2021 VCE Korean First Language written external assessment report

General comments

Overall, most students were aware of the nature of the tasks and the requirements and instructions in each of the sections.

Students must be aware that it is important to:

* make wise use of the dictionary
* use effectively the 15 minutes of reading time
* take detailed notes during the playing of the listening text
* be aware of the audience, purpose and text type required
* understand that the spaces provided give them an idea of how much they should write
* pay particular attention to the task verbs: explain, describe, compare, analyse, discuss (설명하다, 기술하다, 분석하다, 비교하다, 서술하다, 논하다).

Specific information

Note: This report provides sample answers or an indication of what answers may have included. Unless otherwise stated, these are not intended to be exemplary or complete responses.

Students were expected to answer all questions with correct sentence structure: full marks could not be awarded for the criteria of grammar, vocabulary and sentence structure if they did not do so.

Section 1 ‒ Listening and responding

All questions in Section 1 were answered by most of the students. A small number of students answered all questions correctly or demonstrated excellent skills in language application.

Some students simply rewrote what they had heard in the text, which meant their answers were not coherent within the context of the question and did not convey information accurately and appropriately.

Students did not lose marks for spelling mistakes.

Text 1

Question 1a.

‘서울’ 명칭의 유래는 신라 시대 국호를 ‘서라벌’이라 정한 것에 기원이 있고, 이 후 순수 우리말로서 한 나라의

수도를 뜻하게 되었다. 수도 이름은 백제 때 위례성, 조선 시대 때 한양, 일제 강점기 때는 경성, 해방 이후

지금까지는 서울로 불려지고 있다.

(The name Seoul originates from the name Seorabeol from the country name of Silla. It is a pure Korean word meaning ‘the capital’. The name of the capital had been Uirye Seong during Baekje, Hanyang during Joseon, and Gyeongseong during Japanese occupation. From liberation until present, it had been called Seoul.)

Question 1b.

‘한강의 기적’이란 표현은 한국전쟁 발발에 따라 암흑의 시절을 맞게 된 서울이 휴전이후 새로운 도시건설시작과 동시에 대규모 인구 유입으로 사회기반시설 구축에 집중하는 등, 급속한 발전을 이룬 것에 그 배경이있다. 1986년 아시안게임과 1988년 올림픽을 성공적으로 개최했다는 사실이 이를 방증한다.

(The term ‘Miracle of the Han River’ came about when Seoul achieved great growth and development after coming out of the dark age of the Korean War then rebuilding a modern urban city and [undergoing] a major influx of population into the city with growing infrastructures. Hosting of the Asian Games in 1986 and the Olympics in 1988 is the evidence of this fact.)

Question 1c.

대도시 서울이 가진 특성은 우선 규모면에서 인구가 약 1000만 명, 면적이 605km²라는 수치에서 잘 보여진다. 서울의 교통 중에서 지하철은 9호선까지 운행 중이고, 총 거리 합계 343.4km, 하루 평균 약 747만 명이 이용하고 있다. 또한 지하철과 버스의 연계 시스템이 도입되었고, 버스의 중앙 전용차로 이용도 특성 중 하나이다. 인터넷 평균 접속속도와 초고속 인터넷 보급률이 세계 1위라고 알려질 만큼 편리하며, 세계에서 가장 안전한 도시 지수 순위 8위에 오를 정도로 안전한 치안 또한 장점으로 꼽힌다.

(The characteristics of the major city Seoul is its size of 10 million people and area of 605 km2. Seoul’s subway system has up to nine lines covering a total distance of 343.4 km with an average of 7.47 million passengers per day. The subway and bus connection system has reduced fares and the bus-only centre lane is also a characteristic. The internet is convenient with its fastest average internet speed and number one rank in high-speed internet penetration. Safety and security are another strong point since Seoul was selected the eighth-safest city in the world.)

Question 1d.

본문에서는 서울시의 두 가지 도시 재생 사업으로 청계천 복원 공사와 서울로 7017을 사례로 들고 있다. 우선 청계천 복원 공사는 환경적 측면의 사업으로서 1970년대에는 복개를 하여 고가도로로 사용했으나, 현재에는 맑은 물이 흐르는 개천으로 복원되었다. 서울로 7017은 경제적 측면의 사업으로서, 철거 위기에 놓여진 서울역 고가도로를 보행길로 탈바꿈하여 주변 지역 경제활성 효과를 보고 있다. 이 두 사업은 모두 고가도로와 관련되어 있는데, 청계천은 고가를 허물고 개천을 복원을 한 것이고 서울로는 고가를 보존하고 공원으로 재탄생 시켰다는 점에 그 차이가 있다.

(In the passage, two major urban restoration examples were restoration of Cheonggyecheon and Seoulo 7017. Cheonggyecheon restoration was an environmental move restoring the stream of clear water that had been covered up in the 1970s to build the overpass. Seoulo 7017 was an economic work transforming an old overpass in Seoul Station into a tourist walk attracting economic revitalisation. Both projects include environmental and financial factors and are related to the overpass. In the case of Cheonggyecheon, it was demolishing the overpass whereas the Seoul Road was about preserving the overpass.)

Question 1e.

급속한 경제 발전을 뜻하는 ‘한강의 기적’은 우리에게 물질적 퐁요로움을 안겨주었다. 그러나 이는 소외된 이웃이 늘고 환경 문제를 야기하는 등 부작용을 낳게 되었다. 그리하여 우리는 이제 양적 성장보다는 질적 성장을 더욱 중요시 하는 쪽으로 패러다임 쉬프트, 즉 인식의 대전환을 확장시켜야 할 때이다. 따라서 ‘제 2의 한강의 기적’은 사회적 평등과 공동체 가치를 실현하고 또한 환경 친화적 도시로 바뀌는 것을 의미하며 이미 시작되었다는 표현은 본문에서 언급한 청계천 복원이나 서울로 7017의 사례에서 볼 수 있다.

(The miracle of the Han had initially given us material prosperity. However, there were also some side effects, such as alienation of some neighbourhoods and environmental problems. So rather than just growth in quantity, we also need to think about qualitative growth, a paradigm shift in our thinking. Therefore, the second Miracle of Han means transforming into a city with social equality, realising community values and environmentally friendly. To say ‘it had already begun’ implies restoration of Cheongyecheon and Seoulo 7017 are evidence that Seoul is well and truly on its way to achieving this.)

Section 2 ‒ Reading and responding

Texts 2 and 3

Question 2

Students were required to demonstrate their comprehension of the two texts provided and respond to the task using their capacity to identify and synthesise relevant information and ideas from the texts. They needed to use the form and structure appropriate for the writing, context, purpose and audience of the task.

High-scoring responses combined and integrated the relevant information and main ideas from the two texts effectively and logically to successfully create a new, single persuasive text. Students sequenced information appropriately and had a good flow of ideas conveying messages clearly, with extremely well-organised paragraphs and a wide range of suitable vocabulary and expressions.

The speech text type required a greeting.

The following are possible areas that could have been discussed in the speech.

From Text 2:

* 다문화사회에 필요한 법을 제정해야 하며, 이민을 줄여야 한다. (Legislation is necessary for multicultural society, and immigration should be reduced.)
* 다른 국가들도 UN의 지속가능발전목표 실현을 위해 이민자 유입을 줄였다. (Other countries have also reduced the influx of migrants to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.)
* 무분별한 이민 확대는 삶의 질을 떨어지게 하고 빈곤층의 증가를 초래한다. (Indiscriminate immigration will lower the quality of life and increase poverty.)
* 이민 확대로 불평등이 심화되고 도시 집중화로 주거지 문제가 심각해졌다. (Increase in immigration led to deepening of inequality and serious housing problems.)
* 지속가능발전목표 실현을 위해 사회적인 기반을 먼저 쌓아야 하므로 이민 확대를 위한 새 이민법 제정을 중지해야 한다. (Social infrastructures should come first to achieve sustainable development goals, so new immigration laws to increase number of new migrants should be stopped.)

From Text 3:

* 도시화, 산업화로 농촌 결혼 적령기 여성 부족 현상이 심하므로 이민이 확대되어야 한다. (There is a shortage of women for farmers to marry when they come of marriageable age due to urbanisation and industrialisation, so immigration should be expanded.)
* 대한민국은 저출산, 고령화로 인한 인구 문제 해결을 위해 이민을 확대해야 한다. (We need to expand immigration to address the problem of low birth rate and ageing population in Korea.)
* 생산가능인구의 감소로 국가의 잠재적 성장률이 저하되므로 이민 확대가 필요하다. (We need more immigration because decrease in working age population will reduce potential growth rate of our nation.)
* 독일처럼 전문 인력 유치와 같은 적극적인 이민 정책을 펼쳐야 한다. (Just like Germany, there should be active immigration policy to attract skilled workers.)
* 이민 정책을 일원화하고 보다 원활하고 체계적인 수행을 위해 새 이민법 제정이 시급하다. (Immigration policy should be integrated into a new immigration law urgently for smooth and systemic implementation.)

Section 3 – Writing in Korean

All five questions were attempted by students.

Responses must match the prompt in terms of kind of writing and text type required for the chosen question and include relevant content and ideas.

Question 3

Responses could have included at least two positive and negative aspects of Korean steel chopsticks, discussed rationally and objectively using evidence to support the contrasting sides or alternatives. Creation of an impression of balance and impartiality is essential.

Question 4

Responses could have included at least two positive and negative aspects of the personal mobility device (electric kick scooter), discussed rationally and objectively using evidence to support the contrasting sides or alternatives. Creation of an impression of balance and impartiality is essential.

Question 5

The response could have presented two or more aspects of holding small weddings in Korean society and discussed these rationally and objectively using evidence to support the contrasting sides or alternatives.

Question 6

Students were asked to write an imaginative journal entry on a calligraphy artwork. The journal text type required a date and could have also included the place, time and weather. Imaginative writing may break normal sequencing for added impact, such as in a flashback or in a final disclosure that puts a different interpretation on preceding passages.

Question 7

Students were asked to write a short story after reading a fragment from a UN speech by Kim Nam Jun (BTS). The response needed to be in the form of an imaginative story and the structure needed to be clear, including the setting, plot development and how the situation was resolved or concluded.