



Oral component

GENERAL COMMENTS

The oral examination was divided into two parts: a seven-minute conversation, and a one-minute presentation of the Detailed Study sub-topic followed by a seven-minute discussion related to the chosen topic. In 2009, students were well prepared for the format of the examination.

Section 1 – Conversation

In the Conversation section, students and assessors discuss the students' personal world, including school and home life, family and friends, interests, hobbies and future aspirations. Most students handled this part of the examination quite well and were able to advance the conversation. They appeared to be well prepared and there was little evidence of rote-learning. Strong students displayed confidence and a willingness to extend the conversation, displaying their linguistic prowess. Weaker students responded less well to questions and found it difficult to elaborate on their responses spontaneously, although there were some exceptions which indicated an enthusiasm in wishing to utilise their language skills. It was clear that students who had lived in Sweden had an advantage over those learning Swedish as a second language in Australia, but it was very pleasing to see how well prepared the second group of students was for the examination.

Section 2 – Discussion

Generally, students' performances in the Discussion section were of a good standard. They were able to advance the discussion, give reasons for their opinions and use the Swedish language effectively.