



GCSE

German

8668/RH - Paper 3 Reading Higher Tier

Report on the examination

Version: 1.0
June 2025

Further copies of this report are available from aqa.org.uk

AQA retains the copyright on all its publications. However, registered centres for AQA are permitted to copy material from this booklet for their own internal use, with the following important exception: AQA cannot give permission to centres to photocopy any material that is acknowledged to a third party even for internal use within the centre.

General

Students were in the main well prepared for this paper and many were able to cope admirably with the challenges presented to them. This is the final examination of this specification, and students were clearly familiar with question-types and the format and demands of the paper. Handwriting remained an issue for some students, and it is important that responses are clearly presented and that crossings out do not prevent the desired response from being clear to examiners. A small minority of students wrote their responses in the wrong language, especially in section B of the paper.

Section A

Questions and answers in **English**

Question 1

This question on the topic of sport was generally well answered. It was an overlap item, and the question-type was a familiar one, used often in the past. Over 20% of students scored the full 4 marks available and over 80% scored at least 2 marks. Where problems arose, they were usually because students translated *vor der Schule* as *for the school* and because they were unfamiliar with *Turnen*.

Question 2

This question was also an overlap item, this time on the topic of 'my home'. Again, students scored well here, with well over 80% gaining marks for 2.1 and 2.2; 2.3 presented more of a challenge, with a success rate of just less than 50%. This was because *Hafen* and *Schiffe* were unfamiliar to many.

Question 3

The topic of the item here was friendship. Over 90% of students gained a mark for 3.1 because they were familiar with *Zeit* and/or *Geduld*. However, the next four questions proved challenging for many. Students clearly struggled with the vocabulary on the theme of characteristics here. *Launisch* and *eifersüchtig* were not well known. Students were also often unfamiliar with *zuhören* and *unterstützen*. Success rates for these four questions were around 40%. The final two questions of the item were well answered, with a success rate of around 80% for both 3.6 and 3.7.

Question 4

The questions here were based on a text about life at school and were generally well answered. The question-type was *True/False/Not in Text*. Success rates ranged from around 60% to 95%. Interesting to note here is the fact that the questions with a response of *Not in Text* proved to be the most challenging to students.

Question 5

These questions were based on a literary source and non-verbal responses were required, where either statement A or B was correct or both A and B. The questions were generally well answered, with a success rate of over 90% for 5.1 and 5.4 and over 70% for 5.3. 5.2 and 5.5 proved to be more challenging, with about 40% of students gaining marks here. Students struggled with the vocabulary items: *Sorgen um* and *unangenehm* (5.2) and *Meinung sagen* and *kündigen* (5.5).

Question 6

The questions here were non-verbal in nature and were based on a text about voluntary work. Students were familiar with much of the vocabulary and answered well. Success rates for the 5 questions ranged from around 75% to around 95%.

Question 7

The questions here were based on a text on the environment. The exercise involved sentence completion. Success rates on these high demand questions were mixed. Students answered 7.2 well, with approximately 70% gaining the mark. 7.1 saw about 45% score the mark. 7.3 and 7.4 proved extremely challenging, with success rates of around 20%. Clearly, *Ecke* and *Schulhof* (7.3) and *Erfahrungen austauschen* were challenging for many students.

Section B

Questions and answers in **German**

Question 8

This was the first item with questions and answers in German. It was an overlap question and required non-verbal responses on the topic of jobs. The questions were well answered, with success rates ranging between around 70% and 80%.

Question 9

This item was also an overlap question, this time based on the topic of music, with questions and answers in German. The questions were well answered, with success rates ranging between around 75% and 95%.

Question 10

This item was based on the topic of social media, with questions and answers in German. Students coped generally well with a demanding item and success rates ranged from around 80% (10.1) to 45% (10.5).

Question 11

This item was based on the topic of cycling. Students were required to read a text and select four correct statements from a list. The item was well answered, with approximately 40% of students gaining full marks and around 75% scoring at least 3 marks.

Section C

Question 12

Students were required to translate a passage into English. It is pleasing to note that the improvement in performance on this question-type, shown over recent years, continued in 2025. Almost 20% of students gained full marks here (9/9) and around 80% scored at least 5 marks. Students were familiar with vocabulary and were, in the main, able to translate with accuracy and precision.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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