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Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2018

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Russian (5RU03)

Paper 3: Reading and Understanding in
Russian.

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Publications Code 5RU03_01_1806_ER

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GCSE Russian 2018.

Unit 3 Reading and Understanding.

Examiner's report.

In this paper candidates are asked to demonstrate their understanding of a number of short texts in a range of contexts. Question types include matching and multiple choice exercises with a mixture of verbal and visual clues as well as an English language response to one question (Q9).

Questions 1 – 4 provided very few problems for the vast majority of candidates.

Questions 5 – 7 were answered well with most candidates gaining the majority of marks available.

Question 8

Question 8 was aimed at the most able candidates, but it was pleasing to see that very few candidates left gaps when answering. It must be remembered that this question is aimed at gist understanding and will contain unfamiliar language, so it was encouraging to see that many candidates answered very well.

Question 9

Question 9 as usual proved to be the most testing exercise. Candidates are required to provide full, accurate answers in English to a text containing some unfamiliar language. It must be stressed that candidates are not expected to understand every word, but the gist of the text.

- a) This caused few problems for most candidates. Although most got the correct answer, some just put *car*, which was not sufficient at this level and several answered wrongly *bus* or *plane*. *Driverless cars* or similar was required, but *pilot* was not acceptable.
- b) This question proved accessible for most candidates. However it is important to read the question thoroughly. TWO marks were required. Most candidates got *dangerous/impossible*, but many did not know *public transport*.
- c) Again some candidates fell down by not reading the question properly, writing *the minister thinks it is a good idea* rather than answering how the ministry helped.
- d) Most gained marks for this question, but some wrote *automatic and manual* which was clearly a guess. Others guessed at *cars with and without passengers* or *with a telephone operator*.

- e) Most candidates got some marks here, but some lost marks by not understanding driving licence. Pass or document were not sufficient at this level.
- f) This question provided few problems with most candidates gaining full marks.
- g) Here the comparative was needed. For full marks candidates had to get **more dangerous than normal cars**. Some candidates put safer, but it was good too see a number getting the correct comparative.

Although this year a number did lose marks because of poor and sometimes incomprehensible English, overall it was pleasing to see how well the majority of candidates answered.