

Reports on the Units

June 2010

J037/J137/J737/R/10

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This report on the Examination provides information on the performance of candidates which it is hoped will be useful to teachers in their preparation of candidates for future examinations. It is intended to be constructive and informative and to promote better understanding of the specification content, of the operation of the scheme of assessment and of the application of assessment criteria.

Reports should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and mark schemes for the Examination.

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GCSE Turkish (J037 J137 J737)

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A841/01 Listening

General comments

Most of the candidates answered the questions correctly and scored high marks. However, some candidates lost marks by putting two letters in the same box or not writing the letters clearly. Candidates are advised to follow the instructions and to make their intentions clear to the examiner.

Candidates are advised to listen to the whole passage before they answer the question.

Comments on individual questions:

Exercise 1: Questions 1-5

The majority of candidates answered this exercise correctly.

Exercise 2: Question 6-12

This exercise was answered very well by most candidates.

Exercise 3: Questions 13-18

The exercise was answered well by most of the candidates. However, some candidates for question 16 chose "writes postcards" instead of "sells postcards" and for 17 "engineers" instead of teachers.

Section 2

Exercise 4: Questions 19-24

Only a few candidates failed to score full marks for these questions.

Exercise 5: Questions 25-31

25/26 These questions were answered correctly by most of the candidates.

27/28/29 Some candidates were not able to answer these questions correctly.

30 Some candidates wrote "for a friend" instead of "for a friend's family" as the answer.

31 A few candidates wrote "a vase" instead of "Turkish delight" and some wrote *lokum* instead of delight.

Exercise 6 Questions 32- 37

This exercise was answered by most of the candidates correctly.

Exercise 7: Question 38-44

- 38** Some candidates had difficulty in answering this question correctly.
- 39** Some candidates found it hard to show a reason for not having bicycle lanes in the city.
- 40** Some candidates were not able to show the evidence that the roads were dangerous for cyclists.
- 41/42** These questions were answered correctly by most candidates.
- 43** There were many different answers for this question. Those who understood the question well answered it correctly.
- 44** This question was answered correctly by most of the candidates.

Exercise 8: Questions 45-50

- 45/46/47** These questions were answered correctly by most of the candidates.
- 48/49/50** Some candidates failed to respond these questions correctly.

A842/01 Speaking

General Comments

Most of the centres conducted the exam efficiently. The majority of candidates performed very well and managed to achieve high marks.

Candidates prepared and presented their presentation topics successfully.

Some centres are still using tapes. For this GCSE Turkish examination schools must use CDs or DVDs with recordings in audio or MP3 format.

Some centres exceeded the allocated 10 minutes recording time for the exam.

On the whole, this examination was very successful.

Comments on individual questions

Topic Presentation and Discussion

Replacing the Role Plays with Presentations worked well. However, centres need to brief the teacher conducting the test well in advance to ensure they follow the instructions on the first pages of the "Teacher Instructions" booklet.

The one minute presentation should be carried out without interruptions from the teacher conducting the test. It is after the presentation when the teacher can develop the discussion using differentiated questions according to the candidate's abilities.

The conversation part of the exam went as well as the presentation part. Popular topics were "Sport, outdoor pursuits and healthy lifestyle" and "Food and drink as aspects of culture and health".

The candidates expressed a variety of opinions and justifications in their responses and used a variety of tenses. Experienced teacher/examiners encouraged candidates to expand on their responses and allowed candidates to show initiative and fully develop the topic.

However, a few teachers conducting the examination allowed candidates to select the same conversation topic they used in their presentation. For the General Conversation, the teacher offers the candidate a choice of 3 topics from the list printed on the Random Order Sheet. If the presentation topic is one of those 3 topics, the candidate should choose one of the other two topics.

Centres are reminded that only 10 minutes of recording will be assessed. The teacher should allow no longer than 1 minute for the presentation, 4 minutes for the discussion and 5 minutes for the general conversation.

A843/01 Reading

General comments

Most of the candidates answered the questions correctly and scored high marks. However, some candidates lost marks by putting two letters in the same box or ticking two boxes of one question and not writing the letters clearly. Candidates are advised to follow instructions and to make their intentions clear to the examiner. Candidates are also advised to read the questions carefully and try to concentrate on the key words.

Comments on individual questions:

Exercise 1: Questions 1-5

The majority of candidates answered this exercise correctly.

Exercise 2: Question 6-12

This exercise was answered correctly by most candidates.

Exercise 3: Questions 13-18

The exercise was answered well by most of the candidates.

Exercise 4: Questions 19-24

Only a few candidates failed to score full marks.
Some mistakes were;

21 "Helping people" was given as an answer.

23 "Teaching children" was given as an answer.

Exercise 5: Questions 25-30

This exercise was generally answered well.

Some candidates failed to answer the questions below correctly.

25 Some candidates did not attempt to answer this question.

26 A few candidates gave "in your sleep" as an answer.

29 The candidates who did not notice the word 'regularly' could not score any marks for this question. Some general mistakes were; having a nice hot bath/ reading/ keep moving during the day.

Exercise 6 Questions 31-36

This exercise was answered correctly by most candidates.

Some mistakes are as follows;

31 A couple of candidates gave “interesting” as an answer.

33 “long hours” was given as an answer.

36 Some candidates gave “holidays” as an answer.

Exercise 7: Question 37-42

The questions were answered correctly by most of the candidates.

40 Those who could not guess the meaning of “*memur*” could not answer the question correctly. However some candidates responded as ‘because of her father’s job’ and were awarded marks for this answer.

Exercise 8: Questions 43-46

43 This question was answered correctly by most of the candidates.

44 Those who did not know the meaning of “*belge*” could not answer this question correctly.

45 This question was not answered by some candidates correctly.

46 Most candidates had difficulty in understanding this question.

Some candidates gave answers such as “*kedi ve köpekler*”, “*tehlike yaratmayan hayvanlar*”, “*kedi ve köpeklerin dışındaki hayvanlar*”.

A844/01 Writing

General comments

Some of the candidates failed to follow the instructions carefully and answered all questions. This might have affected the quality of their writing, because, perhaps they were not able to concentrate on the required two tasks.

Those who managed to express information clearly and to develop and justify their points of view scored high marks for communication.

The candidates who used a variety of clause types, vocabulary, idiom and structures, including verb structures confidently and accurately were awarded high marks for quality of language.

Those who gave very short answers were not awarded full marks because they did not write enough to score well on the Quality of Language mark. Candidates are advised to take the word count into account.

A considerable number of candidates, however, lost marks for not expressing their point of views and opinions, it is perhaps, due to lack of preparation and practice for the exam. Candidates are advised to read the instructions carefully.

Magazine article and e-mail formats were the most popular ones. There were some conversation scripts.

Question 1 Home and Local Area

This was the most popular question. Most candidates performed well. Some candidates chose to cover the bullet points, and some communicated additional details. Some candidates explained how they spend time with the family and why it is important to do activities with the family giving reasons and expressing points of view.

Question 2 Health and Sport

This was also a very popular question. Some candidates managed to give information about the sport facilities in their area and expressed their points of view about the importance of doing sports, and gave their opinions on how to improve the sports facilities in their area very well.

Question 3 Leisure and entertainment

Most candidates chose to use the e mail format for this question.

Question 4 Travel and the wider world

This question was chosen by a few candidates.

Question 5

This question was also chosen by a small number of the candidates.

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