AQA Qualification support

GCSE Italian

Preparing to teach

Commentaries

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GCSE Italian Listening commentaries

Foundation Tier Question 32

The candidate would score **one mark**, as the first answer *animali* would **not** be accepted, a verb is needed for better clarity. *Tanti soldi* would be accepted for one mark.

Higher Tier Question 39

The candidate would **not** get the mark for writing *sposare,* as the meaning is not clear, a verb is needed *ha accetto di sposarlo/ha detto di sì.*

GCSE Italian Reading commentary

Foundation Tier

Question	Accept	Mark
08.1	**G**	1
08.2	**F**	1
08.3	**B**	1
08.4	**D**	1
8.5	**C**	1

Translation

Foundation Section C Question 12

Response	Commentary
Saturday I go to town.	Accept for one mark.
with a school friend.	Accept for one mark.
cinema,	Reject - needs the verb to make sense e.g. we go to the cinema.
film,	Reject - needs the verb to make sense e.g. to watch a film.
I like	Accept for one mark.
comedies a lot!	Accept for one mark.
Saturday I bought.	Accept for one mark.
a little... for my mum,	Reject - needs more detail e.g. a present/gift for my mum.
because...birthday,	Reject - meaning not clear, needs more detail e.g. because tomorrow it's her birthday.

The candidate would be awarded **5/9**.

GCSE Italian Reading commentary

GCSE Reading Higher Tier

Question 11.4

This candidate achieves **one mark** as has answered both parts of the question and conjugated the verbs correctly in the third person.

Translation Question 12

Response	Commentary
I live with my 2 children.	Accept for one mark.
in a house with a garden...,	Accept for one mark.
my son attends the Liceo Scientifico,	Reject - needs an explanation of what that is e.g. a school specialising in sciences.
and wants to become an engineer.	Accept for one mark.
My daughter has studied	Accept for one mark.
to be a vet in Switzerland.	Accept for one mark.
because she would like to work abroad.	Accept for one mark.
My husband and I are not together for 3 years.	Reject - this is grammatically incorrect and needs the correct verb translating e.g. have not lived together for 3 years.
and for this we are divorcing.	Reject - needs to be more accurate e.g. Unfortunately we are getting a divorce in July.

This candidate would be awarded 6/9.

GCSE Italian Writing commentaries and marks

Foundation Writing Question 1

Response	Commentary
tempo	Reject - needs more detail e.g. (oggi) è molto bello/any other suitable weather.
campagna	Reject - needs more detail e.g. i ragazzi sono in campagna.
molti fiori	Accept for one mark. For 2 marks the message needs to be more clearly communicated e.g. ci sono molti fiori.
ragazzi felici,	Accept for one mark. For 2 marks the message needs to be more clearly communicated e.g. i ragazzi sono felici.

This candidate would be awarded 2/8 marks.

Foundation Writing Question 2

La scuola comincia alle nove e finisce alle tre e mezzo.
L'uniforme mi piace. Porto i pantaloni neri, una camicia bianca e una cravatta
rossa. Non mi piacciono i compiti perché sono noiosi.

Content

8/10

A good coverage of the required information. Communication is mostly clear but with occasional lapses as the second bullet point is not covered at all; what do you study?

Quality of Language

6/6 for language.

The candidate uses a variety of vocabulary and grammatical structures e.g. '*Non mi piacciono i compiti perché sono noiosi.*' The language used is generally accurate.

Total marks achieved: 14/16

Foundation Writing Question 3

1. *Mio madre si chiamo Elena.*
2. *Il mio amico è grande e magro.*
3. *Vivo in appartamento con balcone.*
4. *Mia scuola ha mensa e biblioteca.*
5. *Ho comprato un cellulare per il mio cumpleanno.*

Conveying key messages

4/5 marks
Nearly all key messages are conveyed (omission of 'yesterday' and 'pool').

Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures

3/5 marks

The response is not generally accurate given the incorrect verb ending, omissions of articles and misspelt vocabulary ('mio', 'cumpleanno'). However, it is more accurate than inaccurate.

Total marks achieved: 4 + 3 = 7/10

AQA

Higher Writing Question 1

Passo molto tempo a ascoltare la musica nella mia camera. Amo molto la musica rock come ACDC, perché è stimulante! Suono la chitarra è uno strumento che mi piace molto.Il venerdì dopo la scuola gioco a calcio e vado in palestra una volta alla settimana perché voglio stare in forma. Sabato scorso sono andato al cinema con i miei amici. Abbiamo guardato un film comico che mi è piaciuto molto. Nel futuro mi piacerebbe poter provare uno sport nuovo, come lo sci . Secondo me è uno sport eccitante, anche se è un po' pericoloso.

Content

This candidate covered all four points communicating all aspects of the task with clarity. It is a very good response, a lot of relevant information is conveyed clearly and several opinions are expressed in a variety of ways; 'Amo/mi piace/mi è piaciuto/mi piacerebbe'.
10 marks

Quality of Language

There is a variety of appropriate vocabulary used, verbs are all secure and the first person singular and plural are used along with 4 different tenses and more complex structures such as; 'nel futuro vorrei poter provare uno sport nuovo...'
6 marks

Total marks achieved:10+6=16/16

AQA

Higher Writing Question 2

Secondo me, le vacanze sono molto importante, perché danno l'opportunità di rilassare. Durante le vacanze ho il tempo di leggere un bel libro, di fare una passeggiata, di andare in spiaggia o di passare qualche giorno da parenti che abita lontano.

La mia vacanza preferita era tre mesi fa, quando ho passato due settimane in Sicilia con la mia famiglia e due amici. Abbiamo viaggiato in aereo e stati in un albergo al mare. Le nostre camere erano al secondo piano e c'era una bella vista mare. Per fortuna l'albergo avere un ascensore e l'aria condizionato! La mia camera avere doccia e bagno e era grandissimo. Il tempo era bellissimo. C'era il sole mattina e sera. Di giorno siamo stati in spiaggia a prendere il sole o a fare il bagno. Ogni giorno, prima di tornare all'albergo, ho comprato un gelato – delizioso! Di sera sono andato a ballare. Fantastico! (150 words)

Content

12/15 marks

This is a very good response, almost always relevant and it conveys a lot of information. Opinions are expressed and justified; *'secondo me, le vacanze sono molto importante, perché danno l'opportunità di rilassare.'* Communication is mostly clear but there are a few ambiguities for example '*Per fortuna l'albergo avere'* and '*La mia camera avere doccia'*. Opinions are expressed and justified for example '*Il tempo era bellissimo.*'

Range of language

9/12 marks

There is a variety of vocabulary/structures – first person and plural form, different adjectives used to express opinions; 'grandissimo/bellissimo/delizioso/fantastico'. There are 3 tenses, present, imperfect and present perfect used and some attempt at complexity;' *Di giorno siamo stati in spiaggia a prendere il sole o a fare il bagno.'*

Accuracy

3/5 marks.

A mark of 3 is appropriate here. Although verb and tense formations are nearly always correct apart from a few examples; 'da parenti che abita lontano', 'stati in un albergo' and 'l'albergo/la mia camera avere...'

Total marks achieved: 12+9+3= 24/32.

AQA

Higher Writing Question 3

Translation

> *Abito a scula e vado in bici. Piove e decido prendo l'autobus. Vado d'acordo con i profesore, ma mia materia priferita è storia. Non posso uso il celulare durante il ricreazione. Vorrei …*

Conveying key message

2/6

There are a few key messages conveyed; 'vado in bici/vado d'acordo con i profesore/ma mia materia priferita è storia'.

For this reason, a mark of 2 is awarded, as 'few' rather than 'some' messages are conveyed.

Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures

2/6

There is a limited knowledge of vocabulary rather than very limited knowledge of vocabulary and structures; '*Abito a scula / Piove e decido prendo l'autobus / Non posso uso / Vorrei …*'

The work is generally accurate but not more accurate than inaccurate.

2 + 2 = 4/12

GCSE Italian Speaking test commentaries

Foundation Role-play 2

Communication

Tasks 1, 2 and 3 all score two marks. There are minor errors of adjectival agreement in task 1 and the omission of the article in task 2 but the messages are unambiguous. The minor errors have no impact on communication of the required messages.

Task 4 scores one mark, the use of *Non* leads to some ambiguity, as there is doubt whether the student actually does do any homework, or only on some days.

Task 5 scores one mark, the absence of a verb leads to some ambiguity here, even if the interrogative intonation is good. The intended message may be, for example, to ask if there is uniform, what it is like or an opinion of the uniform. The absence of a verb leads to a lack of precision.

Knowledge and use of language

The student shows good knowledge and use of language in relation to the tasks. In Task two the manipulation of the question shows good use of language. The language used is generally appropriate for conveying the required messages, but the missing verb in task 5 indicates a grammatical shortcoming. The incorrect adjectival agreements in task 1 and the omission of the article in task 2 have no effect on communication.

Communication	Knowledge and use of language	Marks
8	4	12

Higher role-play 10

Communication

Tasks 1 and 3 get one mark each. In Task 1 only part of the message is conveyed as students are asked to provide three details and similarly in Task 3. The use of the present tense in Task 3 does not accurately answer the question but does communicate the message.

There is no relevant response to Task 2.

Tasks 4 and 5 receive two marks each for appropriate responses.

Knowledge and use of language

The student shows reasonable knowledge and use of language in relation to the tasks. Two of the tasks are accomplished precisely with the use of appropriate verbs.

The language used in Task 1 clearly conveys the partial message.

As the student is unable to answer Task 2, it must be assumed that this reflects a gap in linguistic knowledge.

Communication	Knowledge and use of language	Marks
6	3	9

Foundation Photo card B

This candidate achieved a level 4, in the 10-12 band as the she replies to all or nearly all questions clearly and develops some answers. She gives and explains an opinion; *'Mi piace lo sport perché è divertente.'*
Verbs are not always used accurately; '*Sì, mio fratello giocare a calcio.'*

10/15 marks

Higher Photo card K

This candidate achieved level 4, in the 10-12 band as the speaker replies to all questions clearly and develops some answers but not most answers are answered fully for the top band; *'L'anno scorso sono andato a Roma in Italia con la mia scuola per 4 giorni, ho visitato il Colosseo e Il Vaticano, era fantastica!'*
She gives and explains 4 opinions and uses 3 tenses; the imperfect, the present and present perfect.

10/15 marks.

Foundation General conversation

Communication

Level 3   6/10 marks

Overall this candidate gives short responses and lacks extension of answers. Grammatical inaccuracies and lack of knowledge of vocabulary and grammar, sometimes creates a lack of clarity; '*Agosto vada in Spagna*/. *Viaggiare in Italia'.* The candidate is successful in asking the teacher a question, the performance fits the 5-6 band – "A speaker who gives short responses. Attempts at longer responses or narrating events require an effort of concentration to be understood..."

Range and accuracy of language

Level 3   5/10 marks

The candidate mainly uses very basic language and simple structures. There is little or no success in making reference to past or future events; *'Agosto vada in Spagna'* no time reference used such as next year or a correct future tense, so the language used makes the meaning unclear. There are frequent errors which regularly impede communication. However, some simple opinions are conveyed; *'Mi piace Londra è più interessante e divertente.'*

Pronunciation and intonation

Level 4   4/5 marks

Pronunciation and intonation is generally good. The definition of Level 4 states "Pronunciation generally understandable with some intonation". This is a fair description of the overall performance and a mark of 4 is awarded.

Spontaneity and fluency

Level 3   3/5 marks
There is a basic exchange, the candidate shows little or no spontaneity and relies heavily on the teacher's questions and some pre-learnt responses.

Communication	Range and Accuracy	Pronunciation and Intonation	Spontaneity and Fluency	Total Marks
6	5	4	3	18

Higher General conversation

Theme 1: Identity and culture
Theme 2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest

Communication

The candidate responds consistently to all questions successfully, with developed responses in extended sequences of speech. She provides a lot of information and is able to develop answers to narrate events clearly. The candidate is successful in asking a question to the teacher. The candidate matches the criteria for the 9-10 band as states "A speaker who consistently develops responses in extended sequences of speech. Narrates events coherently when asked to do so. Conveys information clearly at all times, giving and explaining opinions clearly".

 A mark of 9 is awarded.

Range and accuracy of language

Excellent use of language with a wide variety of linguistic structures and a wide range of vocabulary; 'Se avessi la possibibilità, tornerei l'anno prossimo!'. References to past, future, as well as present and the subjunctive. There are a few minor errors with grammatical accuracy of vocabulary when attempted; '*il mio compiti/*l'anno **scorsa'.**

Mark of 9 is therefore awarded.

Pronunciation and intonation

Good pronunciation and intonation with only minor lapses resulting in a mark of 4.

Spontaneity and fluency

The performance full reflects the criteria for 5 marks as the candidate responds promptly and although is hesitant at times, speaks with some fluency, though not necessarily with that of a native speaker.

Communication	Range and Accuracy	Pronunciation and Intonation	Spontaneity and Fluency	Total Marks
9	9	4	5	27