

FRENCH

<p>Paper 0520/22 Reading</p>

Key messages

To maximise their chances of success on this paper, candidates should:

- only select the information from the text that answers the question (**Questions 4 and 6**)
- ensure that their response answers the question set
- remember that questions follow the order of the text.

General comments

Candidates appeared to have sufficient time to complete the paper, and almost all candidates were appropriately entered for the examination. There were few instances of candidates leaving more than a couple of questions blank.

Comments on specific questions

Question 1

Candidates performed very well on this question, but some candidates did not know *aspirateur* in **1(b)**.

Question 2

Full marks were common on this question. Option **G** was a common incorrect answer to **2(c)**.

Question 3

Candidates performed well on this question, but for **3(b)** and **3(d)**, option **A** was a common incorrect answer.

Question 4

For this exercise, candidates were required to read a more extended text in which Anne wrote about an enjoyable day she had spent with her friend, Lucie. The text was mostly straightforward, and the vocabulary covered familiar topics. Overall, candidates performed well on this exercise.

The text was written in the first person, and the questions used the third person. Most questions could be answered by lifting a small number of words from the text, but the answers to **Questions 4(f) and 4(k)** required a minor manipulation to gain the mark. If candidates chose to lift more than was required to answer the other questions, they had to make any manipulation needed in the extra material, usually involving going from the first to the third person. It is generally advised to answer with the minimum number of words.

Some candidates complicated their answers for **4(b)**, often finding the manipulation they needed as a result too difficult. For **4(d)**, candidates often confused what was available at the market with what Anne bought. For **4(e)**, reference to *pizza* often invalidated an answer, and some candidates thought that *une tranche de pizza* meant a pizzeria.

Some candidates thought it was necessary to paraphrase rather than lift from the text. There is no question on the paper where paraphrasing is needed and it is strongly advised that candidates do not do so, as they often use vocabulary that is not close enough in meaning to the actual word required.

Question 5

In this exercise, candidates had to match a series of descriptions with statements from five people looking for a *stage de vacances*. This exercise is aimed at the higher grades and the texts need to be read more closely in order to find the option that suits best.

Each person's statement gave quite specific requirements for the sort of holiday that they were looking for, and these details excluded all answers except the correct one. The statements included factors such as age and subject matter. Candidates need to ensure they consider all the information given as this is not a gist comprehension question.

Description **8** was a frequent incorrect answer for **5(e)**.

Question 6

This final exercise about travelling on a boat was intended to be the most challenging part of the paper. About half the questions can be answered with a careful lift from the text and the others need a small manipulation of the text to answer the question. Very few candidates achieved full marks, and the questions seem to have discriminated appropriately.

Although verbs do not necessarily have to be correct to score a mark, the tense usually must be appropriate to the question. Some candidates chose to paraphrase the text rather than lift words from the text. There is no need to do this, and although some candidates did this well, others used inappropriate synonyms when paraphrasing and could not gain the mark. For **6(i)**, some candidates attempted to find another word for *tristes* and answered with *déçus*, which has a different meaning.

6(a) was generally attempted well, but some candidates invalidated their answer by not lifting the text carefully enough. **6(b)** was often answered incorrectly with irrelevant details from the text. For **6(c)**, many candidates could not manipulate *ayant grandi* into *il a grandi*, and reference to *radio* often invalidated answers in **6(d)**. In **6(f)** and **6(h)**, some candidates added too much extra detail in their answer.