

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 antonyms.
- Pay more attention to 'إِنَّ' and its sisters, and their effect on the nominative sentence.
مثال: إِنَّ لها تأثيرًا أسوأ، وليس 'إِنَّ لها تأثيرًا أسوأ'.
- Pay more attention to the correct use of the dual.
مثال: إِلَّا أَنْ الفَتَاتَيْنِ تَفَاعَلَتَا، وليس 'إِلَّا أَنْ الفَتَاتَيْنِ تَفَاعَلَا'، أو 'إِلَّا أَنْ الفَتَاتَيْنِ تَفَاعَلَتَا' أو 'إِلَّا أَنْ الفَتَاتَيْنِ تَفَاعَلُوا'.
- Pay more attention to correct verb conjugation. The following are some examples from the candidate's responses:
أمثلة: 'فبدأت الباحثون'، 'التلوث تؤدي إلى فقدان'، 'يؤثر التربة في الإنسان'.
- Practise use of the correct verb forms, in particular the jussive and the accusative.
أمثلة:
لم ير الباحثون، وليس 'لم يرى الباحثون' أو 'لم يرون الباحثون'.
يجب على الأفراد أن يضعوا، وليس 'يجب على الأفراد أن يضعون'.
- Pay attention to the conjugation of the 'Five Verbs'. The following are some examples from the candidate's responses:
أمثلة: 'الذين يلوثوا'، 'وأن الناس يستغلوا'.
- Improve on the use of the medial and final hamzas.
- Understand the requirements of the questions, and specifically respond to what is being asked, especially in the summary question.

General comments

Overall, the standard of answers was good. It was clear that teachers were effective in preparing the candidates well and raising the standard of their responses; a number of very interesting ideas were expressed.

There was evidence that some candidates were copying out entire sentences, in some cases even a whole paragraph instead of writing in their own words. Candidates should be reminded to use their own forms of expression rather than copying out a sentence or even a paragraph from the text.

Comments on specific questions:

Question 1

The answers were variable; the majority of candidates answered successfully **parts (a), (b) and (c)**. Some candidates were not successful in answering **part (d)**.

Question 2

Question 2a was the most challenging, and **2c** was the most accurately answered. Many candidates would do well to review the 'dual', 'إِنَّ' and its sisters, and the jussive construction 'الجزم'.

Question 3

Many candidates answered this question well. **Part (b)** and **(f)** were the most accurately answered. As for **part (d)** some candidates answered the second part of the question and did not answer the first part which is asking about the author's own opinion. 'ما رأي الكاتب؟'.

Part (a) was more challenging for the majority of candidates. The question asked if **scientists** agree with the way people deal with the environment. Some candidates instead answered this question **expressing their own opinions** as in the following:

نعم، أوافق على ذلك

Question 4

There were some very good responses to this question. Some candidates managed to select the right answers. Most candidates encountered difficulty in answering **parts (e)** and **(f)**. As for **(e)** the question was about the consequences of pollution at **non-environmental** (key word) levels. Some candidates focused on the consequences of pollution at both environmental and non-environmental levels thereby missing the point of the question. As for **part (f)**, this question asked what **individuals** (key word) can do to reduce pollution whereas some candidates focused on what farmers and governments could do.

Question 5

- (a) Many candidates answered the question well and some interesting ideas were expressed. Some 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. For example, some did not focus on summarising the 'effects of pollution' from both texts and instead summarised the two texts more generally.
- (b) The question asked for the candidate's **own** opinion on what the environment would say if it could. The majority answered very well and with interesting ideas. Some did not attempt it at all, and others answered very briefly.

ARABIC LANGUAGE

Paper 8680/32 Essay
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Key messages

- Essays should reflect the candidates' ability to express themselves clearly and accurately in the target language with good usage of grammar and vocabulary in order to argue the content as well as possible and support this argument with examples to prove their understanding.
- Teachers could encourage candidates to be creative and help them to demonstrate the ability to use the language well.

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: there are 16 marks for Content, and 24 marks for Quality of Language. Language instructors and centres are encouraged to aid candidates to practice the Arabic language by using online resources, printed books or even holding workshops to encourage candidates to practice Arabic Language skills.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

This question was the most popular and candidates' answers showed good ability in arguing the topic and making their point of view clear. Most candidates gave good examples to support their argument. Weaker candidates tended to rely on memorisation.

Question 2

This question was less popular. Most candidates only discussed the importance of healthy food, rather than discussing the question itself which was focussed on whether eating in public transport should be banned or allowed.

Question 3

This question was about raising the age of retirement to 75 and what effect this decision would have on the economy. The vast majority of the candidates wrote about the importance of having a job, which was not the focus of the question, showing that candidates may need more practice on this topic. To score high marks it is important to answer the question which has been set.

Question 4

This question was about the difference between virtual and face-to-face learning. Many candidates gave good detailed answers, but they focussed on the importance of technology rather than focussing on the question which asked them to compare virtual learning to face-to-face learning.

Question 5

Many candidates misunderstood this question as they wrote in detail about the importance of keeping the environment safe and clean when the question was about increasing the taxes on using petrol to reduce the usage of it. Candidates should read the questions carefully and make sure they are focussing on the question before they attempt their answer.