



Examiners' Report Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2025

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In German(1GN0)
Paper 3H: 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 1 hour to complete the test.

Question 1

In question 1, 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.

This question also appears on the foundation paper. Candidates at higher tier generally coped better with this question, as may be expected. "Verdienen" was more often recognised, although was not universally known. There was a similar issue with the near cognate "Internationale Meetings". As at foundation tier, it was often used in the answer but only 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 2

Question 2 is based on an extract from a literary text and proved accessible on some level for most candidates.

The word "Fluss" was recognised far more readily than at foundation tier. And the confusion over the meaning of "war" was not really a feature at higher tier. "Etagen" was also better known. The words "Fenster" and "klettern" were also successfully understood by a large number of candidates.

Question 3

This question required candidates to read an extract about a school exchange, taken from theme 3 of the specification.

This question produced a wide range of responses and reflected the ability range of the candidates sitting the exam well. Scoring 2 marks for part 3a) proved challenging. The verbs "kennenlernen" and "verstehen" were not as well recognised as the nouns that related to them. This led to many almost, but not quite correct answers being offered. Also, the word "Srpache" was often translated as a plural, which made the answer incorrect, as it contradicts the information in the text. There was a similar issue with the noun "Ausflüge" being translated as a singular noun. The meaning of "bummeln" proved difficult to render into English for most candidates.

Question 4

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

Nearly all candidates were able to demonstrate their ability to understand some key information from a work of literature in German. It was pleasing to see candidates' ability to tackle such a demanding text and gain credit for their efforts.

Question 5

Question 5 was based on a text about daily life, relating to theme 1 of the specification. Candidates complete 4 English sentences by choosing one of the four names given.

Candidates demonstrated a very good understanding of this area of the specification, with frequent examples of full marks on this question.

Question 6

This question was based on an article about the world of work, in relation to theme 4 of the specification. Candidates demonstrate the level of their understanding in two ways. Firstly, they are required to select three correct statements, written in English, about the text. There is a choice from 7 possible statements. This is followed by two questions, specifically targeting points in the text.

Candidates coped well with 6i). There was clear evidence of a good ability to process the information in the text and select the statements which reflected the information best.

6ii) was the most challenging aspect of this task. Many candidates found the right part of the text and give answers referring to working hours, but they did not give answers that were precise enough, or gave answers that could have multiple meanings and so could not be credited. The answer had to refer to the number of hours, or unambiguously state that the hours were long, in order to gain credit. Examiners observed a large number of "nearly" correct answers here.

Question 7

Question 7 is a multiple-choice question set entirely in German. This year the question was based on Theme 3, school.

The questions set in relation to the text were designed to have different levels of cognitive demand and this was largely reflected in the distribution of marks that candidates scored. Parts ii) and iv) proved the most difficult. The word "seit" was not universally understood.

Question 8

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 a reasonable understanding of Theme 2, Transport. Many candidates at higher tier scored the full 5 marks available to them.

Question 9

This is the only question which requires candidates to verbalise their answers in German. The quality of the language is not assessed and any answers which communicate the correct message without ambiguity are credited with marks.

When 9a was generally successfully answered. Any ending on "jed-" was accepted. Candidates seemed to understand "Wie oft" well.

9b a large number of candidates were able to score one mark by correctly identifying the prize of €25 000 and using a recognisable word for "win" or "get". The most frequent incorrect answer was to state the runner-up prize.

Question C was well understood and generally question D too. Some candidates identified the wrong kind of book, but many were successful.

Question 10

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

Very few candidates did not attempt the question.

The first sentence was often well understood, although the word "ganze" was sometimes omitted or mistranslated. "Stimmung" and "Zuschauer" were not universally known, but a large proportion of candidates did manage to effectively translate the second sentence, perhaps drawing on the context of other words in the sentence to help them, which is to be commended.

"Vor vierzehn Jahren" was problematic for many. The preposition being the biggest issue, although there were also many incorrect numbers given in responses. "Erleben" was often mistranslated as "took part" and some candidates did not recognise the tense, perhaps due to the lack of "ge-" on the past participle and the confusion over the meaning of "vor".

"finden sie dort wieder statt" was challenging, but nonetheless, there were many sensible translations offered, which could be credited. The "hin" was

also well handled by many – either it was deliberately omitted to produce an English sentence that could be credited, or it was correctly translated. Candidates on the whole should be commended for understanding the importance of producing an answer which is coherent overall and hangs together well as a piece of English, even if not 100% correct. The task was handled maturely and skilfully by the majority.

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.
- good knowledge of question words in German – was, warum, welch-, wohin.
- a good knowledge of adjectives, particularly those used to express opinions.
- Attention to detail in the translation, particularly in relation to adverbs.
- the multiple meanings of prepositions, such as "nach" and "vor".

