

# MARATHI

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**Paper 3218/01  
Composition**

## **Key messages**

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

- ensure they answer **one** question from **Section A** and **one** question from **Section B**;
- adhere to the rubric especially those regarding the word limits;
- ensure that their work is legible, accurate and logically presented;
- ensure that they present their answer accordingly;
- plan their time for each question so that they are left with enough time for revision;
- try to enrich their vocabulary by reading more widely.

## **General comments**

In general, candidates performed fairly well in this paper.

This year almost all candidates understood the importance of keeping to word limit and most of the compositions were written accordingly. Candidates should continue to adhere to the word limit specified in the question paper.

Almost all candidates presented their work in well-planned paragraphs, using appropriate punctuation and sequencing the sentences in a logical order. Some of them also demonstrated a wide range of vocabulary and varied sentence structure.

Candidates' handwriting was good this year. Most work were very well presented and legible. Still there are a few candidates who should pay attention to punctuation, paragraphing and write legibly, clearly mentioning the numbers of the questions that they have answered.

Most candidates were familiar with the basic grammatical rules of the Marathi language. The most common errors seen were spelling mistakes, subject- object- verb agreement, use of all types of pronouns, agreement of adjectives and wrong as well as limited use of idioms and expressions.

The candidates responded well to the questions this year, and some of them were able to score very good marks.

Candidates can improve their writing skills by practising writing compositions and by expanding their range of reading materials in order to enrich their vocabulary and knowledge of idioms, and to consolidate points of grammar and sentence structure. To enrich their vocabulary, they can also be encouraged read Marathi sources online, as reading materials in Marathi language are available on many websites.

## **Comments on specific questions**

### ***Section A – Letter, Report or Speech, Dialogue***

Candidates were asked to write one composition of approximately 120 words on one of the three given topics. Candidates generally did quite well.

### Question 1

- (a) Most candidates wrote successful answers. It was noticed that this year candidates did not use extensive greeting phrases as this does not necessarily award them more marks. The question was a popular one. It was noted that candidates have great practice in writing informal letters, especially letters to friends, which seemed easier to them. Using their imagination, some candidates were able to produce interesting letters on this topic, using wide and precise vocabulary.
- (b) As in previous years, candidates were asked to write a report for this question rather than a speech, but it was noted that not a single candidate opted for this question. Candidates should be able to tackle reports also as it widens the chance of success. Candidates should practise writing reports to familiarise themselves with this kind of question.
- (c) This was a popular question. Many candidates were able to successfully write a dialogue between two friends. Flow was noted in the answers. Most of the dialogues were very interesting and this year candidates have understood that for this question dialogue should take place between two people and they have responded accordingly. Candidates have also understood that introductory paragraph is not necessary as it is waste of time and does not score any mark. This year also it has been observed that nobody has written it. It was indeed interesting to note that candidates have given more importance to good interaction rather than lengthy conversations.

### Section B – Essay

Candidates were asked to write an essay of approximately 200 words on one of the four given topics. Most of the candidates opted for narrative or descriptive essays. This year some candidates opted for argumentative essay. Some essays were very well written with grammatically correct sentences. Idioms and proverbs were used more often than in previous years. Candidates seemed to have been well trained in using idioms and expressions in their work. Vocabulary was wide enough to convey meaning with precision. Evidence of planning was noted in the answers. Even paragraphs were well linked in most of the essays.

### Question 2

- (a) Many candidates opted for this narrative essay. Some started writing their answer but reaching midway could not develop their ideas further. It was noted that although the topic, 'Sports' seemed a common one, 'arriving on playground late' was a difficulty for many candidates. Despite this, many candidates displayed flair and imagination and produced interesting essays. Many candidates managed successfully to provide details from their imagination. Some candidates demonstrated good linguistic abilities.
- (b) This was a popular question, attempted by many candidates. Celebrating New Year seemed to be a familiar idea for candidates. It seems candidates have had great experiences celebrating New Year. But some candidates could not provide details, and as it was a descriptive question, very few of these candidates were able to score high marks. Many candidates wrote narrative rather than descriptive essays. Other candidates demonstrated good linguistic abilities by scoring very good marks.
- (c) For the last three years it was seen that very few candidates opted for argumentative essay. But this year many candidates chose the argumentative question, which was 'Mauritius is heaven on earth.' Do you agree?' Many candidates preferred this topic and many wrote interesting responses and were able to score very good marks.
- (d) Many candidates produced very good essays in response to this narrative question. There were very good responses to this question. Candidates managed to provide details from their imagination. Emphasis was laid on the topic itself. It seems that 'the library' is a common place of visit for candidates. Most of the essays on this topic were grammatically correct. Some candidates could express their ideas clearly using a wide range of vocabulary. Some candidates scored very good marks for this question. However, some candidates should pay more attention to their sentence construction and spelling mistakes where marks were frequently lost.

To acquire good writing skills candidates are advised to read Marathi books regularly and to watch Marathi films.

# MARATHI

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**Paper 3218/02**  
**Translation and Reading**  
**Comprehension**

## Key messages

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

- read the translation passages carefully before attempting to translate;
- read the comprehension carefully to gain a clear understanding of the context;
- ensure that they plan their time for each question and allow enough time for a thorough check of their work;
- ensure that their work is legible and logically presented.

## General comments

Overall, candidates' performance in this paper was of a very good standard. In **Section A**, candidates' response to both translations was very good compared to previous years. This year, gaps in both translations were rare. In **Section B** many candidates responded very well to all questions. Most were able to score very good marks in this paper.

Most candidates attempted all the questions.

Candidates should be encouraged to read a variety of books, newspapers and articles in Marathi, as this will increase exposure to a wide range of Marathi vocabulary, grammar and idioms, and it will help candidates to improve their writing skills and reading skills. Candidates should try to learn new vocabulary items as this will facilitate understanding of context.

## Comments on specific questions

### **Section A – Translation**

#### **Question 1:** Translate into English

For this question, candidates had to translate a passage of approximately 90 words from Marathi to English, and many candidates did very well. Most candidates scored full marks, as translating from Marathi to English has always been considered to be easier for candidates.

#### **Question 2:** Translation into Marathi

This question required candidates to translate a passage of approximately 120 words from English to Marathi. Most of the candidates translated this passage well. Gaps were rare in candidates' work. Candidates demonstrated good understanding of the extract and most of them scored very good marks in this question. Under the guidance of educators, it seems that candidates are being given good practice in doing translations.

**Section B – Reading Comprehension**

**Question 3 – 11**

Candidates' attempts to answer this section were very good. Most candidates demonstrated a good understanding of the text and provided suitable answers to the questions. But nobody scored full marks in these questions. So, in future, educators must guide candidates by giving more practice in this question and they must be guided accordingly.

The meaning of the vocabulary items in **Question 11** were well answered by most of the candidates.

Candidates are advised to give concise answers using their own words and avoid lifting material from the passage or writing irrelevant words or sentences.

**Key messages**

This report is meant to act as a guide to Educators so that they can understand their candidates better as well as bring about improvement in their teaching. Candidates are advised to make their work is legible, accurate and very well presented. Many candidates need to improve their range of vocabulary. Educators can encourage candidates to read widely and wisely.