

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2015

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
in Italian (5IN03/03H)
Paper 3H: Reading and Understanding
in Italian

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**GCSE Italian
Unit 3 Reading and Understanding in Italian
Examiner Report**

Higher Paper (3H)

On the whole the paper was quite accessible and many candidates were able to cope well with it and even achieve very high marks.

Question 1

This overlap question was answered reasonably well by Higher candidates, though a few did not differentiate between *uscendo con gli amici* and “they stay **in** with their friends” and some missed the “*raramente*” in front of *prima delle 11* in (iv) even at this level.

Question 2

This overlap question was answered well at this level, though (ii) and even more so (iv) scored lower marks even at this level.

Question 3

This question was answered quite well, though some candidates opted for some of the obvious spoilers like “drinking wine” in (ii) and “walking” in (iii).

Question 4

This was probably the most challenging question in the paper as it is the only section of the exam where candidates have to answer with verbal responses but on the whole it was answered reasonably well.

In (a) most candidates were able to convey the idea that Cristina encourages tourists to engage with Italian culture. However, in (b) less than half of the candidates were able to explain how Cristina developed an interest in being a tourist guide: many missed out the fact that she used to take her friends to visit *Villa Adriana*. Many incorrectly thought that *Villa Adriana* was a village. Others answered this question by saying that Cristina developed an interest in her career when she was at school but this is **when** she developed this interest rather than **how**.

In (c) most were able to score at least one point by mentioning at least one of her qualifications but many missed out on these points due to a lack of detail, for example quite a few candidates simply mentioned “art and history”.

Most managed to score at least one point also in (d) as most understood that Cristina can meet interesting people through her job, but only the better candidates managed to score the second point about the fact that she can spend her working day surrounded by artistic treasures. Again points were missed due to insufficient details or partial guess work.

About half of the candidates were able to mention one disadvantage of her job. Again, many candidates did not mention enough detail: one common incorrect answer was "she works day and night" omitting the fundamental detail that she does so only during the tourist season. Another common wrong answer was "she has to work at night".

Most candidates coped well with (f) although some resorted to guess work, for example "she has to wear warm clothes"!

Question 5

This overlap question was answered very well at Higher level, with only a few candidates not recognising *fabbrica*.

Question 6

This overlap question was generally answered well at this level, with almost all candidates scoring close to full marks apart from (iv).

Question 7

This question was answered quite well, with most candidates scoring at least three marks out of four. Some confused *Svizzera* with "Sweden" and a few made mistakes with the numbers.

Question 8

This multiple choice question in Italian was answered successfully by many. The sub-questions were answered with varying degrees of success. Most incorrect answers were probably due to wrong guesses by candidates that had got the gist of the article but failed to identify all the details.

Most sub-questions were answered well by the majority of candidates.

(iii) was the most demanding sub-question, with just over half of the candidates choosing the correct option, as some were probably not familiar with the choice of words provided (many incorrectly opted for *prevedibili*).

Many also opted for informed guesses in (ii).

However, overall this question produced some very pleasing scores given that for most of the multiple choice questions all options were feasible from a logical point of view (but obviously only one answer was correct based on the text).

This probably goes to show how much candidates are familiar with technology and social networks nowadays, no matter what the language is!

Grade Boundaries

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

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