



GCSE **Punjabi**

8683/RH Paper 3 Reading Higher Tier

Report on the Examination

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General comments

This year's paper was slightly more accessible than the 2023 Paper due to the removal of the regulatory requirement to test vocabulary outside of the published vocabulary list. The students also had more study time that might have also contributed towards the accessibility. Although the students had a few more words to read as compared with the 2023 Paper, the students still found the paper more accessible. That is further indicated by the mean mark that has gone up by as compared with the 2023 Paper.

Section A

Question 1

The majority of students found this question quite accessible. The lowest mean mark was on the sub-question 01.5 suggesting that most students found this question very difficult. The reason being that there was no straightforward answer they were supposed to infer from information 'ਉਹ ਦੋਵੇਂ ਆਪਣਾ ਕਾਲਜ ਚਲਾਉਂਦੇ ਸਨ।' However, most students got this answer wrong.

Question 2

The majority of students performed very well on this question as compared with last year. This question was based on the topic 'A new smartphone' and the vocabulary was quite accessible. That is endorsed by the average mark scored by the students that was above 80%.

Question 3

The mean mark was above 90%, and around 17% higher than last year suggesting that the students found this question very accessible.

Question 4

This question was based on a festival called 'Diwali', which is common among the Hindus and Sikhs. Although this was a multi-choice question aimed at a higher grade still the students managed to score a high mean mark around 90%. The high success rate of students could be because of the students' familiarity with the topic or the simplified vocabulary.

Question 5

This question was 'fill in the blanks' type question and it was based on a topic 'marriage'. Although it was aimed at a higher level of demand, students still managed to score high marks.

Question 6

This was another high demand question based on the topic 'charity' and nearly 70% of students answered all subquestions generally well. The sub-question 06.1 was found to be slightly less accessible to students. The low performance could be attributed to the fact that there was no straightforward answer. The answers, like 'it was difficult to survive for the parents/ parents were having financial difficulties' were accepted and scored a mark. However, the responses like, 'parents are disabled/work alcoholic/having gambling issues' were considered as mere guesswork, hence not awarded any mark.

Question 7

The students received this question very well as it was based on an interesting topic ‘sports’, and approximately 75% scored full marks.

Section B**Question 8**

Previously, the literary text question was based on a folk song, however, this year’s question was based on an epic or heroic poem called ‘Jangnama’. Although the vocabulary was simplified only approximately half of the students performed well on this question compared with previous series.

Question 9

The demand of this question was quite comparable with the question in the previous year’s paper, however, the students found this question a bit challenging. This question tests students’ knowledge about the past and future tenses. The students were meant to identify two past problems and two future problems and write in the correct sections in the table. The students performed less well on this question because they either found vocabulary related to the topic ‘higher education’ hard or they lacked knowledge of three time frames. This year only a couple of students wrote their answers in English, however some students were still putting down present, past or future problems in the wrong places or columns.

Question 10

The students had to read lots of text in Panjabi but they still managed to score an average mark around 79%. The better performance could be due to the fact that there was familiar language or interesting topic ‘my village’.

Question 11

This question was based on an interesting topic ‘The schools in the Punjab’. It was a medium to high demand question, and more than a half of students performed very well on it.

Section C**Question 12**

Around 70% of students scored 6 out of the 9 marks in the translation task. Most common mistakes made by students were:

Sentence part 5: Many students could not translate ‘ਦੌਰਾਨ’ as ‘during’ therefore lost a mark.

Sentence part 6: A few students could not translate ‘ਸ਼ਹਿਰਾਂ’ into ‘cities’. hence lost a mark.

Sentence part 9: A few students did not know ‘ਪਿੰਡ’ translates as ‘village’ because of this they did not gain a mark.

Sentence parts 1 - 9:

Some students did not know that the plural pronoun ‘ਉਹ/ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ’ is used in Panjabi to show respect. Hence, they translated the plural pronoun ‘ਉਹ/ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ’ as plural pronoun ‘they’ in English and lost marks.

Some students used present tense instead of future tense or vice versa and lost marks.

Some students used present tense instead of past tense or vice versa and lost marks.

To gain good marks in this task the students are advised to practise their translation skills in class using passages containing a range of tenses (three-time frames), connectives and frequency words.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results Statistics](#) page of the AQA Website.