



Examiners' Report June 2011

GCE Greek 6GK02 01

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Introduction

A good number of candidates produced competent responses, especially in the first two sections of the examination. There was a noticeable pattern of trying to express meaning in one's own words and breaking away from copying from the text verbatim. Translations into Greek were of high quality, ranging from good to excellent.

With regard to Section C: Topics and Texts, there was an obvious preference for the History of Cyprus as well as the Cavafy and Ioannou questions. As is sometimes the case in this section, candidates displayed fair knowledge of the topic but not always satisfactory understanding of the question or evidence of ability to argue persuasively in support of a point. Despite obvious linguistic competence, some candidates did not manage to exploit their skills in order to gain full marks.

This was largely due to the same reasons that have been marring performance in previous years also: responses which are too long, well above the wordage permitted, pre-learned, and similarly worded by candidates, many of them coming from the same centre. It is absolutely essential that candidates are trained in the art of writing pertinent answers, which pay attention to rubric and are able to discriminate between what to include and what to exclude. Although knowledge of the topics and text is required, a pertinent response needs to link this knowledge to the specific requirements of the question. All-inclusive answers may earn the candidate some marks, but unless the question is addressed, these will not merit marks from the top tiers of the assessment criteria.

Many candidates offered well balanced and pertinent responses to the questions. The level of linguistic achievement was high and communication ranged from excellent to very good, on many occasions. Very few candidates displayed lack of linguistic knowledge and inability to manipulate structures to suit purpose. A number of candidates consistently failed to indicate the position of the stress, an omission which cost them full marks on the Quality of Language category. Unfortunately, there was also a pattern of **extremely lengthy**, all-inclusive essays that gave really painstaking summaries of the plot of the stories of Ioannou without enough evidence of ability to analyse or substantiate points. Similarly, a large number of candidates offered a descriptive survey of the various issues and agreements involved in the attempt to resolve the question on Cyprus, 4(b), but neglected to offer any useful commentary or assessment of the efficacy of these processes.

A serious matter concerning procedure relates to the candidates' organisation of their time and allocated space for each question. Some candidates, who did not manage their time well, wrote a draft which they then crossed out, but having run out of time, instructed the examiner to read a hardly legible, crossed out draft. Others, and these were quite a few, ignored the clear instructions which require that each response is displayed on its allocated pages and wrote two essays in the space of one response. This practice caused serious delays and hampered the marking process seriously.

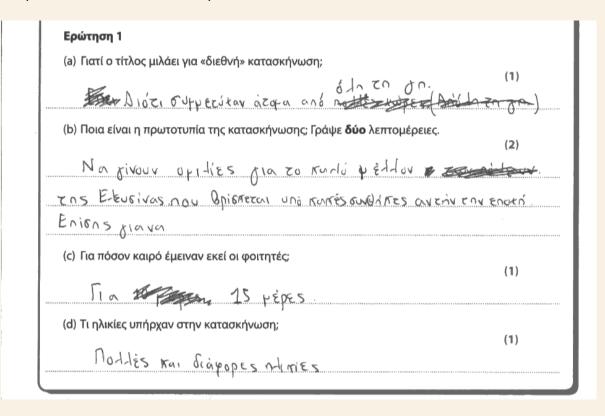
One observation which ought to be taken very seriously by the candidates concerns the presentation of their work. Many candidates presented essays that were hardly legible, the writing not only being hard to read but also marked by smudges and asterisks and words being crossed out over and over again. It would be a courtesy to the examiners to take extra care when writing this exam paper, to restrict content to the point in question, write answers in the space allocated in the answer book and avoid using extra sheets of paper, unless necessary.

Section A: Reading and Writing Question 1

Many candidates provided pertinent details in a concise manner, in order to address the questions. Some provided answers, which were lengthier than necessary, with sentences spilling over to the margins of the page or extending to different pages in the answer book. On several occasions, the candidates provided answers which were lengthier than the source text itself. This is **not** advisable. Responses have to target the information required and cannot be inclusive of almost all the information contained in the text. Candidates are advised against copying whole paragraphs which may or not contain the information required.

Answers may be to the point and concise at the same time. Published mark schemes are a good source of guidance for this. For example, a correct answer to question 1 (g), Τι πιστεύει ο συγγραφέας του άρθρου για τις σημερινές πόλεις, would be: Έχουν πολλή κίνηση και καυσαέριο. It would be unnecessary and inappropriate to compile a lengthy response about the ills of modern age and how they affect modern cities, like Eleusina, etc.

One set of questions which seemed to pose a challenge to some candidates was 1(e) and (f) which aimed to elicit linked information. Even though many candidates identified the unusual circumstances surrounding the living conditions during the camping experience, they wrongly attributed the fact that there were no complaints to the young students, rather than their professors or the artists present.



(e) Τι θεωρεί περίεργο ο συγγραφέας του άρθρου;	441
Οπ οι διάσημοι μοιραβόντουσαν φαχητό μαι χώρο ψε 7	(1)
(f) Γιατί το νομίζει αυτό; Γράψε δύο λεπτομέρειες.	(2)
Engloy HTAN ONUNDIONEVEL THIS QUESTU, WAS ENELTH UN	NPXE
Siagopá Déons nas prinías pe Tous GOITNTÉS	
(g) Τι πιστεύει ο συγγραφέας του άρθρου για τις σημερινές πόλεις; Γράψε δύο	
λεπτομέρειες.	(2)
OT OGUEPA MADROUN notte name ous other Unes	noder,
6 nws navorepla na nilyon.	
(h) Ποια λάθος εντύπωση είχε ο συγγραφέας του άρθρου;	(1)
Οπ αυτή η ις έα δεν 3εμίνησε απότην ενιάδα	
(i) Ποιοι πήραν μέρος στην πρώτη κατασκήνωση που έγινε; Γράψε δύο λεπτομέρε	ειες. (2)
CONTRÉS and to MBEDIOUN MORAN HÉPON, MAI MO	οομάλωσαν
υξους από αρχητεισονιμές σχυλές στην ευρώπη.	
(j) Τι γνώμη έχει ο συγγραφέας για αυτές τις κατασκηνώσεις; Δικαιολόγησε την απάντησή σου.	
	(1)
OT auty of MSEA ENAL DAUPATRA- TO LEEL HOVES	טסק.
(Total for Question 1 = 14	marks)
TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 14 M	ARKS



This is an example of a candidate who performs well on these questions, achieving 13 marks out of a possible 14.

Section B: Translation

Question 2

With regard to Question 2, many candidates showed excellent transfer skills and only very few did not have adequate language skills to produce satisfactory transfer of meaning. The majority of candidates translated competently. Some areas of difficulty related to isolated words such as "complaints" or "unloved".

DEV EILIU GEO FACIDOR ROLL DEN MODRATOU VOU EILIU NOTÈ! Απλά δευ μπορώ να δω τον λόξο 'Οι περισσότεροι άνδρωποι ELE! LON ON THE ZEBONN THE OLIO LO EXOYEIO LONGUNECITIO ora amono rooms ή δουλαά, δευθα hazi noène va enu dia voperirà 600 lucepuer Frazi de Nota la conconumien Le avantais nous nou seu èxeur Lie èxaux Meigravines à parti sedi ras déra rpoblia, trovo x trovo enderon écrixe voi eivou GEN V AIGED LIE « GIROUS» EE HIG 16TOGE AIDA DI a Indivoi Liou giñoi Exour cor apidhio Liou & chu dievauren K' FÉROUN NOW UN LIEBROW, ENJOYS THER TO NOTHES GOODES αμούω χτρίνια απο ανθρώπαις που είναι μέλη ότι εβθάνονται ότι δεναμαπιούνται άμια τανέναν δευ row ecé aver Eva fin volva n' prayoux ecor coixo cous na tapia Liépa à duo.



This candidate's translation was awarded 8 marks out of a possible 10.

Section C: Continuous Writing Question 3

Many of those who attempted the popular questions on History gave good, perceptive accounts, inclusive of important details, as well as clearly expressed. There was a definite improvement in the way these students structured their essays and it was evident to the examiners that these candidates had been very well taught.

Question 3(a) was the preferred sub-question and candidates showed very good awareness of the events that led to the fall of the Junta. A number of candidates failed to offer a commentary on the significance of these landmark events and opted for a rather list like account of isolated incidents.

Question 4

Question 4 (a) was successfully handled and most candidates offered lucid and detailed accounts of the profiles of various important personalities and the role they played.

Question 5

The few candidates who attempted the Geography questions gave the weakest answers. Some of the better answers focused on 5(a), giving detailed accounts of the features that contribute to the development of tou rism, without, however, managing to avoid the platitudes that make some of these responses sound like generic advertisements that could be about any island blessed with good beaches. An inordinate number of candidates focused on weather conditions, which was not a requirement of the question. There was a worrying pattern of responses targeting areas which were not part of the specification. One important caveat: answers addressing the geography of Cyprus are considered incomplete when they focus on one single city/village.

Question 6

The majority of the candidates who attempted this topic showed very good knowledge of the prescribed films, with impressive attention to accurate and pertinent detail. Many answers made the link between their knowledge of the topic and the requirements of the question, moving away from unnecessary plot and character summaries.

Some of the candidates who addressed 6(a), which was by far the preferred sub question, demonstrated capacity for independent thinking and gave original and individual responses. The comparisons between the various characters were sensitive and detailed and veered away from unnecessary detail or irrelevance.

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- peopermunt
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Kousiva' Ta Geranucikia zou augaakikoù kou zo
'Peppermint'.
Η ποιμένη εσινία είναι Το δελοιναίκιο του αμθρακικού!
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eupaneiroi nomeajouisers O Maños sival sua ajopáiri
εο οποίο εχές σημαείσεη Τότε ετην Ελλάδα οι άνθρωποι
nyezerone ums en enhosicen enez robusikei een
DÉPAUS EO NOUTOUR OUTE ENV PROPO EO XUDIÓ
GROTOGOU ZOU LIPOLINA ZOU, ZOUSE RDEHOU KOU E ÉÉIDEOU
ano to eniti kai tous boisau kabe aupá nou tous
ÉBRENCU EVA OROPÁKI O METPOS RUWOIGE EVA KRODITGO

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This response scored 24 marks out of a possible 28..

Question 7

This was one of the most popular questions of this section. The quality of responses varied from clearly expressed and largely relevant to less than satisfactory responses, which contained material that either did not address directly the question posed or consisted of a selection of poems which was not entirely appropriate, in order to substantiate the points raised.

Most candidates successfully linked poems such as "Ιγνάτιου Τάφος", "Μύρης Αλεξάνδρια, 340 μ.Χ." and "Η αρρώστεια του Κλείτου" to Cavafy's treatment of religion and there were some very original readings of "Ιγνάτιου Τάφος", identifying the irony contained in Ignatios' epitaph.

A number of set, memorised phrases were used by many students, who had obviously little or no knowledge of the primary texts, and ended up confusing the titles of the poems, discussing the stories of Ioannou as poems written by Cavafy or quite often confusing Ioannou with Cavafy and making unnecessary, ill-placed references to the sexuality or biographical details of these authors.

Question 8

Many of the candidates, who chose to study the short stories of Ioannou, showed good knowledge of the stories and ability to narrate persuasively and with good detail. Occasionally, narrative was at the expense of analysis, when students showed sound knowledge of the text but not convincing enough understanding of the question, especially in relation to 8(a). The lives of various characters were described in isolation of their social coordinates or the influence of the society in question.

Many responses addressing 8(b) offered very good and analytical interpretations of "a sense of an ending" in Ioannou's stories. It was obvious that these candidates had been very well taught as they displayed close knowledge of the short stories and commented on the way the writer works towards an often unconventional, at times open ended, at times slightly hopeful and at times pessimistic conclusion.

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EVT MUNETAL BAJASTAPO NON I SILATEPE FTY

OTOX MUNETAL BAJASTAPO NON I SILALEPE ANTO JUL

TOX MUNETAL BAJASTAPO NON IN TOREST ANTO JUL

TOX OKOTTON TOV.

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SIZZZALA ZON KEMAT TO OTTETE. ESW O TWOMM

TOPOLITIES TOPOKASE TO EVOLUTE PORTO MAS TEPPOPOROS

TON TIL SPETOSIS MINS MENDOS DEPOR MAS TEPPOPOROS

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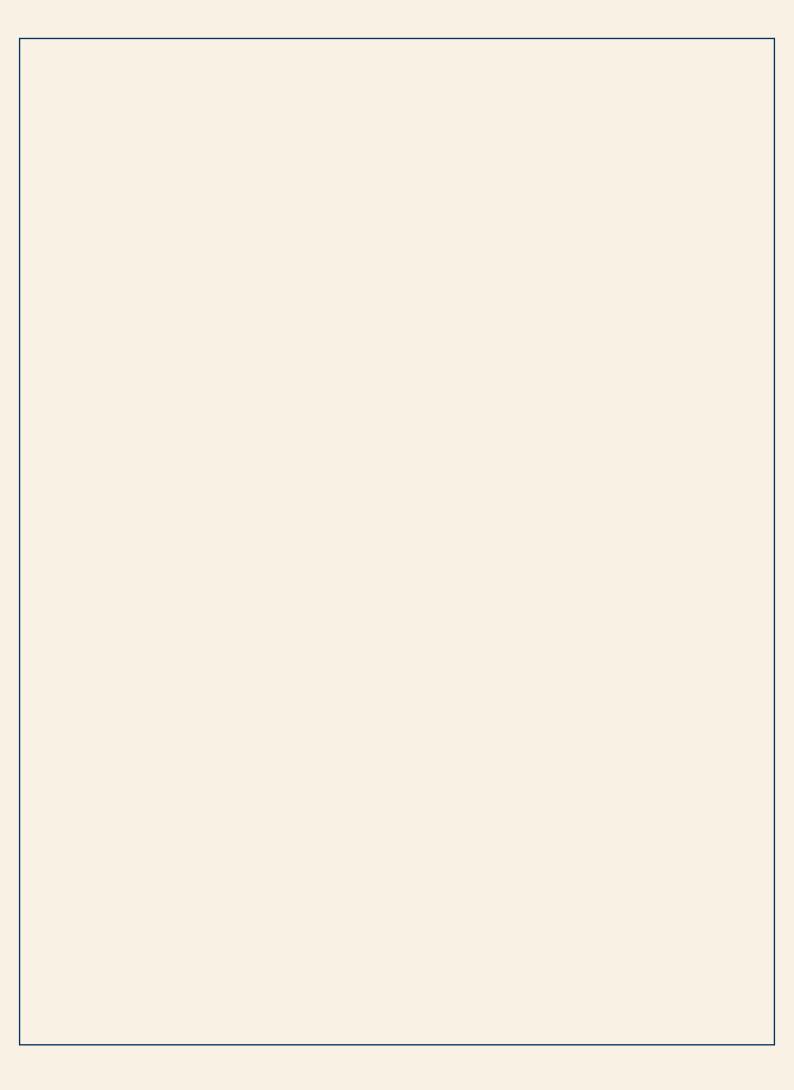
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OHOUDILONTAL KOLL OTAL ENTED WELL STO E ENTEPLYS, BOXLADEPBET ETTERS ETT ON ONXXPOLOZ O TUINO MODOSOE LA KEVEL APOBLEVELS JUSTO TSENTEN ARTHUR BASTIONTES MPOUNTOUXVOTAV OXPZVIX Exert Supoporals MOON TO KIES AUGUNOTA (Total for Question = 28 marks) **TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 56 MARKS TOTAL FOR PAPER = 80 MARKS**



This is an example of a good candidate response to 8(b), scoring 26 out of 28 marks.



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