

Examiners' Report/ Principal Examiner Feedback

June 2011

GCSE Italian (5IN03) Paper 3H

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Unit 3: Reading and Understanding

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 scored mostly 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 though there were almost 10% of them that failed to link *negozi* with shopping or *cena fuori* with eating out or *palestra* with gym.

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.

In (a) over 30% failed to understand *dieci anni fa*, some thought it meant "when he was ten".

In (c) almost half of the candidates were unable to explain that he kept in touch with people he knew all over the world.

Similarly in (d) more than half of the candidates were not familiar with *all'estero*. Also (g) and (h) posed some problems, with many answers being too vague to score a point (for example, in (h) many answered simply "photographs" rather than the required "photographs of his travels").

Question 5

This was generally answered well, with most candidates scoring at least three out of four marks. Some were swayed by the mention of Eurostar in the text and chose incorrectly (C).

Question 6

This question was generally well done at this level, with only a few incorrect answers for (iii) and (iv).

Question 7

This question was also answered well at this level, although some candidates opted for Marco in (c) also at this tier.

Question 8

This multiple choice question in Italian was answered successfully by many.

(a) was the most demanding sub-question, with approximately 40% of the candidates opting for a wrong answer.

(d) was also problematic, as many candidates were not familiar with *mensa*.

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