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FOREWORD

This booklet contains reports written by Examiners on the work of candidates in certain papers. **Its contents are primarily for the information of the subject teachers concerned.**

AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE

GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level

Paper 8679/01

Speaking

General comments

On the whole, candidates were well prepared for the speaking test.

Comments on specific questions

Section 1

Presentation

Most candidates gave well-organised, lively presentations on the topics they had chosen. In general, there was a good degree of accuracy in their pronunciation, and many used idioms and a wide range of vocabulary to good effect.

Section 2

Topic Conversation

Most candidates gave relevant answers to questions from Examiners. Despite some hesitations, they showed a good understanding of grammar. Although expressions and pronunciation were sometimes influenced by their mother tongue, most candidates showed a good feeling for Afrikaans usage and could express their point of view on their chosen topic and elaborate on it in a good manner.

Section 3

General Conversation

Most candidates were able to express themselves very well.

Most were confident and gave relevant explanations and answers to questions without much hesitation. In most cases, Examiners prompted their candidates at the right moment and asked appropriate questions, which often led to interesting discussions.

Although some needed slight prompting, most candidates answered questions spontaneously, and the majority elaborated on their answers in a satisfactory way.

Paper 8679/02

Reading and Writing

General comments

In **Questions 1** and **2** candidates were asked to express the meaning of a word or a phrase, which many found challenging.

Most candidates obtained good marks for comprehension **Questions 3** and **4**. Questions were clearly numbered by candidates in their answers.

Most candidates performed well on **Question 5**, although there was evidence that suggested a few did not read properly what the question asked them to do, which meant these candidates could not provide a full answer. Most candidates performed better on **Question 5 (b)** than they did on **Question 5 (a)**.

Most candidates displayed good writing skills, using a wide range of vocabulary and syntactic constructions.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

- (a) Some candidates struggled to describe the meaning of the word 'career'.
- (b) Most candidates were able to provide a definition for *voorspel*.
- (c)(d)(e) A few candidates found it difficult to come up with adequate descriptions here.

Question 2

- (a) A few candidates struggled with the word *gryp* here.
- (b) A number of candidates appeared not to have understood the meaning of the phrase *veld wen*.
- (c) Some candidates struggled to articulate the meaning of this sentence in their own words.
- (d) A few candidates did not know the meaning of this sentence.
- (e) Most candidates did well here.

Question 3

Comprehension

- (a) This question was answered well by most candidates.
- (b) A few candidates failed to notice that four marks were allocated to this question and only gave one example.
- (c)(d) These questions were answered well by most candidates.
- (e) A few candidates struggled to answer this question correctly.

Question 4

Comprehension

- (a) Most candidates answered this question in sufficient detail.
- (b) Most candidates obtained good marks for this question.
- (c) Most candidates answered this question well.
- (d) Most candidates answered this question well, giving more than one reason.
- (e)(f) Most candidates answered these questions in sufficient detail.
- (g) A few candidates failed to give enough detail (such as, the thirty days) in their answer.

Question 5

- (a) Most candidates showed good understanding of the texts, but some lost marks because they failed to read the question properly.
- (b) Most candidates did well here, showing their ability to draw information from both passages and adding their own opinions.

Paper 8679/03

Essay

General comments

Most candidates displayed good writing skills and showed an ability to argue points and draw relevant conclusions. Nevertheless, candidates are reminded they need to read the questions thoroughly and then plan their essay, before they start writing, as some essays lacked structure.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

A small number of candidates chose this topic. Those that did answered this question well. For instance, one gave convincing arguments for why the responsibility should rest with the police force to keep the peace at demonstrations. A very few wrote a lengthy discussion on the role the police force in general and only alluded to their role in demonstrations in one sentence.

Question 2

Most candidates wrote well-illustrated descriptions of a hostage situation.

Question 3

Those that chose this topic presented only a limited range of ideas. Although they showed an ability to argue a point, they often tended to concentrate on one issue.

Question 4

One candidate gave an excellent, detailed description of their development plan for his local environment.

Question 5

A number of candidates wrote interesting essays mentioning relevant facts, while giving their own opinions and drawing their own conclusions at the end.

Question 6

Those that chose this topic tended to give an overly extensive account of the event, without addressing the second part of the question, which asked them to justify their choice of family members.