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Examiners' Report  
Principal Examiner Feedback

November 2020

Pearson Edexcel GCSE  
In Greek (1GK0 1H)  
Paper 1: Listening in Greek

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## **Introduction**

The November 2020 series had lower entries compared to previous years, hence the usual range of ability was not evident.

In general, candidates were well prepared for the test types and performed well. However, some open-ended questions, requiring answers in English, proved challenging for less successful candidates. There was evidence of good vocabulary knowledge and ability to identify the information targeted by the questions. However, some responses lacked precision and omitted essential details. Finally, some candidates answered all the open-ended questions in Greek instead of English and as a result did not score any marks for those questions.

## **Section A**

### **Questions 1&2**

Both questions were answered very well by most candidates.

## **Section B**

### **Question 3 (Pindos explorers)**

Candidates were asked to identify the correct statements about activities at a summer camp. Overall, this question was answered well and the subject theme (forest camping) was accessible.

### **Question 4 (A school visit)**

Candidates were asked to identify three correct statements out of seven after listening to a discussion about a school visit to a boatyard. Almost two thirds of the candidates managed to score three marks. Less successful candidates chose (E) 'The wood is collected in autumn' and (A) 'Their guide studied engineering'.

### **Question 5 (We need your help!)**

This was a multiple-choice question. Candidates were asked to complete statements about saving water. There was excellent performance in this question. The topic proved very accessible and most candidates managed to score full marks.

### **Question 6 (Experience of flying)**

This was an open-ended question where candidates were asked to answer five questions about Natalia's experience of flying. Only a few candidates managed to score full marks whereas the majority scored three out of five. A considerable number of candidates failed to score a mark especially in 6(c)(i) and 6(c)(ii) because they repeated exactly what they heard instead of eliciting the necessary information from the text to answer an inference question. For example, in question 6(c)(i) ('How did she overcome her fear during the flight') many candidates wrote 'watching the buildings getting smaller' when the correct (inferred) answer was 'sitting by the window'.

### **Question 7 (A year abroad)**

This was an open-ended question where candidates were asked to listen to the speaker talking about their plans to study abroad. Similarly to question 6, this proved challenging for many candidates. Very few candidates scored full marks in question 7(a) ('Why is Marina moving to Paris? Give two details') because they were mostly vague, responding 'she will continue studying'. The least successful question was 7(b) where most candidates did not pay sufficient attention to the detail in the question and the recording and wrote the first thing Marina mentioned (i.e. that she was scared). Instead they should have listened to the next sentence where she stated that on the other hand she did not want to miss this opportunity; therefore, the candidates should have concluded that 'she had mixed feelings'.

Finally, in 7(d) a considerable number of candidates did not pay sufficient attention to the question ('Why was it easy to find part-time work in Paris?') and simply stated that there is a large community of Greeks in Paris instead of acknowledging that there is great demand for Greek teachers.

### **Question 8 (Exams)**

This was a multiple-choice question where candidates were asked to complete six statements after listening to a radio interview with a teacher on the topic of exams. Overall, the candidates performed very successfully, showing great understanding of the topic.

### **Question 9 (An interview with a musician)**

This was an open-ended question where candidates were asked to listen to a radio interview with Kostis Maraveyas, a popular Greek artist. There were 10 marks in total for this question and it was divided in two parts. Overall, this question proved to be challenging for most candidates. A relatively high proportion of students achieved 5-6 marks. High and full marks were only achieved by a minority of candidates. A common mistake in 9(a)(i) was stating that Kostis did not like his hometown, ignoring essential detail that like most people of his hometown he liked his city but he always wanted to leave it. In 9(a)(ii) only a few candidates scored two marks. A common mistake was mentioning that Kostis built strong friendships in Italy, ignoring the detail in the question ('How did his experience in Italy shape his present career?'). The most successful question was 9(b)(ii) where almost all candidates scored two marks stating that it was his parents who advised him to change his career because they knew that he would not be happy otherwise. Question 9(b)(i) was also answered well and most candidates managed to score at least one mark. Finally, question 9(b)(iii) was the most challenging because most candidates did not know the meaning of the word 'μυθιστόρημα' (a novel), a word included in the vocabulary list, and as a result they gave wrong responses.

### **Question 10 (Foster care scheme)**

This question had two parts and candidates were asked to listen to a radio announcement about a foster care scheme for unaccompanied minors. Although this was a less familiar subject to most candidates, approximately half managed to score full marks in part one and more than two thirds scored full marks in part two.

For this paper, candidates should:

- read the questions carefully
- have a good knowledge of core vocabulary
- recognise the use of tenses and time indicators
- pay attention to detail, providing full rather than partial answers
- express themselves clearly and unambiguously when writing in English and relate their answers to what is heard in the extract
- review and correct their answers where necessary.

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