

ISIXHOSA SAL PAPER 2

ISINCOKO

Although some candidates did very well and had good language skills and a solid vocabulary, it was disturbing to note that a significant number of candidates have very poor language skills (Grade 8 level and lower) and a below average vocabulary.

- Many candidates simply copied out the questions in Section A and wrote them down as their essays.
- Others used a lot of English and Afrikaans (teachers must not allow this in their classes and in their own exams).
- Many candidates do not use any verb link (this basic skill should be mastered by Grade 12 as it is the cornerstone of speaking and writing).
- Candidates must indicate the number of words used and be honest about this as the words are actually counted by the markers.
- Candidates must not become confused and write a dialogue (incoko) when it should be an essay (isincoko).
- Paragraphing is also important as it forms part of the mark given for structure. (Teachers must spend time with candidates going through the rubric which contains planning, structure, language, content and editing.)
- All planning should be clearly labelled and so should the final copy.
- The NUMBER of the question must be clearly indicated (left out by many).
- Teachers are encouraged to build the their candidates' vocabulary by giving regular vocabulary tests.
- Many candidates do not possess the grammar skills required to put across thoughts in a coherent manner.
- Most importantly, candidates need to read questions very carefully before starting to plan and write. Many candidates wrote off the topic because they had not done so. Teachers can help candidates to analyse these questions and underline the key words in order to build this skill.
- Teachers should do more regular writing with candidates and give them feedback on how to improve their skills.
- Some mother tongue speakers scored poorly on editing and use of language simply because they do not write correctly.

IMIHLATHANA EMIDE

Some schools prepared their candidates very well for this question. The letters were better than the reports. Candidates should be taken through an example of each type of writing in the SAG document. Some candidates did not know the structure for letters. They must also not "xhosify" their street address as it is in order for a street address to be in English or Afrikaans.

IMIHLATHANA EMIFUTSHANE

Candidates definitely preferred the shorter pieces and some actually started with these questions and wrote the essays last. Once again, it is important that topics should be read carefully. Candidates must be encouraged to be creative when doing things like recipes, postcards and directions. For example, with directions candidates can be encouraged to break instructions into meaningful sentences and paragraphs:

Thandi's house to A
A to B
B to C
C to D

By the time candidates reach Grade 12, they should have had practice in all types of written work. These also have to be covered in class so that candidates know what information has to be included in the various written pieces expected in SECTION C (please consult the SAG document in this regard).

Some schools produced excellent work and should be encouraged to continue with their good job work. Teachers are encouraged to analyse papers, and to seek help from schools that are performing well and curriculum advisers.
Ndinethemba lokuba niza kusebenza nzima nabafundi benu ukuze baphumelele emagqabini kulo nyaka ka2010!