

MARATHI

Paper 9688/02
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 very good.

In the comprehension questions, many candidates copied out long portions of the text, which was not always selective enough to demonstrate adequate comprehension. Some candidates tried hard to use their own language and there was an improvement in this area compared to last year. Stronger candidates successfully showed their ability to express a range of ideas. Areas where candidates would benefit from further practice include spelling and complex structures with particular attention to gender agreements.

In some cases, interference from candidates' other languages was evident.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

Generally, responses to this question was good, with many candidates providing correct antonyms of the words given and using them in their own sentences. There were some occasions where candidates could produce the antonym but not their own sentence. Many candidates struggled with **Question 1(iv)**: बद्ध .

Question 2

In general, responses to this question were good; many candidates scored full marks here. A few candidates struggled and would benefit from more practice in finding and understanding synonyms in Marathi.

Questions 3 and 4

Performance on these questions was rather mixed. Many candidates copied out long portions of the text, which was not always selective enough to demonstrate adequate comprehension. Candidates should be encouraged to use their own words as far as possible.

Question 5

Overall, performance on **Question 5(i)** was satisfactory. Generally, responses to **Question 5(ii)** were very poor.

Candidates did not include enough information in their answers and the language used was often not the most appropriate, or was so poor that it rendered parts of the answer unintelligible. Candidates needed to be able to demonstrate knowledge of contemporary aspects of their country and express it in Marathi.

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Paper 9688/03

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 views.

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 good.

The most popular questions were **Question 2** (on the topic of 'Urban and rural life') and **Question 5** (on the topic of 'Pollution').

Generally, candidates expressed themselves using good language. However, many candidates struggled to use the Marathi verb correctly. There was some indication of interference from candidates' other languages.

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Paper 9688/04

Texts

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 should be reminded that, in passage-based questions, the passage is a stimulus to be used as a springboard to give them a starting point for their answer. Candidates need to ensure that they expand their answers.

General comments

Overall, candidates did very well on this paper. The content of candidates' answers was generally good. Some candidates lost marks because their control of the Marathi language was so poor in places that it rendered parts of their answers unintelligible.

Comments on specific questions

Section 1

Question 1

This was the most popular question in **Section 1**. Responses to **Questions 1(a)** and **1(b)** were generally very good. There was a preference for **Question 1(b)** over **1(a)**.

Question 2

There was a preference for **Question 2(b)** over **2(a)**. Only a few candidates attempted a question on this set text.

Question 3

Candidates generally answered **Questions 3(a)** and **3(b)** satisfactorily. There was a preference for **Question 3(a)** over **3(b)**.

Section 2

Question 4

This was the most popular question in **Section 2**. Performance on **Questions 4(a)** and **4(b)** was generally good. The majority of candidates who chose one of these questions made many relevant points and clearly understood the set text.

Question 5

There were too few responses to **Questions 5(a)** and **5(b)** for any useful observations to be made.

Question 6

Answers to **Questions 6(a)** and **6(b)** were, on the whole, satisfactory. Candidates often used good narration in their answers.

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Paper 9688/05

Prose

Key messages

In order to do well in this paper, candidates should ensure that they read through the prose passage carefully before beginning to translate. When translating, candidates should bear in mind the context of the passage: it is not enough to translate individual words or short phrases from the text without regard for the context in which they are found in the question paper.

Candidates should try to allow themselves a little time at the end to read over what they have written to ensure that it makes sense and to check their spelling and grammar.

General comments

In this paper, candidates are required to translate a short passage from English into Marathi.

Performance on this paper was generally good.

In order to improve, candidates need to pay particular attention to tenses while translating.

Stronger candidates demonstrated good translation skills. Weaker answers were characterised by serious grammatical errors, in particular in the use of tenses and in the placement of the subject, object and verb in a sentence. Candidates could benefit from more practice in these areas.

Many candidates found it difficult to translate the word 'classical' (in the context of classical music) into Marathi.