



Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2025

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Biblical Hebrew (1BH0)

Paper 1 Language

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## Report on the Units 1BH0/01 Summer 2025

As usual there was quite a range of marks and standards of response to the questions. Some candidates had been well prepared and scored top marks.

The examiners would like to point out that if candidates need extra space they must ask for extra paper and not write under the line or scribble all over random parts of their exam paper. Only a scan of the answer to each question is seen, not a copy of the whole paper.

In addition, some candidates wrote their answers for Q20, for example, in the lines reserved for Q21. Because items are marked individually rather than as an entire paper, it is impossible to give any marks for that question as it does not answer Q21. Please be advised that the answer to each question **must** be written within the lines set aside for **that** question.

- |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1a         | Most candidates responded with the correct answer. Some wrote 'angels' which is incorrect in the context.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1b         | Not many candidates scored the full two marks here. Some thought 'Edom' was the subject of the phrase. Most candidates mistranslated <b>וּנְשֹׂאֵךְ לְבָרְךָ</b> as 'you raised your heart' and many scripts had the word 'honoured' or 'heavy' due to a lack of recognition of the <i>etnachta</i> (semi-colon-type disjunction) under <b>לְבָרְךָ</b> . |
| 2a         | Many candidates responded with the correct answers. Some confused <b>בִּתְּךָ</b> (your daughter) with <b>בֵּיתְךָ</b> 'your house'.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 3          | There was much confusion here with many candidates mixing up the subject, Joash, with the object, Amaziah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 4          | Well answered by most candidates.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 5          | Most candidates responded with the correct answer; some, however, wrote 50.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 6          | Students are advised to read the Names and Words glossaries before attempting the questions as some scripts had, for <b>לְכִישָׁה</b> , to Kisha. Others were not accurate enough in differentiating between 'they killed him' and simply 'he died'.                                                                                                      |
| 7a (i-iii) | Most candidates responded with the correct answers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 7b (i-iv)  | The only part of the question that posed difficulty was 7 b (i); some wrote 'cohortative' which did not gain any mark.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8a-c     | <p>As stated in the rubric, the Hebrew letters must be in block, not cursive (script) and must be pointed (voweled). Otherwise, the answers received a straight zero.</p> <p>In general, candidates score poorly on the English to Hebrew composition. They fail on the verb tenses, and wrong genders and numbers for verbs.</p> <p>It is interesting to note that, compared to last year, more candidates attempted Q8 and Q18.</p> |
| 9        | Most candidates responded with the correct answer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 10 a     | Most candidates misunderstood the phrase, thinking that <b>צו לביתך כי מת אתה</b> meant 'command your household <b>that</b> you're going to die'; the word <b>כי</b> here means ' <b>because</b> '.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 10 b     | Some candidates achieved the mark by saying things like 'the message of Hezekiah's death was said in two different ways'. No credit was given for mere translation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 10 c     | Well answered; some did not know the meaning of <b>קיר</b> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 11       | Many candidates responded with the correct answer. It was fortunate for many that the number of years was not required as so many wrote '50 years' or '25 years'.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 12       | Some struggled to obtain two marks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 13       | Almost all candidates scored one mark for <b>ספרים</b> (letters – 'books' was accepted as well) but many candidates mistranslated <b>מנחה</b> : flour-offering, offering, rest etc.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 14       | Most candidates responded with the correct answer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 15       | Most candidates responded with the correct answer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 16       | Very well answered.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 17 a i   | Most candidates responded with the correct answer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 17 a ii  | Most candidates responded with the correct answer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 17 a iii | Mostly well answered.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 17 a iv  | A number of candidates responded 'my' which was incorrect.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 17 a v   | Mostly well answered.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 17 a vi  | Mostly well answered. Either 'plural noun' or 'root letter' was accepted.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 17 b     | A popular question for every candidate, the vast majority of scripts had the correct answer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 17 c (i-iii) | Many candidates responded with the correct answers, however for (iii) many students failed to recognise the Hiphil.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 18 a-c       | See earlier on Q8                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 19 a         | Most candidates responded with the correct answer; some omitted 'of'.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 19 b         | Most candidates responded with the correct answer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 19 c         | Mostly well answered.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 19 d         | Most candidates responded with the correct answer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 19 e         | This question seemed to stump most students. Even if they recognised the root, they failed to translate it as a causative. A large cohort of candidates translated the word as 'you will lead' confusing the root נחל and נהל.                                                                                                                                                       |
| 19 f         | Mostly well answered.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 19 g         | Many struggled to achieve two marks, translating התורה in the plural 'laws' or 'Bible'.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 19 h         | Most candidates only scored one mark either by leaving out 'he' or by giving the wrong pronoun.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 20           | Errors included the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no recognition of the לשנתיים 'two years'</li> <li>• confusion in translating אל נא נלך כלנו</li> <li>• mistranslating נִכְבֵּד as 'we will honour'</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                               |
| 21           | Errors included the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• failure to recognise the vav conversive of והרביתי</li> <li>• mistaking שנאתם 'you hated' for נשאתם 'you carried'</li> <li>• translating בינותינו בינינו as 'our daughters, our sons'</li> <li>• translating בָּרוּךְ as 'blessed is the L-rd', a mistake made by the vast majority of candidates</li> </ul> |