

Written component

GENERAL COMMENTS

In the 2014 Punjabi examination, overall, student performance was good and students were generally aware of the parameters of the various questions. Very few students, however, exhibited excellent sentence-structuring skills or seemed to have good listening and note-taking skills. Students should be able to utilise their bilingual dictionary appropriately.

Due to a lack of practice in writing, some students performed poorly. It is advised that students practise their writing skills regularly.

During the examination, students should ensure that they identify key words in questions and respond to all aspects of questions. Some students missed out on marks by not attempting questions.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION

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.

Section 1 – Listening and responding

Part A – Answer in English

In this part of the examination, students were required to listen to three texts and answer the questions in English.

Text 1

Question 1a.

in a marketplace/fruit shop

The majority of students answered this question correctly.

Question 1b.

Any three of:

- decorate meals
- make a shake
- make pickles
- on its own for breakfast or lunch

Most students obtained high marks for this question.

Question 1c.

It is fresh and cheap.

Text 2

Question 2a.

The family treated him as their own child.

Question 2b.

Possible positive experiences could include:

- learned about the game of kabbadi
- gained an additional hobby and joined a club
- it taught him to value that people think differently and experience life differently
- the host family provided a comfortable environment.

The majority of students answered this question correctly and scored high marks.

2014 Examination Report

Question 2c.

He ate more and gained weight.

This question was very well answered by students.

Text 3

Question 3a.

The poet desires a world without hatred and one with love for humanity everywhere.

The majority of students answered this question correctly.

Question 3b.

Both of:

- our narrow thinking divides us, or lack of human kindness
- nature spreads fragrance, or broader thinking

Some students found this question quite challenging.

Question 3c.

Both of:

- by changing narrow thinking
- by respecting all/loving humanity/reducing caste differences

Some students did not answer the question fully.

Part B – Answer in Punjabi

Text 4

Question 4

Some students missed out on marks because they did not answer all parts of this question.

Question 4a.

Any two of:

- making a bridge of straw and having it stand for one minute
- filling the bucket up with water, to a marked line, while blindfolded
- treasure hunt on the beach.

Question 4b.

The team did not train in the hot weather conditions.

Text 5

Question 5a.

- Uncle Darshan is flat/down/sad.
- The conversation takes place in a retirement village in Australia.

Most students achieved only one mark because they failed to mention the retirement village in Australia.

Question 5b.

- In Australia, the elderly are cared for in retirement villages and very few people speak Punjabi language.
- In Punjab elders stay home with their families who speak their language, but families are too busy to spend time with them.

Most students answered this question well.

Question 5c.

She tells him not to feel down and to talk to her, as she can speak his language.

The majority of students answered this question correctly and some students worded it very well.

Text 6

Question 6a.

the circulation of notes printed prior to 2005

Most students answered this question well. Some students missed out on marks because they did not understand the meaning for the words ‘circulation of currency’.

Question 6b.

If someone wants to exchange more than ten notes of 500 or 1000, they have to provide proof of identity.

The majority of students answered this question correctly.

Question 6c.

The bank tells people not to panic and provides information about the changes through the media.

Some students missed out on marks by not writing both parts of the required answer.

**Section 2 – Reading and responding
Part A – Answer in English**

Text 7

Question 7

Contribution	Expectation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enrichment of culture and people’s lives through literature (stories, poems, drama and plays) • highlight and bring social issues to people’s attention and provide possible solutions for improvement • affect people’s emotions through their words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they want people to read their writing and learn from them (for example, about social issues) • appreciation/acknowledgment

Some students did not answer this question with all the required information.

Text 8

Question 8a.

Answers could have included the following points:

- farmers do not want to produce it themselves
- chemical fertilisers take less time and effort to prepare
- readily available
- quick results
- very effective
- farmers do not have the right skills/knowledge to make organic fertiliser.

Overall, this question was answered well.

Part B – Answer in Punjabi

Question 9

To properly meet the requirements of the question, students should have used the appropriate form of address and persuasive language.

Students should have included the following.

- formal message to the member of parliament
- appropriate form of address, and introductory and concluding greetings
- comments on issues experienced by people, highlighting frustrations
- information from the text

Some students met all the requirements of the question. Other students rephrased the question, adding minimal content, and did not address the message towards the member of parliament as required. Some students' responses were too brief. Few students used persuasive language to highlight their frustrations or gave reasons to support their points. Instead of trying to persuade, a few students begged for a new bus service and thanked the member in advance. Students should read the question carefully and write according to requirements of the question, using appropriate vocabulary and grammar.

Section 3 – Writing in Punjabi

Question 10

Suggestions:

- mention the appointment condition (you initially worked in a remote area for six months)
- use persuasive language
- mention why you did not like the job at first
- mention three or four positive reasons/experiences why you have changed your mind
- mention that the experience has been rewarding so you want to extend your time
- give three or four reasons why you want your manager to extend your appointment
- write the text as a formal email

Few students answered this question. Some students answered it well by explaining all aspects of why they did not initially like the job, as well as how the manager and the company could benefit by extending their term in that area.

Question 11

Suggestions:

- mention that you have always wanted a pet dog and explain why
- mention that for your birthday you received a pet you were not expecting
- mention how you felt
- describe in detail three or four unusual activities of your new pet
- write the text as an imaginative type of story, for your younger brother and sister

Very few students wrote high-quality imaginative stories.

Question 12

Suggestions:

- write the text in the form of a diary entry (date, place, time, structure related to sequence of thought, events of importance, opening often an evaluative comment, content, conclusion, style, layout, interjections, 'conversation with yourself' language)
- use informal language, interjections, suspension points
- use language you would not normally share with the 'outside' world – this is personal writing, or a personal conversation with yourself
- use reflective writing – not too descriptive because the writer already knows the scenario
- pass comment about graduating from senior school this year – but not in full detail
- mention three or four points reflecting on how school life influenced your current interests
- mention three or four plans for future study overseas

This question was attempted by many students. It was answered well by some students; others began their response with 'Dear diary' but did not address all parts of the question.

Question 13

Suggestions:

- write in the form of a formal letter to the manager of the reputable hotel
- use informative writing
- mention enquiries about the food, travelling and shopping needs of your parents and whether they can be met by this hotel
- give reasons for your parents' special needs
- mention that it is a planned one-month stay and mention why and how the hotel needs to address this (for example, health, difficult parents, very active/inactive, love exploring and love culture)