



Examiners' Report Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2025

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

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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 3 of the specification, specifically in relation to the school day.

Question 2

This question required candidates to demonstrate their understanding of a short text on Theme 4: Future plans. 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 future plans. Nearly all candidates demonstrated their literacy skills by only suggesting grammatically plausible answers. There was some confusion over time (twelve and one o'clock), possibly due to the complexities of the "half" rule in German. This was not relevant for this question, but some candidates may have over compensated. "Vormittag" was also less well recalled than some of the other answers.

Question 3

This question required candidates to read an article about a music festival. The text related to theme 5 of the specification. Candidates demonstrated their level of comprehension by answering question 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 when the festival takes place and were able to deduce who Thees Uhlmann was. The word "Umwelt" was relatively well known, but the most likely incorrect answer. Examiners accepted recognisable spellings of "environment".

3bii tested the compound noun "Schlafsack", and proved to be challenging for most.

Question 4

This question was based on a short extract of literature. The text related to themes 1 and 2. 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.

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 learning languages, taken from specification theme 4.

The majority of candidates were not successful with their answers to 5b. The verb "verdienen" did not seem to be well known. The near cognate "Internationale Meetings" was often used in the answer to this and gained credit if the idea that you can understand them was communicated. Stating that they are not in English was not enough, as this is not a "benefit".

Question 6

Question 6 is based on an extract from a literary text and proved accessible on some level for many candidates, although not all.

The word "Fluss" did not appear to be well known. Many candidates give "because of war" as an answer, possibly misunderstanding the German word "war" in the text. "Etagen" was also not very well known. There were many attempts to deduce the meaning, some more plausible in the context than others.

Question 7

Question 7 was based on Theme 2, holidays. 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.

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.

"Bergen" appeared to be well recognised, as well as the link between "historisch" and "alt". The synonyms for "outside" proved to be more challenging.

Question 8

Question 8 is a multiple-choice question set entirely in German. This year the question was based on Theme 3, school. In part ii, the link between "drittbeste" and "erfolgreich" proved challenging. Also, the "seit letztem Sommer" construction used as a reference to the past proved challenging. Candidates recognised the phrase "Ich freue mich" as a positive idea relatively well.

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 2, transport. Nearly all candidates managed to be at least partially successful with this question.

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.

Whilst most candidates managed to score some marks in this question, there were some commonly occurring issues. "Diesem" was not always correctly translated. "Nach der Schule" was also frequently translated as "in" or "at school". The pronoun "ihr" was also tricky.

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.

