

Education (1950) Department.

176. SERIES.

G.O. NO. 2589

Dated 13-9-50.

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Adult Education - Testing of literacy
of Adults - proposals - approved.

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EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

SE.

From

The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Education Department,
Madras.



R.C.No.174 SE.2/50 dated 22-8-50.

Sir,

SUB: Adult Education - Payment of bonus - testing of
adults made literate within a period of 4 months.

(P)

REF: G.O. No.515 Edn. dated 17-2-50.

I submit herewith a model standardised test for
ascertaining the literacy attained by illiterate adults
within a period of four months from the date of their admission
to adult literacy schools.

The test contains a set of simple questions requiring
a simple set of answers or a simple personal message or letter
requiring simple replies or both. Some of the questions set
also require one-word answers. The questions will be set in
the local language.

I request that Government may be pleased to accord
early approval to the test proposed.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
31 85

For Director of Public Instruction.

9/8

8/30/8/50.

Back Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
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G.O.

ADULT LITERACY TEST.

Sample questions to be set.

The following list contains examples of the questions (in English) that may set in the regional languages for the Adult Literacy Test. They are to be taken as examples and are not meant to be used word for word, over and over again in a stereo-typed manner. The officer setting them is expected to be resourceful in framing questions to suit individuals to be tested. The following points may be borne in mind.

- (1) It must be remembered that the average adult that takes the test has hardly put in 60 attendances, spread over 4 months.
- (2) The simplest and shortest possible familiar words should be employed.
- (3) Questions should be short and easy to understand.
- (4) Questions requiring word answers and longer replies, 3 in each, may ordinarily be set.
- (5) Adequate time may be given for reading the questions and writing the answers, care being taken not to puzzle the adults.
- (6) Adults taking the test must be ready with pencils to write with. To meet lapses in this regard the officer will take with him a sufficient number of pencils and pieces of rubber to lend to such of the adults as might require them for the occasion.
- (7) Unnecessary talking while the adults answer the test should be avoided as that would not be helpful to their thinking.
- (8) While the presence of respectable local persons should be welcome, distracting crowds may be tactfully kept out, School children should not be allowed to be present.
- (9) The officer should so conduct himself that the adults would feel at ease and write without any complex or excitement. It must be remembered that the examinees are not children.
- (10) The examinees should write their names on the answer papers.
- (11) While it is not objectionable to write out a set of questions on the black-board in common for all examinees, it would be better to give a different question paper to each of them to minimise chances of copying. To this end, it would be helpful to take 3 different sets of questions so that the same set of questions would be answered by every fourth candidate.
- (12) No marks need be awarded. The testing officer would use his discretion and decide if the answers would justify the award of a literacy certificate. The standard aimed at should be an ability to understand questions and to write a reply.
- (13) Rules of grammar need not be expected to be observed in the answer.
- (14) Care should be taken not to show open disapproval of bad answers as that is likely to embarrass adults.
- (15) All question papers with answers written by adults on them should be carefully preserved until scrutinised by the District Educational Officer or the Inspectress as the case may be. The scrutiny may ordinarily be done once a month when they may be called for; or they may be perused annually when the offices of the subordinate officers are inspected.

A. S. M. S. M.
31.8.50
For Director of Public Instruction

S / (X)

THE QUESTIONS.

A. Questions requiring one word answers.

1. What is your name?
2. What is your father's name?
3. What is the name of your village (or street)?
4. What is your profession?
5. When do you go to work?
6. When do you return from work?
7. When have you time to learn?
8. Do you know how to spin?
9. Do you know any other craft?
10. Do you know Hindi?
11. Where do you bathe?
12. What do you eat in the morning?
13. What do you drink in the morning?
14. When did you buy a dhoti last?
15. How many cubits long is it?
16. How many are you in your house?
17. Are all of them literate?
18. Will you teach them to read?
19. Do all children in your home go to School?
20. Do you beat children?
21. What do you sell?
22. Do you keep an account of your income and expenditure.
23. Can you sing?
24. Can you speak on the platform?
25. Do you own a bandy?
26. Can you drive a bandy?
27. Can you ride a cycle?
28. When do you go to bed?
29. Do you take coffee daily?
30. Do you like butter-milk better?
31. Do you like a cold bath?
32. Can you write a letter?

33. Can you read a letter?
34. Do you drink milk?
35. Do other ^S at home drink milk?
36. Have you seen the sea?
37. What vegetables do you grow at home?
38. Do you grow tomatoes?
39. Do you own a milch goat?
40. Is there a tank in your place?
41. Is there water in it?
42. Is the water clean or muddy?
43. How is the water used? *how can it be a one word answer?*
44. Where do people get drinking water from?
45. What is the colour of the soil in your garden?
46. Can you till the soil?
47. How many grains grow in a paddy plant?
48. How many windows does your house have?
49. Are there mosquitoes in your house?
50. Are there bugs in your house?
51. Can sunlight enter your rooms?
52. Do you own a cattle-shed?
53. Is your cattle-shed clean?
54. What is its flooring made of?
55. How often is your cattle-shed washed?
56. Where do you wash your cattle?
57. What do your bulls eat?
58. How deep is your well?
59. Is your well water drinkable?
60. Is there a margosa tree in your village?
61. Is there a temple in your locality?
62. Do adults meet there when at leisure?
63. How does dhall sell in your village?

B. QUESTIONS REQUIRING ANSWERS IN MORE THAN ONE WORD.

1. Do you like rice or wheat? why?
2. Do you like walking or going in a bandy? Why?
3. Do you like the drama or the talkie? Why?
4. Do you like the village or town? Why?
5. Do you like to fly in an aeroplane? Why?
6. If you are given a thousand rupees what will you do?
7. If you are made the village munsif what will you do first?
8. Which minister would you like to be? why?
9. If you are made the President of the Indian Union, What will you do first?
10. To what type of candidate will you give your vote?
11. If you miss a train what will you do?
12. If you miss a motor bus what will you do?
13. What do you want to achieve in life?
14. If you have lost your way what will you do?
15. If you have lost your purse what will you do?
16. If you have taken another's umbrella, what will you do?
17. If you are given a motor car free, what will you do?
18. If you have a hundred rupees to spend what good will you do?

C. QUESTIONS IN THE FORM OF PERSONAL MESSAGE.

1. Dear Brother,

Are you doing well? How is the food position in your village? Do you get sufficient food for your family? How do you manage if guests come? I want to call on you with friends. I shall decide on hearing from you.

Your dear brother,

'A'

2. Dear Brother,

Are all doing well at home? Is there water in your village? What is under wet cultivation there now? Will there be a harvest this time? Which are the dry crops there? How are they? Do you sell the produce through the co-operative marketing society?

Your dear brother,

'B'

3. Dear brother,

I trust you are in sound health. When did you learn to write? Who taught you? How did you learn to read and write so quickly? Can you teach my brother how to read? On hearing from you, I shall send him. What shall I send with him?

Your dear brother,

'C'

4. Dear Brother,

What is Purana reading season in your village? Who will give the discourse this year? How long will it last? How much did it cost last time? I want to attend this time with family. May we be put up with you? Is there space in your house for four of us? Can my two bulls be tied in your shed?

Your brother,

(A)

5. Dear brother, What Cottage Industry is done in your village? Why do people do it? Who is the local expert in it? Are raw materials cheap there? How are finished products sold? Is there a selling agent? Does the producer get a good profit in it? Do women work at it? Do children help in it? Do children therefore keep away from school?

Your brother,

'E'

6. Dear brother,

Where do you get your cloth from? Is there a fair-price shop in your place. Can you spin? Do women and children spin? Does any one collect the yarn there? How much does he pay? How many cubits does your dhoti (vaishti) measure? Do you like to wear coat and pants?

Your brother,

'F'

7. Dear brother?

Do you like going to the cinema? Why? Which popular film is now on show? Why is it popular? May I come and see it? Do poor people go to the cinema? How do they find the money for it?

Your brother,

'G'

8. Dear brother,

What is your day time work? When do you go to work? When do you return from work? How do you spend your leisure? Do you teach others to read? Are all adults in your house literate? When do you rise from bed?

Your brother,

'H'

9. Dear Brother,

How do you spend a Sunday? Do you go to the library? Does it contain books you want? Does it have magazines? Which book did you read last? Did you read it through fully? Do many people go to the library?

Your brother,

'I'

10. Dear brother,

Do you eat meat? Do you go to the vegetable market? Which vegetable do you like most? How does it sell now? May I send you some? May I send some greens also? Can you cook them?

Your brother,

'J'

11. Dear brother,

Do you like attending public meetings, why? When did you attend one last? Where was it held? Who spoke? On what did he speak? Did you like his speech? Do you like to speak at meetings? Why?

Your brother,

'K'

12. Dear brother,

Have you seen an exhibition? When did you see it? What did you see in it? Did you pay for admission? Was it good? Why? Did you take your family?

Your brother,

'L'

13. Dear brother,

Do you like sports? Why? When did you see sports last? Can you play chadu-gudu? Do your friends play it? Do people like it? Why?

Your brother,

'M'

14. Dear brother,

Do you like swimming? Why? Where can one swim in your place? Can you swim? Do they swim in wells? Is that good for wells? Do they grow fish in wells?

Your brother,

'N'

15. Dear brother,

When does the temple festival come off? What arrangements are being made for it? Who is working for it? What can you do for it? Will shops and side-shows be organised? Are roads good there? Where can visitors stay for the festival?

Your brother,

'O'

D. QUESTIONS FOR WOMEN.

I. questions requiring single-word answers for women.

1. What is the colour of your saree?
2. How many sarees do you have?
3. What is the colour of your bangle?
4. What do you wear on your ears?
5. What do you wear on your nose?
6. Can you cook food?
7. Can you sew?
8. Can you wash clothes?
9. Do you read any book now?
10. Do you work in the field?
11. Do you go to the bazaar?
12. Do you pound rice?
13. Is there a mirror in your house?
14. Do you chew betels?
15. Do you rear fowls?

II. questions requiring answers made up of more than one word.

1. Mention the colours of your sarees?
2. What things are needed to prepare coffee?
3. What things are needed to prepare rasam (pepper-water)?
4. What vessels do you require for the kitchen?
5. What modern furniture do you need for your house?
6. Do you like mud vessels? Why?
7. Do you like Children? Why?
8. How do you keep curd account?
9. How do you keep milk account?
10. How do you keep dhoby's account?

11. Write the names of children in your house?
12. How will you spend Rs.10/-?
13. If you get Rs.10/- how will you spend it?
14. If you get Rs.1000/- how will you spend it?
15. If you are given 20 yds. of mull how will you use it?
16. How are your walls made dirty?
17. Do rats go to your house? Why?
18. Does any cat go to your kitchen? Why?
19. How do you use cow-dung?

No. 26194/50-D

Edn. Depr. 13

Adult Education - Testing of Literacy of Adults.
Proposals - approved.

From the D.P.S. R.C. No. 174 SE 2/50 dated 29-8-50.
Order MS. 2589 dated 13.9.50.



26/9/50
To the D.P.S.

The Govt approve the proposals made by the D.P.S. for ascertaining the literacy attained by adults receiving instructions in schools opened for them. The model standardised test prepared for the purpose is approved. The D.P.S. may use the standard test with suitable modifications if necessary with reference to local circumstances.

2/9/50

2/9/50

9/9/50

HM (E+L)

HM (E+L)

12/9/50

14

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Handwritten signature or initials, possibly "J.P.P."