



2012

Languages: Swedish GA 3: Examination

Oral component

GENERAL COMMENTS

The oral examination was divided into two parts: a seven-minute conversation and a one-minute presentation of the Detailed Study's sub-topic followed by a seven-minute discussion related to the chosen sub-topic. Students were well prepared for the format of the examination.

Further information and the requirements of the oral examination can be found in the *VCE Swedish Study Design*. The criteria for assessment of the oral examination are available in the *VCE Languages Other Than English (LOTE) Second Language Assessment Handbook 2005–2014* (pp. 16–21) on the VCAA website.

Please refer to page 29 of the *VCE Swedish Study Design* for more information regarding the oral examination.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION

A pleasing aspect of most students' performances was their preparedness, ability to carry the exchange forward, positive attitude, spontaneity and flexibility. This was particularly evident for strong students, a number of whom were of Swedish origin or had spent considerable time in Sweden. However, some of these students felt perhaps over-confident in their ability to speak the language and occasionally spoke too quickly, giving insufficient attention to speaking clearly and sometimes using colloquial expressions or even incorrect grammar.

Section 1 – Conversation

In the Conversation, students and assessors discussed the students' personal worlds, including school and home lives, family and friends, interests, hobbies and future aspirations. Most students handled this part of the examination very well and were able to advance the conversation, generally with little prompting. They appeared to be well prepared and there was little evidence of rote-learning. Strong students showed confidence and a willingness to extend the conversation, displaying their linguistic prowess. Weaker students did not respond as well to questions and found it difficult to elaborate on their responses spontaneously.

Section 2 – Discussion

Generally, students' performances in the Discussion were of a very good standard and it was clear that students had thoroughly prepared their chosen sub-topic for the Detailed Study. Most were able to advance the Discussion, give reasons for their opinions and use the Swedish language effectively. However, some students lacked flexibility during the exchange and were overly reliant on prepared statements.