

Advice to teachers

Encourage your students to read widely. Books, magazines, newspapers should be used widely and are available from *Bureau Linguistique*. Give your students practice in speech acts which is part and parcel of communicative teaching.

26.2.3 Section 111

(15pts)

Testing *understanding* and *reading skills*, this section comprises of four texts of various lengths and topics expected to test the candidates' command of the French language. They were appropriate for the level examined.

Weaknesses

There were as usual cases of misinterpretation and the candidates lost marks.

Advice to teachers

Once again teachers are requested to encourage wider reading and should not be afraid of going for free handouts of old newspapers and magazines from the *Alliance Française* library.

26.3: PAPER 3 (501/3)

(25 pts)

The Oral paper tests the candidates' knowledge of *communicative* and *grammatical skills*, their ability to *understand the input stimulus* and *instructions* as well as *demonstrate their productive skills* in an oral context. These aspects are examined in three sections:

Section 1 Reading aloud (cards A and B)

Section 2 Role Play (cards A and B)

Section 3 Conversation.

Each candidate is given 15 minutes to prepare for the 3 sections. He/She chooses cards at random for section 1 and 2. Use of pens, papers and dictionaries is not allowed. Each candidate undergoes 15 minutes of examination.

26.3.1 Section 1 Reading Aloud

(5 pts)

The candidates were to read aloud fluently, in correct French, respecting liaison, intonation and rhythm as well as understanding of the text. It could be *a dialogue*, *a monologue* or a *descriptive paragraph*. Both cards have equal difficulties. The candidates were supposed to demonstrate and apply their knowledge of pronunciation, using standard accent whereby fluency is rewarded.