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Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2018

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Urdu (5UR03_3H)

Paper 3H: Reading and Understanding
in Urdu.

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GCSE Urdu

Paper 3H Reading and Understanding in Urdu (Higher Tier)

Examiner Report

This paper is aimed at the A* to C grades. There are four questions in this paper that are overlap between the foundation and the higher paper.

Question 1

This question required students to answer questions based on someone talking about boarding schools. Students had to tick one out of the three given boxes for each of the four questions, in order to match English description with the Urdu text. Students generally responded well to this question which was an overlap question, but quite a few lost marks. Students should be taught to read the sentences thoroughly, identify the key vocabulary and pick out the correct ones carefully.

Question 2

This was an overlap question between foundation and higher paper. This question was based on road signs. Students were required to read short sentences in Urdu and match it to the English title as to where they would see this sign. They were required to put a cross in the correct box against the relevant description of activity in English language. The majority of students ticked the correct boxes scoring full marks, with few losing a mark.

Question 3

The students were required to answer questions on a short passage based on someone describing their future plans. The students had to tick four correct boxes out of a wide range of options against the sentences that matched these requirements. Students generally responded well to this question, but few students lost marks. Students should be taught to read the sentences thoroughly, identify the key vocabulary and pick out the correct ones carefully.

Question 4

The students were required to answer questions on a slightly longer passage and the students had to write descriptive answers to questions in English. This question was about the use of internet and social networks. The majority of students gained marks for all the parts but some students lost marks in Q4 (e), as they did not understand the question and some students used a wide variety of keywords, which often led to ambiguity. All legible and unambiguous responses were taken into account when marking this part. Students must read carefully and answer the question according to information given in the text.

Question 5

This overlap question was based on job adverts where different descriptions were given for the required staff in different places. Different job adverts contained information as to what they were looking for. Students were required to read Urdu statements and match the statement to English key words. The majority of students did well scoring three or four marks for this question.

Question 6

This question was based on a short passage about restaurants and eating out in different parts of Pakistan. Students were required to select one out of three options given in English for each of the four questions. The majority students ticked the correct boxes scoring full marks in this overlap question. Some students could not read and understand the vocabulary to match the English sentences to the given information, hence scoring one or two marks only at this level.

Question 7

This question was based on healthy lifestyle, and targeted at the higher grades. The stimulus passage was based on information about healthy life and benefits of regular exercise on a daily basis. Students were required to read the information and then match the four correct statements to the given information. Their performance was quite good as most students scored three to four marks for this question.

Question 8

This question is targeted at A*. In this question, the students were asked to select responses in Urdu to a series of questions on a relatively challenging passage about 'the postal service'. This question proved to be a strong differentiator between students of different levels of ability. The performance of students was good as most students scored between five and eight marks for this question. The questions were well structured with short statements in Urdu language. The students' performance was much better compared to previous years, but some lost the odd mark. Only higher ability students were able to get full marks in this question.

