

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2013

International GCSE Tamil (4TA0)

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International GCSE Tamil 4TA0

General Comments

This is the third year the International GCSE Tamil examination has been sat. Centres are advised to make full use of past exam papers to prepare their candidates and familiarise them with the kind of questions to expect. This will ensure candidates perform to the best of their ability.

Q1. Overall very few candidates translated the transcript well. The more able candidates handled this part of the question well. They used good structure and managed to access high marks. In contrast, the less able candidates did not manage to use the appropriate vocabulary and showed difficulty with the tenses. There was also significant spelling and grammatical errors present.

Q2 and Q3.

Some candidates found this part of the question challenging. As with the previous question, vocabulary and grammar should be looked at closely to access higher marks. Candidates should read the passage fully in order to understand the contents clearly before they attempt to translate it. For candidates to score highly on this questions centres should encourage candidates to participate in some wider reading to ensure they are exposed to a variety of terms and events. The Tamil to English translation was particularly challenging however the more able candidates managed to access higher marks.

Q4 –

Here candidates were required to write an essay of between 200-250 words, and had a choice of four topics. The majority of candidates chose to write a letter to a friend describing the importance of Physical exercise. The majority of candidates that attempted the Essay/creative writing task, did very well. The quality of the work this year seems to have improved on this question. Candidates did well and have shown their creative thinking especially in essay writing.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwant to/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx>

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