

Examiners' Report/ Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2013

GCSE Italian (51N03)
Paper 3F Reading and Understanding in Italian

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GCSE Italian

Paper 3 Foundation Tier Reading and Understanding in Italian Examiner Report

Most students seemed to have been entered at the correct level but there were a few who performed extremely well at this level and should have been entered for the higher tier. The paper was accessible to the vast majority so that almost all students were able to attempt every question.

Q1

This was answered very well, as it targeted familiar school subject vocabulary and most students scored full marks.

Q2

The vast majority of students were familiar with these items of vocabulary relating to hotel information. Oddly enough, a few students failed to associate the cognate *ristorante* with "restaurant". *Piscina* was occasionally not recognised, nor *spiaggia*.

Q3

This crossover question was answered quite well at Foundation level, with only a few students struggling with (c).

Q4

This crossover question was also answered reasonably well at Foundation level, with most students scoring at least 2 out of 4 marks. Some students incorrectly ticked A, possibly wrongly associating *caldo* in the text with "cold", E, probably due to the mention of *compiti* in the text (but missing the crucial *non*) and F, possibly wrongly connecting *dieci* with "twelve".

Q5

This was another crossover question which proved more demanding at Foundation level, especially (i) where many students opted incorrectly for B (misunderstanding *dal* 1° settembre) and (ii), where they chose B (possibly missing *all'estero* in the text).

Q6

This crossover question was answered quite well at this level, with students ticking more than half of the correct options. Some students incorrectly opted for C, missing the time indicator *entro* il 30 agosto ("by", not "after"), and E, possibly swayed by the number 250.

Q7

This question tested some basic vocabulary relating to holiday items and was answered correctly by virtually all students, with just a few missing borsa and occhiali da sole.

Q8

This question testing weather vocabulary was quite challenging, with most identifying correctly *sole*, but most failing to recognise *pioggia*, *nuvoloso* and *vento*.

Q9

This question produced some varied responses. Most students correctly identified the pay per hour although some missed the marks by adding "7 pounds" rather than "euros". However, only about half of the students understood what Giulia's degree was in, with many guessing "babysitting/child care", or that she could work in "summer". Even fewer understood that she liked "dogs", with many wrong guesses like "cars" and "babies".

Q10

Most students managed to score well on this question, although quite a few incorrectly opted for the obvious spoilers like "fish" in Q10(a), "weddings" in Q10(b) and "Tuesdays" in Q10(d).

Grade Boundaries

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