

Oral component

GENERAL COMMENTS

Most students handled the oral assessment with confidence. A few students were not well prepared especially in the Detailed Study section. These students could not differentiate between Theme, Topic and Subtopic; their oral skills were poor and they lacked the ability to use basic linguistic elements. Common mistakes included: incorrect gender usage, tenses and personal pronouns. Teachers need to develop a range of strategies to help students improve in these areas.

General conversation

The five topics prescribed in the study design are broad enough to assess the skills developed by students for the general conversation. However, some students were unable to cope adequately with less predictable questions. Students should further develop conversation skills to enable them to answer or respond to questions and comments naturally and effectively.

Detailed study

Topics selected for this were good and covered a range of issues but students need to be prepared to tell the difference between topic and subtopic and to express their own opinion about the topics with reference to the texts studied. Some topics showed that minimal time was spent in their preparation. Students need further advice/guidance to assist them with the selection of a topic and to look at expansion of the topic during presentation.

Written component

GENERAL COMMENTS

Most students handled all parts of the examination well. Many students used extensive vocabulary which was more than adequate for the required tasks.

Parts A and B

Students clearly understood the spoken passages and were able to complete the tasks using their own words. The stronger students, used the information provided, to enrich the content of the tasks thereby creating interest and presenting the task in an original form.

Reading and responding

Students had little difficulty in identifying and selecting the correct information from the two texts. Most students used their own vocabulary and few students relied solely on that of the given texts.

Writing in the LOTE

The overall performance of the students in this part of the examination was satisfactory.