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## Examiners' Report June 2010

### GCSE French 5FR03 Paper 3H

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### Question 1

This was aimed at Grade D. Candidates needed to read an email and indicate the four items that were discussed in it. Most scored at least 3 out of 4. As some of the suggested answers included references to material contained in the text, but in an incorrect context, candidates had to do more than merely pair French items with English equivalents. They had to show an ability to appreciate the sense of whole sentences.

### Question 2

This was aimed at Grade C. The text about a film festival based on an authentic model contains a fair degree of linguistic difficulty. Candidates were required to identify four facts mentioned in the text and did not need to be able to understand all of it. Most scored around 3 out of 4. Practice at reading short authentic texts for gist helps students to develop their ability to cope well with such tasks.

### Question 3

This was aimed at Grade B. Candidates had to read an on-line discussion about health and assign opinions in English to the people involved. Each of the questions was found to be of about the same level of difficulty, and the majority of candidates scored around 3 out of 4. Access to similar discussion on the Internet in French would help students to gain the skills required.

### Question 4

This was aimed at Grade A. Comprehension of a text based on an adapted authentic original was tested by questions in English. Candidates needed to find answers which were generally situated sequentially in the text. They need to have access to similar authentic materials containing some quite complicated structures to develop their ability to perform satisfactorily in this level of exercise. Parts (c) and (e) were found to be the most difficult.

### Question 5

This was aimed at Grade C. Candidates were required to read a text in the form of a letter concerning a visit to a restaurant and the problems encountered there, and to choose the correct completion for each of four sentences to demonstrate their comprehension. Only part (d) presented specific difficulty. Studying texts of a similar complexity with comprehension being tested develops the skills students need to perform well in such exercises.

#### Question 6

This was aimed at Grade D. Candidates had to read a short text and identify the four correct statements. Most scored around 3 out of 4. The skills needed were similar to those tested in Question 1.

#### Question 7

This was aimed at Grade B. Candidates had to read an email from Marjolaine and choose the correct completion to each of four statements. The email covered aspects of several topics; and so effective preparation requires students to be able to tackle more than one defined theme at a time. Parts (a) and (d) were found to be the most difficult.

#### Question 8

This was aimed at Grade A\*. The text was based on an authentic original and contained some complicated material and structures, as is appropriate for a question at this level. The tasks set were also more complicated than those in the other questions. Candidates had to pair up the beginnings and ends of five statements and to select the appropriate answers from three alternatives in three further statements. For the latter, conclusions had to be drawn from the text as a whole, which required deductive ability. Access to authentic published material would help students to deal with such tasks.

## Grade Boundaries

Grade	Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
Raw mark boundary	40	32	27	22	18	14	12	0
Uniform mark scale boundary	60	54	48	42	36	30	27	0

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