



National  
Qualifications  
RESOURCE

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**X834/76/01**

**German  
Reading**

## **Marking Instructions**

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Please note that these marking instructions have not been standardised based on candidate responses. You may therefore need to agree within your centre how to consistently mark an item if a candidate response is not covered by the marking instructions.

## General marking principles for Higher German Reading

*Always apply these general principles. Use them in conjunction with the detailed marking instructions, which identify the key features required in candidates' responses.*

- (a) Always use positive marking. This means candidates accumulate marks for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding; marks are not deducted for errors or omissions.
- (b) If a 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.
- (c) Award a mark for each answer. Marks are not transferable between questions and the answers for each question must come from the item.
- (d) Marks are available as follows:
  - (i) The first set of questions (worth 18 marks in total) asks candidates to provide answers based on comprehension of information from the text. There are generally 1-3 marks available for each question.
  - (ii) The penultimate question is the overall purpose question, and candidates must identify the overall purpose of the text and draw meaning from their overall understanding of the text. There is a maximum of 2 marks available for reference to the text and detailed comment. Pegged mark descriptors (2/1/0) and associated commentary are available, along with further guidance, in the detailed marking instructions.
  - (iii) The last question is the translation. For this question, candidates must translate the underlined section of the text. The section for translation is divided into five sense units. For each sense unit, award 2, 1 or 0 marks: 2 marks for a full translation, 1 for partial translation, and 0 for an unsuccessful attempt.
- (e) Award marks according to the accuracy and relevance of the candidate's answers. Award marks where the answer is accurate but expressed in their own words.

Marking instructions for each question

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					Do not accept:
1.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• you have/they have (very) many opportunities (with a successful Abitur/school qualification)</li> <li>• they have little time to think about their future plans (because they have to study/learn intensively)</li> </ul>	2	
2.	(a)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• wants to go to university in October</li> <li>• wants to start her own company</li> <li>• wants to study business/economics</li> </ul> <p>Any 2 from 3</p>	2	
	(b)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gave her <b>many</b> good tips</li> <li>• he helped her with her application</li> </ul>	2	
3.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• they need more time (for themselves)</li> <li>• they want to relax</li> <li>• they want to experience something completely new</li> <li>• they want to become independent (from their parents)</li> <li>• they can think about their life plans</li> </ul> <p>Any 2 from 5</p>	2	
4.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• life gets more serious (when you start to study or work)</li> <li>• they have more responsibilities</li> </ul> <p>Any 1 from 2</p>	1	

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					<b>Do not accept:</b>
5.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>always</b> enjoyed working with children</li> <li>• (possibly) wants to become a primary school teacher or social worker</li> <li>• too young to find a job <b>for the rest of his life</b></li> <li>• wants to live a little first</li> <li>• wants to expand his horizons</li> <li>• to become <b>more</b> mature <b>and</b> independent</li> </ul> <p><b>Any 3 from 6</b></p>	<b>3</b>	
6.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (more and more) young people don't know what to do after school</li> <li>• young people/they are looking for an alternative</li> </ul> <p><b>Any 1 from 2</b></p>	<b>1</b>	

Question			Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
					<b>Do not accept:</b>
7.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>want to see (some of) the world</li> <li>get to know new cultures <b>and</b> people</li> <li>want to earn money <b>while</b> travelling</li> </ul> <p><b>Any 2 from 3</b></p>	2	
8.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>get some pocket money</li> <li>free accommodation</li> <li>better insight into the culture</li> <li>better insight into daily life in a foreign country</li> </ul> <p><b>Any 2 from 4</b></p>	2	
9.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>found it difficult to adapt to life in Germany again</li> <li>his experience has changed him</li> <li>he no longer has much/has little in common with his (former) school mates</li> </ul> <p><b>Any 1 from 3</b></p>	1	

Question	Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
10.	<p>Outline of possible answers:</p> <p>The writer gives a positive view for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christian takes a gap and has had a positive experience</li> <li>• the success of the agency helping young to organize their gap years</li> <li>• the large number of German young people taking a gap year abroad</li> <li>• benefits of taking a gap year are mentioned</li> <li>• Christian recommends a gap year to anyone who is not sure about what they do in the future</li> </ul> <p>The writer gives a negative view for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maria doesn't take a gap year and is happy about it</li> <li>• disadvantages are also mentioned, such as homesickness, waste of time, delay of earning money, loss of school friends</li> </ul> <p>The writer provides a balanced view by combining both answers.</p>	2	<p>Award <b>2 marks</b> where the candidate provides a clear answer, with justification that shows an accurate reading of the text.</p> <p>Award <b>1 mark</b> where the candidate provides an answer which may contain some degree of misreading, but which offers evidence of some justification.</p> <p>Award <b>0 marks</b> where the candidate simply provides information to be found in the text by simply re-stating answers to previous questions.</p>

Question		Expected response(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
11.		<p><b>Translate into English:</b></p> <p><i>Nach seinem Auslandsaufenthalt...an der Universität. (lines 45-48)</i></p>	10	<p>The translation into English is allocated 10 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.</p> <p>Award a mark for each sense unit, as follows</p> <p><b>2 marks - good</b> The candidate understands and conveys essential information and relevant details, clearly and accurately, with appropriate use of English.</p> <p><b>1 mark - satisfactory</b> 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><b>0 marks - unsatisfactory</b> The candidate fails to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the essential idea.</p>

Text	Good - 2	Satisfactory - 1	Unsatisfactory - 0
<p><b><u>Unit 1</u></b></p> <p><i>Nach seinem Auslandsaufenthalt hat Christian seine Pläne geändert.</i></p>	<p>After his stay abroad, Christian changed his plans.</p>		
<p><b><u>Unit 2</u></b></p> <p><i>„Es war die beste Entscheidung meines Lebens, ein Jahr in Südamerika zu verbringen.</i></p>	<p>“It was the best decision of my life to spend a year in South America.</p>		
<p><b><u>Unit 3</u></b></p> <p><i>Während diesser Zeit habe ich viel gelernt</i></p>	<p>I learnt lots during this time</p>		
<p><b><u>Unit 4</u></b></p> <p><i>und ich bin jetzt zufrieden mit meiner Studienwahl.“</i></p>	<p>and I am now happy with my course choice.</p>		
<p><b><u>Unit 5</u></b></p> <p><i>Seit September studiert Christian Spanisch und Geschichte an der Universität.</i></p>	<p>Since September, Christian has been studying Spanish and History at university.</p>		

[END OF MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]