

Examiners' Report/ Principal Examiner Feedback

June 2011

GCSE Urdu (5UR03) Paper 3H

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Reading and Understanding (Higher)

This was the second year for this paper and specification and more candidates sat the examination as last year they still had the option of taking the old specification.

This paper was aimed at A* to C grades and was better attempted with most students achieving full marks for the overlap questions which was rightly expected from them.

- Q1: This question was about fast food and its harmful effects on health. Most candidates ticked the correct statements and scored full marks.
- Q2: This was a similar question to the above and candidates were required to tick four boxes about some youngsters speaking about how they spend their free time. Once again most candidates scored full marks for this overlap question.
- Q3: The candidates were required to read statements about holiday plans and write the correct letter in the boxes to match the corresponding short English statement and once again most candidates' performance was very good.
- Q4: The candidates were required to read a short passage about Mirpur. This included information about how the old city was destroyed and the new one was built. Expectations for correct answers were quite high but the results were very poor. Most candidates could not transfer meaning correctly and lost valuable marks. It was aimed at 'A' target but the performance of candidates was disappointing.
- Q5: This was an overlap question and quite well performed by the majority of candidates.
- Q6: This was also an overlap question about a birthday party and almost all candidates scored full marks for matching the sentence halves correctly.
- Q7: The candidates were required to read a short paragraph about different shopping habits among men and women and then fill in the blanks about the same with vocabulary provided. Most candidates did not understand the given vocabulary or did not bother to think. The results were quite disappointing as it was not meant to be a difficult question.
- Q8: This question was targeted at A* candidates. The paragraph was about work experience which most candidates go through prior to their GCSE examination. The candidates were required to read this and tick one correct statement out of three given in each of the eight parts. It was sad to see that very few candidates got full marks in this question with most of them scoring only one to four marks maximum.

Candidates are expected to read with understanding for this paper but this was not demonstrated for three questions which were targeted at 'B' 'A' and 'A*'.

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