



New Zealand Qualifications Authority
Mana Tohu Matauranga O Aotearoa

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Assessment Report

Level 2 German 2016

Standards [91123](#) [91126](#)

Part A: Commentary

Candidates in general were able to relate to the themes of the texts and provide a personal response to the questions. The levels of difficulty of the texts were closely related to the standard and the level of vocabulary and grammar understanding required at Level 2.

Part B: Report on Standards

91123: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of spoken German texts on familiar matters

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- showed a basic understanding of the relevant grammar points
- demonstrated a basic knowledge of both the level 1 and 2 vocabulary lists
- were able to select some accurate, but simple details from the text.

Candidates who were assessed as **Not Achieved** commonly:

- did not attempt some sections
- understood simple vocabulary, including obvious cognates and loan words, but there was no evidence of understanding beyond that
- presented inaccurate information
- misunderstood significant details
- selected minimal and superficial information.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- were able to show connection with the text in their answers
- were able to identify key information
- selected significant amounts of relevant detail in their answers
- clearly showed competent knowledge of both the level 1 and 2 vocabulary lists
- showed a solid understanding of relevant grammar structures.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- wrote fully detailed answers in which all or most of the details were correct. This showed a thorough understanding
- used evidence from the text to fully justify their ideas
- did not select detail repetitively from other sections, but used new detail to demonstrate understanding and justify answers
- showed thorough understanding of both the level 1 and 2 vocabulary lists and the grammar structures required at both levels.

Standard-specific comments

Native speakers do not appear to have any advantage over learners of an additional language. Native speaking candidates often struggled to retrieve enough detail from the text and often gave answers which lacked relevant detail. Answers were often short and not justified with points from the text.

Some candidates opted to use a device to write their answers. Often this meant that candidates did not pay attention to the indications in the answer booklet of how much to write. This meant that some responses produced on a device were too brief to reach the depth required at this level.

It was also evident that candidates did not recheck their work before leaving the examination room. Many answers had important words missing or did not make sense.

91126: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of written and/or visual German texts on familiar matters

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- understood the ideas of the text
- showed some understanding of the level 2 vocabulary list and the relevant grammar structures
- gave brief, but accurate answers to some questions
- selected key evidence from the text when giving opinions
- left out some of the key information and detail in their answers
- answered some questions indirectly
- answered some questions with misplaced information.

Candidates who were assessed as **Not Achieved** commonly:

- were unable to show understanding of the main ideas in the text
- showed limited understanding of information taken from small areas of the text
- demonstrated insufficient understanding of the level 2 vocabulary list and the associated grammar structures
- were dependent on level 1 vocabulary and structures to make meaning
- gave one word or one fragment answers
- showed misunderstanding through inaccurate answers
- gave logical guesses but did not show understanding of the text
- left large sections of the exam unanswered
- did not refer to the text when giving personal opinions.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- demonstrated clear understanding of key ideas and information in the text
- elicited detail from the text
- targeted the questions, ensuring information was in the right place
- used their own words rather than providing straight translations of the text
- made connections between ideas in different parts of the text
- drew some conclusions supported by evidence, but did not give a thorough discussion of details or any implied meaning.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- showed thorough understanding of all ideas and information in the text, including specific detail
- wrote fully detailed answers
- demonstrated a thorough understanding of the level 2 vocabulary list and the associated grammar structures
- were able to synthesise information from all parts of the text rather than translating one block of the text
- targeted the question directly
- made extensive reference to the text when giving opinions
- showed understanding of implied meanings.

Standard-specific comments

Candidates who answered questions in their own words but did not support their conclusions with evidence from the text did not demonstrate general understanding of the main ideas.

Likewise, candidates who gave straight translations of large sections of the text or even the whole thing, were unable to show “clear” understanding.

Those who did show “clear” understanding avoided common misunderstandings. An example is “kannst du mit ihm arbeiten” in question 2 was often misunderstood as advice for Sally to get a job

rather than to work on her problems. Another example is “wenn dir langweilig ist” in question 3 was incorrectly interpreted as “if you are a boring person” rather than “when you are bored”.

Some candidates showed thorough understanding by being able to extract implied meaning and correctly interpreted level 2 vocabulary and language structures including the simple past, the conditional and the present passive.

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