have to try to use their own words and should not copy word for word from the stimulus text.

Some of the more frequent grammar and spelling errors included:

- *'Amantombazane bakula masinyane'* (mixing class 6 and 2).
- *'Ezinye ingane'* (mixing class 9 and 10).
- Starting sentences without a capital letter.
- Writing *la* (Ndebele) instead of *na* (isiZulu) – e.g. *'lazo'* instead of *nazo*
- *'uyipendula'* instead of *uyiphendula*
- *'ukuthath_'* without the last letter *a*

Candidates are urged to ensure that the letters *u* and *a* are written clearly to avoid confusion between the two.

Exercise 5

Most candidates understood what to do and wrote a letter to their cousin, as instructed. There was a lack of focus on the task in some answers, which made them partly irrelevant. A small number of answers in which candidates wrote about themselves, or that they were in hospital, or about their school, were entirely irrelevant and could not be credited as a result.

Candidates are again reminded to avoid using Ndebele instead of isiZulu words. Examples of such errors include:

- '*kulekhonsathi*' (means something different in isiZulu)
- '*napha*' (*nalapha* = and/also here)
- '*izibizo*' (*amagama* = names)
- '*yaqala nama-6*' (*yaqala ngo-6* = it started at 6 o' clock)

Candidates are reminded to familiarise themselves with the structure of a letter and always be aware of spelling.

Grammatical mistakes included:

- '*unemphimbo elihle*' (combining class 9 with 5)
- '*umfowethu lami*' (mixing possessives in different classes)
- '*lekhonsathi bengihamba kuyo bekumnandi*' (instead of: *leli khonsathi bengiya kulo belimnandi*, because '*ikhonsathi*' is a noun in class 5)
- '*lqembu lu cula*' (instead of *lqembu licula* = class 5 and written as one word)
- '*koBulawayo*' should be *eBulawayo*, which is the locative used in this case

Exercise 6

As mentioned before, some candidates did not attempt this exercise or did so only in part. There were others who gained full marks, nevertheless.

- (a) Candidates are reminded that half answers do not score, and that they should ensure they have given all the information asked for.

Some wrong answers were:

- '*wayesodayisa amaswidi*'
- '*Idolobha laseRustenburg*'
- '*laziwa kakhulu ngezimayini lapha kumbiwa khona igolide*'

- (b) There were some no responses and some half answers, but generally this question was well attempted.

- (c) Generally well done, but some wrong spellings led to confusion as to what the candidate was trying to say, e.g.:

- '*2009 uKhumbelani watholla ithuba ukuthi a dladla isivivinyo ethuthe eGoli*'
- '*uMn Mkhwanzi wabiza bonke abantu*'

- (d) Some candidates answered '*umsebenzi wakhe wayengawuboni ufaniswa nebhizinisi langempela*', which was incorrect. Many others gave the correct response.

- (e) There were very few difficulties with answering this question. Wrong answers included:

- '*Kwamfundisa ukuthuthukisa*'
- '*Bamfunelsia ukuthi ezifunele imali*'

- (f) This question was not very well answered, on the whole. Incorrect responses were:
- *'Inkampni yakhe yabna (instead of yabona) iphumelela'*
 - *'Wacina eselama bhizimisi wakhe'* (unclear)
 - Half answers, such as *'Wayesekwazi ukuzitholela imali'*
- (g) There were quite a few no responses and wrong answers here, e.g.:
- *'uesqala ibhizinisi lokudayisa ukudla kwasemini kubantu abasebenza ezimayini'* (mix up with the answer for another question)
 - *'Ukuthuthu'*
 - *'Ngokunanzelela amakhono alona akuze athuthukise ibhizinisi lakhe'*
- (h) There weren't many problems with answering this question, although there were some no responses.
- Examples of wrong answers were:
- *'Ngokhuthaza abantu'*
 - *'Emva konke uKhumbulani uthole ithuba lokuhlala phansi kodwa emva iminyaka emihlanu emide'*
- (i) Generally answered quite well but spelling mistakes such as the following made some responses difficult to understand:
- *'Ugoine eseyithandi imsebenzi yezimayini wabona ibalulekile'*
 - *'Ayshintsha'*
 - *'Iphuphu ulilandele malizokuphilisa lashintshe izwi lombhali ukuzamambhizinisi'*

Exercise 7

Although, as in previous years, there were a large number of weaker candidates who did not attempt **Exercise 7** or did not finish it, there were very few who appeared not to have understood the task and wrote an entirely irrelevant response. There were some who got full marks, but also those who, because of spelling mistakes and the lack of paragraphing, did not achieve very high marks. The poor quality of some of the handwriting sometimes made it difficult to read what was written.

Candidates are reminded of words which should be written together in isiZulu, e.g. *'sizo phepha'* should be *sizophepha*. The locative for *isikole* (school) is not *'esikole'* as in Ndebele but *esikoleni*, or when the alternative *isikolo* is used, *'esikolweni'*.

The negative *'Abazali kabanazo izimoto'* should have been *Abazali abanazo izimoto* – there isn't a *'ka'* for the negative.

Mistakes such as *'imsebenzi'* instead of *imisebenzi*, *'abajubulanga'* instead of *abajabulanga*, and *'ngamathisha'* instead of *ngabothisha* suggest more care needs to be taken with spelling in future. Direct translation of English words like *'ama-awa'* (hours) instead of *amahora* and *'amahomuwekhi'* (homework) instead of *umsebenzi wasekhaya wesikolo* will also need to be avoided.

ISIZULU AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Paper 0531/02

Listening

Key message

In order to do well in this examination, candidates should:

- in Exercises 1 and 2, listen carefully and make sure that only one box is ticked
- in Exercises 3 and 4, use the second time items are played to check responses carefully.

General comments

On the whole, candidates performed better than in the Reading and Writing paper.

Candidates are reminded of the need to write their answers clearly. Responses which are illegible cannot be awarded any marks.

As mentioned in the report for Paper 1, candidates have to be extra careful when writing the letters *a* and *u* to ensure they can be properly distinguished from each other and to avoid confusion.

As always, the use of Ndebele words should be avoided in an isiZulu exam.

Comments on specific questions

Exercise 1: Questions 1–6

A small number of candidates answered all the questions in this exercise correctly, although the majority got only a few questions wrong.

Candidates need to make it very clear which box they mean to tick, as a mark cannot be awarded if two boxes are ticked. If candidates wish to correct themselves, they will need to ensure their previous answer is clearly crossed out. The same also applies to **Questions 7–11**.

- 1 This was very well done, with only a small number of candidates getting the question wrong.
- 2 This question was answered less well than the other questions in this exercise.
- 3 Generally well answered.
- 4 Well answered by the majority of the candidates.
- 5 A small group of candidates answered this question incorrectly.
- 6 This question was answered better than **Question 5**.

Exercise 2: Questions 7–11

There was a very small number of candidates who answered all of the questions in this exercise correctly. A few candidates made only one mistake, but the majority of candidates answered at least three of the questions correctly.

- 7 Quite a large number struggled to pick the right answer. Most of the incorrect choices were either for C or A.
- 8 This was tackled better than the previous question.
- 9 The vast majority gave the correct answer here.
- 10 Generally well answered.
- 11 Most candidates chose the correct answer.

Exercise 3: Question 12

There were some candidates who answered all the questions correctly and a small number who got them all wrong. The majority nevertheless managed to accumulate a good score, in spite of a few errors. Candidates are reminded that incomplete answers cannot be awarded any marks.

The following are examples of some of the incorrect answers given (please also refer to the question paper and mark scheme):

- *'imvelo'*
- *'ngendlela abantu abayiphethe ngayo'*
- *'emude ilanda abantu'/'ukubona ilang'*
- *'amanzi', 'amanzi kahle', 'ibakete uku washwa imoto'*
- *'amahlathi'*
- *'banga habi bagawula nomatshubi'*
- *'amadumheli nanuzayo'*
- The next two gaps had the most 'no responses' in this exercise. Incorrect answers included *'ebantwini', 'amabolasi ngoku yinuku yemvelo' and 'celelawo izingawo'*
- *'izifactory'/'ukuphefumula'/'amapepe'/'sithethelele impasha'/'amachimicili'*
- *'sicelele ngawo'* (incomplete)
- *'siwasha ngawo imoto'*
- *'umoya ukugeza ngamanzi'*
- *'lezijaz sitchulu'* (unclear)
- *'nemoya ukupheka'*
- *'ukuwasha ngawo izikwelo'*
- *'ukuphehla ngawo...'* (incomplete answer)

The last question was answered the best, with many getting it right. Some wrong answers were:

- *'Iqashisa abantu'/'asibhekeka nayo'/'izigangi zimele zigeziswe'*

Exercise 4: Questions 13–19

Only a small number of candidates performed exceedingly well by answering all questions correctly. The majority, however, still managed to amass a decent score.

- 13 A fairly large number of candidates answered this question incorrectly, or gave only half of the information required. Incorrect answers included:

'njoba wawe khula...' (unclear)
'uqale ku engering'
'Tshwane University of Technology'
'ekuqaleni konyaka'

- 14 Some candidates only gave half of the answer by writing *'umalume'* (uncle) or gave a wrong answer, such as *'umngane'* (friend). Other incorrect answers were:

'Ubaba wakhe uthuza uMnu Ngobeni'
'Agade ndu ne msebenzi nokubhekana ngo lengerening'
'usimisele ukuti angab isaga no gu yenzel icomputa'

- 15 There were many correct answers, but there were also some 'no responses' and a few wrong and unclear answers, such as:

'ufuna ukusebenzisa iziqu zakhe ukuyenza amamachine'

'wazisenenzisa ukwakha amabhuidi'

'ku muntu othanda imsbenze wan noku funda'

- 16 Answered correctly by most candidates.

- 17 Generally answered well.

- 18 Not many mistakes made here. Most candidates understood this question very well, but there was occasionally some repetition in the three bits of information provided, which meant that not all of the three marks on offer could be awarded.

- 19 There were many correct answers here. Some of the incorrect answers were:

'usisaza noku vikela'

'uthanda ukusza abantu', which is one of the answers for **Question 18**

'beso hamba bayo'

'ngekwaba nenkinga incane ngalokhu'