

### **Oral component**

Students were generally able to express themselves effectively and confidently and came well prepared to the examination.

#### **Section 1 – Conversation**

This was satisfactorily completed by students who were prepared to interact effectively giving a range of information. It is important that students make good use of open-ended questions by responding fully.

#### **Section 2 – Discussion**

One of the crucial elements in this part of the task is the choice of sub-topic. Some students' reports showed evidence of thorough preparation, used adequate terminology, introduced the sub-topic and developed it appropriately.

### **Written component**

#### **Section 1 – Listening and responding**

##### **Part A and B**

Despite some difficulties students were generally able to understand the listening passages and to respond appropriately to the tasks. The standard achieved by students was generally good. Students employed simple structures to convey their responses effectively and efficiently. A small group of students with limited skills only identified minimal information from the resources. Spelling errors occurred frequently in their work and ideas were not presented in a structured systematic way. Students should remember to read the instructions carefully before attempting the task.

#### **Section 2 – Reading and responding**

##### **Part A**

Most students performed the tasks appropriately, covered the topic in some depth and produced appropriate responses. Common weaknesses were vocabulary and grammar mistakes which were often repeated, lack of variety in sentence structures, simplistic responses with incorrect spelling and poor punctuation.

##### **Part B**

The overall performance of students in this part of the examination was pleasing. They were well prepared and showed a sound knowledge of the language. Most were able to develop the topic of their choice in line with the purpose of the task.