

Examiners' Report/ Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2010

GCSE

GCSE Urdu (5UR01) 1H

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Unit 1 (Higher): Listening and Understanding

This was the first year in which candidates have been examined for this unit, part of the new GCSE Urdu specification. There were approximately 72 candidates on the foundation tier and 172 entered on the higher tier.

The question papers for this unit are in a new format where the candidates are asked to demonstrate their understanding of pre-recorded spoken Urdu. A number of question types are used on the foundation tier paper inviting non-verbal responses such as multiple choice questions and matching exercises. A mixture of visual and short verbal cues in English are provided and the question titles and rubrics are in English throughout (on both foundation and higher tier units). Visual cues are, however, minimal compared to the legacy specification listening unit. In addition, certain questions award marks for a candidate's own short written English language responses (2-3 words). As in the legacy specification, the foundation tier follows a peaks and troughs model.

The question paper for the higher tier includes the same questions targeting the C and D grades as used in the foundation tier paper. This paper also contains one question (Q8) that requires short answers in English. Both papers carry a total of 40 marks.

This unit draws on vocabulary and structures from across the four specified common topic areas as described in the new specification thus providing more focussed and accessible areas for the candidates.

Grade Boundaries

Raw Mark boundaries

Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D
40	38	34	28	22	15

Uniform Mark Scale boundaries

Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D
60	54	48	42	36	30

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