

Examiners' Report /  
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2012

GCSE Urdu (5UR01) Paper 1F

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## **Examiner Report**

The general performance on the foundation paper was good. Questions vary from putting a cross in a box, writing a letter in a box and giving short verbal answers in English. It also provides a mixture of visual questions and short verbal cues in English. This unit draws on vocabulary and structures from across the four specified common topic areas as described in the new specification thus providing more focused and accessible areas for the candidates. Candidates are not required to write any text in Urdu in the paper – any Urdu text will not be considered and cannot be credited, especially where the rubric states that answers should be in English.

### **Question 1**

Question 1 proved very accessible, and the majority of candidates scored one mark on each item.

### **Question 2**

Candidates were required to pick out items that were mentioned in the recording and write the letter in the boxes. The items can be written in the boxes in any order. The majority of candidates scored 3 or 4 marks on this question.

### **Question 3**

Candidates were required to listen to a conversation between two friends about a day out, and identify which item each person mentioned. Candidates performed excellently on this question.

### **Question 4**

There were no issues with the performance of this question, and most candidates scored one mark on each part.

### **Question 5**

Candidates were required to listen to statements from each person and identify who said what. Candidates are advised to listen carefully to each statement, as if they choose the incorrect option for one name, then it is quite likely that this may have an effect on their answers for the rest of the question.

## **Question 6**

Candidates are required to pick out four items out of a possible seven. Whilst most candidates scored full marks on this question, candidates are reminded not to cross more boxes than necessary and follow the rubric and select four items only. Any extra incorrect options that are selected will be deducted from the total number of correct option selected.

## **Question 7**

Much like Question 5, candidates are required to listen to statements and identify who says what about going to restaurants. Again, there was generally excellent performance on this question. Some candidates may have lost marks in situations where they chose an incorrect option, thus possibly having an effect on their approach to the rest of the question.

## **Question 8**

This was a very accessible and relevant question, with the majority of candidates scoring a mark on each question part.

## **Question 9**

Candidates performed very well on this question, most gaining a mark for each question part.

## **Question 10**

Question 10 is the only question in the paper which requires short verbal responses in English. In general, candidates performed well on this question. However, there was evidence of some candidates having difficulty in either understanding the question or writing the appropriate English word for the answer.

In Question 10(i), the correct answer was 'space to park cars/parking space or similar response' but there were some candidates who wrote 'driveways' or 'car park' and lost a mark. In Question 10(ii) the key vocabulary items were 'tree lined road/green area/lots of trees' or similar phrases, but responses such as 'gardens' and 'flowers' could not be credited. In Question 10(iii), the key vocabulary items were 'shopping', 'area' or 'shops nearby' and again quite a few candidates responded in words like 'big shopping area', 'shopping mall' or 'shops'. This type of question was also present in the legacy specification papers, so candidates are already well aware of the importance of selecting the appropriate key words for each item. Although the candidates are not being tested on their English grammar and spelling, they are expected to be able to select appropriate English words corresponding to the specific Urdu vocabulary.

As mentioned, candidates performed very well on this paper. However, candidates should be encouraged to:

- have more practice regarding listening for specific information
- practice selecting keywords only for the questions requiring writing responses
- read and follow instructions carefully before attempting to answer questions
- familiarise themselves with the English vocabulary relating to the minimum core vocabulary in Urdu.

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