



L-Università
ta' Malta

MATSEC
Examinations Board



Examiners' Report

Intermediate German

First Session 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A.	STATISTICAL INFORMATION	2
B.	GENERAL REMARKS	2
	General Remarks on the Written Examination	2
C.	COMMENTS ON PAPER I AND PAPER II	2
	Paper I Listening Comprehension.....	2
	Paper II Written Paper	2
	Essay and Letter	2
	Reading Comprehension	3
	Landeskunde	3
D.	Concluding comment.....	3

A. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

The total number of candidates who registered to sit for Intermediate German was **73**, which is **26** candidates more than in 2024.

Table 1 shows the distribution of grades for the First 2025 Session of the examination

GRADE	A	B	C	D	E	F	ABS	TOTAL
No. of candidates	9	17	17	6	7	3	14	73
% OF TOTAL	12.3	23.3	23.3	8.2	9.6	4.1	19.2	100.0

Table 1: Distribution of grades for German Intermediate, First Session 2025

B. GENERAL REMARKS

General Remarks on the Written Examination

Overall, the results achieved in this session were diverse, but compared to the results of 2024 more candidates obtained a higher mark: 35.6% of candidates received either an A or a B (29.8% in 2024) and only 4.1% of the candidates did not reach a sufficient amount of marks (10.5% in 2024).

C. COMMENTS ON PAPER I AND PAPER II

Paper I Listening Comprehension

Overall, the candidates performed rather well in the Listening Comprehension, in particular in relation to the multiple-choice task (text 2). More difficulties were observed in the results of the first task, especially in the last question. Twelve candidates out of the 59 present for the exam were given full marks (20) for this part of the exam, 14 candidates obtained nearly full marks (18).

Paper II Written Paper

Essay and Letter

As in previous years, for the essay candidates had to choose between a narrative, descriptive and argumentative type of text. This year, a majority of the candidates chose the narrative title on "Das war ein perfekter Abend mit Freunden. Erzählen Sie!". Unfortunately, reading the essays it became evident that many of the candidates did not have the necessary language skills to produce a coherent and comprehensible text in German. Especially the subject-verb agreement and the position of the verb in the sentence are often not produced correctly.

Also regarding the second task in this section, where candidates were asked to react to an entry in an internet forum expressing their opinion, many struggled with basic requirements, such as opening and closing the letter appropriately, that is choosing the right 'Anrede' and 'Grußformel', or choosing the right format for this type of text. Candidates should practice German phrases on how to express their own opinion. Furthermore, it is of utmost importance that candidates tackle ALL the content points asked for in the task. Many candidates did not write anything about point 3.

Overall, more emphasis should be given to the training of writing skills and the amplification of German vocabulary. Candidates who choose the argumentative topic in the essay should make sure to discuss both

advantages and disadvantages of the given topic and not only mention arguments in favour or against. Many candidates used English expressions in their texts which should be avoided.

Reading Comprehension

Results in the Reading Comprehension tasks were diverse. Candidates understood most of the questions and were able to answer the questions, however either by copying and pasting the respective sentences in the text or with many linguistic mistakes, which led to a reduction of marks. Candidates should be advised to answer in full sentences and reply to the questions by using their own words and not by copying from the text. Performance in the grammar section (Sprachbausteine) was also very mixed. A number of candidates received full marks in this section which is an improvement compared to the previous year.

Landeskunde

The marks achieved in the 'Landeskunde' section were again rather poor this year. Both the first and the second part of this section proved to be difficult for many of the candidates. Concerning the open question, candidates often did not provide a sufficient answer. While most could offer some kind of answer in this section, many candidates seemed to find it difficult to cite concrete facts and specific information or could not express them in German. It became evident that basic knowledge about the German-speaking countries is not available, to the extent that some candidates even considered Bavaria to be a city. Furthermore, questions concerning the German school system created difficulties. A better understanding and more knowledge about the culture of the German-speaking countries would be desirable.

D. CONCLUDING COMMENT

It is advisable that candidates strive to achieve the necessary language skills and familiarity with the format of the examination papers, prior to attempting the examination.

Chairperson
Examination Panel 2025