

HINDI

Paper 9687/02
Reading and Writing

Key messages

The marks available for each question indicate the number of points of information required in the answer.

Question 5(a) assesses summary writing skill; candidates should keep to the prescribed word limit and write a succinct summary on a given focus.

In order to achieve high marks for Language, candidates should use grammatically correct language and a wide vocabulary.

Candidates should try not to leave any question blank. If they are not certain of an answer, it is always advisable to make an attempt, rather than leave the answer completely blank.

General comments

A wide variety of performance was seen. Candidates engaged very well with the topic.

Most candidates demonstrated an ability to write using their own words, with a minimum amount of lifting from the text. Weaker candidates wrote answers from their own experience of the education system or teachers, rather than drawing from the information provided in the texts.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

Candidates were expected to find words from Text 1 which conveyed the same meaning as the given words. Most candidates performed well. Some found **Questions 1(d)** and **1(e)** difficult.

Question 2

Candidates were asked to construct their own sentences using the given words/phrases. Most candidates were successful, however in **Question 2(b)** मूल्यांकन was confused with मूल्य. A small number of candidates lifted sentences from the text, which could not be rewarded.

Question 3 and 4

In these two questions, candidates answered a series of comprehension questions about the two texts. The information given in the answers needed to be drawn from the texts, not from general knowledge or own experience. Candidates were also assessed for the quality of language in their answers.

Question 3

- (a) Only the strongest candidates could answer this correctly.
- (b)(i) This was answered well by most candidates.
- (ii) Some candidates used their own experience to say why it is important to attend classes, rather than drawing their answer from the text.

- (c) (i) This question was only answered correctly by those who could understand the complex sentence in the text.
- (ii) This was mostly answered well.
- (d) It was important to remember to answer both parts of this question.
- (e) Some very good candidates addressed all three points in this three mark question. There was some confusion about रचनात्मक मित्र.

Language

Most candidates were able to express the information from the text in their own words, with a minimum amount of lifting from the text. Accuracy was generally satisfactory to good.

Question 4

- (a)–(f) Generally candidates performed better in this question than in **Question 3**. Good candidates answered all parts of each question. Answers were mostly relevant and drawn from the text. Weaker candidates tended to write incomplete answers.

Language

Most candidates were able to express the information from the text in their own words, with a minimum amount of lifting from the text. Accuracy was generally satisfactory to good.

Question 5

- (a) Good candidates structured their points systematically and succinctly, keeping well within the word limit. Some candidates exceeded the word limit, which meant that marks could not be awarded to material falling outside the limit. In some cases this meant that all of **Question 5b** was ineligible for marks.
- (b) This question asked candidates to express their personal response to the topic.

Language

The language used by stronger candidates was generally accurate, with some complex sentences used to express ideas. In addition, common tenses and regular verbs were mostly correctly formed. Weaker candidates tended to make persistent errors with tenses and verbs.

HINDI

Paper 9687/03
Essay

Key messages

In order to do well, candidates should:

- understand the question
- develop a relevant argument
- draw conclusions
- use generally correct language with some attempt at varied vocabulary and idioms.

General comments

A wide variety of performance was seen. Stronger candidates were able to use their secure grammatical command of the language to express their ideas in a well-structured and engaging essay.

Candidates should understand the focus of the question, to ensure that their essay is relevant and fully addresses the given issue.

In order to achieve high marks, candidates need to have a firm grasp of grammar, for example changing Hindi nouns from singular to plural. Those who did well were able to consistently demonstrate accurate control of grammar in their writing.

Spelling is important, to ensure that the meaning the candidate wishes to convey is not confused by spelling mistakes that prevent understanding.

It is important for candidates to think in Hindi while they are writing. In some weaker responses, it was apparent that the candidate was translating directly from English, which led to awkward Hindi constructions.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

This question asked whether younger family members should take care of elderly members of their family instead of expecting the state to provide help to senior citizens. Candidates who chose this question showed that they understood the topic. They were able to give some interesting viewpoints and well-explained points about the care of elderly family members. Most candidates included some valuable suggestions and developed their points with good examples.

Question 2

This topic was based on the advantages and disadvantages of village life compared to life in the city. There was a particular focus on how this impacted health and education. Many candidates attempted this question. Most of the answers were well developed and recounted the positive effects of education and health in urban areas and highlighted the reasons why these benefits were limited in villages. While discussing the lack of good health and education related facilities, a few candidates highlighted certain positive benefits of village life, especially its pollution free environment.

Question 3

This question was on the topic of “philosophy and faith”. The focus of the question was on how philosophy is based on logic however the same is not true of faith. This question was less popular than others. Of those candidates who attempted this question, some gave good responses, generally in support of individual faith.

Question 4

This year’s topic of “travel and tourism” was less popular than others. In order to do well, candidates needed to discuss the link between tourism and the environment.

Question 5

This question was focused on the topic of “cultural life and heritage”. Specifically, candidates were asked to discuss whether our history, heritage and identity is another name for our cultural heritage. Strong responses focussed clearly on the question. Weaker responses tended to discuss irrelevant points.

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Paper 9687/04
Texts

Key messages

Candidates should make sure they respond to the specific question, instead of providing a pre-learnt essay.

When the question has more than one part, it is important to structure the answer to respond to all the different parts of the question.

The strongest candidates write in grammatically correct language, for example using correct personal and possessive pronouns, noun–adjective/verb agreement and spellings.

In order to succeed in *Part 1*, candidates should develop knowledge about सगुण/निर्गुण भक्ति मार्ग, छायावाद/रहस्यवाद etc.

General comments

A wide variety of performance was seen. Generally, candidates performed better in *Part 2* (prose section) than in *Part 1* (poetry section).

Good responses demonstrated thorough knowledge of the text and the writer's intention. They gave articulate and intelligent answers which addressed all parts of the question.

Comments on specific questions

Part 1

Question 1

- (a) The question had 3 parts. Some very good candidates answered all of them well. Weaker candidates answered only one part or wrote a very general answer. Some narrated the story of Ramcharit Manas without paying attention to the question. There was some confusion over the poet's name.
- (b) Stronger candidates covered all aspects of the question and supported their answers with relevant excerpts from the text. Some knowledge of सूरदास की भक्ति भावना was the essential aspect of this question.

Question 2

- (a) This question was attempted by many candidates, and in some cases very successfully. Some attempted to explain the poem by paraphrasing the verse and went on to making a comment about the poet's use of poetic devices. The question demanded a commentary on how the poem reflected the poet's depressed state of mind. There was some confusion about the poet's name and gender.
- (b) Some good answers included traits of छायावाद by paraphrasing Jai Shankar Prasad's poems from the syllabus. Weaker candidates only described the poems, relying on memorised notes without relating them to characteristics of छायावाद.

Question 3

(a) and (b) These were the two most popular questions in *Part 1*. Good responses showed a thorough knowledge of the text and the poet's intentions. They articulated it very well and made their points by quoting relevant quotations from the text.

Part 2

Question 4

(a) and (b) Many answers were comprehensive, and supported by details from the text. Candidates were able to evaluate material and come to a clear conclusion. Some potentially good answers for **Question 4(b)** described the plot of the play in detail, but fell short of writing about the appropriateness of the title of the play.

Question 5

- (a) This was the most popular question. Good answers used the narrative to develop the character, but weaker candidates had a general, unspecific approach towards writing the narrative.
- (b) A small number of candidates chose to answer this question. Most answers were well written. They used the narrative to illustrate the writer's intention and highlight the main issues raised through the story.

Question 6

(a) and (b) Only a few candidates answered **Question 6(a)**. They were able to use the narrative to describe the underlying problem. A very small number of candidates attempted 6b.

HINDI

Paper 9687/05
Prose

Key messages

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

- check sentences carefully to ensure that they are grammatically correct, paying particular attention to the accurate use of verb forms and gender agreements
- use correct syntax
- check spellings carefully.

General comments

A wide range of ability was seen. General areas for improvement include use of syntax, correct spelling and grammatical accuracy. Candidates should be reminded to write in an appropriate register and avoid colloquialisms.

Candidates should allow a few minutes before the end of the examination to review their translation for any possible mistakes and to make sure that the translated sentences make sense.

Spellings of some common words such as heart, straight, birthday, laugh, website, celebrations and ability presented some candidates with difficulties.

Comments on specific aspects of the translations

Below are some examples of candidates' incorrect answers with the accepted answer and the nature of the error;

To translate	Candidates' responses	Accepted answers	Nature of error
<i>Goes straight to the heart</i>	दिल पर जाता है	दिल में उतरता है	कारक (case error)
<i>What words cannot</i>	जो शब्द नहीं कर सकती	जो शब्द नहीं कर सकते	Gender error
<i>public celebrations</i>	लोगों के जश्न	सार्वजनिक त्यौहार	Etymological error
<i>download them for free</i>	उन्हें इंटरनेट पर मूफ्त में डावलौद	उन्हे इंटरनेट पर मुफ्त में डाउनलोड	Spelling error
<i>throughout the world</i>	पूरी संसार	पूरे संसार	Gender error
Second Paragraph			
<i>Inner voice</i>	अपने आवाज़ अंदर रखी	भीतर की आवाज़	Wrong word usage
<i>live performance</i>	English word was used with incorrect spellings		