

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

RUSSIAN

MAY 2015

EXAMINERS' REPORT

**MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE
EXAMINATIONS' BOARD**

**SEC RUSSIAN
MAY 2015 SESSION
EXAMINERS' REPORT**

1. Statistics

Twenty-one candidates registered for this examination. The table below outlines the candidates' performance:

GRADE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	U	ABS	TOTAL
PAPER A	11	6	2	1	0			1	0	21
PAPER B				0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	11	6	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	21
% OF TOTAL	52.38	28.57	9.52	4.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.76	0.00	100.00

2. Report on Candidates' Performance(1) Paper I – Reading and Conversation, Listening Comprehension, Dictation, Cultural Question

Paper I had the following sections:

(a) Reading and Conversation	25 marks (25%)
(b) Listening Comprehension	15 marks (15%)
(c) Dictation	10 marks (10%)
(d) Cultural Question	5 marks (5%)

Reading and Conversation. In this part of the paper, the candidates demonstrated their ability to understand Russian in written form and to take part in a conversational interchange. Some of the candidates were exceptionally fluent in spoken Russian.

Listening Comprehension. The candidates demonstrated their ability to understand information contained in a short passage.

Dictation. In this part of the paper, the candidates demonstrated their ability to understand information contained in a short passage and to take it down at dictation speed.

Cultural Question. The candidates demonstrated their knowledge of different aspects of Russia, such as its history, geography, customs, etc. Many candidates were exceptionally fluent as regards Russian culture, art and everyday life.

(2) Paper II - Reading Comprehension and Writing Task

Paper II had the following sections:

(a) Reading Comprehension	20 marks (20%)
(b) Writing Task	25 marks (25%)

Reading Comprehension. The candidates performed well on the whole. They scored highly on a number of questions requiring facts. Inferential questions were tackled less competently.

Writing Task. Candidates showed their knowledge of vocabulary, sentence and paragraph structure, and writing accurately and relevantly. Some of the candidates' performance in this section was outstanding.

3. General Conclusions and Recommendations

The candidates have a good command of spoken and written Russian, and are well acquainted with Russian culture and history. As regards language, candidates need more practice in essay writing. More emphasis should be placed on Cases, sentence structure and lexical knowledge. A wider variety of reading skills, such as skimming, scanning, and analytical reading, is required. Finally, the results of this session are encouraging: eleven (out of twenty-one) candidates demonstrated an excellent command of the language.

*Chairperson
2015 Examination Panel*