

SPANISH

GCE Ordinary Level

<p>Paper 3035/01 Translation and Composition</p>
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General comments

The standard of entries was very similar to that of previous sessions. Candidates were prepared for the type of questions set and there was no evidence of difficulty in completing the paper within the time allowed.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

The subject matter for the picture essay was accessible to all who tackled the question and gave scope for individual treatment of a number of aspects of the story, for example, the nature of the injury to the walker.

The vocabulary topic areas required in the story were not always as secure as would be expected at this level – weather, description of a person and food. The majority of candidates used the preterite as the main narrative tense and there were fewer examples than usual of the incorrect use of the perfect tense.

Question 2

- (a) This prompted some original essays and good ideas. There was some uncertainty regarding letter etiquette and confusion between the appropriate phrases for formal and informal forms of address.
- (b) This scenario elicited some lively conversations. Candidates are reminded that they should only include dialogue in their answer. Reported speech is not what is required.
- (c) There were fewer answers to this question but it was clearly accessible to those who tackled it.

Question 3

As has been stated previously in Reports, candidates are advised to choose this option only if they have practised translation into Spanish regularly. Those who chose this question showed familiarity with the task and, overall, there was a greater awareness of paying close attention to detail than has been seen in the past.

Linguistic difficulties encountered by candidates included:

- *gustar*
- irregular verbs
- *tener/haber*
- identifying the tense required
- agreements
- passive (avoidance of)
- subjunctive.

<p style="text-align: center;">Paper 3035/02 Reading Comprehension</p>
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General comments

As usual there was a broad spread of marks for this component.

Comments on specific questions

Section 1

Exercise 1

Done well by most. Two possibilities were allowed in **Question 1** as it was accepted that newspapers can be bought in a *papelería*. The most common error was to opt for A in **Question 6**, confusing recycling and cycling.

The correct answers were:

Question 1: B or D; **Question 2:** D; **Question 3:** A; **Question 4:** A; **Question 5:** D; **Question 6:** C.

Exercise 2

Done very well; quite a few candidates managed to score six out of six here. Weaker candidates were clearly guessing.

The correct answers were:

Question 7: F; **Question 8:** E; **Question 9:** D; **Question 10:** G; **Question 11:** B; **Question 12:** C.

Exercise 3

Done quite well on the whole. Mistakes were distributed evenly across all the questions, though perhaps **Question 17** was the one most frequently answered incorrectly.

The correct answers were:

Question 13: F; **Question 14:** V; **Question 15:** V; **Question 16:** V; **Question 17:** V; **Question 18:** F.

Section 2

Exercise 1

Done quite well by some, though weaker candidates found this a difficult exercise.

The correct answers were as follows:

Question 19: A; **Question 20:** D; **Question 21:** C; **Question 22:** B

Question 23 *Con mucho interés/Estaba muy interesada/Le interesó mucho*

Question 24 *Any two of: Las trasladó al barrio de Compton/uno de los mas duros de Los Angeles/para que crecieran sin comodidades.*

Exercise 2

Another demanding exercise. For **Question 25**, many candidates misunderstood the text and wrote *La población y los ayuntamientos*. For **Question 29**, it was not enough to write *Acompañan a sus hijos a los centros para hacer el piercing*: the key idea was that the parents supported their children in their desire to get a piercing. And in **Question 45**, the Examiners were looking for some reference to the fact that there are many centres in both countries where the practices are undertaken without proper medical control.

Correct answers were along the following lines:

- Question 25** *Los ayuntamientos*
Question 26 *El tatuaje/Tatuarse/Los tatuajes*
Question 27 **(i)** *Esterilizar los utensilios*; **(ii)** *Guardar las normas de higiene sanitaria*
Also acceptable was one of *Aplicar bien la técnica/Usar buenos materiales*
Question 28 Any two of: *Una infección/Un músculo cortado/Quedar desfigurado/Acabar con una parte del cuerpo destrozada*
Question 29 *Lo apoyan/Están a favor*
Question 30 *El número de establecimientos que practican el piercing*
Question 31 *De dar sangre durante un año*
Question 32 *Muchos practican sin control/Muchos practican no oficialmente*
Question 33 D

Section 3

Exercise 1

Although some candidates, who had clearly been thoroughly prepared for the Cloze test, did well, this exercise proved difficult for many candidates.

The correct answers were:

- Question 34** *a/para*
Question 35 *la/de*
Question 36 *en/sobre*
Question 37 *veces/menudo/ratos/continuación/medianoche*
Question 38 *para*
Question 39 *como*
Question 40 *al*
Question 41 *se*
Question 42 *sido/quedado*
Question 43 *estaban/funcionaban*
Question 44 *faltaba/tomaron/movieron/cogieron/quitaron*
Question 45 *había*
Question 46 *Sin*
Question 47 *llamó/fue/telefoneó/informó*
Question 48 *que/cual*
Question 49 *cuánto/qué*
Question 50 *mandarían/enviarían/llamarían/contratarían/avisarían/llamara*
Question 51 *esa/aquella/más*
Question 52 *a*
Question 53 *Por/Con/Tuvo/Tenía*