

FRENCH

Paper 0520/12
Listening

Question Number	Key
1	B
2	A
3	A
4	D
5	C
6	C
7	A
8	D

Question Number	Key
9	C
10	A
11	B
12	D
13	A
14	C

Question Number	Key
15	C
16	B
17	A
18	F
19	E

Question Number	Key
20	A
21	B
22	C
23	B
24	C
25	B
26	B
27	C
28	A

Question Number	Key
29	B
30	C
31	B
32	B
33	D
34	D

Question Number	Key
35	C/D
36	B/E
37	A/E

General comments

The November 2021 Listening paper consisted of 37 questions and was the first time the Listening test was multiple-choice for the November session. Candidates overall performed in a satisfactory way and most attempted all questions. Candidates should take care when they transfer their answers onto the answer sheet and shade **one** letter only for **Questions 1 to 34**, and **two** letters for **Questions 35 to 37**.

The French extracts heard by candidates gradually increased in terms of length and complexity and featured simple transactional exchanges, short monologues, conversations, and interviews. The emphasis of the questions moved from assessing the candidates' ability to identify information contained in short factual pieces to testing their ability to understand specific information, descriptions of events, opinions, emotions, and explanations in longer extracts. The paper differentiated well.

Comments on specific questions

Questions 1–8

The extracts were short, straightforward interactions. Overall, candidates performed well in this exercise.

For **Question 1**, some candidates did not know *vent*. Some candidates did not understand the time in **Question 3** and the price in **Question 5**. Candidates found **Question 6** the most challenging; nearly two thirds of candidates correctly chose option **C**, with option **B** (*deuxième rue à gauche*) being the most frequent error. Some candidates were not familiar with *douche* in **Question 7** and *aquarium* in **Question 8**.

Questions 9–14

Candidates heard a longer extract which featured a teacher talking to his students about a school trip to Guadeloupe.

Overall, candidates performed well in this exercise, particularly in **Question 12**. Over three quarters of the cohort answered the other questions successfully. For **Question 14**, some candidates were not familiar with *planche à voile* and the most frequent incorrect answers were **A** and **B**. There was no clear pattern of incorrect answers in the other questions.

Questions 15–19

This was a matching exercise in which candidates heard a conversation between two students about their friends. Overall candidates performed well in this exercise.

Over two thirds of the candidates answered **Question 15** correctly, selecting option **C**. **Question 16** was the most challenging. Over half the cohort chose the correct option **B**, matching *doit se reposer dans son lit* with *doit rester couché*; the most frequent incorrect answers were **C** and **D**. **Questions 17, 18** and **19** were answered well by candidates; there was no clear pattern of incorrect answers.

Questions 20–28

In this exercise, candidates heard an interview in two parts with Florian who lives in Quebec. The exercise represented a step up in the incline of difficulty of the test.

For **Question 20**, under half the candidates chose the correct option **A**, whilst an equal number chose distractor **C**. Candidates needed to listen carefully as *cuisine* referred to Florian, not to the neighbours as the distractor suggested. Similar numbers of candidates answered **Question 21** successfully. Those who answered incorrectly mostly chose distractor **C**. **Question 22** was the most challenging and few candidates understood that the photos referred to *les journaux*; most candidates incorrectly selected distractor **A**.

Question 23 was answered correctly by half the cohort. Most of those who answered incorrectly chose distractor **A**, missing the negative (*pas d'entrées*). For **Question 24**, just over a quarter of the cohort understood *la plupart de mes clients* and selected option **C**; the most frequent incorrect answer was distractor **B**, which only applied to **some** of the customers (*certains*).

Question 25 was attempted well. For **Question 26**, under a third of candidates chose the correct option **B**, with distractor **A** the most frequent incorrect answer. Similar numbers of candidates answered **Question 27** correctly. Many candidates chose distractor **A** as they heard Florian mention *les légumes de saison* and missed *mais surtout le fait que* which introduced the key. For **Question 28**, over a third of candidates matched *ravi* with *très content*; incorrect answers were equally split between options **B** and **C**.

Questions 29–34

Candidates heard an interview with Lilou, about family holidays. This was an appropriately demanding exercise at this stage of the paper.

Under half the candidates chose the correct option **B** for **Question 29**. Many heard *le chien* and chose distractor **A**. **Question 30** was successfully attempted by over half the cohort. Those who answered incorrectly usually chose distractor **A**, having missed *mon frère Jean n'est pas venu avec nous*. **Question 31** was challenging with just over a quarter of candidates choosing the correct option **B**; distractor **D** was the most frequent incorrect answer. **Question 32** was well attempted; some candidates did not hear *rapidement* and chose distractors **A** and **C**. For **Question 33**, under two thirds of candidates understood that Lilou was talking about day trips and chose option **D**; distractor **C** was the most frequent incorrect answer, candidates having missed the negative (*on ne va pas aller loin*). **Question 34** was the most challenging question in this exercise; few candidates understood that the children voted for their favourite activity. Most candidates chose distractors **A** and **B**.

Questions 35–37

Candidates heard an interview with Amir, a wedding planner. For each question in this exercise, candidates had to identify **two** correct statements from a choice of five. This was an appropriately demanding and challenging exercise at this stage of the paper.

Question 35 was the most challenging question. Few candidates correctly chose option **C**, but nearly half successfully chose option **D**. Many candidates chose distractors **A** and **B**. Candidates needed to listen carefully to Amir when he said *je n'ai pas commencé ma formation* and *j'ai été fleuriste comme mon père puis photographe*. For **Question 36**, many candidates correctly chose option **B** and almost a third selected option **E**. Candidates needed to listen carefully to understand that *couleurs* and *vêtements* referred to the wedding party, not to Amir as distractor **C** suggested. **Question 37** was well attempted with successful candidates choosing options **A** and **E**. Many did not understand *ce que j'ai le plus de mal à faire* and selected distractor **B**. Some candidates did not understand *le gâteau de mariage* and selected distractor **D**.