



Pearson
Edexcel

Examiners' Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

November 2020

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Persian (1PN0) Paper 1H: Listening and
Understanding

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Introduction

This year none of the candidates chose to answer paper 1PN0_1F, therefore this report relates to paper 1PN0_3H, which tests candidates' ability to listen and comprehend spoken Persian and it also examines the candidates' spelling skill in Persian.

The evidence from marking indicates that the paper was effective in differentiating between candidates of different abilities and that all the questions tested their abilities as anticipated.

The published mark scheme provides extensive guidance with regard to the overarching approach to marking. The mark scheme has been trialed before and after exam in different stages and at the end with sample candidates' answers to ensure candidates are rewarded fairly. As the approach to marking is positive, examiners always seek to reward what candidates produce.

It is helpful for teachers to distinguish clearly between the assessment's objectives stated in the specification.

There was varied evidence of how well candidates were prepared for this assessment, but there was little evidence of where candidates did not follow the instructions, for instance, leaving parts of questions unanswered.

Question 1

Candidates need to fill in the gaps using the words given. To excel in this question candidates need to listen for details. There are extra words -distracters- among the given words, so candidates must be able to distinguish the correct answers by focusing on the main message for each sentence, otherwise they may choose one of the distracters instead. Understanding the implied messages is of great significance in this section. To fill in the gaps, the candidates need to write in Persian. Therefore, they need to improve their spelling skills. Candidates will not be awarded any marks if they write in English.

Question 2

Candidates need to use four given words to fill in 5 gaps. The purpose of this section is to examine their knowledge of homographs. Candidates often confuse different meanings of a word; as a result, they do not get the right answer. Again, in this section, their spelling skill is needed since wrong spelling results in losing out marks. Candidates need to understand the implied and intended messages in order to excel in this question. Candidates need to write in Persian otherwise they will not be awarded any marks.

Question 3, 5 and 8

Multiple questions. Candidates do not need to write in these questions so the main point they need to focus on, is understanding the implicit and indirect points made in the recordings. Candidates need to be able to understand spoken Persian and its translation in English as the recordings are in Persian and the questions are in English. Again they need to identify the keywords in the recording and know their meanings in English to be able to excel in these questions.

Question 4

Candidates must choose three correct statements out of seven. They must not choose more than three. When candidates make mistakes in their choices, they must make them clear so that the examiner can easily identify which three choices they chose. Failure to do so, results in no marks. Candidates must be able to listen for details as there are similar statements with minor differences.

Question 6 and 7

Candidates must answer five questions. Each question worth 1 mark but one worth 2 marks as more details are needed. Some of the candidates fail to provide more details for this question. Candidates must read the rubric and the questions carefully. They must write their answers in English as no marks would be awarded if they write in Persian. Candidates need to listen for details and implied messages. Candidates must have a wide range of vocabulary in order to excel in this part as they need to translate the message from Persian to English.

Question 9

This question has two parts and for each part there is a separate recording. In both parts they listen to a recording in Persian, but they must write the answers in English. Writing in Persian does not help the candidates get any marks. The level of difficulty arises in this question so the candidates must listen carefully to understand the implied messages. Candidates need to have a wide range of vocabulary and their meanings in both languages in order to excel in this section.

Question 10

This question has two parts. There are separate recordings for each part. Candidates need to choose two correct statements in each part. They must not choose more than two for each part. Their choices need to be clear so the examiner can easily identify them. The level of difficulty is higher than any other questions in this paper so they need to carefully pay attention to the recording. Some of the distracters are close to the points made in the recordings but with minor change; therefore, listening for details is of great significance.

Advice to centers:

- Ensure that candidates are familiar with the question types and their format.
- Remind the candidates to read the rubrics thoroughly and carefully.
- Ensure that candidates are able to listen for details as it will help them find out the correct answer. Candidates need to be able to understand the implied messages.
- Ensure that the candidates' spelling skill is enhanced.
- Ensure that the candidates are familiar with all of the words in Pearson Vocabulary list. This list can be found on Pearson webpage.
- Ensure Candidates know the meaning of all of the words in Pearson Vocabulary list in Persian and English.
- Ensure that candidates write the answers in English where asked.
- Ensure than candidates are familiar with different accents and pronunciation.
- Ensure that candidates are able to summaries the main points when listening.

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