

**GERMAN EXAMINING CONVENTIONS IN THE FHS FOR EXAMINATION 2010 ONWARDS**

GENERAL: all questions carry equal weight.

LANGUAGE PAPERS: Candidates may use the old or the new spelling system.

PAPER I: TRANSLATION INTO GERMAN AND ESSAY IN GERMAN

The passage set for question 1 (translation) should be a piece of creative prose of about 220-250 words in length.

In question 2 (essay) there will be up to twenty questions covering in a general way material from papers IV, V(i), V(ii), VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XIA and XIB. The essay should be between 700 and 1000 words in length, and written in an accessible *Feuilleton* style aimed at a well-informed general reader. This part of the paper is designed primarily to test linguistic skills and candidates are not expected to display the same level of knowledge in their answers as in tutorially taught papers. Overlap with material offered for other papers is permitted.

PAPER II: TRANSLATION FROM MODERN GERMAN

There will be two passages of contrasting register, neither exceeding about 300 words in length, and neither written before 1730. If passages are set from authors prescribed in Papers X or XII then they should be taken from areas of their work not normally studied for the paper.

PAPER III: TRANSLATION FROM PRE-MODERN GERMAN

The passages should be comparable in weight to those set in Paper II, and should not exceed 300 words. If passages are set from authors prescribed in IV, IX, X, XIA or XII then they should be taken from areas of their work not normally studied for the paper.

PAPER IV: LINGUISTIC STUDIES I

The heading for this paper is: The Development of the German Language from 1170 to the Present Day, with Prescribed Texts.

Answer QUESTION 1 and TWO others. Candidates must NOT devote more than one question to the work of a single author. It is permissible to answer a question on one of the authors in Question 1 on whom a commentary has been written.

PAPER V: LINGUISTIC STUDIES II

Candidates must answer ALL their questions from EITHER Part 1 OR Part 2.

Part 1: Old High German with Prescribed Texts

Candidates must answer THREE questions. AT LEAST ONE question must be selected from each section.

Part 2: Descriptive Analysis of German as Spoken and Written at the Present Day

Candidates must answer THREE questions.

PAPER VI, VII and VIII: PERIOD OF LITERATURE AND CULTURE

PAPERS VI and VII are not sectionalized.

PAPER VI: MEDIEVAL GERMAN CULTURE (TO 1450): TEXTS, CONTEXTS AND

## ISSUES

Candidates must answer THREE questions. Candidates must NOT make any ONE writer or work the principal subject of MORE THAN ONE answer, and they must NOT answer questions with reference wholly or chiefly to writers whom they are offering as Prescribed Authors, or with reference wholly or chiefly to texts which form the principal topic of their Special Subject or Extended Essay.

Candidates offering Stricker's 'Kleinerzählungen', Wolfram's *Parzival* and Hartmann's lyric poetry on paper IX are not debarred from writing on other works by these writers on Paper VI.

### PAPER VII: EARLY MODERN GERMAN CULTURE (1450-1730): TEXTS, CONTEXTS AND ISSUES

Candidates must answer THREE questions. They must NOT make THE SAME MATERIAL the principal subject of MORE THAN ONE question, and they must NOT answer questions with reference wholly or chiefly to writers whom they are offering as Prescribed Authors, or with reference wholly or chiefly to texts which form the principal topic of their Special Subject or Extended Essay.

### PAPER VIII: MODERN GERMAN LITERATURE (1730 TO THE PRESENT): TEXTS, CONTEXTS AND ISSUES

Candidates must answer THREE questions taken from ANY section or sections of the paper (the division into chronological sections is only for convenience). Candidates must NOT make any ONE writer or work the principal subject of MORE THAN ONE answer, and they must NOT answer questions with reference wholly or chiefly to writers whom they are offering as Prescribed Authors, or with reference wholly or chiefly to texts which form the principal topic of their Special Subject or Extended Essay.

The sections are: A) general; B) 1730-1825; C) 1825-1890; D) 1890-1945; E) 1945 to the present.

No question or section will be compulsory, and candidates will be able to answer any three questions.

a) Questions will not be framed in terms of specific named authors.

b) Candidates will be given the opportunity to answer on all the authors they have studied. It is the responsibility of the Senior Examiner to circulate tutors requesting information about material studied in this paper and in VI and VII.

c) Credit will be given for evidence of wide reading; answers limited to a small amount of textual material will need to be the more substantial.

d) Most questions should be answerable with reference to a single author. Examiners should generally avoid questions the formulation of which demands knowledge of two or more authors.

e) References to 'the period' within the chronological sub-sections of the paper mean that answers should be confined largely to works falling within the dates of the sub-section.

f) Topics covered by the questions should typically include: general thematic and other issues, genre, period, history, national literatures, film and the non-literary arts, philosophy, gender.

### PAPER IX: EARLY TEXTS PRESCRIBED FOR STUDY AS EXAMPLES OF LITERATURE

(i): TO 1450

Candidates will be required to attempt four questions. They will be required to attempt both a commentary and a translation from the prescribed texts. It shall be satisfactory in the examination for candidates to show knowledge of three out of the four prescribed texts.

Section A is compulsory. In addition TWO questions must be answered from Section B. Candidates must NOT make any ONE text the principal subject of MORE THAN ONE answer in section B. The questions selected from Section B must NOT be on the text on which a commentary has been written in Section A.

#### PAPER X : PRESCRIBED AUTHORS

There should be parity between authors in the way exam questions are set.

- a) Candidates will be required to attempt a commentary on one of the passages set;
- b) there will be at least one question on the prescribed text;
- c) there may be questions inviting candidates to write about the prescribed text in relation to other works of the author;
- d) there may be general questions requiring illustration from a minimum range of works; such illustration may be taken from the prescribed text unless explicitly forbidden;
- e) there may be questions on a named non-prescribed text, and there may be questions inviting discussion of a single unnamed work;
- f) the rubric prohibiting candidates from making one book the principal subject of more than one answer should stand, but *Faust I* and *II* are for this purpose regarded as two books, as are Rilke's *Neue Gedichte* and *Der Neuen Gedichte anderer Teil*.
- g) the total number of essay questions set on any one prescribed author shall not normally exceed six;
- h) with Wolf, her 'prose works' shall be deemed to include her non-fictional writings insofar as these are closely associated with her fiction.
- i) with Grimmelshausen, candidates shall not be prevented from offering both commentary and essay on *Simplicissimus*.

#### PAPER XIA: EARLY MODERN LITERARY TEXTS

Candidates will be expected to study four out of five specified topics, and will be required to attempt a commentary and two essay questions.

#### PAPER XIB: GOETHE

The paper will be in four sections: Poetry, Drama, Prose Narrative, and Autobiography and non-fictional prose. The poetry section will normally include a question inviting commentary on one poem from a choice of two, but this question is not compulsory

#### PAPER XII: SPECIAL SUBJECTS

Old Norse. Candidates will be expected to have made a special study of F. Ranke and D Hofmann, *Altnordisches Elementarbuch* (Sammlung Göschen No. 1115), pp. 80-135. Candidates will also be

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expected to have read the *Völsungasaga* and related material from the *Poetic Edda*. Written work must show knowledge of the texts in the original languages.

Method of Assessment: B(2)

Old High German, with either Gothic or Old Saxon or Old English. Prescribed texts: Gothic, Gospel according to St Mark, chapters 1-9; Old Saxon, *Heliand*, ll.4025-5038; Old English, *Beowulf*, ll.1-1049.

Method of Assessment: B(2)

Walther von der Vogelweide and the origins of the German love lyric

Method of Assessment B(2)

Gottfried's Tristan and Medieval German Court Society

Method of Assessment B(2)

Mechthild von Magdeburg and Women's Writing in German 1150-1300

Method of Assessment: B(2)

German poetry and drama of the seventeenth century.

Method of Assessment: B(2)

Eighteenth-century aesthetics from Baumgarten to Schiller.

Method of Assessment: B(1)

Weimar Classicism 1794-1805

Method of Assessment: B(2)

German Political Writing in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries

Method of Assessment: B(2)

The Bildungsroman.

Method of Assessment: B(2)

Nineteenth-Century German Drama

Method of Assessment B(2)

Nietzsche and his Impact

Method of Assessment: B(2)

The poetry of Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Stefan George, and Rainer Maria Rilke. Candidates will be examined on the poetry of two of these authors and will be expected to have read the works listed in any two of the sections below.

- (a) Hofmannsthal: *Gedichte und Lyrische Dramen*, ed. Steiner (Fischer Verlag, 1952), pp. 7-136, 467-529.
- (b) George: *Hymnen, Pilgerfahrten, Algabal; Das Jahr der Seele; Der Teppich des Lebens und die Lieder von Traum und Tod mit einem Vorspiel*; the sections 'Zeitgedichte', 'Gestalten', 'Gezeiten', and 'Maximin' from *Der siebente Ring; Das neue Reich* omitting the section 'Sprüche'.
- (c) Rilke: *Das Stunden-Buch; Neue Gedichte* (both parts); *Requiem für eine Freundin; Requiem für Wolf Graf von Kalckreuth; Die Sonette an Orpheus; Duineser Elegien*.

Method of Assessment: A

Shorter Modernist Prose Fiction 1901-1927

Method of Assessment: B(2)

Expressionism and Dada in Literature and the Visual Arts

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Method of Assessment: B(1)

Cinema in a Cultural Context: German Film 1930-1970

Method of Assessment: B(1)

Literature in the GDR

Method of Assessment: B(2)

German poetry since 1945. Candidates will be expected to have a general knowledge of the field, and a detailed knowledge of works written in or after 1945 by three of the following authors: Bachmann, Benn, Biermann, Bobrowski, Volker Braun, Brecht, Celan (the collections of poetry from *Mohn und Gedächtnis* to *Atemwende* inclusive), Enzensberger, Grass, Huchel, Sarah Kirsch, Kunert, Sachs.

Method of Assessment: B(2)

Note: This paper will include a compulsory section containing general questions and commentary passages taken from the authors being offered; candidates will thus be required to attempt either a general essay or a commentary. Brecht's poetry from 1945 to 1956 may be offered as one of the three authors selected for detailed knowledge in this paper by candidates offering Brecht as a prescribed author in Paper X.

Narrative Identities in the German novel since 1945 Candidates will be expected to have a general knowledge of the field, and to have read German-language novels from the post-1945 era. Each portfolio shall consist of two essays, only one of which may be on a single text.

Method of Assessment: B(2)

Language and National Identity in German-speaking Europe

Method of Assessment: (B3)

Advanced Translation

The course will be examined by a portfolio consisting of two translations and one theoretical introduction, which may relate to one or both translations. Texts for translation should contrast in terms of genre, register and/or period. They should not be by authors that form the subject of an extended essay or that are offered as prescribed authors. The two translations should add up to 4000-5000 words, and the length of the introduction should be 2500-3500 words (word limits exclusive of footnotes and bibliography). The bibliography will include a list of existing translations of the text, or a statement that to the best knowledge of the student, there are no published translations of it. The course tutor will be permitted to read and comment on a draft of the introduction and a draft of one translation; the latter will normally have been presented for seminar discussion. The other translation must be the student's independent work, and this will be stated on a signed cover sheet. Normally the pieces will contribute to the overall mark approximately as follows: theoretical introduction 40%, translations each 30%. Examiners will have regard to accuracy and appropriateness of renderings in the translations, and the intellectual quality of the introduction in relation to translation choices.

Method of Assessment: B(2).

Contemporary German Literature. Candidates will be expected to have a general knowledge of writing in German from the last decade and to have read a range of texts from the same period. Each portfolio will consist of two essays, only one of which may be on a single text.

Method of Assessment: B(2)

EXTENDED ESSAY

Examiners should not require independent research. However, as with other papers, candidates should be rewarded for originality.

ORAL

Comprehension

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The passage set should be suitable for listening rather than reading (e. g. a transcript of a recording), and should last no more than 5 minutes when read out. Questions each refer to a single block of text and follow the order in which relevant material appears in the passage. The inclusion of irrelevant material will be penalised. Questions must be answered in English and in complete sentences. The maximum mark for each question will be indicated in brackets.

#### Discourse/Conversation

Each candidate will be given a choice of three topics, of which one will normally be descriptive, one concern current affairs (eg EU matters)/Landeskunde/politics/ethics, and one literature/language/music/the arts/aesthetics. Questions may invite cultural comparison, but will focus on German-speaking countries. Credit will be given for accuracy, idiomatic register and fluency as well as structured presentation of argument. Native or near-native fluency in an informal register alone will not normally be sufficient to attract a top mark.

*Lektoren* and *Lektorinnen* should not normally examine their own pupils.

#### GENERAL

Except for language papers, scripts should not be marked in any way.

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