



NATIONAL SCHOOL CERTIFICATE KREOL MORISIEN



Principal Examiner's Report

Paper NSC 670/03 Translation

Key Messages

• Answer All Questions:

Candidates must ensure they attempt both Section A (English to Kreol Morisien) and Section B (French to Kreol Morisien) to maximize their scoring opportunities.

• Attention to Spelling and Grammar:

Spelling and grammatical accuracy are crucial in translation. Errors in these areas will lead to penalties, impacting overall performance.

• Contextual Vocabulary and Tone:

Candidates should be mindful of the context when using Kreol Morisien. The language's vocabulary and tone can vary significantly depending on the situation, so it's important to choose words and expressions that fit the context appropriately.

• Correct Tense Usage:

Proper use of verb tenses is essential. Candidates should ensure they use the correct tenses to reflect the intended meaning accurately.

General Comments

Overall, candidates had sufficient time to complete both sections of the paper. Common issues observed included:

• Verb Tenses:

Frequent errors were made with verb tenses, particularly with the Simple Past, Past Continuous, and Past Perfect tenses.

• Spelling and Punctuation:

Problems with spelling, such as the incorrect writing of numbers and the omission of hyphens, were common. Issues with pronouns and articles also affected performance.

• Literal Translation:

Many candidates struggled with literal translations from English or French to Kreol Morisien. It is crucial to focus on conveying the meaning rather than translating word-for-word.

Comments on Specific Sections Section A: English to Kreol Morisien

Paragraph A:

• Simple Past Tense:

Candidates often used "inn/finn" instead of "ti." The contracted forms like "li'nn" or "ti'nn" were also used incorrectly.

• Past Continuous Tense:

The use of "ti" instead of "ti pe" was noted.

• Literal Translations:

Words like "reflecting" were translated as "reflekte" instead of more contextually appropriate terms.

• Adverbs:

The translation of "so many" varied incorrectly between "extra," "enn ta," "bien," or "tro" rather than "telman boukou."

• Spelling:

Numbers like "trantneviem" were often misspelled.

Paragraph B:

• Tense Consistency:

Errors in handling Simple Past and Past Perfect tenses were frequent. For instance, "had died" was sometimes incorrectly translated.

• Familiar Forms:

Overuse of informal terms like "zom" or "boug" for "man" was noted.

• Spelling:

Words such as "telman," "probableman," and "selman" were often misspelled as "telma," "probablema," and "selma."

• Adjective Translation:

"Deeply" was often incorrectly translated as "boukou" rather than "profond."

Paragraph C:

• Idiomatic Expressions:

"Hit a tree" was incorrectly translated as "bat" or

• "kogn" instead of more contextually suitable terms.

• Adjectives:

"Terrible" was frequently weakly rendered as "move" or "pa ti bon."

• Spelling Errors:

"ti ena" was misspelled as "tiena."

• Vocabulary Knowledge:

Errors were observed with terms related to weather, such as "brouyar" instead of incorrect terms like "labrim" or "inondasion."

Paragraph D:

• Translation of Phrases:

"News of his death" was sometimes translated as "linformasion" or "lanons" rather than the more accurate term.

• Accuracy:

"Unreal" was translated weakly as "fos" or "pa vre."

• Quantifiers: "Some" was often mistranslated as "inpe" or "detrwa" instead of "ena" or "bann."

Paragraph E:

• Emotional States:

"In despair" was inaccurately translated as "depresion," "lapenn," or "sagrin" rather than "dezespere."

• Expression Errors:

"For the first time" was occasionally written as "lapremier fwa" instead of the correct translation.

Section B: French to Kreol Morisien

Paragraph A:

• Imparfait and Passé Simple:

Incorrect use of markers like "ti fini" for "pensait" instead of "ti pe," and confusion between "ti" and "ti pe" were common.

• Prepositions:

Prepositions such as "à" or "de" were sometimes incorrectly translated.

• Literal Translations: "Bruit" was translated as "bri" instead of more appropriate terms.

Paragraph B:

- Hyphens: Failure to use hyphens in terms like "ti-zanfan."
- Vocabulary Accuracy: "Récoltaient" was translated literally as "rekolte" instead of "ramas."

Paragraph C:

• Expression Accuracy: "Il se rendait" was sometimes incorrectly translated as "ti pe rann li."

• Vocabulary Choices:

"Bavarder" was translated as "bavarde" or "diskite" instead of more accurate terms.

Paragraph D:

• Phrasal Accuracy:

"Provenant de la radio" was frequently translated incorrectly as "sorti depi" or "provinn depi dan radio."

• Adjectives: Use of familiar terms like "seryé" for "agreab" was noted.

• Noun Translation:

"Le voisinage" was often mistranslated as "bann vwazin" rather than the correct "vwazinaz."

Paragraph E:

• Time Expressions:

"Peu de temps après" was incorrectly translated as "pa boukou" or "apre enn moman."

• Vocabulary Knowledge:

Misunderstanding of terms such as "autoroute" was observed, with incorrect translations like "larout" or "lari."

Recommendations for students

1. Enhance Contextual Translation Skills:

Focus on conveying the meaning of the text rather than translating word-for-word. Familiarize yourself with how different phrases and idioms are naturally expressed in Kreol Morisien.

2. Refine Grammar and Spelling:

Regular practice with grammatical rules and spelling is crucial. Pay special attention to the correct use of tenses and grammatical structures in Kreol Morisien.

3. Broaden Vocabulary:

Develop a comprehensive vocabulary in Kreol Morisien, particularly with terms and expressions used in various contexts. This will help ensure more accurate and contextually appropriate translations.

4. Understand Contextual Nuances:

Different contexts may require distinct vocabulary and tone. Practice translating texts from a range of contexts to become adept at selecting the appropriate expressions and maintaining the intended meaning.

5. Review and Learn:

Analyze previous translation exercises and feedback to identify common errors. Use these insights to avoid repeating mistakes and to improve your translation skills.

Recommendations for Educators

1. Emphasize Contextual Understanding:

Encourage students to grasp the context of the text they are translating. Provide texts that focus on translating idiomatic expressions and contextual nuances to help students understand how to convey meaning effectively.

2. Strengthen Grammar Instruction:

Prioritize teaching the rules of Kreol Morisien grammar, especially verb tenses and their correct usage. Incorporate frequent practice exercises and quizzes to reinforce these concepts.

3. Expand Vocabulary Range:

Incorporate a diverse range of vocabulary-building activities in your lessons. Use texts from various domains (e.g., news articles, literature, everyday conversation) to expose students to different registers and contexts.

4. Address Spelling and Punctuation:

Devote specific lessons to spelling and punctuation rules, including common pitfalls and exceptions. Regularly include spelling and punctuation practice in assignments and exams.

5. Provide Constructive Feedback:

Offer detailed feedback on students' translations, highlighting both strengths and areas for improvement. Focus on errors related to meaning, context, and grammar, and provide specific examples of correct translations.

6. Encourage Active Practice:

Create opportunities for students to practice translation skills through regular assignments and peer reviews. Encourage them to translate texts from a variety of sources to build confidence and versatility.

7. Utilize Sample Papers:

Regularly use sample translations based on the Specimen Paper as well as the 2023 Exam Paper as teaching tools. Analyze these examples in class to illustrate common mistakes and demonstrate effective translation strategies.

8. Promote Error Analysis:

Teach students how to critically analyze their own translations. This helps them identify patterns in their errors and understand how to correct them.