

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Level Examination



GERMAN
Unit 6 Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

GR6T/GR6V

Candidate's Material

To be conducted by the teacher examiner between 7 March and 15 May 2008 (GR6T)
To be conducted by the visiting examiner between 7 March and 15 May 2008 (GR6V)

Time allowed: 35 minutes (including 20 minutes preparation time)

Instructions

- During the 20 minutes preparation time you are required to prepare **one** of the two reporting and discussion cards given to you.
- You may make notes during the preparation time only on the Additional Answer Sheet provided.
You must not write on the card.
- You should take the reporting and discussion card with you into the examination room. You may refer to the card and any notes you have made at any time during this section of the test.
- Hand the reporting and discussion card and the Additional Answer Sheet to the examiner before the start of the conversation section of the test.

Information

- The test will last approximately 15 minutes and will consist of a reporting and discussion card (5 minutes), and a conversation based on topics studied during the A2 course (10 minutes).
- There are questions on each of the cards to provide guidance on the type of question the examiner will ask.
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Text A

Future of Europe

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Fragen

- Worum geht es hier?
- Warum ist Deutschland besonders wichtig für die Wirtschaft und die Finanzen in Rumänien und Bulgarien?
- Welche Kriterien werden bei der endgültigen Entscheidung im Jahre 2012 eine Rolle spielen?
- Wie versuchen Arbeitssuchende aus osteuropäischen Ländern die Einwanderungsbeschränkungen zu umgehen?
- Wie beurteilen Sie die Haltung anderer EU-Staaten, besonders der neueren Mitglieder?

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Text B

The State and the Individual

Too boring for TV – German leaders turn off viewers

Tony Paterson in Berlin

IT may have brought peace and stability to the Bundestag, but the consensus politics of Angela Merkel's "grand coalition" government has caused panic among German television executives.

Viewing figures for the country's flagship current affairs programmes have dropped by 30 per cent since the German chancellor formed a government of conservatives and Social Democrats.

Critics argue that political debate is dying and that government MPs – never the most exciting television fare – have become stultifyingly boring, as hitherto warring political parties promote an impression of perpetual political harmony.

"Politics have become about as interesting as a soccer match without a ball," complained *Der Spiegel* magazine last week.

The situation has become so dire that current affairs programmes have taken a leaf out of BBC *Question Time*'s book and invited comedians to appear as guests, instead of politicians.

Last week, the comedian Harald Schmidt provoked hoots of laughter when he berated politicians on Sabine Christiansen's peak-time debating programme.

"It is quite clear the electorate is not interested in political concepts," Mr Schmidt said to chuckles from the audience of MPs and guests. "Voters don't want any argument, they just want to be left in peace."

The offending politicians include MPs drawn from both main political parties and even Mrs Merkel. Television talk show hosts have concluded that although she may still be popular with voters, Mrs Merkel's staid brand of politics, through which she aims to cure Germany's ills "by small steps", is a wet blanket in viewing terms. The non-combative approach has rubbed off on MPs from both main parties, including politicians once renowned for their outspokenness.

The malaise often drives exasperated television hosts to make sarcastic comments to government MPs appearing on their shows.

With unemployment at record levels a senior conservative enlightened viewers on the political chat show *Berlin Mitte* with the observation: "We have to make sure there are more jobs in Germany."

That is absolutely correct," responded the host, adding: "We have broadcast about 200 programmes on this subject."

Source: *The Sunday Telegraph*, 11 June 2006

Fragen

- Worum geht es hier?
- Warum ist das Interesse der Bevölkerung an politischen Fernsehsendungen gesunken?
- Welche besonderen Bedingungen machen die Politik unter Merkels Regierung langweilig?
- Wie versuchen TV-Produzenten, politische Sendungen wieder interessanter zu machen?
- Halten Sie eine „große Koalition“ für eine gute Form der Regierung? Warum (nicht)?

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Text C

Health Issues

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Fragen

- Worum geht es hier?
- Was ist das Ziel der Kampagne?
- Warum sind deutsche Beschäftigte besonders gestresst?
- Wie war die Reaktion der Bahnfahrer auf diese Kampagne?
- Wie könnte man Ihrer Meinung nach das Arbeitsleben weniger stressig machen?

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Text D

Crime and Punishment

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Fragen

- Worum geht es hier?
- Warum brauchten die Rentner das Geld so dringend?
- Mit welchen Schwierigkeiten hatten die ältlichen Bankräuber zu kämpfen?
- Wie wurde dieser Fall in der Öffentlichkeit beurteilt?
- Meinen Sie, dass alte, arme oder kranke Verbrecher eine mildere Strafe bekommen sollten? Warum (nicht)?

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Text E

Science and Technology

Simple new phones help to keep elderly mobile

From **Kate Connelly** in Berlin

Elderly Germans can now buy telephones with features specially adapted for their needs, among them “childlike simplicity” and instant connection to a medical call centre.

The new models do not send text messages, take photographs or download ring tones. Instead they offer functions slightly more relevant to the autumn years, such as on-the-spot cardiograms or GPS navigation to plot their location if, say, grandpa or granny get lost.

One, the Vitaphone 1100, is an elderly technophobe’s dream, having just three buttons. The red one connects the owner to a medical centre with doctors ready to deliver instant diagnosis by telephone or send ambulances to the rescue. “Green” and “yellow” can be programmed to dial two emergency numbers, a favourite daughter or the family doctor, for example.

According to Benjamin Homberg of Vitaphone lives have already been saved by the cardiogram telephone, known as the “*Herz Handy*”. “Emergency calls have been received from people with suspected heart problems. In four cases they were heart attacks, in three cases life-threatening irregular heart rhythms. We even had a man climbing on Mont Blanc who had to be rushed to hospital after an ECG showed things were not looking good.”

Telephones held close to the heart send signals and the precise satellite position of the patient back to the medical centre in Chemnitz, eastern Germany, where doctors assess the problem. They have so far proved very popular with people recovering from heart attacks or surgery. “Your doctor tells you to go out and exercise every day, but most people find this is a scary prospect, and are reluctant to go further than the bottom of the garden,” said Mr Homberg. “Now they have much more freedom.”

The telephones were launched in Hanover at the CeBIT technology fair. Priced at around €90, the 1100 is currently sold on a trial basis in selected chemists across Germany.



24-hour medical service centre

Programmable buttons for vital numbers, such as a family doctor and a relative

Source: *The Daily Telegraph*, 15 March 2005

Fragen

- Worum geht es hier?
- Was macht diese Mobiltelefone besonders bei alten Leuten beliebt?
- Warum verdient das Telefon den Namen „Herz Handy“?
- Für wen sind diese Handys besonders gut geeignet, und warum?
- Wie denken Sie über die Verbreitung neuer Technologie-Formen wie Handys?

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Text F

Distribution of Wealth

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Fragen

- Worum geht es hier?
- Was ist das Besondere daran, dass Georg Dewas in diesem Hotel arbeitet?
- Wer waren die ersten Gastarbeiter?
- Warum arbeiten jetzt so viele Deutsche in Österreich und in der Schweiz?
- Wie denken Sie über Menschen, die eine Beschäftigung im Ausland suchen, um mehr Geld zu verdienen?