



National
Qualifications
2026

2026 Italian

Reading and Translation

Advanced Higher

Question Paper Finalised Marking Instructions

These marking instructions have been prepared by examination teams for use by Qualifications Scotland appointed markers when marking external course assessments.

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General marking principles for Advanced Higher Italian 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)		• use data which are constantly gathered to make decisions • continually improve its performance in specific applications such as automatic translation/driverless cars • analyse and identify facial models, distinguishing one person from another with notable precision/very well • show intelligent behaviour(s) similar to those of a human being Any 3 from 4	3	
	(b)		• we are at the dawn of a substantial change • they predict that two thirds of student degrees will be in the field of computing/informatics before/by 2055	2	
2.	(a)		• many repetitive/tiring/dangerous activities which were previously carried out/done by human beings are now automated/done by machines • the new AI tools eliminate errors, either on the part of employees or defective machines • the new machines carry out tasks in a faster and more efficient way Any 2 from 3	2	
	(b)		• it has improved the way in which doctors diagnose more serious illnesses • AI has the power to predict early a range of future medical problems • as a result, life expectancy will increase Any 2 from 3	2	expectation of life

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
3.	(a)		- simplifies the selection of candidates when/in cases where there are many applications/applicants for a job - file/archive candidates' CVs to have a databank that's always updated/accessible at any time	2	demands for work/jobs
	(b)		- using AI it is possible to identify skills/abilities (linked to character) of the candidates by analysing their behaviour during interviews - the candidates' experience improves because they can take advantage of a virtual assistant (when they go online on the company's webpage) (dedicated to the jobs available)	2	meetings
4.	(a)		(it very much resembles) a car with no brakes being driven by someone without a driver's licence	1	
	(b)		- his boss can see if he stops somewhere for 5 minutes - he asks him why it's taken him so long to get to a client's/customer's office (the worst thing is that) bonuses are taken away if a rider doesn't deliver on time	3	

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
5.	(a)		• it reinforces stereotypes against women • AI attributes words to women such as “house/home/family/children” • women are given roles such as waitress/cook • men are associated with business, managers, salary and career Any 2 from 4	2	
	(b)		• these new applications have the power to subtly/subconsciously change the perception of millions of people • any (gender) prejudice (however small) can amplify/increase inequalities/deny access to training/career progression	2	
6.			• it can supply the necessary tools for professional growth • it can identify areas of weakness and strong points • it can create a specific improvement plan for the individual Any 2 from 3	2	area of improvement

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance								
7.			The style of the article is journalistic. The writer’s overall purpose is to inform the reader of the changes to the working world brought about by artificial intelligence and to persuade the reader of the magnitude of this development. The writer addresses the reader directly “Per aiutarvi a capire” and includes the reader: “bisogna chiedersi”, “è un po’ come se ci trovassimo”. This strengthens the arguments the writer is making by involving the reader. The writer argues both for and against AI, providing examples of how it is beneficial as well as detrimental. However, he finally takes a positive position, saying that AI should be embraced so long as training is given and workers are protected, with regard to job security, discrimination and privacy. The writer aims to persuade the reader of the importance of the effects of AI by using statistics: “. . . predicono che due terzi delle lauree ottenute dagli studenti entro il 2055 saranno nel campo dell’informatica.” These also lend weight to the argument by providing factual evidence. Similarly, words such as “molto potente”, costantemente”, “esponenziale”, “nel bel mezzo di una rivoluzione tecnologica”, “senza precedenti”, “all’alba di un cambiamento sostanziale” drive home the idea that AI is bringing huge change. The writer uses the following to emphasise the positive aspects of AI: It takes over repetitive tasks and improves performance, at the same time freeing humans to be more productive and creative. It increases efficiency and profits in businesses and has many advantages in recruitment. It helps job seekers find the most appropriate training.	7	<table><tr><th>Pegged marks</th><th>Criteria</th></tr><tr><td>7 OR 5</td><td>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.</td></tr><tr><td>3 OR 1</td><td>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.</td></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>The candidate’s answer simply provides information to be found in the text with no attempt to draw inferences.</td></tr></table>	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.
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Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
			Word choice strengthens these points: “di più”; “eliminano errori”, “più veloce ed efficace”, “offre molti vantaggi”, “semplificando”, “sempre aggiornata”, “accessibile in qualsiasi momento”, “usufruire”. The writer uses the following to emphasises the negative aspects of AI: Invasion of workers’ privacy, constant monitoring in the workplace, discrimination. Word choice: “potrebbero esserci violazioni della sicurezza e della privacy delle persone”, “invasiva”, “minaccia la privacy”, “discriminatoria”. The use of two analogies: Firstly, the car without brakes or seatbelts being driven by a driver without a licence emphasises the reckless speed of the development of AI, seen as something to be feared. At the end of the text the second analogy is of a race in which some participants have the advantage of technology while others are still trying to work out how to use the training shoes. This highlights how desperate the situation is for workers who do not have the necessary training to work with AI. Throughout the writer uses direct quotations from people in important positions to authenticate his points and direct quotations from someone who is not in an important position to make the experience of the speaker (Giorgio Bruni) accessible to everyone.		

Section 2 – Translation

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
8.			Translate into English: (lines 49-57) <i>È vero che l'intelligenza artificiale . . . alle nuove competenze richieste.</i>	20	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: 2 marks - good The candidate understands and conveys essential information and relevant details, clearly and accurately, with appropriate use of English. 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. 0 marks - unsatisfactory The candidate fails to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the essential idea.

Sense Units	Good - 2	Satisfactory - 1	Unsatisfactory - 0
Unit 1 <i>È vero che l'intelligenza artificiale metterà a rischio diversi milioni di posti di lavoro</i>	It is true that AI will put several/quite a few million jobs at risk	positions of work	
Unit 2 <i>ma gli esperti sembrano tutti concordare sul fatto che</i>	but (the) experts all seem to agree on the fact that	“all” used twice “all” omitted	Omission of “seem”
Unit 3 <i>creerà più occupazioni di quante ne sostituirà.</i>	it will create more jobs than it will replace/substitute		
Unit 4 <i>Bisogna chiedersi non tanto se l'intelligenza artificiale sottrarrà lavori,</i>	We/(You/One) need to ask ourselves not so much if AI will take away/steal/remove jobs,		We need to tell ourselves
Unit 5 <i>ma come cambierà il mondo del lavoro stesso.</i>	as much as/but/but rather how it will change the working world/world of work itself.	Omission of “itself”	The same world of work
Unit 6 <i>La cosa più importante è non ostacolare o temere questo cambiamento tecnologico,</i>	The most important thing is not to hinder or fear this technological change,		

Sense Units	Good - 2	Satisfactory - 1	Unsatisfactory - 0
Unit 7 <i>ma assicurarsi di identificare le misure necessarie per proteggere i lavoratori.</i>	but to make sure we identify the measures necessary to protect workers.	assure	
Unit 8 <i>Le persone, le aziende e le istituzioni dovrebbero lavorare insieme</i>	People, businesses and institutions should work together		Wrong tense
Unit 9 <i>per creare un futuro in cui l'IA sia utilizzata in modo responsabile e inclusivo,</i>	to create a future in which AI is used in a responsible and inclusive way,	can be used	
Unit 10 <i>sostenendo gli impiegati ad adattarsi alle nuove competenze richieste.</i>	supporting employees to adapt to the new skills/competences required.		sustaining

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]