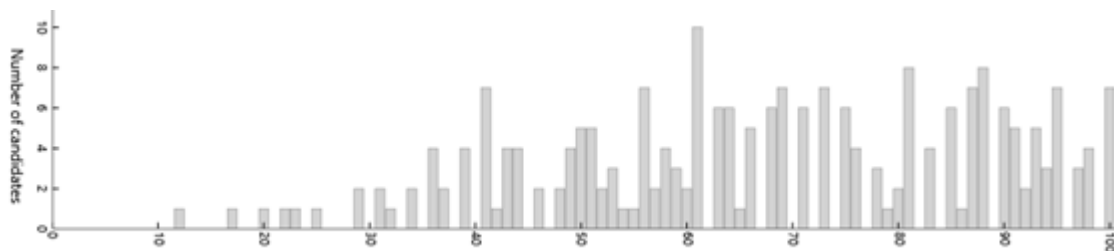




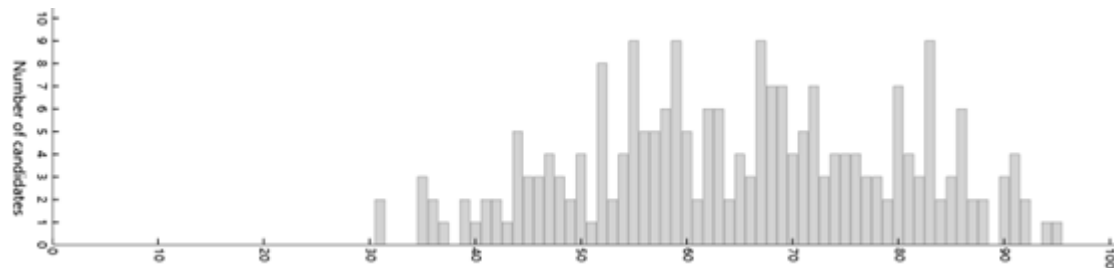
Summary report of the 2018 ATAR course examination: **Italian: Second Language**

Year	Number who sat all examination components	Number of absentees from all examination components
2018	225	1
2017	263	0
2016	266	1

Examination score distribution–Practical



Examination score distribution–Written



Summary

Practical examination

Attempted by 228 candidates Mean 67.41% Max 100.00% Min 12.46%

Section means were:

Section One: Part B: Discussion of stimulus	Mean 68.26%		
Attempted by 228 candidates	Mean 23.89(/35)	Max 35.00	Min 7.37
Section Two: Part C: Conversation	Mean 66.95%		
Attempted by 228 candidates	Mean 43.52(/65)	Max 65.00	Min 3.25

Written examination

Attempted by 228 candidates Mean 65.03% Max 94.99% Min 30.61

Section means were:

Section One Response: Listening	Mean 57.44%		
Attempted by 228 candidates	Mean 17.23(/30)	Max 28.42	Min 2.37
Section Two Response: Viewing and reading	Mean 74.75%		
Attempted by 228 candidates	Mean 22.42(/30)	Max 30.00	Min 7.74
Section Three: Written communication Part A: Stimulus response	Mean 61.51%		
Attempted by 227 candidates	Mean 12.30(/20)	Max 20.00	Min 6.00
Section Three: Written communication Part B: Extended response	Mean 65.9%		
Attempted by 227 candidates	Mean 13.18(/20)	Max 20.00	Min 7.00

General comments

Practical examination

In general candidates performed better in the Stimulus part of the Practical examination. Nevertheless, some of the responses provided were superficial. Candidates sometimes relied heavily on rote learnt responses, and were not able to understand questions asked with wording different to what was expected. Higher marks were awarded to candidates able to use confidently more complicated structures, as well as original and well prepared responses. Candidates were fairly confident with the examination structures and were prepared to provide three chosen topics for Conversation.

Advice for candidates

- Do not rely on providing information that has been rote-learnt. Be selective to engage directly with questions the marker asks. Both parts of the oral examination require you to participate in a conversation with the marker.
- Engage with the images provided in the stimulus. Prepare to refer to these images in relation to questions asked.
- Provide relevant details in your discussion of the unit topics.

Advice for teachers

- Continue to prepare candidates on the structure of the examination as it supports them in being confident.
- Practise asking your students questions worded in different ways.
- Ensure students are prepared to have a conversation on the topics provided and not just provide rote learnt content.

Written examination

Candidates were able to complete all sections of the paper, although the Listening component proved to be the hardest. Some of the questions required candidates to write a lot of information so this might have been the reason for a lower score. The Reading section achieved the highest scores.

Advice for candidates

- Be mindful of cognates and idiomatic expressions.
- Ensure you listen for all the information.
- Ensure you refer to the Stimulus items in the Written section.

Advice for teachers

- Teach students how to use the dictionary in order to find contextually different meanings for a word.
- Prepare your students on the examination format as this contributes to their confidence when sitting the examination.
- Teach students strategies on how to refer to stimulus in the stimulus response.

Comments on specific sections and questions

Practical examination

Part B: Discussion of stimulus (19 Marks)

Overall, candidates performed better in this section compared to the Conversation section. This is expected as the candidates are given preparation time. Candidates must ensure they address both sections (if applicable) of the question.

Part C: Conversation (20 Marks)

This section provided a good spread of marks. Candidates were confident about the examination format.

Written examination

One Response: Listening (38 Marks)

No candidate achieved the top mark in this section; this could be due to the fact that some questions required much information to be elicited.

Section Two Response: Viewing and reading (31 Marks)

This section was completed quite well, with some candidates achieving full marks.

Section Three: Written communication Part A: Stimulus response (20 Marks)

This section proved to be harder than the extended response section. There was a good spread of marks with the mean being lower than in the extended response.

Section Three: Written communication Part B: Extended response (20 Marks)

There was a range of results in this section, with some candidates achieving excellent results, while others not performing to a satisfactory standard.