



Pearson
Edexcel

Examiner's Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCE
In Japanese 9JA0

Paper 3: Listening, reading and writing

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Introduction

Most candidates were well prepared for all aspects of the examination. There was a pleasing rise in understanding of what was required to score well in question 5 (c).

Question 1

This was a set of multiple-choice questions about a teacher of Naginata, Ms. Ono. Despite the fact that "naginata" was presumably a new word to most of the candidates, this question was generally answered well.

Question 2

This was another set of multiple-choice questions with a university student talking about how he had approached studying for his university entrance exams. These questions were also generally well answered.

Question 3

This question was about a famous photograph from aftermath of the 2011 disaster. Candidates generally answered the short answer questions well, with (ii) being the easiest. The second half of the question required short summarise of what candidates heard. Most candidates were able to pick out the key points of what the man said. Summarising what the woman said turned was more challenging, with some of the candidates unable to pick out what the woman wanted to do for the young lad.

Question 4

This question was generally well answered, despite it being a more challenging question about the law regarding bullying changing. (b), which asked what the law newly ushered in, was the most challenging part. Candidates sometimes erroneously picked out general information about bullying, rather than the specific changes this law sought to bring about.

Question 5

This question was about the benefits of working for yourself (in the spoken text) versus the benefits of working in a company (in the written text). The vast majority of candidates were able to pick out and list the key attitudes from both texts. The writing section, 5 (c), asks for an evaluation of the opinions of Aoki san and Kawamura san. This question was better answered in 2024 than in previous year. What is needed is a critical evaluation of both the perspectives. Candidates generally did better (within the limited word count) if they came down on one side of the argument or the other. Some,

for example, said they agreed with Kawamura san, as nothing could compare to the security of having a guaranteed income every month, particularly when one was seeking to support a family. Others said that they evaluated Kawamura san's comment that "the content of the job is boring" extremely negatively and felt that the only way to sustain work was to work in a job that is intrinsically motivating. What is being assessed in this question is the candidate's ability to critically evaluate – and so it does not matter which side they argue, but they must do so in detail, giving full justification for the position they are stating.