

# **Scholarship**

## **2012 Assessment Report**

### **Geography**

## COMMENTARY

There were a number of candidates who were well prepared for the examination. These candidates had a clear understanding of the Millennium Development Goals and the relevance of these. They were able to make good decisions on which one was the most important for countries to concentrate on and were able to justify their decisions. These candidates used the resource materials provided and then selected relevant information to write concisely and fluently. They used sophisticated language and integrated adapted or original visuals that were clearly referred to within the body of their essays.

In addition, candidates understood the different perspectives that arise out of ways to reduce poverty across the globe, and the relevant methods that could be employed to solve the problems. They also recognised that the goals were far from being resolved and that 2015 is not far away, and that solving the problems of poverty and the like was not likely to happen within the short time frame.

Many did not understand the different perspectives, and some scripts used formulaic responses which were not related to the questions or topic asked.

Candidates who completed all questions in the examination covered the performance standards and were better placed to being awarded a scholarship than those who did not complete the examination or who left the examination room early.

## SCHOLARSHIP WITH OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

**Candidates who were awarded Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:**

- understood the command words such as critically evaluate and analyse
- wrote in a sophisticated, concise and lucid style to answer the question with balanced and measured argument
- analysed the resource material and extracted the information necessary to back up their discussion and argument
- integrated visuals into their answer to add clarity and insight
- showed depth of insight into the linkages and connections in complex geographic issues
- saw the bigger picture regarding the issue
- supported their answers with relevant information from the resource booklet.

## SCHOLARSHIP

**Candidates who were awarded Scholarship but not Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:**

- followed the instructions carefully and wrote sound, solid answers
- used the planning pages to plan and give their answers structure
- included visuals in the answers as directed, and referred to the visuals
- supported their arguments with some reference to the resource material or other proof.

## **OTHER CANDIDATES**

### **Candidates who were not awarded Scholarship typically:**

- did not complete all three questions mainly due to time management issues
- did not show geographic understanding of the topic
- did sustain an argument using geographic terminology and concepts, nor support the discussion with proof from the resources or other sources
- made sweeping generalisations showing a clear lack of geographic understanding
- did not understand the questions and the command words or prove their arguments.