



Pearson
Edexcel

Examiners' Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Russian (1RU0)

Paper 3H: Reading and Understanding in Russian

Higher tier

Edexcel and BTEC Qualifications

Edexcel and BTEC qualifications are awarded by Pearson, the UK's largest awarding body. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers. For further information visit our qualifications websites at www.edexcel.com or www.btec.co.uk. Alternatively, you can get in touch with us using the details on our contact us page at www.edexcel.com/contactus.

Pearson: helping people progress, everywhere

Pearson aspires to be the world's leading learning company. Our aim is to help everyone progress in their lives through education. We believe in every kind of learning, for all kinds of people, wherever they are in the world. We've been involved in education for over 150 years, and by working across 70 countries, in 100 languages, we have built an international reputation for our commitment to high standards and raising achievement through innovation in education. Find out more about how we can help you and your students at: www.pearson.com/uk

June 2024

Publications Code 1RU0_3H_pef_20240822

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Pearson Education Ltd 2024

Overview

This paper was worth 50 marks and was divided into 3 sections. Section A was worth 28 marks and required answers in English. Section B was worth 15 marks and required answers in Russian. Section C was worth 7 marks and was the translation into English. Students had 1 hour and 5 minutes to complete the paper.

Question 1.

Students were asked to read a text about the environment in a town and answer questions in English.

Part a) was answered well by most candidates, with the majority able to identify зелёный or understand that people were happy to live in the town now.

Part b) was answered well by most candidates. Some candidates failed to notice that they were looking for the 'main reasons' for changes in the town and mentioned the fact that there were fewer factories rather than talking about people's changing attitudes.

Part c) was answered well by most candidates. It was pleasing to see that many candidates were able to identify дороги.

Question 2.

Students were asked to read a short literary text and answer four questions in English.

a) most candidates answered correctly. All identifiable spellings of 'clarinet' were accepted.

b) most candidates answered this part of the question correctly. Some candidates mistook 'кинотеатр' for 'театр'.

c) was again successfully answered by most candidates. Almost all were able to identify either 'не слушали' or 'ели бутерброды' to access the answer. Some candidates used the information to give a more general response such as 'the audience weren't respectful' which was also acceptable.

d) this part of the question was answered well by most candidates. Some candidates did not recognise 'глаза', often mistaking it for 'glasses'

Question 3.

Students were asked to read a text on school clubs and answer questions in English. With examples of higher-tier vocabulary, the emphasis of the question was on inferring the correct answer, rather than translating each word. Marks were occasionally missed through misreading of the questions.

a) most candidates were able to identify the correct person. A small number of candidates wrote in the incorrect language.

b) most candidate answered this part of the question successfully, with a majority of candidates recognising 'исторический'.

c) Some candidates were unable to identify either 'промышленный' or 'загрязнение', often confusing the latter for 'грязный'.

d) Most candidates were able to understand that there was a lack of busses, but some candidates had difficulty conveying this clearly in English. Some candidates did not notice that the question was asking about Maskim's town and instead mentioned issues that others had in their towns.

e) most candidates answered this part of the question correctly, although some seemed to be drawn towards the transport mentioned in Maksim's paragraph and therefore answered incorrectly.

Question 4.

Students were asked to read a literary text and answer multiple choice questions by crossing a box.

All parts of the question were answered well by most candidates.

Question 5.

Students were asked to read an article about work experience.

a) – d) required a name from a given list.

e) and f) required fuller answers in English.

A small minority of candidates answered parts (a) to (d) in Cyrillic script and therefore could not gain the marks for this section. Parts (a), (b) and (d) required candidates to interpret the context rather than look for individual vocabulary items. Despite this, many candidates gave successful responses to these questions. Questions e) and f) required fuller answers and were therefore more challenging.

For question e) most candidates were able to understand the context and gave an appropriate answer. Some candidates were not successful as their answers suggested that the school offered no healthy choices. Some candidates also recognised 'маленький' but talked about portion sizes rather than choices.

For question f) it was pleasing to see that 'долго' was recognised by most candidates.

Question 6.

Students were asked to read an article on a music festival and in part (i) tick 3 correct statements from a list. In parts (ii) and (iii) students had to answer questions in English. Vocabulary used in this question is taken largely from the higher vocabulary lists in the specification.

ii) Most candidates managed to respond correctly, although some had difficulty with the various meanings of 'вид', often recognising it as 'type' rather than 'view'. Some candidates' responses suggested that the venue itself was beautiful rather than the view or surroundings. Some candidates also misread the question and talked about the venue's size.

iii) Some candidates found 'меняться' to be a challenging verb, but many were able to use context to help them answer correctly. Some candidates seem to have misread the question and gave responses which did not make sense.

Question 7.

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

Question 8.

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

This question was answered well by most candidates. Part (d) was occasionally answered incorrectly as candidates had assumed that 'всё время' in the question should be matched to 'всё время' in the text. Some candidates answered this question using Latin script and should be reminded to answer Section B in Russian.

Question 9.

Students were asked to read a website about Bella Devyatina, a girl who speaks several languages. This question was challenging, but several students were successful in their answers. Students at this level are expected not only to understand the language, but also to infer meaning from a text containing words which may not necessarily be familiar. Recognition of question words often gave candidates a greater chance of accessing the correct answers. In this series, any vocabulary used beyond the published lists in the specification was provided in a glossary.

- a) most candidates gave a correct answer, either by using an appropriate part of the text or summarising their understanding ('по телевизору').
- b) most candidates were able to respond correctly, although some candidates did not respond in third person, instead lifting 'Я знаю семь языков'.
- c) was answered well by most candidates. However, some candidates talked about how she demonstrated her knowledge of other languages rather than focussing on German.
- d) proved to be more challenging for candidates, some of whom only focused on how she learned Spanish rather than talking about why she had a positive attitude to study in general.
- e) was answered well by most candidates. Some weaker candidates were also able to identify where the answer to the question in the text was and give an appropriate response.

Question 10.

Students were asked to translate a passage of 4 sentences of varying length and difficulty into English.

Many candidates scored at least 4 marks out of 7 with some achieving full marks. It should be noted that minor spelling or syntactical errors did not prevent this as long as the meaning was fully conveyed and communicated clearly in English. Some non-learner or heritage students had some difficulty expressing themselves clearly in idiomatic English, with frequent errors in verb forms and missing articles. Some candidates also offered a summary rather than a translation.

Candidates must be careful not to omit words – 'ещё раз' was often omitted in responses. Some candidates had difficulty with topic-specific vocabulary from the specification and often failed to translate vocabulary items such as 'собор', 'обсуждение' and 'участвовать' correctly.

Summary.

- Students will be expected to use the new skills of inference and interpretation of written Russian.
- In the translation question full marks can be gained despite minor errors, as long as the meaning of the passage is conveyed clearly.
- Students are advised to read the questions carefully, paying particular attention to which question word is used (in both Russian and English).
- Students should remember to write neatly and clearly. Marks cannot be awarded for illegible answers.
- Students should be careful to respond in the appropriate language. No marks are given for answers in Russian where English is required or vice versa.
- Where students provide multiple answers to a question, only their first response is credited.
- All vocabulary for this series has been sourced from the lists in the specification.