

Examiners' Report /  
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2012

GCSE Russian (5RU03) Paper 01

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# **Examiner Report**

## **Question 1**

This provided little problem for the majority of candidates, although it was surprising that a significant minority did not appear to know weather vocabulary well.

## **Question 2**

This was generally well done.

## **Question 3**

This was well done by most candidates, and proved to be a good test for the middle range of candidates.

## **Question 4**

This caused no problems for the vast majority of candidates.

## **Question 5**

This was a good test for the more able candidates and was generally done well by them. It was pleasing to see that almost all candidates attempted it. A small number did not use the words provided in the box and did not gain any marks. Candidates should be encouraged to read the instructions carefully.

## **Question 6**

This proved to be quite testing for many candidates as it required close reading of the text. Candidates have a reasonable allocation of time and should be encouraged not to rush their reading.

## **Question 7**

This question was aimed at the most able candidates and it was pleasing that it was so well done by many, who were able to extract meaning and identify the points from language which may have been unfamiliar to them.

## **Question 8**

This question was accessible to the vast majority of candidates.

## Question 9

- a) This was mostly well done, but several candidates confused 'original' with 'organic' and gained no marks. However, most candidates gave full answers.
- b) Again most candidates gained the 2 marks, although many surprisingly did not know свежий.
- c) The majority of candidates gained both the marks here, but some answers were vague. Accurate answers are required at this level and 'you can read a blog' is not sufficient. Others tried to gain 2 marks by expressing the same idea in different words eg 'you can comment on recipes and give your own ideas' would merit only 1 mark.
- d) Most candidates understood this question, but a significant minority did not understand весело. Others confused the English 'fun' with 'funny'.
- e) To gain the mark here, candidates needed to understand the strength of обожают. 'Like' was not enough at this level. It was pleasing to note that many candidates did understand and gave full and relevant answers.
- f) This proved accessible to the majority of candidates.
- g) Candidates needed to appreciate the strength of 'ужасно' and 'кошмар' to gain the marks and again it was pleasing that so many did so. It was also pleasing that many understood the less common 'выбросить'.

Candidates should be reminded to write legibly and to use a black pen. Some lost marks due to illegible handwriting. Others lost marks by answering in Russian where English was required. It is important to read the instructions carefully. However, the vast majority attempted all the questions and even the weaker ones managed to pick up a few marks in this way. In general candidates responded well to this paper and there were many pleasing results.

## **Grade Boundaries**

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