



Oral component

GENERAL COMMENTS

In 2008, the students performed generally well. There were some outstanding performances and some very good research undertaken by students. Many students showed that they had thoroughly researched their work for the Discussion section and presented excellent ideas and opinions in the discussion.

The manner of delivery was good, including accuracy of pronunciation and appropriate use of vocabulary. Many students adopted good communicative strategies such as using body language, eye contact and expressive presentation techniques. There were some minor grammatical mistakes but generally these were not very serious.

As in previous years, most of the students did not address the assessors correctly. Students must be aware of the proper form of address in Polish.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Part 1 – Conversation

The overall performance of the students in the Conversation section was good. Students demonstrated knowledge of the subject under discussion as well as language ability, including pronunciation and grammar. They were successful and open in dealing with the various topics of conversation. The majority of students were confident in their choice of topics, although some students were unable to progress the conversation.

Part 2 – Discussion

Many students did not use a variety of sources for their Detailed Study as was expected, so they were not offering opportunities to extend the discussion. The most difficult theme for students in the Discussion section was the topic based on the Polish city of Krakow; most students were poorly prepared for discussion based on this theme. This year there was a lack of visual material supplied to support the discussion. Nevertheless, most students introduced their topic successfully and some were very well developed. Some students were well prepared for discussion on their chosen topics, and some were open and eager to express their knowledge and opinions. The level of language used in this task was generally good and there were some outstanding performances.