



General Certificate of Secondary Education

German 4662 *Specification B*

46602/R Reading

Report on the Examination

2007 examination - June series

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READING

General Comments

This examination was the second Module Two for the revised specification and is worth 25% as a whole.

The papers provided a variety of question types, some of which were of a more challenging nature than others, and included full coverage of both the Module One and Module Two syllabus topics. At the beginning of each of the Foundation tier papers, and again at the end of each of the Higher tier papers, there were questions in English requiring answers in English. The tasks were felt to be a fair means of assessing candidates' ability at this level and at this stage of the course.

The 2007 candidature included the whole ability range and many candidates clearly did themselves justice in all papers and at every level, reflecting very positively the hard work that is carried out in centres.

It is hoped that, through the comments that follow on individual questions and answers, centres will be assisted in their on-going preparation of candidates for future examinations. The highlighting of strengths and weaknesses aims to help make that preparation more effective.

Once again we feel we must mention that all answers should have been written in either blue or black pen. The use of pencil, coloured pens, ink eraser pens and correcting fluid is not permitted under the Regulations of the examination. Examples of some of the above were, however, to be found this year in a small number of scripts.

Candidates do need to be reminded, too, that their answers should be very clearly written – and in the boxes or spaces provided – and that all crossings out should be very obvious. Although examiners do their best to give candidates the benefit of the doubt, marks are still being lost through the careless and/or unclear formation of letters.

Equally important is the observation of rubrics. All instructions are reinforced by means of an example but candidates occasionally do themselves a disservice by, for example, answering in English instead of German or by indicating more than one choice of answer where only one is required.

If centres find that for any reason they require extra examination papers, they should contact AQA immediately rather than use photocopied scripts.

Foundation Tier

Question 1

There was a mixed response to this first question. Candidates clearly understood what the task involved, but many were unable to recognise the German for *rabbit* and still more had problems with *budgie*.

Question 2

This question was well answered, on the whole. Occasionally, in section (a), answers such as *holiday*, *summer* and *return* were given, with no reference to the fact that the tickets were for plane travel and, therefore, the mark could not be awarded.

Question 3

Sections (b) and (e) were very well done in this question, with over 90% of answers correct. Sections (c) and (d) followed quite closely, with at least 70% of the candidates being successful. In section (a), however, less than half of the candidates interpreted *Geschwister* correctly and did not include Stefan's brother in their answer.

Question 4

There was quite a mixed response to this question, where the majority of candidates had only 2 or 3 correct answers out of the possible 6. Sections (b) and (e), *Sportmöglichkeiten* and *Information*, were, not surprisingly, the most successful, followed by section (f), *Geschichte*. Section (c), *Sehenswürdigkeiten*, proved to be the least successful, with only 20% of the candidates selecting the correct answer.

Question 5

This question proved to be quite challenging for the majority of candidates at this level and it produced some quite low scores. Sections (c) and (e) were the most successful, with just under 50% of candidates having the correct answers. It is perhaps worth mentioning at this point that *N* is not considered to be an acceptable alternative to *NT*, as it is clearly an ambiguous answer, closer to *falsch* than to *nicht im Text*.

Question 6

This was the first of the cross-over questions and the only opportunity on the Foundation paper for candidates to produce their own written answers in German. Section (e), which required recognition of the future tense, was the least successful, followed closely by section (d), where a vague answer of, for example, 160m contained insufficient information for the mark to be awarded. In a small number of cases, candidates simply copied out passages from the text, which were often inappropriate. It was also quite common for *wir* and various forms of *mein* to be included in answers, making them inappropriate, too.

Question 7

The responses to this question were a little less consistent than those to question 5, which was of a similar style. Sections (a), (e) and (f) produced the best responses, with (a) having just under 50% of answers correct and (e) and (f) around 55%.

Question 8

This question required an awareness of different time frames and proved, therefore, to be quite a challenging finish to the Foundation paper. Section (a) had the best response, with just over 30% of the candidates scoring a mark. Sections (b) and (c) were the least successful. In each of these sections, a correct answer was given by fewer than 10% of the candidates.

Higher Tier

Question 1

This was much more successful at Higher tier than at Foundation and there was a little more accuracy within individual answers, although section (e) had, once again, the highest percentage of incorrect answers. Many recognised the future tense, but then included *wir* in their answer, making it unacceptable.

Question 2

The response to this question, too, was better in every section at Higher tier than at Foundation and, once again, sections (a), (e) and (f) proved to be the most successful.

Question 3

Again, at Higher tier, this question proved to be a good test of time frames. As at Foundation tier, section (a) had the best response, but this was followed very closely by section (e). Once again, sections (b) and (c) were the least successful, perhaps as a result of poor recognition of the Interrogatives *Wie?* and *Wo?*

Question 4

Candidates responded very well to this question, and in particular to section (e), where over 94% correctly chose *Martin* as their answer. The least successful section was (b), but even here well over half of the candidates chose the correct answer.

Question 5

The responses to this question were much more consistent than those to question 2, which was of a similar style. Correct answers ranged from 59% in section (d) to a very encouraging 86% in section (b).

Question 6

This question at the top end of the Higher tier paper was a good discriminator. Although only a very small percentage scored the 6 marks available, well over 90% managed to find at least one correct answer – a much improved response to this style of question.

Question 7

There was some evidence of guesswork here, particularly in section (b), along with a fair amount of vague, poorly expressed English. Sections (a), (e) and (f) were the most demanding and section (c), with almost 60% of the candidates answering appropriately, proved to be the most successful. In section (d), just below 30% of the candidates scored 1 of the 3 marks available, but only the best candidates included **different** reasons as to why Cédric was in favour of having a holiday in his own country (which was sometimes interpreted as Germany!). Large numbers of candidates gave a list of what France has to offer, rather than looking for the other arguments put forward by Cédric. In section (e), the majority of candidates said that Sandra is now afraid of flying, rather than recognising the fact that she is now **more** afraid of flying than she was before. A small number of candidates gave answers in German in some, or all, parts of this final question.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

Grade boundaries and cumulative percentage grades are available on the [Results Statistics](#) page of the AQA website.