



**General Certificate of Secondary Education  
June 2012**

**Bengali**

**46352F/H**

**(Specification 4635)**

**Unit 2: Reading**

***Report on the Examination***

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## **General Comments**

The majority of students, in both the Foundation and Higher Tiers, found the Reading Tests fairly accessible and attempted the papers according to their abilities. The mark schemes, in both tiers, did not make it more or less difficult for students to score marks this year than last year. The students scored marks according to the quality of their answers. The overall demands of this year's papers were similar to last year's. It was evident that the standards of reading materials in Bengali provided the students with scope to gain marks in both the Foundation and Higher papers. In both tiers, although a good proportion of students performed quite well and scored high marks in the tests some students at Higher Tier performed less well on the questions targeted at grades 'A\*', 'A' and 'B'. The questions were well differentiated to cater for grades C - G in the Foundation Tier and for grades A\* - D in the Higher Tier. It appeared from the scripts that the overlap questions were at the correct levels to provide equal opportunity for C and D students in both the Foundation and Higher Tiers. Generally, the students entered for the Higher Tier did not have any significant problems with the overlap questions and they scored high marks as they were better prepared for C and D type questions. However, as all the questions were written in English some students, especially those with poor literacy in English, could not read or understand the questions properly. It was evident that the less able students across the ability range were not well prepared in terms of learning the basic vocabulary and phrases appropriate to individual topics. Overall, the quality of performance in both tiers was found to be satisfactory.

## **Foundation Tier**

### **Question 4(a)**

The majority of students scored 1 mark in this question by providing appropriate answers for the place of work. Students giving 'council' as the place of work scored no marks.

### **Question 4(b)**

This question was generally well answered by many students. The students who mentioned only one language or 'translate' as the skill of work did not score any mark.

### **Question 6(c)**

The students who scored one mark in this question had to write 7.30 in any format.

### **Question 8**

The task involved filling in gaps by using suitable words from a list to complete a paragraph. A large proportion of students scored 2 out of 4 marks in this question for using at least two correct words in appropriate places.

### **Question 9(a)**

A large proportion of students found this question difficult to answer because, perhaps, they did not find the passage easy to read. The answers like 'oil fell on the ship' did not score any mark.

**Question 9(b)**

Again most of the Foundation students found this question difficult to answer. However, some students produced good answers too, for example ‘sea creatures died’, ‘sea mammals died’ etc.

**Question 9(c)**

This question was correctly answered by the majority of students. ‘The American president was upset’, ‘The American president wanted money’ were among the popular answers.

**Question 11**

A high number of students answered this question using their common sense and scored at least 1 mark out of 2. There was, however, evidence that many students understood the paragraph quite well and answered the question to score full marks.

**Higher Tier**

**Question 1(a)**

The same as in Question 4(a), Foundation Tier.

**Question 1(b)**

The same as in Question 4(b), Foundation Tier

**Question 2**

The same as in Question 8, Foundation Tier.

**Question 3(a)**

The same as in Question 9(a), Foundation Tier.

**Question 3(b)**

The same as in Question 9(b), Foundation Tier.

**Question 3(c)**

The same as in Question 9(c), Foundation Tier.

**Question 5**

The same as in Question 11, Foundation Tier.

**Question 6(b)**

Most of the students answered this question correctly. The students who wrote ‘by the canteen’ did not score any mark.

**Question 7(a)**

Some students found this question difficult to answer because the Bengali word for ‘smoke’ seemed unfamiliar to them.

**Question 7(b)**

Most answers were given as ‘no flight to England’ scoring one mark.

**Question 8(a)**

This question was correctly answered by the majority of the students. The students who wrote ‘IT skills’ were also given marks.

**Question 8(b)**

For this question, some students found the answer difficult to articulate. Some students wrote ‘Down load the application from the internet’ scoring marks.

**Question 10**

A high number of students found this question difficult to answer for 3 marks. Most of the students scored 2 out of 3 marks in this question. The use of the word ‘Sympathise’ was rare.

**Question 11(b)**

The question was correctly answered by a good proportion of students scoring full marks. However, many students scored 1 out of 2 marks.

**Question 12(a)**

Many students answered this question wrongly as they wrote the answer in percentage terms.

**Question 13(a)**

Only a small number of students wrote the correct answer for the new traffic rule ‘Speed limit 20 mph’. Many students wrote ‘Cars will have to go slow’.

**Question 13(b)**

Many students wrote ‘Bicycles will be in front of cars’ scoring no marks.

**Question 14(a)**

Only a small proportion of students scored full marks in this question. The students missing out ‘East’, ‘West’ in the answers for weather on Thursday and Friday scored no marks for each part.

**Question 15(a)**

A high proportion of the students scored 1 mark in this question for the correct answer. ‘She does not mind waking up early in the morning’ was not accepted as a correct answer.

**Question 15(b)**

The word 'Beatles' was spelt in a variety of ways. The majority of the students scored 1 out of 2 marks in this question as they were unable to write 'Inspire her' as the reason for her liking the Beatles.

**Question 16(a)**

A high number of students answered this question correctly scoring full marks. The students were given full marks for writing 'Finding a lost boy and a mother'.

**Question 16(b)**

This question was correctly answered by many students scoring full marks. The most popular answer was 'When she saw the mother and son together again'. However, some students used the word 'Reunited'.

**Mark Ranges and Award of Grades**

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results statistics](#) page of the AQA Website.

Convert raw or scaled marks into marks on the Uniform Mark Scale (UMS) by using the link below.

**UMS conversion calculator** [www.aqa.org.uk/umsconversion](http://www.aqa.org.uk/umsconversion)