

Examiner's Report

TALENT (SKILLS) CAPSTONE EXAMINATION – JANUARY 2016

(SS1) EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION SKILLS

The paper SS1 – Effective Communication Skills set for testing English grammar in part A, comprehension and interactive skills in part B and writing skills in Part C was quite balanced to the Capstone Level.

General observations of Examiners are as follows:

Question No. 01

When analyzed question wise further, this question well suited to the Capstone level as it was set to measure the knowledge of usage of correct words and phrases contextually in a sentence. In that the candidates had answered in average level.

Suggestions for improvement: Candidates should read Newspapers in order to improve their vocabulary.

Question No. 02 & 03

These questions were quite similar in format and set to check the candidates' competency in use of verbs in different situations. The most had successfully performed in this question well.

Suggestions for improvement: More detailed study of grammatical structures and verb forms.

SECTION B

This part consisted of 03 questions.

Question No. 04 & 05

This part of the paper weighed for 40 marks had been comprehension speaking, vocabulary and writing skills. Average performance would be noticed in the question 04, but the question No. 05 which was quite easier had been answered by almost all the candidates.

Suggestions for improvement: Candidates should read Newspapers in order to improve their vocabulary and they should practice different conversational patterns.

Question No. 06

This question has been misunderstood as some answers were in a way that Dr. Ray Wijewardena had made the speech. Another issue of this question was the inability of managing the required word count.

Suggestions for improvement: Candidates should read the question properly and understand the question before writing answers to it. It is required to practice speeches of this nature using your own vocabulary.

SECTION C

This part consisted of 02 questions.

Question No. 07 & 08

These questions were totally focused on writing and well fit to the Capstone level since they were real business writing questions. However, in these two questions too, it was noticed that the most had neglected the number of words the questions required for, but given accepted answers, which we had to consider despite of the word count.

Suggestions for improvement:

- Read the question requirement carefully and write the letter to the point.
- But do not copy anything from the question.
- Be familiarize with the letter formats.

Overall:

Majority of the candidates had accomplished the pass mark, while considerable number matched the "A" Grade. Nevertheless, it was noticed that many were struggling to manage the time in answering the paper, specially to the question 08.

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