

# TAMIL

Paper 3226/01  
Composition

## Key messages

To do well in this paper, candidates need to:

- ensure that they answer **one** question from **each Section 1 and Section 2**
- adhere to the word limits
- Ensure that the work is legible, accurate and logically presented
- show an awareness of the conventions of paragraphing and sentence structure
- demonstrate adequate control of vocabulary, syntax and grammar, punctuation and spelling
- understand and be able to employ a range of apt vocabulary
- be able to order and present facts, ideas and options
- ensure the same word is not repeated many times
- plan their use of time for each question and allow time for thorough checking of their work.

## General comments

In general candidates performed quite well on this paper.

Stronger candidates organised their writing well, making good use of paragraphs and linking vocabulary. They used a range of sentence types including more complex structures and made few spelling errors.

The most common spelling errors occurred in the use of the following letters, which were often written in an incorrect form.

1. ன – ண – ந (பணி – பனி)
2. ல – ள – ழ (அழித்தல் – அளித்தல்)
3. ர – ற (கூருவது – கூறுவது)
4. ப – பா (பார்க்க – பர்க்க, பூக்கும் – புக்கும்) போன்ற குறில் – நெடில் எழுத்துக்கள்
5. ல – ல் (கல்வி – கலவி, ஆனால் – ஆன்னால்) போன்ற மெய் – உயிர்மெய் எழுத்துக்கள்
6. மெய் மிகும் இடங்கள் மெய் மிகா இடங்கள் – (அழித்தல் – அழிதல், மதிப்பெண்கள் – மதிபெண்கள், நடனம் – நடன்னம், படிப்படியாக – படிபடியாக)

Candidates should be aware that the meaning of a word could change by a slight difference in the phoneme. Some common mistakes were:

வரைந்தார் – விரைந்தார்

படிக்காது – பிடிக்காது

திறந்து – துறந்து

அல்லது – அல்ல

கூடியிருக்கும் – குடியிருக்கும்

கோட்டை – கேட்டை

கொண்டு செல்லும் – கொன்று செல்லும்

Candidates should also be aware of leaving space in between a word. For example;

பன்னிரண்டு – பன்னி இரண்டு

Most candidates appeared to have organised their time well in the examination.

### **Comments on specific questions**

#### **Section A**

##### **Question 1**

- (a) This question proved popular and was one of the best answered. The strongest answers had less spelling and grammatical errors and described the shop as a pharmacy to buy medicines.
- (b) Few candidates approached this question. Only couple of candidates were very successful in tackling this question very well.
- (c) This was another popular and well answered question. Weaker candidates relied on too much repetition of the same phrases. Indian or Sri Lankan spoken language was accepted, as the question is based on a dialogue. For example,

வாங்கறதுக்கு(Sri Lankan Tamil) – வேண்டுவதற்கு

இருக்கேலை(Sri Lankan Tamil) – இருக்கவில்லை

கம்மியான(Indian Tamil) – குறைவான

நம்மளை(Indian Tamil) – எங்களை

#### **Section B**

##### **Question 2**

There was a balanced number of the four questions that were chosen by candidates.

Stronger narrative essays made good use of descriptive vocabulary and connectives to drive the narrative forward and create a coherent text. The sentence structure was varied and the writing sustained the interest of the reader. Weaker essays used a more limited vocabulary and repetitive sentence types.

Stronger discursive essays were well planned, relevant to the question and included reasons to support the arguments given for and against the topics. These essays showed evidence of planning and were introduced and concluded well. Weaker candidates had frequent spelling errors, did not structure or link their ideas well and struggled to construct sentences accurately or relied on simple sentence types.

# TAMIL

Paper 3226/02  
Translation and Reading  
Comprehension

## Key messages

To do well in this paper, candidates need to:

- ensure that they answer **all** questions from **Section A and Section B**
- demonstrate adequate control of vocabulary, syntax and grammar, punctuation and spelling
- understand and be able to employ a range of relevant vocabulary
- be able to order and present facts, ideas and options
- plan their use of time for each question and allow time for thorough checking of their work.

## General comments

In general candidates performed quite well on this paper, with a wide range of marks awarded.

Stronger candidates made significantly fewer spelling errors. Weaker candidates generally struggled to construct sentences accurately and made frequent spelling and grammar mistakes.

The most common spelling errors occurred in the use of the following letters, which were often written in an incorrect form.

1. ன – ண – ந (என்னை – எண்ணை)
2. ல – ள – ழ (அழித்தல் – அளித்தல், காலை - காளை)
3. ர – ற (இருவரும் - இறுவறும்)
4. ப – பா, க - கா (பார்க்க - பர்க்க, புக்கும் – புகும், கேட்டான் - கெட்டான்) போன்ற குறில் – நெடில் எழுத்துக்கள்

Also, candidates should be knowledgeable in singular and plural verb endings which is a very important aspect in Tamil language.

## Comments on specific questions

### **Section A - Translation**

#### **Questions 1 and 2**

The majority of candidates were stronger translating from Tamil to English (**Question 1**) then from English to Tamil (**Question 2**) where weaker candidates made many spelling, grammatical and vocabulary errors in the Tamil produced. Stronger candidates were able to employ more accurate and relevant vocabulary in Tamil.

### **Section A – Reading Comprehension**

#### **Questions 3 to 13**

Weaker candidates tended to copy larger sections from the text rather than a precise targeting of the answer or phrasing the answer in their own words where possible. Stronger candidates used accurate spelling and manipulated the grammar from the text where necessary so that any lifted text made sense in the context of the question.