



Pearson

Examiner's Report Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2018

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Japanese (5JA01_01) Paper 1
Listening & Understanding in Japanese

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Introduction

Candidates appeared to have been well prepared for this question paper by their teachers. The only aspect that appeared hard was question 9, where candidates had to answer questions in English. Presumably it was hard to pick out the relevant information from relatively long passages.

Detailed comments on each question

Most candidates got off to a good start with question 1; presumably as food is a topic they have studied often in class and is very familiar.

Question 2 was set in a business context, and candidates had to capture key information in a chart. Many candidates seemed to find “futatsu” difficult, and candidates could do with more practice on numbers in general, and tsu numbers in particular.

Continuing with the theme of numbers, question 3 (ii) also proved difficult, as did (iii).

Question 4 was again on a familiar topic of school and school subjects. This question type will continue to appear on the new GCSE paper, and so it will be worth candidates continuing to practice and be familiar with it. A similar comment applies to question 7.

Question 5 required candidates to match a type of holiday with a description of a holiday – again, this type of inferential question will feature strongly on the new GCSE and candidates should continue to practice these kinds of questions.

Question 6 required candidates to jot down key information from an emergency radio broadcast. (a) was the hardest, with many candidates guessing “electricity” or “gas”.

Question 8 dealt with a lost kitten. Many candidates struggled to match “あまり元気がないですね” with the inference “quiet”.

Candidates found question 9 hard, and there were many totally blank responses, which was disappointing. Candidates are encouraged to try every question on the exam paper, however hard they find it. (b) (i) which asked for different ways in which Lily was disappointed with the programme was particularly hard, with many candidates muddling up 四月 and 七月. Some candidates guessed (b) (ii) from the key words “university” and “boyfriend”.

Advice

1. Candidates should attempt all of the paper.
2. Candidates should continue to practice the question types which will appear on the new listening examination.
3. Candidates should practice inference and summary questions.