

# MARATHI LANGUAGE

Paper 8688/02  
Reading and Writing

## Key messages

To excel in the Reading and Writing paper, it is imperative that candidates demonstrate understanding of the passage given. They are expected to answer the questions precisely and concisely and in their own words as far as possible. To this end, candidates could benefit from practice of grammar and vocabulary and guidance with resources (books, plays and TV serials in Marathi). Wider general reading is advisable. Candidates would benefit from more practice in finding and understanding synonyms in Marathi. Candidates should not 'lift' the text and use it unaltered in their answer as this does not show understanding of the text and cannot be credited.

## General comments

The influence of the Hindi language on the Marathi used by the candidates has been evident. This often resulted in incorrect use of words and grammar. Candidates should be trained to express their views in Marathi using complex and varied structures.

Candidates often made grammatical mistakes of the kind that changes the meaning of the word completely, e.g. पहाट instead of पहात; नोंद -नोंड , दातून for दाटून.

When answering the comprehension questions (**Questions 3 and 4**) candidates should make every effort to fully understand the demands of the question before attempting to answer. Many candidates copied out long portions of the text, which was often not selective enough to demonstrate adequate comprehension. Some candidates tried hard to use their own words and the stronger candidates successfully showed their ability to express their views in their own words, using complex and varied language. However, some candidates tended to be vague or express their ideas with limited vocabulary and / or copy it all from the text. Particular areas of improvement include vocabulary and grammar in complex structures.

## Comments on specific questions

### **Section 1**

#### **Question 1**

Candidates are expected to answer the questions by finding the synonym of the given word from the passage.

Responses to this question were good. Every word was attempted by all and many candidates have answered successfully found all five synonyms.

#### **Question 2**

Responses to **Question 2** (which was about clarifying phrases), were good. Many candidates achieved very good results in this question and some managed to score the maximum.

'जाणीव हाणे' (to realise) and 'ताब्यात ठेवणे' (to keep under control) were a challenging for some candidates.

### Question 3

It was evident that candidates found the topic accessible and all of them attempted to answer all questions. The answers were mostly informative, but some candidates copied out large chunks of text almost indiscriminately and thus their answers could not be credited. Candidates should use their own words as far as possible.

### Question 4

Response on the **Question 4** has been attempted by all of the candidates – quite successfully in many cases. However, as was the case with Question 3 some candidates copied out long portions of the text, which was usually not selective enough to demonstrate adequate comprehension. Candidates should be encouraged to be selective in their answers and to use their own words.

### Question 5

- (a) Responses to **Question 5(a)** were satisfactory. It was about activities people do to stay healthy. Most candidates understood the demands of the question and came up with reasonable summaries of the main points in the two reading texts. Some candidates wrote too much, almost retelling the passages in their entirety, while others struggled to use their own words.
- (b) **Question 5(b)** asked about the facilities available in the candidates' country for maintaining good health. Responses were generally good, and many candidates described successfully the facilities they or their acquaintances use to stay in shape. However, in a minority of cases this part was not attempted.

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Paper 8688/03  
Essay

## **Key messages**

In order to do well in this paper, candidates need to understand the demands and the focus of the question before beginning to write their answers. The planning of the answer in bullet points can avoid repetition of the same point and give structure to the ideas. Candidates need to ensure that they support their views with relevant examples.

## **General comments**

This is an Essay paper in which candidates are required to compose one essay from a choice of five topics. The essays are marked out of 40, with 16 marks for Content and 24 marks for Quality of Language. Overall, the performance of candidates was good. A few candidates have done exceptionally well, but some at the lower end of the scale struggled to express their views and also lost marks because of the quality of their language.

Use of Hindi was much in evidence and usually incorrect.

## **Comments on individual questions**

The responses to this paper were good. Most of the candidates opted for Topic 5, 'Pollution' and wrote about the harmful effects of the different types of pollution such as pollution of noise, water, air etc.

There were some answers on the topics of 'Hobby' and 'Family relations' as well. For the latter there were some good responses discussing the relationships within the types of families (e.g. extended or nuclear).

Very few candidates opted to write about the 'Legal acceptance of drugs' or 'War and Peace' perhaps because most were put off by the perceived difficulty of the necessary vocabulary.

Most of the candidates showed good understanding of the topics and questions.

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