

ARABIC

Paper 9680/02
Reading and Writing

Key messages

In order to do well in this paper, candidates should take care to understand the full demands of the question before attempting to answer.

In **Question 5**, candidates should avoid repetition of ideas.

General comments

Overall, performance on this paper was good. It was clear that many teachers had worked hard in preparing their students for this examination and there was evidence of improvement in the standard of candidates' answers compared to last year.

In their responses to **Questions 3 and 4**, a few candidates copied out large portions of the text, which were not always selective enough to demonstrate sufficient comprehension. Candidates should be reminded that, as far as possible, they should use their own words in response to **Questions 3, 4 and 5**.

There were some issues with vocabulary and grammar, in particular the use of demonstrative pronouns, the agreement of adjectives and the use of the jussive case of the present tense. Encouraging candidates to read widely can help them to enrich their vocabulary and consolidate points of grammar.

Candidates would also benefit from further practice in writing summaries.

Comments on specific questions

Section 1

Question 1

Some candidates answered this question successfully.

Appropriate answers included the following:

- أ- حامية: شديدة، ساخنة، قوية، عنيفة، ملتهبة، محتدمة.
- ب- الحاد: القاسي، الشديد، القوي، الشرس.
- ت- السكينة: الهدوء، الطمأنينة، السلام.
- ث- الرتابة: الروتين، التكرار.
- ج- ملامح: خصائص، ميزات، علامات، مظاهر، سمات.

Question 2

This question was answered well by the majority of candidates, who re-wrote the five sentences in a grammatically correct form.

Question 3

Many candidates answered this question well, using their own words effectively to express their understanding of the reading passage.

Appropriate answers included the following:

أ- رؤية الكاتب لدور الأصدقاء والأقارب هي سلبية،
الدليل الأول: ليسوا على استعداد لمنح الزائرين وقتاً كافياً لكي يعيشوا جو عطلة.
الدليل الثاني: تكثر الدعوات، يعم الضجيج.

ب- الدليل: بعض النساء يرين في هذا التوتر أمراً حميداً.
الشرح: حياة النساء كزوجات أو كعاملات تستمر طول السنة، فتشعر المرأة بالسعادة حين يقترب وقت العطلة السنوية، وليس القلق الذي تشعر به المرأة سوى قلق إيجابي لأنها تعرف أنها ستكون سعيدة وهي تقوم بشراء الهدايا وستكون سعيدة حين تخرج عن روتينها اليومي.

ت- يفضل الكاتب توزيع وقت عطلته بين مجاملات الأهل والأقارب لكي تشعر العائلة بأنها تمضي عطلة جميلة، والدليل: ويشمل التنسيق وقت الإجازة بين مجاملات الأهل والأقارب وبين الوقت الذي يتعين تخصيصه للعائلة كي تشعر بأنها تستمتع بوقت رائع.

ث- قدم النصيحة للأسرة أو لرب الأسرة، أو للزوجين، أو للوالدين، أو للأب، أو للعائلة. والنصيحة أن توفر الأسرة بعض النقود قبل الذهاب في عطلة طويلة، والسبب أن تتمكن العائلة من دفع إيجار المنزل وأقساط المدارس، وكذلك أن تتمكن من تأمين احتياجات الأسرة الكثيرة.

ج- يشعر الفرد بالملل قبل عطلته برأي الكاتب لأن حياته مقسومة إلى وقت العمل و وقت العطلة. ويرى الكاتب أنه يمكن تجنب ذلك الملل بعمل محطات لتجديد الحياة والبعد عن التكرار والروتين اليومي بإمضاء عطلة أسبوعية وبشكل مفيد ومعتدل لأنها يجب أن تكون نموذجاً مصغراً للعطلة الطويلة في الصيف.

Section 2

Question 4

There were some very good responses to this question. Many candidates succeeded in selecting appropriate ideas from the reading passage and incorporated them into their answers.

Appropriate answers included the following:

أ- العوامل التي تتحكم في التخطيط للعطلة حسب رأي الكاتب: رغبة الفرد، وظروفه، وإمكاناته المالية.

ب- المثقف العربي يتحين الوقت المناسب للقيام برحلة أو سفرة قصيرة إلى مدن لم يزرها أو مدن يعرفها جيداً.

ت- النشاطات الثلاثة التي ذكرها الكاتب والتي تدل على تصرف غير اعتيادي من قبل المثقف أثناء إجازته هي: يستيقظ مبكراً أكثر من أيامه العادية، ويمارس المطالعة أو القراءة، ويتناول وجبة الإفطار التي لا يتناولها عادة في أيامه العادية.

ث- إنه يقوم بزيارة مواضع لا يعرفها، ويستعمل القطار في انتقاله إلى مدينة جديدة، ويقوم باستكشاف المدينة، ويحرص على المشي مسافات طويلة.

ج- كانت العلاقة جيدة، أو طيبة، أو بناءة، أو وطيدة. مع ذكر الدليل من الفقرة الأخيرة.

Question 5

There were many good answers to this question.

In **Question 5(a)**, the best candidates successfully selected relevant ideas from both reading passages and presented them in a well-structured summary.

In **Question 5(b)**, many candidates put forward interesting opinions about public holidays in their country.

For example:

إن العطلات الرسمية في بلاد كثيرة وكافية، هناك عطلة عيد الأضحى وعطلة عيد الفطر، وعطلة عيد الاستقلال وعطلة عيد الميلاد، وعطلة رأس السنة الميلادية وغيرها فيلادي يسكنها أقوام متعددة وفيها أديان متعددة ولكل دين عطلاته ولا أعتقد أننا بحاجة إلى مزيد من العطلات، فهي تكفي للسفر ولأخذ قسط من الراحة ولزيارة الأقارب والأصدقاء.

ARABIC

Paper 9680/03

Essay

Key messages

In order to do well in this paper, candidates need to ensure that they answer the specific question asked and that they understand the focus of the question before beginning to write their answers.

Candidates need to ensure that they expand their answers.

General comments

This is an Essay paper in which candidates are required to compose one essay from a choice of five topics. The essay is marked out of 40, with 16 marks for Content and 24 marks for Quality of Language.

Overall, the performance of candidates was satisfactory. Some candidates produced very good responses.

The best candidates produced fluent and coherent essays and focused on the precise requirement of the question. They drew on their personal experiences to produce original essays.

Some responses lacked originality and depth in their essays, and were not always wholly relevant. In a few cases there seemed to be excessive reliance on memorised material, which wasn't always appropriate to the question.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

The best answers were generally very well written, comparing the role of the family in the past and its role today. Many responses focused solely on the role of the family today and often included simple narration and no comparison to the role of the family in the past.

Question 2

Responses to this question were generally adequate. Candidates needed to discuss how abiding by laws and regulations can enhance civilisation and to give examples from different aspects of life, e.g. traffic laws, building regulations, etc. Candidates could also have provided examples of what would happen to society if certain rules and regulations were violated.

Question 3

Performance on this question was mixed. Many candidates wrote an essay on different types of sports but forgot to write about how practising sports can help to improve self-confidence, which was the focus of this topic. The best answers explained the importance of sport and how it can enhance self-confidence.

Question 4

There were some excellent answers to this question. The best candidates discussed various solutions to the problem of unemployment. Some responses seemed to show excessive reliance on memorised material, which wasn't always relevant or appropriate to the question. Some candidates wrote about unemployment but forgot to mention any solutions.

Question 5

There were some very good responses to this question. Candidates discussed how development of technology could lead to happiness and drew on their own experience to produce relevant examples to illustrate their points, such as the use of the Internet to communicate with family members and friends around the world. Some candidates needed to elaborate their answers and show their opinion as required by the question.

