



TAMIL: SECOND LANGUAGE

ATAR course sample examination

Marking key

Marking keys are an explicit statement about what the examining panel expect of candidates when they respond to particular examination items. They help ensure a consistent interpretation of the criteria that guide the awarding of marks.

Section One: Listening and responding

30% (30 Marks)

Text 1: Speech script

Question 1

(2 marks)

Mathuran invites the audience to attend an event. From your listening identify the following information.

Description	Marks
event: 'Chiththiraith Thiruvizha'	1
event organisers: Perth Tamil Sangam	1
Total	2

Question 2

(1 mark)

State when the event will take place.

Description	Marks
11 to 13 of April	1
Total	1

Question 3

(4 marks)

Outline the events planned by the organisers on the different days.

Description		Marks
Day 1	popular Tamil singers will perform and entertain people with a variety of songs	1
	renowned Tamil music composer Sarankan will be performing music	1
Day 2	children and youth will present the artistic performances	1
Day 3	Tamil traditional sports for children and adults	1
Total		4

Question 4

(2 marks)

(a) Identify **one** benefit the audience may gain when they purchase tickets online. (1 mark)

Description	Marks
the first ten visitors (who buy tickets from the Tamil Sangam website) will get admission for free	1
Total	1

(b) State **one** benefit the audience may receive when they participate in the event. (1 mark)

Description	Marks
(20 selected people participating in this event will have the opportunity) to join a Perth city tour with their favourite singers	1
Total	1

Question 5

(2 marks)

Tick (✓) the **two** correct statements from the list below.

Description		Marks
Statement	(✓)	
Singers will be singing songs on all the days.		
This event is free to attend.		
Children can also participate in Tamil traditional sports during this event.	✓	1
The festival organisers will award prizes to the winners of the competitions.	✓	1
Total		2
Note: if more than two statements are selected, accept the first two only.		

Text 2: Advertisement**Question 6 (2 marks)**

- (a) Identify why the Hot Springs at Kanniya are a popular place in Sri Lanka. (1 mark)

Description	Marks
it is (a popular) tourist spot/a place that attracts domestic and foreign tourists	1
Total	1

- (b) Why is Kanniya considered a sacred place by Tamils? (1 mark)

Description	Marks
it is associated with the Tamil king, Ravana	1
Total	1

Question 7 (2 marks)Outline **two** distinctive features of the Hot Springs at Kanniya.

Description	Marks
each well has water at different temperatures	1
even if the water is continuously used, it never depletes	1
Total	2

Question 8 (3 marks)Identify **three** experiences available in Trincomalee on this tour.

Description	Marks
Any three of	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the famous landmarks/popular places • the beautiful beaches • admire the local artwork • the delectable cuisine/delicious food 	1-3
Total	3

Question 9 (2 marks)

Tick (✓) whether the following statements are true or false.

Description Statement			Marks
	True	False	
Kanniya is one of the most important historical places for Tamils.	✓		1
Kanniya Hot Springs are situated close to the city of Trincomalee.		✓	1
Total			2

Text 3: Conversation

Question 10

(2 marks)

- (a) Name the type of document Kanmani's father is reading. (1 mark)

Description	Marks
a notice (from Tamil Nadu Forest Department)	1
Total	1

- (b) Identify the meaning of the document. (1 mark)

Description	Marks
an announcement about upcoming forestation initiatives/throwing seed-balls to help grow forests	1
Total	1

Question 11

(2 marks)

- (a) Which of the following statements
- best**
- describes the features of a seed-ball? (1 mark)

Description	Marks
C: Rolled paper pulp, clay, compost and seeds	1
Total	1

- (b) State how the seed-balls are used. (1 mark)

Description	Marks
(seed-balls are) thrown on the ground where trees need to be grown	1
Total	1

Question 12

(4 marks)

- (a) Identify the
- two**
- enduring qualities of seed-balls. (2 marks)

Description	Marks
capable of floating	1
withstand drought	1
Total	2

- (b) State the reasons for these qualities. (2 marks)

Description	Marks
(the well-dried paper pulp, clay, and compost) help the seed-balls float in flood waters	1
(the seed-balls) have moisture content (in the centre) and thus stay hydrous	1
Total	2

Question 13

(2 marks)

State the **two** options available to register for the event.

Description	Marks
(register) using the phone number (999491234)	1
scan the QR code (provided on the notice)	1
Total	2

Section Two: Reading and responding

30% (45 Marks)

Part A: Reading and responding in English

15% (30 Marks)

Text 4: Email

Question 14

(1 mark)

State the purpose of the email written by Sorubi.

Description	Marks
to express her wishes and priorities (after completing her university studies)	1
Total	1

Question 15

(6 marks)

(a) Outline Sorubi's dad's **two** wishes for Sorubi after she graduates from university.

(2 marks)

Description	Marks
get a permanent job as a doctor	1
to get married after she gets a permanent job	1
Total	2

(b) Outline Sorubi's **four** priorities before starting a career.

(4 marks)

Description	Marks
to make her life meaningful	1
to achieve some potential/personal goals/personal fulfilment	1
will think about her work thereafter	1
improve social awareness	1
Total	4

Question 16

(3 marks)

List **three** plans Sorubi is going to pursue after her graduation.

Description	Marks
Any three of	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • go to Kilinochchi in Sri Lanka (with her two Tamil friends) • to visit the surrounding villages there • to know what kind of problems people face in Kilinochchi • to share her knowledge of social awareness (with the youth out there) 	1-3
Total	3

Text 5: Poem

Question 17

(3 marks)

Outline **three** characteristics of Tamils mentioned in the poem.

Description	Marks
Any three of	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they are praised by the world • they are appreciated for their virtues • they believe all towns are one • all are their kin • love is their lifeblood 	1–3
Total	3

Question 18

(2 marks)

Outline **two** contributions made by Tamils to the Tamil language.

Description	Marks
founded associations for Tamil	1
created several grammar/literature books	1
Total	2

Question 19

(2 marks)

Outline Tamil hospitality as mentioned in the poem.

Description	Marks
(hospitality) is the signature of Tamil culture	1
(they believe) living together is mighty for us	1
Total	2

Question 20

(3 marks)

List **three** contributions that Tamils have made to society.

Description	Marks
Any three of	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preserved their own culture (even across the seas) • developed many arts (wherever they reside) • (they) created kingdoms that astonished the globe • (they have) given many noble scholars to the world 	1–3
Total	3

Text 6: Invitation

Question 21

(4 marks)

- (a) Identify the purpose of the invitation. (1 mark)

Description	Marks
(a discussion about) improving the prosperity of the younger generation's future	1
Total	1

- (b) List
- three**
- pieces of information that will be discussed at the event. (3 marks)

Description	Marks
Any three of	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • available courses of higher education in this state • future employment opportunities and qualifications required • existing part-time/permanent positions (and their expected qualifications) • productive entertainment facilities for youth • details about free benefits provided to youth (in this state) 	1–3
Total	3

Question 22

(4 marks)

Complete the following details of the event. (4 marks)

Description	Marks	
Date	(Saturday) 10 April 2025	1
Time	3 pm	1
Venue	Perth Tamil Sangam Exhibition Centre	1
Where to find further information	Perth Tamil Association website	1
Total		4

Question 23

(2 marks)

Explain why there is a need to reserve tickets as soon as possible, and how this can be done. (2 marks)

Description	Marks
seats are limited	1
to send an email to info@PTS.org.au	1
Total	2

Part B: Reading and responding in Tamil

15% (15 Marks)

Text 7: Movie review

Question 24

(15 marks)

Write a persuasive email to convince your friend to watch the movie *Ponniyin Selvan*. Include the following information from the movie review in your email:

- a brief description of the movie
- comment on the movie's music
- a description of the actor's characterisation.

Write approximately **100** words in **Tamil**.

Description	Marks
Content and relevance	
Provides all required content and well-developed examples that relate to the information in the stimulus text, including a range of relevant details and effective elaboration of a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • brief description of the movie • comment on the movie's music • description of the actor's characterisation. 	4
Includes mostly relevant content, including some reference to the stimulus text and questions, with some elaboration	3
Includes some content related to the stimulus or questions. Provides little elaboration	2
Very limited relevance to the questions, and limited/no reference to stimulus	1
Subtotal	4
Linguistic resources – grammar	
Effectively uses a wide range of grammar and sentence structures. Clearly uses paraphrasing when referring to the stimulus text	3
Uses a range of grammar and sentence structures with occasional influence of the syntax of another language. Some paraphrasing is used when referring to the stimulus text	2
Relies predominantly on a limited range of sentence structures with the clear influence of the syntax of another language. Little or no evidence of paraphrasing	1
Subtotal	3
Linguistic resources – vocabulary	
Uses contextually relevant vocabulary and a range of expressions. Includes contemporary, colloquial and specialised vocabulary when required	2
Adequate command of basic vocabulary, but relies on repetitive use of this basic vocabulary	1
Subtotal	2
Accuracy	
Uses language accurately and consistently. Occasionally omits words or makes minor errors. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow	2
Inaccuracies and incorrect choice of language impede meaning and flow. Inconsistent application of rules of grammar makes some parts of writing awkward	1
Subtotal	2
Organisation	
Sequences information cohesively and coherently. Ideas are connected clearly in an appropriate length	2
Some sequencing and paragraphing with simple and straightforward connections	1
Subtotal	2

Conventions of text type and style of writing	
Uses all conventions of a persuasive email and includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• written in first person• use of colloquial, subjective language• includes salutation and valediction.	2
Uses some of the conventions of a persuasive email	1
Subtotal	2
Total	15

Section Three: Writing in Tamil

40% (40 Marks)

Part A: Short response

15% (15 Marks)

Question 25

Recently, you travelled to a Tamil-speaking country and spent two months there. Write a script of a conversation between you and your friend who lives in Australia, telling them about the experience that you gained. Your conversation must include:

- descriptions of **two** interesting places you visited
- descriptions of **two** traditional Tamil arts you observed
- details about how Tamil festivals were celebrated.

Write approximately **100** words in **Tamil**.

Description	Marks
Content and relevance	
Provides all required content and well-developed examples in a script of a conversation which engages the audience in experiences gained in a Tamil-speaking country. Includes a range of relevant details and effective elaboration including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • descriptions of two interesting places you visited • descriptions of two traditional Tamil arts you observed • details about how Tamil festivals were celebrated. 	5
Includes mostly relevant content, including some reference to the question, with some elaboration	4
Uses content which is generally relevant and covers a range of aspects with some elaboration	3
Includes some content related to the question. Provides little elaboration	2
Very limited relevance to the question	1
Subtotal	5
Linguistic resources – grammar	
Effectively uses a wide range of grammar and sentence structures	2
Uses a range of grammar and sentence structures with occasional influence of the syntax of another language	1
Subtotal	2
Linguistic resources – vocabulary	
Uses contextually relevant vocabulary and a range of expressions. Includes contemporary, colloquial and specialised vocabulary when required	2
Adequate command of basic vocabulary, but relies on repetitive use of this basic vocabulary	1
Subtotal	2
Accuracy	
Uses language accurately and consistently. Occasionally omits words or makes minor errors. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow	2
Inaccuracies and incorrect choice of language impede meaning and flow. Inconsistent application of rules of grammar makes some parts of writing awkward	1
Subtotal	2
Organisation	
Sequences information cohesively and coherently. Ideas are connected clearly in an appropriate length	2
Some sequencing and paragraphing with simple and straightforward connections	1
Subtotal	2

Conventions of text type and style of writing	
Uses all conventions of a conversation and includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• opening salutation• questions• two-way interaction• authentic language using informal and conversational style.	2
Uses some of the conventions of a conversation	1
Subtotal	2
Total	15

Part B: Extended response

25% (25 Marks)

Question 26

(25 marks)

The Perth Tamil Student Association has invited you to contribute to their annual forum on the topic of 'Preserving the environment at home and in the community to make a difference on the planet'. Write an informative speech to the participants, in which you:

- explain **two** current environmental issues
- explain why it is important to preserve the environment
- describe the ways everyone can contribute **one** way at home and **one** way in the community to preserve the environment.

Write approximately **250** words in **Tamil**.

Description	Marks
Content and relevance	
Effectively engages the relevant audience and addresses all points in a speech: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explains two current environmental issues • explains why it is important to preserve the environment • describes the ways everyone can contribute one way at home and one way in the community to preserve the environment. 	6
Includes most of the information required by the question. Uses examples to elaborate, but may be superficial with treatment of some information	5
Uses content which is generally relevant and covers a range of aspects with some elaboration	4
Uses familiar content which is generally relevant. Attempts to clarify information	3
Includes some information that is irrelevant to the question and highly repetitive	2
Provides content which has little relevance to the question	1
Subtotal	6
Linguistic resources – grammar	
Effectively uses a wide range of grammar and complex sentence structures	4
Uses a range of grammar and sentence structures	3
Uses some grammar and sentence structures	2
Relies predominantly on a limited range of sentence structures	1
Subtotal	4
Linguistic resources – vocabulary	
Uses vocabulary that is contextually relevant and a range of expressions. Includes contemporary, colloquial and specialised vocabulary when required	4
Uses a range of vocabulary and expressions to engage the audience	3
Uses a limited range of vocabulary, selecting some words appropriate to the task	2
Relies predominantly on repetitive, basic vocabulary and expressions	1
Subtotal	4
Accuracy	
Uses language with a high-level of accuracy and consistency. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow	4
Uses language with a good level of accuracy. Word order is fairly accurate. Words are occasionally written inaccurately or inappropriately chosen. Inaccuracies occasionally affect meaning or flow	3
Uses language with some accuracy, sometimes omitting words. Words are often written inaccurately or inappropriately chosen. Inaccuracies affect meaning or flow	2
Incorrect use of language, such as word order and word choice, which impedes meaning and flow	1
Subtotal	4

Organisation	
Sequences information coherently and cohesively. Appropriate length	4
Sequences most information coherently and cohesively. Appropriate length	3
Some sequencing and paragraphing is evident. Connections are simple and straightforward	2
Limited organisation impedes the flow and understanding. The connections between the ideas are sometimes unclear	1
Subtotal	4
Conventions of text type and style of writing	
Uses all conventions of an informative speech accurately, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • formal and informal register • descriptive, factual or judgemental language • organised and sequenced ideas • cohesive writing. 	3
Uses some of the conventions of a speech	2
Uses limited conventions of a speech	1
Subtotal	3
Total	25

Question 27

(25 marks)

The Perth Tamil Student Association has invited you to contribute to their annual forum on the topic of 'Psychological effects of new social media on youth'. Write an informative speech to present at their annual forum in which you address this topic. In your speech:

- highlight **two** examples of the effects of new social media that youth encounter
- suggest **two** measures that can be taken to help them overcome those effects.

Write approximately **250** words in **Tamil**.

Description	Marks
Content and relevance	
Effectively engages the relevant audience and addresses all points in a speech: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • highlights two examples of the effects of new social media that youth encounter • suggests two measures that can be taken to help them overcome those effects. 	6
Includes most of the information required by the question. Uses examples to elaborate, but may be superficial with treatment of some information	5
Uses content which is generally relevant and covers a range of aspects with some elaboration	4
Uses familiar content which is generally relevant. Attempts to clarify information	3
Includes some information that is irrelevant to the question and highly repetitive	2
Provides content which has little relevance to the question	1
Subtotal	6
Linguistic resources – grammar	
Effectively uses a wide range of grammar and complex sentence structures	4
Uses a range of grammar and sentence structures	3
Uses some grammar and sentence structures	2
Relies predominantly on a limited range of sentence structures	1
Subtotal	4
Linguistic resources – vocabulary	
Uses vocabulary that is contextually relevant and a range of expressions. Includes contemporary, colloquial and specialised vocabulary when required	4
Uses a range of vocabulary and expressions to engage the audience	3
Uses a limited range of vocabulary, selecting some words appropriate to the task	2
Relies predominantly on repetitive, basic vocabulary and expressions	1
Subtotal	4
Accuracy	
Uses language with a high-level of accuracy and consistency. Inaccuracies do not affect meaning or flow	4
Uses language with a good level of accuracy. Word order is fairly accurate. Words are occasionally written inaccurately or inappropriately chosen. Inaccuracies occasionally affect meaning or flow	3
Uses language with some accuracy, sometimes omitting words. Words are often written inaccurately or inappropriately chosen. Inaccuracies affect meaning or flow	2
Incorrect use of language, such as word order and word choice, which impedes meaning and flow	1
Subtotal	4

Organisation	
Sequences information coherently and cohesively. Appropriate length	4
Sequences most information coherently and cohesively. Appropriate length	3
Some sequencing and paragraphing is evident. Connections are simple and straightforward	2
Limited organisation impedes the flow and understanding. The connections between the ideas are sometimes unclear	1
Subtotal	4
Conventions of text type and style of writing	
Uses all conventions of an informative speech accurately, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • formal and informal register • descriptive, factual or judgemental language • organised and sequenced ideas • cohesive writing. 	3
Uses some of the conventions of a speech	2
Uses limited conventions of a speech	1
Subtotal	3
Total	25

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*Published by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority of Western Australia
303 Sevenoaks Street
CANNINGTON WA 6107*