



Pearson
Edexcel

Examiners' Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

November 2021

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Italian (1IN0)

Paper 1H Listening and understanding in Italian

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General Comments

This unit is worth 50 marks and is divided into two sections, A and B. The first 2 questions (Section A) are set in Italian. The final eight questions (Section B) are set in English.

There are three open-response questions requiring answers in English and worth a total of 20 marks. The rest of the paper has a variety of multiple-choice questions requiring candidates to select three correct answers out of seven (Q4), one correct answer out of four (Qs 3, 5 and 8), five correct answers out of eleven (Q1), five correct answers out of four (Q2) or two correct answers out of five (Q10). Two of these multiple-choice questions are in the target language and account for 10 marks.

Candidates have 45 minutes in which to complete their answers; these include five minutes of general reading time at the start of the test.

The entry for the Autumn series 2021 was very small, consisting of only 35 candidates, most of whom appeared to be native or near native speakers, possibly because they had not been taught formally and had not been able to be assessed by their teachers. As a consequence, the level of response was generally extremely good.

There were no entries for paper 1 Foundation in this exam series.

In this series, due to the disruptions to learning caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the exam paper also contained a glossary for non MCV words.

Question 1

Candidates were asked to identify what two teenagers said about a solidarity campaign for homeless people. They were asked to complete five sentences using five words selected from a given box with eleven options. Some candidates answered incorrectly (a) by choosing *albergo* instead of *strada*, also (b) *soldi* instead of *vestiti*, (c) *neve* instead of *temperatura* and (e) *sane* instead of *sole*, as these incorrect answers made sense and fitted in grammatically but did not correspond to what was said in the recording.

Question 2

Candidates were asked to identify which of Raffaella's friends gave a specific piece of advice about studying abroad. They were asked to complete five sentences using the correct friend's name. This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates.

Question 3

Candidates were asked to answer four multiple-choice questions about lost property. For each item, they were asked to select the correct option from a given list of four. All sections were answered correctly by the vast majority of candidates.

Question 4

Candidates were asked to identify information given in a radio phone-in about working for a family firm. They were asked to select three correct statements from a given list of seven statements. Again, this was answered successfully by the majority. Occasionally some candidates ticked too many boxes, thereby losing marks.

Question 5

Candidates were asked to understand the information recorded by two candidates in a podcast about shopping for food locally. For each of the three items, they were asked to select the correct option from a given list of four. Items (i) and (iii) were answered correctly by everyone but in (ii) some candidates answered incorrectly that 4% of the food sold is exported rather than produced locally.

Question 6

Candidates were asked to identify what some young people said about an environmental initiative to eliminate plastic cutlery. They were asked to give short answers in English to five open response questions. Several candidates lost a mark in Q6(d) by failing to indicate the correct amount of plastic (5 millions kg / 5 kg / 100,000 kg and other incorrect figures instead of 5,000 kg).

Question 7

Candidates were asked to identify what two Italian teenagers said about a writing competition in their school. They were asked to give short answers in English to four open response questions. In Q7(a) some candidates lost marks by omitting details as some did not mention the fact that it was a competition or that the competition was for writing a story. The other sections were answered more successfully.

Question 8

Candidates were asked to identify what a doctor said in a radio interview about technology and sleep disorders. For each of the six items, they were asked to select the correct option from a given list of four. Most sections were answered correctly apart from Q8(b)(i) where some candidates incorrectly thought that technology should be used to identify illnesses.

Question 9

Candidates were asked to identify what the Italian singer Zucchero said in an interview. They were asked to give short answers in English to eight open response questions. This was one of the most challenging questions in the paper as it required attention to detail. In Q9(a)(i) some candidates lost marks by omitting to say that he was the most famous Italian singer **abroad** (with some incorrectly saying he is the most famous singer in Italy or in Europe) or else they answered the second part of the question with incorrect details (60 million fans / 6 million records). In Q9(b)(i) some thought incorrectly that his lyrics were about his mental health or even animals, misunderstanding his reference to his *stato d'animo*.

Question 10

Candidates were asked to identify what an Italian teenager said about school choices after middle school. They were asked to select two correct statements from each of two given lists of five statements. Although this is a multiple-choice question, this proved to be quite challenging, with many candidates failing to score both points in (ii) as they opted incorrectly for B or D instead of A and C.

Summary and advice to centres

Marks lost in this examination are most typified by answers provided in the following questions.

Section A

Qs 1, 2, 3 and 4. These questions tested candidates' understanding of key vocabulary items listed in the specification for Higher level. Candidates should be aware these are the items that will be tested.

Tips

The question title, eg 'Problemi in vacanza', provides an important clue. Candidates should use the reading time available to think about the question title and the key words they are likely to hear. Candidates sometimes ticked too many boxes in the grids. They should check the number of marks available for each question. These are noted at the bottom of each question set.

Section B

Qs 6, 7 and 9. These questions asked candidates to briefly respond to questions asked in English.

Tips

Candidates should use the reading time available to think carefully about the questions asked. For example, in Q6(e) 'Why is it important to take care of the beach, in Grazia's view?' an opinion is required for the answer. Candidates should also check the number of marks available for each question: if 2 marks are available, then 2 details will be required. Short answers only are required. Too much information given can sometimes negate the given response.