

Examiners' Report /
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2012

GCSE German (5GN03) Paper 3F

Edexcel and BTEC Qualifications

Edexcel and BTEC qualifications come from Pearson, the world's leading learning company. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers. For further information visit our qualifications websites at www.edexcel.com or www.btec.co.uk for our BTEC qualifications.

Alternatively, you can get in touch with us using the details on our contact us page at www.edexcel.com/contactus.

If you have any subject specific questions about this specification that require the help of a subject specialist, you can speak directly to the subject team at Pearson. Their contact details can be found on this link: www.edexcel.com/teachingservices.

You can also use our online Ask the Expert service at www.edexcel.com/ask. You will need an Edexcel username and password to access this service.

Pearson: helping people progress, everywhere

Our aim is to help everyone progress in their lives through education. We believe in every kind of learning, for all kinds of people, wherever they are in the world. We've been involved in education for over 150 years, and by working across 70 countries, in 100 languages, we have built an international reputation for our commitment to high standards and raising achievement through innovation in education. Find out more about how we can help you and your students at: www.pearson.com/uk

Summer 2012

Publications Code UG032327

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Pearson Education Ltd 2012

Examiner Report

A maximum of 40 marks is awarded for this paper. All instructions are in English and no question involves target-language writing. The targeted vocabulary on the Foundation paper is drawn from the minimum core vocabulary list.

Centres are reminded that questions appear in a sequence of peaks and troughs to encourage candidates to keep going to the end, and that individual questions follow the sequence of the text and thus appear in chronological order. Grade C/D questions are common to both Foundation and Higher Tiers.

For the most part, centres entered their candidates appropriately at Foundation level.

Question 1

The topic of school subjects offered candidates a familiar topic and a chance to do well in their first task. Most candidates scored well although the lexical item *Geschichte* caused problems for the weaker candidates around the F/G borderline. If candidates ticked or crossed more than the required four boxes, then one mark was deducted from their score for each superfluous box ticked or crossed. This rule was applied throughout the paper for appropriate questions.

Question 2

On the topic 'Hobbies' most candidates around the C/D borderline were able to match the correct phrases with the various hobbies. Weaker candidates found the task on the whole accessible.

Question 3

This was the first crossover question which was common for both Foundation and Higher papers and was attempted successfully by most C/D candidates. However, many weaker candidates found the task quite challenging with the lexical items *neblig* and *Glatteis* proving difficult.

Question 4

This was another crossover question and identifying the correct answers in (i) and (iv) proved quite a challenge to most candidates.

Question 5

Within the Foundation paper, this question was targeted at the weakest candidates and overall they scored well, correctly identifying the words needed for using mobile phones in different places. However, some candidates found the section difficult overall.

Question 6

Although candidates on the whole did well on the topic of theme parks, a sizable number were unable to identify the German word for adults and henceforth did not gain a mark for question 6(ii).

Question 7

This third crossover question on websites proved quite accessible to most candidates who were able to identify the correct information from the text. The weakest candidates found the whole of question 7 more challenging.

Question 8

Several items on this fourth crossover question posed a real challenge to candidates on the Foundation paper with the majority gaining only one or two marks. They found it difficult to distinguish between the different tenses, a vital component in identifying the correct answers.

Question 9

This section on an au-pair programme was handled quite successfully by most candidates with the second item being the most challenging one where candidates found it difficult to identify the correct length of stay.

Question 10

A small minority of candidates continue to answer the English questions in German and thus sadly debar themselves from scoring at all. Clearly candidates' use of English should be unambiguous. The question proved quite a challenge to most candidates although section 10(c) was often answered correctly. Candidates had difficulty identifying the phrase *Rekordsumme* which was needed to answer sections 10(a) successfully.

Additional Guidance

When answering questions, candidates should avoid giving superfluous information or information not contained in the printed target-language material. Candidates are encouraged to cross through any alternative answer rather than leaving examiners with a choice - though crossed-out work will be marked where the candidate has not replaced it with an alternative response.

Candidates should be aware that if just one mark is on offer, as for most questions, they should be giving only one item of information in the answer. However, if it is clear that more than one item of information is being solicited, then candidates must ensure that they produce the required number of items in their response. Candidates should also note that the space given for the answer is deemed adequate for a full and complete response.

Many responses indicate that candidates are not reading the texts carefully enough. This is particularly important for the task requiring answers in English. Candidates should ensure that what they have written is relevant to the question and can be supported by the text. Candidates should also be encouraged to keep their answers as concise as possible. It is not advisable for candidates to put down everything they have understood, as this may lead to their losing the mark if they hedge their bets or negate their answer with additional incorrect information.

Candidates should be reminded to use black ink and to write as clearly as possible.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx>

Further copies of this publication are available from
Edexcel Publications, Adamsway, Mansfield, Notts, NG18 4FN

Telephone 01623 467467

Fax 01623 450481

Email publication.orders@edexcel.com

Order Code UG032327 Summer 2012

For more information on Edexcel qualifications, please visit
www.edexcel.com/quals

Pearson Education Limited. Registered company number 872828
with its registered office at Edinburgh Gate, Harlow, Essex CM20 2JE

Ofqual




Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

