



**General Certificate of Secondary Education  
June 2011**

**Modern Hebrew**

**46752**

**(Specification 4675)**

**Unit 2: Reading**

***Report on the Examination***

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## **General Comments**

This was the first year of the new GCSE Modern Hebrew specification. Questions are now set in English and answers must also be in English. This means that students must show a full understanding of the stimulus material to obtain marks. In previous years it was possible for students to guess and copy the correct parts of the passage in Hebrew into their answers if they did not understand the question.

This year some students answered according to their general knowledge and/or by using the title of the passage. This led to many answers which were incorrect guesses.

### **Question 1(a)**

This question was answered correctly by most students. Most of the incorrect answers to this question were given because students chose other months beginning with 'J' such as January and July.

### **Question 1(b)**

This question was answered correctly by most students. The mistake students made most often was to give Thursday as the answer instead of Wednesday. This is probably because the literal translation for Wednesday in Hebrew is 'the fourth day'. The first day of the week in Hebrew is Sunday. It is possible that many students counted from Monday, arriving at Thursday as the fourth day, and so lost a mark.

### **Question 2(b)**

Many students did not identify 'grapefruit' as a fruit. They may have been looking for the word 'fruit' in Hebrew which did not appear in the text.

### **Question 4(b)**

Some students failed to understand that the word *Me-oonun* meant cloudy.

### **Question 5(b)**

Students gave answer G instead of E.

### **Question 6**

Students did not perform well on this question. Many answers were guesses based on the title given in English and from their knowledge of everyday life, rather from reading the text. Students who gave the correct answer had obviously read and understood the text very well.

### **Question 11**

Students lost marks because they did not understand the vocabulary relating to male and female soldiers. Marks were also lost because students did not refer to the correct part of the passage for the question asked, ie the correct translation was written down, but this was not the answer to the question.

### **Question 12**

As with question 11, some students did not identify the correct part of the passage in order to give the right answer. They did not understand what the question asked and some answers were simply guesses.

### **Question 13**

Again, students did not read the questions carefully and so provided answers from the passage which were not what the question asked. They did not differentiate between the words 'must' and 'suggestion' in parts (a) and (b) of the question.

### **Question 14**

The questions did not follow the order of the stimulus material and so some students looked for answers in the wrong part of the text rather than considering this as a whole.

### **Question 16**

Some students gave answers based on their knowledge of the situation in India and did not answer the question according to what was written in the text.

### **Mark Ranges and Award of Grades**

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results statistics](#) page of the AQA Website.

Convert raw or scaled marks into marks on the Uniform Mark Scale (UMS) by using the link below

**UMS conversion calculator** [www.aqa.org.uk/umsconversion](http://www.aqa.org.uk/umsconversion)