

Understanding examiners' instructions

You're taking a driving test. The examiner gives you an instruction – and you ignore it and do something else. You would expect to fail the test.



That's why it's important to read the instructions on exam papers very carefully. These are likely to include the number of questions to answer, the amount of time available and so on. These instructions are sometimes known as 'rubric' and if you don't follow them you are very likely to lose marks.

→ Why should I read the instructions on an exam paper?

ACTIVITY

Look carefully at the exam paper on the following page and then answer these questions.

- 1 How long is the exam?.....
- 2 How many questions in total have to be answered?
- 3 What is the maximum mark for the paper?.....
- 4 How much choice of question does the candidate have in Section A?
- 5 How many minutes should be spent on each question in Section A?.....
- 6 Where should the answers be written?
- 7 What will happen if the candidate writes in the margins?
- 8 Which writing implements can be used in this exam?
- 9 Are handwriting and spelling taken into account in the marking of this exam?
- 10 How much choice of question does the candidate have in Section B?
- 11 How many minutes should the candidate spend on Section B?

The following questions are also relevant – but the answers are not found on the exam paper:

- 1 Is it necessary to answer questions in the same order as they are on the exam paper?
- 2 What is the examiner likely to do if two questions are answered in Section B?
- 3 It may seem like a good idea to answer too many questions – but what is the cost of doing so?
- 4 What advice would you give someone who leaves answers blank when they are not sure of the answer?

General Certificate of Education
January 2009
Advanced Subsidiary Examination

GETR

Exam Board

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE (SPECIFICATION A) GKA
Unit 1 Core Concepts in General Knowledge

Monday 14 January 2009 9.00 am to 10.00 am
Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen. You may use pencil for diagrams and graphs.
- Fill in your personal details in the boxes at the top of the answer booklet.
- Answer all questions in Section A and one question from Section B.
- Answer the questions in the booklet provided. Do not write in the margins as this paper will be scanned prior to marking and any work in the margins will be lost. You may use additional booklets if more paper is required.
- Do all rough work in the booklet provided. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate. The legibility of your handwriting and the accuracy of your spelling will also be considered

Section A

Answer all questions in this section. Write in the answer booklet. Leave margins blank

- 1 (a) Describe the use of hairspray to control hairstyles. (2 marks)
(b) Contrast the use of hairspray and hair putty between people under 20 and people over 60. (4 marks)
2. Explain the life cycle of a butterfly. (6 marks)
3. With reference to examples, account for the diversity in women's magazines. (6 marks)
4. Give a brief account of the events of 1917 leading to the Russian Revolution. (6 marks)
5. Evaluate the evidence that suggests fishing is Britain's most popular sporting activity. (6 marks)

Section B

Answer one question from this section. Write in the answer booklet. Leave margins blank.

6. With reference to examples, evaluate the importance of the internet to popular music, including its impacts and benefits. (30 marks)
7. Describe and assess the role of Marmite as a cultural icon. (30 marks)
8. Evaluate the evidence that dogs may be capable of dreaming. (30 marks)