

Subject: Korean

Level: 1

Standards: 90898, 90901

Part A: Commentary

Candidates need to be aware that the overall grade for a question is based on how much has been understood, and in what depth, rather than knowledge of individual lexical items. Therefore, candidates must avoid direct translation, as the translation alone is not sufficient evidence that they clearly understand the meaning of the passage or text. Candidates who selected evidence from the passage or text, and integrated them to justify their answer in a convincing manner, achieved higher grades than those who correctly translated relevant chunks of the text.

Part B: Report on standards

90898: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of spoken Korean texts on areas of most immediate relevance

Examination

The listening standard included three questions and candidates were required to respond to all three. All questions required candidates to demonstrate their understanding of a variety of spoken Korean passages on areas of most immediate relevance. The questions covered the requirements of the 2022 assessment specification, which were three spoken texts related to basic personal information and past, present, and / or future experiences, for example friends, leisure, school and daily life, and travel. The questions required candidates to listen and respond to three spoken passages representative of different situations.

Observations

Understanding Curriculum Level 6 vocabulary and grammar is vital to achieving this standard. Candidates who wrote simple and overly summarised responses without providing details associated with the questions gained a maximum grade of Achievement. However, direct lifting or translation of relevant chunks of the text was a common feature for M5 candidates, instead of selecting relevant information and expanding on the information to fully explain their responses. The text themes of friends, leisure, school and daily life, and travel worked well for this standard and produced successful responses, as candidates were able to relate to the themes and situations in the texts.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- provided separate pieces of information instead of communicating details in a structured sentence
- provided responses which directly answered the questions in 1 to 3 sentences but were over simplified and lacking details.

Candidates who were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- there were no NA responses.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- demonstrated clear understanding of Curriculum Level 6 vocabulary and grammar used in the passages
- produced accurate evidence in their responses
- partially selected relevant information and expanded on the information to fully explain their responses.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- demonstrated thorough understanding of the passages
- selected relevant information and integrated the evidence appropriately to draw conclusions that are fully convincing and justified.

90901: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of written Korean texts on areas of most immediate relevance

Examination

Three questions that represented various written text types were presented in this examination. Candidates were required to respond to all three. Questions 1 to 3 required candidates to demonstrate their understanding of a variety of Korean texts on areas of most immediate relevance. The questions addressed the 2022 assessment specifications requirements, which was for three written texts related to basic personal information and past, present, and / or future experiences, for example family and friends, home, school, free time and leisure, hometown, and country. The questions required candidates to read and respond to these three written texts.

Observations

Understanding of Curriculum Level 6 (CL6) vocabulary and grammar is vital to achieving this standard. Many candidates wrote simple and short answers, not providing details associated with the questions; this prevented candidates reaching a Merit or Excellence grade. The text themes of family, school and daily life, travel, and places around town

worked well for this standard and produced successful responses, as candidates were able to relate to the themes and situations in the texts.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- answered in 1 to 3 sentences, providing pieces of information, or relied heavily on context, e.g. scenario in the question, glossed vocabulary, and images, to attempt explanations but lacked relevant details.

Candidates who were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- lacked understanding of CL6 vocabulary and provided answers that were mainly guessed using glossed vocabulary or the context of the questions.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- demonstrated a broad understanding of vocabulary and grammar structures but were let down by directly translating parts of the text without selecting information to provide a convincing conclusion.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- demonstrated a broad understanding of vocabulary and grammar structures
 - selected the best information from the whole text to draw a conclusion that was fully justified.
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