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# **Examiners' Report**

## Principal Examiner Feedback

### Summer 2017

Pearson Edexcel GCSE  
In Greek (5GK01)  
Paper 1: Listening and Understanding  
in Greek.

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## **GCSE Greek**

### **Unit 1: Listening**

#### **Examiners Report**

##### **General comments on performance**

In general, candidates' performance on this paper was of a high standard. Most of the questions proved accessible to a considerable number of candidates. There was evidence of satisfactory knowledge of vocabulary and of the ability to identify the information targeted by the questions. However, there were some responses which lacked precision and left out essential details. Also, some candidates failed to score full marks due to poor English. Evidence of misunderstanding and frequent inaccuracies was often related to questions requiring the use of English.

Occasionally, there was a large amount of unsolicited information provided in response to question 9. The correct details were often included in these lengthy responses but only after other irrelevant and often contradictory details were conveyed. When two details are required, candidates are advised against providing three or four and leaving it to the examiner to select the correct ones. In such cases, only the first two details given are read and marked.

Weaker candidates found parts of questions 2, 4, 5, 8 and 9 challenging and failed to score full marks.

Candidates are reminded to make use of the space provided for each response and not to write in the margins of the page or use supplementary pages.

##### **Question 1 (Transport)**

Excellent performance in this question. The topic proved accessible to most of the candidates.

##### **Question 2 (Summer school)**

This question was answered very well, although 2c proved challenging to a third of the candidates, as they failed to specify the type of the accommodation advertised and simply wrote "mountain" instead of "a camp (in the mountains)".

Question 2di was equally challenging. A number of candidates failed to specify the afternoon activity (i.e. "swimming") and simply wrote "go to the sea".

Finally, question 2dii proved challenging to a considerable number of candidates who simply wrote "have a lesson" instead of "cooking lessons". Candidates who ignored the rubric and answered the question in Greek instead of English lost marks.

### **Question 3 (A radio announcement)**

This question was handled very well by the majority of candidates and the topic proved accessible to most of them.

### **Question 4 (Customer service)**

This question was handled very well by the majority of candidates, but proved challenging to some. For example, in question 4(v) some candidates appeared to be challenged by “επιστρέψει” and “πιστωτική κάρτα”. Also in question 4(iv) some candidates did not pay attention to the negative in the sentence “Η συγγνώμη σας δεν είναι αρκετή” and mistakenly chose A (“apology”) instead of B (“full refund”).

### **Question 5 (Meet the athletes)**

The topic about sport proved accessible to the majority of candidates and, on the whole, it was answered well. Errors were rather frequent in question 5(iii).

### **Question 6 (After-school activities)**

Excellent performance in this question. The topic proved very accessible and the majority of candidates managed to score full marks. The word for sailing (“ιστιοπλοΐα”) in 6(v) provided some challenge.

### **Question 7 (An emergency)**

This question was handled very well by the majority of candidates and the topic proved accessible to most of them. Errors were rather frequent in question 7(v) where a number of weaker candidates failed to identify the word “τα γυαλιά μου” (“my glasses”).

### **Question 8 (An unusual bookshop)**

This question required good language and inference skills and was handled well by able candidates. Question 8(ii), 8(iii) and 8(v) proved the most challenging subsections of the question and differentiated well between high and average performance. Vocabulary that seemed to pose difficulties included “υποδεχόμαστε” and “διαφημίζουμε στην ιστοσελίδα μας”. Almost a third of the candidates failed to answer question 8(iii) correctly, as they did not pay attention to the detail “Αργότερα μπορεί να πουλάμε τα βιβλία μας ηλεκτρονικά, θα δούμε” meaning that the bookshop might start selling books online in the future and simply chose the option “sells books online”.

### **Question 9 (A job interview)**

Performance in this question was varied, as expected with questions targeted at a higher level. Many candidates were able to extract some

relevant information and successfully identify the details that contributed to a full answer in some of the questions. The occurrence of spelling mistakes that make words unrecognisable is worrying, as it means that the response cannot be awarded a mark. Marks were also lost where candidates' answers showed insufficient attention to the recorded text or to the detail of the question to be awarded marks at this level. Finally, the vocabulary proved challenging to a considerable number of candidates, resulting in the misunderstanding of the recorded text or incomplete responses which were not worthy of a mark. Some responses left out essential details, especially in 9(e) – see below.

9(a) provoked a good number of successful answers, especially for the second part of the question ("How did she find out about it (the job)?". However, for the first part of the question, a considerable number of candidates either failed to recognise the Greek word for a tour guide ("ξενάγός") or did not know the English word for it.

9(b) proved challenging to a considerable number of candidates who failed to pay attention to the question and offered general information about the interviewee's life (e.g. she was born in Germany from Greek parents) instead of focusing at what the question asked them which was what made her a good candidate for the job, in other words looking for the interviewee's qualifications (she studied History and Archaeology and she knew many languages).

9(c) proved challenging to a considerable number of candidates who did not pay attention to the detail mentioned in the question ('relevant experience') and just repeated information about the interviewee's studies or knowledge of languages. Also, a number of candidates offered insufficient information and mentioned that the interviewee was working at the airport where she met people from all over the world instead of specifying that she worked at the airport's information office offering advice to tourists.

In 9(d) although a considerable number of candidates successfully recognised that the interviewee mostly enjoyed meeting new people in her work, many failed to identify that she also enjoyed finding ways to capture their interest.

In 9(e) almost three quarters of the candidates failed to specify when exactly the interviewee was expected to work (i.e. "during summer and winter holidays") and simply offered an insufficient answer - "on holiday".

9(f) proved challenging to more than half of the candidates who failed to answer the question correctly due to lack of precision. For example, some candidates stated that the speaker wanted to become a translator but did not mention that she is planning to study to become one.

