

# LITERATURE IN HINDI

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Paper 2026/01  
Paper 1

## Key messages

In order to do well in this paper, candidates need to demonstrate that they can:

- express their thoughts, feelings and opinions in order to interest, inform or convince the Examiner;
- present facts, ideas and opinions in an orderly manner;
- communicate effectively and appropriately;
- demonstrate adequate control of paragraphing, vocabulary, syntax and grammar, punctuation and spelling;
- cross out any material they do not wish the Examiner to consider.

## General comments

The overall performance was quite satisfactory this year, as most candidates were able to answer the core parts of each question. Some candidates performed extremely well, showing good mastery of texts and intelligent use of vocabulary. Questions based on critical analyses were well answered by able candidates who included relevant quotations in their answers in order to consolidate their ideas. Their performance showed a good grasp of Hindi vocabulary and a good command of the language as well.

Some candidates, however, struggled to communicate a personal response to the characters, theme and the setting. As a result, they could not secure high marks. The following shortcomings were noted:

- Stimulus questions were not attempted.
- There was lack of clarity in expression of ideas.
- Poor use of vocabulary and illegible handwriting.
- Superfluous ideas in a narrative style.
- Many grammatical mistakes.
- Some candidates narrated the story instead of answering the question.
- Many answers lacked elaboration and quotations.

## Comments on specific questions

### **Section A – Medieval Poetry**

Candidates had to answer two poem extracts; one from medieval poetry and another from modern poetry. In medieval poetry, most candidates successfully attempted the questions and scored excellent marks.

#### Baal Leela

- (i) Most of the candidates attempted this part well and were able to correctly explain meaning 'when will my hair grow'. However, a few wrote elaborate answers, which were not really required, while others completely missed out the key points.
- (ii) Candidates successfully attempted this part.
- (iii) Candidates attempted this part successfully.

#### Avadhes ke Baalak

- (i) Most of the candidates attempted this part quite well.

- (ii) Most of the candidates were able to write the clear meaning of the phrase.
- (iii) Most of the candidates were able to explain the four activities performed by the four sons of Dasharatha.

### **Modern poetry**

The poem extracts from 'nirmaan' and 'usha' were successfully attempted by most candidates.

#### **Nirmaan**

- (i) This part was attempted fairly well by all candidates.
- (ii) Most candidates were able to give the correct meaning. Only a few candidates missed out the correct meaning.
- (iii) Only some candidates were able to write about the relationship between sadness and happiness which they successfully displayed in their answers.

Many stronger candidates were able to fully answer the question, whereas weaker candidates struggled to provide the required description.

#### **Usha**

All parts of the question were successfully attempted by most candidates.

### **Question 2**

Some very good answers were given for this question. Candidates showed a sound knowledge of the texts and were able to recall the relevant points.

### **Question 3**

This question was very well attempted. Candidates made good use of quotations and wrote well-elaborated answers. They displayed sound knowledge and details while describing the childhood pastimes of 'avadhes ke baalak'.

### **Questions 4**

Candidates were required to write about the '*aashaavadita*' of both 'Nirmaan' and 'Agnipath'. Some candidates could only write the key points from the poem separately, without addressing the main theme.

### **Section B – Novels and Short Stories**

The attention of candidates is drawn to the fact that this section is extremely important as it covers 60 per cent of the paper.

### **Questions 8 and 9**

Some candidates opted for the question on 'Nirmala' and those who did either narrated the text instead of focussing the theme or only provided some superfluous ideas with weak arguments.

In **Question 9** some answers showed a sound knowledge of the text, but candidates struggled to explain the hidden meaning underlying the phrase 'dahej ho to saare dosh guna hein. Pranon ka koi mulya nahin, kewal dahej ka mulya hein' rather than answering the question.

### **Question 10**

**Question 10** required candidates to carry out a comparative study of the two stories and justify their choice between the two stories 'sach ka saudai' and 'mithaiwala' and to provide strong arguments to support their choice. Some candidates, however, failed to justify their choice. They only laid stress on the story of their choice without any support of acceptable arguments.

**Question 11**

Some good answers were obtained for this question. However, a few candidates struggled to display the mental duality between 'prem' and 'irshiya' in the character of 'Rameswari' in their answers.

**Question 12**

Candidates were able to justify their choice between the two stories 'Laila ki Shaadi' and 'Installment' but did not display proper comparison in their answers.

**Question 13**

Only few candidates attempted this part, but their answers were not supported by strong arguments, hence they could not score high marks.

**Note:** Centres are strongly advised to encourage candidates to use appropriate quotations and arguments in addition to displaying critical analysis in their essays to score high marks.