

EPC SISWATI (414/01)

## **Introduction**

Siswati Paper 1 had two sections, Section A- Indzaba and Section B- Incwadzi. Candidates were required to show their creativity and ability to relate to the questions asked in order to attract the reader. In Section A- candidates were required to choose only one question from the given four. In Section B candidates were required to choose one from the given two questions.

## **Overall comments**

Overall, this paper was fair as the questions were relevant and to the level of the candidates both in rural and urban schools. Most of them were able to answer the questions, although a few had challenges. Their overall performance was good as they were able to tackle the questions as expected. There was an improvement from last year's performance. Teachers are commended for a good job. It was observed that some candidates used English words while others did not attempt the questions at all.

The following observations were made regarding the compositions:

## **Improvements**

- Improved eligibility
- Good use of figurative language

## **Weaknesses**

- Poor paragraphing
- Spelling mistakes
- Incorrect topics/ changed topics
- No introductions and conclusions
- Poor punctuation
- Repetition of points when developing their arguments

## **Comments on specific questions**

### **Section A- Indzaba**

#### **Umbuto 1: Lengingakwentela Sikolwa Sami Nangingaba Ngumphatsisikolo.**

This question was answered well by most candidates. They gave relevant points and developed them well, as they cited things that were lacking in their schools. However, there were those who dwelled on one point giving different examples thus losing marks, e.g. citing examples of improving infrastructures only.

#### **Umbuto 2. Buhle Nebubi Bamabonakudze**

Few candidates answered this question. Those who attempted it, performed well as they were able to give comprehensive answers thus getting good marks. Those who scored low marks tackled it as an argumentative composition instead of a factual one. They concentrated on one side. Some confused a television with a cellphone or a laptop.

#### **Umbuto3. Umngani Wami Lengimtsandzako**

Most candidates answered this question but they did not perform well. They failed to recognize that it was a descriptive composition and tackled it as a narrative one. Most candidates used features only to describe a friend and end up scoring low marks, e.g. they only described the physical appearance and elaborated on it throughout.

#### **Umbuto 4. Lokubanga Tingoti Emigwacweni**

This question was well attempted, candidate's responses were relevant to the question and were well developed and supported. Candidates demonstrated vast knowledge on this topic. Those who did not do well in this one, were the ones who only listed the points and did not support them.

## **Section B- Incwadzi**

In this section there were two formal letters. Most candidates demonstrated knowledge of the types of letters. Most candidates were able to identify that these were all formal/ business letters, although few tackled it as a friendly letter, especially question two. Some candidates failed to write the topic sentence which is compulsory when writing a formal letter. This sentence should start with “Ku” and always be next to the margin. When writing the date, they must not prefix the number with “0” e.g. 04 Lweti, instead it should be 4 Lweti. Some were using words that are used in a friendly letter such as surname praises.

### **Umbuto 1**

**Bhalela inhlango yaka World Vision ubonge lusito labalwentele sikolo sakho.**

This question was exceptionally well done. Candidates who performed below average confused the organization with a person in their introduction and conclusion, e.g. “ngikufisela kutsi ukhule ukhokhobe”. Some failed to state what exactly World Vision had done for their school and some tended to individualize the help.

### **Umbuto 2**

**Thishela wakho lokufundzisa siSwati abekunike umsebenti kutsi uwente ekhaya, kepha wangawenti. Bhala incwadzi ucolise ngalesento sakho uchaze tizatfu letente wangawubhali lomsebenti.**

This question was also attempted by most candidates. It was well articulated, candidates apologized and stated reasons for failing to do the work. A few failed to recognize that this was a business letter and only wrote one address and gave praises of the teacher’s surname in the process of apologizing.

EPC SISWATI (414/02)

This Paper was fair to candidates from the rural and urban areas.

The following challenges were observed:

- **Illegible Handwriting:** Some candidates' handwriting was not legible. This had some serious effect on the examiners who had to spend more time reading trying to make sense of what had been scribbled by some candidates. Also, some candidates over-wrote on their work thus making it extremely difficult to get the meaning of the over-written word. The examiners recommend that teachers remind candidates to write in legible handwriting.

- **Poor Spelling:** Poor spelling was another challenge as some candidates could not copy correctly words taken from the passage. For example,

“Lendle for Lenhle, Mtolo for Mntolo”.

Again words with multiple consonants sounds were a great challenge to the candidates such as “Bhimbidvana for Bhimbidwane, Mtugwa for Mtungwa, kamunandzi for kamnandzi”.

There were also indications that some candidates did not give themselves time to proof read their responses. This was evident in spelling errors whereby the candidates were supposed to lift words directly from the passage to their answer scripts.

- **Failure to follow instructions:** Examiners also observed that some candidates did not attempt all the questions, despite that all the questions in the three sections were compulsory.

## **Comments on specific questions**

### **Section A Reading Comprehension Passage (Sivisiso Lesifundvwako)**

Candidates were able to read the passage with understanding. The performance of most candidates was good.

#### **Question 1- Reading Comprehension Questions**

##### **Questions (a) – (e)**

These were lower and middle order questions and a majority of candidates did exceptionally well scoring good marks, although some did not write correct spellings found directly from the passage.

##### **Questions (g) – (j)**

These were higher order questions and proved to be a challenge to a majority of candidates.

##### **(a) Sakabani sibongo sakulelikhaya?**

This question was well answered by almost all the candidates except for those very few who came up with incorrect responses such as “Dludlu or Mtolo”. Some failed to start with a capital letter when writing the surname ‘Fakudze’.

**The correct response was:**

Fakudze.

##### **(b) Bhala ligama lelisho sinanatelo salesibongo ngenhla?**

This question was also well answered by a majority of candidates although some wrote incorrect spelling such as ‘Mtolo for Mntolo or LaMntolo’.

**The correct response was:**

Mntolo, Mayisandzaba, Mphotozi

**(c) Bhala ligama lelisho sinanatelo sakaDludlu.**

This question was well answered by a majority of candidates

**The correct responses were:**

Mtima, Mzomba, Nyamatane.

**(d) Bangakhi bantfwana bakulelikhaya?**

The majority of candidates could not give a correct response to this question. Some candidates came up with incorrect responses such as 'kune, basine, or listing the names of 'Fakudze' siblings'.

**The correct responses were:**

Bane, bafana lababili nemantfombatana lamabili.

**(e) Nika emagama etintfombi takaLaDludlu.**

This question was well done by a majority of candidates although some decided to change completely the names of the girls to "Magagula or Gugu instead of Magugu" and Lendle instead of Lenhle."

**The correct responses were:**

Magugu na Lenhle.

**(f) Yini leyavusa letintfombi ngalelilanga?**

A majority of candidates performed exceptionally well in this question.

**The correct response was:**

Liphunga lencwancwa.

**(g) Chaza loku lokulandzelako njengobe kusentjentiswe endzabeni.**

**(i) Kukhipha tinkhomo imphunga.**

A majority of candidates did not perform well in this question. They did not understand the idiomatic expression, 'Kukhipha tinkhomo imphunga.' They gave incorrect responses such as, 'Tiyoshaywa ngumoya tikhokhelwa kukhongotela umchamo wato lomusha, kukhokha emakhatane, kutikhipha butfongo.'

**The correct response was:**

Kukhokha tinkhomo ekuseni tiyokudla titobuya tisengwe.

**(ii) Kubulala inyoka**

Once more this idiomatic expression was not well done by a majority of candidates. They gave incorrect responses such as, 'Ibulale vele iyingoti, ikhuluphele kakhulu, and banyenti kakhulu when in fact the question was talking about animals not human beings.'

**The correct response was:**

Tatitinyenti kakhulu nobe tatitinengi kakhulu.

**(h) Lelikhaya kutsiwa belinotsile. Chaza ususele endzabeni.**

The performance of candidates was average. Most candidates could not understand the word 'belinotsile.' They gave incorrect responses such as 'kuvuka kusesekuseni, kuvuka kusentjentwe, kwabela umsebenti, kuvuka udle incwancwa, bebavuka basenge tinkhomo.'

**The correct response was:**

Bekunemfuyo lenyenti kakhulu.

**(i) Ngekubuka kwakho ngumdlalo lokahle yini kudlala tingwenya emfuleni. Nika tizatfu tibe timbili.**

The overall performance of candidates in this question was satisfactory although some candidates did not take a stand which was “Kukahle or Kukabi” and then proceeded to give supporting statements to their stand. On the other hand, some candidates took both stands.

**The correct response was:**

**Kukahle**

- Kucitsa situnge.
- Kutiphotisa umtimba.
- Kwakha/kucinisa bungani.
- Kufundzisana kuhlamba.

**Kukabi**

- Kuyingoti ungamita.
- Ungabanjwa tilwane letihlala mantini.
- Ungatfo tifo.
- Kudla sikhatsi sekwenta leminye imisebenti.

**(j) Kwaba sento lesihle yini kutsi Sifisosehu asale entsabeni? Nika tizatfu tibe timbili.**

Again, some candidates did not take a stand as demanded by the question but overall it was performed satisfactorily.

**The correct responses were:**

**Yebo** – walalela umyalo wenina.

Abefuna kugadza tinkhomo tingayi kuyoganga.

Abesaba bungoti bemanti.

**Chake** – bekumele abike / abatjele kutsi yena utosala

Abengaba sengotini kusala yedvwana entsabeni (abanjwe tilwane/bamsontse bantfu nobe kumshushumbisa).



## Section B: Grammar (Luhlelo)

The overall performance in this section was average. Very few candidates managed to get full marks in all the questions.

### Question 2: Noun (Libito)

#### (a) (i) Giving the noun prefix.

A majority of candidates could not give the correct noun prefix for, 'inkhomo.' In addition, some candidates did not put the hyphen before the prefix.

**The correct response was:**

Inkhomo ---- iN-

#### (ii) Giving the noun suffix.

In this question most candidates were able to write the suffix 'ntfu' from the word 'bantfu' but omitted the hyphen preceding the suffix.

**The correct response was:**

Bantfu ----- -ntfu

#### (iii) Writing noun classes

A majority of candidates were able to write the correct response for the word 'inkhomo' but failed to give the correct noun classes for the nouns 'bantfu and emanti.' For instance, some candidates instead of giving the noun class for 'emanti' they gave the incorrect response which was 'Kute.'

**The correct responses were:**

<i>Libito</i>	<i>Sigaba</i>
Inkhomo	5
Bantfu	1
Emanti	3

**Question 3: Noun.**

**(a) Identifying a diminutive noun from a sentence.**

A majority of candidates performed very well in this question.

**The correct responses were:**

**(i) Umfula lomkhudlwana ushile.**

**lomkhudlwana**.....

**(ii) Emajoti lamancanyana abole onkhe.**

**lamancanyana**.....

**(b) Making nouns denoting a person. (Personal noun)**

Quite a number of candidates gave correct responses to this question although some gave responses that were not asked by the question. Instead of giving personal nouns they gave object nouns such as 'umdlalo and inshumayelo.'

**The correct responses were:**

<b><i>Libito</i></b>	<b><i>Emabitomuntfu</i></b>
Dlala	<b>Umdlali, sidlali, badlali</b>
Shumayela	<b>Umshumayeli, bashumayeli</b>
Gijima	<b>Umgijimi, bagijimi, sigijimi, ingijimi</b>

**Question 4: Adverb**

**(a) Identifying the type of bolded adverb.**

Quite a number of candidates responded positively in this question. However, some gave incorrect responses which were types of adjectives and verb tenses such as 'sikhatsi sanyalo.'

**The correct responses were:**

**(i)** Ngisayokukha emanti **emfuleni**.

**Sandziso Sendzawo**.....

**(ii)** Ulele nyalo **emini** kalahha!

**Sandziso Sesikhatsi**.....

**(iii)** Bonkhe bajeziswe **kabuhlungu**.

**Sandziso Sesimo**.....

**(b) Filling in the blank spaces with suitable idiophones.**

A majority of candidates performed exceptionally well in this question although spelling errors were common.

**The correct responses were:**

**(i)** Vusi abebovu **tju /hhwe** \_\_\_\_\_ ingati.

**(ii)** Ushelele wawa watsi **bhu / bhaca / salakaca / dzalakaca / mbo / bhalakaca** eludzakeni.

**Question 5: Demonstrative Pronoun.**

**(a) Replacing nouns with intermediate demonstrative pronouns.**

This question was fairly done by many candidates but some misread the question and gave responses related to absolute pronouns which were incorrect responses such as, 'imoto --- yona, bantfwana ---- bona and sihlahla ---- sona.'

**The correct responses were:**

- (i)** Bayikhokile imoto egalaji. **leyo**
- (ii)** Bantfwana badlala mjikeni. **labo**
- (iii)** Siwile sihlahla. **leso**

**(b) Making verb derivatives from the verb 'geza.'**

This question was not well done by the most candidates. Few candidates managed to get full marks in this part of this question. Question (b) ii) proved to be the most challenging for candidates. The candidates were expected to write 'imphambosi yekwentayenta' using the verb 'geza.' They gave incorrect responses such as, 'gezenta and gezeyenta.'

**The correct responses were:**

- (i)** Imphambosi yekwentisisa **gezisisa**
- (ii)** Imphambosi yekwentayenta **gezageza**

**Section C: Language Usage (Kusentjentiswa Kwelulwimi)**

**Question 6: Idioms /Proverbs**

**(a) Giving meaning of the idiom/proverb.**

This question was done exceptionally well by a majority of candidates.

**The correct responses were:**

- (i)** Likhipha umkhovu etjeni.  
**Lilanga lishisa kakhulu**
- (ii)** Kwebulwa kwembeswa.  
**Ugula kakhulu / ugulela kufa / usengafa noma nini**

**(b) Completing the idiom with a suitable word.**

This question was also done exceptionally well by a majority of candidates.

**The correct response was:**

Akukho cili **lelatikhotsa** emhlane.

**Question 7 Praise Names (Tinanatelo)**

**(a) Writing praise names for the surnames.**

A majority of candidates performed well in this question.

**The correct responses were:**

**(i) Bhembe -- Mavundla/Mgabhi**

**(ii) Khumalo----- Mzilikazi / Kuhlase / Mbulase/ Ndabezitha / Mntungwa /  
Ndlangamandla.**

**(b) Writing the synonyms for given words.**

A majority of the candidates were able to complete well task (b) (ii) and (iii). Task (b) (i) was not done satisfactorily by a majority of candidates. They could not give the synonym for 'sicebi.' They gave incorrect responses such as, 'sinotsi, impimpi, pota.'

**The correct responses were:**

<b>Ligama</b>	<b>Bomcondvofana</b>
Sicebi	<b>Injinga /sigwili /ingcumba</b>
Shobela	<b>Khwacela / cwila</b>
Subatsa	<b>Gijima / baleka</b>

**Question 8: Months of the Year (Tinyanga ngeSiswati)**

**(a) Names of the months in Siswati.**

A majority of candidates performed well in this question especially (a) (i) although spelling errors were visible in some candidates' responses.

**The correct responses were:**

**(i)** Inyanga yekucala. **Bhimbidwane**

**(ii)** Inyanga yesitfupha. **Inhlaba**

**(b) Writing numbers in words**

In this question the candidates performed exceptionally well.

**The correct responses were:**

**(i)** 8 --- **siphohlongo / sishiya ngalo mbili.**

**(ii)** 79 --- **emashumi lasikhombisa nemfica / emashumi lasikhombisa nesishiya ngalo lunye.**

**(iii) Giving one borrowed verb.**

A majority of candidates came up with a vast list of borrowed verbs.

**The correct responses were:**

Ayina, washa, phakisha, rivesa, kolobha, bhaka, maka, polisha, penda etc.

**Question 9: Replacing phrases (kubhala ligama lelichazwa misho)**

**(a) Replacing phrases with single words**

A majority of candidates answered well questions 9 (a) (ii) and (iii). Question 9 (a) (i) was not answered well by many candidates. They gave incorrect responses such as 'emancefeta, ummbila lomanti, sancoti, sibhuluja, emancobo.'

**The correct responses were:**

- (i) Ummbila lomanti lovutsiwe losangakavunwa. - **Lifutfo**
- (ii) Tihlahla letinyenti letindzawonye. - **lihlati nobe emahlatsi** \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) Umntfwana wembuti. - **lizinyane** \_\_\_\_\_

**Question (b) Euphemism (Ligama Lekuhloniphisa).**

A majority of candidates did well in this question

**The correct responses were:**

- (i) Kudzakwa --- **udlile, ujabulile, utsakasile**
- (ii) Kutala --- **kuteta, kuphumelela, kubeleka.**

**Recommendations**

- Teachers are urged to advise their candidates to refrain from signing on top of a cancelled word.
- Candidates should avoid using insulting language for questions they do not know.
- Candidates should be advised to write all their responses in pen instead of a pencil.
- Teachers should remind candidates to write their candidates' numbers accurately.