



Pearson
Edexcel

Examiners' Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Greek (1GK0) Paper 1H: Listening and
Understanding

Higher tier

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GCSE Greek Listening paper

1GK0/1H (Higher tier)

2024 Examiner's report

Introduction

This unit was worth 50 marks and was divided into two sections, A and B. The first 2 questions in section A were set in the target language and the remaining 8 questions were set in English. Candidates had 40 minutes in which to complete their answers; this included five minutes of general reading time at the start of the test.

There are three questions of open-ended tasks in English worth 20 marks. Multiple-choice questions have four options and there are two questions in the target language accounting for 10 marks.

In general, most candidates performed well and managed to show evidence of their understanding of standard spoken Greek. Most candidates were prepared for the examination's test types and topics but some of the requirements proved challenging for some candidates and the open-ended questions, requiring answers in English, proved very challenging for less successful candidates. Most of the questions proved accessible to a considerable number of candidates. There was evidence of good knowledge of vocabulary and of the ability to identify the information targeted by the questions. However, in many cases the level of English used in the candidates' answers was so poor that answers were ambiguous. They may have understood what they heard, but they could not convey this in English.

Section A

Question 1 (Προστατεύω το περιβάλλον)

This was the first question of section A which was in Greek. It was a 'fill-in-the-gap' type of question and candidates had to listen to the speaker talking about a speaker talking about a school environmental group in Cyprus and fill in the gaps with a word in Greek from the box. Overall, candidates performed well, considerably better than the foundation candidates. Very few candidates were not familiar with this type of question and did not choose a word from the box but gave irrelevant answers. Most common errors occurred in (d), as candidates wrote «ραδιόφωνο», because the meaning fit, not because they heard it. Some candidates missed marks by using occasional English letters when writing in Greek.

Question 2 (Διακοπές κοντά στη φύση)

This was the second question in Greek. Candidates had to listen to four friends talking about their eco-friendly holidays. They had to select the names of the places mentioned. Candidates performed well, with two thirds scoring full marks. Common error was in (d) where some candidates chose Crete instead of Xanthi, possibly because they did not recognise the Greek word for horse riding.

Section B

Question 3 (Weather)

This was a multiple-choice question. Candidates were asked to identify the correct statements about the weather in Athens. It was answered very well overall.

Question 4 (My school)

Candidates were asked to identify three correct statements after listening to the speaker talking about his school and homework. Just over two thirds of the candidates scored full marks. Most common error was G "there should be a homework club", a plausible but incorrect answer.

Question 5 (An idea for book readers)

This question was answered very well overall. 5(ii) was less successful for some candidates possibly because they did not recognise the Greek phrase for recent publications. Instead, for this part some candidates chose A (new authors) because they heard the word «συγγραφείς».

Question 6 (A school announcement)

This was an open-ended question where candidates were asked to hear a school announcement about an art event at school and answer three questions. The candidates performed considerably well and over a third of the candidates managed to score full marks. In question (a) many different answers were given, some more successful than others. The ones that were unsuccessful were because they could not express the verb «παρουσιάσουν» with an appropriate noun in English (and related to art). In (b) "Pupils/teachers/parents" were popular wrong answers, probably due to not understanding the word «κοινό» in the recording. 6(c) was generally answered well. However, it was obvious that the word "proceeds" in the question caused problems to some candidates. Some thought it meant the same as the verb "to proceed". In 6(d) those who lost marks did so because they did not take into account the passive voice in the question and answered that the students (themselves) read literature and poetry. Some candidates stated that the students were free to create, which does not answer how they were prepared.

Question 7 (A charity organisation)

This was an open-ended question where candidates were asked to listen to a programme about a charity organisation aiming to stop food waste and feed people in need and answer four questions about it. A third of candidates managed to score full marks. In (a) some candidates simply translated the first line they heard «καμμιά μερίδα φαγητού χαμένη» which is exactly the opposite of the required answer that food is wasted. In (b) some problems were caused by not understanding the word “retailers” in the question. Question 7(c) was generally answered well although some candidates did not understand «εκατοντάδες» in the recording and thought it meant «millions». In 7(d) a minority of candidates who gave too much information and wrote down the whole last paragraph that the speaker said were unsuccessful and did not score a mark.

Question 8 (An interview)

This was a multiple-choice question where candidates were asked to complete six statements after hearing a radio interview with a tour guide. Most candidates performed well. The most challenging part was part (a) (i) where over a third of the candidates gave the wrong answer and mostly chose (B) “for two years” possibly because they heard that the speaker studied to become a chef for two years and disregarded the remaining information about his extensive studies. In part (a) (ii) a third of the candidates scored zero marks because they did not pay attention to detail and most commonly chose (C) or (D).

Question 9 (Friendships)

This was an open-ended question where candidates were asked to hear a podcast. There were 10 marks in total for this question and it was divided in two parts. As per the results, this question proved to be challenging for a considerable number of candidates. High marks (7 out of 10 marks) were only achieved by one fourth of the students. The main problem with this question was not paying attention to the subject in the question and not answering using the same subject. Answering using a different subject caused ambiguity especially in part (a) (i) and part b (ii). Furthermore, some candidates guessed the answers based on their own experience, without paying sufficient attention to what they heard on the recording.

Question 10 (Learning foreign languages)

This question had two parts and candidates were asked to hear a podcast about learning foreign languages. Part two was answered better than part one but, overall, the question was answered well with half of the candidates scoring full marks, as it was a familiar topic.

For this paper, candidates need to:

- carefully read the questions
- have good knowledge of core vocabulary
- recognise the use of tenses and time indicators
- pay attention to detail, give full rather than partial answers
- express themselves clearly and unambiguously when writing in English and relate their answers to what is heard in the extract
- read over and edit their answers if needed.