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## Examiners' Report June 2010

### GCSE Italian Unit 3: Reading and Understanding in Italian (5IN03 3H) Higher Tier

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June 2010

Publications Code UG024366

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## Unit 3: Reading and Understanding in Italian (5IN03) 3H Higher

### Examiner's Report

On the whole the paper was quite accessible and many candidates were able to cope well with it and even achieve very high marks. Some less able candidates were entered for this paper and would have performed better at Foundation level.

#### Question 1

This was generally answered extremely well by Higher candidates who all scored full marks here.

#### Question 2

This overlap question was generally answered well at this level, with most scoring at least three marks out of four.

#### Question 3

This was done quite well by the majority of candidates. The only section that caused some minor difficulties was (d), where a few opted for "20 years" instead of "ten".

#### Question 4

This was one of the most challenging questions in the paper, and was the only question where candidates had to write in their own answers.

20% managed to get Charlotte's age wrong in (a) by answering "twenty" instead of "twenty-one".

In (b) some understood incorrectly that she lived in Paris with her dad (possibly as he was mentioned in the first sentence).

In (c) there were many guesses based on some of the vocabulary in the text, such as "to study finances" or "to work for an art gallery", incorrect answers that were at times used also to answer (f).

In (d) many answered that "she didn't go to school" or "did not do well at school", with similar reverse incorrect answers in (e) ("her brothers did well"). Many however understood that she had left her studies (although very few mentioned the fact that she disappointed her mother by not taking a degree - but this answer was not requested by the mark scheme).

Most were able to answer correctly (g) and (h) as the mark scheme included many possible options with only one of the many details being required.

#### Question 5

This was generally answered well, with most candidate scoring at least three out of four marks, but some thought he was doing his "Christmas shopping" rather than their "Christmas tree" in (a)/(b), others opted incorrectly for (d), missing the distinction between inside and outside, and some others chose (g) "take a shower" rather than "shave".

#### Question 6

This question was generally well done at this level, with only a few incorrectly linking *cena* and lunch.

### Question 7

This question was also answered well at this level, although some candidates opted for “week” rather than “weekend”.

### Question 8

This question was answered successfully by many. Please notice that the format of this last question has changed from questions in English to a multiple choice in Italian, thus being the only part of the Reading paper with questions in Italian rather than English.

(a) was answered correctly by approximately 60% of the candidates, with the most common wrong answer being (i), possibly picking on the word *salute* in the text.

Similar percentages for (b), where many candidates failed to associate *amici* with *compagni*.

(c) was answered better, as 70% of candidates were able to link *dottori* and *medici*.

(d) was answered correctly by most candidates, with only a few being swayed by the mention of *parco* in the text.

(e) was one of the most demanding sub-questions, with only half of the candidates answering it correctly: many opted for “*a scuola*”, possibly missing the *più a casa* in the text.

(f) was answered pleasingly well, with less than 10% being swayed by *telefonino*.

(g) was also answered well, whilst (h) posed a few difficulties, as many seemed to struggle to differentiate between *ragazze* and *ragazzi*.

## Grade Boundaries

### Higher (3H)

Grade	Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
Raw mark boundary	40	36	32	28	24	16	12			0
Uniform mark scale boundary	60	54	48	42	36	30	24			0

The modern foreign languages specifications share a common design, but the assessments in different languages are not identical. Grade boundaries at unit level reflect these differences in assessments, ensuring that candidate outcomes across these specifications are comparable at specification level.

### Uniform Mark Scale boundaries - Overall for 5IN03

Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
60	54	48	42	36	30	24	18	12	0

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Order Code UG024366 Summer 2010

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