

FIRST LANGUAGE KHOEKHOEGOWAB

8190
Paper 1

GENERAL COMMENTS

It was an immense pleasure to observe good language skills and grammar usage portrayed by the candidates. There were minimal spelling errors which did not impact or construed the meaning. An impressive display of exceptional use of the figurative language was portrayed through the sensitive and discriminating awareness of language and style by almost all candidates.

This question paper consists of three questions of which question one is compulsory for all the candidates to answer while they can choose and answer another question between question two and three. Most candidates opted for question three instead of question two.

COMMENTS ON INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS

- 1 This question consists of two parts, (a) which required the candidates to comment on how the author uses language and style to convey his point of view and (b) a directed writing task to write a voice-over on a television program on parenting.

Most candidates responded well to part (a) of the question while some experience difficulty in responding to part (b).

- (a) In response to this question, candidates had to display through good use of language and style, similar to that of the passage, their knowledge and understanding of the passage and the authors intentions. This was a persuasive passage which was written in an **informal, journalistic and relaxed mood**. The author used variety of **persuasive vocabulary**, although not strong, while also portraying his **empathy** towards the parents. He not only **persuades** the parents into having a little more faith in themselves, no matter whatever parenting techniques they may be accustomed to but also reassured them that whatever they are doing is good enough through the use of **nuances and figurative language**.

The author further uses direct quotations of the real parents' experiences to emphasize his intentions. The tone of the author is persuasive yet empathetic (kind) and also has rhetorical devices.

In order for candidates to respond excellently to this question, they should be able to identify vocabulary and phrases of persuasion and reassurance throughout the passage and connect them with the quotations that emphasize on them.

Here are some words and phrases used to **persuade** the reader:

- nobody will deny
- we all try
- we can all agree
- obviously poor practice
- I don't think you can ever fail as a parent
- After all, it's hard to imagine
- Does that mean he will grow up to be a thief (rhetorical question) etc.

The following are figurative expressions and the **empathetic language**:

- Leaving us feeling inadequate and guilty (unusual emotion for a parent to feel)
- We endlessly second guess ourselves
- I wanted to become a supermom
- I crashed
- Look on the bright side etc.

In order for the candidates' response to be awarded in the top band they should be able to:

- Show **perceptive appreciation** of the content and ideas
- **Relates content consistently** to: structure, purpose, genre and style
- Show **excellent understanding of the nuances** of language: repetition, rhetorical devices word choices etc.
- **Clearly express the intention** of the author
- Analyze text with **sensitive and discriminating awareness of language and style** to create effect
- Use quotations and references **effectively and appropriately**.

Candidates should be exposed to a variety of text type; persuasive, polemic, narrative and descriptive. They should be prepared on how to analyze the text to convey the authors intentions.

- (b) This is a directed writing task. Candidates are guided to write a specific continuous writing task, basing it on the content of the passage.

Many candidates were able to write good voice-overs however, some did not know what a voice-over is.

A voice-over is the audio used in an advert, news report or a documentary of which visuals are seen supported by real people showing action of whatever topic or theme is presented.

In this case the candidates should have used the persuasive language from the passage as the audio presented in a documentary for parenting with the quotations of real parent experiences could be displayed.

E.g. Many parents worry about being inadequate, but this may come from their own unrealistic desire to be perfect. Let's hear from one mother who tried to be a supermom: ".....". She tried to do everything right, but in the end, as she says, she crashed. Many experts say "relax and look at the bright side" if your child is happy and functioning.

A good response should have a perceptive recognition of context, audience, form and purpose supported by a good range of appropriate vocabulary and expression suitable for the task.

- 2 This question consists of two parts, (a) which required the candidates to comment on how the author uses language and style to convey how impressive and mysterious the wildebeest migration seems to him and (b) a directed writing task to write a magazine article entitled "The first jump".

In response to this question, candidates had to display through good use of language and style, similar to that of the passage their knowledge and understanding of the passage and the authors intentions.

This was a dramatic descriptive passage with enquiry or uncertainty expressed about the causes of the events. There is a mix of short and long paragraphs to add to the drama and uncertainty displayed in the text e.g. (**why do they do it?** and **so they charge onwards**). The use of punctuations e.g. **dashes, rhetorical questions** and **the use of conjunctions to start a sentence**.

Here is some of the language used by the author to convey how **impressive** the migration is:

- Beautiful display of new life
- It is a trek (a thousand kilometers)
- Battling disease, starvation, thirst, fatigue
- Perishing along the way
- Death to many
- Overcome an obstacle
- Pour into the rivers like ants, leaping, bleating, calling etc.

Here is some of the language used by the author to convey how mysterious the migration is:

- They sense something in the air
- Just get up and go
- Despite... they go
- Why do they do it? (rhetorical question)
- No scientist answered this question conclusively
- Maybe the instinct to migrate has been coded in their DNA etc.

In order for the candidates' response to be awarded in the top band they should be able to:

- Show perceptive appreciation of the content and ideas
- Relates content consistently to: structure, purpose, genre and style
- Show excellent understanding of the nuances of language: repetition, rhetorical devices word choices etc.
- Clearly express the intention of the author
- Analyze text with sensitive and discriminating awareness of language and style to create effect
- Use quotations and references effectively and appropriately.

(c) This is a directed writing task. Candidates are guided to write a specific continuous writing task, basing it on the content of the passage.

Few candidate that opted for this question were not able to produce good pieces however the attempt was good. Below is an example of a good response to this task.

E.g. Mid-July, Tanzania: at the banks of the Grumeti river. A deafening bleating and calling fills the air, as the throngs of thousands of wildebeest mills around. They sniff the waters, then wheel away from the hungry eyes of the expectant crocodiles. They are fearful, but unable to resist the desire to cross, under the same compulsion that drove them to trek from the rolling plains of northern Tanzania. Many have died along the way, taken by predators, disease, starvation, thirst and fatigue. Why did they make such a murderous journey? No scientist can answer conclusively. And now the hardest has come – the moment when the single courageous individual makes the first jump into the river and the thousands follow.

A good response should have a **perceptive recognition of context, audience, form and purpose** supported by a **good range of appropriate vocabulary and expression** suitable for the task.

- 3 This question consists of two parts, (a) which required the candidates to comment on how the author uses language and style to convey the **feelings** and **attitude** of the character and (b) a directed writing task to write a friendly letter to a friend to narrate an experience when she travelled to another country to play with a different orchestra.

In response to this question, candidates had to display through good use of language and style, similar to that of the passage their knowledge and understanding of the passage and the authors intentions.

This was a narrative passage, the language is informal and there are interjections and rhetorical devices. The author uses the character to narrate her experience that brings to the forth her feelings and her character traits.

Here is some of the language used by the author to convey her feelings:

- Sudden panic
- Nervously thrust the passport
- Seeking reassurance
- Overly enthusiastic
- Fluttering in my stomach
- I was relieved to make a new friend etc.

Here is some of the language used by the author to convey her character traits:

- Took time to return a smile
- Commence my first solo trip
- Mimicking the fingers (rehearsing, she was conscientious/serious/focused)
- I was relieved to make a friend (she find it difficult to make friends, shy but sociable) etc.

In order for the candidates' response to be awarded in the top band they should be able to:

- Show perceptive appreciation of the content and ideas
- Relates content consistently to: structure, purpose, genre and style
- Show excellent understanding of the nuances of language: repetition, rhetorical devices word choices etc.
- Clearly express the intention of the author
- Analyze text with sensitive and discriminating awareness of language and style to create effect
- Use quotations and references effectively and appropriately.

- (b) This is a directed writing task. Candidates are guided to write a specific continuous writing task, basing it on the content of the passage.

Most candidates opted for this question and there were some well-written pieces while a few were flat. Below is an example of a good response to this task.

E.g. Do you remember how panicky I was when I flew alone to Cincinnati? My stomach was fluttering the whole time. But on this trip I was relaxed, and my parents' smiles were sincere this time as they waved me off. The arrival was just as chaotic as the last time with people running around. I knew some of the people because we played together in Cincinnati. I smiled at them when I caught their eyes. I made music with them and I knew their talent and strength. We were going to make heavenly sounds again.

A good response should have a **perceptive recognition of context, audience, form and purpose** supported by a **good range of appropriate vocabulary and expression** suitable for the task.

3. POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS

The Advance Subsidiary level is offered for the first time and although this was the first examination, candidates have put forth their best performance. We are cognizant of the difficult circumstances that surrounds us and wish to express our gratitude to all the teachers that tirelessly ensure that candidates are prepared well for the examinations. Well done!

The Senior Education Officers and Heads of Departments should ensure that the teachers are assisted in the interpretations and implementation of the suggested recommendations.