

2015 NCEA Assessment Report

German Level 1 90883, 90886

Part A: Commentary

Comment on the overall response of candidates to 2015 examinations for all achievement standards covered by this report.

90886 This was quite a long, demanding paper, but not beyond the scope of Level 1 candidates. The majority of candidates managed to achieve the standard, even if some conveyed only a basic level of understanding. An unexpected feature of this paper was how candidates' grades varied from question to question. An excellent answer for one question was not always matched by further excellent answers.

90883 The general level of difficulty was excellent and the topics were suitable. The questions offered scope to answer them so that the Excellence candidates could write elaborated answers while the Achieved candidates could still manage to retrieve some of the basic information.

Some candidates, including native speakers, answered questions from their own experience with little or no reference to the text.

Candidates need to select relevant information from the text to justify their explanation or view point. A candidate who answered in their own words, but did not then back up their answer by selecting relevant information from the text to show thorough understanding, will not achieve Excellence. Just answering the question in your own words, without providing specific evidence from the text does not show that you have really understood the nuance of the language.

The Explanatory notes in the Achievement Standards and the Evidence Statements in the Assessment Schedules provide very clear guidance about what "thorough understanding" looks like.

Part B: Report on standards

1. Assessment Report for 90883: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of spoken German texts on areas of most immediate relevance

Achieved	Candidates who were assessed as Achieved commonly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> could make some meaning of relevant information from the spoken text could understand the general gist of the spoken passage.
Not Achieved	Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved commonly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> showed very limited or no understanding of the spoken text.
Achieved with Merit	Candidates who were assessed as Achieved with Merit commonly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> could understand the main points of the spoken text clearly and a good number of details. The relevant information could be clearly communicated.
Achieved with Excellence	Candidates who were assessed as Achieved with Excellence commonly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrated a thorough understanding of the spoken text and were able to elaborate their answers with relevant supporting detail.
Standard specific comments	Three questions were a great length. Questions were well structured and the easiest question was first which is good for Listening Comprehension. The level of difficulty was appropriate and the choice of topics was also very good. The quality of the CD was excellent.

2. Assessment Report for 90886: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of German texts on areas of most immediate relevance

Achieved	<p>Candidates who were assessed as Achieved commonly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • were able to convey general meaning of the text • did not always include detailed information • wrote brief answers to part (b) • provided only some or limited supporting detail from the text in Part (b) • missed nuances and implied meanings in the texts.
Not Achieved	<p>Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved commonly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognised only basic vocabulary • showed limited understanding of the texts (eg Niko's family has a restaurant) • did not attempt all parts of the question • responded to (b) only briefly, if at all, and with little reference to the texts.
Achieved with Merit	<p>Candidates who were assessed as Achieved with Merit commonly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • showed clear understanding, including some finer details (e.g. Martin and his sister have to cook once a week for the whole family) • drew justifiable inferences from the texts (e.g. I can tell that family and school have a big impact on kids' eating habits).
Achieved with Excellence	<p>Candidates who were assessed as Achieved with Excellence commonly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read the questions very carefully • understood the whole text, including finer details and implied meanings • wrote longer, well considered and composed answers in both parts of the question • expressed their ideas, inferences, conclusions with full reference to the texts.
Standard specific comments	<p>It is vital that candidates read the introductory information in the Resource Booklet very carefully in order to clearly understand what is required in their answers.</p>