



Examiners' Report June 2012

GCE German 6GN04 01



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Introduction

In this paper the candidates are required to answer questions in three different sections.

Question 1. A translation into German.

Question 2. A creative or discursive essay in German.

Question 3. A research-based essay in German.

Candidates are free to organise the time as they wish, although it should be remembered that the second and third questions are worth 90% of the marks available.

Under the mark scheme there is a maximum of 100 marks.

10 marks are awarded for the translation.

45 marks are awarded for the language essay. 10 marks for range of language, 5 marks for accuracy, 15 marks for understanding and response and 15 marks for organisation and development.

45 marks are awarded for the research-based essay. 30 marks for reading, research and understanding, 9 marks for organisation and development and 6 marks for quality of language.

The paper is marked positively, using the criteria and the mark scheme published in the specification.

The translation produced results similar to those in the previous year. The marks of 0 or 10 were rare although both did occur.

The creative essay option was chosen by many candidates who seemed to be native German speakers. Option 2a was a popular choice among candidates and 2c was the least popular.

The discursive essay produced a wide range of responses, 2d and 2g being the most popular. Most showed some or much knowledge of the topic and remembered to structure the essay correctly. It should be noted that a discursive essay should cover both sides of the argument in a balanced way. Essays which only discuss one side of the argument can only score a maximum of 9 for Response. It is also not considered appropriate to include the personal viewpoint as part of the introduction. This should be given once the two sides of the argument have been discussed.

The most popular choice for the research-based essay was once again Literature and Arts, followed by Geography, History and Modern society. It must be noted that answers must be rooted in German society, essays which do not, will fail to score a mark.

This year in the geography option, chosen regions included London, Singapore and Peking. One modern society essay was about the emancipation of women at the turn of the 19th century. Rejected books included *About a Boy*, *Twilight* and a book by a Spanish author. Films which could not be accepted included *Schindler's List* and *The Reader*. It should be remembered that the latter, although based on a German novel and with a German co-production, was produced in English. Only films originally made in German are acceptable. The opposite applies to the book *The Wave*, an American publication, although the film *Die Welle* is appropriate.

Centres must note that is a requirement of the specification that candidates should only choose German language films or books as well as German-speaking regions. The definition of modern German society is post 1990.

It should be noted that answers must be rooted in German Society; essays which are not, will fail to score marks.

The following report, looking at each individual question, is intended to help centres to prepare for the examination in 2013.

Question 1

All candidates attempt this question, which tests the knowledge and understanding of German grammar and the range of known vocabulary. This year the translation was based on the problems of the homeless.

The translation is divided into 30 sections, which are given 1 mark each. This mark is then divided by 3 to give a final mark out of 10. Some sections are quite demanding, whilst others are straightforward. This is done intentionally so that all abilities can score in this question.

- 1. Here there were quite a lot of incorrect versions. In most cases *Der* was omitted. By far the most common answer was *Winter ist.*
- 2. This was often well-answered, although many wrote *schwerige*.
- 3. Some incorrect spelling here including *besonderes* and *besondere* and also *sehr* was quite common.
- 4. Many candidates scored the point. Common errors included: *für viele Obdachlosen* and *Heimatlose* or *Heimlose*.
- 5. Virtually all candidates scored here, although several did write *im Berlin*.
- 6. *Jugendliche* was the most common answer; a few lost the mark for *Jugendlichen* without the definite article, also acceptable were *junge Menschen*, *junge Leute* etc.
- 7. Only the strongest candidates scored this mark. Several wrote wessen.
- 8. *sich kümmern um* was the most commonly-used verb and many candidates were unsuccessful with word order here.
- 9. There were many good answers but also many *nicht länger* and also a few *nicht mehr länger*.
- 10. Some candidates gave the wrong preposition eg. *für sie* instead of *um sie*.
- 11. This was often well-answered, although a number missed the umlaut in *müssen* and *schlaffen* was quite common.
- 12. auf der Strasse was fairly common and also in den ...
- 13. Some candidates did not know *Hauptstadt* and wrote *Kapital* instead. *deutschen* was sometimes written with a capital D.
- 14. This was often well-answered as in the scheme, although a number of candidates failed to manipulate the word order successfully.
- 15. Most candidates knew *gefährlich* and many *sein. Extrem* proved a challenge for many, who usually answered *sehr*, so losing the mark.
- 16. This was one of the points answered most successfully. A few lost the mark for *Jan, wer* and even *Jan, die.*
- 17. Examiners saw quite a number of answers in the past tense eg. *gelebt hat,* and *wohnt* was quite common.
- 18. Usually well-answered, although several put *im Park* and *in dem Park*. This is a translation, so *in* **einem** *Park* is essential.
- 19. *für zehn Jahre* was fairly common here and also a few *zeit zehn Jahren*. The number as a digit was also common.

- 20. The stronger candidates were able to score here. Common mistakes included *würde angegriffen*. There were a few *wurde geschlagen*. The imperfect passive was more common than the perfect passive.
- 21. Many good answers here, although also quite a few zweimals and zwei mal.
- 22. Weaker candidates were able to score here and most did.
- 23. *bleiben* was the most common error here. *Wohnen* was quite uncommon with quite a few *übernachten*.
- 24. This was often well answered, *Hostel* and *Jugendherberge* were the most common answers from apparently non-native speakers. *billigen* was more common than *preiswerten*.
- 25. This was usually answered successfully, even by weaker candidates.
- 26. Here weaker candidates were able to score the point.
- 27. *bekommt* was fairly common and did not score the point. *Leider* was often known.
- 28. The most common error here was adding the s to *Euro*. There were also a few *Paar* and several *wenige*.
- 29. This proved challenging for all but the most able candidates. Many did not know *indem*. Many wrote *beim Verkauf* and *mit dem Verkauf*. There were quite a few successful uses of *durch das Verkaufen*... or *durch den Verkauf*...
- 30. Some candidates did have difficulty here. There were frequent references to *Metro* and *Untergrund*. A few also wrote *an der U-Bahn Station*.

This is an example of a translation which scored full marks; however, the candidate was unable to translate *in der U-Bahn*.

SECTION A : TRANSLATION

Question 1

Translate the following passage into German.

Winter is an especially difficult time for the many homeless in Berlin. Youngsters whose parents can no longer care for them have to sleep on the streets of the German capital. However, it can be extremely dangerous there. Jan, who has been living in a park for ten years, has been attacked twice. He would like to stay in a cheap hostel if he had enough money. Unfortunately he earns just a few euros by selling newspapers on the underground.

die SC 4 0 l alos 20 0 hren 10 α 0 111 Q CIN UC paar INGM

Results Plus Examiner Comments This is a very good piece of work. All elements have been covered and the work translated directly.



Make sure you translate and do not transfer the meaning. Even changing *the* into *a* will lose the mark. Here is a further example of an essay to gain full marks.

SECTION A : TRANSLATION

Question 1

Translate the following passage into German.

Winter is an especially difficult time for the many homeless in Berlin. Youngsters whose parents can no longer care for them have to sleep on the streets of the German capital. However, it can be extremely dangerous there. Jan, who has been living in a park for ten years, has been attacked twice. He would like to stay in a cheap hostel if he had enough money. Unfortunately he earns just a few euros by selling newspapers on the underground.

schulena text eine besondem IAL linem es als en DAAN EUNY. Lutungen verkautt



The candidate here has managed to get all of the grammatical structures being tested correct, such as *indem*, the relative pronoun, a passive construction and a subjunctive. We can see that this candidate is probably not a native German speaker because of the wrong use of *bleiben*.



Think about which grammatical structures the examiner may be trying to test.

Question 2(a)

This was the most popular of the creative essays. It required the candidate to write a reasonably plausible essay based on a picture of a tram in a city, with the phrase *An unforgettable tram journey begins*. It is necessary to focus on the stimulus in order to gain the best marks. The best answers described an adventure on the tram, such as the birth of a baby or, as is often the case with these essays, a robbery! Less likely to score well were essays where the tram was merely the transport to somewhere else or were clearly not exciting enough to be *unvergesslich*. Adventures on the S-Bahn or on a train were accepted.

Chosen question number: Question 2 (a) Question 2 (b) X Question 2 (c) Question 2 (d) Question 2 (e) Question 2 (f) Question 2 (g) unvergessliche Sta Straßenbahnfahrt tine beginnt" - das hatte unser Lehrer gesaat als wir in die Staßenbahn einstegen richtig totler toller Klassenfing sollte das Werden Ab 24 Lehrer, Herr Kebler, nörke der De so qui we Benbahn42 Te 17 HLASSE Serer hatter natter ist er ren prompt jskunstlautbahn 24 10 sich 01024 entschiede 62 Lebens geben In dem er einen Aushig StaBer bahn der mit nanm. Na toh waren führen Wr

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und damit war er auch der Enrige alle anderen in meiner Klassen schienen sich genauso zu fühlen nie ich-gelangweilt! 2ª Wir fuhren an einer einigen allen Repauden vorbei und Herr Kebler blakerte nur so vor sich hinzwe schön die Aussicht doch so sei? Jannick bloß nicht das Thoma 101 aBenverhehr autgebrach dann wären t in dieser on dann ett nich iOn nstlauf rekt auf WIT der bahn und hatten alle mega & Na ja "hätte", kann man jetzt SOWWOO nicht mehr ändern. "Okay, Kinder macht euch bereit wir steigen gleich NO aus, und dann können wir alle alle ein Eis essen gehen" Das war Herr Keplers Stimme, was dentition we all wir sind? Fr redet so als ob wir waren, sind wir aber nicht wir Jahrige sechuhn bis siebrenn Jahre alle ngger, dos sollte ersich mol in den

Kopf Kiriegen!

299 words



This essay concentrates less on the actual tram journey and more on the attitude of the writer to his teacher towards tram rides. It is acceptable because it mentions a tram journey, but it would seem more likely from the content that the writer would forget it, than the opposite!



Make sure that you make full use of the stimulus and do not simply make the picture or the instructions a side element of the essay.

Question 2(b)

This question required the candidate to create a story based on a border crossing and a bridge. The stimulus suggests a possible escape from another country but this did not have to be the case. The majority wrote about escaping from a former eastern European country or set it in the Second World War.

Essays which did not mention a frontier or a bridge were considered to have only partly understood the stimulus and consequently lost marks for response.

This is a very good example of an essay based on this stimulus. It uses a wide range of appropriate vocabulary and adheres firmly to the stimulus.

Chosen guestion number: Question 2 (a) Question 2 (b) Question 2 (c) \times **Question 2 (d)** \mathbb{Z} Question 2 (e) 🛛 🖂 Question 2 (f) 5 Question 2 (g) In des Nacht hiefen wir durch den Wald in Richmang Girchize Dann Jahen wir die Brücke. Mix Stockle der Atem. Ich merkte wie mein Herz and the should be und should be anner schneller states zu schlagen begann - the title the de the deser so sch dass ich Schwiengkeiten thing the durche Dickicht zu schleichen. Ich setzte mich einen Moment lang auf einen Bannstnmpt. Das Letzte Mal als ich mich so fühlk, war während des Kreges als meine Familie und ich in letere Sekunde vor den Nazis fhächten Konnten. Zwar begrift ich In the dieser Zeit noch wicht in was fir einer Gelahr wir uns befanden, doch der Another and dan & versteinste Ansdmick dery Besichtun meiner Eltern the Freepon gab mir zu verstehen das es um unser Leben ging.

So muss ich whil gette anch gerade ansrehen", dachte ich als Paul mir mit seinen m under Elle getänden starken Händen and die Schulter Eloptie, and theater the miker a berov ex hell winds, mir in die Angen bliekte und fhitterte: " Wir mussen weiter - bevor es hellwird !" to metter Ich mekte med flogtte ihm in Richhung Bricke. Die Bricke war nicht mehr weit entfernt Wir Konnten das Gelächter der Grenzsoldaten schon hören, the the ter theme the Es horke sich genanso is wind abtaining an wie das des Natis menter wie there there file zine ctranica , Was fir sine tranic : Egget Mall - Egal! - Heiter!" Herete bot Sant Still And & Burgen Hack Hinner and toppe quarter times " Attasterk er and setter Chicking brancheter. Almählich made wurde das g Gelächter immer lanter, thematicanchostic unan Sie feierten Minn Geburtstags, the affection wie es uns gesagt wurde So überzengt ich am Morgen nach gewesen the ties bin dass dies der tit & nichtige Angenblick ist um es En swagen, 10 more überkamus mich unn totte der Envifel attack of gibt chin and make

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Zo Meter and der Brücke als plattick Scheinwerks erdenteten und since Sirene die Nacht anfwerten Zu schien titter et and tak min lanator the for andithem Hine han who Z - Und mich!



exciting and well-written. It also mentions the major points of the border and the bridge.



Keep carefully to the stimulus. Make such an essay exciting to read without becoming too unbelievable!

Question 2(c)

This question was the least popular of all those available in this section. The candidates were expected to produce a newspaper article discussing the pros and cons of building new hotel rooms in the German Alps.

The few who chose this question produced generally good responses, although the major error was to forget to use the type of language to be found in a newspaper article.

Some other responses were more like a discursive essay or a one-sided response.

This is an average response with some good points. The two sides of the argument could perhaps have been made by imaginary interviews with the mayor or environmental activists.

Chosen question number:	
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Question 2 (d)Image: Question 2 (e)Image: Question 2 (f)	—
Question 2 (g)	
Demonstration gegen den Bau von neven Holels!	
In Garmisch haben letztens Umweltgruppen gegen den	
Bau von zwanzig neven Holels in den Alpen demonstriert	
Sie meinen das der Bau von neuen Hotels, utgute die	
wunderschöne Landschaft um den Alpen zerstämmund	
es wird auch nicht mehr natürlich aussenen Neue	
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sehr Berühmler Tourislenort ist. Die zunermende Anzahl	
von Touristen würde das leben von den Bewohnern	
uerschlechtern Auch wurde wird der Bau der reuen	
Holels hohe Koslen haben die in Willionen und Hilliarden	
gehen könnte. Dieses Rastaare geld könnte benutizt werden	
um die Natur und die Alpen zu schützen, anstatt sie	
zu beschädigen. Einerseits wird oft von Polihikarn gezigt,	
das man das Geld gebauchen kann und viele	

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Bayern # hat ihren meisen Tourismus im Winer zwischen Okhoer und Yärz und viele leule buchen lieber Ferienhäuser anstall Holes. Wenn neue Holes geboutwerden, wird der Platz für Skifahren und andere Freizeitaluhultäten geringer

Hillgmain hat haben die vielen Umweltgruppen viele, gule Gründe gegen den Bau von neven Tauristenholels in Bayern die deren nach unnöhig ung und Geld veschwändig sind. Die Gruppen protesheren gegen den Bau, da es die Notur und Umwelt zeiste beachaeigen kann. Die Holels sind auch unnötig für Garmisch

> (25119Wörter) (259 Wörter)



This response covers the appropriate points concerning the building of the hotels but is not written in the correct register. It may have been possible to imagine brief interviews with those involved.



If you choose this question it needs to be written as a newspaper article.

Question 2(d)

Some candidates seemed so surprised that anyone might suggest that there should be no sports in school, that they forgot to consider the possible arguments for this stance. Often, there was no introduction but an impassioned plea for sports lessons. Some candidates, who wanted to write a balanced essay, found it difficult to find arguments against sports in schools.

There were a few candidates who showed some imagination in their response: sports should be compulsory only in primary schools but there should be voluntary clubs in secondary schools/ young people should practise after school where they can choose which sports they want to do rather having to play the teachers' favourite games, netball and football, all the time/ as there are so many overweight people around it would be more important to use the time to teach youngsters how to cook and eat healthily. There are indeed many arguments against sport in schools which can be considered.

Remember not to write your personal opinion as part of the introduction.

Question 2(e)

Candidates answering this question were expected to produce a balanced argument as to whether the United Kingdom should remain a member of the European Union.

Generally speaking, the more able candidates chose this question and it was probably the least popular of the discursive essay options.

There were some highly-informed essays on Europe, although some were rather superficial. Interestingly, all apart from one decided that Britain should remain a member of the EU.

This essay shows that the candidate has clearly thought about the pros and cons of the United Kingdom being part of the European Union and discussed them in a very balanced fashion.

	number:				
Question 2 (a)	×	Question 2 (b)	×	Question 2 (c)	\times
Question 2 (d)	\boxtimes	Question 2 (e)	\times	Question 2 (f)	×
Question 2 (g)					
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Problem Einwandering ist Da wir Mitglied der EU sind, müssen wir
erlauben, Ausländer in & unserem Land zu Arbeiten Viele
9

sich beschweren, dass die Ausländer Arbeitsplatze ven fleißigen englischen
Arbeiten stehlen. Sie sagen, dass wenn se die Auslerder nicht kämen.
würden sie ein Jab haben. Die Arkeitslosigheit ist ein inner
großendes Problem in Großbrittannien, und glasten marche Leute
glauber, dass wir der EU verlassen soller, um dieses Problem zu liämpter.
In Großen und Grunzen gibt die EU wis weten nicht
nur Vorteile, sundern auch Nachteile, aber meiner Meining nach sollten
eie abgewogen werden, und ich glaube, dass wir mitglied
der EU bleiben soller, uns die Vertile, wie mehr Expete, noch
zu ziehen



This candidate has written a very good response to this question. Both sides are discussed after a very good introduction. There is also a very appropriate conclusion to finish.



This response can be used as a template for what is expected. Try to use phrases to link ideas but not to excess. This essay again shows an example of some of the really excellent work produced for this question this year.

Chosen question	number:				
Question 2 (a)	×	uestion 2 (b)	\boxtimes	Question 2 (c)	
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beifen müssen, besonders wenn bis über die Ohren Verschuldersind, heifen seuten, besonders wenn

uns rissige Staatescohulden dreien, Ibrer Ansicht nach,

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Regierung Niche mehr gezusingen sein, Geld dem

Euro-Renungeschirm beizusteuern. Darüberhindus ise 30

der Zustrom von europäischen Arbeitern das Abstraffen der Grenzkonstollen Leilweise eine Ursache

UNSETE

für die immerhicher werdende Arbeitswenquoce, Momenton

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dieses Addien in Keim zuerstichen some Großbritennies

norig.

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Dies sind jedoch vorrangig Scheinargumente. Da aue

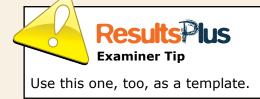
Handerschranken zwischen to Mitgliedstaaten abgebaut

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angekurbert worden Seeheig Sechzig Prozent unserer

Exportative werden nach Europa verwauft, van denen 3,5 Millionen Arbeitsstellen abringig sind. Wenn wir nicht Mehr Milgued wären, winde Verlären wir zahlreiche Arbeitsstellen, was beeinträchtigende Wirkungen auf das Leben vieler ergäbe. Zusiazuch darf man nicht Vergessen, dass britische Verbraucher de Nutzen aus dem Ziehen erhöhten Wettbewerb zwischen Firmen für den Marktanteil, da sich daraus niedrigere Preise und Verbesserre Qualitär ware die ergibe. Ohne die EU Ferduerer Auswohn für Verbraucher Seringer

Zusammenfassend binich mir ganz sicher, dass unsere Are EU-Mitguedechaft unsallen zu Gute Kommit, undere und diesen Come misses with Mitglied breises. Ohne die den Binnenmarke erleben wir langeomere wireschaftwochseumeraten größere und eine soger größeren Arbeitslesenrate Durch unsere Handelsbeziehungen mit Europa ziehen wir außer Zweifer riesige Vorwille aus der Mingliedschaft **Pesults Plus Examiner Comments** This is another excellent well-balanced essay.



Question 2(f)

The candidates here had to write a balanced essay considering whether nuclear energy is likely to be an important contributor to our energy supplies in the future.

Most people who chose this essay had a good or even very good idea about this topic. There were some mature arguments for and against nuclear energy, highlighting the advantages and problems and evaluating them against renewable energy sources and/or fossil fuels.

Question 2(g)

Candidates were expected to write an essay about whether abortion can ever be justified. This main point was often missed and the essay was simply for and against abortion without answering this specific question.

This was probably the most popular discursive essay.

Like the sports question, this produced a lot of personal opinions and emotional responses. There were many *glaube ich* and *meiner Meinung nach* throughout some essays, so all of it sounded as if it were the conclusion. One essay started: *Nach meiner Meinung finde ich*, *dass man Abtreibung niemals rechtfertigen kann und ich bin dieser Meinung weil ich der Meinung bin das nur God das Leben gibt und nur er nehmen darf.*

Many essays were either biased or considered the other stance only briefly.

Most candidates felt that abortion should be allowed even if only in certain circumstances. There were some good essays here, too, but weaker candidates chose either this question or 2(d).

Question 3(a)

This question required the candidates to write about the importance of the geographical position of the chosen region. Unfortunately, it is not sufficient to write a 'tourist brochure' which often fails to address the question and leads the examiner to suspect that the candidate has actually done very little research before sitting the examination.

Once again, there were problems with the chosen region not being German-speaking. Acceptable countries and regions would be Germany, Austria, the German-speaking cantons of Switzerland, Luxemburg and Liechtenstein plus Suedtirol, Alsace or the European region of Belgium. Historically German-speaking regions such as Ostpreussen or Oberschlesian now in Poland should not be chosen.

It is often considered that this is an easy option compared with the Literature and the Arts. This is far from the case and this question shows that a wide knowledge of the area is expected. This topic is studied over a long period of time and thus it is considered appropriate to expect candidates to have acquired such detailed knowledge.

The best answers were able to explain why geographical features such as mountains or rivers were important, valleys suitable for the construction of railways or roads, the confluences of rivers or the presence of much forest suitable for recreation or industry. The presence of coal and the establishment of industry was also mentioned.

Weaker candidates often wrote some very basic factual inaccuracies, such as Berlin being in southern Germany and Bavaria being a city. Some candidates seemed to believe that London is a German-speaking city!

This is a very good example of an essay on this topic which shows a wide knowledge of the region. It includes facts and statistics which are not simply mentioned out of context but support the idea that the development of the city is due to its geographical position.

Chosen question number: Question 3 (a) 8 Question 3 (b) Question 3 (c) Question 3 (d) Klapenfirt am Worthersee Gept im Fendrum des Klaphfurter Becklens in Osterrach. Es Crstrecht rord - sudlicher ost und unfasst das pesante Ostufer Kichtunp und Die Stadt liegt 450 m über Ible Herri Worther sees. leerenspiegel, wobe der hobste mit 1022 m und der tiefske Gurkerbrücke mit 420 m ist. Der Underprund de sestertaus eiszeitlichen Schotter. Es herrscht en penasipt kontinentales Klima min auch Jahrestemperatur von 7.7° Celsius. Grange sehr wenig Wind durch die Klapenfurt Karawanken Geolonden der Stadt Besonders wichtig ist die Kape Einwohner, die mit Tourismus ihr peld verdie Tourismus ist auch ener der proBten Wirt. Bahtores, da de stadt durch die ONK Sthen Seen, Bergen und Auflugsorte hann. Es pibt auch schr viele ver schiedene Berife, die durch die Nahe freien Natur auspendt worden honnes. macht auch Stadt ProBlas einen sehr Glwinn den væschieden Wintersportarten da nor en halte stunde vom machsten Shipebict entfernd

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in CART Putter Schr Einwohner viele leblo stadt di enfach Cable 50 , r, el 5, cAtt.



This essay would achieve a very high mark. It addresses the question fully and discusses how important the geographical position of the city is. Transport, tourism, physical geography etc are all very relevant here.



Be sure to research fully and address the whole question. Never write a tourist leaflet!

This essay, in contrast, shows very little evidence of research or background reading. It is likely that the chosen town is too small to be appropriate for this examination. There are no statistics used to support the work and very little evaluation is evident.

Chosen question number: Question 3 (a) Question 3 (b) Question 3 (c) Question 3 (d) X bachtelbe 10h 210 $\left(0,00\right)$ OTTOS lorn nío 0.501 Ono (10M IVISE, weble 101 semands 0 0 Ìſ 010 Incl rince 0109 120) rheir ung uch 1 la sten Schlam pordlich , doch immenna N îSt 1040n UON 10×0.1 in ŊΥ en mit r loinos SON 00 daher MUGY einen airekten 200 Inno 10000 UDDPN AIDO aum mt $\Delta \alpha$ UDOD onst \$ OY Oin 71 nari 1V Minuden LIVI Х nachar ISt, 12 UONWO ON (314 lahren along Buslinion dom 101 hann main den -poclo man and in 4 Winder hnhof HLIV na erreidon. 20 C 10KO 000 (9) dor 0 nonm 0 10001 XQI 01 4 . 1. . Unlaw ala

	schoner Familienory da vielos große
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	spielplatze winanden sind. Esta gibt
	doit beine Wohnungen, sondern nur
	große Einfamilienhäuser nit immereinen
1	E ange anliegendem Garten.

Results Plus Examiner Comments

This essay will not score as highly as the previous one. It is too factual and the candidate does not address fully the importance of the geographical position for the people. Ideas are very few and this is mostly simple factual information. Background reading would not have been needed to produce this.



Be sure to address the evaluative element of the question. Also be sure to choose a city or region big enough to require detailed research.

Question 3(b)

This question required the candidates to discuss the changes in every-day life for the people in the period of history chosen.

The majority of candidates chose a period in the 20th century, which gave many opportunities to exploit this question. The better essays described in detail how life changed for example between January 1933, when the Nazis came into power, 1935 and the introduction of the Nuremberg Laws. Another period would be between November 1989 and the turn of the decade.

Some essays tried to cover too wide a period which did not allow for more than a superficial response, whereas others did not focus significantly on the *Alltagsleben*.

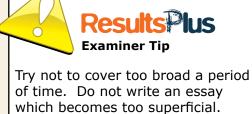
Although the vast majority chose a period in the 20th century, there were some good essays on the reformation and German unification in 1871.

This essay chooses to write about the changes which occurred in the GDR. The essay title is a little too ambitious and the candidate has tried to cover too much in the answer. It would have been better to have covered a shorter period of time, possibly the period around August 1961.

in Jahre & FAA gegründet wurde, Als dei ein neues Lard Sil war die Weidervereinique und Alltagskultur Wichtig ster entwickelt, Vie Ereignis es zur unzählige Veran Mauerban, da war herbeigenihrt Fördering eine UUR-Identität 691 Ulbricht (Sozialistische Einheitspartei 5E11 Selector der ZU 50 Wocke ermi da VA16R.562 wirde witte Kahren Menschevechte Μ hatte beson nacl au CIR gesagt wide Kampj dik treiheit UM Mach NW

Manerban just alle Minschurrechte wie Reisepreiheit und Meiningsprecheit eingeschränkt wurden, Dies zeigt uns dass die SED alles willig be konkollinien Wollte. 1951 wurde eine Kanwirtschaft eingezührt aber rach dem Manelban hatte withsomer weder. Lebensadwerligheiter wurder subvertiniert, also viel Sie 18% so vill in der DDR als in Wester, Huch kosteten Muter NU Kindergartenplätze nur 5% die these in der BRD, Dies kosteter dass Francis abeiter Konnte hatte, bedeutet was did ermutiat große Teil Arbeit 1/1/2 - Alltagsk eire de War, Vil die îst gezerat durch dass he 1989 Ostdu abeste der Frahen in in Thoughna tinger traver abeitete Westdewischen 50% (in Vergleich zu wenner als Ette Westlichen Franks alle Verändering in dem DDR-Alltagsteben Fast entebliche Keaierma durch Sind passiert Wegen 65 06 Wünsten der Berline Maner Selvepär beeighest wurde - Walter Ulbricht über seine Oportpolitik in "die Welt" 2 - Hans Schröder - 1976 Zeituna Sich *Wenn die Mauer nicht errichtet worden hätte die Fluchtbewegung WarR, nur verschlechtert, und die Stas: wuede weniger Macht haben **Examiner Comments**

Que This is clearly a good period to choose to answer this question. The essay has some good statistical information to support the points made and shows good research. It does, however, tend to jump around a little and lacks a certain amount of organisation.



Candidates were expected to choose a social event in modern German-speaking society, which has had an influence on society.

This was, without doubt, the least popular option. Once again, this year some candidates chose events which were not appropriate, for example events which took place at the beginning of the 19th century or even general topics such as abortion. The latter, of course, just became a discursive essay and failed to score as it did not begin to answer the question. However, examiners will try to match responses to the questions as far as possible.

The most popular choices were based on the European Football Championships in Austria and Switzerland or the World Cup in Germany. Examiners did expect essays on the social changes caused by immigration or the effect of rising unemployment in the ex GDR. These were few and far between.

Question 3(d)

Candidates who chose this question were expected to discuss the development of one character from their chosen book, film or play. Many did this very well, although the weaker candidates simply told the story.

The most popular works offered wide opportunities to choose characters with an interesting development, such as Wiesler in *Das Leben der Anderen*, Ill in *Der Besuch der alten Dame*, Alex in *Good Bye Lenin*, Tim in *Die Welle* or Michael in *Der Vorleser*.

The literature essays were mainly on *Der Besuch der alten Dame* or *Der Vorleser*. There were a few on *Ich fühl mich so fifty-fifty* and just one or two on the following: *Andorra, Der Richter und sein Henker, Das Versprechen, Die verlorene Ehre der Katharina Blum, Damals war es Friedrich, Die Verwandlung,* and *Die Entdeckung der Currywurst.* However, most essays were on *Good Bye Lenin* or *Das Leben der Anderen*. A few were about the film *Die Welle* or *Sophie Scholl.*

On the whole, candidates writing about *Das Leben der Anderen* were better informed about the meaning of their film than those who had chosen *Good Bye Lenin*. There is humour and irony in *Good Bye Lenin* but as the question was about development it was possibly easier to show this using Wiesler rather than Alex. Some people used Christiane Kerner as the person who developed most, which was not a good idea unless they followed her development since before her husband had left.

In *Der Besuch der alten Dame* some chose the Bürgermeister and many wrote a very good essay. Others thought Claire had developed a lot but this only works if they take her past into account, as she does not develop between her arrival and the end of the play. There were a few good and even very good essays on Ill and one fairly successful one about the development of the Güllener. On the other hand, some resorted to telling the story rather than answering the questions.

Der Vorleser produced a variety of essays but mainly good answers and even one or two excellent ones, both on Michael and Hanna.

There was a number of good essays on *Die Welle*, other works' success being mixed.

This essay is written about the book About a boy!

Auf sak men werde 104 Sch geh dor 2US anne 251 **Examiner Tip Examiner Comments** Never ever choose a book or film not This essay would unfortunately not score originally written or produced in German! anything as it is based on an English novel.

Here is a good response to the question based on *Der Besuch der alten Dame* and the character Ill.

Das Personenverzeichnis zeigt, dass III einer der Hauptfiguren dieses stückes ist. wie entwickelt sich III? Und wie wichtig ist Ills Entwicklung un werk? -3 Am Anfang ist Ill ein miese Charakter. Vor 45 Jahren hat III claire fallengelassen, un Mathude und and zu heuraten. Er hat auch legale schuld, da er im aericht gelogen hat, und seine Zeugen mit Alkohol Kestochen Er denkt, dass zeit seine schuid entfernt hat und it bereit claure wieder zu vewaten "-die hab ich und melken " die hab ich im Sack . 78 missachten In AK2 missachter Fil die Wahrheit. Fil unterschätzt die Güllener und denkt, dass sie ihn nicht für aeld venaten würden. Jedach längsamer fängt an III an langsamer wahrzunehmen au er Symbole mi die neue verrat-symbole me die neue aelke is Schuhe" sehen. Dann sehen die Zuschauer FIV Verzweiflung, besonders in der Bahnhofsszene, wo er einen Zusammente Korpenich und geistig Zusammenbruch hat. Rie Bahnhofsszene ist Ills wendepunkt. Er bigennt durch einen katharsis prozess zu gehen, und seine schuld da er realisient, dass er von seine schuld und nicht 168 Verantwa entgehen Kann.

Am Ende des stückes im the parties area areandere. En hat^{III}emen Rollentauch mit die cüllener. Er 14 immer noch shabbig gekleidet, während der aüllener geplegte ideidung tragen. Jedoch innerlich in ersehr politike under eht. madre der zweite asmander acmandereramining in or gefassi und ruhig to kannte meder , Catt schner , some !! nicht schneren in agentalz - die oüllener, die 229.1 -alles was ni sagen mederhalen köhnen to konnte , cott!" nicht wieder schreien, im agensatz die aullener, die medenden aues wederholen Können. Ells Hallwing in diese Szene

akceptiert hat and it bereit dafte seene shuld nit seinem Leben zu zahlen.

Dürrenmatt demonstriert Tils Veränderung in der zweite a<u>enneunde</u> ve aemeinderersammlung. Ell könnte "Cott!" nicht weder schreien und int totel gefasst und ruhig. Ills Haltung in diese Szene interstreicht, wie er seine schuid ahzeprier hat und int kereit seine schuid mit reinem Leben zu zahlen.

IIIs Entwicklung ist withtig da E Dürkenmatts Eotschaft über Verantworkungen und nuchgen Menschen Letont EH Dürkenmatt zeigt an DII, dass wir alle sind, für das war wir tup dass wir alle verantworkuch sind, für das was

wir tum tun" und Des demonstriet, dass wir alle Person emer sich einem negativer charatter au 5 von ermenn nu einem nubigen hensch witt entwickeln können, wie III. zurammentassend bat Ber hat III sich vom sa saulu run Paulu entwickelt und er veranlasst uns, unsere verantivatungenzu tragen verantwortungen zu tragen



This is a well-planned essay, which immediately answers the question and does not waste words telling the plot. A good choice of character and the development is well-explained.



Answer the question carefully and make sure you evaluate. Include a conclusion.

Here is a further example of an essay based on *Der Vorleser* and the character Michael.

Chosen question number: Question 3 (a) 🛛 🔀 Question 3 (b) 🛛 Question 3 (c) 🛛 🖾 Question 3 (d) in DerVorbeser Der Anfäng Michael und Hannas Verhältnis und ihre erste sexuelle Erfahning verärdert Michael vollia Wegen seiner rebe für Harna färgt Michael an Selbstretninen zu ertwicketh, Er typischen peinlich Jurger in einen allademisch ahigen Merschen, der Bewunderung und Anerkennung von Lehern und Schülern semmett. Weger Hanna kan er Michael with mit Mädchen sprechen und er will, die Mampichkert, die ich under hatte, zur So stellen zu den Gefühl, als redeter es Suihrt Le und seine Famille? das Etzte mal er miten moteinarder. Ich fühlt mich wie bei einem Abschied. Jedoch als Hanna plätzlich ihn verlässt , seken wir, wie Michael eine hochmistige ferre Personlichbeit Ich genöhnte mir ein großspunges, überlegenes So dass sich , nach Hama nie mehr lissen und demutigen, nie mehr schuldig machen und schuldig so lieben als ihr verheren liklen, rienerder mährend der Anfangsphasen des KZ-Semiras Obwohl 25 scheint, als ob er sich schließslich mit anderen verbinder will acrogat, ich nollte das geneinsane Eifer ... ich hatte selbst das gute Gefühl, dazuzugehören, mird dieses Gefühl leider Bald durch die der Midererscheinung von Hanna zerstort. 46

frühere pyschische Abhängigkeit von Harna bedeutet, dass Die nicht zu anderen Verhältnissen er sich als Erwachsene vereflichten könnte, obucht er nun frei von Hanna sein will. Zun beispiel glaubter, dass hertride, seine Fran, miht in seinen Armen recht fühlt und [er] hoffe, es würde sich Verlieren. Ich wollte foi von Hanna frei sein Jedoch nach vielen Jahren verächert Michaels Meinung.

Sedoch nach vielen Jahren verandert Michaels Meinung. Als ein alterer Minn will er durch dis Sehr Schreiben ihrer Geschichte und seine Treffen mit der überlebenden füdischen Tochtor seinen Frieden mit Hanna machen.

Die Entwicklung von Michaels Charakter ist wichtig, weil es ein Beispiel hat von wie sich die zweite Generation Nazi Vergargenheit befasster, Während Michaels Leben mit der muss er standig mit mit der Bri Frages Was Sollen VON tur mit der Wissen über der Hobcaus die Zweite Generation Marchmal scheit es mir, als ob Schlink die Entwicklung Michael benutzt um einige philosophische moralische über Schuld und Verartwortungkung ' 64 Fragen Bur aufzuwerfer Huberden auf einer Art und Weise ist Michaels Manget Entwicklung with oder die an Tatsache dass garzes Leben SUN Jedoch die Tatsache, dass er nie kane Habeden & entwickett Jedoch die Fotsache Jess er/ nie galwickell, Liebe andere they Melsich enthickelt, ist wichtig, weil as (bedeutet, dass wir

Aufder Außerden ist seine Entwicklung uicht weil as bedeutet, dass wir die goße Folger von Schuld sein sehen. Nur weil er desset, dass er Hanna unterschied lich garzes Leben total 1 Ven war Bornte sin Worte 275



and relevant.

Quite a good attempt here to discuss the development of Michael. Many ideas and thoughts are presented although the conclusion is a little unclear.



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Paper Summary

The team of examiners would once again like to thank centres for the work they have done to support their A level students. It is hoped that all candidates achieve the results they deserve.

To conclude, the examination proved to be quite successful again this year, although possibly some questions required further study by some candidates. Centres are encouraged to prepare their candidates fully for the examination.

Teachers and candidates should have studied the specification carefully and also, if possible, the *Research-based Essay Guidelines* and the previous Examiner's Report. These are easily accessible on the Edexcel website and further information can be found by using the *Ask the Expert* Service.

It is hoped this report will help the candidates preparing for their examination in 2013 and the following points should be borne in mind.

- 1. Candidates may answer the examination questions in any order, whatever they feel most confident with. Remember that the first question is only worth 10% of the marks, so do not spend too much time on it.
- 2. Look for the grammatical structures the examiner is testing on the translation. These are likely to include a passive construction, a subjunctive, adjectival endings and numerous subordinate clauses every year.
- 3. Be sure you translate every word. Leaving out something as simple as *sehr* will result in a lost mark.
- 4. This is a translation, so do not paraphrase.
- 5. Prepare for either a creative essay or a discursive essay. Do not decide on the day of the examination.
- 6. If choosing the creative option, candidates need to make full use of the stimulus. It should be the main focus of the essay, not merely an after-thought.
- 7. Discursive essays must be balanced, with both sides of the argument given a similar amount of consideration. The candidate's opinion should not be part of the introduction.
- 8. A very significant amount of reading and research is essential to score highly in the research-based essay. This should be incorporated into the response.
- 9. If choosing the geographical studies option, choose a large city such as Berlin or a region such as Bayern. Small towns and villages will not provide enough scope.
- 10. If choosing the Literature and Arts option, beware of narrating the plot. Remember to evaluate and use quotations if possible.

It is hoped that this report is of some assistance to both candidates and tutors. Thank you to all who made the 2012 examination successful.

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