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Examiners' Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2022

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Italian (1IN0)
Paper 3F

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Introduction

GCSE Italian paper 1IN0 3F is assessed by means of a forty-five minute examination. During this time, candidates are assessed on their understanding of written Italian across a range of different types of texts. The paper draws on vocabulary and structures across all of the themes.

The assessment consists of 10 questions and the total mark for the paper is 50 marks.

Section A has six questions set in English, two of which are questions based on literary extracts.

Section B contains three questions set in Italian.

Section C contains one translation passage from Italian into English.

Texts for individual questions within the assessment use high frequency language and vary in length, including both short and longer written passages. Texts include authentic sources that introduce more complex language and unfamiliar material. Literary texts consist of short extracts from texts that may have been adapted and abridged from authentic sources to be appropriate to this level.

This is the first full-scale series examination under the 2017 specification since 2019.

Most entrants at this level achieved some success on questions with English prompts which required the recall of familiar vocabulary items from the list provided in the specification and many candidates were able to gain at least some marks on the new translation into English task. However, candidates were less successful on questions which required processing or interpreting meaning and although the literary texts and questions with rubrics in Italian proved accessible to those achieving higher scores on the paper they were more problematic for some candidates.

Question 1

This question required candidates to read a blog about the *Palio di Siena* and select the person for whom the statements that followed the text were appropriate. Most candidates found this question very accessible as it contained very familiar vocabulary items from the list provided in the specification. Most candidates scored 4 or more points from the 6 available.

The last part was the one in which most candidates answered incorrectly, even though there are no obvious distractors for this part. Many did not seem to understand 'ogni anno'.

Question 2

This question required candidates to choose words from a box to complete sentences related to a text about a volunteering opportunity for young people. Less successful candidates found this type of gap-filling question challenging. Errors were made at random, which indicates that some candidates seemed to guess an answer, perhaps without carefully reading the text. Some candidates did not select words/phrases from the box but made up their own answers and they would be advised to read the instructions very carefully and to only select words/phrases from the box for their answer. They should also think about the syntax of the sentence in English to ensure that their choice of answer fits the sentence.

Candidates generally scored 3 marks or more from the 5 available. Parts (a) and (e) proved to be the most accessible for candidates, however in part (a) some candidates did not seem to know 'all'estero'. In part (c) some chose 'two months' instead of 'a fortnight' and in part (e), some confused the months 'marzo' and 'maggio'.

Question 3

This question required candidates to read an extract from Valeria's blog about school and answer questions in English.

Part (a) proved to be more accessible than part (b) for many candidates.

However, in part (a) (i) many wrote '10 years' instead of '10 months'. In (a) (ii) some wrote that the school is situated in a small country in the mountains and did not seem to know that 'paese' means 'village'.

In part (b) (i) some candidates struggled with 'fine anno' and gave answers that were not precise enough, for example, 'every year'. In (b) (ii) some did not know 'pallacanestro' and answered 'football' instead of 'basketball'.

Question 4

Here candidates were required to read an extract from a literary text, *Cosa è successo a tre fratelli calciatori* by Gianni Celati and select an answer from the four options available. The majority of candidates were able to score some points on this question. The most challenging parts were parts (iv) and (v) as candidates had to interpret meaning. For part (iv), less successful candidates chose A or C instead of B and for part (v) some chose D instead of A.

Question 5

In this question candidates were required to read an article about an Italian beach resort and answer questions in English. The majority of candidates managed to score at least 1 point but few scored all 3 points. In part (a), many lost marks as they gave answers that were not precise enough, such as 'it is beautiful' or 'it is the best beach in Italy' instead of '**one of** the best beaches in Italy'. In part (b) many candidates opted for 'football' as their answer, perhaps through a lack of close reading of the text or a lack of understanding of the time markers in the text. Part (c) was the part in which candidates were most successful, although some lost marks by not being specific enough, for example, answering 'young people' but this is not what the text says.

Question 6

In the question candidates were required to read an extract from a literary text, *Io non ho paura* by Niccolò Ammaniti and answer questions in English. This proved challenging for many candidates and most scored a maximum of 2 points from the 4 available. In part (a) most candidates were able to understand the adjective 'calde' and refer to the summer being hot and thereby they scored a point but some answered 'cold' instead. In part (b) some candidates gave answers that were not in the text, such as 'because she was his sister' or 'because she liked him'. Part (c) was straightforward for the vast majority of candidates who correctly answered, '9 years old'. In (d) many seemed not to know the verb 'cadere' and again wrote answers that were not in the text. There were a few blank responses, especially for parts (b) and (d).

While candidates may not know a response, they are advised to at least have an educated guess based on the context of the question, as leaving a blank space will never be given any credit.

Question 7

In this question candidates were required to read a text about an Italian film and then select words from a box to complete sentences related to the text in Italian.

Many candidates found this question challenging, with many only picking up 1 or 2 points. Many candidates showed a lack of awareness of syntax and grammar here and all parts showed responses where candidates seemed to be simply guessing the answers.

Part (a) was the most accessible with most candidates selecting the correct answer, 'lavoro'.

In part (b) many chose 'antipatico' instead of 'conosciuto'. In part (c) many candidates failed to understand the adjective 'stretto' and some did not realise the need to use a masculine adjectival ending after 'rapporto' and chose 'negativa' or 'romantica' instead. For part (d), most candidates correctly chose 'moglie' but those who did not opted for 'sorella' instead. In part (e), many chose 'romantica', while the correct answer was 'negativa'.

Question 8

This question was a multiple choice exercise that required candidates to read an article about a part-time job and choose an answer from the four options available. Here candidates generally scored 3 or 4 points, some perhaps as a result of guess work but some as a result of being able to recognise lexical items that appeared in the text. Most scored the points in parts (i), (ii) and (iii). In part (iv) some candidates chose C instead of B, drawing on the reference to 'Spagna' in the text. In part (v) many candidates chose B instead of D.

Question 9

This question required candidates to read information about 4 different hotels in Sorrento and then choose the correct hotel to complete the sentences related to the text. Here, the majority of candidates scored at least 3 points as they were able to identify key vocabulary items from the text and the questions. Part (e) rather surprisingly proved to be the most challenging as a significant number of candidates did not seem to know 'macchina' and failed to link this to 'parcheggio gratuito'.

Question 10

Here, candidates were required to translate a passage of Italian into English, on the topic of languages.

This question worked very well and the whole range of marks was equally represented, with the majority of candidates scoring 4 or more points. Candidates tried hard to make sense of the passage and there were many successful attempts. The vast majority of candidates were able to translate the meaning of the first two sentences correctly. Some struggled with the past tense in 'ho cominciato a imparare il tedesco' and some did not know what 'tedesco' meant. Some did not seem to know time markers and mistranslated 'estate prossima' as 'last summer'. Some candidates left gaps or only translated the first couple of sentences. While some candidates managed to convey at least some of the meaning of the passage, some struggled to render meaning and used incorrect time frames or made up random sentences that were not connected to the text. There were a few responses with a large number of gaps or that were completely blank and candidates are advised to attempt the whole question as they can receive marks for partial communication, even if they do not understand the whole passage.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance in this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

- Candidates should read all questions carefully, paying particular attention to the question words.
- Candidates must remember that, in the multiple-choice questions, most alternative incorrect options will contain an element of distraction, such as a word or phrase candidates will have read. Learning to look for these can be a helpful skill.
- Candidates must ensure that their translation reads naturally in English. It is often not possible to translate word-for-word from the original Italian text. There will probably be unknown words, or even whole sentences, in the translation. Candidates should translate the words they do know and then make a sensible guess at the unknowns from the context.
- Candidates need to proof-read what they write and run a 'sense-check'.
- Candidates must answer all questions and not leave blank spaces. An educated guess may get some credit but a blank space will not.
- Candidates must remember to be careful with handwriting and to present their work neatly