



National
Qualifications
2025

2025 German

Reading and Translation

Advanced Higher

Question Paper Finalised Marking Instructions

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General marking principles for Advanced Higher German Reading and Translation

This information is provided to help you understand the general principles you must apply when marking candidate responses to questions in this paper. These principles must be read in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidate responses.

- (a) Marks for each candidate response must **always** be assigned in line with these general marking principles and the detailed marking instructions for this assessment.
- (b) Marking should always be positive. This means that, for each candidate response, marks are accumulated for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding: they are not deducted from a maximum on the basis of errors or omissions.
- (c) If a specific candidate response does not seem to be covered by either the principles or detailed marking instructions, and you are uncertain how to assess it, you must seek guidance from your team leader.
- (d) Award a mark to each answer. Marks are not transferable between questions.
- (e) The marks available in this paper are as follows:
 - (i) The first set of questions (worth 23 marks) in section 1 requires candidates to provide answers based on comprehension of information from the text. The marks available for each question generally range between 1-4 marks.
 - (ii) The last question in section 1 is the overall purpose question. For this question candidates must draw meaning from their overall understanding of the text. There is a maximum of 7 marks available for full reference to the text and detailed comment. Pegged marks of 5/3/1 are given for degrees of reference to the text and comment. 0 marks will be given where candidates show little or no inferential skills or understanding of the overall purpose of the text.
 - (iii) Section 2 is the translation question (worth 20 marks). For this question candidates must translate the underlined section of the text. The section for translation will be divided into 10 sense units. For each sense unit, 2, 1 or 0 marks will be awarded: 2 marks for a full translation, 1 for partial translation, and 0 for an unsuccessful attempt.
- (f) Credit should be given according to the accuracy and relevance of candidates' answers. Candidates may be awarded marks where the answer is accurate but expressed in their own words'.

Marking instructions for each question

Section 1 - Reading

Question		Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
				Do not accept:
1.	(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • go abroad • look after children/work as an au-pair • go back-packing in foreign countries/explore foreign countries with a backpack • do work experience/practical training 	2	apprenticeship
	(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enrol at a foreign university/college for one or several semesters • create a (individual/personal) timetable with all subjects which are of potential interest for future studies • a combination of helping you choose the correct study path and experience abroad 	3	learning/study plan
2.	(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • he thought about studying economics, but also really wanted to go to the United States 	1	
	(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • as an option for the increasing number of younger/underage/minor high school graduates • because the interest in foreign education systems has increased 	2	
3.	(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the shorter time spent at school/8 instead of 9 years spent at the Gymnasium • not enough time (to spend time abroad) • many are overwhelmed about choosing the right course at such an early stage <p>Any 2 from 3</p>	2	

Question		Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
				Do not accept:
	(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • experience student life • to find out which professional direction they want to go in/ course of study/degree/subjects they want to do 	2	
	(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the high cost/the one semester that Michelfelder took cost 16,000 euros • learning/school materials/meals (outside of the host family) were not included 	2	
	(d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it specialises/focusses in/has a centre for business administration • he really wanted to improve his English (so he took two English class and one business class) 	2	
	(e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • travelling/going on trips and meeting friends 	1	
4.	(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • don't get on with host families/need to get on well with hosts • not all colleges/universities accept 17-year-old applicants 	2	
	(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • registration form • graduation certificate/school report/diploma/leaving certificate 	2	
5.	(a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • he learned a bit of Spanish, thanks to his host mother • made him realise that business administration was not for him 	1	
	(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • her time in Seattle gave her a push in the right direction • her psychology course had a lot to do with medicine 	1	

Question		Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance	
6.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a balanced view of the topic is presented, showing both advantages and disadvantages of time spent abroad before going to university • several options for the gap year/semester are presented, showing that there is something to suit different tastes • companies which help arrange gap-years are mentioned showing that there is sufficient demand from students for such a service, meaning that gap-years remain popular for German students • the current situation in Germany means that many students feel ill-prepared for university due to finishing school a year earlier than previously. gap years are therefore a way to give students time to mature/prepare for university • author uses the opinions of two students that have spent time abroad illustrating that different people have different experiences • high costs mean that they are not accessible by all and this could put people off. but financial support is available and there are cheaper options than America • importance of English as a foreign language - most destination countries mentioned are English-speaking • gap years are not an easy option- difficulties with host families are mentioned. however, advice on how to avoid difficulties is offered by an expert • application takes a significant amount of time- you are learning employability skills from the outset. Dedication and time-management • both students speak about how their experience abroad was useful for them 	7	Pegged marks	Criteria
				7 OR 5	The candidate provides a clear, concise and reflective answer, drawing inferences which are entirely appropriate, analytical and which demonstrate a sophisticated and accurate reading of the text. The answer clearly relates to the advice given in the Expected response(s) column, or any other equally appropriate response.
				3 OR 1	The candidate provides an answer which may contain some degree of misreading, but which offers evidence of appropriate inferencing skills. The candidate may, however, tend to supply information from the text with little attempt to draw inferences.
				0	The candidate's answer simply provides information to be found in the text with no attempt to draw inferences.

Section 2 – Translation

Question		Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
7.		<p>Translate into English: (lines 53-60)</p> <p><i>Viele wissen nach der Rückkehr - ein Allgemeinwissen aufzubauen.</i></p>	20	<p>The translation into English is allocated 20 marks. The text for translation is divided into a number of sense units. Each sense unit is worth 2 marks. Award marks according to the quality and accuracy of the translation into English. Award a mark for each sense unit, as follows:</p> <p>2 marks - good The candidate understands and conveys essential information and relevant details, clearly and accurately, with appropriate use of English.</p> <p>1 mark - satisfactory The candidate understands and conveys essential information clearly and comprehensibly, although some of the details may be translated in an imprecise or inaccurate manner. They convey the key message in spite of inaccuracies and weaknesses in the use of English.</p> <p>0 marks - unsatisfactory The candidate fails to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the essential idea.</p>

Sense Units	Good - 2	Satisfactory - 1	Unsatisfactory - 0
Unit 1 <i>Viele wissen nach der Rückkehr immerhin,</i>	At least/After all/At any rate after coming back/upon returning many (people) know,		
Unit 2 <i>wie der nächste Schritt in Richtung Beruf aussieht.</i>	what the next step in terms of their career looks like.	right step/move	
Unit 3 <i>Andrea Kick von der Studienberatung der Technischen Universität München (TUM) warnt aber,</i>	Andrea Kick from the Student/ Course/Studies' Advisory Service at the Technical University of Munich (TUM) warns however,	Missing: however warned	
Unit 4 <i>dass die deutschen und amerikanischen Bildungssysteme Systeme ganz anders seien.</i>	that the German and American education systems are completely different.	system	
Unit 5 <i>Deshalb sollten sie nur mit Vorsicht verglichen werden.</i>	Therefore, they should only be compared with caution/care/cautiously.	Missing: Therefore you should only compare them with caution	

Sense Units	Good - 2	Satisfactory - 1	Unsatisfactory - 0
Unit 6 <i>„Ein Erstsemester in den USA hat null Überschneidung mit einem Semester an einer Universität oder Hochschule in Deutschland.“</i>	"A first semester/freshman semester in the USA has no overlap /nothing in common with a semester at a university or college in Germany."	high school	
Unit 7 <i>Wer zum Beispiel Ingenieur werden will,</i>	For example, if you want/whoever wants to become an engineer,	who wants to become an engineer	
Unit 8 <i>beginnt in Deutschland sofort einen spezialisierten Studiengang.</i>	in Germany (you) immediately start/s a specialised course of study.	Missing: immediately	
Unit 9 <i>In den USA dagegen absolviert man zuerst ein Grundstudium,</i>	In the USA, on the other hand, you first complete a basic/ foundation course, ALSO ACCEPT: by/in comparison	undergraduate Missing: on the other hand	ground course
Unit 10 <i>mit dem Zweck, ein Allgemeinwissen aufzubauen.</i>	aimed at building up/which aims to build up general knowledge.		

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]