

ISIZULU AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Paper 0531/01
Reading and Writing

Key messages

Candidates were exceptionally good with a high percentage achieving good grades.

General comments

Candidates' performance on the 2020 isiZulu Reading and Writing paper was of a very good standard. There was an improvement in candidates' writing skills compared to previous years and there were fewer grammatical mistakes.

Candidates could be encouraged to read more Zulu books or newspapers, which would be very beneficial when taking Zulu as a subject as well as being well prepared for the examination. Candidates' knowledge and competence in isiZulu will improve the more it is spoken.

Comments on specific questions

Umsebenzi 1

The majority of candidates had very few problems with Umsebenzi 1 and many got full marks. There were only a few candidates who did not provide a response.

1. Mostly correct. A few only answered one part e.g. 'bekuhambisalahoungakhona' without the second part 'nomanini' or they wrote 'nomaedolobheni'.
2. The majority had this question correct. Mistakes included 'ngokuthimoto Ibiza malini' or 'wenuveleuchiphizaikinobhobeseiyafikaimotongokushesha'.
3. Mostly correct. There were a few incorrect answers like 'abagibeli', 'abasheshileukuyaendaweni' or 'abantuabayisithupha'.
4. Mostly correct. Incorrect answers included 'udingaukukwaziukuthiwenauthandahlobanilemotokhonaazokulandangayo'.
5. Mostly correct. Incorrect answers included 'ungakhkhausenemzisaikhadi' or 'ukuzeungadingiukuphathaimaliesandleni'.
6. Mostly correct. Incorrect answers included 'ngemininganoeku app' or the answer was not written in full: 'ungabathumela'.
7. Mostly correct. However, candidates should be careful to read the number of marks available for each question. When a question is worth two marks, two points are required. One incorrect answer was 'Kwa Google play'.

Umsebenzi 2

Most candidates did not appear to have difficulties with this question. There were a few mistakes and no responses.

8(i) All correct

- 8(ii)** Mostly correct, although a few candidates wrote '132 Chelmsford Road, Bulawayo'. The address should be written in full to obtain full marks and not only '23 Esigodini Road'.
- 8(iii)** Answered correctly.
- 8(iv)** Answered correctly.
- 8(v)** Answered correctly.
- 8(vi)** Mostly correct with just a few candidates giving the incorrect answer of '063 9263 323'.
- 8(vii)** Mostly correct. Some candidates mistakenly provided an e-mail address, just a number or 'ezincwadeni'. Very few candidates gave no response.
- 8(viii)** This seemed to be the most challenging question in Umsebenzi 2. Many candidates only wrote that they had visited the animal sanctuary and not that they had helped there, which should have been the answer. Very few candidates gave no response.
- 8(ix)** Mostly correct with a few candidates ticking the wrong box or giving no response. As in previous years, some candidates ticked both boxes. It is not possible to award a mark when both boxes are ticked.

Umsebenzi 3

On the whole, candidates' performance in this exercise was very impressive. Candidates should still however be encouraged to check the number of marks available for each question and provide enough points to obtain full marks.

- 9.** Mostly correct. Some candidates did not answer this in full and, therefore, could not get the mark, e.g. 'ngokukhombisa', or they gave an incorrect answer of 'ngokuchithaisikhathisakhoubungane'.
- 10.** Excellent with very few mistakes.
- 11.** Candidates did well, although this question seemed to be the most challenging in Umsebenzi 3 e.g. 'umhambelanempiloyakho', 'kumeleukwaziukubawemenjanikusasima', 'thokozeleisikhathisakhouwedwa'. Please note that half-written answers cannot be awarded a mark. Very few candidates submitted no response.
- 12.** Generally well answered with a few only supplying one answer for a question with 2 marks. Mistakes were 'akekhomuntuongawenziamaphuthu or 'amaphuthaakhowenauseningini'. There were a few no responses.

Umsebenzi 4

Some candidates were able to write good paragraphs without lifting from Umsebenzi 3. This is the aim of this exercise. Unfortunately, many candidates lifted sections of text from Umsebenzi 3 and they were penalised for this. In this exercise, Umsebenzi 3 should be used as a guide or reference for writing the summary.

Candidates could improve by avoiding repeating the same information in their writing. Although this may sometimes be done by using different words or phrasing, repeating the same point cannot be awarded any additional marks.

Candidates could also improve by focusing on what is being asked of them in the question: what is the task or aim of the question? This way candidates will be able to write a well-balanced paragraph, covering each aspect of the question. The paragraph should not be an introduction only.

Thoughts should be written in an orderly way to make the piece clear to the reader.

Candidates need to remember that the maximum number of words they can write for this exercise is 80. Candidates can prepare for this by being encouraged to write several summary tasks on various topics within the word limit in the lead-up to the examination.

It is recommended that candidates avoid using English words e.g. 'uzibhekefirst'.

The class system in Bantu languages is crucial. Candidates should always be made aware of how the agreement system works. When starting in a certain class the subject concord (marker) should agree with the class prefix of the subject e.g. 'ziningiindlela' should be 'ziningizindlela'.

Umsebenzi 5

Overall, both content and language were excellent. Candidates are improving and fewer spelling and grammatical mistakes were made than in previous years. The topic was well understood by the vast majority of candidates. Unfortunately, if candidates write about a completely different topic to the one in the question, they cannot receive any marks. These candidates could improve by being exposed to many different writing questions in the target language as well as past papers.

Candidates should be careful not to use phonetic writing like 'kumengisebenze'. This should have been 'kumele', and 'lestolo' should be 'lesisitolo'. Candidates overall could work on improving their spelling.

Candidates should avoid using English words e.g. 'ama youth' or 'renta' (rent) instead of 'qasha'. 'Family' should be 'umndeni' and 'kuright' should be 'kulungile'.

Attention should also be given to the class system, which is often written phonetically e.g. 'ngenyawo' instead of 'ngezinyawo'. 'Amakhasimendebathi' should be 'athi' because the class prefix 'ama' is in class 6 and the subject concord should be 'athi' agreeing with the class prefix of class 6. 'Isitologyakhe' should be 'sakhe' because the noun 'isitolo' is in class 7.

Candidates should avoid Ndebele words: 'bala' should be 'funda', 'izimuli' should be 'imindeni', 'izigqoko' should be 'amalokwe', 'hatshi' should be 'hhayi', 'kwanisa' should be 'kwazi', 'katshana' should be 'eduze' and 'tshintsha' should be 'shintsha'. 'Kumbe' and 'njalo' should also be avoided. Candidates who speak Ndebele should also be careful when writing some of the grammatical structures. 'La' is 'na' in isiZulu e.g. 'balemibono' should be 'banemibono'.

Umsebenzi 6

This year, more candidates than in previous years completed this question. There were a couple of candidates who achieved full marks for this question, which is very impressive.

Again, it is important that candidates check how many marks are available for each question so that they include the correct number of points in their answer to obtain full marks. There is still a tendency to only write one answer instead of the appropriate two answers to obtain two marks.

15. Most candidates answered this correctly. Half answers like 'ukubaabengunjinyela' (not including 'electrical') is only half the answer and so these candidates could not be awarded a mark.
16. Most candidates got this correct. An example of an incorrect answer was 'wayethandaukubaphambikwamakheranokubanabalandeliabaningi'.
17. Very well answered.
18. Many candidates wrote the incorrect 'yebo, uyawuthanda lo msebenzi' or 'yebo, ngobauseneminyaka engama-20 enza lo msebenzi' instead of 'yebo, ngobanamanjeakazisoliemvakweminyaka (engama-20).
19. Both 'uhlelolukamabonakude' and 'usebenzanasemsakazweni' were needed to obtain one mark. Unfortunately, many candidates only wrote 'ukhelolukamabonakude' and were not awarded a mark. Candidates should be encouraged to read questions very carefully. There were a few candidates who did not respond.
20. Both 'ezinhlanu' and 'ngoMsombulukokuzekuLwesihlanu' were accepted. Although many candidates had this correct, there were a few who wrote 'ezintathu' or 'olulodwa'.
21. Most candidates got this correct.

22. Mostly correct, but mistakes included 'ubabauyambhekakwabonakude'. Ndebele candidates should be aware that the word 'njalo' is not 'futhi' in isiZulu. There are still a few candidates who are using 'njalo' instead of 'futhi', which is needed here.
23. Generally well answered. Mistakes included 'akazimiseleukuthathanomayingobaehewayimalianayihola'.

Umsebenzi 7

There were some exceptional pieces of writing with a high standard of vocabulary and grammar. Ideas were well formulated, and the thoughts were in a good chronological order with a good beginning and a good end with a clear conclusion. These candidates obtained full marks for both content and language.

Candidates should be encouraged to take note of the number of words they are required to write. A few candidates did not write enough.

Some weaker candidates concentrated too much on one aspect of the question and repeated the same points.

Candidates should be aware of what constitutes a paragraph and should be encouraged to practise paragraphing when completing writing tasks. They should be encouraged to use a separate paragraph for separate topics and points.

Some candidates made the same grammatical mistakes in this exercise as in Umsebenzi 5. Candidates should be familiar with the class system and how to use it e.g. 'abazaliufunda' should agree with the 'aba-': 'abazalibafunda...'

Again, phonetic spelling should be avoided. All letters should be written e.g. 'wangifundis.... uku....' should be 'wangifundisa'.

ISIZULU AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Paper 0531/02
Listening

Key messages

This year, most candidates answered this paper well and scored good or very good marks. Candidates are encouraged to listen carefully to the recording and make sure they read the questions correctly.

General comments

Candidates generally understood the questions posed to them. They are reminded to write their answers in full and clearly. Candidates should be encouraged not to rush into ticking a box especially if they are not yet sure.

The number of candidates who left questions unanswered dropped significantly compared to previous years.

Comments on specific questions

Section A

Exercise 1

A number of candidates were able to answer most questions correctly.

Most candidates understood the question well and gave good answers. A few candidates did not answer so well.

Question 1

This question was well answered by most candidates.

Question 2

This question was well answered by most candidates.

Question 3

This question was well answered by most candidates.

Question 4

This question was well answered by most candidates.

Question 5

This question was well answered by most candidates.

Question 6

This question was well answered by most candidates.

Exercise 2

Question 7

Some candidates answered this question well.

Question 8

Some candidates answered this question well.

Question 9

Some candidates answered this question well.

Question 10

Some candidates answered this question well.

Question 11

Some candidates answered this question well.

Exercise 2 was well answered by candidates. A few candidates had changed their minds, ticking several boxes, but eventually giving a correct answer. Others answered incorrectly.

Exercise 3

Question 12

- (i) This question was well answered, and the synonym was used effectively: 'abasweleyo'.
- (ii) Most candidates struggled to change words to locatives. They wrote 'isihlahla' instead of esihlahleni.
- (iii) Most candidates answered well, even though there were common errors in a word 'Ezisafuluza' instead of 'ezisafulusa'.
- (iv) The majority of candidates answered well
- (v) Common errors were noticeable in words such as, 'Eziqelelene' instead of 'eziqhelelene', which is a synonym for ezihlukene, but it was well answered by candidates despite common errors.
- (vi) It was evident that some candidates are not IsiZulu speaking, as some candidates used borrowed words or English words in their responses, e.g. 'i-offisi' instead of ehhovisi.
- (vii) The majority of candidates answered well.
- (viii) Most candidates answered well even though some used a word 'umfundazi' which is more or less the same as 'umfundaze'. It was clear that candidates were listening to the text, that is why they hear a sound 'ze' to 'zi'.

Some candidates struggled to spell words in proper isiZulu language. but the questions were well answered by candidates despite common errors.

Exercise 4

Most candidates answered the questions correctly. Some candidates did not achieve full marks because they did not give full answers. Candidates are advised to check their spelling before submitting.

Question 13

Most candidates could not point the location where Mthuthuzeli does not want to go to.

Question 14

The majority of candidates answered this question well.

Question 15

The majority of candidates answered this question well.

Question 16

Most candidates answered this question well, although a few candidates were not able to answer correctly.

Question 17

The majority of candidates answered this question well.

Question 18

The majority of candidates answered this question well.

Question 19

Most candidates answered this question well.

Question 20

Most candidates answered this question well.

