



Pearson
Edexcel

Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2022

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In French (1FR0 1F)

Paper 1F Listening and understanding in French

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Summer 2022

Publications Code 1FR0_1F_2206_ER

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1FR0 GCSE FRENCH PE'S REPORT LISTENING SUMMER 2022 FOUNDATION LEVEL

The unit was worth 50 marks and was divided into two sections, A and B. The first 12 questions, section A, were set in English. The final two questions, Section B, were set in the target language.

Candidates had 30 minutes in which to complete their answers, this included five minutes of general reading time at the start of the test.

SECTION A

Question 1

Candidates were asked to identify three items from a given list of seven. The most frequently correct answers were A, books and F, bag. The answer C, trainers was the least well known, less successful candidates failing to understand or recognise the word *baskets*. The most common incorrect answers were D, jeans and E, bicycle.

Question 2

Candidates were asked to identify key points from someone talking about their part time job. There were three multiple choice questions. The most frequent correct answers were part (i), B, in a sports centre, and part (iii), D, wear a uniform. In (ii), less successful candidates failed to correctly identify *dimanche* in the extract and match it to answer D, Sundays. Incorrect answers were spread across A, B and C, with C, Saturdays the most common incorrect answer.

QUESTION 3

Candidates were asked to identify what three young people said about protecting the environment. They were asked to select one example for each young person from a given list of seven. The most commonly correct answers given were E, public transport and F, recycling. The third correct answer, B, taking a shower was generally well known but where candidates got this wrong, C, fair trade products and D, turning off the lights were the most common incorrect answers.

QUESTION 4

Candidates were asked to identify what three young people liked about their school and to complete three sentences, choosing the correct word from seven options in a box. The most commonly correct answers were (a) sports and (c) homework, with (b) food proving the most difficult, candidates failing to recognise the word *nourriture* and the reference to *manger*. The most common incorrect answers in these questions were breaktimes and subjects.

QUESTION 5

Candidates were asked to identify key points about the speaker's holidays. They had to answer four questions in English. Question (d) was the most commonly correct answer. In (a) *au bord de la mer* was less well known and incorrect answers included virtually every country in Europe, America, Canada, Africa and Dubai (a common incorrect answer) and references to with her mother/ at her mother's place. The sound *au bord* led many candidates to incorrectly give abroad as the answer. In (b), camping was generally well

known but incorrect answers included countryside, hot countries and with friends. In (c), candidates had to choose one detail from two, the most commonly recognised was cycling and the other correct answer, walking was less common. Some candidates lost marks because they put the two pieces of information together and upon hearing *on fait du vélo et des promenades*, gave incorrect answers such as cycling along the promenade.

QUESTION 6

Candidates were asked to identify what two young people wanted to do in the future. They were asked to choose three phrases from seven words given in a box. The most common correct answer was, a good salary in part (b), followed by a job she likes also in (b). The least well known answer was to travel in part (a), candidates failing to recognise the key vocabulary, *voyager*, *l'étranger* and *voir le monde*. The most common incorrect answer for this question was work in IT.

QUESTION 7

Candidates were asked to identify information given by a young person on their home town. They were asked to choose three statements from a given list of seven. Answers F, You can buy local specialities at the market and G, There are open air concerts were the most commonly correct answers. In C, many candidates failed to make the link between *il fait beau* and the weather is good. The most common incorrect answers were B, There is a lot to do, with candidates failing to recognise the use of the negative in *il n'y a pas beaucoup à faire* and also D, Tourists cause pollution. Less successful candidates often failed to listen to the whole sentence, for example incorrectly ticking answer D, upon hearing the word *touristes* in the sentence, *Les touristes viennent parce qu'il fait beau*.

QUESTION 8

Candidates were asked to identify key points and details from a speaker talking about the Festival of Avignon. They were asked to answer three questions in English. The most frequent correct answer was in (b), drama/ theatre. In part (a), many candidates failed to recognise the month of *juillet* and incorrect answers covered every month of the year and not just the obviously incorrect answer of June. Many candidates failed to recognise that the answer was actually a month, common incorrect answers ranged from next year, next week, in the winter, at the weekend, on Thursday even the word Avignon was given by some candidates as the correct answer. In part (c), candidates had a choice of two answers, the most commonly correct answer was, there are too many people/ it's crowded. Although the word *gens* was often confused with *jeunes*, giving rise to incorrect answers such as too many young people. The second answer, the hotels are full, was less well known. Incorrect answers often had reference to the hotel eg the hotel is far away. The word *complet* was interpreted by many as complex with answers such as hotel complex, the hotel is complicated and even by some as complain, the hotel complains was a common incorrect answer. Many incorrect answers were random, music festival was a common incorrect answer for (b), followed by it's too loud in (c).

QUESTION 9

Candidates were asked to identify key points in an extract of someone speaking about their school. There were four multiple choice questions. The most frequent correct answers were parts (i) and (ii). In part (iii), less successful candidates confused the correct answer C, IT, with answer A, maths, failing to pick up on the use of the immediate future and the reference to *le lycée*, in *Au lycée, je vais étudier l'informatique*. In part (iv), less successful candidates confused the correct answer A, long school day with the incorrect answer C, exams, failing possibly to miss the use of the negative or understand the word *inquiet* in the phrase *je ne suis pas inquiet pour mes examens*.

QUESTION 10

Candidates were asked to identify key points and details given on the work of the charity, *Les enfants de la terre* from the perspective of a volunteer. Candidates had to answer three questions in English giving four marks. The most frequent correct answers for two marks were in part (b), music (lessons), sports (activities), and art (lessons/activities). There was one further possible correct answer, holidays (for families) but this was less common. In part (a), many candidates honed in on the word *école* in *les problèmes à l'école* and added extra details not in the extract such as children with learning difficulties, special needs, attendance problems. There was a second possible answer for part (a), but this was not frequently given (health problems). In part (d), less successful candidates lost marks for failing to understand *J'aide les enfants dans leur travail scolaire* and giving incorrect answers such as she is a teacher, she works in a school, some candidates misinterpreted *travail* as travelling and gave answers such as she travels to the school, although many did score with either helps children with their school work, listens to the children or speaks to them.

QUESTION 11

Candidates were asked to identify the key points made by someone speaking about working abroad. They were asked to select three correct statements from a given list of seven. Successful candidates were able to recognise the use of the negative, tenses and time indicators to eliminate incorrect answers. The most common correct answers were D, He found his job difficult at first, followed by B, He works in the tourist industry. The most common incorrect answers given were C, He speaks several languages, where candidates failed to recognise *Je ne parle pas chinois, et je ne suis pas fort en langues*, F, He wants to work in Spain, where candidates missed the use of the perfect tense and the time indicator, in *Avant, j'ai travaillé deux ans en Espagne*, and E, where *je vois souvent mes parents* was often not understood.

QUESTION 12.

Candidates were asked to identify key points and details from a factual text on the banning of mobile phones in French schools. Candidates had to answer three questions in English, giving four details. The most frequent correct answers were part (c), pupils still /continue to use their phones (in class). In part (a), many candidates failed to recognise or understand *les jeunes de moins de 15 ans*, *quinze* was rendered variously by a wide range of numbers, 14, 16, 25, in year 11, the expression *depuis 2018* was not understood by less successful candidates and answers such as 18 or in year 8 were common. Some incorrect answers focused on naughty children/ the children who are always late. In part (b), pupils work

more/harder was the most common correct answer, fewer candidates understood the reference to less bullying. many answers for this question were drawn the candidates' own experience, such as there is less theft, they can't cheat, there is less cheating. They excel was a common incorrect answer based possibly on mishearing or misunderstanding *cyber harcèlement*.

SECTION B

The two questions in Section B were set in the target language.

Question 13

Candidates were asked to identify key points and details about the speaker's pastimes. Candidates had to complete five sentences in the target language. They had to select five answers from a given list of 11. The most common correct answers were in part (c), *documentaires* and in part (d), *piano*. In part (a), the phrase *Eric lit* was obviously not understood by many candidates and the most common incorrect answer was judo followed by karate as an incorrect answer for (b). In (e), less successful candidates failed to recognise the past tense and time indicator in *Hier, je suis allé au cinéma avec mes parents*. The most common incorrect answer for (e), was *cinéma*. Less successful candidates obviously did not fully understand the five sentences in the question, and many showed little grammatical awareness, choosing random answers e.g. in (c), *Il aime regarder les piano*, in (d), *à l'avenir, il va apprendre le documentaires*.

Question 14

Candidates were asked to identify the opinions of a group of friends on eating in restaurants. Candidates had to complete five sentences with the correct name from a given list of four. The most common correct answers were (a), Khalida and (c), Thomas. In parts (d), and (e), less successful candidates confused Khalida and Abdul, failing to recognise the use of the future time indicator, *pour son prochain anniversaire* in reference to Khalida and match it with (d) *va fêter son anniversaire au restaurant*. In part (e), they also failed to match, *Abdul pense que les repas au restaurant coûtent trop d'argent* with *pensent que les restaurants sont trop chers*. Incorrect answers for the other parts of the question were random with less successful candidates failing to understand the statements in the question or to correctly match what was said to the paraphrased questions.

SUMMARY AND ADVICE TO CENTRES

Marks lost in this examination are most typified by answers provided for the following questions.

Questions 1,2,3,4,5, and 6. These questions tested candidates understanding of vocabulary items listed in the specification for Foundation level. Candidates should be aware that the items in the minimum core vocabulary list will be tested and also be aware of the pronunciation of individual words. This also includes days of the week, months of the year and numbers.

TIPS

The question title e.g. 'My school' provides an important clue.

Advise candidates to use the reading time available to think about the question title and the key words they are likely to hear.

Candidates sometimes ticked too many boxes in the grids.

Advise candidates to check the number of marks available for each question. These are noted at the bottom of each question set.

Questions 5, 8, 10 and 12. These questions asked candidates to briefly respond to questions asked in English.

Tips

Advise candidates to use the reading time available to think carefully about the questions asked. For example, in Q8 (a) *When does the festival take place?* an answer such as *in the hotel, in Avignon* does not answer the question set.

Short answers only are required. Too much information given can sometimes negate the given response.

Questions 7, 9, 11 (and Question 14). These questions asked candidates to pick out a required number of answers from a given list.

Tips

Advise candidates to listen to the whole sentence and not just hone in on individual words, they should listen for the use of negation, time indicators, tenses. the use of the comparative, qualifiers and positive and negative opinions.

SECTION B

Questions 13 and 14. These are set in the target language and required candidates to complete sentences in Question 13 and to identify the views of named individuals in Question 14.

Tips

Advise candidates to use the reading time to try and work out in Question 13 what part of speech is required to complete the sentences. For example, In Question 13 (e), *Récemment, il est sorti avec ses ...* needs to be followed by reference to people. In Question 14 candidates should take time to work out the meaning of the individual statements.

