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# GCSE

# URDU

8648/LF Listening Foundation Tier  
Report on the Examination

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8648/LF  
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## General Comments

Changes were made to the 2023 papers to reflect the removal of the regulatory requirement to test vocabulary outside of the published vocabulary list.

The students' performance was mixed in the Foundation paper this year. The spread of marks is very wide in the Foundation paper indicating that the paper differentiated effectively. The paper covered a range of topics and offered opportunities to the students to answer questions ranging from simple ones to those requiring critical reasons. Most students were able to access the paper.

In the Foundation paper students found questions 2, 4.2, 7, 16, 17, 20, 21 and 22.2 very challenging and some students failed to score in question 2 because they did not understand the Urdu word for option and/or were not able to discount the distractor. In question 7 a number of students did not understand the Urdu word (دریا). In question 21 the text was extended and students had to read the options in Urdu.

In the Foundation paper students found questions 1, 3.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5, 6, 7, 8.1, 8.2, 10, 12, 14-17, 18.3, 19.1 and 19.2 to be the most accessible. These questions were from the following topics:

- Jobs
- Films
- Food
- Charity
- My school
- School uniform
- Choices and Ambitions (Careers)
- Life style

## Section A

Question 1 was performed well by the students, with the majority of them getting the mark.

Question 2 proved to be more challenging, with only around half of the students getting the mark. Many students did not understand the Urdu word (نہ) .

Question 3.1 was answered well as was question 3.2.

Question 4.1 was well-answered. In 4.2 some students failed to understand the word (کم مصالحے) while 4.3 was answered well, with the majority of students getting the marks for 4.1 and 4.3.

Questions 5, 6 and 7 were generally well-answered, with students finding question 7 a little more difficult than the other two, although some students did answer it correctly. A lot of students assumed the river is the sea.

Students performed well in question 8, with the vast majority of students achieving the mark in 8.1 whilst 8.2 proved slightly more challenging for the students. Most students gained the mark but the overall performance was less than for 8.1.

Questions 9.1 and 9.2 proved to differentiate very effectively, with just over half receiving the mark for both parts of the question. Most students struggled with the language in the question (بادرچی)

Questions 10 and 11 were well-attempted, with the majority of the students getting the marks. Question 12 had a better response, with over 70% of the students achieving a mark.

Question 13 was well-answered. Questions 14 and 15 were answered significantly better, with the vast majority of students choosing the right answer in both questions.

For Questions 16 and 17, marks were given for correctly identifying an advantage and a disadvantage for each activity. Question 17 was more challenging for students than question 16, but the majority received a mark for each.

Questions 18.1 and 18.2 differentiated student knowledge well. Around half of the students chose the correct answer for 18.1, with more answering correctly for 18.2. 18.2 proved very accessible and was well-understood by the majority of the students with over 80% achieving marks in this question.

Question 19 was mostly well-answered, although a number of students struggled with 19.2. All things considered, the students' performance for this question overall was pleasing.

Question 20 was challenging for most students. Whilst the majority of students attained at least one mark, many students failed to gain the first mark due to misunderstanding what the question was asking for. Less than half of the students achieved 2 marks which required them to understand the activities (برف باری کی وجہ سے پیدل چلنے میں مشکل).

## Section B

Question 21 had a very wide spread of marks probably because the text was extended and students had to read the options in Urdu. The vast majority of students attained at least 2 or 3 marks mark, 47 % scored the full 4 marks which was very pleasing.

Question 22 was difficult for most of the students due to them not accessing certain Urdu words/phrases (تفریح کے لیے، اپنی رائے دینے کے لیے). The majority of students scored a mark in 22.1 while less than half were successful in 22.2.

Question 23 was well-answered and the majority of students had the correct answer for both parts of the question.

**Advice to teachers and centres**

The students need to be trained to:

- **read the questions properly to understand what to do, particularly those in Section B and translate the answers in English**
- make the best use of the 5 minutes' reading time
- look at the marks available for each question and give the required detail or reasons.
- look at the language of the questions to work out the answer (when, where, what etc.)
- recognise the sign-posting in Section B where answers in Urdu are required
- write key words or phrases as answers instead of full sentences
- identify points of view and draw simple conclusions
- look out for different distractors
- listen for the key words
- attempt all the questions and not leave any questions unanswered

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

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