



Pearson
Edexcel

Examiner's Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Japanese (1JA0)

Paper 3F: Reading and Understanding in
Japanese Foundation Tier

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Introduction

Most candidates made a good effort to answer all aspects of the paper, including questions that required a short-written answer in English.

Question 1

This question was about future jobs and tested the recognition of single words written in hiragana and katakana. Most candidates attempted all six parts of this question and did well.

Question 2

This question was about upcycling to raise money to use to buy bins for the park. This question was generally well tackled, although the idea that the bags had shoes inside them threw some candidates. A large number of candidates wrote 'camera' in answer to (b) (i), which of course cannot be the answer to a "why" question. Candidates are reminded to read all questions carefully.

Question 3

This question required short written answers in response to a text about a hobby. Most candidates were able to recognise the day of the week in (a), and the methods of transport in (b). In (c), some candidates lost the mark because they did not specifically say the bullet train.

Question 4

This was one of the two literary texts. Most candidates were able to answer (a) and (b) well. (d) and (e) proved harder for some candidates.

Question 5

This question was about celebrating new year in Scotland. Most candidates coped well with this question, including the idea in (c) that they ended up drinking sake as there was no whiskey available.

Question 6

This question was about a school trip to France. Most candidates did well on this question. The hardest part was (e), possibly because it required inference or possibly because the English words in the options were a little harder.

Question 7

This question was generally very well answered. Candidates needed to complete sentences picking out words from a bank of given words. The text was about a childhood memory of a tennis class.

Question 8

This was an extract from a literary text, which proved extremely difficult for candidates. It may have been the unusual idea of someone narrating a dream in which strange things happened that put candidates off. The easiest part was (c), about why he wanted to show his test to his mother.

Question 9

This question was about what various young people like about their school. This question was generally well answered, with no part appearing to be particularly difficult.

Question 10

This was the translation. Some candidates left the page blank, but those who did write something were generally able to write that the writer had been to Canada. The word "skiing" proved difficult to translate for some, although the "it was fun" was well recognised. The last sentence proved challenging for candidates: there was a lot of confusion between younger brother and younger sister, and few were able to put the "snow" and "play in" together correctly.