Examiners' Report /
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2012

GCSE Italian (5IN03) Paper 3H

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Examiner Report

On the whole the paper was quite accessible and many candidates were able to cope well with it and even achieve very high marks. Some less able candidates were entered for this paper and would have performed better at Foundation level.

Question 1

This was generally answered well by Higher candidates but there were a few that even at this level were not familiar with *navigare in rete*.

Question 2

This crossover question was answered well at this level, with most scoring at least three marks out of four.

Question 3

This crossover question was answered well at this level, with most scoring at least three marks out of four. Some mistakenly thought that the discount was for the purchase of a new computer rather than an iPod.

Question 4

This was possibly the most challenging question in the paper, and was the only question where candidates had to write their responses using their own words in English.

In (a) only a few understood that Gabriella felt scared about being famous, as celebrities can be soon forgotten. There were a lot of incorrect guesses here, with many saying that she loves being famous or that it is fun.

In (b) quite a few candidates were unable to provide the correct details about her fans, i.e. either a 4 year old child who sends her drawings often mistaken with "designs" or a 93 year old lawyer who sends her flowers. Candidates were not required to provide full details as "send her pictures/roses" would have sufficed.

Part (c) was answered reasonably well although there were again a few wrong guesses like "they annoy her".

In (d) most candidates answered where correctly (in the United States) but many lost one mark by saying that she lived with her grandmother rather than her grandparents.

In (e) most understood that she had a good relationship with her parents and likewise most correctly answered that she regretted not graduating, although again there were a few wrong guesses or imprecise answers, for example "she didn't go to university".

(g) did not pose many problems: despite the challenging phrase *non posso fare a meno di* the vast majority identified the key word *cellulare*.

Question 5

This was generally answered well. A few candidates failed to spot the future tense in Francesca (b), whilst some were not familiar with *risparmio* in (c).

Question 6

This was generally answered well at this level, with a very small number of candidates missing the key word *almeno* in (iii) or opting for the wrong month in (iv).

Question 7

This question was also answered better at Higher level, although some candidates misunderstood certain parts even at this level, incorrectly ticking F or H.

Question 8

This multiple choice question in Italian was answered successfully by many. Parts (iii), (iv) and (v) were the most demanding questions, with just over half of the candidates choosing the correct options. Many thought that the dog had been stolen or even abandoned while others were unsure as to what Sebastien did after the dog went missing. In (v) not everyone was able to match *color miele* with *di colore chiaro.* In (ii) some surprisingly failed to associate *spiaggia* with *al mare.*
In (viii) there were some wrong guesses about Facebook, with some opting for "a waste of time" or "an invasion of privacy". Overall, however, this question produced some pleasing results.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

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