

ISIZULU AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Paper 0531/01
Reading and Writing

Key messages

Candidates should:

- in Exercise 1, keep answers brief and ensure that their response directly answers the question
- in Exercise 2, carefully select the information required from the source text
- in Exercise 3, ensure their notes are relevant to the heading
- in Exercise 4, answer succinctly in their own words
- in Exercises 5 and 7, use correct letter formatting (as appropriate), and structure their work using paragraphs
- in Exercise 6, carefully read the text and check their answers to ensure they are relevant.

General comments

The strongest candidates were able to display good knowledge of a variety of grammatical structures and a wide range of vocabulary, as well as knowledge of useful idiomatic expressions. There were, however, many instances where it was possible to detect interference from other languages, in particular Ndebele. Although both languages are closely related, candidates are being tested specifically on their knowledge of isiZulu, so the use of words from other languages will not gain them marks.

Candidates are advised to plan for the paper and are encouraged to practice using past papers. Teachers are advised to encourage candidates to practice their time keeping.

There were some examples of candidates not having enough Zulu knowledge and understanding for this level. Teachers are encouraged to promote written and listening work. English words, Ndebele words and 'Tsotsitaal' should be avoided.

Some common errors this series included:

- 'sh' in Zulu being written as 'tsh'.
- use of alternative words ('maar' instead of 'kodwa', bejoyine, sizobastrong, Lumdlalo, umuli)
- grammatical mistakes
- repetition of answers by using different words
- spelling mistakes, especially phonetic spelling which cannot be accepted
- incorrect formatting of letters, this should be practised
- dropping the ends, or last letters, of words (ngidla instead of ngidlala)
- incorrect knowledge of the class system in Zulu

Candidates should take care with their handwriting as this could affect comprehension.

Comments on specific questions

Candidates seemed to deal better with **Question 2** than **Question 1**.

When answering **Question 3**, candidates should make sure to read the given (first) answer, before they answer the question. Some candidates still repeat this answer. Also it is best to reword answers rather than answering the question with the same words.

Question 4 was showed improvement but Centres are reminded that candidates should be aware NOT to copy from the text in **Question 3** and that they should be encouraged to write using their own words.

Question 5 and **7**: it is advised to take special care with spelling and avoid use of English.

It is very important that candidates should read the questions very carefully to enable them to answer them correctly. Some candidates wrote about themselves, studying abroad on **Question 5** which wasn't the requirement.

Teachers are reminded to encourage their student to make use of isiZulu rather than mixing languages as this cannot be awarded with full marks. The use of English within this paper will not be considered.

There are still candidates who don't finish **Question 6** because of time limit. To avoid this, teachers should let their pupils write couple of old exams to practice and to encourage that papers should be completed in full.

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<p>Paper 0531/02 Listening</p>
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In order for the candidates to do well in this examination, candidates should:

- In **Exercise 1**, carefully read the statements and only tick one box per item/question.
- In **Exercise 2**, read the statements first and then listen carefully to the recording before selecting the most correct answer. Candidates need to only tick one box.
- In **Exercise 3**, listen to the recording carefully and fill in the spaces with the most correct words/statements.
- In **Exercise 4**, carefully listen to the recording and check their answers to ensure they are relevant.

General comments

In general, candidates have performed well, and their responses indicate good preparation as well as positive development in understanding isiZulu.

Teachers are reminded to encourage their students to listen carefully and make sure that their responses are accurate. There are instances where interference from other Nguni languages, particularly isiNdebele

Candidates need to answer in full sentences rather than simply copying from the text. Teachers are reminded that candidates need to learn paraphrasing sentences and make sure that their responses answer the question correctly.

Listening carefully to the audio is strongly encouraged, as it is was evident in some areas that candidates just gave general answers and unfortunately no mark was awarded in those cases.

Candidates should pay attention to how many marks each question is worth as this is an indication of how many pieces of information/details they are expected to give in their answers. Candidates should also note that handwriting that is difficult to read might lead to loss of marks if the Examiner cannot understand what the candidate has written.

There were fewer questions with no responses this year compared to the previous examination.

Comments on specific questions

Exercise 1

1. Most candidates were able to answer this question correctly.
2. Most candidates were able to answer this question correctly.
3. This question was generally answered correctly.
4. There were a number of candidates who did not answer this question correctly.
5. This question was generally answered correctly.
6. Most candidates were able to answer this question correctly.

Exercise 2

7. A good number of candidates were able to answer this question correctly
8. Most candidates were able to answer this question correctly.
9. A significant number of candidates ticked "D" instead of "B".
10. Most candidates were able to answer this question correctly.
11. A good number of candidates answered this question correctly.

Exercise 3

- (i) Most candidates were able to answer this question correctly.
- (ii) This question posed a challenge for a number of candidates. There were very few candidates who managed to respond correctly to this one. Most candidates gave the following incorrect response: *“izwe lihlangu ukumeseke/ukumxhasa”*
- (iii) This question was generally answered correctly.
- (iv) A good number of candidates gave the correct answer to this question.
- (v) A number of candidates only gave part of the answer and scored 1 mark instead of 2. Candidates must give two answers as required and indicated in this question.
- (vi) A number of candidates battled to phrase the answer correctly to this question and, therefore, they did not get the mark here.
- (vii) Majority of the candidates did not manage to give the correct answer. A number of the candidates simply gave an incomplete response and they were not awarded a mark for this as their answer was not meaningful.

Exercise 4

This year there was an increase in the number of candidates who were able to complete the whole of these questions to a satisfactory level. Most candidates failed to give the most correct response to number 14. Candidates should write in full and meaningful sentences in order to get the marks for each response.

- 13. Candidates had generally no difficulty answering this question.
- 14. This question posed a challenge for the candidates. There were more incorrect answers for this question. Most common answers were:

“wachitha ukhisimusi nomngane wakhe”
ukuthola ithuba lokwethekela” – which is isiNdebele.

- 15. Most candidates answered this correctly.
- 16. There were generally not too many mistakes in the answers to this question.
- 17. A number of candidates answered this question correctly although many did not mention the name Alfonso Ambrose.
- 18. A significant number of candidates only gave part of the answer. Furthermore, some of the answers were not complete. The common answer was *“izithombe Zinhle kakhulu”* when the correct and meaningful answer should have been *“izithombe Zinhle kakhulu uma uzithatha phansi”*
- 19. There were a significant number of incorrect answers to this question. The most common response was:

“wafundiswa nguye ukupheka”

- 20. Most responses to this question were correct.
- 21. A number of the candidates managed to answer this question. The challenge was for the candidates to indicate whether they agree with the statement. For such questions, they should choose a side first by indicating whether they agree or disagree and then giving a response that is in line with their stance.