Examiners' Report
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2022

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
In Russian (1RU0)
Paper 3F: Reading and Understanding in Russian

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Overview

This paper was worth 50 marks and divided into 3 sections. Section A requires answers in English and is worth 28 marks. Section B requires answers in Russian and is worth 15 marks. Section C is the translation into English and is worth 7 marks. Students had 50 minutes to complete the paper.

Question 1.

Students were asked to read a text and identify who said what about part-time work, using the names given.

The majority of students coped very well with this question, with many gaining full marks. However, some students did not appear to have read the instructions and did not realise that the names could be used more than once. Some candidates also answered in Cyrillic and therefore could not access the marks for this question.

Question 2.

Students had to read a blog and complete 5 sentences in English using the vocabulary given in a box. Again, the majority of the students did well. The most frequently correct answers were a), c), d). Surprisingly less successful students did not identify *«синий»* answering '*green*' for b). Also surprising was the number who did not identify *«оркестр»* and therefore were unsuccessful in e). Some candidates did not follow the instructions on the task and chose responses which were not from the vocabulary box provided.

Question 3.

Students were asked to read an email and answer questions in English. The question was in two parts. Part a) had 3 questions on an email about Andrei and his attitude towards the environment, part b) had two further questions on the continuation of the email.

Part a)

(i) was accessible to most with *«каждый день» being recognised by most* candidates.

(ii) Most students were successful here and identified «старый». Some made their own assumptions from this and gave answers such as 'it was diesel', which could not be credited. Some candidates also did not read the question correctly and answered, 'it was bad for the environment'.

(iii) Very few students were unsuccessful with almost all answering either '*lazy*' or '*far*'.

Part b)
(i)The most successful candidates knew *«велосипед»* but some failed to understand that he intended to buy a bike, suggesting he already owned one. Some candidates also translated *«велосипед»* as 'motorbike'.

(ii) Most candidates were successful in understanding either *«дорого»* or *«нет денег»*.

Question 4.

Students were asked to read an extract from a literary text and answer multiple choice questions in English.

Question 5.

Students were asked to read a text about a holiday to Moscow and answer questions in English.
Part a) was answered well by most candidates. Some candidates failed to see the negation and answered, 'it snowed'. Some candidates also translated тепло as 'hot' and failed to gain the mark.
Part b) was answered well by most candidates. Candidates overall were able to identify one of the two adjectives used to describe the hotel. Some candidates talked about the location of the hotel rather than describing it.
Part c) required candidates to understand больше всего. Most candidates identified *«магазины»* and therefore achieved the mark. Some candidates translated *«магазины»* as 'magazines'.

Question 6.

Students were asked to read a short literary text and answer four questions in English.
a) most candidates answered correctly. Some unsuccessful candidates translated *«акрисы»* as 'artists' or failed to mention both elements, either answering with just 'Americans' or 'Actresses'.
b) most candidates answered this part of the question correctly. Some candidates answered incorrectly by mentioning what Anna did in the morning.
c) was again successfully answered by most candidates and it was pleasing to see how many candidates identified устала.
d) this part of the question was answered well by most candidates.

Question 7.

Students were asked to read a text in Russian and then complete sentences in Russian using words from the box.

Some students did not use the words in the box and unfortunately gained no marks.

Parts d) and e) proved to be the most challenging. In d) students had to connect '*завтраки, ужины и обеды*' from the text with '*еда*' from the box. In e) successful students linked '*вебсайт*' with '*интернет*.' Some candidates realised the need for a prepositional ending but frequently opted for '*гостинице*' as their response.

Question 8.

Students were asked to read a text about a school trip and complete multiple-choice questions in Russian by crossing a box. This question was accessible to almost all students with the most successful gaining full marks.

Question 9.

Students had to read a text about opinions on living in the town and countryside and identify who thought what, using the names given in the rubric.
This question was answered well by most candidates. Some candidates answered this question using Latin script and should be reminded to answer in Russian to avoid being penalised.

Question 10.

In this question, candidates were asked to translate a short passage containing 5 sentences of varying difficulty into English. It was surprising that some students did not identify the adjective '*любимый*'.
Some candidates had difficulty with time expressions with '*всегда*' and '*часто*' often being translated incorrectly. However, it must be remembered that as long as the meaning of the passage is communicated fully, 7 marks can be awarded despite minor errors.

Summary and advice.

● Students should be aware of the need for careful reading of Russian texts and questions both in Russian and English and for the need for accurate answers.

● Students should read the question words (eg *who, what, where* or *когда, куда, где etc*) carefully in order to answer correctly.

● The question title can provide a clue for students eg *School Exchange* or *Иностранные языки.*

● Students should write answers in the appropriate language/script. No marks can be awarded for answers in the wrong language.

● Students should write clearly in both scripts. Any errors made should be crossed through and rewritten.