



GCSE

Italian

8633/LF Listening (Foundation)

Report on the examination

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General Comments

Just under 500 students sat this examination, representing a decrease of around 50 compared to last year. The mean mark achieved was 19 out of 40 (48%), which is significantly lower than last year's 66%, but closer to the mean mark from two years ago which was 45%. One student scored full marks, while 10% of students achieved 75% or above. A very small minority of students answered Section A questions in Italian and, as a result, were unable to receive marks for those responses.

Teachers should remind students to:

- read the prompt statement carefully and ensure their answers make overall sense.
- highlight or underline key words which have been highlighted in the rubrics/questions.
- answer Section A questions in English.
- revise basic topic vocabulary.

Section A

Questions 1 - 2

Fewer than 50% of students scored on the opening two questions, which tested clothing vocabulary.

Question 3

This Grade 2 question was the first to require written responses and almost all students attempted an answer. More than half achieved full marks.

Question 4

Overall, students performed well on this question on sport.

Questions 5

This question on school, required a written response, and was aimed at grade 3. Most students struggled to convey *brava a spiegare* in Q5.1. However, Q5.2 - which required understanding of *troppi esami* - was handled with greater success.

Questions 6 – 8

Many students seemingly misread the sentence prompt in Q6. Over half neglected to notice that a time phrase was required and instead completed the sentence with the subject of the documentary: *The documentary on Channel 5 is on TV this Leonardo da Vinci*. In Q7, *il telegiornale* posed difficulties for 65% of students whereas in Q8, *cartoni animati* was successfully identified by 85% of students.

Question 9

Students found this grade 3 written response question particularly challenging due to specific items of vocabulary: *la palestra*; *mi annoio*.

Questions 10 – 12

Most students performed well on Q10 and Q11, but many struggled with Q12 which required them to understand La Befana.

Questions 13 – 15

These lower-level questions about a food bank were generally well handled, although many students struggled with the phrase *borse per la spesa*.

Questions 16 – 17

These level 5 crossover questions proved challenging to almost all students, with just over 10% scoring full marks and 20% earning one mark. In Q16, marks were lost due to the mistranslation of *fare le foto con i turisti* as “taking photos of tourists” instead of “taking photos **with** tourists”.

Question 18

This Grade 4/5 question on relationships proved quite challenging, particularly Q18.1 where students needed to understand *si è innamorata*.

Question 19

Two thirds of students handled well this three-part grade 5/4 question on the environment. However, Q19.1 proved to be more difficult with only 27% of students recognising that the correct answer was embedded in Laura’s question *perché non vai al lavoro a piedi o in bici...?*

Question 20

This two-part grade 4 question focused on holidays and tested understanding of verb tenses. It was apparent that most students understood the activities mentioned but neglected to apply them to the correct time box. They were misled by the sequencer **per cominciare**, *affitterò una macchina* and did not notice the use of the future tense.

Section B

Overall, students performed better on Section B than on Section A.

Question 21

Almost 90% of students scored at least one mark on this question related to *un problema di salute*.

Question 22

This Grade 5 crossover question on *un festival di musica* was successfully answered by 50% of students.

Question 23

Q23.1 about *progetti futuri* was well executed by 50% of students, while Q23.2 saw nearly 70% achieve a correct response.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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