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Examiners' Report  
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCSE  
in German (1GN0) Paper 3F: Reading

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Publications Code 1GN0\_3F\_pef\_20240822

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### **Introduction**

The paper is worth 50 marks and is divided into three sections, A, B and C. The first six questions comprising Section A were set in English. Questions 7 to 9 (Section B) were set in German. Section C was a 40-word translation from German into English.

Candidates had 45 minutes in which to complete the test.

### **Question 1**

In this question, candidates were asked to read five statements in German. They demonstrated their understanding of the statements by matching names to English statements with the same meaning as the parts of the German text.

The question required candidates to recognise single words/short phrases taken from the specified vocabulary list. Candidates demonstrated a high level of success in this task. They demonstrated that they had a good understanding of key items of vocabulary from theme 5 of the specification, specifically in relation to international events.

### **Question 2**

This question required candidates to demonstrate their understanding of a short text on Theme 2: Holidays. They were asked to do this by completing short sentences with the same meaning as parts of the German text. They were asked to choose from 11 English words to fill gaps in 5 sentences. The order of the English sentences mirrored the order that information was presented in the German text.

The majority of candidates were able to demonstrate their understanding of key items of vocabulary from the specified list in relation to the topic of holidays. The German words for 'Austria', 'awful' and 'hotel' were well understood. More successful candidates also showed that they had recalled the German words for 'Clothes', 'Rucksack' and 'Book'. Nearly all candidates demonstrated their literacy skills by only suggesting grammatically plausible answers.

### **Question 3**

This question required candidates to read an email about Saskia's food and drink preferences. The text related to theme 1 of the specification. Candidates demonstrated their level of comprehension by answering questions in English. It was not necessary to write in sentences to be credited with marks. The questions targeted information in the same order as it appeared in the text.

Nearly all candidates recognised that an adjective was required for question 3ai, and successful candidates were able to render the word "lecker" into a suitable English translation.

3aii, when not answered successfully, often made a comparison about the price of Pizza that was not present in the text. Successful candidates

correctly transferred the meaning of the key phrase "nicht so viel" into English, recognising that the phrase did not appear as part of a comparative construction.

3aiii required candidates to recall the meaning of "Sonntag". There was some confusion with "Saturday" and the least successful candidates did not recognise the suffix "-tag" and did not refer to a day of the week.

3bii tested recall of the word "Frühstück".

#### **Question 4**

This question was based on a short extract of literature. The text related to theme 1 of the specification and was a conversation between two family members. Comprehension of the text is demonstrated by candidates answering multiple choice questions written in English. The order of the questions matches the order of the text.

All candidates showed a good level of engagement with the text and nearly all were able to demonstrate some level of comprehension of this demanding text type by their answers. The most successful candidates recalled the items of vocabulary tested, which were all on the specified vocabulary list. They also were able to process information presented in the text and demonstrate a slightly higher level of understanding in this way; for example, being able to recognise which character had said what information by processing the dialogue in the extract.

#### **Question 5**

In question 5, candidates answer questions in English with words or short phrases in order to demonstrate their understanding of a German text. The topic of this text was Weather, taken from specification theme 2.

The majority of candidates were not successful with their answers to 5a. Either they did not recognise the word "Gewitter" from the specified vocabulary list, or they did not correctly understand the sequence of events in the text, signposted by the words "gestern" and "heute".

When 5c was incorrectly answered, it was mostly because candidates had focused on low temperatures, or inferred that the "Alps are always cold", which is not confirmed in the text so could not be credited.

#### **Question 6**

Question 6 is based on an extract from a literary text and proved accessible on some level for nearly all candidates.

Almost all candidates who attempted 6a recalled the word "Flughafen" from the specified vocabulary list. Question 6b proved more challenging, and the words "kurze Hosen" and "Geschenke" were familiar only to the more successful candidates. Whilst the exact translation of "Schild" as "sign", as

listed in the specified vocabulary list, was often not successfully handled, examiners were pleased to award the marks whenever the candidates answered in a way that clearly demonstrated an understanding of exactly what was happening at that point in the text.

Less successful candidates confused who was taller than who in answering question 6d, incorrectly stating that Janick was taller. Another frequent misconception for 6d was that the two characters were different ages.

### **Question 7**

Question 7 was based on Theme 3, school. Candidates are required to complete 5 short sentences in German, choosing from 11 possible words. The sentences test understanding of key points in the text in the same order that the points appear.

Analysis of candidate performance shows that this question was one of the most challenging on the paper, but regardless of how successful they were, candidates generally showed resilience by attempting to fill in all of the gaps as best they could. Only the very least successful candidates did not attempt this question.

There was confusion in understanding the "half past" rule in German when telling the time in question 7a. "Anrufen" only seemed to be known by those candidates who were generally more successful overall. The most well-known answer was 6c, which required candidates to process the phrase "Ohrringe und Schminke sind verboten" and link it to "nie tragen".

### **Question 8**

Question 8 is a multiple-choice question set entirely in German. This year, the question was based on Theme 5, Environment. The majority of candidates were able to link the phrases "gut für die Umwelt" and "ist umweltfreundlich" in 8i, and even the least successful candidates were able to demonstrate an understanding of this aspect of the specification in this way. The most common incorrect answer in 8ii was option A. Both A and the correct option C, the word "nicht", as did the text; whilst there is evidence that candidates were making the right sort of links between the text and the questions, only the most successful candidates were able to fully understand why C was the correct choice.

### **Question 9**

This question is set entirely in German. Candidates are required to demonstrate their comprehension of the text by choosing the correct name to complete sentences, which focus on specific points made in the text. Because the text is divided into 4 discrete sections, the sentences do not adhere to the order of information in it. Almost all candidates were able to demonstrate some understanding of Theme 4, Work in response to the text. The most frequently given correct responses were 9d and 9e. The correct links were made between "ärgerlichen Kollegen" in the text and "mit den Kollgen unzufrieden" in the questions. Question 9a also contained the word

“Kollegen”, but only the most successful candidates were able to link this to the word “Angestellten” in the text. Both of these words are listed in the specified vocabulary list.

### **Question 10**

In this question, candidates needed to translate a continuous piece of text, 40 words in length, from German into English.

Very few candidates did not attempt the question, although there was evidence of this amongst those candidates who were, overall, less successful.

“Ich liebe” was well translated. Whilst “groß” was quite universally understood, “ziemlich” was less successfully translated. “Zum Beispiel” was generally only understood by the more successful candidates. When attempted, candidates did tend to recognise that the final sentence was in the past tense. However, there was confusion over the meaning of “gestern” and “eine Karte”.

### **The performance of better candidates was characterised by:**

- careful reading of the questions and recognition of the key question words – what, why, when, where, which.
- good knowledge of vocabulary from the list in the specification.
- processing of information and recognition of different ways of saying the same thing.
- recognition of common adverbs, particularly in relation to time and intensity.
- a good knowledge of adjectives, particularly those used to express opinions.