



Examiners' Report Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2025

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Russian (1RU0)

Paper 3F: Reading and Understanding in
Russian

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Overview

This paper was worth 50 marks and divided into 3 sections. Section A requires answers in English and is worth 28 marks. Section B requires answers in Russian and is worth 15 marks. Section C is the translation into English and is worth 7 marks. Students had 50 minutes to complete the paper.

Question 1

Students were asked to read short texts and identify who said what about school, using the names given.

Most students coped very well with this question, with many gaining full marks. However, some candidates answered in Cyrillic and therefore could not access the marks for this question.

Question 2

Students had to read a short text about free time and complete 5 sentences in English using the vocabulary given in a box. Again, most students did well. Some candidates had difficulty with *сумка* and therefore answered incorrectly for part (e). It was positive to see that candidates had clearly practiced this type of activity and were completing the sentences using the word bank.

Question 3

Students were asked to read a text on holidays and answer questions in English. The question was in two parts. Part a) had 3 questions about usual holiday plans and part b) had two further questions on future holiday plans.

Part a)

(i) some candidates did not read the question carefully and incorrectly answered 'France'.

(ii) *поезд* was recognised by most candidates.

(iii) *забавно* was recognised by most candidates.

Part b)

(i) *кататься на лыжах* was frequently recognised by candidates. Some candidates confused this with other winter sports and answered 'skating' or 'snowboarding'.

(ii) although *в ropax* wasn't frequently recognised, most candidates were able to identify *красиво* to be awarded a mark for this question.

Question 4

Students were asked to read an extract from a literary text and answer multiple choice questions in English. Candidates coped well with most of the question, although some had difficulty with the different hair descriptions in part (iv).

Question 5

Students were asked to read a text about a town in Latvia and answer questions in English. As a crossover question from the higher paper, some candidates found this question more challenging.

Part a) successful candidates were able to identify столица or more to access the mark for this question. Some were able to give a more detailed answer.

Part b) it was pleasing to see that some candidates identified 'пляжи' to get the mark for this part of the question.

Part c) most candidates were able to identify 'вокзал', although some mistook this for an underground station, or suggested that you would find information 'on the train' rather than at the station.

Question 6

Students were asked to read a short literary text and answer four questions in English. As a crossover question, some candidates found this question more challenging.

a) most candidates answered correctly and were able to identify either студенты or учителя in the text.

b) many candidates managed to identify 'рубашка', although some incorrectly translated this as t-shirt.

c) most candidates were able to identify that Fyodor was upset about exam results. Some candidates incorrectly inferred that Fyodor was sitting the test rather than his students.

d) most candidates were able to identify either вкусный or весёлый, although 'funny' wasn't accepted as a response.

Question 7

Students were asked to read a text in Russian and then complete sentences in Russian using words from the box.

Some candidates found this question challenging and frequently chose words which would not make sense grammatically. Some students did not use the words in the box and unfortunately gained no marks.

Question 8

Students were asked to read an email about a festival and answer multiple choice questions by crossing a box. Most students were successful with many gaining full marks for parts (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv).

Question 9

Students had to read a text about opinions on work and identify who thought what, using the names given in the rubric.

It is pleasing to see more candidates at this level attempting this question, using past papers to build their confidence. Some candidates answered this question using Latin script and should be reminded to answer in Russian to avoid being penalised.

Question 10

In this question, candidates were asked to translate a short passage containing 4 sentences of varying difficulty into English. Whilst most candidates coped well with most of the text, they generally had difficulty translating перерабатывать and окружающая среда. It was positive to see some candidates using inferencing skills to work out certain parts of the text.

Summary and advice

- Students should be aware of the need for careful reading of Russian texts and questions both in Russian and English and for the need for accurate answers.
- Students should read the question words (eg *who, what, where* or *когда, куда, где* etc) carefully in order to answer correctly.
- The question title can provide a clue for students eg *school* or *работа*.
- Students should write answers in the appropriate language/script. No marks can be awarded for answers in the wrong language.
- Students should write clearly in both scripts. Any errors made should be crossed through and rewritten.

