



Examiners' Report **June 2022**

GCSE Italian 1IN0 4H

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Introduction

For this paper questions are set in common contexts, addressing a range of relevant contemporary and cultural themes.

They are organised into five themes, each broken down into topics and sub-topics. The five themes are: Identity and culture, Local area, Holiday and travel, School, future aspirations, study and work, and International and global dimension. The assessment tasks feature general content that is familiar and accessible to all candidates.

This year, in the context of the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic which has disrupted the education of candidates sitting exams in summer 2022, Pearson Edexcel provided advance information on the focus of the content of summer 2022 Italian GCSE Writing exam in order to support candidates' revision and enable teachers to adapt their teaching if necessary, in the time before the examination. For this year only the fifth theme (International and global dimension) was removed from the exam.

Candidates are required to produce responses of varying lengths and types to express facts, ideas and opinions in Italian. The length of each response required and complexity of language increases across the paper. Recommended word counts are specified for each question. Candidates will not be penalised for writing more or fewer words than recommended in the word count or for going beyond the mandatory bullet points although a piece that is too short will be self penalising.

All questions are marked against the assessment criteria as published in the current specification. The instructions to candidates are all in Italian but this year question titles were in English as an extra help for candidates following disruptions to learning due to the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic. The use of dictionaries is not permitted.

The assessment time for paper 4H is 1 hour and 20 minutes in length and it carries 60 marks. The paper consists of two questions and one translation from English into Italian. Candidates must answer all questions.

Question 1 has two options, from which candidates have to select one. This question assesses candidates on their ability to convey information, narrate, express opinions, interest and convince the reader about a certain point. Candidates should use the informal register. This question is common to the Foundation tier.

Question 2 has two options, from which candidates have to select one. This question assesses candidates on their ability to convey information, narrate, express and justify ideas and opinions and interest or convince the reader. Candidates must use the formal register.

Question 3 is the translation question. Candidates are required to translate a short paragraph from English into Italian. The individual sentences are ordered by increasing level of difficulty.

Question 1 (a)

For Q01(a) candidates were given four bullet points within the context of writing to a friend about their town; they had to write 80-90 words of Italian. The question had to be answered using past, present and future time frames.

At Higher level this question was surprisingly more popular than Q01(b). Unlike Foundation candidates, Higher candidates were well able to describe their town, say what they had done recently in town, express why their town was interesting to visit and say what they wanted to do when their Italian friend came to visit. A few didn't read the introduction properly and mentioned what they would like to do with Luigi in Italy but this kind of response was not penalised.

This question was very well answered by candidates at this level. This is clearly a topic that candidates had prepared well before the exam. Verb tenses were generally good, and many candidates managed to answer all bullet points well. There were a few candidates who struggled with verb conjugation, particularly when using the past tense.

Many candidates write a lot more than the recommended word count. They will not be penalised for writing more than recommended in the word count.

Ciao Luigi,

Sono molto ~~felice~~ felice che
~~vuoi~~
~~spesso~~ venire a casa mia la prossima estate. Non vedo l'ora!

La città dove abito (Brighton) è bellissima in estate. È una città turistica quindi ci sono molte cose da fare.

~~Preferisco~~
~~Passare~~ ~~andare~~ ~~alla~~ ~~spiaggia~~ ~~sol~~ ~~volta~~

C'è una spiaggia grande, un cinema e due teatri. Il mio luogo preferito è il parco perché ~~è~~ ~~pieno~~ ~~di~~ ~~alberi~~ ~~sono~~
~~è~~ spazioso e tranquillo.

Di solito, evito il centro perché è spesso pieno con i turisti. Preferisco guardare il TV a casa. Tuttavia, ~~l'anno~~ recentemente mia sorella e io siamo andati al teatro

per vedere un spettacolo. Il teatro è troppo caro per i turisti: loro preferiscono usare i loro soldi per visitare i musei e i monumenti famosi. Il spettacolo era eccellente. Tutti gli attori erano locali e la musica era incredibile. La canzone ultima era la canzone più bella che abbia mai sentito.

Penso che i turisti siano ~~spesso~~ spesso maleducati, ma la mia città è interessante da visitare perché c'è molta cultura. Ci sono i Festival ogni estate, tanti bar, i teatri...

Quando ~~viene~~ ~~la~~ ~~Bigli~~ arrivi a Brighton, spero ~~che~~ di portarti al teatro. Vorrei andare al parco nazionale ~~con~~ anche per mostrarti gli alberi alti. Poi andremo alla spiaggia e ~~mangeremo~~ mangeremo il gelato. Che cose vorresti fare a Brighton?

A presto!



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This candidate scored full marks: all bullet points are covered with a lot of expansion and language is varied and accurate, with just a few minor errors.



Read every question on the exam paper before you begin to write your answers. Look very carefully at the whole question, including the rubric, to make sure that you fully understand what you are being asked to do. Answer each of the bullet points in order.

Question 1 (b)

Q01(b) required candidates to write an informal email about their school. They had to address the four bullet points and produce between 80-90 words in Italian. At Higher level this question was surprisingly less popular than Q01(a), despite being another well rehearsed topic.

Most candidates were well able to describe their school and say what they had done recently at school, explain why studying is important and say what they would like to do in the future within the school/university context.

Again, this was generally answered well by candidates and all bullet points were generally attempted. Candidates were better able to express ideas and opinions more elaborately and successfully than those who did this question on Foundation, as is to be expected. Again, there were a few candidates who struggled with verb conjugation, particularly when using the past tense. Overall, however, the standard for Q01(b) was slightly lower than for Q01(a), as the topic of school was possibly more accessible to less able candidates.

Candidates can score full marks just by writing 80-90 words, as per recommended word count.

(b) Il tuo professore ti chiede di scrivere un articolo sulla tua scuola.

Scrivi un articolo.

Devi includere i seguenti punti:

- una descrizione della tua scuola
- che cosa hai fatto a scuola recentemente
- perché è importante studiare
- che cosa intendi fare nel futuro.

Scrivi 80-90 parole circa **in italiano**.

(20)

La mia scuola è un posto dove sono libera di essere me stessa. È molto grande, e ci sono tantissimi di professori gentili che mi aiutano sempre. ~~Perché~~ ~~sono~~ Feri sono andata a una competizione di libri con ~~tra~~ le mie amiche.

Abbiamo incontrato ~~tra~~ persone nuove da ^{ranre} altre scuole ed era molto educativa. Penso che è molto importante studiare perché senza il studio, non è possibile fare un lavoro che ti guadagna soldi, ^{ma} ~~che~~ soprattutto un lavoro che ti fa felice. Nel futuro, vorrei tanto viaggiare in Francia per studiare la geografia, e quando ~~avrò~~ circa 30 anni ~~vorrei~~ vorrei iniziare ad insegnare le lingue.



This candidate was able to cover all bullet points with enough depth and expansion within the recommended word count. Language was generally accurate and also scored full marks despite a few minor errors, which did not hinder clarity of communication.



Answer each of the bullet points in order. Write a separate paragraph for each bullet point, as this will help you check that you have covered all of them in detail.

Question 2 (a)

Q02(a) required candidates to write an article about an evening at the cinema. They had to address the four bullet points and justify their ideas and opinions. They had to produce between 130-150 words in Italian. Q02(a) was less popular than Q02(b).

Most candidates were able to cope with the demands of this question at Higher level and all bullet points were generally answered well. Most were able to give details of the evening and their opinion about the film. Most were also able to state that the cinema is important for young people as it gives them a chance to have a break from studying and to meet new people, for example. Most were also able to communicate details about how people can be encouraged to go to the cinema, for example, reducing ticket prices or offering free food or drinks as an incentive.

A few candidates misunderstood the question as they interpreted the formal "Lei" as having to write about a female person so that they wrote their pieces using the third person singular rather than the "io" form of the verb (eg *lei e' andata al cinema, lei ha visto una commedia* etc.).

This candidate clearly answered each of the bullet points in order, writing a separate paragraph for each point.

Ieri sera mi sono recata al cinema con mia sorella, e abbiamo visto un film drammatico, la serata mi è piaciuta molto perché ad accompagnare il film c'erano bibite e pop-corn, ma la cosa che più ho adorato era lo schermo gigante, pure mia sorella è rimasta sbalordita dalla buona qualità dello schermo. C'era tanta gente che (per fortuna) non era rumorosa per niente durante il film, e grazie a questo siamo riuscite a godercelo tutto.

In mia opinione il film che abbiamo visto ieri era fantastico, anche se all'inizio sembrava noioso subito dopo

é iniziato il punto forte. Ho amato gli attori siccome erano molto talentuosi e mi é piaciuto come nel finale nessuno si sarebbe mai aspettato che morisse il protagonista, questa ~~cosa~~ scena ha fatto piangere tutti. Mia sorella ha detto che il film di ieri é il suo ~~nuovo~~ nuovo film preferito, ed io sono d'accordo con lei. Consiglierei ~~questa~~ ~~il~~ il film di ieri a tutti, bisognerebbe produrre piú film cosí secondo me.

Penso che il cinema può essere importante per i giovani perché aiuta a distaccare dalla realtà e i problemi per un po' di tempo, ed i film in sé ~~la~~, normalmente, hanno dei significati molto importanti che per la giovane età sono essenziali. L'importante é non ~~iniettare~~ esagerare con i pop-corn che vendono al cinema perché potrebbero causare danni alla salute.

Negli ultimi quattro anni, tanti cinema hanno dovuto chiudere per sempre, a causa ~~del~~ ~~poche~~ dei pochi spettatori per colpa ~~di~~ della TV. Per fermare questo problema bisogna incoraggiare piú gente ad andare al cinema,

abbassando i prezzi dei biglietti, ~~facendo~~
~~per~~ mettendo posti più comodi e ~~più~~ in
aggiungendo cuscini e aumentando la varietà
dei generi di film, siccome ultimamente nel
cinema ci sono troppi film romantici, ma
non dobbiamo dimenticarci dei fan dei
film dell'orrore e fantascienza. Credo
che questi fattori potrebbero cambiare
i numeri ~~dei~~ delle persone che vanno
al cinema ~~e~~ aumentandoli.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This candidate scored full marks as they managed to communicate detailed relevant information as required by the bullet points, using a wide variety of grammatical structures and lexis.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Try and use a variety of grammatical structures and vocabulary to avoid repetition.

Question 2 (b)

Q02(b) required candidates to write about a summer job in Italy. They had to address the four bullet points and justify their ideas and opinions. They had to produce between 130-150 words in Italian.

Again, this was generally well-answered by candidates. Most were able to give details about a previous job, either basing it on personal experiences or making it up. Most were also able to explain why they wanted to work in the summer (for example, to earn money to pay for holidays or to be more independent from their families). Most were also able to say what the advantages of working in Italy would be (for example, improving their Italian and spending time in a beautiful place and sampling Italian food) and to express their plans for the future.

Most candidates were able to cope with the demands of this question at Higher level and all bullet points were generally answered well. The world of work is clearly a topic that is well prepared. However, a few candidates did not read the bullet points carefully and failed to address them all and they should be reminded of the need to address all points in their response.

This candidate wrote a formal letter of application using a very appropriate register.

- ✓ descrizione di un lavoro che ha fatto in passato 47.
- ✓ perché vuole lavorare durante l'estate 27
- ✓ quali saranno i vantaggi di questa esperienza in Italia 39
- ✓ che progetti ha per il futuro. 27

Scriva 130-150 parole circa **in italiano**.

(28)

140.

Gentile Direttore,

Vi sto scrivendo ~~perché~~ perché io vorrei una posizione nella vostra azienda questa estate. L'anno scorso, similmente ~~ho lavorato~~ ho ~~lavorato~~ lavorato nell'estate per un ristorante.

Ero un ~~cameriere~~ cameriere. Ho imparato come si parla con i clienti ~~ed~~ ho sviluppato l'abilità di lavorare ~~dentro~~ dentro in un ambiente molto stressante.

Io vorrei ~~lavorare~~ ^{lavorare} lavorare per l'estate perché lo ho ~~avuto~~

scuola ~~me~~ nel gli altre stagioni.
Per quella ragione nelle ferie io vorrei
guadagnare i soldi per bastarmi
L'intero anno.

I vantaggi di questa ~~esperienza~~
esperienza sera che lo curavo
L'opportunità di provare la
mentalità del lavoro, ~~mi da~~
~~to~~ Avrà un'opportunità per
provare il mondo del lavoro, e
provare la professione per sapere
se è quello che vorrei fare nel
futuro.

Nel futuro distante io vorrei
~~di~~ diventare un dottore per
salvare le vite di tante persone.
Vorrei andare a viaggiare a
luoghi poveri e salvare tante
persone gratis

Cordiali Saluti, Miah



This candidate scored almost full marks as all bullet points were covered and language was varied and consistently accurate.

Communication and content: 16 marks

Linguistic knowledge and accuracy: 11 marks



Leave enough time to check your work carefully at the end of the exam.

Question 3

Q03 required candidates to translate a short passage of four sentences from English into Italian. The passage was based around the topic of travel.

Most candidates were able to translate most of the passage successfully. Some did struggle with items of vocabulary such as 'country' and 'cycling trip'. The most challenging item of vocabulary appeared to be 'foreign'. A few used the wrong tense, writing *ho scritto* instead of *scrivo*.

Some candidates left blanks where they did not know a word or phrase and they would be strongly advised to attempt all of the passage as blank spaces do not result in marks.

When dealing with the translation candidates should try to be as close to the original text as possible, in terms of vocabulary and verb tenses.

3 Traduci il seguente testo in italiano.

I am Antonella and I love travelling. I write a blog about my experiences. Last year I left Rome on my bicycle and I visited all of Italy. It is such a beautiful country. Next year I am hoping to do another cycling trip to see lots of foreign cities.

Sono Antonella e amo viaggiare. Scrivo un blog ^{delle} ~~scritte~~ mie esperienze. L'anno scorso ho lasciato Roma in bicicletta e ho visitato tutti l'Italia. È un ^{paese} ~~paese~~ bellissimo! L'anno prossimo spero di fare ancora un giro in bicicletta per vedere tante città all'estero.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This candidate achieved full marks despite some minor spelling errors. *Citta' all'estero* was accepted as an alternative to *citta' estere*.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Try to translate every word, including what might appear minor words. Do not leave any gaps.

Paper Summary

While standards at Foundation level appeared to have been affected by disruptions to learning caused by Covid-19 pandemic, standards at Higher level has not really changed since before the pandemic. The level of response was generally very good, and candidates seemed to have covered the topic areas well. There appeared to be a very high proportion of native/near-native speakers. Grammatical awareness and accuracy were better than at Foundation level but there were many instances of careless mistakes and inaccurate verb formation and candidates are advised to read over their work carefully and check it. Candidates are also advised to read the question very carefully and consider what each bullet point is asking them to write about exactly before completing their answer.

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

- read every question on the exam paper before you begin to write your answers;
- look very carefully at the whole question, including the rubric, to make sure that you fully understand what you are being asked to do;
- answer each of the bullet points in order;
- write a separate paragraph for each bullet point, as this will help you check that you have covered all of them in detail;
- leave enough time to check your work carefully at the end of the exam;
- try and use a variety of grammatical structures and vocabulary to avoid repetition;
- write your answers on the correct pages of the answer booklet. If you find that you have written, for example, part of Q02(b) on the page for Q02(a), then please write a brief note so that the examiner (who only sees one question at a time) is aware of this and can take the necessary action;
- in Q03, try and translate every word, including what might appear minor words;
- ensure that your handwriting is as neat as possible.

Grade boundaries

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