

Korean

2017 Senior External Examination: Assessment report

Statistics

Year	Number of candidates	Level of achievement				
		VHA	HA	SA	LA	VLA
2017	82	18	53	10	1	0
2016	82	40	39	2	1	0
2015	69	21	35	9	4	0
2014	83	21	46	14	2	0
2013	111	47	50	13	1	0

The *Korean Senior External Examination* comprised two components: an oral examination and a written examination.

Oral examination

Candidates were required to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in using spoken Korean. The oral examination consisted of two sections: Conversation and Discussion. All candidates were individually assessed by a marker either in person or by telephone.

Conversation

The majority of candidates were able to carry out a general conversation about their personal world, e.g. school, home, family, friends, interests, dreams and goals. To achieve a better result, candidates should speak clearly in full sentences and proactively participate in the conversation. The use of loan words, such as 'computer' and 'television', is permitted. However, using English words while speaking in Korean contributed negatively to the overall speaking results for many candidates.

Discussion

For the detailed study, candidates discussed a subtopic of their choice selected from the syllabus. While some candidates had prepared for this part of the assessment, many had not.

To achieve a better result, candidates should explore aspects of the language as well as the culture of Korean-speaking communities. They should also make reference to the texts studied to justify their opinions and decisions. In addition, candidates should take their discussion further than just describing or explaining a topic. Candidates must expect questions from the marker to ensure that various language features are assessed.

Although the absence of visual aids did not affect any results, the use of objects such as photographs, diagrams, pictures and maps tended to improve the effectiveness of candidates' discussions. Notes and cue cards were not permitted.

Written examination

The written examination consisted of three sections: Listening, Reading and Writing. It assessed knowledge and skills demonstrated by candidates in spoken and written texts.

Listening

Suggested responses

Task 1 (Responses in Korean)

Question 1

대화 속의 남자는 어떤 제안을 하나요? 왜 이런 제안을 하는지 설명하세요.

What does the male speaker recommend? Explain why the male speaker recommends it.

대화 속의 남자는 서울역으로 가는 길을 묻는 여자가 교통체증을 겪지 않도록 360 번 버스 대신 지하철 7 호선을 타고 가다가 4 호선으로 갈아타는 것을 제안했습니다. 그리고 서울역 근처에 들를 만한 곳을 묻는 여자에게 4 호선 노선에 있는 명동과 동대문 시장을 추천했는데, 그 이유는 명동과 동대문을 젊은 사람들에게 인기가 많은 곳이고, 쇼핑과 맛있는 음식을 즐길 수 있기 때문입니다.

Question 2

대화 마지막에 남자가 왜 놀랐나요? 본문에 주어진 정보를 바탕으로 설명하세요.

Why is the male speaker surprised at the end of the conversation? Justify your response using relevant information from the text.

남자가 놀란 이유는 대화 속의 여자가 어렸을때 호주로 이민 간 후 한국에 처음 방문했음에도 불구하고 한국어를 유창하게 잘 하기 때문입니다.

Comments

Most candidates responded to Listening Task 1 adequately, however, a number of candidates did not provide evidence to support their responses, which negatively affected their overall result.

Task 2 (Responses in Korean)

Question 1

이 라디오 프로그램의 목적이 무엇인지 설명하세요.

Identify the purpose of this radio program.

이 라디오 프로그램은 '세계속의 한국' 이라는 프로그램이고, 세계 각국에서 한국 문화가 어떻게 알려지고 있는지 소개하는 것이 목적입니다. 오늘 프로그램은 호주에서는 한국 문화가 어떻게 알려지고 있는지 소개했습니다.

Question 2

한페스티벌은 무엇입니까? 본문에 주어진 내용을 바탕으로 설명하세요.

What is the Han Festival? Use relevant information from the text.

한페스티벌은 브리즈번 대학교 학생회에서 매년 개최하는 네가지 행사의 주제로 한국 음식을 소개하는 한콧, 한국에 가고 싶어하는 친구에게 멘토가 되어주는 한드림, 한국 전통 의상과 절하는 법을 소개하는 한패션, 그리고 한국의 음악과 춤을 알리는 파티인 한팝으로 구성되어 있습니다.

Question 3

한페스티벌의 목적은 얼마나 효과적으로 달성되었나요? 본문의 내용을 바탕으로 설명하세요.

How effectively has the Han Festival achieved its purpose? Justify your response based on relevant information from the text.

한페스티벌의 목적은 매우 효과적으로 (성공적으로) 달성되었습니다. 위에서 말한 다양한 종류의 행사로 한국의 문화를 잘 알리고 있으며, 작년 한팝의 경우에 방송국에서 헬리콥터를 타고 취재를 올 정도로 엄청나게 인기를 끌었고, 또 관중을 모았습니다. 올해는 작년 보다 두배나 많은 신청이 들어와서 더 큰 장소를 섭외 중이라는 것을 보아, 한페스티벌은 호주 브리즈번에 한국 문화를 매우 열정적이고 효과적으로 알리고 있습니다.

Comments

Most candidates responded adequately to Questions 1 and 2 in this task. To achieve a better result, candidates' analysis and evaluation in Question 3 should be justified based on the information provided in the text. A number of candidates did not evaluate the effectiveness of the Han Festival in meeting its purpose, which negatively affected their results. Candidates also needed to check spelling and grammatical errors and sentence structures to improve their results.

Task 3 (Responses in English)

Question 1

Identify the problem discussed in the news report.

The news report discusses the increasing numbers of victims who lose their lifelong savings through phishing scams.

Question 2

What is the event described in the news report? Provide all relevant details.

Mr and Mrs Kim nearly fell for a phishing scam when they took a call from a boy who claimed to be their son. He alerted his parents of a serious injury he received at the school camp. The call was passed on to an alleged teacher who asked for two million won to be transferred to a bank account for an urgent treatment their son required. During his routine patrol, a police officer sensed urgency in the couple's behaviour as they were rushing to the bank, and offered to help. After hearing the story, the police officer became suspicious of the request to deposit money in the bank account, so he ran a check and confirmed that it was a phishing scam from an internet phone call. The couple's son at the school camp was safe and they were thankful that nothing happened.

Question 3

Is the problem being effectively managed? Justify your response using relevant information in the text.

The phishing scam problem is not being managed effectively. Despite the effort of the government and consumer groups to warn people about phishing scams through the media and social media, the amount of money lost through phishing scams was 7.2 billion won over the last 10 years, and the number of victims has been increasing consistently. The usual victims are now not only elderly people, but also include professionals, government officers and educators. Based on this, scammers are clearly becoming more devious and the current solution is not effectively protecting innocent victims.

Comments

A number of candidates did not include essential information and important details in Question 2 responses. In addition, many candidates did not evaluate the effectiveness of the recommended solution in Question 3. Candidates also needed to check spelling and grammatical errors and sentence structures to improve their results.

Overall comments for Listening

In general, to achieve a better result, candidates need to carefully read the questions and accurately address them in their responses. While it is important to gather essential information and details from the Listening texts, it is also important to identify subtleties, as direct translation does not provide evidence of in-depth understanding. Candidates also need to evaluate the decisions and justify their responses using evidence from the text. Candidates should improve and check spelling, grammar and sentence structure in responses in English to effectively respond to the questions.

Reading

Suggested responses

Task 1 (Responses in Korean)

Question 1

이 글의 종류와 목적은 무엇인가요? 본문에서 쓰인 글과 문안의 특성을 예로 들어 설명하세요.
Identify the text type and its purpose. Justify your response by referring to the language and textual features from the text.

이 글의 종류는 상족암 캠프장을 알리려는 광고문입니다. 이는 주관하는 여행사의 이름과 연락처, 시선을 끌기 위해 쓰인 상족암의 사진, 공룡 발자국 등을 보아 알 수 있습니다. 이 글의 목적은 경남 고성군 하이면 덕명리 상족암에 위치한 상족암 캠프장을 소개하고 참가자를 모집하는 것 입니다. "초대"라는 단어를 사용하여 목적을 분명히 했고, "유명한", "신비로운", "아름답고", "웅장한"과 같은 형용사를 사용하여 관심을 끌고, 또 글상자안에 상족암 캠프장의 좋은 점을 나열함으로 참가를 권했습니다.

Question 2

어떤 부류의 사람들이 이 글에 관심을 가질까요? 본문의 주어진 정보를 바탕으로 설명하세요.
Identify a category of people who would be interested in this experience. Justify your response using relevant information from the text.

Possible response 1

캠프의 특징을 생각했을 때, 가족이나 친구 등 여러명이 함께 캠프를 하고 싶은 사람들이 관심을 가질 것입니다. 특히나 청소년 자녀를 둔 가족이 관심을 가질 것 같습니다. 그 이유는 요즘 전자기기 및 스마트폰에 빠져있는 청소년들에게 자연을 즐기고 가족과 보내는 시간을 늘려주는 계기가 될 것이기 때문입니다. 그리고, 우리나라의 지질학적 특성 및 공룡의 역사도 체험할 수 있는 교육적인 장소이기 때문에 자녀의 교육에 관심이 많은 부모님들에게 인기가 있을 것 같습니다.

Possible response 2

캠프의 특징을 생각했을 때, 가족이나 친구 등 여러명이 함께 캠프를 하고 싶은 사람들이 관심을 가질 것입니다. 특히나 초등학교생이나 유치원에 다니는 자녀를 둔 가족이 관심을 가질 것 같습니다. 공룡 박물관에 가면 아이들이 공룡을 좋아하고, 신기해 할 것이며, 어린 아이들은 전자기기나 스마트폰 등이 없어도 크게 불편해 하거나 불만을 가지지 않기 때문입니다. 안전한 산책로, 깨끗한 환경은 위험하고 오염된 도시에서 뛰놀지 못하는 어린이들에게 최적의 캠프장이라고 생각됩니다.

Possible response 3

캠핑의 특징을 생각했을 때, 가족이나 친구 등 여러명이 함께 캠핑을 하고 싶은 사람들이 관심을 가질 것입니다. 특히나 대학교의 지질학과 학생들의 MT 장소로 관심을 가질 것 같습니다. 본인들이 공부하는 전공과 관련된 장소에서 학교에서 배운 지식을 실제로 경험을 할 수 있고, 또 인터넷 상이 아닌 사람 대 사람으로 관계를 맺을 수 있는 특별한 장소이기 때문입니다. 주차비가 들지 않는 것 역시 학생들에게 더할 나위 없이 좋은 조건입니다.

Comments

Most candidates responded well to Question 1, however, many failed to provide language and textual features as evidence. For Question 2, a number of candidates identified the specific information provided in the text, but did not justify their decision adequately.

Task 2 (Responses in Korean)

Question 1

이 글의 목적과 대상을 쓰세요.

Identify the purpose of and the audience of this text.

이 글의 목적은 '발명의 날'에 대해 설명하고, 우리나라에서 발명된 여러가지 발명품을 소개하는 것입니다. 또한, 독자들에게 '올해의 발명왕 대회'에 참여하기를 권하는 목적을 가지고 있습니다.

이 글에서 사용된 친근한 어투, 화자가 도깨비인 점, 독자들을 친구들이라고 칭하는 것을 보아 이 글의 대상은 어린이, 청소년입니다.

Question 2

이 글의 목적은 얼마나 효과적으로 달성될까요? 본문에서 주어진 예를 들어 토론하세요.

How effectively does this text achieve the purpose? Justify your response using relevant information from the text.

이 글은 '발명의 날'에 대해 매우 효과적으로 설명했습니다. 대한민국의 흥미롭고 놀라운 발명 역사로 시작해서, 세계적으로 사용되는 우리나라의 발명품을 자세히 소개 했기 때문입니다. 예를 들면, 세계 최초로 발명된 축우기의 발명일이 5월 19일 이었다는 것으로 시작하여, 철갑선, 금속활자 등 역사 속의 발명품 뿐만 아니라 현재에도 늘 사용되는 커피믹스, 또 최신 기술인 MP3, Vo-LTE, 작지만 기발한 우유팩 여는 기술과 막대 풍선 등을 소개한 것은 독자들이 흥미를 가질 만한 내용입니다.

'올해의 발명왕 대회' 역시 효과적으로 독자들의 참여를 유도했습니다. 출품하지 않아도 창의력과 상상력을 높일 수 있는 좋은 경험이라는 설명을 통해 참여의 부담을 줄여줬고, 작지만 기발한 아이디어로 참여가 가능하다는 설득을 통해 참여하고 싶은 독자들에게 자신감을 부여했습니다. 또한 특허청 웹사이트를 통해 자세한 내용을 볼 수 있다고 안내함으로써 매우 효과적으로 독자들을 설득했습니다.

Comments

Most candidates responded well to Question 1. For Question 2, a number of candidates identified the specific information provided in the text, but did not evaluate the effectiveness of the text in achieving its purpose. Candidates must read the question thoroughly.

Task 3 (Responses in English)

Question 1

What is the theme of this text? Explain how it is represented.

The themes of this text are coming of age, growing up and becoming mature. This is represented throughout the plot, which tells the learning experience of the writer, who successfully becomes independent and finds freedom despite the difficulties he faced as a young international student with a lack of English skills and life experiences.

Question 2

Discuss how the attitudes of the writer's parents change toward their son. Use relevant information from the text to support your response.

At the beginning of the text, the writer's parents do not take their son seriously, thinking he is an immature and irresponsible boy who only likes to play computer games and sports. This is why the writer's father laughs at his son's claim to focus on study. The writer's parents then become unhappy and angry with their son as he started working part time. Being typical Korean parents, there is a cultural belief that children should only study and it is the parents' duty to provide a perfect environment to support their children. However, at the end they are surprised by their son's achievement and maturity, especially when he becomes financially independent. In Korea, children often depend on their parents until they get married or even after they get married, so while his parents are shocked, they are also very proud of their son. Therefore, the writer's parents' attitude toward their son changes from negative to positive.

Question 3

Suggest a suitable audience for the text and explain why it is appropriate. Provide relevant information from the texts.

Possible response 1

This text is suitable for students who are preparing to go abroad to study, because it presents the experience of a person who has been down the same path. It provides the experiences and difficulties they may face and strategies to overcome those difficulties. Many people who go overseas for a new life often dream about the fantastic things about their new life, as the writer did. However, after reading this text, readers will be able to prepare for and plan their new journey in more realistic terms. One example would be learning the language to avoid any unfortunate situations like the writer faced when he lost the opportunity to be in the soccer team because he did not understand English.

Possible response 2

This text is suitable for parents whose child is studying abroad or is preparing to go abroad to study. By understanding the change in the attitudes of the writer's parents, they would be able to prepare themselves to view their child as a person who is struggling to find their feet in an unfamiliar environment. That way, they would be able to provide more support instead of laughing at their child or getting angry with their child for taking opportunities that they think unnecessary. They could give their child some encouraging words and motivate them to be themselves and experience as much as they can.

Comments

In Question 1, a number of candidates failed to provide the theme of this text. Instead, they identified the type (genre) of the text. Candidates must read the question thoroughly. A number of candidates did not provide an adequate response to Question 2 as they failed to explain the process of the change in the writer's parents' attitude. Most candidates responded to Question 3 adequately, however, many candidates did not provide evidence from the text to support their response.

Overall comments for Reading

In general, to achieve a better result, candidates need to demonstrate comprehensive understanding of the text. They need to identify and understand the key words in questions and justify their decisions and conclusions based on information provided in the text. In addition, candidates should demonstrate their understanding of Korean culture when justifying their responses. Candidates also need to improve their English language literacy to clearly convey their level of understanding.

Writing

To achieve a better result, candidates should:

- clearly identify the genre of the writing task and the audience
- use appropriate format, features, register and conventions to suit the relevant genre
- clearly express their ideas and purposes
- pay attention to grammar and vocabulary choices
- use a wide range of vocabulary, including figurative language
- organise the written text in a clear and coherent manner
- use paragraphs where appropriate
- write neatly to demonstrate their ability to write Hangeul correctly
- proofread responses to avoid spelling and punctuation errors.