

Subject Based Strategies 2019

P6 (Standard) Paper 1 (Writing), Duration: 1hour 10minutes

The components for Paper 1 (Writing) are:

1. Situational Writing (15 marks) and 2. Continuous Writing (40 marks)

1. Situational Writing

Candidates will be required to write a short functional piece (e.g. letter, email, report) to suit purpose, audience and context of a given situation.

Task fulfilment (6 marks): You must provide the key information required. Read through the question carefully and understand what is expected of you before you start writing.

You must show understanding and awareness of the following:

PURPOSE (**why** are you writing), AUDIENCE (**who** are you writing for) and CONTEXT (**what** is the situation about)

Language, Organisation and Context (9 marks): You must ensure that you are using the correct grammatical structures, eg. correct tenses and the consistent use of the same tense throughout your writing. Ensure that the spelling are correct.

Use the appropriate punctuation marks, do not forget to end your sentences with full-stops. Start your sentences with capital letters. Do not use short forms and when referring to oneself, it should be in the capital form 'I' and not 'i'. Always remember to dot your 'i's and 'j's. Your ideas must be arranged in a logical manner following a proper order.

At the end of your writing, read through to ensure that there are no grammatical or spelling mistakes. Ensure that your ideas are well organised and arranged. Do not spend more than 25mins on this component.

2. Continuous Writing

Candidates will be required to write a composition of at least 150 words in continuous prose on a given topic. Pictures will be provided on the topic offering different angles of interpretation. Candidates may also come up with their own interpretation of the topic.

Content (20 marks): Read the question carefully and make sure that you understand what is required of you. Make your writing interesting by giving details and using varied adjectives to describe. You must provide adequate and relevant ideas to support your writing, and develop your ideas to make it engaging and exciting.

Language and Organisation (20 marks): You must ensure that you are using the correct grammatical structures, eg. correct tenses and the consistent use of the same tense throughout your writing. Ensure that the spelling are correct.

Use the appropriate punctuation marks, do not forget to end your sentences with full-stops. Start your sentences with capital letters. Do not use short forms and when referring to oneself, it should be in the capital form 'I' and not 'i'. Always remember to dot your 'i's and 'j's. Your ideas must be arranged in a logical manner following a proper order. Your ideas must be organised in a coherent and cohesive manner. E.g. 'I woke up at 6 am and went to the toilet to brush my teeth and have a warm shower. After towelling myself dry, I changed to my school uniform and had breakfast. Then I took my school bag and bid my mother goodbye before heading towards the bus stop.

At the end of your writing, read through to ensure that there are no grammatical or spelling mistakes. Ensure that your ideas are well organised and arranged. Do not spend more than 45mins on this component.

P6 (Standard) Paper 2 (Language Use and Comprehension), Duration: 1hour 50minutes

Paper 2 (Booklet A)

Candidates will be assessed on their ability to use language correctly and to comprehend visual and textual information.

Booklet A constitutes MCQ questions for Grammar, Vocabulary, Vocabulary Cloze and Visual Text Comprehension.

1. Read through the questions carefully first to get an understanding of the content of the questions.
2. Look through the choices and pick the most appropriate answer and fill in the blank.
3. Once completed, read the questions again and check the answers.

Paper 2 (Booklet B)

Candidates will be assessed on their ability to use language correctly and to comprehend visual and textual information.

Grammar Cloze (10 blanks with choice of helping words)

1. Read through the passage first to get an understanding of the content of the passage (the general meaning and background).
2. Look out for the tense used as well as contextual clues.
3. Now read line by line and choose the most appropriate word to fill in the blank.
4. Once completed, read the passage again to check the answers.

Comprehension Cloze (15 blanks without helping words)

1. Read through the passage first to get an understanding of the content of the passage (the general meaning and background).
2. Look for keywords in the passage, note that keywords may not be in the same sentence as the blank. It may be in the sentence before or after the blank. It may also be in different paragraphs. Thus, it is very important that candidates to read the passage a few times before attempting to answer.
3. Look out for the tense used as well as contextual clues.
4. Now read line by line and think and write the most appropriate word to fill in the blank.
5. Once completed, read the passage again to check the answers.

Editing for Spelling and Grammar

In this part, you are required to identify the nature of errors (spelling and grammatical) and correct the items. This is a 12 mark section and roughly, there will be 6 grammatical and 6 spelling errors.

1. Read through the passage first to get an understanding of the content of the passage (the general meaning and background).
2. Look out for the tense used as well as contextual clues.
3. Now read line by line and lookout for any errors in spelling or grammar.
4. Correct the spelling or grammatical errors.
5. Once completed, read the passage again to check the answers.

Synthesis and Transformation

In this part, you are required to combine two sentences without changing the original meaning.

1. Read through the two sentences and then think of a suitable word to combine the two sentences into one.
2. Using the correct word, combine the two sentences together.
3. Ensure that there is no change in the meaning when the two sentences are combined.
4. Make sure that the tense, spelling and punctuation are right.
5. You must be able to form nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs from the words given in the sentence.

E.g. The word 'beautiful'

Noun	Verb	Adverb	Adjective
beauty	beautify	beautifully	beautiful

Comprehension Skills

For answering comprehension texts, the following skills will be useful:

1. Skim through the text to get the main idea and understanding of the content.
2. Scan the text for details that will further enhance your understanding of the content.
3. Pay attention to the question tags as this will give clues to the expectations of the questions; e.g. 'Where refers to place', 'When refers to time', 'Who refers to person/s', 'Why refers to reason/s, and 'How refers in what way or manner, or by what means'.
4. Use contextual clues and background knowledge.
5. Where needed make appropriate inferences and connections.
6. Draw appropriate conclusions.

All the best for your examination