

HINDI

Paper 9687/02
Reading and Writing

Key messages

In order to do well, candidates should continue to:

- develop their Hindi vocabulary to help them fully understand the text
- use different tenses appropriately and correctly
- use their own words and avoid lifting answers from the text
- write in grammatically correct sentences, especially the noun-verb-gender agreement
- write their answers based on information from the text, rather than using their own knowledge from outside the texts.

General comments

Candidates engaged well with the topic.

Most candidates attempted all the questions. This ensured that they had the best chance of achieving marks. All candidates should remember that a blank answer will receive 0 mark. It is always best to try to answer, as it may be possible to award marks.

The marks available for each question show the number of points needed in the answer. Candidates should always try to write the expected number of points.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Question 1 (a)–(e)

Candidates were expected to find words in Text 1 which conveyed the same meaning as the words given in the questions. Candidates found **Questions 1(a), 1(b) and 1(e)** the most challenging.

Question 2 (a)–(e)

Candidates were asked to construct their own sentences using the given words/phrases. Most candidates were successful, however in **Question 2(b)** निर्भरता was confused with निर्भयता. In **Question 2 (c)** कगार पर and कार्यवित्त were either not understood or not attempted. A small number of candidates lifted sentences from the text, which could not be rewarded.

Questions 3 and 4

Questions 3 and 4 assess candidates' comprehension and writing skills by asking questions from two short texts about aspects of a topic.

Question 3

3(a)

3 marks were available for this two-part question. The strongest candidates were able to identify the 3 pieces of information that were required.

3(b) and 3(c)

Weaker candidates had trouble with the key words व्यवसाय and ऊर्जा स्रोत, resulting in incorrect or partial answers.

3(d)

This was answered well by most candidates.

3(e)

4 marks were available for this question. The stronger candidates remembered to draw all the information from the text. Some weaker responses contained general knowledge instead.

Question 4

4(a) and 4(b)

There was a tendency for weaker candidates to lift material directly from the texts, without tailoring the information to meet the specific requirements of the question.

4(c), 4(d) and 4(e)

Candidates generally performed well in these questions.

Quality of Language (Questions 3 and 4)

Most candidates were able to express the information from the text in their own words, with a good level of accuracy. Where candidates lifted chunks of material from the texts, this could not be rewarded as it did not demonstrate the candidates' own use of language.

Question 5

5(a) Candidates engaged well with the summary writing exercise. Good candidates structured their points systematically and succinctly, keeping well within the word limit.

5(b) This question asked candidates to express their personal response to the topic. Candidates expressed their own ideas well.

Language

The language used by good candidates was mostly accurate. Some complex sentences were used to express ideas. Common tenses and regular verbs were mostly correctly formed. Weaker candidates tended to make persistent errors with tenses, nouns, adjectives and verb agreement.

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Paper 9687/03
Essay

Key messages

Candidates should ensure their essay answers the question that has been asked, rather than being an essay on the general topic area.

It is advisable to take a short time to plan the structure of the response before beginning to write, to improve the overall quality of the essay.

Candidates should take care over spelling. A firm grasp of grammar is needed, and an area of focus could be singular and plural forms of words, which seems to have caused problems this year.

General comments

Many interesting essays were seen, with a wide variety of performance. Better candidates showed a good understanding of the question, an ability to sustain an argument with points and evidence, and a high standard of language which included a variety of vocabulary and idioms.

It is important to take care over the structure of the response. A tightly focused piece reads very well and will be rewarded accordingly, whilst an answer with few links between sub-points can lead to a meandering answer which will gain few marks.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

This topic was 'human relations'. The question was on the idea that the real test of human relations only occurs at the time of a crisis. Candidates who chose to answer this question showed that they understood the topic clearly and they were able to give some interesting viewpoints. Most candidates included some valuable suggestions and developed their points with good examples.

Question 2

This topic was on whether the primary responsibility of law is to provide security of the nation and ensure justice for citizens. Very few candidates attempted this question. Most answers were limited, demonstrating an incomplete understanding of the question.

Question 3

This question was on the topic of 'work and leisure'. The question asked if it is necessary to achieve good health and efficient work in today's fast world and busy life. This question was attempted by many candidates. Most candidates who attempted this question supported the idea of setting time aside for rest and activities other than work. Most candidates effectively articulated their reasons for taking time out for rest and family time.

Question 4

This year's topic of 'war and peace' was attempted by very few candidates. In order to do well, candidates needed to discuss the link between war and various conditions.

Question 5

This question was focused on the topic of the environment. Specifically, candidates were asked to debate the question of whether humans have forgotten their relationship with the environment because of greed for uncontrolled industrial expansion. Several candidates attempted this question. Good answers focused on industrial expansion as required by the question. Weaker candidates included reasons that did not explicitly explain the human greed. These answers meandered around the topic instead of addressing the question.

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Paper 9687/04
Texts

Key messages

Candidates should consider the question carefully and develop a response which ensures that all parts of the question are fully answered, without including any unnecessary additional pre-learnt material.

Sentences should be grammatically correct (subject-adjective-verb agreement) and appropriate vocabulary should be used to express ideas and opinions.

Candidates should allocate equal time to the questions they answer, so they do not run out of time to answer the last question.

General comments

The candidates were generally well prepared for the examination. A wide range of performance was seen. In general, candidates performed better in **Part 2**, Prose, than in **Part 1**, Poetry.

Comments on specific questions

Part 1

Question 1

- (a) This question was in two parts. In the first part, candidates were asked to explain the meaning of the verse. In the second part, they needed to review how the excerpt conveyed the poet's devotion to Krishna through गोपियों के सङ्घ. This was attempted by many candidates. The strongest candidates explained the verse well and answered both parts of the question.
- (b) The best responses were based on the set text. Answers that narrated the whole story of Ramcharit Manas did not satisfy the demand of the question.

Question 2

- (a) This was one of the most popular questions. Some very analytical, well thought out answers were seen. Weaker candidates confused मानवतावाद with मानवीकरण and the poet पद्म with महादेवी, प्रसाद and निराला.
- (b) Fewer candidates attempted **Question 2b**, and some candidates found giving a critical appraisal of जयशङ्कर प्रसाद और छायावाद very challenging. Some of the answers attributed निराला की कविता to प्रसाद.

Question 3

- (a) This was a popular question, and answers varied from excellent to average.
- (b) The better responses demonstrated an understanding of the question, which specifically asked if the poet's observations in वर्तमान खण्ड are also relevant in modern times. Some weaker candidates wrote at length everything learnt about भारत-भारती, perhaps because they did not understand the meaning of the word सटीक in the question.

Part 2

Question 4

- (a) and (b)** Nearly all candidates answered one of these questions. Some excellent answers were written.
- (b)** Due to an issue with this question, a discussion took place at the examiners' meeting before marking began, and examiners considered the impact on candidates in the light of answers seen. Changes to the marking approach for this question were agreed to ensure that no candidates were disadvantaged by the error.

Question 5

- (a) and (b)** These were popular questions. Some good answers showed a deep insight into the authors' intentions and articulated them clearly and concisely.

Question 6

- (a) and (b)** Very few candidates attempted these questions. The answers provided were mostly focused and satisfactory.

HINDI

Paper 9687/05
Prose

Key messages

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

- check sentences carefully to ensure that they are grammatically correct, paying attention to the accurate use of verb forms and gender agreements
- use correct syntax
- check spellings carefully.

General comments

Candidates demonstrated a wide range of ability. The best responses included a secure use of syntax, correct spelling and a high level of grammatical accuracy. Candidates should write in an appropriate register and avoid colloquialisms.

Candidates should allow a few minutes at the end of the examination to review their translation for any possible mistakes and to make sure that the translated sentences make sense when read as a whole.

Comments on specific aspects of the translations

Below are some examples of items which were mistranslated, with the accepted answer and the nature of the error:

<i>To translate</i>	<i>Candidates' responses</i>	<i>Accepted answers</i>	<i>Nature of error</i>
<i>the easy access to</i>	<i>उनकी आसानी से प्राप्ति</i>	<i>उन तक आसान पहुँच</i>	<i>case error</i>
<i>better public transport</i>	<i>जनता का वाहन</i>	<i>बेहतर सार्वजनिक यातायात</i>	<i>Etymological error</i>
<i>the close community of village life</i>	<i>आस-पास के गांव</i>	<i>गांव के जीवन के करीबी समुदाय को</i>	<i>Wrong word usage</i>
<i>your neighbours</i>	<i>आपके झोसियाँ</i>	<i>आपके झोसी</i>	<i>Spellings error</i>
<i>are rented by tourists</i>	<i>रिस्टकोँ द्वारा गिरवी ले लिए</i>	<i>रिस्टकोँ द्वारा किराये पर ले लिए</i>	<i>Wrong word usage</i>
<i>restaurants</i>	<i>English word was used with incorrect spellings</i>		

Some candidates had difficulty with the spelling of some other common words like *nature*, *important*, *environment*, *enough* and *tourists*.