

## 1. GENERAL COMMENTS

- Thank you for preparing the candidates for the examination.
- The standard of the candidate's performance as compared to the previous year is still poor.
- Candidates should be taught on how to write their centre numbers correctly and the invigilators should also ensure that the candidate's numbers as well as their centre numbers are correctly written on the cover page of their scripts.
- Candidates should be taught figurative language and how to use it correctly. Proverbs should not be placed in inverted commas and should match what they are trying to express.
- Teachers should teach candidates the format of different types of essay and that essays should have a heading and paragraphs, divided based on their ideas.
- The names of places (Metsweding), tribes (Batswana/Setswana), days of the week (Labotlhano) and month (Seetebosigo) should be written in capital letters. Godly names should also be written in capital letters e.g. Morena, Modimo, Ramasedi.
- Candidates continues to have grammatical and spelling errors in their essays and here is an example:

### INCORRECT

- mereko
- go mo bontsha
- gwa
- wa
- mo bolelela
- bonne
- tšhikela
- mangwane wa me
- rakgadi wa me

### CORRECT

- mmereko
- go mmontsha
- go ya
- o ya
- mmolelela
- bo ne
- fetoga
- mmangwane
- rakgadi

## 2. COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- 1 Write the story of an occasion when you felt you were treated unfairly but it turned out to be "a blessing in disguise".

2.9% of the candidates answered this question. The candidates wrote a story about an occasion in which they attended an event but they were not treated well, but at the end they were treated like heroes. They have to tell a story in which it is clear and seen that the treatment was unfair, or they were chased out of an event, but later they had people complaining how they were not served properly or the food was worse or they were only given a small piece of meat. Comparing themselves now to the place where they were taken, it seems like they were treated fairly comparing to the main event. Most of the candidate's stories were interesting with the average grasp of the topic. The candidates were supposed to write an original work in a narrative way, having an excellent vocabulary and advanced structure. The content and structure has to be interesting with a definite central theme.

- 2 Narrate *an unforgettable experience* you had when you were on a trip to a dream destination.

7.4% of candidates answered this question. They wrote about their unforgettable experience they had on a trip to a dream destination. Candidates narrated their trips well and their content has an apparent central theme, the structure was well organized with appropriate length. Their language had a sound vocabulary with occurring errors but surface skills still competent.

- 3** Our old car – the pride of the family. Write in a descriptive way about your family's old car.

22% of candidates attempted this questions. They were describing their old car in the family which was mostly an inheritance from their grandfather or uncle. Some candidates used descriptive words very well, they even described the work that car has done for the family. Most of the essays were showing sound understanding with a coherent expression.

- 4** You have won N\$1 million from a competition. Describe how you felt after the announcement, and your family's reaction when you told them.

25% of candidates have answered this question. Candidates were describing their reactions after the announcement. Descriptive words were used well. There was thoughtful language, the use of pronouns is evident in some candidates. The content is interesting and competent in most candidates.

- 5** Athletes should be allowed to use stimulants to enhance their performance. What is your view on this?

This question was answered by 4% of the candidates. They argued on the topic. Some candidates agreed with the topic while others disagreed which was shown at the beginning of the essay. Some candidates mixed points, they wrote in a discursive way by writing for and against the use of stimulants. Candidates were supposed to follow one stand from the beginning to the end with interesting, original points to support their stand. The vocabulary was sound with consistent paragraphs.

- 6** Should a child be a parent's best friend? Give your opinion.

38.7% of candidates attempted this question. The candidates were supposed to mention whether they agree or disagree that a parent should be a best friend to their children. Their argument was supposed to based on a parent-child friendship but not on a love affairs relationship.

### **3. POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS**

- Teachers should teach different types of essays and give candidates more of these to practice.
- The marking grid should be discussed with candidates to make them aware of what is expected.
- Candidates should be reminded on the length of essay; they are expected to write.