

OXFORD

INTERNATIONAL
AQA EXAMINATIONS

INTERNATIONAL GCSE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

(9280/R) Reading

Report on the examination

June 2022

REPORT ON EXAMINATION: INTERNATIONAL GCSE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE 9280/R READING JUNE 2022

General Comments

The general performance in Reading has continued to show that students can read, understand and respond to a range of written texts in an encouraging way with many students achieving good results and two students achieving full marks. Students did well in answering multiple choice questions on Text 1. As with other series, Text 4 presented the greatest level of difficulty though an improvement in students' ability to explore what is implied and inferred was evident.

There was some further improvement in students' ability to paraphrase well in questions which required students to 'explain in your own words what this means', with some students showing impressive knowledge of vocabulary and providing some excellent synonyms. There was an increasing awareness of the importance of verb tense in answers.

In a small number of cases handwriting was quite difficult to read and letters written in the relevant boxes did not always clearly resemble one of the given choices. In addition, in some cases students wrote a lot in answers which required them to provide specific information with some copying large chunks of the text rather than only presenting the detail which was relevant.

Text 1

Students generally achieved very well on all six questions with 95% of students gaining the maximum mark on question 6 and 99% of students choosing the correct answer for questions 1, 2 and 5.

Text 2

Question 7

This question which was multiple choice, was correctly answered by 97% of students.

Question 8

92% of students gave a correct answer for one mark. Some students responded with a detail which showed how physical exercise could improve students' mental rather than physical health.

Question 9

37% of students gained two marks for listing two different types of exercise classes. Some students did not seem to understand the meaning of the phrase 'unlimited swimming,' erroneously including the adjective 'unlimited' in answers.

Question 10

This was a well answered question with 87% of students listing a correct response.

Question 11

64% of students gained a full two marks for this multiple-choice question.

Question 12

This question provided quite a high level of difficulty with 45% of students gaining the full two marks. While some students were able to explain the idea of a 'soothe', with 'relax' being the most common synonym, and some students being able to explain the idea of 'aching' muscles, less than half were able to do both.

Question 13

95% gained both marks for this multiple-choice question.

Question 14

94% of students chose the correct answer in identifying the main purpose of the text.

Text 3

Question 15

97% of students answered this multiple-choice question correctly.

Question 16

97% of students answered this question correctly.

Question 17

86% gained the full three marks in listing what the Peter Tabichi's life before he was a teacher. A minority of students included detail about which was after he became a teacher. Students did well in general on this question in providing relevant detail.

Question 18

A well-answered question with 79% of students explaining the meaning of 'transformed' correctly.

Question 19

This question proved challenging with 7% of students gaining the full two marks in explaining the phrase 'unlock their potential' accurately in their own words and 36% gaining one mark. Many students struggled to explain the idea of 'potential' to include the notion of **future** skill or capability.

Question 20

79% of students gained the full four marks for this multiple-choice question.

Question 21

40% of students explained the phrase 'with his humble background' accurately.

Question 22

This was a well-answered question with 95% of students gaining the full two marks.

Question 23

45% explained both ideas accurately and gained the full two marks. For two marks students needed to include a clear explanation of what 'challenging' means while also explaining the idea that Tabichi made a choice to opt for a career in teaching.

Question 24

90% of students answered this correctly by identifying the main point of the whole article.

Text 4

Question 25

This question acted as a good discriminator. There were some very encouraging answers with some students explaining all three ideas accurately (9%) and 20% managing to explain at least two of these ideas.

Question 26

An encouraging 60% gained the full four marks in listing what the writer says about the fisherman. A verb was required for the answer to make sense.

Question 27

This question presented some challenge with 26% of students gaining the full two marks and 35% of students gaining one mark. Many found it challenging to find accurate synonyms for both 'discard' and 'inactivity'.

Question 28

This question also presented some challenge with 12% of students gaining the full three marks. Some students presented information which was not relevant about the city of Cochin.

Question 29

This question was well answered with 95% of students choosing correctly in identifying the main point of paragraph 4.

Question 30

20% of students answered correctly explaining what 'fevered' meant and gaining one mark.

Question 31 and Question 32

These two multiple-choice questions presented students with the challenge of identifying the meaning of some sophisticated vocabulary and were broadly well answered with 76% answering question 31 correctly for the full two marks and 64% question 32 correctly for one mark.

Question 33

This was a well-answered question with 92% of students gaining the full 2 marks.

Question 34

This was a reasonably well-answered question with 43% gaining the full four marks. The challenge was to present relevant detail in the correct form.

Question 35

69% of students chose the correct answer.

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In line with OxfordAQA's Fair Assessment promise, the assessment design, marking and awarding of this examination focused on performance in the subject, rather than English language ability.



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