

SUB-FACULTY OF GERMAN
CONVENTIONS FOR THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
(for Examination in 2010)

Paper I

The two exercises are of equal weight.

(1) **Reading Comprehension:** Roughly equal credit will be given for (a) evidence of detailed comprehension, (b) for linguistic accuracy, and (c) for lexical variety and idiomatic sophistication. Answers in English will be discounted. The answer to question 1 (i) should be approximately 120 words. The answer to question 1 (ii) should be approximately 140 words. The answer to question 1 (iii) should be approximately 250 words. The exercises 1 (i), 1 (ii) and 1 (iii) shall each attract one third of the marks available for this question.

(2) **Essay:** The essay should be approximately 550 words. Roughly equal credit will be given for (a) linguistic accuracy, (b) for lexical variety and idiomatic sophistication, (c) for the ability to express complex ideas, and (d) for the shape of the argument. The exercise is not conceived as a test of detailed factual or historical knowledge.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2) above, scripts showing extensive ignorance of the basics of German grammar will attract fail marks overall.

Paper II

The two exercises (a) and (b) are of equal weight. In both exercises, credit will be given for fluency and a sense of style, always bearing in mind the need for accuracy and appropriateness. Scripts showing extensive ignorance of the basics of German grammar will attract fail marks.

Paper III

Paraphrase in itself should not be deemed automatically to attract a fail mark. Failure to notice or comment in detail on extrinsic references or formal characteristics should not be deemed automatically to disqualify a candidate from achieving a distinction mark. An answer where the candidate spends most of the time discussing the rest of the work rather than the passage itself will normally attract a low mark though not necessarily a fail mark.

Paper IV

An essay which shows knowledge of the text(s) but does not address the question will attract a low mark and in extreme cases a fail mark. Candidates should NOT make the same text the principal subject of MORE THAN ONE answer, and they should, in the course of the whole paper, make reference BOTH to the prescribed plays and the prescribed narratives.

Paper XI

The paper will consist of one commentary and two essays from a choice of questions. The commentary will be on a set of stills from one of the films. All 3 questions carry equal weight.

Paper XII

The paper will consist of three questions: one commentary, one guided commentary and one essay from a choice of questions. All 3 questions carry equal weight.

Paper XIII

The paper will consist of one commentary and two essays from a choice of questions. All 3 questions carry equal weight.

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