



Examiners' Report Principal Examiner Feedback Summer 2019

Pearson Edexcel GCE
In A Level Urdu (6UR04/01)

Unit 4: Research, Understanding and Written
Response

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Summer 2019

Publications Code 6UR04_01_1906_ER

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Introduction

In this paper, there were three sections.

Section A: Translation from English into Urdu.

Section B: Three questions based on creative essays and four questions based on discursive essays. In creative essays, Q2(a) and Q2(b) were the most popular questions. In discursive essays, Q2(d) Q2(e) and Q2 9(f) were the most popular questions. Candidates who attempted these questions and followed the instructions achieved good marks.

Section C: Four research-based essay questions. The most popular were Q3(a) and Q3(d). The vast majority of students attempted these two questions and those who followed the instructions achieved very good marks. Those who did not follow the instructions lost marks.

Question 1:

The translation was well attempted by the majority of candidates, however, there were some words in the passage that were not well translated and therefore, candidates were not able to score full marks, such as; 'work experience, share, enthusiasm and challenges etc.' these were written in Urdu script as they were. Majority of the candidates used these words correctly hence losing marks for these parts. The weakest candidate scored 4 marks for this question due to not completing the question and only translating a few parts of the short paragraph. Most scored between 6-7 marks with a very few scoring 9 to 10 marks.

Question 2a:

This was attempted by very few candidates and had mix responses from very good to very poor. Some candidates wrote about a past story about the picture but others wrote about their own memories in the picture. Most candidates scored reasonable marks according to their imagination and language. However, some candidates used extremely poor language poor imagination to answer this creative question.

Question2b:

The answers to this part varied from good to very good and scored good marks.

Question 2c:

This was attempted by very few and the candidates wrote about new law passed by the government to save the electricity.

Question 2d:

This was the most popular question and some interesting arguments were presented for and against about the loan to get university education.

Question 2e:

This was another most popular question and some interesting arguments were presented for and against about money is important to spend a healthy life, scoring very good marks.

Question 2f: The candidates presented some very good arguments about parental responsibility for positive behaviour of their children. It has been observed that they have matured over the years and come to understand who is responsible for the good behaviour of children.

Question 2g: Once again some interesting and very good responses with excellent organisation, development and language. Those who wrote on this topic scored very good marks due to very good use of language, organisation and development.

Question 3a: This was attempted by quite a few candidates who indicated the foreigners living in selected areas and the effects of their living on that area. The candidates described and evaluated this question very well scoring very good marks.

Question 3b: This question was not that popular and a very few candidates attempted this question with very poor understanding of the question and weak language. Those who attempted this question scored very low marks.

Question 3c: This question was also not that popular and some candidates mentioned social aspects of Urdu speaking society and its effects. Again very low marks were awarded to those who attempted this question.

Question 3d:

This was the most popular question as usual and quite a variety of films was discussed as was the novel Mirat-ul-Aroos. Some English books as well as films were also discussed but due to the demand of the question that was required to answer hence scored zero marks. Most candidates scored better marks for this question specially the ones who had chosen an Urdu language book as they had better understanding of the story and its various aspects although some tried to bluff their way.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice. Candidates should:

- spend some time to read the English passage and write a draft version first before they complete the final version of translation
- read the instructions carefully before answering any questions
- start the story for creative writing exactly from the point they are asked and not give the whole background
- take care of sequence, organisation and development in all questions
- answer both parts of the questions in section C i.e. discussion and evaluation
- answer the questions in section C keeping the community and target language society in mind
- take care of spellings and grammar while writing their answers

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