

GENERAL COMMENTS

1. The majority of the essays were presented in a fairly logical and organised manner.
2. Many candidates were able to apply a variety of skills to answer the source-based questions.
3. Most candidates answered 2 source-based questions and 1 essay question.

ESSAY QUESTIONS

4. Those candidates that applied the criteria in the Standard Grade matrix to their essay writing were rewarded accordingly. These candidates were able to
 - answer the question accurately;
 - select the relevant content to answer the question;
 - apply the appropriate level of historical analysis and explanation, if required; and
 - plan and structure the answer properly.
5. It still happens that teachers prepare “model answers” for candidates, which results in poorer marks because the candidate does not answer the question.
6. Candidates must be reminded that the period South Africa 1948 to 1976 (Questions 2 and 5 in the paper) are compulsory.
7. Questions 1A, 2A and 2B proved to be the most popular choices among the essays.
8. Questions 1B, 3A and 3B were poorly answered.
9. Some candidates had spotted essays within a certain section, which would account for their poor mark.
10. Many candidates either did not provide an introduction and a conclusion, or else provided ones which were poorly phrased and irrelevant.
11. Many candidates just copied out the question for their introduction.

SOURCE-BASED QUESTIONS

12. The candidates who answered Question 4 struggled with the interpretation questions, but handled the extraction-of-evidence questions relatively well.
13. Question 6 was not a popular choice, but those candidates who answered it struggled to cope with the interpretation questions, especially Questions 6.1.3 b, c and d.
14. Candidates still lack the skill to extract evidence from a source in order to write an effective, well structured paragraph. Others showed the ability to extract evidence from sources, but found it difficult to apply this information to the questions posed in the paper. Sometimes they just simply rewrote the sources in the paragraph.