

Examiners' Reports

June 2011

J037/137/737/R/11

OCR (Oxford Cambridge and RSA) is a leading UK awarding body, providing a wide range of qualifications to meet the needs of pupils of all ages and abilities. OCR qualifications include AS/A Levels, Diplomas, GCSEs, OCR Nationals, Functional Skills, Key Skills, Entry Level qualifications, NVQs and vocational qualifications in areas such as IT, business, languages, teaching/training, administration and secretarial skills.

It is also responsible for developing new specifications to meet national requirements and the needs of students and teachers. OCR is a not-for-profit organisation; any surplus made is invested back into the establishment to help towards the development of qualifications and support which keep pace with the changing needs of today's society.

This report on the Examination provides information on the performance of candidates which it is hoped will be useful to teachers in their preparation of candidates for future examinations. It is intended to be constructive and informative and to promote better understanding of the specification content, of the operation of the scheme of assessment and of the application of assessment criteria.

Reports should be read in conjunction with the published question papers and mark schemes for the Examination.

OCR will not enter into any discussion or correspondence in connection with this report.

© OCR 2011

Any enquiries about publications should be addressed to:

OCR Publications
PO Box 5050
Annesley
NOTTINGHAM
NG15 0DL

Telephone: 0870 770 6622
Facsimile: 01223 552610
E-mail: publications@ocr.org.uk

CONTENTS

General Certificate of Secondary Education

Turkish (J737)

General Certificate of Secondary Education (Short Course)

Turkish Spoken Language (J037)

General Certificate of Secondary Education (Short Course)

Turkish Written Language (J137)

EXAMINERS' REPORTS

| Content | Page |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Unit A841 Listening | 1 |
| Unit A842 Speaking | 3 |
| Unit A843 Reading | 4 |
| Unit A844 Writing | 6 |

Unit A841 Listening

General Comments

Most candidates answered the questions correctly and there were some very good marks.

Comments on individual questions:

Exercise 1: Questions 1-5

The majority of candidates answered the questions correctly.

Exercise 2: Questions 6-12

This exercise was answered very well by most candidates.

Exercise 3: Questions 13-18

This exercise was answered correctly by the majority of candidates. Only a few candidates answered question 15 incorrectly. They ticked box B instead of C.

Exercise 4: Questions 19-24

Question 19: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates.

Question 20: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates. The most common reply was "after school".

Question 21: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates. Some candidates chose to give their own ideas such as "allergy" and "dog hair" which were not mentioned in the text and lost marks.

Question 22: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates. However, some candidates gave "wrong" or "bad" as answers and did not gain any marks.

Question 23: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates. Some candidates had difficulty spelling the word "throw". They were not penalised for that.

Question 24: This question was answered correctly by most of the candidates.

Exercise 5: Questions 25-31

Question 25: Some candidates were not able to answer this question correctly. The common mistakes were: "mum's wedding", "her wedding", "mum".

Question 26: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates. Those who gave restaurants as an answer were not awarded any marks.

Question 27: There were many different answers for this question. Some candidates who did not know the word "groom" managed to explain it as "the cousin's husband" or "the man who is getting married" and they were awarded the mark.

Question 28: There were also many different answers for this question. The common mistakes were: we, they.

Question 29: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates. The common mistake was: uncomfortable.

Question 30: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates. The common mistakes were: “trees”, “beach” and “sea”.

Question 31: This question was answered correctly by most of the candidates. Some candidates gave 12 islands, “Göcek” as their answer and lost marks.

Exercise 6: Questions 32-37

These questions were answered correctly by the majority of the candidates.

Exercise 7: Questions 38-44

Question 38: This question was answered correctly by the majority of the candidates.

Question 39: Some candidates found it hard to respond correctly to this question. The common mistakes were: “markets”, “fashion shops” and “modal shops”.

Question 40: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates. The common mistake was: “friends and family”.

Question 41: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates.

Question 42: Some candidates repeated the question rather than answering it. The common mistakes were: “one by one” and do it again.

Question 43: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates.

Question 44: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates. However, some candidates failed to explain correctly the reason for Zeynep’s travelling and gave answers such as: “she likes travelling” or “her products are liked abroad”.

Exercise 8: Questions 45-50

Question 45: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates.

Question 46: This question was answered correctly by the majority of candidates.

Question 47: Some candidates found it difficult to answer this question. Some of the mistakes were: “shiny” and “looked”.

Question 48: This question was answered by some the candidates. The common mistake was: “My friend was looking at gold”.

Question 49: This question was answered correctly by some of the candidates. The common mistakes were: “boss”, “teacher”, “headmaster” and “museum owner”.

Question 50: *Dolmabahçe Palace* did not need to be translated into English. Some common mistakes were: “The garden place”, “*Dolma* garden”, “Vine garden” or “garden”.

Unit A842 Speaking

General Comments

Most of the candidates performed very well and more than half of them achieved full marks or close to full marks in the exam. Only a very small number of candidates were not prepared for the exam and did not do so well as a result.

Most centres carried out the exam efficiently and in accordance with the set guidelines (in MP3 format on a CD, etc). A few centres recorded the examinations on a format other than MP3 format, or submitted a tape rather than CD. The recordings were generally clear.

The exam had a new and different format this year, but some teacher examiners were not familiar with this and, as a result, did not encourage candidates to expand fully on their answers, express different points of view and give justifications for their answers. Generally, however, candidates were confident and fluent.

Comments on Individual Questions/Sections

Part 1 – Presentation

Candidates were generally well prepared for this section and presented their chosen topic confidently. Most of them spoke for a full minute – some for longer.

The most popular presentation topics were: holidays and exchanges; life in the home, friends and relationships; food and drink; TV, films and music; and sport, outdoor pursuits and healthy lifestyle.

The most able candidates preferred to talk about work and work experience and environmental and social issues.

The most popular free choice topics were, by far, football and local area.

Part 2 – General conversation

As with Part 1 above, the most popular conversation topics included holidays, self and family, and food and drink, but almost all of the topics were covered when looking at the examinations as a whole.

Candidates were generally very confident and took control of the conversation. Those who were examined by experienced teachers/examiners in particular were able to demonstrate their skills in the language by giving justifications, points of view and opinions in their answers. Many candidates seemed at ease during the conversations.

Unit A843 Reading

General Comments

The majority of candidates performed well, appeared to be familiar with the topic areas and coped with the rubrics and tasks types with ease and confidence. However, some candidates struggled in the “Answer in English” questions. Students should be given practice in this type of exercise as English is the carrier language for most of the scheme of assessment in the new specification.

Comments on Individual Questions:

Exercise 1: Questions 1-5

These questions were answered well by almost all of the candidates. It was only in Q4 that a few candidates chose option H “*Kız kardeşim cam siler*” instead of option E “*Ablam evi temizler*”.

Exercise 2: Questions 6-12

Most of the candidates answered these questions well.

Exercise 3: Questions 13-18

Most candidates answered these questions well. Only a few candidates failed to answer Q14 correctly. They chose B (the picture of summer) instead of C (winter). Also, in Q16 candidates got C (picture of party indoors) mixed up with B (picture of party in the garden).

Exercise 4: Questions 19-24

These questions were generally answered correctly by most candidates. However in Q19 and Q23 some candidates chose the wrong answer.

Exercise 5: Questions 25-31

Most candidates answered these questions well. However in Q26 some candidates wrote only “15” or “5 years” instead of “15 years” and lost the mark.

In Q27 some candidates answered “ill” without specifying the full answer “could not walk” and failed to get the mark.

In Q29 some candidates failed to get a full mark as they wrote “look at the dog” instead of “look after the dog”.

Exercise 6: Questions 32-37

These questions were answered correctly by most candidates. However, some candidates answered Q33 incorrectly: they chose option C (shop) instead of B (market). Again in Q36 some candidates chose option A (the cost is lower) instead of B (the climate is better).

Exercise 7: Questions 38-43

These were good questions and achieved the intended differentiation.

Some candidates failed to gain full marks as they were not able to give the right set of words for the answer. In Q38, the answer was about informing, making people aware of the way flu spreads; whereas in Q39 the answer was about warning people about the flu virus. Although the mark scheme covered a variety of the words which meant giving information for Q38 and warning people about the flu virus in Q39, some students failed to answer correctly.

In Q41 most students achieved a full mark elaborating “walk” alongside other recommendations.

Exercise 8: Questions 44-47

A few candidates answered this exercise in English instead of Turkish and lost marks although it was clear that they had understood the text.

In Q47 some candidates failed to get a full mark as they wrote “*şişmanlatır*”.

There were, however, some very good responses.

Unit A844 Writing

General Comments

Most of the candidates performed well in this exam. However, some candidates failed to follow the instructions carefully (**candidates must answer two questions only**) and answered all five questions. This might have affected the quality of their writing. Those who managed to express information clearly and to develop and justify their points of view scored high marks for communication. Candidates who used a variety of clause types, vocabulary, idiom and structures, including verb structures confidently and accurately were awarded high marks for quality of language. Those who gave very short answers were not awarded full marks because they did not write enough to score well on the Quality of Language mark. Candidates are advised to make sure that they write exactly to the recommended word count.

Candidates who express their opinions and points of view by giving reasons always gain marks for communication. Therefore the teachers are advised to:

- use reading passages, with a number of opinions and justifications as teaching materials so that students can identify them and then use them in their own work
- practise the use of some linking words such as; so, because, since, and in order to, to help students justify opinions
- prepare exercises such as; sentence completion, gap fill, multiple choices related to opinions and justifications
- do matching exercises with cards with opinions, point of views and cards with justifications
- give tasks to students such as find out five opinions or points of views of a famous writer, a politician, etc. about a certain topic, for instance education, work, relationships, traditions, art which can then be shared in the classroom and discussed
- get students to interview their teachers, family members and friends to find out their ideas about different subjects, and share and discuss these or even display them
- organise pros and cons games and debates
- show films and read short stories, and discuss the characters in the classroom. Students can be asked to give and justify their opinions about the characters
- given as homework watching a film or TV programme as most students have access to Turkish television and radio programmes via satellite and internet.

A number of candidates, lost marks for not expressing their point of views and opinions, this is perhaps, due to a lack of preparation and practice for the exam. Candidates are advised to read the instructions carefully. Magazine article, letter and e-mail formats were the most popular ones.

Comments on Individual Questions:

Question 1 Home and Local Area

This was the most popular question. Most candidates performed well. Some candidates chose to cover the bullet points, and some communicated additional details. Some candidates described their homes and neighbourhood in detail. They mentioned what activities they do at home and how they feel about it. The most common example was to help parents with household chores and feel happy about it. Some candidates explained what they do to relax at home and what they would like to change about their home giving reasons and expressing points of view. Most candidates chose to use a magazine article format for this question.

Question 2 Health and Sport

This was also a popular question. Some candidates managed to give information about the sports they do and expressed their points of view about the importance of doing sport. Most candidates gave their opinions on how healthy eating is important to well being and what they need to change about their own life style to feel better. The most common decision was to cut down on fast food and sweets. Nearly all candidates chose to use a magazine article format for this question.

Question 3 Leisure and entertainment

This question was chosen by a few candidates.

Most candidates chose to use email format for this question.

Question 4 Travel and the wider world

This question was nearly as popular as the first one. Most candidates gave information on how they usually spend their holidays and gave details of the activities they do on holiday. Some candidates expressed their opinions about what makes a good holiday by giving reasons.

Question 5 Education and work

Most candidates chose to use email or letter format for this question. Those who explained their plans clearly and gave opinions about the benefits of learning languages by giving reasons were awarded high marks for communication.

OCR (Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations)
1 Hills Road
Cambridge
CB1 2EU

OCR Customer Contact Centre

14 – 19 Qualifications (General)

Telephone: 01223 553998

Facsimile: 01223 552627

Email: general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk

www.ocr.org.uk

For staff training purposes and as part of our quality assurance programme your call may be recorded or monitored

Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations
is a Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered in England
Registered Office; 1 Hills Road, Cambridge, CB1 2EU
Registered Company Number: 3484466
OCR is an exempt Charity

OCR (Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations)
Head office
Telephone: 01223 552552
Facsimile: 01223 552553

© OCR 2011

