

ARABIC LANGUAGE

Paper 8680/22
Reading and Writing

Key messages

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

- Expand their range of vocabulary by reading more widely and learning more synonyms.
- Practise use of the correct verb forms, in particular the jussive and the accusative.
- Understand the requirements of the questions, and response specifically to what is being asked, especially in the summary question.
- Improve on the use of prepositions.
- Pay more attention to verb conjugation, especially with 'هَنَّ'.
- Practise adjectival agreement.
- Improve on the use of the medial and final hamzas.
- Understand the difference in writing between Hamza al-wasl and Hamza al-qat'.
- Learn and understand the correct use of Idafa – possessive construction.

General comments

Overall, the standard of answers was good and there were some interesting opinions expressed. However, candidates should be reminded not to copy out sections of the text and, as far as possible; they should use their own words and phrases, particularly in response to **Question 3**, **Question 4** and **Question 5**.

Comments on specific questions:

Question 1

The majority of candidates answered this question. The strongest students successfully answered part (c).

Question 2

The answers were variable; some candidates answered and others did not attempt to manipulate the grammatical structures. Some candidates were not successful in answering parts (b), (d) and (e).

Question 3

The answers were variable, with weaker candidates encountering difficulty in answering part (b). As for part (c), many candidates only responded to one aspect of the question asked and were unable to identify the remaining requirements of the question. Part (a) was the most accurately answered.

Question 4

Many candidates answered correctly most parts of the question.

Question 5

- (a) There were some good answers to this question. Most candidates copied out large sections of the text without paying attention to the requirements of the question thus impacting their total mark for this question.
- (b) Many candidates answered this question; there were some engaging ideas. The weakest candidates left it blank and attempted no answer.

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Paper 8680/32
Essay

Key messages

Essays written for this paper need to be accurate in terms of language used, with very good use of vocabulary. The content needs to be very well argued and supported with examples where necessary. It has been observed that in some Centres, a number of candidates wrote extremely similar introductions and conclusions which seemed to have been memorized before the exam. Teachers are encouraged to help students to be more creative and provide their own vision in their writing.

General comments

This is an essay paper for which candidates are required to produce only one essay (between 250 and 400 words) from a choice of five topics. The essay is marked out of 40 with 16 marks for the Content, and 24 marks for Quality of Language.

Content performance was generally better than language. Most candidates adhered to the word length.

Comments on Specific Questions

Question 1 was the third most popular choice and many candidates drew on their experiences at school.

Not enough candidates chose **Question 2** to comment on it.

For **Question 3**, some candidates did focus on expressing their opinion relating to work-life balance whilst some used others' opinions and lacked the capacity to justify them.

Question 4 on 'war and peace' was the second most popular. Candidates did well overall, but there were instances where some concentrated on the devastating effects of war and left it till the end to write briefly about the benefits of peace. In addition, some candidates captured key points about the benefits of peace in the form of brief statements, but they did not elaborate enough.

Question 5 about the pollution of rivers, was the most popular question. However, some candidates focused on the reasons behind pollution and wrote lengthy details, leaving little room for the solutions, which is the focal point of the question. Others wrote lengthy introductions about the beauty of nature before getting to the point.