GENERAL COMMENTS
Most students performed well on all sections of the 2012 Hindi written examination. Many students performed better in Section 1 – Listening and Responding than they did in Section 2 – Reading and responding. Students should attempt all questions instead of giving more weight to certain questions. Students should ensure that they proofread their work to pick up errors.

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

Section 1 – Listening and Responding
Part A – Answer in English
The section was assessed according to the following criteria.
- understand general and specific aspects of texts by identifying and analysing information
- convey the information accurately and appropriately

Text 1
Question 1
(C) Food, spices and cooking lessons will be available at the festival.

Most students received full marks for this question.

Text 2
Question 2
All of
- the club is a worldwide phenomenon, with 6000 clubs in 60 countries
- the club makes you happy
- the club makes you healthy
- the club makes you energetic
- the club is free to join/doesn’t cost any money
- it is easy to join – you just ring a telephone number.

Most students missed one or two points and were not awarded full marks.

Text 3
Question 3
All of
- it was the first time that the Grand Prix had been held in India
- a new circuit was built
- drivers from all over the world participated in the event
- an overall revenue of $170 million was generated/local businessmen made a large profit
- more than 10 000 people were employed
- India has been given a new identity on the world sporting stage.

Most students answered this question correctly and were awarded full marks.

Text 4
Question 4
Seven of
- Maya’s grandmother is conservative and bossy
Maya’s grandmother favours the males in the house over the females
Maya’s grandmother wants Maya’s mother to get up very early
the grandmother wants Maya’s mother and Maya to change the way they dress
Maya is not encouraged to go out
Maya’s grandmother does not eat leftovers
Rohit’s grandmother is very open-minded
Rohit’s grandmother does not favour the male members of the family
Rohit’s grandmother eats the leftovers
Rohit’s grandmother says that one should change with time.

The majority of students answered this question correctly and were awarded full marks. Some students repeated the same points in different forms.

Part B – Answer in Hindi
This section was assessed according to the following criteria.
- understand general and specific aspects of texts by identifying and analysing information
- convey the information accurately and appropriately

Text 5
Question 5a.
The saying indicates that people haven’t seen each other for a long time.
Most students answered this question well.

Question 5b.
Any five of
- apartments have good facilities
- you will be able to live close to work and this will have two advantages
  - you can walk to work every day
  - you will be less stressed and save on petrol
- you will have no garden or gardening to do because public gardens are available and it is easy to grow a few veggies in pots
- you will have various kinds of entertainment within walking distance.
Most students were able to respond correctly and were awarded full marks but weaker students missed some points.

Text 6
Question 6
All of
- Dr Vyas noticed that mobile phones were common in rural areas
- Dr Vyas noticed that many people had two mobile phones
- he explained to Sarla that people arrange to be on the same mobile phone plan as their friends so they can speak to them on a very low rate and for an unlimited length of time
- as the various friends and relatives are on different plans, most people have more than one mobile phone.
Most students answered well and were awarded full marks. Some students missed a few points.

Section 2 – Reading and Responding
Part A – Answer in English
The section was assessed according to the following criteria.
- understanding of general and/or specific aspects of texts, by, for example, comparing, contrasting, summarising or evaluating
- convey the information accurately and appropriately

In Part A students were required to demonstrate their understanding of a written text.
In general, students were able to select and use relevant information from the two texts. However, most students did not include sufficient information in their answer in order to be awarded full marks. This section was a challenge for most students. A few students were awarded full marks.

Text 7  
Question 7a. 
Both of  
- the first photos taken by Homai were photos of the Women’s Club, and the article states that she was paid only one rupee for each photo 
- the article also makes it clear that, later on, she was very famous.

Most students answered well and were awarded full marks. Some students missed one point.

Question 7b. 
All of  
- the sentence says ‘her journey of photography was not an easy one’  
- she had a very heavy camera  
- she had a very heavy flash equipment  
- she had to ride a bicycle with her heavy equipment on it  
- the article also says that the field was dominated by males, so her journey was not easy because she was a woman trying to make a name for herself in a male-dominated profession.

A few students achieved full marks.

Question 7c. 
Both of  
- in 1970, she decided to pack away her camera  
- she was disillusioned by politics/political life in her country.

The majority of students answered this question correctly.

Text 8  
Question 8a. 
Both of  
- the speaker emphasises that the poet’s celebration is held on a very important day in the Indian calendar  
- the speaker emphasises the poet’s many achievements  
- the speaker makes sure that his audience understands that it was not easy for the poet to achieve this level of greatness  
- the speaker uses many positive adjectives to describe the poet and his work  
- he uses words in his conclusion that are very respectful  
- one example of respectful speech: ‘bow my head and conclude my speech’.

The majority of students found this question difficult and failed to answer correctly. This was the most difficult question for the students as only a few students were able to score full marks.

Question 8b. 
All of  
- always remember that you can achieve a great deal even if you have to overcome physical obstacles  
- don’t turn away from what you would like to do just because your group is underrepresented in a particular field  
- always believe that you will be able to transform even the most tragic events in your life into something positive  
- continue to be committed to your path/ideals (or your career or what you want to do) even when you are faced with hardship.

This question challenged many students and only very capable students answered correctly.
Part B – Answer in Hindi

Text 9

Question 9

Students were required to write a personal letter in Hindi in response to a wedding invitation. Students were expected to write explaining why they will not be able to participate in all the activities.

This section was assessed according to the following criteria.

- Understanding general and specific aspects of a text by identifying, analysing and responding to information
- Convey information coherently (structure, sequence, accuracy and variety of vocabulary and sentence structure) and appropriately (relevance, use of conventions of the text type)
- Text type and format: address, salutation, structure (introduction, body, conclusion) content, signing off, appropriate register and style

Most students performed well on Question 9. They followed the correct format for a personal letter. Some students were able to meet the requirements of the task and demonstrated extensive knowledge and understanding of vocabulary.

However, some weaker students did not produce the text type and wrote a letter that contained numerous grammatical and spelling errors. A few weaker students ignored the features of the text type and the context in which this letter should have been written. Some students did not comment on their reasons for not attending some parts of the wedding celebrations.

Below are some examples of spelling errors. These errors indicate that students were confused with similar sounds (for example, र and र, and ब and ब, ट and ट).

Section 3 – Writing in Hindi

This section was assessed according to the following criteria

- Relevance and depth of treatment of ideas, information, or opinions
- Accuracy and range of vocabulary and sentence structures
- The capacity to structure and sequence response and capacity to use conventions of the text types.

In this section, students were asked to answer one of four questions and write their answers in Hindi. Question 10 was the most popular, followed by Question 13. Most students were able to organise information and ideas to meet the requirements of the task.

Some weaker students demonstrated the ability to organise information and ideas, but these students had only basic knowledge and understanding of vocabulary and sentence structures.

Question 10

Students were required to write an imaginative story about a young man or woman from a Hindi-speaking community who had received a special gift. This question was the most popular and responses were quite good. However, writing an imaginative story was challenging for many students. Some students wrote about their dreams rather than an imaginative story on the topic and many simply wrote some informative statements. This shows that they did not read the question carefully.
Some weaker students demonstrated limited evidence of the ability to organise interesting information and ideas into a coherent and well-structured story with a beginning, middle and end.

**Question 11**
Students were required to write an informative article for a popular magazine about the topic of initiating friendships, and how to have good relationships with friends while maintaining close family relationships. A few students attempted this question and demonstrated good understanding of the text type. The more capable students demonstrated extensive knowledge and understanding of vocabulary, tense, mood and syntax.

**Question 12**
Students were required to write the text of a speech in order to persuade a Hindi-speaking audience that the policy of multiculturalism had positive aspects. The more capable students responded to this question. Strong students wrote fluently and addressed all parts of the task.

**Question 13**
Students were required to write an evaluative report for a Hindi newspaper on the advantages and difficulties of being an only child. This was the second most popular question. Most responses were quite good.

The following are examples of good phrases used by high-scoring students.

- जहाँ पूल होते हैं वहाँ काटे भी होते हैं
- घर का न घाट का
- जिसका का टुकड़ा होता
- आसमान की जनवाई को छूटा
- उन्नत सीमा काम
- जीता जागता उदाहरण
- विविधता में एकता