



# **General Certificate of Secondary Education**

## **German 4662** *Specification B*

**46604/W Writing**

# **Report on the Examination**

*2007 examination - June series*

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## **WRITING**

### **General Comments**

There were very few blank scripts this year. Candidates had been appropriately entered. Examiners expressed concern about the quality of handwriting - some scripts were very difficult to read.

There was less evidence this year of candidates thinking in English and attempting a direct translation. Centres must still continue to practise the past and future tenses, and candidates need to be more secure in their handling of these tenses.

Centres should continue to encourage candidates to put in the umlaut in *ich möchte*

The use of 'is' for *ist* and 'was' for *war* was far too widespread. Candidates failed to gain marks because of this. Centres should encourage candidates to check their work carefully.

As was noted last year, centres must continue to practise and encourage candidates to use subordinating conjunctions. *Weil* was common, but when used, word order was disregarded. Other subordinating conjunctions were virtually non-existent. Centres and candidates must make themselves more aware of the mark scheme to be able to access higher quality language marks, with use of tenses and more sophisticated language and structure. Candidates should also be encouraged to develop their responses fully.

### **Question 1a**

Almost all candidates were able to list at least three correct items of transport.

### **Question 1b and 1c**

On the whole, candidates were able to respond appropriately to the questions. Centres must, however, instruct candidates to write in full sentences. It was noted by examiners that there was a poor use of prepositions here.

### **Foundation Question 2 / Higher Question 1**

This question was tackled confidently at both Foundation and Higher Levels.

Candidates were able to respond confidently to the tasks. Many candidates offered relevant opinions when required.

Adjective endings were rarely accurate when candidates attempted a description of their uniform.

Candidates must read the question very carefully. In task 5, some candidates wrote about events in the past in general without making any reference to school.

### **Higher Question 2**

This question proved to be appropriately challenging for candidates at this level.

There were however many examples of good, relevant well developed answers.

Candidates were less confident in the following tasks:

In task 3 some candidates described their friend and not where their friend lived. In task 6, some candidates ignored the earning money element and wrote about summer holidays in general, clearly illustrating that they had not read the task properly.

### **Mark Ranges and Award of Grades**

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